

## Westfield Planning Board Denies South Chestnut Street Subdivision

By LAUREN S. BARR  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Much to the delight of the gathered crowd at Monday night's meeting of the planning board, the board unanimously denied an application for a non-conforming subdivision at 613 South Chestnut Street.

The applicant, Elshiekh Enterprises, represented by Robert Renaud, sought to take a 100-by-150-foot lot and make two 50-foot lots. Owner Haney Elshiekh argued that the two homes would be completely different in style and would fit in the neighborhood better than one larger home

which he said would, "stand out like a white elephant."

The applicant argued that the subdivision would improve drainage in the area with the installation of a drainage system, and new homes would correct the current non-conforming setback of the existing home. Members of the public and board members pointed out that those issues would also be corrected if only one home was built.

The property is zoned for R10, which requires a 10,000-square-foot minimum; however, the applicant argued that because it borders R6 (6,000 square feet required) properties that

it would be acceptable to treat it as such.

While Mr. Elshiekh said the sale of the property was not contingent on approval of the subdivision, he did say that the owner would receive more money from the sale if a subdivision was approved.

Board Chairman Vince Wilt said that Mr. Elshiekh was "bringing it (building one large home) up like it's a threat."

Board member Robert Newell raised concerns that granting such an application would set a precedent. He said that there were similar lots in the area and that breaking the zone would cause a "creep" of zoning changes.

Resident Robert Priestly questioned the planner, Kevin O'Brien, as to whether he knew the size of the large home on the corner of South Chestnut Street and Fourth Avenue, or the sizes of the new homes recently constructed off of Fourth Avenue, which Mr. O'Brien did not.

Town Planner Bill Drew pointed out that this neighborhood in particular was examined very closely in the most recent master plan review, and that while the town chose to change some zoning along neighboring Hillcrest Avenue, it deliberately did not change the zoning on South Chestnut Street.

All of the neighbors who spoke out against the subdivision said that they favored a single larger home rather than two homes.

Fourth Avenue resident Gregory Talmont said, "This town is a veritable celebration of (zoning) notches" and that it was done on purpose to provide for a variety of homes. He said he would much rather see one oversized house there than "two boxes."

Mr. Newell said, "I disagree with the applicant that these (proposed) houses are conforming with the neighborhood."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Borough Council Hears Preliminary Budget Figures

By KATE BROWNE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — Mayor Paul N. Mirabelli presented a preliminary review of the proposed 2015 budget at Tuesday's Borough Council work session meeting. According to Mayor Mirabelli, a home assessed at the average value will likely see a tax increase of \$82.27, a significant reduction from last year's increase which averaged \$146.46.

The mayor explained that the increases were driven by items that were outside the community's control, such as mandatory pension contributions and the costs of health insurance. For example, Mayor Mirabelli noted that health insurance premiums are anticipated to increase by \$52,000 and Mountainside's contribution to the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund is likely going to increase by \$5,000. In addition, there will likely be a modest \$1,400 increase to the budget for the board



PROMOTED... Marcin Kapka is sworn in as a sergeant in the Westfield Police Department at the town council's February 24th meeting as his family looks on.

Dominic A. Lagano for The Westfield Leader

## County Freeholders Hear Concerns Over Asw. Stender's Employment

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

COUNTY — Several Union County residents spoke of their concerns to the Freeholder Board last Thursday regarding the scandal surrounding Assemblywoman Linda Stender's (D-22nd, Scotch Plains) and her husband's shore property, as well as the issue of whether Freeholder Al Mirabella has a conflict being a freeholder while also employed as township manager for Scotch Plains.

Tina Renna, president of the Union

County Watchdog Association, detailed the scandal involving Mrs. Stender and her husband, Richard, whereby Mr. Stender received assistance from the nonprofit Coastal Habitat for Humanity in Monmouth County to rebuild his home in Manasquan that was damaged in Hurricane Sandy and which Mr. Stender purchased for \$465,000 in 2008. Plans reported in the media called for a new home three times the size of the bungalow that was demolished by Habitat last July.

Mrs. Stender announced last Thursday night that she will not seek reelection to the Assembly seat she has held since 2002.

Habitat and the Stenders are in a legal dispute after Habitat said Mr. Stender owes the organization \$11,000 towards the cost of the demolition. Habitat has said it pulled out of the project after seeing the proposed building plans for the new home, which were much larger than what the organization typically finances.

She said the freeholders, "should all be concerned and have some closing comments" on the scandal. Only

Freeholder Chris Hudak commented on Mrs. Stender.

"As a resident of the City of Linden, I've known Linda for about 14 years. It's very sad what has happened with a personal matter that has taken hold of her career at the moment, and it's sad because she had represented the 22nd district with diligence," Mr. Hudak said.

He said Mrs. Stender had "always been very responsive to my community."

"Hopefully she will be able to work out those personal issues," Mr. Hudak said.

Mrs. Renna said, per her filing an Open Public Records Act request, she learned that Mrs. Stender, a former county freeholder and ex-Fanwood mayor and councilwoman, does not have any employment contract with the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA). Mrs. Stender began her new job as deputy director and project manager with the UCIA on February 4.

"Is it easier to fire an employee who doesn't have a contract? Is there

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Dominic A. Lagano for The Westfield Leader

NEW OFFICER... Kristopher Jackus is sworn in as one of five new officers in the Westfield Police Department. The ceremony took place during the town council's February 24th meeting as Police Chief David Wayman looks on.

## Rec. Commission Discusses Budget, Park Renovations

By KATE BROWNE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The members of the Westfield Recreation Commission discussed preliminary budgets and proposed renovations to the town's park's and fields at their meeting Monday night.

The meeting began with public input from Michelle Pierce, who spoke on behalf of the Westfield Girls Softball and Westfield Soccer Association about the need to consider including a concession area as part of the renovations at Memorial Field.

Ms. Pierce explained that the lack of a concession stand prevented Westfield from hosting tournaments, which limited the team's profile in the playing community. In addition, she shared data on the number of potential customers and anticipated concession revenue, as well as feedback gained from her discussions with teams operating concession facilities in neighboring communities such as Mountainside. Ms. Pierce advised that the softball and

soccer associations were prepared to share a portion of the costs of the proposed renovations with the community.

In response to Ms. Pierce's proposal, Recreation Director Bruce Kaufmann noted that the renovations at Memorial were in the early design phase as the commission was in the process of retaining a firm to prepare the bid specifications. He expressed appreciation to the softball and soccer communities for their willingness to support the project, but noted there might be some limitations on the proposed use of the structure due to the location of sewer, electrical and water lines.

In other renovation updates, Mr. Kaufmann advised the public that the contractor retained to update the tennis courts at Tamaques Park was prepared to begin work as soon as the weather permits and anticipated the project will take 11 weeks to complete.

Mark Friedman, who is the board of education liaison to the commission,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Brian Trusdell for The Westfield Leader

NEWEST POLICE OFFICER... Valerio Zuena, left, is sworn in as the Garwood Police Department's latest addition at the borough council's February 24th meeting by Mayor Charles Lombardo, center, as Mr. Zuena's wife, Pauline, and eight-month old son, Lorenzo, look on.

### Spring Ahead!

Daylight Saving Time  
Sunday, March 8 at 2 a.m.



WELL DESERVED PRAISE... The Cranford Township Committee at its official meeting on February 24th recognized the 37 years of service Fire Chief Leonard Dolan, III, contributed to the Cranford Fire Department. Mayor Andis Kalnins, left, read the resolution.

Christina M. Hinke for The Westfield Leader

### PAGE INDEX

Regional .....	2-3	Education .....	9
Editorial .....	4-5	Sports .....	11-17
Police .....	18	Real Estate .....	11-20
Community ...	6-8	Classifieds .....	18
Obituary .....	6	A&E .....	19-20



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## Fanwood Fire and Rescue Units Seek Back Pay

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

FANWOOD — Members of the volunteer fire department and the rescue squad for the borough have recently realized the Length of Service Award Program payment for points above the 100-point mark had not been disbursed, Councilman Tom Kranz said at the Monday borough council agenda meeting. Now, the members are asking to be paid retroactively.

Council President Katherine Mitchell sat in for Mayor Colleen Mahr, who was absent.

There are 19 people from 2007 to 2013 who earned above 100 points, Mr. Kranz said.

Borough Administrator Eleanor McGovern said she sent payment to those members who earned 50 points. Members who earn over 100 points are to receive double the payment. Six hundred dollars is given to members with 50 points, Mrs. McGovern said.

The council said it was an oversight. Each member earns points by answering calls, being an officer and working on the night crew, among other services. "The most active members are the ones who get this," Mr. Kranz said.

"I already sent a letter to those guys that it is doubtful to me that you will be entertaining anything much beyond one or two years retroactive," Mr. Kranz said.

In 1999, a referendum was passed by the voters of Fanwood to start up this program, and it took effect in 2000.

During the public safety report, Councilman Kevin Boris said the police department is requesting a purchase of two cars to replace older models that have mileage over 100,000.

"We have to discuss this as a budget as a whole," said Frederick Tompkins, chief financial officer for the borough.

Governor Chris Christie passed a law last year that became effective March 1 that requires cameras to be installed in any new or used police cars purchased, or the camera is to be placed on the police officer's body, Mr. Tompkins added.

The cost of the camera is about \$10,000 per car, and \$800 for a camera on the police officer's body, Mr. Tompkins said.

Mr. Tompkins added that police pensions are up \$110,000 this year.

The police department also has an opening following Police Officer Anthony Espinosa's retirement. The police chief is interviewing 20 people, which he will narrow to five, and at that point the candidates will be presented to the public safety committee, Mr. Boris said.

During the engineering report, Borough Engineer Peter Bondar said the first entrance to the parking lot off of Martine Avenue will close permanently, most likely next week.

The borough received the final \$45,000 reimbursement for road repairs to Farley Avenue, Mr. Bondar said. The borough recently received \$21,000 from Scotch Plains for its portion, Mr. Bondar said. In 2012, the borough was awarded a \$180,000 grant

from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Program for total road reconstruction work on Farley Avenue.

Work to remediate the site at the Department of Public Works is continuing, Mr. Bondar said, as part of the Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) program the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) started. Two new wells to be used for groundwater sampling to test for contamination are to be put in. Should this round of sampling come back clean, Mr. Bondar said, the work can be closed, and if they return with contamination, more remediation work will be needed.

"We are in compliance with the DEP," Mr. Bondar said.

In the recreation committee report, Mr. Kranz said Mayor Mahr recommended to the committee that it revisit its five-year plan.

Projects of interest are the skate park, a new playground and repairs to the tennis courts at LaGrande Park, Mr. Kranz said.

Resident Michael Lewis, of Beech Avenue in Fanwood, said he was against the skate park. "I know that there is not a lot of flexibility with money...renovating LaGrande Park and repairing the tennis courts would strike me as a priority," Mr. Lewis said.

He said the skate park project started at a cost of \$124,000, with half of that funded through grants, and now the project is estimated at \$300,000 based on bids from contractors. "Do you want to use debt on a skateboard park?" he asked.

Finally, he noted the hockey rink and the skateboard park at LaGrande Park that he said had fallen into disrepair.

"The first skate park was closed...because kids were not adhering to the safety regulations... It was a big safety issue," Council President Mitchell said.

## Freeholders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a probationary period?" Mrs. Renna asked. "What are her credentials for this position?...How is she qualified to oversee the financing and the actual construction of projects and the hundreds of millions of dollars?"

Mrs. Renna said Mrs. Stender's employment with the UCIA is "ultimately" the responsibility of the freeholders as they appoint the UCIA board of commissioners.

"How are the taxpayers supposed to have any confidence in the Union County Improvement Authority?" Mrs. Renna questioned.

John Bury of Kenilworth said he read in media reports that Mrs. Stender was given a "deal" whereby she retains her new position. He questioned how this was done as the UCIA board has not met since the scandal hit the press.

"To have (Union County Democratic Chairman) Jerry Green just say, 'I'll do this;' I think it belittles everybody (freeholders) here," Mr. Bury said.

Bruce Paterson of Garwood said he recommended last year that the freeholders roll the improvement authority into Union County government, which he said would save \$600,000.

"Now it's blowing up in your faces," Mr. Paterson said, noting that in addition to the Stender scandal, former freeholder Dan Sullivan, the executive director of both the improvement authority and the county's utilities authority, gave out unauthorized monthly pay bonuses to himself and staff in 2013. Mr. Paterson said it cost the county \$80,000 in legal fees to recoup \$50,000 in bonuses.

Mr. Paterson requested that County Counsel Robert Barry give a legal opinion on whether Freeholder Mirabella has a conflict of interest by being both a freeholder and Scotch Plains township manager. Mr. Paterson said Mr. Mirabella should have to abstain on county budget votes.

When Mr. Barry did not issue a comment, Mr. Paterson shouted at the conclusion of the meeting that Mr. Barry was a "coward."

In other freeholder business, the board approved a \$109,906 reduction in repairs to the exterior of the Union County Board of Elections building on Broad Street in Elizabeth for a new total cost of \$1,215,984.

The board appointed Fanwood Councilman Jack Molenaar, Roger Stryeski of Roselle and Mountainside Councilman Robert Messlera as delegates and Mountainside Engineer Michael Disko, Jr. as an alternate to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board.

Zenon Moriak of Mountainside was appointed as a delegate to the Union County Air Traffic and Noise Advisory Board.



Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

FOR A GOOD CAUSE... Scotch Plains Lions Club member Don Wussler sells raffle tickets during the Lions Club Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning, March 1, at the Scotch Hills Country Club in Scotch Plains. Proceeds from the event are distributed to local charities and community activities including organizations which serve the blind and visually impaired.

## Westfield BOE Posts Revised Budget Meeting Dates

WESTFIELD — The next meetings of the Westfield Board of Education will be Tuesdays, March 10 and March 17, at 7:30 p.m. The Tuesday, March 10 meeting will begin with a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by a board workshop. The public meeting will be held in the Westfield High School Cafeteria, 550 Dorian Road. (Note: The March 10 meeting is in lieu of the March 3 meeting which was cancelled due to the weather forecast for unsafe driving conditions).

The Tuesday, March 17 regular meeting will be held in Room 105, the board room at 302 Elm Street. The public is welcome to attend both meetings at which the budget for 2015-2016 will be discussed.

A complete agenda of the meetings 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 Fridays, March 6 and 13. Questions or comments can be addressed to the Westfield Board of Education at wboe@westfieldnj12.org.

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.

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



Courtesy of Brian Horton

NEWLY ELECTED...Members of the Fanwood Business & Professional Association met February 25th in Fanwood to ratify the results of the group's recent election. The new leadership for 2015 includes, from left to right, Treasurer Barry Friedson, Board Member Steve Siegal, Secretary Mindy Scarlett, President Brian Walter, Board Member and Past President Jeni DiVirgilio, Vice-President Ricardo Lisojo and Board Member Helen Ling.

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## WF Rec

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provided an update on the proposal to install practice lights at Kehler Stadium. Mr. Friedman advised the commission there had been a great deal of feedback from the community both in favor of and against the proposal and the board of education was to vote on the issue at its Tuesday meeting (Please see related story on Page 1.)

Frank Arena, who is the town council liaison to the commission, provided a preliminary view of the town's 2015 budget and explained the impact of the state-imposed, 2-percent budget cap on proposed expenditures. The next budget meeting will be conducted on Tuesday, March 10.

The commission spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the proposed budget and preliminary anticipated revenues and expenses for Memorial Pool, which was prepared by Loren Weinstein, chairman of the commission's Pool Committee. Total operating costs for the pool are \$1.1 million, with insurance down \$28,000. The pool is a public utility not supported by taxes, but solely by membership fees.

Memorial Pool is widely considered a "jewel" in the community as it is equipped with multiple slides, a children's "splash" area and offers swim lessons and a swim team for all levels of swimmers, as well as many social events such as teen and movie nights. Registration for membership at the pool is ongoing and the pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, June 6.

The commission's next meeting will be Monday, April 6.



Christina M. Hinke for The Westfield Leader

ENHANCED LOOK... K9 Resorts LLC was approved unanimously for a variance for a minor subdivision at 57 South Avenue by the Fanwood Planning Board last Wednesday. Co-owner and Chief Executive Officer of K9 Resorts, Steven Parker, discusses his plan as his attorney, Jeff Lehrer, stands to the right.

## Fanwood Planning Bd. OKs Variance for K9

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

FANWOOD — K9 Resorts LLC was approved unanimously for a variance for a minor subdivision at 57 South Avenue by the planning board last Wednesday.

Co-owner and Chief Executive Officer of K9 Resorts, Steven Parker, leased a vacant building adjacent to the current facility, which the company owns. The plan is to move the dog daycare to the adjacent lot and create a new facility there. The vacant building would not be expanded, Planner James Watson said. The lot would be subdivided to allow the landowner to use the land behind the building as a storage yard for his contracting work.

K9 Resorts has been in business for 10 years and has since expanded to a franchise of seven locations, the applicant's attorney, Jeff Lehrer, said.

The positive criteria of the plan, Mr. Watson said, included complying with standards of having air, light and open space and a "desirable visual environment."

The negative criteria, Mr. Watson said, included "some traffic, some noise," but since the building is up against a railroad and not near homes that those negatives would not have any repercussions. "If you didn't approve this — K9 can't expand and may look elsewhere. It is a top shelf type of operation," Mr. Watson said.

David Frantz, owner of Fanwood Animal Hospital, which is across the street, spoke in favor of the project. "K9 Resorts and Steven and Jason Parker have been excellent neighbors and I see why every reason should be granted to them," Mr. Frantz said.

"The negative is creating that smaller lot, but the positives outweigh the negative. I agree with the professionals," Board Chairman Dale Flowers said.

"It goes from an empty, ugly building — that defines blight for Fanwood — to a beautiful headquarters for a company that doesn't seem like it is going to fail anytime soon. In fact, it is quite the opposite," said Planning Board member David Blechinger.

"That building has always been empty; what a change that would make," Mr. Flowers said.

## WF Planning

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The board unanimously denied the application. Councilman James Foerst, who had been on the dais for earlier hearings, was absent for this application.

Earlier in the evening the board unanimously approved the application of Westfield Superstore to construct a 970-square-foot addition to the former Lindeman Buick building on North Avenue. The application was originally heard at the January board meeting, where the board asked for some changes to be made to parking, signage and lot coverage. The applicant withdrew two of their sign variance requests and reconfigured the parking lot to allow for additional plantings and a safer traffic flow.

A conforming subdivision of property at 417 West Broad Street was also approved by the board. There is currently an older home, which had been a doctor's office at one point, and is in a state of disrepair, according to the owner.

Mr. Drew requested that the street tree be preserved if it could, and Town Engineer Kris McAloon said the applicant needed approval from Union County before removing the tree. The applicant's engineer, Richard Titus, said the tree was likely 50 years old and has "outlived its usefulness."

While some residents bemoaned the tearing down of an older home, the most immediate neighbor to the property said he was in favor of the subdivision and was looking forward to someone taking care of the neglected property.

Councilman Foerst told residents that given the zoning, it was possible for the builder to construct two two-family homes on the lots, but that he is only seeking single-family homes.

Finally, the board approved an enclosed patio dining area for La Famiglia Sorrento on Central Avenue. The applicant is enclosing an existing patio area so that it can be used all year round.

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Brian Trusdell for The Westfield Leader

ASSESSMENT DISCUSSION... Representatives from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority, pictured from left to right, Executive Director James Meehan, Regulatory Compliance Manager Robert Gencarelli, Staff Engineer John Buonocore, Secretary-Treasurer Robert Materna, and Garwood representative to the agency Stephen Greet speak to Garwood Borough Council about the borough's annual assessment at the council's February 24th meeting.



## Scotch Plains Budget Expected To Be Finalized This Month

By FRED T. ROSSI

Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

SCOTCH PLAINS — Township Manager Al Mirabella hopes the 2015 municipal budget will be set for introduction later this month, with the unveiling of a capital budget following soon afterward.

At the township council's second budget meeting on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Mirabella—who is overseeing the formulation of his first township budget—said he expects to meet with township Finance Director Lori Majeski to put the finishing touches on this year's spend-

ing plan. Last week the council discussed the budget requests for the police and fire departments and the engineering department.

On Tuesday the governing body met with Parks and Recreation Director Ray Poerio, who said he had kept his department's operating budget basically flat from last year's level. The discussion soon turned to the department's programs and whether they should be "self-sustaining," meaning that residents pay to participate, or whether the township budget should be structured in such a way that the municipality, in

effect, subsidizes some of the costs involved. Deputy Mayor Colleen Gialanella noted that residents pay property taxes and then must pay further to take part in recreation programs. She said other nearby towns, like Clark, do it differently.

She questioned whether some funding could be switched from some of the department's 12-month employees, "so we can put the money where it touches more of the taxpayers." Mr. Mirabella called it a "philosophical question" of whether the township should more fully finance these programs or whether those who participate should pay the fees. Mayor Kevin Glover said the council would further discuss the matter and then decide if a change is needed, but not this year.

Another issue raised was the cost of the recreation department's quarterly publication that is mailed to all residents. Mr. Poerio said last year's printing and mailing costs amounted to about \$27,000, which Mrs. Gialanella called "a large amount of money" that could have been spent over the previous years to help defray the cost of residents' participation in recreation programs. It was agreed that the printed program will soon be phased out and replaced by information available online and through various social media.

Mr. Poerio also touched upon his capital budget requests, one of which is funding to clean and repair the pond at Brookside Park. He said if the council approves the financing, the project could be completed by the end of this year or early in 2016. He also requested funding for further refurbishments of the Shady Rest Golf Club facility, a new senior citizens bus and some type of shading for Ponderosa Park.

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Fred T. Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS...The Scotch Plains Township Council meets on Tuesday evening to deliberate on the 2015 municipal budget.

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Paul Lachenauer for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
FLIPPING FLAPJACKS...Lance Booth of the Scotch Plains Lions Club makes pancakes during the Lions Club's Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning at the Scotch Hills Country Club in Scotch Plains.

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ment, and it's sad because she had represented the 22nd district with diligence," Mr. Hudak said.

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## Company Renews Effort To Develop Parker Gardens

By FRED T. ROSSI

Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

SCOTCH PLAINS — Nearly two years after opposition from both residents and township officials thwarted their plans, representatives from a development company are making a new effort to turn the Parker Gardens property into a retirement community.

Shelter Development LLC first approached the township council in mid-2013 about its proposal for an ordinance altering Parker Gardens' R-1 zoning designation to allow the construction of about 180 apartment units for senior citizens. But in the face of opposition from residents and skepticism from some on the council, Shelter withdrew its request for an ordinance change.

At the council's conference meeting on Tuesday, David Holland, Shelter's vice-president, briefly re-explained the project and the request for either a change in the zoning or a variance allowing the development to go forward. Town-

ship Attorney Robert Renaud urged that the matter first be evaluated by the planning board if a change in zoning was desired or by the zoning board of adjustment if Shelter wanted to instead request a variance.

Mayor Kevin Glover recalled the opposition expressed in 2013 while Councilman Llewellyn Jones said he "had concerns about it then and I still have concerns." He called it "high-density living in a low-density part of town." Deputy Mayor Colleen Gialanella had expressed a favorable opinion of the project two years ago, and this week called it "potentially extremely beneficial to the township." She raised the prospect of new single-family homes being built on the 12-acre site instead of a retirement community, and pointed to the potential impact on local schools if that alternative were pursued.

Three members of the council — Mayor Glover, Mrs. Gialanella and Mr. Jones — were present for all or some of the 2013 presentations and deliberations when residents and council members raised a variety of concerns, including the stress on township emergency services, safety issues, traffic issues and the amount of tax revenue that would be realized. Instead of asking Mr. Holland to provide a detailed briefing to the entire council, it was agreed that he would meet with the two newest members, Rose Checchio and John Del Sordi, Jr., to inform them of the details of the development proposal.

In other business, Mr. Renaud said he wanted to review the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

### Spring Ahead!

Daylight Saving Time  
Sunday, March 8 at 2 a.m.



Courtesy of Brian Horton  
NEWLY ELECTED...Members of the Fanwood Business and Professional Association meet February 25 in Fanwood to ratify the results of the group's recent election. The new leadership for 2015 includes, from left to right, Treasurer Barry Friedson, Board Member Steve Siegal, Secretary Mindy Scariett, President Brian Walter, Board Member and Past President Jeni DiVirgilio, Vice-President Ricardo Lisojo and Board Member Helen Ling.

### PAGE INDEX

Regional .....	2-3	Education .....	9
Editorial .....	4-5	Sports .....	11-17
Police .....	18	Real Estate .....	11-20
Community ...	6-8	Classifieds .....	18
Obituary .....	6	A&E .....	19-20



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Christina M. Hinke for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**ENHANCED LOOK...K9 Resorts LLC** was approved unanimously for a variance for a minor subdivision at 57 South Avenue by the Fanwood Planning Board last Wednesday. Co-owner and Chief Executive Officer of K9 Resorts, Steven Parker, discusses his plan as his attorney, Jeff Lehrer, stands to the right.

## Fanwood Planning Bd. OKs Variance for K9

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

FANWOOD — K9 Resorts LLC was approved unanimously for a variance for a minor subdivision at 57 South Avenue by the planning board last Wednesday.

Co-owner and Chief Executive Officer of K9 Resorts, Steven Parker, leased a vacant building adjacent to the current facility, which the company owns. The plan is to move the dog daycare to the adjacent lot and create a new facility there. The vacant building would not be expanded, Planner James Watson said. The lot would be subdivided to allow the landowner to use the land behind the building as a storage yard for his contracting work.

K9 Resorts has been in business for 10 years and has since expanded to a franchise of seven locations, the applicant's attorney, Jeff Lehrer, said.

The positive criteria of the plan, Mr. Watson said, included complying with standards of having air,

light and open space and a "desirable visual environment."

The negative criteria, Mr. Watson said, included "some traffic, some noise," but since the building is up against a railroad and not near homes that those negatives would not have any repercussions. "If you didn't approve this — K9 can't expand and may look elsewhere. It is a top shelf type of operation," Mr. Watson said.

David Frantz, owner of Fanwood Animal Hospital, which is across the street, spoke in favor of the project. "K9 Resorts and Steven and Jason Parker have been excellent neighbors and I see why every reason should be granted to them," Mr. Frantz said.

"The negative is creating that smaller lot, but the positives outweigh the negative. I agree with the professionals," Board Chairman Dale Flowers said.

"It goes from an empty, ugly building — that defines blight for Fanwood — to a beautiful headquarters for a company that doesn't seem like it is going to fail anytime soon. In fact, it is quite the opposite," said Planning Board member David Blechinger.

"That building has always been empty; what a change that would make," Mr. Flowers said.

www.goleader.com

## SP Budget

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Preceding Mr. Poerio at the budget meeting was Joseph Timko, now the acting director of the Public Works Department. Mr. Mirabella said Carlos Luaces, hired a year ago, had been dismissed last Friday. Describing Mr. Luaces as "a good guy," the township manager told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* that he wanted to move the township "in a different direction" and said it was a good time "to re-evaluate the direction of the DPW."

Going forward, Mr. Mirabella said he was looking at a variety of options for the DPW, including hiring a full-time director as well as exploring shared-service relationships with either Fanwood or Union County. He said he told Mr. Timko, who has been assistant township engineer for many years, to prepare to remain in his new post for three to six months.

During his brief budget presentation, Mr. Timko reviewed requests for several pieces of equipment and also urged a small increase in the budget for overtime pay, noting that the "snowstorms are killing us." He also said he felt the annual leaf pickup in the fall could be done entirely in-house without assistance from outside contractors.

## SP Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

township's noise ordinances, which he said were not comprehensive as currently written. He called the current laws "subjective" and said they could be problematic in court. He said the state has guidelines that could be helpful in formulating a more clear set of restrictions and prohibitions on noise between late-night hours and early-morning hours.

Mr. Mirabella updated the council on efforts to fill several top positions. A three-month contract given to Hatch Mott McDonald to serve as township engineer expires at month's end. The position of municipal prosecutor continues to be held by Robert Pansulla, who Mr. Mirabella said he was "very happy" with, while requests for proposals by potential appointees are expected to be received next week. And the term of Municipal Judge Antonio Ignacio expires on Wednesday, April 1, meaning the council will need to come to a consensus on whether to re-appoint Judge Ignacio, who has been in his post since 2006, or name someone else.



Dominic A. Lagano for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**NEW OFFICER...Kristopher Jackus** is sworn in as one of five new officers in the Westfield Police Department. The ceremony took place during the town council's February 24 meeting as Police Chief David Wayman looks on.

## Scotch Plains-Fanwood BOE Hears Budget Presentation

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

SCOTCH PLAINS — Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education Business Administrator Deborah Saridaki presented a proposed school budget of \$85,560,209 to the board at its meeting last Thursday.

According to Mrs. Saridaki, salaries make up 57 percent of the budget, which is up 1.89 percent from last year. Mrs. Saridaki said benefits account for 19 percent of the budget, noting that the cost of health insurance has gone up by 16 percent since last year. The local tax levy as proposed is \$81,130,282, which is up by 2 percent since last year's \$79,539,462 levy.

The rest of the budget consists of \$1 million in a fund balance, \$156,800 in other local sources, \$2,947,508 in state aid, \$300,000 in extraordinary aid and \$25,619 in Medicaid.

Mrs. Saridaki said there are six additional staff positions included in the budget. Those positions are as follows: one high-school physical education teacher, one middle-school nurse, one middle-school basic skills teacher, one middle-school self-contained special-education teacher, one middle-school self-contained special-education aide and one middle-school supervisor of special education.

Mrs. Saridaki noted that since 2008 enrollment has fluctuated between 5,502 to 5,550 total students, peaking in 2011 with 5,583 students.

Mrs. Saridaki reported that there were quite a few initiatives supported by the upcoming budget, including additional substitute coverage for pro-

fessional development; textbook updates for Zoology, Forensic Science, Social Studies Alive for the fifth grade and health books for grades 9 to 12; increased participation in the Science 2 Students learning program for middle- and high-school students; new elementary music workbooks; supplemental teaching programs for pre-school and kindergarten and expansion of some technology hardware where needed.

In other business, the board of education approved a resolution making March Youth Art Month.

It was noted that students from the Coles Elementary School third grade participated in the Odyssey of the Mind program held at J.P. Stevens High School in Edison, and that *Grease* was playing at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in the upcoming weeks.

Board President Nancy Bauer informed the audience that two highly attended information sessions were successfully done for parents in the district over the past week regarding the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) testing. It also was noted that the Girls Varsity Swim Team had recently won the state championship at the College of New Jersey when they defeated Princeton. Board member Trip Whitehouse stated that it had been 10 years since the girls had captured the title.

The next board meeting will be held Thursday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m., in the administration building on Evergreen Avenue and Cedar Street in Scotch Plains.

## WF Planning Bd. Denies S. Chestnut Subdivision

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

WESTFIELD — Much to the delight of the gathered crowd at Monday night's meeting of the planning board, the board unanimously denied an application for a non-conforming subdivision at 613 South Chestnut Street.

The applicant, Elshiekh Enterprises, represented by Robert Renaud, sought to take a 100-by-150-foot lot and make two 50-foot lots. Owner Haney Elshiekh argued that the two homes would be completely different in style and would fit in the neighborhood better than one larger home which he said would, "stand out like a white elephant."

The applicant argued that the subdivision would improve drainage in the area with the installation of a drainage system, and new homes would correct the current non-conforming setback of the existing home. Members of the public and board members pointed out that those issues would also be corrected if only one home was built.

The property is zoned for R10, which requires a 10,000-square-foot minimum; however, the applicant argued that because it borders R6 (6,000 square feet required) properties that it would be acceptable to treat it as such.

While Mr. Elshiekh said the sale of the property was not contingent on approval of the subdivision, he did say that the owner would receive more money from the sale if a subdivision was approved.

Board Chairman Vince Wilt said that Mr. Elshiekh was "bringing it (building one large home) up like it's a threat."

Board member Robert Newell raised concerns that granting such an application would set a precedent. He said that there were similar lots in the area and that breaking the zone would cause a "creep" of zoning changes.

Resident Robert Priestly questioned the planner, Kevin O'Brien, as to whether he knew the size of the large home on the corner of South Chestnut Street and Fourth Avenue, or the sizes of the new homes recently constructed off of Fourth Avenue, which Mr. O'Brien did not.

Town Planner Bill Drew pointed out that this neighborhood in particular was examined very closely in the most recent master plan review, and that while the town chose to change some zoning along neighboring Hillcrest Avenue, it deliberately did not change the zoning on South Chestnut Street.

All of the neighbors who spoke out against the subdivision said that they favored a single larger home rather than two homes.

Fourth Avenue resident Gregory Talmont said, "This town is a veritable celebration of (zoning) notches" and that it was done on purpose to provide for a variety of homes. He

said he would much rather see one oversized house there than "two boxes."

Mr. Newell said, "I disagree with the applicant that these (proposed) houses are conforming with the neighborhood."

The board unanimously denied the application. Councilman James Foerst, who had been on the dais for earlier hearings, was absent for this application.

Earlier in the evening the board unanimously approved the application of Westfield Superstore to construct a 970-square-foot addition to the former Lindeman Buick building on North Avenue. The application was originally heard at the January board meeting, where the board asked for some changes to be made to parking, signage and lot coverage. The applicant withdrew two of their sign variance requests and reconfigured the parking lot to allow for additional plantings and a safer traffic flow.

A conforming subdivision of property at 417 West Broad Street was also approved by the board. There is currently an older home, which had been a doctor's office at one point, and is in a state of disrepair, according to the owner.

Mr. Drew requested that the street tree be preserved if it could, and Town Engineer Kris McAloon said the applicant needed approval from Union County before removing the tree. The applicant's engineer, Richard Titus, said the tree was likely 50 years old and has "outlived its usefulness."

While some residents bemoaned the tearing down of an older home, the most immediate neighbor to the property said he was in favor of the subdivision and was looking forward to someone taking care of the neglected property.

Councilman Foerst told residents that given the zoning, it was possible for the builder to construct two two-family homes on the lots, but that he is only seeking single-family homes.

Finally, the board approved an enclosed patio dining area for La Famiglia Sorrento on Central Avenue. The applicant is enclosing an existing patio area so that it can be used all year round.



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Christina M. Hinke for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**ACTIVE DISCUSSION... Fanwood Councilman Tom Kranz**, pictured far left, discusses the Length of Service Award Program with the borough council at Monday's council agenda meeting.

## Fanwood Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

installed in any new or used police cars purchased, or the camera is to be placed on the police officer's body, Mr. Tompkins added.

The cost of the camera is about \$10,000 per car, and \$800 for a camera on the police officer's body, Mr. Tompkins added.

## Freeholders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"How are the taxpayers supposed to have any confidence in the Union County Improvement Authority?" Mrs. Renna questioned.

John Bury of Kenilworth said he read in media reports that Mrs. Stender was given a "deal" whereby she retains her new position. He questioned how this was done as the UCIA board has not met since the scandal hit the press.

"To have (Union County Democratic Chairman) Jerry Green just say, 'I'll do this;' I think it belittles everybody (freeholders) here," Mr. Bury said.

Bruce Paterson of Garwood said he recommended last year that the freeholders roll the improvement authority into Union County government, which he said would save \$600,000.

"Now it's blowing up in your faces," Mr. Paterson said, noting that in addition to the Stender scandal, former freeholder Dan Sullivan, the executive director of both the improvement authority and the county's utilities authority, gave out unauthorized monthly pay bonuses to himself and staff in 2013. Mr. Paterson said it cost the county \$80,000 in legal fees to recoup \$50,000 in bonuses.

Mr. Paterson requested that County Counsel Robert Barry give a legal opinion on whether Freeholder Mirabella has a conflict of interest by being both a freeholder and Scotch Plains township manager. Mr. Paterson said Mr. Mirabella should have to abstain on county budget votes.

When Mr. Barry did not issue a comment, Mr. Paterson shouted at the conclusion of the meeting that Mr. Barry was a "coward."

In other freeholder business, the board approved a \$109,906 reduction in repairs to the exterior of the Union County Board of Elections building on Broad Street in Elizabeth for a new total cost of \$1,215,984.

The board appointed Fanwood Councilman Jack Molenaar, Roger Stryeski of Roselle and Mountainside Councilman Robert Messlera as delegates and Mountainside Engineer Michael Disko, Jr. as an alternate to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board.

Zenon Moriak of Mountainside was appointed as a delegate to the Union County Air Traffic and Noise Advisory Board.



Dominic A. Lagano for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**PROMOTED...Marcin Kapka** is sworn in as a sergeant in the Westfield Police Department at the town council's February 24 meeting as his family looks on.



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## Municipal Aid Numbers Flat In Christie Budget

TRENTON — The Christie Administration released flat municipal aid figures last week as part of its budget proposal. For Fiscal Year 2016, \$1.5 billion will be available to municipalities through various programs and direct aid payments.

"I recognize that municipal governments are facing decreased revenues and fewer resources in this tough economy. That's why we are asking local communities to do their part. Municipal officials must use this preserved aid and continue to use the 2 percent property tax cap, pension and health benefits changes, and a 2 percent cap on interest arbitration awards to drive down the cost of local government and control property taxes," Governor Chris Christie said.

The budget proposes level aggregate funding for Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid (CMPTRA), Energy Tax Receipts aid (ETR), and Watershed Moratorium Offset aid. Funding for Transitional Aid (TA) will also continue, though prior recipients may see a reduction as the need for this transitional assistance is steadily reduced.

Locally, Cranford will receive \$2,900,712, Fanwood will get \$755,288, Garwood will garner \$490,186, Mountainside will receive \$767,600. Scotch Plains' aid is \$2,227,587, and Westfield will receive \$3,073,326, all the same aid

numbers as last year.

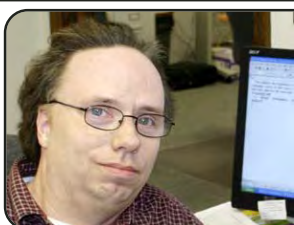
A full list of municipal state aid figures for Fiscal Year 2016 is available at [www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dlgs/resources/muni\\_stateaid.html](http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dlgs/resources/muni_stateaid.html).

## Lance Introduces Bill To Protect FDA User Fees From Sequestration

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) has announced he was teaming up with Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-Calif.) to reintroduce the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Federal Safety Over Sequestration Act, or FDA SOS Act, which exempts the FDA user fees from sequestration.

FDA user fees are 100 percent industry-financed and are used specifically for the approval of safe and effective drugs and devices. The user fees are industry-financed and account for roughly 35 percent of the FDA's budget.

Under sequestration, the FDA would be prohibited from collecting approximately more than \$1 billion over a five-year period, according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Congress has recently increased FDA user fees in addition to strengthening and improving the review process.



## Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of *The Leader/Times*

### Quijano Rips \$250 Mil. Settlement Of Exxon Mobil Lawsuit

Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (D-20th, Elizabeth) has questioned why the Christie Administration agreed to a \$250-million settlement with Exxon Mobil for decades-worth of damage done to sensitive environmental areas after the state originally sought \$8.9 billion in compensation.

"This figure seems extremely low given the initial damages sought, as well as the irreparable harm that has been done to our environment over the years. Residents in my district and the surrounding areas have seen their quality of life altered by damage that will likely never be undone - contaminated ground water, petroleum-slicked marshlands, 'sludge lagoons.' This settlement figure does not even come close to restoring these lands to their natural state," the Assemblywoman said.

A *New York Times* report questioned whether politics was involved as Exxon Mobil had given a half-million dollar donation to the Republican Governors Association (RGA), which Governor Chris Christie headed last year, and had given donations to the RGA since at least 2008. Exxon Mobil has said the amount of donation in 2014 was based on the number of gubernatorial races last year and had nothing to do with Gov. Christie's chairmanship.

### Pallone Supports FCC Vote to Adopt Net Neutrality Protections

Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6th), Ranking Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, issued the following statement following the Federal Communications Commissions (FCC) vote to adopt network neutrality protections:

"Today, we witnessed an historic day at the FCC. The Commission

responded to the four million Americans who demanded strong network neutrality rules by adopting the most powerful Internet protections consumers have ever had. This tremendous success story shows that Washington can work. That is why I remain open to truly bipartisan efforts to enshrine the FCC's work into law..."

### Lance Criticizes FCC Vote On Net Neutrality Ruling

Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th), member of the House Communications and Technology Subcommittee, has criticized the Federal Communications Commission's new net-neutrality rules.

"The Federal Communications Commission has voted in favor of a net neutrality plan that is the most dramatic government intervention in the Internet in two decades. The FCC's proposal to regulate the Internet will hurt consumers and discourage new investment and innovation in broadband."

"It is Congress, not an unelected federal commission, that is tasked with modernizing our nation's telecommunications laws and today's action is a blatant overstep of authority that threatens to stifle one of the nation's most important economic engines."

### Christie Takes Swipe at Bush During CPAC Conference

Governor Chris Christie targeted early frontrunner Jeb Bush at the CPAC (Conservative Political Action Committee) Conference in Washington, D.C., according to a [politicickernj.com](http://politicickernj.com) report. Both are likely contenders for the 2016 Republican nomination for President in 2016.

"If what happens is the elites in the back rooms of Washington decides who the president is going to be, then he's definitely the frontrunner," Mr. Christie said of Mr. Bush.

## Stender Opts Not to Seek Re-election to Assembly

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

SCOTCH PLAINS — In the midst of a scandal over help her husband received from a nonprofit to help rebuild his shore home, Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-22nd, Scotch Plains) announced last Thursday that she would not seek re-election to her Assembly seat.

Mr. Stender applied and received assistance from the nonprofit Coastal Habitat for Humanity in Monmouth County to rebuild his home in Manasquan that was damaged in Hurricane Sandy, which Mr. Stender purchased for \$465,000 in 2008, according to online documents. The building plans called for a new home three times the size of the Cape Cod-style home that was demolished by Habitat last July, according to published reports.

Coastal Habitat and the Stenders are embroiled in a legal battle as Coastal says Mr. Stender owes them \$11,000 towards the cost of the demolition. Coastal pulled out of the project when they saw the building plans

## County Budget Hearings Begin Tues., March 10

COUNTY — The Union County Freeholders' Fiscal Affairs Committee will hold budget hearings on the proposed 2015 county budget this month at several locations.

The meetings are as follows: Tuesday, March 10, Galloping Hill Golf Course Clubhouse in Kenilworth, Thursday, March 12 and Thursday, March 19, at the Freeholders Meeting Room on the sixth floor of the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth, and Thursday, March 24 at the Hamilton Stage Performing Arts Center in Rahway.

Union County Manager Al Faella presented an executive budget this week of \$492 million of which \$336.1 million would be raised in local property taxes, a hike of \$9 million over last year.

## Deadline for Members To Register for WF Pool Is April 16th

WESTFIELD — Westfield Memorial Pool registration information has been mailed to all 2014 pool members, the Recreation Department has announced.

Members can register on-line, mail in, or in person through Monday, April 16.

Once pre-registration of current 2014 members is completed for the 2015 season on April 16th, if there are still openings, the Recreation Department will start contacting those on the wait list.

Those interested in joining Memorial Pool and who were not a 2014 member must be on the wait list at the Westfield Recreation Department.

Wait List applications are available on-line at [www.westfieldnj.gov/recreation](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/recreation) or can be picked up in the Recreation Department at 425 East Broad Street.

For more information contact the department at (908) 789-4080

called for a home much larger than what the nonprofit finances.

The New Jersey Attorney General Office is now investigating the matter.

"Over the last several days, it has become apparent that personal issues involving my family and a nonprofit group have become an insurmountable distraction to me, to my running mates and, most importantly, to the constituents I have been proud to represent for more than a decade. As a result, I have decided not to seek re-election," Mrs. Stender said in her statement.

"Serving in public office has been one of the highest honors of my life. For nearly 30 years, I have prided myself on being a loud and clear voice for my community. I fought for women's reproductive rights, expanded access to healthcare, higher environmental standards, helped to create jobs, and stood with men and women of organized labor to protect their rights. I hope my efforts have made a difference in the lives of the people of New Jersey," she concluded.

Mrs. Stender has served in the Assembly since 2002 and chairs the Assembly State Government Committee. She is vice-chairwoman of the Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee. She previously served on the Fanwood Borough Council from 1988 to 1990 and as mayor from 1992 to 1995. She was a Union County freeholder from 1994 to 2002, chairing the board in 1997.

State Senator Nick Scutari (D-22nd, Linden) ran with Mrs. Stender as a freeholder and in legislative races.

"Today is a sad day for me and for the entire 22nd Legislative District. Linda has been a close friend of mine for many years. We have campaigned on the same ticket dating back to our time on the Union County Board of Freeholders. I wish her well going forward and am confident she will correct these allegations directed at her," Mr. Scutari said in a statement.

Assemblyman Jerry Green (D-22nd, Plainfield), who also serves as Union County Democratic chairman and has been Mrs. Stender's Assembly running mate since 2002, pulled his support for her last Thursday night.

In a statement published on [politicickernj.com](http://politicickernj.com) he said he was "not going to force, demand or threaten Linda Stender to resign, based upon the fact that she feels that she's innocent."

"Moving forward, I will not be supporting her for reelection to the state Assembly in the 22nd Legislative District," Mr. Green said.

Media reports say that former Rahway mayor James Kennedy and current Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr are being considered to replace Mrs. Stender on this year's election ballot on the party's endorsed Democratic line. Reports also say Plainfield Mayor Adrian Mapp is also interested in running, saying there will be a primary in June.

Former Republican Scotch Plains councilman William Vastine has also said he intends to run for Assembly. He ran for Assembly in 2009.

The official filing deadline for the primary is Monday, March 30 at 4 p.m.

## PSE&G Denies Pipeline Access to Rights-of-Way

REGION — PSE&G has told Pilgrim Pipeline that they will not share their rights-of-way with the company. Pilgrim had asked the public utility for use of their easements to install two brand new oil pipelines across Northern New Jersey.

Pilgrim Pipeline LLC is a private utility that wants to ship crude oil and refined petroleum products. Pilgrim is proposing to construct two new pipelines to connect Albany, New York, with Port Reading and Linden, New Jersey. The infrastructure would transport Bakken shale oil, produced by fracking in North Dakota, and refined petroleum products.

On February 26th a PSE&G spokesperson Karen Johnson announced, "Last fall, we told Pilgrim that it was not in the best interests of the utility or its customers to allow access to the right-of-way from Montville to Woodbridge...At the time, we said that building another pipeline in the same right-of-way could interfere with these existing facilities, as well as future potential uses of this property for the provision

of safe and reliable electric and gas service."

Pilgrim Pipeline LLC could try to go to the Board of Public Utilities to access the right-of-way or they could go to court, the Sierra Club said in a press release.

"Without the PSEG right-of-way, which we estimate is 27 miles from Woodbridge to Montville, it would make it very difficult for Pilgrim to find another route north up to the Oakland area," said Jeff Tittel, New Jersey Sierra Club director.



FUTURE FARMERS...Union County Freeholder Chairman Mohamed Jalloh, second from right, and Freeholders Bruce Bergen, left, and Al Mirabella, right, present a resolution to Union County Vocational-Technical Schools Superintendent Peter Capodice, third from left, Future Farmers of America (FFA) advisor and horticulture instructor Bonnie Baldasare, second from left, FFA member Aaron Etnine and FFA President Margaret Hopkins designating the last week of February 2015 as Future Farmers of America Week in Union County.

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## Senior Citizens / Section 8 Housing Westfield Senior Citizens Housing

Westfield Senior Citizens Housing is currently accepting waiting list applications. The studio, 1 and 2 bedroom apartments are subsidized through the Section 8 Program of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are subject to the following federal eligibility requirements:

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2. Applicant's maximum annual income:
 

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Applications will be available weekdays from March 16, 2015, through March 27, 2015 (10:00 AM to 4:00 PM) at the address listed below, or may be obtained by mail, by calling (908) 233-5898, or by e-mail by contacting [carla.ferreira@westfieldseniorhousing.com](mailto:carla.ferreira@westfieldseniorhousing.com).

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(908) 233-5898

[www.westfieldseniorhousing.com](http://www.westfieldseniorhousing.com)

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## Faella Presents Executive Budget To County Freeholder Board

*Editor's Note: The following is the budget message within County Manager Al Faella's executive budget as presented to the Board of Chosen Freeholders. The message has been edited due to space considerations. The \$492-million budget would be offset by a tax levy of \$336,103,888, up from last year's levy of \$327,061,905.*

The 2015 executive budget is contained in this document for your review and approval in compliance with N.J.S.A. 40:41A-1 et seq., the Optional County Charter Law.

The state of this year's executive budget reflects a broad-based recovery in Union County's economy and our success in setting goals, implementing policy and continuing progress on all areas requiring attention.

This past year, we achieved one such major administrative goal — the sale of Rumlens Specialized Hospital, which not only brought in revenue from the sale itself but will also save millions more each year on mandated costs such as health and liability insurances, pension and operating expenses.

These savings are helping to balance the budget, as we also continue to build surplus. Over the past several years, we've been able to boost our surplus by 71 percent as our financial condition has improved. The increase to surplus is vital to maintaining our bond rating (Aaa1), which is among the highest obtainable.

We are also continuing to examine our correctional facilities for operational efficiencies and increased revenues. We recently signed a two-year contract with Hudson County to accept their juvenile detention detainees to the Union County's Detention Center in Linden, a move that could bring in as much as \$1.5 million in revenues — if not more — per year. This occurs as we look at ways of achieving efficiencies at the Union County jail, which as I noted in last year's executive budget message, costs more than \$55 million to operate.

We succeeded in reducing our operational costs and expenses at the adult facility by \$1 million through the implementation of recommendations made in the Luminosity study. This report, which was commissioned several years back, continues to reap benefits by bringing together stakeholders in an effort to reduce unnecessary detention while maintaining public safety and the integrity of the courts process.

In other areas, the Parks and Public Safety Departments also succeeded in providing increased revenues to County coffers.

The Union County Emergency Medical Services (UC EMS) increased its revenues by more than 60 percent over the past year and realized a 130 percent growth in calls to the agency. The success was recognized by the New Jersey Department of Health which recognized UC EMS as the "Outstanding Public EMS agency of the Year."

Combined with another important pub-

lic safety program, the Union County Regional Dispatch Center, both agencies now contribute nearly \$1 million in revenues, while providing important life-saving services to our residents and shared services to our municipalities. The Dispatch Center has grown to cover 17 agencies throughout Union County since its inception in 2010. In 2014, the regional dispatch center processed 70,500 calls, up from 57,827 the previous year.

Parks Department total revenues, including golf, increased by \$400,000 this past year. Our golf facilities are brimming with activities and outreach programs for all ages, and next year, the NJ Open Championship will host its prestigious tournament for the first time in its history at a public golf course — our Galloping Hills facility in Kenilworth.

Also within our Parks Department, I am pleased to report that we will make substantial progress in another area we targeted for operational reforms over the past few years — the Watchung Stables. As I noted in last year's executive budget message, we were able to nearly erase a \$600,000 deficit. This year, we will focus on beginning several improvements, including the construction of a new indoor riding ring and the resurfacing of existing outdoor riding rings that will grow revenues at the facility, increase usage and enable it to reach its full potential.

As we continue our review of the executive budget, these revenue increases and cost savings were offset by some rising mandated costs and the loss of revenues in other areas, which included: A loss of over \$800,000 in net revenues from the end of the state's red light camera program; an increase in pension costs of \$500,000; an increase in debt service of \$5 million, which in part funded public investments in projects such as the County College (expansion of the Cranford campus), and the state-mandated new Family Courthouse Complex on Cherry Street.

Overall, this year's executive budget is approximately \$492 million, which is \$10.7 million less than last year. The executive budget, which meets the state cap, would increase property taxes by an average of \$57 — the lowest increase in years.

Still, there is more good news to report as the economic recovery reached the real estate market: the county's ratable base increased for the first time since 2008, by \$200 million — and recent reports touted significant wage gains in the County job market as a whole — leading the state and one of the highest in the nation. This is a key indicator of economic health.

We have much to achieve in 2015, and we are ready to roll our sleeves up and get to work. I look forward to working with the Freeholder Board, our residents and County workforce in getting the job done and moving Union County forward.

**Alfred J. Faella**  
Union County Manager

## Lance Votes to Strengthen 529 College-Savings Plans

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) has supported H.R. 529, bipartisan legislation that expands, improves and modernizes tax-free 529 college savings plans:

"The House of Representatives acted in a bipartisan fashion to expand the popular 529 college savings plans and provide greater flexibility to Garden State families who are saving for college. At a time when tuition has skyrocketed and so many are struggling to pay for higher education, today's legislation will help make college more affordable for many middle-class families," Mr. Lance said.

H.R. 529 makes three important improvements to enhance tax-free 529 college-savings plans: 1. Modernizes 529 plans by adding computer-tax-free 529 college savings plans to the list of qualified expenses; 2. Allows funds to be re-deposited without taxes or penalties if a student withdraws early for medical reasons and obtains a refund from the school; and 3. Removes unnecessary paperwork burdens that date back to before withdrawals from 529 plans became tax-free.

"These reforms will allow more hard-working Americans to save for their children's college education," Mr. Lance concluded.



**PREPARING FOR PARADE...** Union County Freeholders Vernell Wright, left, and Chris Hudak, second from left, and Freeholder Chairman Mohamed Jalloh, third from left, present resolutions to the 2015 Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal Margaret M. McMenamin, center. General Chairman Tony Brennan and Adjutant Kathleen Holmes congratulating them on the 19th annual parade. The 2015 Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade steps off at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, on Morris Avenue in Union. For more information, visit [www.unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com](http://www.unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com).

## 19th County St. Patrick's Parade March 14th In Union

UNION — Eighteen years after the first Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade stepped off on Morris Avenue the tradition continues on Saturday, March 14, at 1 p.m. sharp with thousands of marchers and spectators gathering to celebrate the patron saint of Ireland.

This year's Grand Marshal, Union County College President Margaret M. McMenamin of Springfield, will lead the march of bagpipe and high school bands, local police and fire department units, veterans groups and many more organizations through the center of Union.

Ms. McMenamin has been involved with the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade for several years. She traces her Irish roots back to the farmlands of Counties Donegal, Mayo and Sligo in Ireland.

The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade has grown from drawing 10,000 spectators during its inaugural run in 1997 to more than 40,000 on-lookers last year.

According to Parade Adjutant Kathleen Holmes, who also coordinates parade logistics with the Township of Union, the 2015 Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade will feature high school marching bands from the Township of Union and Roselle Park and many bagpipe bands including the Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums and the St. Columcille United Gaelic Pipe Band. Also marching will be Fourth Degree color guards from the Knights of Columbus, non-profit units, local police and fire departments and the Garden State Ceili Club float.

A Mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Elizabeth at 9 a.m. to begin the day followed by a welcoming reception in the church hall. St. Patrick's Church is located at 215 Court Street in Elizabeth.

The family-friendly festivities kick off at noon at the reviewing stand located at the corner of Morris and Stuyvesant Avenues in Union Center with a Irish welcome from parade officials, traditional Irish music and Irish step-dancing. The one-mile parade will begin at 1 p.m. at Commerce Street and Morris Avenue, proceeding east on Morris Avenue to Union Center and south onto Stuyvesant Avenue, ending at

Roosevelt Avenue.

The following organizations make up the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee: The John Cryan Association, The Thornsticks, The Irish-American Society of Union, The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Union County, Joseph Nugent Sr. Association, Kenilworth Veterans Center/VFW 2230, Ancient Order of Hibernians of Rahway, Union County Emerald Society, Sheridan School of Irish Dance, Union County Irish-American Association, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Elizabeth, Garden State Ceili Club, St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, St. John the Apostle Church in Linden, St. Columcille Pipes and Drums, Knights of Columbus Council 253 in Elizabeth, Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums, Knights of Columbus Council 4504 in Union, Molly Maguire's Pub and the Blackthorn Pub.

For more information about the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade please visit [unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com](http://unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com).

## Assembly Panel OKs Bill to Help Cover Costs for Nursing Homes When Medicaid Application Delayed

TRENTON — An Assembly panel on Monday approved legislation sponsored by Assembly Democrats to help seniors and other vulnerable residents receive the specialized care they need from nursing homes when the Medicaid application approval process is delayed.

Designated the "Uncompensated Pending Medicaid Beneficiary Payment Relief Act," A-3928 would provide payments to nursing homes for residents who have applied for Medicaid, but whose eligibility has not been determined more than 90 days after the initial application.

Specifically, the bill would require the state Department of Human Services to make advance payments to a nursing facility, at the facility's request, whenever the facility is providing uncompensated services to one or more residents whose eligibility for Medicaid has not been determined more than 90 days after an application has been filed.

Any such advance payment would

## Ex-Roselle Mayor Smith Admits to Insurance Fraud

ROSELLE — A former mayor of Roselle has admitted to committing insurance fraud in connection with a motor vehicle accident that took place a little more than four years ago.

Garrett Smith, 53, pleaded guilty to a single count of second-degree insurance fraud before state Superior Court Judge Robert J. Mega on February 24th with the admission coming the day before Smith's trial was scheduled to begin following a series of delays.

It was approximately 2 a.m. on Christmas Day, December 25, 2010, when Smith left a Roselle bar and struck a parked vehicle with his 2001 Lincoln Town Car on his way home, according to Union County Assistant Prosecutor Robert Vanderstreet, who prosecuted the case.

Instead of reporting the accident, however, Smith continued home, Vanderstreet said. The next day, having parked his car facing the wrong way on the street outside of his home, Smith called police to report that someone — possibly the driver of a snowplow, he said — had struck his

vehicle in the aftermath of a significant snowstorm that had just hit the area.

Contradicting that account were two facts in particular uncovered by the Roselle Police Department: first, Vanderstreet said, officers traced a trail of automotive fluids from the scene of the actual accident to Smith's garage, and second, a broken piece of Smith's Town Car's bumper was also recovered next to the vehicle he had struck.

An investigation that grew to also involve the Prosecutor's Office's Insurance Fraud Unit determined that Smith also made a series of materially misleading statements, some of which were recorded, to both the police and his auto insurance carrier during the days and weeks following the accident.

Smith, a Democrat, served as Roselle's mayor from 2003 through 2011. Sentencing has been scheduled for Friday, March 27, at which time he is expected to receive a term of 90 days in the Union County jail and a period of probation of a length to be determined.

## School Aid Figures Told; Local Districts Stay Flat

TRENTON — The Christie Administration has released state school-aid figures for fiscal year 2016 that again exceed last year with total school aid earmarked at over \$12.7 billion.

Gov. Christie has proposed a \$33.8-billion fiscal 2016 budget that ensures no school district will lose K-12 aid from FY 2015 levels.

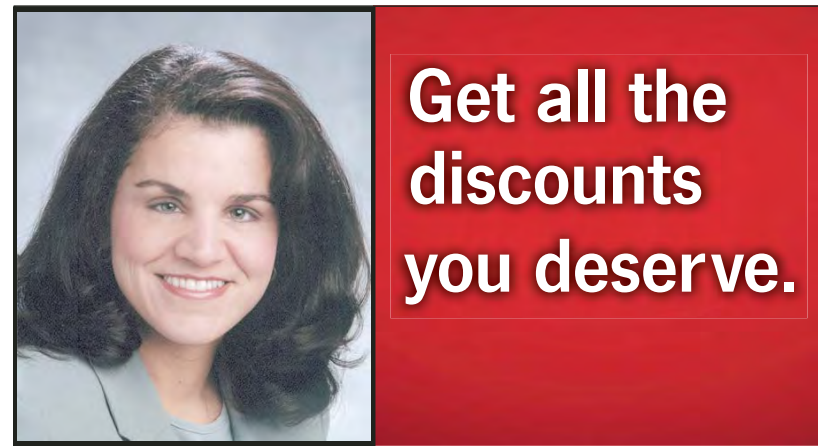
In addition to more than \$9 billion in direct school aid, the FY 2016 budget continues to provide school districts with other significant financial support, including \$884 million for school construction debt service, and nearly \$2.9 billion for teachers' pensions, Social Security and post-retirement

medical benefits.

More than a quarter of the fiscal year 2016 state budget is proposed for direct aid to New Jersey schools, which are ranked among the highest in the nation in per-pupil spending.

Locally, the Cranford School District will receive \$2,309,995, Garwood will garner \$448,267, Mountainside School District will receive \$492,364, Scotch Plains-Fanwood will get \$2,947,508, Union County Vocational-Technical will get \$5,667,336 with Westfield getting \$2,956,317. The aid figures are the same as last year.

District-by-district state aid allocations are online at [www.state.nj.us/education/stateaid/1516/](http://www.state.nj.us/education/stateaid/1516/)



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<p><b>Wednesday, March 18, 2015</b> Grilstone 2377 Route 22 West Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 11:00am Prompt! Lunch Provided</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, March 24, 2015</b> Chimney Rock 342 Valley Road Gillette, NJ 07833 11:00am Prompt! Lunch Provided</p>
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## Letters to the Editor

### Westfield Parent-Coach Implores BOE to Approve Trial Kehler Lights

As a 17-year resident of Westfield and parent-coach since 2009 of recreational basketball and now girls' lacrosse and U9 travel soccer, I implore the Board of Education to authorize the trial use of lights at Kehler Stadium.


I recognize that the presence of lights presents change and potential disruption for residents near the stadium. However, I ask that the folks in opposition set their concerns aside for this well-defined trial period. The trial will provide some relief to the children of Westfield in need of practice time after such an arduous winter - the coldest in 38 years! The trial will also importantly provide experience and evidence to ground a legitimate debate on the question of whether the benefit of lights at Kehler is worth any resultant impact on the quality of life for Westfielders.

I grew up in a time when kids played sports on a spontaneous basis and the only organization was the word passed at school to meet down at the field or playground (or in my case on the street, behind a church or in a parking lot.) Times have changed for a myriad of reasons good and bad and sports are now organized at all levels - presenting unprecedented demands for quality space (e.g. a real field rather than a parking lot) and time to practice and play. The practice time purposed in this trial is essential for the kids to build skills, confidence and teamwork - life skills that benefit our society long after the kids conclude the games of our youth.

I trust that you share my view that a two-month trial is worthwhile. I am honored to be associated with the enthusiastic coaches, parents and children of the town's sports programs and I look forward to seeing you out on a field or court sometime soon.

**Joe Malley**  
Westfield

ABCD EFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ



**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. Inchoation - An early stage or beginning
2. Inauration - The process of covering with gold
3. Yperite - Mustard gas
4. Varioloid - A mild form of small-pox

**THURIFEROUS**

1. Grayish blue
2. Sparkling; glittering
3. Sensitivity to art and beauty; good taste
4. Bearing frankincense

**PLEON**

1. A roof prop used in a coal mine
2. A string of pearls
3. The abdomen of any crustacean
4. Second-class; something of lesser value

**INTAGLIATED**

1. Interlaced or linked
2. Engraved or stamped in
3. Furrowed or grooved
4. Twining about; twisting

**INSPISSATE**

1. Thickened by evaporation
2. Salty; saline
3. Desolate; barren
4. Soiled and wrinkled

See more letters on page 5

# Lawmakers Need to Stop Pension Padding by Politicos and Pals

While many state lawmakers - mostly Democrats - rightly criticize Governor Chris Christie for not honoring his commitment to state retirees and those approaching retirement - these same politicians are saying nothing about members of their own party who are taking advantage of their political clout at the expense of New Jersey taxpayers. In fact, political power brokers are rushing to the gate to pillage the system for themselves and their friends.

This past week news surfaced that Assemblyman Linda Stender's (D-22nd, Scotch Plains) husband Richard had falsely applied for and received financial help from Coastal Habitat for Humanity to rebuild a shore home in Manasquan. The home would replace Mr. Stender's previous house that was damaged in Hurricane Sandy.

The Stenders' income at the time of the application - Mrs. Stender earns \$49,000 as a lawmaker with Mr. Stender making \$50,000 - is over the average in Monmouth County that Habitat allows on its application. Also, the home the Stenders' wanted was three times the size of the Stenders' bungalow that was demolished by Habitat on July 28, 2014 and much larger than the standard homes Habitat builds.

Our concern is not only the gall and dishonesty of the Stenders' seeking financial help they are not entitled to, but that Mrs. Stender is also pension padding with her new \$90,000 job she started early last month as deputy director and project manager with the Union County Improvement Authority. We regard this as a political payoff to get rid of her, which she gladly accepted. We call for this to be rescinded.

But she is not the only politician doing this. We dislike pointing out two local politicians that we like, but someone has to speak up and say, "The king has no clothes."

Current Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr and Vice-Chairwoman of the County Democratic Committee was given a job last year as head of the county Division of Strategic Planning and Intergovernmental Relations, a position that pays \$83,085 with all the perks. She does not receive a pay check as mayor. This improvement authority job seems to be a made-up payoff position to us.

And Freeholder Al Mirabella, who makes \$30,000 as a freeholder, was named Scotch Plains township manager in January at a salary of \$145,000 for a combined income of \$175,000.

The jobs for Mrs. Stender and Mayor Mahr are

both newly minted positions.

In addition, Jim Kennedy, the former 20-year mayor of Rahway, is said to be under consideration to replace Mrs. Stender on the ballot for state Assembly along with Mayor Mahr.

State pensions are based on an average of the highest five pay years so each will see a spike in their government pensions. This calculation basis is absurd and is open for the plucking - which is exactly what's happening.

The impact on taxpayers for the salaries, health and pension costs is in the billions for these and other officials around New Jersey duping the system. As we have said repeatedly, Trenton needs to change laws to stop lawmakers from enriching themselves and their political friends at the expense of New Jersey taxpayers.

This is absolutely a must-do first step before fixing the rest of the pension and health care \$87-billion deficit. Policemen, firemen and all other legitimate workers in the pension system should join in this "Clarion Call." They are fighting the wrong enemy.

So the dilemma is how will it be possible for lawmakers and political bosses to change the law so that they and their friends can no longer enrich themselves? Further, how will it be possible to stop



Gilda

lawmakers from spending your money to buy votes to maintain their power?

Many say this correction is not possible. So they signed their new home purchase agreement in Florida.

As Rita Hayworth in the 1946 movie, *Gilda*, after lip-singing "Put the Blame on Mame," - paraphrase, "Can someone help me please!"

## Scotch Plains Mayor Glover Disagrees With Newspaper Article on Council

Your newspaper's coverage (*The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*) of the township's budget meeting on Tuesday erroneously reported that Deputy Mayor Gialanella and I had objected to making the draft budget available to the public. For the record, I publicly stated on Tuesday, not once but twice, at the beginning and at the close of the workshop budget meeting that the document should be shared with the public.

I had advocated this position from my first year on Council and successfully achieved that objective several years ago. Further, Deputy Mayor Gialanella, clearly stated, that she supported making the draft budget public as well. Your reporter's report that the Deputy Mayor objected to

making the draft public during an opening discussion at the onset of the meeting could not have occurred, as the Deputy Mayor was not in attendance at the time.

I thank you for your suggestion to provide an accurate account of what transpired and would appreciate that this important matter get reported correctly.

**Kevin Glover**  
Mayor of Scotch Plains

*Editor's note: The mayor's comments reference the first two paragraphs of the report that summarized the back and forth debate of the issue over the entire length of the meeting. Saturday, the 300-page draft budget was posted on the township website.*

## Stender's Actions and Fellow Dems' Silence Is Morally Repugnant

There are few things as morally repugnant as taking advantage of Habitat for Humanity. But now it is clear to everyone that Linda Stender was complicit in doing just that.

As a result, the Union County Democrat organization and its chairman Jerry Green, who was to be her Assembly running mate, withdrew their support for her, effectively forcing her to not seek re-election.

Clearly Jerry Green didn't want to risk his own re-election chances with Stender's unethical and possibly criminal dealings. And the criminal investigation is now where it belongs - in the hands of the Attorney General's office.

What is almost as bad as Stender's actions, is her fellow Democrats' silence on this issue. Linda Stender

should resign her Assembly seat immediately. She should also resign as chair of the Scotch Plains Democratic Party immediately.

She and her husband deserve due process as the legal process unfolds. But the people of Scotch Plains deserve leadership that isn't ethically lacking.

It is now up to Scotch Plains Democrats to either join me in calling for her resignations, or remain silent and tacitly condone this sort of behavior, taking only what minimal actions are necessary to preserve their own political careers as they put their personal financial interests ahead of the taxpayer.

**Alexander Smith, Chairman**  
Scotch Plains Republican Committee

## Mind-Boggling That Union County Gov. Puts Itself Above the Public

We, as the residents and taxpayers of Union County, New Jersey has finally seen proof that our county government and its related authorities are totally disconnected from having to answer to the public. Instead it has become a machine just to self-enrich those "connected." We can comfortably now call it a criminal enterprise. I attended the February 26th Freeholder meeting and came away astounded.

Assemblywoman Linda Stender, who three weeks ago was given a \$90,000 low show job at the county's Union County Improvement Authority, was one topic of concern the residents brought up. It appears that this recent largess job that Stender was given was in response to the breaking news that she and her husband had bullied and scammed the charity Habitat for Humanity to give them grants to build their 2,000-sq.-ft. dream house down the shore. Habitat for humanity is a charity that serves the homeless and low income families, offering services and grants to have a residence of their own.

At the Freeholder meeting, several members of the public pointed this out and that Stender should not be given the county job. At the end, Freeholder Hudak pointed out that this was just a personal problem for Assemblywoman Stender, as if alleged misrepresentation and fraud to gain public monies is just a minor glitch in someone's life.

Even more egregious, an issue that I brought up at the last Freeholder meeting was the Freeholder Mirabella double job/double dip issue. He is a sitting Freeholder and was given, without interview, the business administrator's job at Scotch Plains municipal government. He has zero experience regarding the routine and daily operations of a township and was selected over 15 other applicants that did. On top of that he was given a \$20,000 raise over the last BA who had years of experience.

BTW, the newly appointed Scotch Plains lawyer that "negotiated" Mirabella's contract and much higher salary, had donated \$3,200 to Mirabella's last Freeholder campaign. The lawyer's law firm, Palumbo and

Renaud, does business with the county. In late December, when first this issue of the double job arose, I pointed out at a January Freeholder meeting that this looks like a serious conflict of interest. Freeholder Estrada responded that it wasn't, even though he has no legal expertise. This is on public video of the meeting.

So in this last meeting's public comment portion, I queried county counsel Robert Barry to rule on the record that 1) Mirabella's double jobs are not a conflict of interest and 2) Will Mirabella in the capacity of Freeholder be able to vote on the county budget when it's up for the vote, since he would be voting on county funding and grants for the Scotch Plains Township operations and budget that he also administers. If a freeholder can't vote on his own budget, then he promptly shouldn't be a Freeholder.

Incredulous, he actually responded "no comment." This is all on public video. For a lawyer, who is paid \$164,000 as counsel to serve the public in a legal capacity, to avoid answering publicly the questions that is of major concern is just mind boggling!

After the meeting was over and everyone was leaving, regretfully, I loudly called him a coward, and he slinked away. However, as a resident and taxpayer, Counsel Barry deserved it for what he did in public. On top of that, after the meeting, Freeholder Mirabella, arrogantly needled me on my grave concerns.

My guess is that as long as the county counsel doesn't have to do his job and rule on the conflict, then Mirabella can go merrily along with his double job. For Counsel Barry's malfeasance, who would have to push for Barry's disbarment? Why, one of them would be Freeholder Mirabella, right?

Sal Caruana, ex-Westfield councilman's editorial in the Feb. 26, 2015 edition of *The Westfield Leader* calling Union County government a "pig trough" and "cesspool" with a "stench" is apropos. And so the public is ignored, and the Union County government cesspool lives on.

**Bruce Patterson**  
Garwood



<b>State LD-21</b> 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	<b>State LD-22</b> Sen. Nicholas Scutari (D) 1514 E. Saint Georges Ave. Linden, N.J. 07036 (908) 587-0404 Asw. 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	<b>7th Congressional District</b> 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] <b>12th Congressional District</b> Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D) XXX XXX [Fanwood, Plainfield and most of Scotch Plains are in the 12th Congressional District]
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senkean@njleg.org, senscutari@njleg.org  
asmbramnick@njleg.org, aswmunoz@njleg.org  
aswstender@njleg.org, asmgreen@njleg.org

**Letters to the Editor**

### Thank You for Toy Drive Donations

On behalf of St. Joseph's Social Services Center, Sister Jacinta Fernandes, and the children of Elizabeth, the Garwood Knights of Columbus (KOC) would like to thank everyone for their donations to our annual Toy Drive. Our thanks to the following people for all their help and support. The members of The Church of St. Anne's Rosary Society and their President Christine Guerriero. The friends and family members from the Kenny Family Christmas Party, Eastman Management Corp. in Livingston, Managing Partners, Michael and Peter Schofel, especially Catherine Mooney who arranged collection boxes in five of their location; including toy collections from her co-workers at Eastman Management and from the many tenants in their building. MPE's Student Council from the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School in Livingston, and their School Counselor, Jennifer Horwitz Kelner, who coordinated collections from the students, teachers, parents, and staff. Ms. Mooney's efforts resulted in two carload of toys being donated.

Your donations were part of 254 large Hefty bags of toys collected throughout Union County for over 325 families in need through St. Joseph's Social Services Center in Elizabeth. For information on St. Joseph's, visit [www.stjosephelizabath.org](http://www.stjosephelizabath.org).

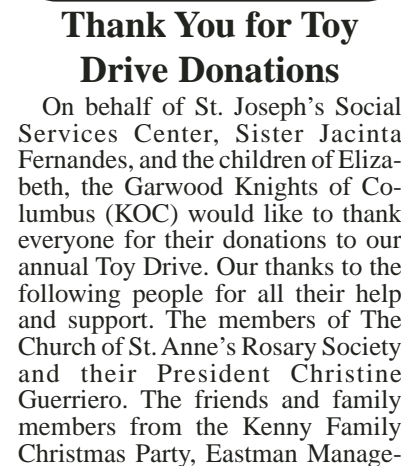
**Keith Gallagher**  
**William Pevarnik**  
**Robert Kenny, Jr.**  
Garwood KOC

**Letters to the Editor**

### America and Israel Unique Friendship

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th), co-chair of the House Republican Israel Caucus, issued the following statement in response to the address of Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel, before a joint meeting of Congress:

"Prime Minister Netanyahu delivered a strong and powerful speech before Congress and to the American People. Israel does not stand alone. The United States stands with Israel and the Israeli people in strong support of their right to defend themselves from terrorism and the threat of a nuclear Iran. This Congress must cast aside partisan politics and work together to ensure the safety and security of Israel with tough economic sanctions and a vote to end Iran's nuclear program permanently. America's commitment to Israel must always remain steadfast and our unique bond of friendship must never be broken."



**NIMOY**

My guess is that as long as the county counsel doesn't have to do his job and rule on the conflict, then Mirabella can go merrily along with his double job. For Counsel Barry's malfeasance, who would have to push for Barry's disbarment? Why, one of them would be Freeholder Mirabella, right?

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**Bruce Patterson**  
Garwood



## Letters to the Editor

### Who Should And Who... Should Not Lead The Nation?

Your editorial about President Abraham Lincoln is excellent! (*The Westfield Leader*, Feb. 19).

There is much to admire in President Lincoln! The Great Emancipator, the President who saved the Union. There are many great Lincoln statements but for me one of the greatest is his message to Congress, December 1, 1862, during the height of the Civil War.

"The dogmas of the quiet past, are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save the country."

The key word for me, a favorite word of mine, is "disenthrall" which means "to liberate!" That what once worked may not work now. That plans once set may need to be revised. That old theories do not always explain. That the world is no longer what it once was. The statement is refreshing because of Lincoln's breadth of thought with its wider horizon and his deep reflection on what had to be done.

Some 40 years later on November 21, 1901 Winston S. Churchill, another great leader, said at the Philomatic Society dinner in Liverpool, "We live in an age of great events and little men."

The great events that swirl about us require the effort of leaders like George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The country is fortunate that they were our leaders during dark days. But we are

not guaranteed that there will be others like them to lead us into the future! The historical record is not encouraging!

The late Professor Richard Neustadt in his book "Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents: The Politics of Leadership" argued "The presidency is not a place for amateurs." Presidents must be prepared from the first minute in office to do what has to be done to keep our country safe and great and the envy of the world. Washington and Lincoln were not amateurs!

What is it that Washington and Lincoln had that is in such short supply nowadays? Is it "the vision thing" about which President George W. H. Bush spoke or is it something deeper than even that?

A certain refinement of mind? An enlightened education? A willingness to take risks? An ability to see ahead when most people are looking behind? An understanding of crises and what they require? An ability to articulate ideas and ideals and tell the truth? An unshakable love of country and belief in its future?

Incumbent on us is reading history and lots of it! To know about the great leaders of the past! To understand the forces that contrive to make history! To find objective standards by which to judge who should and who should not lead the nation! What better place to begin than with President Washington and President Lincoln?

Stephen Schoeman  
Westfield

### Union County College Should Have Moved Meeting to Larger Venue

The adjunct faculty at Union County College (UCC) has been working without a new contract for 18 months, with no end in sight for a settlement. Also, the college has been involved in a process of reorganization in which all departments will be dissolved and replaced by divisions, and department chairs will be replaced with deans. Many full-time and adjunct faculty members planned on attending the combined Board of Trustees and Board of Governors meeting on February 24, 2015 since several faculty resolutions in opposition to the reorganization were being presented and several adjunct faculty members were planning to present specific issues to the Boards.

The meeting was held in a small conference room at the college, too small to hold the estimated number of attendees. Under the NJ Sunshine Law, these meetings must be open to the public; however, the college had security guards posted at the doorway and

initially blocked people from entering once the capacity was reached. Rather than move the meeting to a larger location, and comply with the law, the college chose to exclude attendees.

Only after one of the blocked faculty members threatened to call the newspapers to make this public did they allow those waiting to enter. Several other people arrived later and were told that they could not enter unless someone left the room.

The solution would have been simple — move the meeting. However, the administration chose to deter county citizens and workers from entering. This is another example of the exercise of absolute monarchical power by the college administration that has caused gridlock in adjunct faculty negotiations and ignored faculty objections to the reorganization.

William Lipkin  
Parsippany  
UCC adjunct professor



Horace Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times Leader* visited the Westfield Cub Stop last Thursday because their mothers made them do it (to learn about newspapers and communication).



### Stender Damage Causes Feeding Frenzy

By Sal Caruana  
Former Westfield Councilman

Every now and then an internal crisis will strike the Democratic bosses and their hacks who rule Union County and catch them behaving like frenzied ants at a picnic. The picnic, unfortunately, is your tax dollars and the bloated half-a-billion-dollar Union County budget which costs Westfield residents 23 cents of every real estate tax dollar. Under one-party rule, Union County government is a big family business for the Democratic leaders and their cronies (friends, family, supporters and donors). Sadly, it is your family that is paying for all of it. This week a giant feeding frenzy began for a coveted job opening as Democratic Assemblywoman Linda Stender abruptly announced that she will not seek re-election this year due to breaking news of a scandal involving her husband. Last week, prior to this bombshell, Planet Westfield questioned in this space the announcement of a new job for Assemblywoman Stender as "deputy director and project manager" of the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA) at a salary of \$90,000. Qualifications? What qualifications? In Union County, a second and higher paying job at one of its crony job banks like the UCIA is the ultimate partisan reward; 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. Stender's new job will raise her combined salaries to \$139,000 per year and last week her appointment seemed like another one of those slimy double-dipping pension deals for a career politician. That was last week. This week, the news about her husband makes her UCIA appointment look and smell like something else: a blatant political payoff to rid the 2016 Union County Democratic ticket of her presence as a growing liability.

This week Assemblywoman Stender is a newly and badly damaged incumbent, following news of her husband's alleged attempt to milk a charity for the rebuilding costs of a home destroyed by Hurricane Sandy.

According to published reports, the demolished original was 700 square feet and the replacement design her husband Richard allegedly attempted to get executed was actually over 2,000 square feet. Questions have arisen as to whether he was truthful in applications and interviews about income and primary residence claims. Suddenly the timeline of Assemblywoman Stender's UCIA job offer becomes very suspicious. If she met with the Democratic bosses to share her husband's troubles before the job was offered, then the new job could have been the result of a spoken or unspoken grand bargain. In return for the soft landing and a new low-show county government job at almost double her Assembly salary and pension credit, the party gets to purge a popular but now vulnerable incumbent from the 2016 ticket with a helpful voluntary withdrawal. Mrs. Stender's seat is an important and valuable commodity to the Democrats, and to the political hacks and rebrands who are lining up to beg for it.

In her announcement the Assemblywoman cited "personal issues that have become an insurmountable distraction to me, my running mates, and most importantly to the constituents." The "distraction," as Stender calls it, also involves unclear information as to her complicity in serious questions involving honesty, integrity and false application. Bilking a charity is like stealing money out of the poor box. As the credit card commercial used to say: "membership has its privileges" but apparently the entitlement card that Mr. Stender and other Union County Democratic royalty and family members carry around in their hearts and minds may not be honored everywhere in state, particularly by charities. It's also a shame that the Assemblywoman threw her husband under the bus so soon and damaged his credibility with such a swift resignation. Should new large home additions in Scotch Plains become known as "McExStenders" this sad chapter may find a name it deserves.

### Sen. Scutari and Asm. Green, Please Explain

I am writing to you about the situation with Assemblywoman Linda Stender and the apparent miss-use of the resources that were provided to those that suffered a loss due to Hurricane Sandy and the shore house owned by her husband. While this does appear to be an inappropriate use of her position, so far there has not been any trial by her peers that would confirm any violation of law on her part.

Assemblyman Jerry Green you, acting as the Union County Democrat chairman, have decided to not provide her support for re-election. This basically seals her fate for re-election.

However, unless you have concerns or additional knowledge that is not publicly known on other aspects of the situation, it is beyond my understanding how you then could support her to maintain her recent taxpayer-funded \$90,000 a year position as the director and project manager of the Union County Improvement Authority — and not support her re-election bid.

Please explain to the public why her continuing to have this position is appropriate in light of her loss of your confidence for re-election.

Albert Muller  
Scotch Plains



READING IS GOOD FOR YOU...Union County Freeholder Alexander Mirabella reads to children at the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Springfield on March 2 during the Union County Education Association's annual Read Across America event -- an awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading in honor of the birthday of children's author Dr. Seuss.

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## Blossom Crum, 93, Had Been Resident Of Town of Westfield For Many Years

Mrs. Richard Y. Crum died Friday, February 27, 2015, at her home in Fallbrook, Calif.

Dorothy Blossom (Appleby) Crum was born February 26, 1922, in Larchmont, Westchester County, N.Y. Her parents were the late Forrest L. Appleby and his wife, Constance.

She attended elementary school in New Rochelle and graduated A.B. Davis High School, Mount Vernon, N.Y., in 1940. She and Richard married in 1947 and lived in Staten Island, commuting to New York City by ferry and train to their places of employment: Richard to RCA; Blossom to Mexican Petroleum (American Oil). From there they moved to West Collingswood, N.J., where their three children, Judith Ellen (Donald Anderson), Stephen Grant (Peggy) and David Allan (Jane), were born. In 1954 they

moved to Westfield, N.J., where they lived for 33 years. They retired to South Boston, Va. and lived there for 22 years. In April, 2011 they moved to California to be near children and grandchildren. Richard died four months later, on August 7, 2011.

Blossom's funeral was held on Tuesday, March 3, and was officiated by her son, Reverend David A. Crum, and Reverend Jesse Pirschel. Mrs. Crum was interred yesterday, Wednesday, March 4, alongside Richard, a veteran of World War II, at Riverside National Cemetery in California.

Leaving behind their three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, Blossom is now united with Richard and with their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for all eternity.

March 5, 2015

## Mountainside Library Posts Programs On Tap In March

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Public Library has scheduled multiple programs for March.

Dr. Jason Kaufman will present "Belly Fat, Stress & Hormones" tonight, Thursday, March 5, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. He will offer healthy lifestyle tips to maximize energy, burn fat, reduce inflammation, balance hormones, enhance heart health and help participants live younger, longer.

"Limericks Galore" will be featured on Thursday, March 12, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Skip Ungar will recite a collection of "Not Very Naughty Limericks" about the states.

Presidents and famous people. This program will be appropriate for both children and adults.

For the Friday Opera Series on March 13, Mena Clemson will present the classic Puccini opera *Madama Butterfly* from 1 to 3 p.m.

The Community Concert Series will showcase Union County bluegrass band PetroGrass on Saturday, March 14, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. PetroGrass will perform with guitar, fiddle, mandolin, harmonica, banjo and flute. The band's repertoire includes country and folk music, sea shanties, Irish tunes and waltzes and much more.

### Holy Trinity Seniors To Meet on Monday

WESTFIELD — The Holy Trinity Senior Social Club will meet on Monday, March 9, at 1:30 p.m., in the parish center. The parish center is located adjacent to the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church on Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, students of Irish dance from Holy Trinity Interparochial School, under the direction of Gretchen Byrne, will entertain those in attendance. Sister Maureen Fichner, SSSJ has arranged for this program.

New members are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Members are asked to bring donations for the Westfield Food Pantry and past donations are appreciated.

"Nutrient Dense Cleanse" is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Sally Youngmans will present the Five Day Nutrient Dense Spring Cleanse. Based on Dr. Joel Fuhrman's *New York Times* best-selling book "Eat to Live," this program will highlight nutritional science and nourishment for health.

"Ecliptic Financial: College Planning" will be held Thursday, March 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ecliptic Financial Advisors offers free college funding workshops that reveal how to beat the high cost of college and navigate the financial aid maze. Workshops address making college affordable and handling the complicated application process, and provide tips to selecting the best college.

"Youth Stages presents: Stubby the Elephant" is set for Friday, March 27, from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. In this participatory play, children become snakes, lions, giraffes and monkeys.

"Spring Garden Preparation" will take place on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to noon. Brian Lowe will present a look at gardening basics from soil composition to lawn care. Audience questions and concerns will be addressed.

To register for these programs, visit the library at One Constitution Plaza, call (908) 233-0115 or visit mountainsidelibrary.org.

### Mountainside Library To Screen Movies

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Public Library will present Tuesday Night Movies in its Community Room. Weekly movies are mostly recent, first-run, critically-acclaimed films selected from the library's catalog of DVDs.

*Finding Vivian Maier*, an Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary feature, will be presented on March 10. It stars Vivian Maier, John Maloof and Daniel Arnaud.

*Jersey Boys* will be the featured film on March 17. Directed by Clint Eastwood and based on the Broadway hit, it stars John Lloyd Young, Erich Bergen and Michael Lomenda. *The Giver*, starring Brenton Thwaites, Jeff Bridges and Meryl Streep, will be shown on March 24. *The Lunchbox*, starring Irrfan Khan, Nimrat Kaur and Nawazuddin Siddiqui, will be screened on March 31.

All movies will start at 6:30 p.m. and will be available free of charge. The Mountainside Public Library is located at One Constitution Plaza. For more information, call (908) 233-0115.

**Dietitian to Speak To Garden Club**

WESTFIELD — The Garden Club of Westfield will sponsor a program on "Healthy Cooking at Home" on Tuesday, March 10, at noon. It will take place at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church Parish House, located at 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, at the intersection with Lamberts Mill Road.

Guest speaker Lindsay Roth, a graduate of the College of Saint Elizabeth in foods and nutrition, is the retail dietitian at ShopRite of Garwood. She will discuss foods that are seasonal, nutritious and delicious. Recipes will be distributed to encourage healthy cooking at home. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

# Obituaries

## James R. Dougherty, 79, Educator, Coach and Member of PCW

James R. Dougherty, 79, of Edison passed away at home on Tuesday, February 24, after a decades-long fight with cancer.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, March 21, at 1 p.m., in the sanctuary of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, 140 Mountain Avenue.

A respected member of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, Mr. Dougherty served as a Ruling Elder, held the role of Moderator of the Communications Commission and helped develop the church's current website.



James R. Dougherty

A high school teacher of history, computer science and TV production for over 30 years in Union County schools, he also coached track teams and girls' gymnastics to state honors.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Montclair State University, earned master's degrees in math and computer science at Pace University and Jersey City State College, and was in a Ph.D. program at New York University. His career in education spanned decades, not only as a high school teacher, but also as the director of the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Adult School in Clark and as the Director of Technology for

the Sayreville Public Schools. After retiring, he continued his love of teaching as an adjunct professor of math at Middlesex County College and Rutgers University.

A proponent of community service, Mr. Dougherty was a past president of the Rotary Club of South River-Sayreville and a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Clark, as well as the Lt. Governor of N.J. District Kiwanis Club, Division 6. For years he was the executive director of the Miss Middlesex County Pageant, a preliminary to the Miss New Jersey and Miss America pageants.

Surviving are his wife of 39 years, Susan (Hoos) Dougherty; his four children, Kevin, Patrick and Christopher Dougherty and Karyn (Dougherty) Missaggia, and his grandchildren, Joseph, Christopher and Kayla Missaggia, Mara Higgins, Jimmy Lee and Amelia and Madelyn Dougherty.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a scholarship fund in Mr. Dougherty's name to: Kiwanis Club of Clark, 1242 Madison Hill Road, Clark, N.J. 07066. Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Club of Clark.

March 5, 2015

## Bruce H. Elliott, 77, Longtime Westfield Resident; Successful Real Estate Broker

Bruce Herbert Elliott, 77, beloved husband of Mary Anne, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Va.

Born in Elizabeth, N.J., he lived most of his life in Westfield before retiring to Fredericksburg, Va. to be closer to his children.

Bruce attended Westfield High School, graduating in 1956. After high school, Bruce went on to play baseball at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass.



Bruce H. Elliott

It was also during his college years that he met the love of his life, Mary Anne Buannic.

After graduating with a degree in business administration, Bruce and Mary Anne married and settled in Westfield where they raised four children.

He was involved in many community activities, including the Westfield Jaycees (director), Westfield Baseball League (manager, director of pony league and member of the board of directors) and the Westfield Booster Executive Committee.

Bruce spent more than 21 years with General Motors Acceptance Corporation in various management positions in their executive offices in New York City. When GMAC trans-

ferred their executive offices to Detroit in 1981, he elected not to accept the transfer. He could not leave the town he grew to love so much.

Bruce changed careers and became an accomplished and successful real estate broker/agent. He worked at Schlott-Westfield, Coldwell Banker, and Burgdorff Realtors. He always prided himself on being able to serve his clients and in helping them find their dream home.

Bruce was a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather. In addition to his devoted wife of 54 years, Mary Anne, he leaves behind his four children, Bruce Jr., Rick, Michael and Debbie. He also leaves behind the true joys of his life — 12 beloved grandchildren, Megan, Emily, Ryan, Dylan, Sean, Grace, Colin, Julia, Jake, Drew, Erin and Melissa.

The family will hold a memorial service in the Spring of 2015 in Westfield to celebrate his life and love for Westfield.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to Micah Ministries for the Homeless, 1013 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, Va. 22401 or at micahfredericksburg.org.

March 5, 2015

## Stamp Show to Spotlight 1918 Upside Down Plane

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Stamp Club will hold its 53rd annual stamp show this Saturday, March 7, in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, located at 425 East Broad Street. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

The show will include a six dealer bourse plus the U.S. Post Office and the annual exhibit competition among club members. More than 500 pages of stamps and postal history items from around the world will be on display. The exhibits to be shown are the work of those who are new to the field as well as from those who have shown their work at the international level. American Philatelic Society accredited judges Robert Odenweller and Stephen Reinhard will evaluate the exhibits, and attendees are invited to vote for the most popular exhibit.

The show will feature the most famous mistake ever made by the U.S. Post Office — the iconic 1918

24-cent airmail stamp with the plane flying upside down. Although most Americans have seen pictures of the stamp, only 100 of them exist. The show will have a special exhibit about the stamp and will contain one of the actual stamps. In keeping with this theme, K. David Steidley, Ph.D., an expert on U.S. airmail stamps, will present "The First U.S. Airmail Stamp and the Error of its Ways" at 2 p.m. There also will be envelopes specially produced for this event showing the stamp and a special show cancel will be available from the U.S. Postal Service.

In 2013, to commemorate the opening of the National Postal Museum, the Post Office issued a souvenir sheet in a sealed packet showing six of the inverted plane stamps. However, they intentionally produced 100 sheets showing the plane flying correctly and placed them in random packets throughout the country. To date only about 20 have been found and sell for as much as \$50,000. As a special treat for the show, one of these sealed packets, which may contain one of the rare souvenir sheets, will be given away each hour. Every person attending the show will receive a free entry ticket for the drawing but must be present to win.

The U.S. Postal Service will operate a substation at the show and will have a full stock of stamps currently available, including the special souvenir sheet packets, as well as the special show cancel.

For additional information, call (908) 232-0539 or visit the club website, westfieldstampclub.org.



**RARE STAMP...This 1918 stamp, depicting a plane flying upside down, will be the highlight of the Westfield Stamp Club's 53rd annual show this Saturday, March 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Westfield Municipal Building.**

### Rosary Altar Society To Meet March 11

WESTFIELD — The Rosary Altar Society of Holy Trinity and St. Helen's parishes will meet at noon on Wednesday, March 11, at the Holy Trinity Parish Center. The center is located adjacent to the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church on Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

Trish Fitzpatrick, a parishioner of Holy Trinity Parish, will be the guest speaker. She will discuss her busy years and accomplishments following the years her children attended Holy Trinity grammar school.

The Rosary Altar Society will honor during the meeting, in prayers and song, St. Patrick, whose Feast Day is March 17, and St. Joseph, whose Feast Day is March 19. Attendees are asked to bring a bag lunch. A dessert table with baked goods donated by members will be available. All women from the two parishes are invited to attend.

See it all on the Web! [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com)



**GROOVIN' TO HISTORY...Fitness instructor Theresa Belford, right, with class participant Joan Barne, invites all those age 10 and up to the Mountainside Restoration Committee's "fun-draiser" event this Sunday, March 8, entitled "Move & Groove for History." It will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Mountainside Borough Hall Community Room.**

## 'Move & Groove' on Sunday To Benefit Historic Homes

MOUNTAINSIDE — Theresa Belford will lead a fun dance exercise program entitled "Move & Groove for History" this Sunday, March 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Mountainside Restoration Committee, it will raise funds for the restoration and maintenance of the borough's historic Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and Levi Cory House. Everyone age 10 and above is invited to participate and the program is appropriate for all levels of fitness, according to the committee.

Ms. Belford is a dance fitness instructor for the Scotch Plains Recreation Department. She incorporates dance with other aspects of fitness such as boxing, balance and Tai-chi and her programs are accompanied by music. This event will be held in the Mountainside Borough Hall Community Room, located at 1385 Route 22 East. Event organizer Alice Cowell stated that, "Theresa's class is sure to

uplift and chase the winter blues away." During the event, Ms. Belford will lead her program for one hour and the other hour will be devoted to refreshments, a brief discussion of the activities of the Mountainside Restoration Committee, a tricky tray auction and socializing.

Admission is \$15 per person; \$25 for two people; \$30 for a family (immediate family members) and \$15 for two Scouts (with Scout groups in uniform). Tickets will be available at the door on March 8 at 2 p.m.

The Mountainside Restoration Committee is comprised of volunteers and governed by the Borough of Mountainside. Its purpose is to restore and maintain the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and the Levi Cory House and to collect and save historic information and items from destruction. For further information or to donate funds, call (908) 789-9420 or go to: mountainsidehistory.org.

## Imagine Café to Focus On Advance Directives

WESTFIELD AREA — Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss will host its first Advance Directives Conversation Café in partnership with Atlantic Health System on Friday, April 17. Planned as a way to help participants initiate the conversation before they find themselves in urgent and stressful situations, this program will be held as two simultaneous events, from 7 to 9 p.m., at The Mulberry House in Westfield and Batavia Café in Summit. Participants also will receive a free week at the Westfield Area Y.

Morristown Medical Center in Morristown, Overlook Medical Center in Summit, Newton Medical Center in Newton, Chilton Medical Center in Pompton Plains, and Goryeb Children's Hospital in Morristown, as well as Atlantic Rehabilitation, Atlantic Home Care and Hospice, and Atlantic Ambulance Corporation.

The Mulberry House is located at 415 Westfield Avenue and Batavia Café is located at 356 Springfield Avenue. To register for the Conversation Café, call (908) 264-3100 or go to [imagine.nj.org/events](http://imagine.nj.org/events).

### Library Invites Kids To Make ArtBots

CRAWFORD — The Cranford Public Library invites children ages 8 to 12 to make ArtBots on Saturday, March 14, at 11 a.m., in the library's Raddin Room. This workshop is described as perfect for beginners and will provide an introduction to simple circuits. Participants will create and decorate a simple robot that produces its own squiggly art.

Registration is required and space is limited. To register, call the Cranford Public Library at (908) 709-7272 or visit the library at 224 Walnut Avenue. For a list of other upcoming programs, visit the library's web page at [cranford.com](http://cranford.com) and click on the Children's Department tab near the top of the page.

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## State Archivist to Speak To Genealogical Society

WESTFIELD — State archivist Catherine Stearns Medich will discuss Military Records at the New Jersey State Archives (Colonial Wars - World War I) at the Thursday, March 12 meeting of the Genealogical Society of the West Fields. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. at the Westfield Memorial Library, located at 550 East Broad Street.

Ms. Medich is a reference archivist with the New Jersey State Archives with more than 15 years of public service. She is integral in managing the reference section of the Archives, and in assisting users with the many, varied collections maintained at the State Archives. Ms. Medich has particular knowledge of the military collections, including the state's Civil War collections, and the New Jersey State Militia records, which she also was

responsible for processing and organizing.

Ms. Medich is a frequent guest speaker at local genealogical conferences and clubs, where she reviews and explains the types of records held at the New Jersey State Archives and how to access them. A graduate of Dickinson University with a bachelor's degree in history, Ms. Medich holds two master's degrees from Rutgers University, in Art History and Library Service.

This meeting will be open to the public. No registration is required. After the presentation, attendees will have an opportunity to enjoy light refreshments and to meet briefly to ask questions of the speaker. For more information, call Genealogical Society President Nancy L. Humphrey at (908) 612-6029.



James Joseph Costantino and Miss Amy Joy Peterson

## Miss Amy J. Peterson To Wed James J. Costantino

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Peterson of Charlotte, N.C. have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Amy Joy Peterson of the Bronx, N.Y., to James Joseph Costantino of Westfield, N.J. He is the son of Jo Ann and James Costantino of Westfield.

The bride-to-be has a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art from SUNY Potsdam and an MBA from the University of

Phoenix. She is a business manager for Bourlet Art Logistics in Queens, N.Y.

The future bridegroom has a Bachelor of Arts in Marketing from Kean University and is sole proprietor of Pristine Interior Painting of Westfield.

The couple will exchange vows in the spring at L'Affaire Fine Catering in Mountainside.

## Spring Registration Set For Cranford Rec. Programs

CRANFORD — The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced that registration for Spring Programs (Session 3) will begin on Monday, March 16. Registration for Cranford residents only may be done in person at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue, or online. Most programs will start the week of April 6.

Preschool and Kinder Programs are as follows: All Sports for Kids, Friday with My First Friends, Mommy and Me Music, Preschool Arts and Crafts, Science Matters, Stretch-n-Grow, US Sports classes, Kinder Yoga, Kinder Book Club and Kinder Cooking and Arts and Crafts.

Youth Programs include: Science Matters, Beginner Quilting, Manners-Social Etiquette, Manners-Dining Program, Astronomy Stargazers, Art Class, Lights! Camera! Kids! Action!, Elementary Cooking, Junior Rock-Intro to Rock Instruments, Guitar 101, Keyboard 101, Jr. Scientists, Little Bakers Workshop, Jewelry Design, Creative Art Lab and Kid Safe Self Defense.

Adult Programs, for those age 18 and above, include: Beginner Quilting, Piano (Beginners/Intermediate), Body Barre, Yoga, Astronomy Stargazers, Tai Chi (Beginner/Intermediate) and Pilates.

For more details on these programs, go to [cranford.com/rec](http://cranford.com/rec), click on Information and click on the brochure. Registration may be done in person at the Community Center or online at

[register.communitypass.net/cranford](http://register.communitypass.net/cranford). For further information, call the recreation department at (908) 709-7283.

## FCC to Begin Classes In Moving Meditation

WESTFIELD — Moving Meditation classes will be offered on Monday evenings, March 16, 23 and 30, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., in the First Congregational Church's Patton Auditorium, located at 125 Elmer Street, Westfield. A suggested donation of \$15 to \$20 will benefit Heifer International, a non-profit humanitarian organization dedicated to ending world hunger and poverty.

Moving Meditation is a simple, graceful movement based on ancient Asian Qigong wellness systems. Benefits include stress reduction, flexibility and enhanced wellness. The practice is performed standing up and ordinary street clothing is appropriate.

Laura Berzofsky, a certified Integral Tai Chi and Qigong instructor with the International Integral Qigong and Tai Chi Institute at Santa Barbara College of Oriental Medicine, and a member of the National Qigong Association, will lead the classes.

For additional information or to register, call Ms. Berzofsky at (908) 232-0169. Drop-in students also will be welcome.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**  
January 2015 - December 2015

All meetings will be held in the Beechwood School Susan O. Collier Media Center located at 1497 Woodcres Drive, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092.

All meetings will be regularly scheduled meetings of the Board to begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. It is anticipated that the Board will adjourn to Executive Session immediately following the initial roll call to review matters appropriate for discussion in private under the Open Public Meetings Act. The Board will return from Executive Session to continue the public portion of the meeting at 8:00 p.m., at which time the Board will consider and act upon its public session agenda items.

- Tuesday, January 6, 2015 - (Reorganization Meeting)
- Tuesday, January 27, 2015
- Tuesday, February 24, 2015
- Wednesday, March 18, 2015 - (Adoption of Tentative Budget)
- Tuesday, March 24, 2015
- Tuesday, April 28, 2015
- Tuesday, May 26, 2015
- Tuesday, June 23, 2015
- Tuesday, July 28, 2015
- Tuesday, August 25, 2015
- Tuesday, September 29, 2015
- Tuesday, October 27, 2015
- Tuesday, November 24, 2015
- Tuesday, December 15, 2015

1 T - 3/5/15, The Leader Fee: \$33.15

## Willow Grove Church Plans Intl. Dinner and Concert

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church will hold its Ninth Annual International Dinner and Concert on Saturday, March 21, from 5 to 8 p.m., benefiting local food banks and victims of disaster.

Attendees will have an opportunity to enjoy international cuisine and listen to vocal and instrumental music from China. Half of the proceeds raised will be donated to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey in Hillside, where Willow Grove Church youth and adults volunteer during the year, and half will be donated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for its work helping victims of disasters in the United States and around the world.

The dinner, to be held in the church's Ryno Hall, will feature an array of ethnic specialties, including Italian, Chinese, Greek, German, Korean, Scottish, Irish, English, West Indian and Polish cuisine. Members and friends of Willow Grove Church will prepare the dishes. Complementing the cuisine will be performances by the Chinese American Music Ensemble (CAME) Adult Chorus and Children's Chorus and the Music From China Youth Orchestra. Both groups hold their weekly rehearsals at Willow Grove Church.

The Music From China Youth Orchestra features young musicians who

perform on authentic Chinese instruments. The orchestra performs an annual concert at Carnegie Hall, and has played at the Freer Gallery of Art at the Smithsonian Institution and toured Shanghai. The Chinese American Music Ensemble is the only choral program in New Jersey that offers choral music training for children and adults at the same time and place. CAME seeks to enrich and broaden cultural horizons through music training and to provide community service through concert performances.

Tickets for dinner and the concert are \$14 for adults and teens, \$7 for children ages 6 to 12, and free for children ages 5 and under, with a family maximum of \$36. To guarantee a seat for the dinner, interested persons are encouraged to buy a ticket in advance because space is limited. Tickets will only be available at the door if seats are not already sold out. To purchase tickets, call the church office at (908) 232-5678, Monday to Friday, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. More information is available by e-mail at [office@willowgrovechurch.org](mailto:office@willowgrovechurch.org).

The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located at 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, opposite the southside firehouse and near the corner of Fire Martine Avenue. All church facilities are handicap-accessible and there is on-site parking.



CUISINE AND MUSIC...Members of the Music from China Youth Orchestra, pictured, will perform on authentic Chinese instruments at the International Dinner and Chinese Music Concert Benefit. It will take place on Saturday, March 21, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains.

Probitas Verus Honos

Legal Advertising  
MORE IN BACK SECTION

### 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. 27:27-35.1 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. 34:1-15.6, 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.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.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 Stierli Court
- Mt. Arlington, New Jersey 07856
- 973-601-6690
- One Executive Campus Rt 70 West
- Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002
- 856-486-6623

3 T - 2/26/15, 3/5/15 and 3/12/15, The Leader Fee: \$165.24

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PURIM GIFTS...Volunteers from the Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains prepared gift bags February 22 with groggers, treats and traditional hamantaschen cookies to be delivered to the entire congregation before the Jewish holiday of Purim. This year's gift bags featured reusable backpacks with the synagogue's logo. The Sisterhood also donated hamantaschen for Purim to residents of AristaCare at Cedar Oaks, a nursing home in South Plainfield. Pictured, from left to right, are: Robin Sabony, Purim co-chairwoman; Diana Cooper and Marcia Wiener, Congregation Beth Israel Sisterhood co-presidents, and Ilse O'Desky, Purim co-chairwoman.

## YFCS Offers Counseling To Veterans and Families

WESTFIELD — Youth and Family Counseling Service (YFCS) is now offering free individual, couples, family and group counseling for anyone who has served in the United States military through its new "Bravest First" program.

Veterans are identified as a group having a higher rate of suicide than the national rate. In the active military, the U.S. Army reports sending more than 24,000 soldiers for substance-abuse counseling in 2011 and that more than 1.3 million veterans have received specialized mental-health treatment.

Reports indicate that while services are available, there are not enough, and that waiting lists and financial issues are barriers to treatment.

Anyone who could benefit from these services or who knows of some-

one who could, and has served in the military, is invited to contact YFCS for more information.

YFCS will provide the services and submit for payment to insurance if available. If participants cannot afford their co-pay or if they do not have insurance, they will still be eligible for treatment, according to the agency. Treatment services are available to address anxiety, depression, PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), alcohol/substance abuse, family therapy and couples therapy.

YFCS has been serving the community for nearly 100 years. The agency has been available to help many who are struggling regardless of the ability to pay. Its mission is to continue to help.

For more information about the free counseling services for military veterans and their families, contact Carol M. Pedro, executive director, Youth and Family Counseling Service, 233 Prospect Street, Westfield, N.J. 07090; call (908) 233-2042; fax (908) 654-7414 or e-mail [cpedro@yfcfsnj.org](mailto:cpedro@yfcfsnj.org).

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY**  
DOCKET NO. F-052362-14  
FILE NO. 19419-14

**NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: VERICREST OPPORTUNITY LOAN TRUST 2011NPL1;**

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 LIEN MACHINE LLC is the plaintiff and MIGUEL MUNOZ, ET ALS; are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION County and bearing Docket No. F-052362-14 within thirty-five (35) days after March 5, 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 12-00026, sold on 10/18/2012, dated 10/19/2012, and was recorded on 11/7/2012 in Book 13446 at Page 389, made by TERRI MALANDA, Collector of Taxes of UNION, and State of New Jersey to LIEN MACHINE LLC and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, LIEN MACHINE LLC. This covers real estate located in UNION, County of UNION, and State of New Jersey, known as LOT 15.3911C3911 BLOCK 3202 as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and Tax Map duplicate of UNION and concerns premises commonly known as 422 TOURNAMENT-11, UNION, New Jersey.

YOU, VERICREST OPPORTUNITY LOAN TRUST 2011NPL1, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on October 3, 2005, Miguel Munoz and Giovanna Munoz, executed a mortgage to Mortgage Electronic Systems, Inc., as nominee for US Mortgage Corp. in the

### PUBLIC NOTICE

amount of \$220,000.00, which mortgage was recorded on October 11, 2005 in the UNION County Clerk's/Registrar's Office in Mortgage Book 11386 at page 496. Said mortgage is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien.

On August 26, 2009 the aforesaid mortgage assigned all its right, title and interest in and to said Mortgage to Citimortgage, Inc. by way of Assignment of Mortgage of that date, which Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the UNION County Clerk's/Registrar's Office on October 26, 2009 in Book 1379 of Assignment of Mortgages at page 464.

On January 14, 2011 the aforesaid mortgage assigned all its right, title and interest in and to said Mortgage to LSF7 Bermuda NPL IV Trust by way of Assignment of Mortgage of that date, which Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the UNION County Clerk's/Registrar's Office on January 18, 2011 in Book 1388 of Assignment of Mortgages at page 255.

On September 20, 2011 the aforesaid mortgage assigned all its right, title and interest in and to said Mortgage to Wells Fargo Delaware Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee for Vericrest Opportunity Loan Trust 2011-NPL1 by way of Assignment of Mortgage of that date, which Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the UNION County Clerk's/Registrar's Office on September 27, 2011 in Book 1392 of Assignment of Mortgages at page 803.

On June 18, 2012 the aforesaid mortgage assigned all its right, title and interest in and to said Mortgage to Vericrest Financial, Inc. f/b/o Vericrest Opportunity Loan Trust 2011-NPL1 by way of Assignment of Mortgage of that date, which Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the UNION County Clerk's/Registrar's Office on July 2, 2012 in Book 1398 of Assignment of Mortgages at page 538.

On September 27, 2012 the aforesaid mortgage assigned all its right, title and interest in and to said Mortgage to Vericrest Opportunity Loan Trust 2011-NPL1 by way of Assignment of Mortgage of that date, which Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the UNION County Clerk's/Registrar's Office on October 4, 2012 in Book 1401 of Assignment of Mortgages at page 168.

DATED: February 26, 2015  
Michelle M. Smith, Clerk  
Superior Court of New Jersey  
PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C.  
Denville Law Center  
290 Route 46 West  
Denville, New Jersey 07834  
(973) 586-2300  
1 T - 3/5/15, The Leader Fee: \$110.67





BEAUTIFUL QUILT...Betsy Smith shows her finished quilt, called "Buttonholes from Jellyrolls." at the January meeting of Needle Nite at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church.

Westfield Y Film Festival To Begin Tomorrow Night

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area Y will hold a Friday Night Film Festival, geared to all ages, at its Robert and Virginia Bauer Family Branch, located at 422 East Broad Street, Westfield.

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000500 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-12932-13

Children under age 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Concessions will be sold at the door, with proceeds benefiting the Westfield Area Y Annual Support Campaign for strong kids, families and seniors.

Thanks to the annual support campaign, no one who lives or works in Westfield, Cranford, Garwood or Mountainside and is experiencing a bona fide financial hardship is turned away for inability to pay.

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000552 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-012869-12

College Woman's Club Sets Date For Spring Fundraiser

WESTFIELD — The College Woman's Club of Westfield invites all area women to attend the club's annual spring fundraiser on Wednesday, March 25, beginning at 11:30 a.m.



Jenifer Wirtshafter

"Boost Your Energy! Practicing Mindful Living via Fitness, Nutrition and Reflection" will be the topic of this year's guest speakers, a fitness expert and an executive coach who specialize in helping women excel personally and professionally.

Local fitness professional Jenifer Wirtshafter launched Jeni-Fit in 2006 with the area's first dedicated outdoor fitness program. Her business has since expanded to encompass a variety of fitness programs including personal training, weight loss and nutrition.

Garwood Library to Host Author, Organizer Visits

GARWOOD — The Garwood Public Library has announced upcoming events, beginning on Saturday, March 14, when local author Eric Nerstedt will visit the library at 11 a.m. to discuss and autograph his latest book, "The Equites."

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000342 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-0399-13

ive leadership coach and workshop facilitator whose clients come from organizations including American Express, Barclays Capital, GSK, Johnson & Johnson, HSBC, Kraft, Mattel, Merck, Neutrogena, New York University and Wharton.

"Women helping women to become their best goes to the very heart of the mission of the College Woman's Club," said Judy Bručia, CWC president.

Founded in 1917 to further higher education for women, the College Woman's Club awards scholarships to young women from Westfield on the basis of academics, leadership and financial need.

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000492 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-04984-14



ACCREDITATION RECEIVED...The staff of the Westfield Area Y's Early Learning Center, located at 170 Elm Street, Westfield, display their NAEYC Accreditation Certificates.

WF Y Early Learning Center Is Reaccredited By NAEYC

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area Y has announced that its Early Learning Center, located at 170 Elm Street, Westfield, has been reaccredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Promotes positive relationships among all children and adults. Implements a curriculum that is consistent with its goals for children and promotes learning and development in each of the following areas: social, emotional, physical, language and cognitive.

Uses developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches that enhance each child's learning and development.

Promotes the nutrition and health of children. Employs a teaching staff with the educational qualifications, knowledge, and professional commitment necessary to promote children's learning.

Establishes and maintains collaborative relationships with each child's family to foster children's development in all settings.

Effectively implements policies, procedures, and systems to ensure a high-quality experience for children, families and staff.

The Y's Early Learning Center provides year-round services for children ages 6 months to 5 years and is available two, three, four or five days a week, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

6:30 p.m. for an additional fee. NAEYC accreditation is awarded for a five-year term. During this period, programs submit annual reports documenting compliance with NAEYC standards.

For more information on the Y's Early Learning Center, contact Karen Theiss at (908) 654-8460 or by e-mail at ktheiss@westfieldynj.org.

Garwood Knights To Hold Fish Fry

GARWOOD — The Garwood Knights of Columbus will hold their Lenten Fish Fry by Thistles on Friday, March 13, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door, and \$10 for children under age 12. Fried or baked fish will be available; individuals are asked to specify which when purchasing tickets.

Tickets can be obtained at the Council Hall weekdays after 4:30 p.m., or weekends after 2 p.m.

The Garwood Knights of Columbus is located at 37 South Avenue, Garwood, across from the PathMark store.

Reading is Good For You. Includes an illustration of a child reading a book.

Probitas Verus Honos

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000379 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-009769-14

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, 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.

Attorney: AUCCOR, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC 200 SHEFFIELD STREET SUITE 301 MOUNTAINSIDE, NEW JERSEY 07092

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000368 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-16153-10

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, 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.

Attorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC 7 CENTURY DRIVE SUITE 201 PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000346 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-32982-08

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, 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.

Attorney: PARKER MC CAY PO BOX 5054 900 MIDATLANTIC DRIVE SUITE 300 MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000417 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-0792-13

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, 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.

Attorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC 7 CENTURY DRIVE SUITE 201 PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000417 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-0792-13

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, 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.

Attorney: STERN, LAVINTHAL, FRANKENBERG, LLC 105 EISENHOWER PARKWAY SUITE 200 ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY 07068





**SPELLING CHAMPS...** Three Westfield students took the top three spots in the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs Liberty District Spelling Bee on February 21. Pictured from left to right are: Christine Jablonski, Liberty District Spelling Bee Chair & President, Woman's Club of Arlington; Ryan Gasson, 3rd place; Vivian Jeckell, 1st place; Kayla O'Brien, 2nd place; Holly Capobianco, Past President & Federation Secretary, Junior Woman's Club of Arlington.

## WF Students Take Top Spots At NJSFWC Spelling Bee

KEARNY – The New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs held their annual NJSFWC Liberty District Spelling Bee on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at the Franklin School Auditorium in Kearny. Fifteen contestants competed after placing in the top 3 in their own club-level spelling bees, hosted by one of 5 Junior Woman's Clubs: Arlington (in Kearny), Cedar Grove, Summit, Verona, and Westfield. After ten rounds and six spell-offs, "hobble" was the winning word. The three winners listed below were all sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club of Westfield: 1st Place Vivian Jeckell Grade 5; 2nd Place Kayla O'Brien Grade 5; 3rd Place Ryan Gasson Grade 4.

The first place winner received a Spelling Champion bee trophy. Prizes for the three finalists were gift cards from TD Bank. All 15 contestants in the Liberty District Spelling Bee received a certificate of participation.

Patricia Sherwen served as the official pronouncer. She has pronounced for several club and district spelling bees as an active volunteer for the Arlington Woman's Club and Friends of the Kearny Library and is a Past President of the Junior Woman's Club of Arlington and a former reading specialist. The judges are former educators and currently represent the Arlington Woman's Club: Christine Jablonski, President and Chairman of the Liberty District Spelling Bee and Una Phelan, a member of the Education Committee.

The event was moderated by Holly Capobianco (Past President and Federation Secretary – Junior Woman's

Club of Arlington) and Christine McGrath (President, Junior Woman's Club of Verona). Sandra Uhler (Member – Junior Woman's Club of Arlington) videotaped and photographed the Bee. The Top 3 Finalists of the Liberty District Spelling Bee will compete against other 4th and 5th graders from towns throughout New Jersey in the State Spelling Bee sponsored by the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. The State Spelling Bee will be held on Saturday, March 7 (snow date of March 14) at the NJSFWC Headquarters on the campus of Douglass Residential College at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

Junior Membership NJSFWC Liberty District Spelling Bee Founded in 1890, the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is one of the world's oldest non-partisan, non-denominational women's volunteer service organizations. The New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC – Junior Membership is a statewide organization providing education, training and interaction opportunities for volunteers who are committed to individual growth and community involvement, enriching the quality of life throughout New Jersey and the world. The Junior Women's Clubs that hold annual spelling bees are volunteer members of a statewide association of Women's Clubs within the General Federation of Women's Clubs. They provide opportunities for education, leadership training, and community service. For more information, go to [www.njsfwc.org](http://www.njsfwc.org) and [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org).

## Crafting College Application Workshop Planned by PTC

WESTFIELD – A seminar entitled "Crafting Your Story for the College Application" will take place on Tuesday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westfield High School Cafeteria B.

The college admissions process has become increasingly competitive; however students who understand their strengths and focus on communicating their story in a compelling way will have a clear advantage in the admission process. This interactive seminar, open to both students and parents, will introduce The College

Application Wheel™ to help students figure out your key themes and unique story. Several case studies of how students crafted their story and how they successfully communicated it to colleges through their application will be examined.

Presentations will be made by guest speakers, Lisa Bleich, President, College Bound Mentor and Author of *Surviving the College Application Process*, and Beth Cassie, Independent Educational Consultant, College Bound Mentor.



**CHECK MATE...** Holy Trinity Interparochial School (HTIS) captured 5th place in elementary team competition in the New Jersey State Elementary Chess Championships held on February 22 in Lincroft. Holy Trinity also won 7th place Team in the Primary (K-3) Division.

## Holy Trinity Chess Team Takes Home Trophy at States

WESTFIELD – Holy Trinity Interparochial School (HTIS) captured 5th place in elementary team competition in the New Jersey State Elementary Chess Championships held on February 22 in Lincroft. Holy Trinity also won 7th place Team in the Primary (K-3) Division.

The competition is open to public and private school teams from across the state. Representing the team in the primary division were Danny Fannick, Conleth Gorham, and Steven Pochatko. Playing in the elementary division were Hannah Cumming, Alex Cumming, Angelika Demetrick, Owen Mitchell, and Alec Touhey. Playing in the junior high division was Daniel Cao. Each student played

five games during the day-long event. Special congratulations go to Angelika Demetrick for her 3 wins, Daniel Cao for scoring 2.5 points in the Jr. High Division, and Steven Pochatko, who scored 2 points in his first ever chess tournament.

In a warm-up meet earlier in the month at Princeton Day School, the team finished in 2nd Place in the Novice II Section.

The HTIS Chess team, coached by parent Joe Demetrick, meets Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Westfield Campus cafeteria. All Holy Trinity students from kindergarten through 8th grade are welcome to join regardless of their skill level or knowledge of the game.

# HONOR ROLL

Park Middle School - 2nd Marking Period

**6th Grade Distinguished Honor Roll**  
Elizabeth Acevedo, Kristen Adams, Adam Ali, Kyra Antonello, Ethan Berkman, Zachary Billotto, Abigail Binaday, Hunter Birch, Lauren Brenner, Erika Bretz, Sydney Byers, Regina Carlos, Gabriel Carrascoso, Luke Checchio, Emma Chichester, Haley Cino, Abigail Conklin, John Michael Cristobal, Vincent Cucci, Jonathan Dionisio, Colin Fanning, Alexander Fazzino, Daniel Ferrone, Owen Ferrone, Claire Fisher, Dennis Gannon, Paul Harris, Seth Jahnke, Hannah Krinye, Sean Lage, Megan Lahetta, Sophia Lama, Rebecca Lancaster, Maura Leahy, Jordan Lowe, Jolie Lubalin, Natalie Mikula, Jack Morel, Brendan Mullany, Holly Nelson, Jayden Nyamiaka, Brendan Ong, Ethan Pawelec, Max Perone, Emma Philip, Cory Phillips, David Riedell, Brian Roessel, Amanda Rossi, Chloe Rousseau, Emma Route, Catherine Rozanas, Nicolas Ruggiero, Jessica Schramm, Alessandra Serio, Daniel Sicinski, Margaret Smith, Sukriti Srinivasa, Nicolette Stank, Nicholas Tittanegro, Benjamin Tucker, Andrew Villardi, Quinn Williamson, Zackery Wong, Justin Zimmerman

**Honor Roll**  
Grace Abdy, Chloe Alce, Mia Aponte, Kotey Ashie, Kayla Avila, Lydia Baik, Anjila Banks, Lindsey Bartley, Dylan Bordman, Joshua Bordman, Henry Bowman, Benjamin Brenner, Marissa Burton, Olivia Calcaterra, Anthony Cammarano, Hunter Cardenas, Andre Carinhas, Kaelie Chung, Christopher Ciccarello, Devin Cooke, Eric Cunningham, Meredith Czurlanis, Joseph Decker, Rhythm Desai, Amit Deshpande, Shannon Downey, Matthew Drubulis, Ryan Duthie, Georgio Elenis, Christian Estevez, David Farin, Mary Fazzino, Lenore Ferguson, Besnik Ferizi, Olivia Fiore, Monica Forman, Joseph Gale, Joshua Garcia, Sai Gedela, Jade Glassman, Nicholas Hale, Ava Hausle, Elisa Herstatt, Ryan Hoover, Brendan Huszcza, Lauren Iarussi, Victor Johnson, Ian Joshua, Sean Kennedy, Ibraheem Khan, Paul Koizumi, Shelby Kumpf, Cynthia Liang, Noah Lievre, Joseph Linder, Matthew London, Dallas Lorenzetti, Alexa Mach, Lucas Mackey, Liam Mahr, William Maurer, Amanda Mayer, Lauren McGovern, Patricia McHugh, Kali McKinney, Jordan McQuoid, Hadley Moran, Sabrina Negley, Sabrina Ngu, Griffin Nobile, Kaitlyn Otero, Elias Pahountis, Kayla Paprocki, Maximilian Pelosi, Roman Perrelli, Christian Piesch, Faith Price, Lucien Prophete, Hana Ramjohn, Dean Rash, Kaitlyn Reilly, Hadley Rose, Dillon Ryan, Gianna Salgado, William Schetelich, Erica Schindler, Simone Schomberg, Kyle Sellinger, Mateusz Sierant, Dashawn Southerland, Sydney Sprechman, Madison-Anne StaRosa, Nicholas Susino, Justin Tran, Jamie Valian, Abraham Valverde, Alexia Verschilling, Allison Vlkovic, Cadence Weiss, David Wernsing, Morgan Whitney, Hayden Widder, Taylor Winslow, Madelyn Yessman, Aidan Young

**7th Grade Distinguished Honor Roll**  
Nicholas Alber, Gabrielle Aloe, Kaitlyn Amato, Taylor Anthony, Julianna Blanco, Jaedan Blechinger-Slocum, Nicole Brozak, Francis Gabriel Buison, Summer Carver, Lea Cerini, Alexa Chan, Katherine Chouinard, Ryan Ciarrocca, Julie Ciccarino, Jordan Clement, Sabrina Cruz, Nicole DeFrancesco, Julianna Domiciano, Christopher Downey, Colin Dwyer, Jessica Eggert, Sean Fanning, Michaela Genty, Abigail Gernieder, Kayla Giuffi, Thomas Glastal, Jada Gomillion, Emily Granville, Christina Gubernat, Akhil Gundra, Himanee Hendre, Olivia Hobbs, Ethan Jeon, Nicole Kenny, Ashleigh Lancaster, Hannah Lancaster, Jessica Lancaster, Elizabeth Ley, Joseph Li, Valeria Macchini, Aleezah Madraswalla, Raion Magallanes, Kyle Marquardt, Sandeep Mukherjee, Tejas Nimkar, Cassidy Novello, John O'Connor, Phillechia Pershayspearman, Erin Polak, Esteban Quinones, Gabriella Ramos, Sarah Rata, Aryan Ravishankar, Isabella Richardson, Patrick Ritter, William Robertson, Melissa Rosahl, Alexia Ross, Carly Spellman, Skylar Stagaard, Maya Sutterlin, Elora Tamburri, Madison Toll, Ethan Tsvayberg, Kaylah Webb, Grace White, Kaelah Wiggins, Chloe Yang, Samantha Yip, Julia Yu, Olivia Zambrio

**8th Grade Distinguished Honor Roll**  
Josiah Baik, Laura Brady, Thomas Brown, Freya Natasha Buison, Kara Bush, Michelle Cagnassola, Kevin Calabria, Gianna Calligy, Madison Coleman, Saniya Dalvi, Ashley Diamond, Gabrielle Dickstein, Annabelle Dionisio, Nicholas Dionisio, Jessica Edelman, Bryan Fang, Nicole Ferguson, Alexandra Fischmann, Alexa Garrett, Theodore Giandana, Vadim Gorbaty, Madison Haugh, Payton Howell, Eshita Kar, Katherine Koch, Alexandra Lahetta, Ryan Metzger, Rae Mikula, Massimo Modica, Jake Murphy, Courtney Norteman, Breanna Patino, Cassandra Pomponio, Maryam Ramjohn, Kara Schramm, Katelyn Scobee, Alan Shao, Jacqueline Stovall, Veronica Vergara, Dakota Verrico, Nicholas Watterson

**Honor Roll**  
Ryan Ackerman, Grace Ahlin, Gina Avila, Persis Baah, Amanda Ball, Lauren Barth, Paolo Antonio Bayotas, Haley Birch, Jason Bisgay, Jamie Ann Bonaccorso, Jeffrey Brenner, William Burns, Matthew Carrascoso, James Cerini, Nicole Cevallos, Alan Chen, Mia Cimino, Sarah Citarella, Joshua Cohen, Sarah Cooney, Justin D'Angelo, Anna Decker, Riley DeProspero, Stefanie DeVizio, Angelo DiNizo, Meghan Duthie, Hope Edwards, Angelea Elenis, Zachary Evangelista, Jaylen Evans, Casey Ferguson, Alex Ferrara, Benjamin Fleischer, Jessica Friebely, Madison Gal, William Gale, Brandon Garcia, Samuel Goetz, Elizabeth Goldstein, Sarah Gorman, Brandon Green, Vanessa Handy, Cassidy Haugh, Olivia Hausle, Christopher Hedden, Jake Hogan, Erin Hopkins, Shoshana Isaacs, Suzanne Jackson, Ryan Johnson, Dimitrios Kastanos, John Kayser, David Kloepfer, Jonathon Koseoglu, Timothy Lamberta, Kaitlyn Lamendola, Maggie Leahy, Justin Lo, Julia Lomonte, Ricardo Lopez, Jared Mascioli, Graham McAlindin, Shannon McCreesh, Kaylee Moniz, Spencer Moran, Chloe Nelson, Colin O'Brien, Patrick O'Brien, Victoria O'Connor, James Oakes-Garcia, Stephen Oduro, Julia Pankiewitz, Shannon Persaud, Connor Peterson, Carter Pomponio, Konra Reisberg, Daniel Resnicoff, William Ricci, Eleanor Richard, Colleen Robinson, Sadie Salgado, Gerardo Salgado-Rengifo, Emillie Sanchez, Thomas Scarcella, Jacob Schulman, Maya Schwartzman, Erin Schwerdtfeger, Kevin Sheil, Audrey Smith, Olivia Speranza, Saniya Sripada, Garrett Swaak, Paul Szanto, Kyle Tannenbaum, Gustavs Teteris, Maggie Traina, Joshua Venick, Steven Verrastro, Maria Villeda, Justin Walsh, Mekayla White, Charles Widder, Jovi Williams, Morgan Wilson, Elena Wollman, Abigail Yarbenet



**THE YEAR OF THE SHEEP...** Second grade classes at Franklin Elementary School in Westfield enhanced their study of China with special activities for the Chinese New Year. Students created "passports" with pictures of Chinese games, artifacts, art, writing tools, and language and enjoyed an interactive Kung Fu demonstration. Pictured from left to right are second graders from Mariel Jacobs' class, Mia Ebel, Arya Motwani, Alessandra Scrofani, Alex Hendricks, and Jacqueline Storms dipping their pens in ink to illustrate Chinese alphabet characters.

## Scotch Plains Native Receives Full Scholarship

STEUBENVILLE, O.H. — Emily Wieszczyk, a senior attending Mother Seton Regional High School, was awarded a Father Michael Scanlan Scholarship from Franciscan University of Steubenville. The scholarship covers full tuition for four years of study, beginning fall 2015.

Ms. Wieszczyk, who plans to study pre-nursing at Franciscan University, received one of two Scanlan Scholarships after competing against 82 top-performing students from 31 states on February 5 and 6.

Participants in this prestigious invitation-only competition came from Franciscan University's top tier of academically qualified students admitted for fall 2015 and included candidates from the top high schools in the nation. The competition re-

quired students to write an essay, be interviewed by a panel of faculty, staff, and religious, and participate in a group activity.

The scholarship is named in honor of President Emeritus Father Michael Scanlan, TOR, who served as president of Franciscan University for 26 years and was instrumental in revitalizing the school's Catholic identity.

Franciscan University integrates strong academic programs with a dynamic faith environment to serve more than 2,400 students from all 50 states and 12 countries. It is featured in *The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College*, *FORBES' "America's Top Colleges,"* and in *Kiplinger Personal Finance Magazine's* top 100 "best values" in private higher education.

## Two SP-F Musical Events Scheduled for March 7

SCOTCH PLAINS – Saturday, March 7 will be big day for Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SPF) music with two exciting annual events: the St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser and Day of Percussion.

Fanwood's 5th annual St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser will be held March 7 from 12:30 to 9:30 p.m. in a large heated tent at the Fanwood Train Station. This event, sponsored by the Fanwood Business and Professional Association and Oh'Brian's Pourhouse, will feature music and traditional Irish fare including corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, pretzels, mac and cheese and hot dogs. There will also be face painting, tricky tray and lots of fun.

All proceeds will benefit the Scotch

Plains-Fanwood Music Boosters Association, which supports music programs throughout the school district. SPF student groups will perform at the fundraiser between 1 to 4:30 p.m., including the Moonglowers, SPFH Jazz Band, Park and Terrill Middle School Jazz Bands, and more.

Tickets to this event are \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Oh'Brian's Pourhouse, 200 South Avenue in Fanwood and Mara's Café and Bakery, 250 South Avenue (where each ticket purchase comes with a 10 percent discount on your next Mara's visit).

For more information about the St. Patrick's Day event please visit [www.fanwoodbusiness.com](http://www.fanwoodbusiness.com).

Meanwhile, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools music department hosts Day of Percussion on March 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Terrill Middle School, 1301 Terrill Road in Scotch Plains. This event will feature instructional clinics by professional musicians Jon DiFiore and Dennis DeLucia, performances by percussion ensembles from SPF and other New Jersey schools, plus refreshments, raffles, giveaways, and vendors selling and demonstrating musical merchandise.

Student groups performing will include: SPFH Rhythmsense, South Plainfield Middle School Percussion Ensemble, Mantra Youth Percussion, Metuchen High School Percussion Ensemble, Randolph Middle School Percussion Ensemble, Randolph High School Percussion Ensemble, Terrill Middle School Percussion Ensemble, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Percussion Ensemble and Kean University Percussion Ensemble.

For more information about this event, visit the website [spfmusicboosters.org/day-of-percussion](http://spfmusicboosters.org/day-of-percussion).

## Learn Something New! Spring Classes begin March 9!

Class lengths vary from one session to eight sessions.

Just a few of the New Courses for Spring 2015:

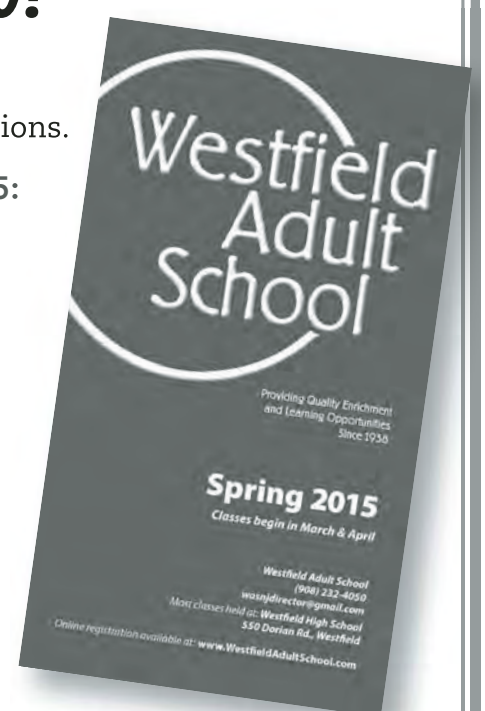
- Golf for Beginners and Novices
- Table Tennis for Fun, Fitness and Focus
- Internet Security
- Chair Seat Recovering
- Sewing
- Asian Appetizers
- Meatless Mondays
- Pilates/Yoga Fusion
- Know Your Local Government
- How to Easily Organize Your Home
- What Do You Want to Be When You Grow Up?
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Blue Devil Boy/Girl Cagers Win  
In Sections - Stories next week

# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section  
Pages 11-17

**CR's MURRAY, SCORESE; SPF's BEIRNE PLACES SECOND**

## Cougar Cappello Takes First At Region 3 Wrestling Tourney

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
Two Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestlers and four Cranford Cougars punched their tickets to compete in the NJSIAA Tournament this weekend at Atlantic City (AC) by placing in the Top-3 in their respective weight classes at the Region 3 Tournament held in Union on February 28. Two Westfield Blue Devils came up one decision short of quali-

fying for AC. Cougar junior Niko Cappello will be making his second trip to AC after defeating Plainfield's Rohan Phillip, 7-5, in overtime in the 182-lb title bout. Phillip actually got two takedowns, but Cappello added a three-point tilt to send the bout into overtime where he finally got the takedown for the win. The two also met in the county finals and Cappello came out on top.

"It seemed like he had a pretty good game plan. I really couldn't get, as you say, my famous single [leg takedown]. It stunned me at first when I took my shots. He was athletic and fast enough to switch his hands behind my back and spin. To win a match, you got to take a guy down," Cappello said. "I feel really confident. When I go down there [AC], I am going to keep an open head. It's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



More photos at Ballyhoo Sports

ANOTHER WILD BOUT...Raider Jt Beirne, front, tries to figure out how to escape the grasp of New Providence Pioneer Tyler Gazaway in the 138-lb championship bout at the Region 3 Tournament in Union on February 28.



More photos at Ballyhoo Sports

WORKING HER WAY AROUND...Blue Devil Jackie Knapp, No. 2, figures out how to dribble around Roselle Catholic defender Tyara McQueen, No. 10, in the Union County Tournament semifinal game in Rahway on February 24.

**LUZZI SCORES 16 PTS, SCOTT 14, KNAPP 12, LIDDY 9**

## Blue Devils Stun No. 7 Lions In UCT Hoops Semis, 57-51

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
Variations of offensive schemes involving a number of girls on the part of the fourth-seeded Westfield High School basketball team tended to boggle the minds of the top-seeded, seventh-ranked Roselle Catholic Lions, who never quite figured out how to contain all the weapons, and it resulted in a 57-51, Blue Devil vic-

tory in the semifinal round of the Union County Tournament held in Rahway on February 24. The fine mix of offensive plays began immediately as four Blue Devils figured in the scoring, which ended with the score tied, 10-10, after the first quarter. But the Blue Devils' real versatility in the second quarter rattled the Lions' wits with an 18-10 run and a 28-20 lead at the half. Junior Olivia

Luzzi (2 assists), who finished with 16 points, pumped in a pair of 3-pointers, while Lil Scott (14 points, 4 assists, 7 rebounds) and Jackie Knapp (3 assists, 2 steals, 4 rebounds) each sank five points and Hannah Liddy (9 points, 3 assists, 3 rebounds, steal) hit for two. "This is the third time we played Roselle Catholic. They have seen us

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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**SCOTT SCORES 12 PTS, KNAPP NETS 10 PTS, LIDDY 8 PTS**

# Blue Devils Fall Just Short To TPS in UCT Final, 45-43

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

The Union County Tournament (UCT) championship was there to be had for the Westfield High School girls' basketball team. Jacqueline Knapp's 3-point attempt was barely off the mark and The Patrick School's Qadashah Hoppie hauled in the rebound as the buzzer sounded giving the Celtics a 45-43 victory and their first UCT championship held at Kean University on February 27.

"I don't think we could have asked for anything else from our girls tonight," said Westfield Head Coach Liz McKeon. "They gave us everything they had. The Patrick School is a very good and talented team. They

The 20-6 Celtics finally tied the game, 20-20, just before the half on a 3-pointer by Aliyah Powell then took its first lead 45 seconds into the third quarter when Amani Williams scored a basket in the paint.

The Blue Devils answered with an inside basket from Devitt then Knapp drained a 3-pointer to regain the lead at 25-22. Hannah Liddy hit a 3-pointer then Westfield stretched its lead to 32-24 after a pair of free throws by Devitt and Knapp's fast break lay-up, forcing The Patrick School to take a time out with 3:33 remaining in the third quarter.

The Celtics roared back, erasing the lead in just over two minutes. Powell hit a 3-pointer, Shyasia

just beyond the 3-point line.

Knapp lined up her shot as the clock ticked down to under five seconds and she launched a shot towards the basket as a pair of Celtic defenders lunged towards her.

"Shannon did a great job fighting for the rebound and then being able to kick it out to me in the middle of that battle," said Knapp. "I had the look. I just didn't hit it."

Knapp's shot looked like it would be a dagger through the heart of The Patrick School as it arced down towards the basket. But instead, the shot clanked off of the rim and into the waiting hands of Hoppie with :02 to play sending The Patrick School players and fans into a raucous cel-



**GOING FOR THE FREE THROW...Blue Devil Amalia Montes, No. 23, concentrates on her free throw in the Union County Tournament championship game against The Patrick School at Kean University in Union on February 27.**

beat us by 11 the first time we played them this year and then by 12 the second time. But this game tonight was fought to the very end. Sometimes the difference between winning and losing is just a matter of inches. You saw that tonight. When Jackie let that shot go, I think a lot of us felt like it was going in."

Westfield (15-8), which upset Roselle Catholic in the semis to earn their spot in the final, jumped out to a 6-0 lead against The Celtics and held the advantage throughout most of the first half. The Blue Devils were getting it done with gritty play from sophomore center Shannon Devitt and junior forward Amalia Montes who drew the tough assignments of trying to limit the Celtics' tall frontcourt players to one shot and out.

Westfield's defense also bothered the Celtic ball handlers forcing them into frequent poor passes that resulted in turnovers. Despite not hitting a single 3-pointer in the first half, the Blue Devils were dictating the action and running from the lead most of the way.

"They know we like to shoot a lot of threes," said McKeon. "They play aggressive defense at the top and they contest those shots."

Pridgen made a lay-up and the Celtics hit 4-for-4 from the line to grab a 33-32 lead with 1:28 left.

With 6:36 left in the game, Lil Scott rolled in a lay-up to give Westfield a 36-35 edge. The Patrick School staged an effective full-court press that did manage to take the Westfield players out of sync on offense.

"They are a very good defensive team," said Scott. "They are very quick and they got us out of our offense a little bit at key times during the second half."

The Patrick School scored eight of the next 10 points to grab a 45-40 lead with :57 remaining. Liddy then nailed a 3-pointer to cut the score to 45-43 with :42 left.

Westfield's defense then forced a turnover on the other end when Celtic Zhane Irby stepped out of bounds while dribbling along the baseline with 30 seconds remaining.

The Celtics' pressure defense continued. Liddy made a strong drive through the lane. Her shot caromed off the backboard into the hands of the Celtics Raven Farley-Clark, but somehow Devitt managed to pry the ball away and kicked it back out to Knapp at the top left side of the key

celebration mode.

"I watched that shot go up and I just felt helpless," said TPS junior Shamachya Duncan. "It would have been terrible to lose the game like that after we had fought so hard to come back."

But for Westfield the missed shot represented the agony of being so close to claiming a county title only to watch it bounce away.

"In fairness to Jackie, that last sequence with the ball was not smooth for us," said Scott. "It was definitely chaotic and things were really discombobulated. We were fortunate that Shannon was able to get the ball back and give us a chance for the last shot. They did a great job of pressuring us on defense so that we were reacting to them instead of running our offense efficiently."

Powell and Williams led The Patrick School with 14 points each. Farley-Clark had 10 rebounds. Scott (2 assists, 2 steals) finished with 12 points and Knapp (3 assists, 2 steals) had 10 points. Liddy (3 assists, 3 steals) had eight points and Devitt (3 steals) had seven points.

Westfield	12	8	14	9	43
Patrick School	8	12	15	10	45

## Devil's Den

# Gerry McGinley 1929-2015



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

There aren't many people still around town who remember seeing Gerry McGinley play. But those who saw him - and probably some who didn't - will gladly remind you that any conversation about the greatest football players ever at WHS has got to include the big redhead.

A three-year starter for coach Joe Freeman's 1945-46-47 powerhouses, McGinley played 48 minutes every game back in the days when players routinely played 48 minutes. He was a three-year starter at linebacker on defense, and a two-year starter at offensive center, playing right end as a senior. His seven touchdown receptions that fall were a school record until Brian Ciemniecki broke it in 1994.

Jackson, Glen Kehler, Sam Mitchell, Dave Morash, Lee Waring and Joe Wiendl.

Following his induction, McGinley became a huge WAHOF supporter and was a regular attendee at the dinners. He never missed a dinner until last November's 11th induction. He had moved to Hobe Sound, Florida, but with former football teammate Jack Reydel among the 2014 inductees, you got the feeling that maybe something was wrong when Red wasn't there.

On Monday, Feb. 23, at age 84 Gerry (Red) McGinley passed away in Florida. Services were held last Friday in Florida. Ed McGinley Sr. had passed away in 2007.

We heard of McGinley's passing from Peter Braun, a fellow WAHOF inductee.

"Both Rick and Gerry were before my time," said Braun ('61), a two-time all-state guard/linebacker at

the stands was George Handza, whose daughter Tara is No. 5 all-time in 3's. On the court were Lil Scott and Jackie Knapp, who rank No. 1 and 3 all-time. (And don't forget WHS's first-year coach Liz McKeon, who is No. 12.)

Shannon Devitt rebounded a late miss and got the ball out to Knapp. The senior's open shot was on target, but clinked off the front of the rim just a smidge short. Patrick had survived 45-43.

Going almost unnoticed was Scott recently broke Miller's school record of 125 3-pointers and had 127 going into Monday's state tournament game against Dickinson. Knapp is third with 108.

Among the fans in the crowded Kean University gym was former girls coach Joe Marino, who led the 2008 team to the lone county title in program history. Also there was Westfield Athletic Hall of Famer Russell (Boo)

Those teams went 9-1, 7-3 and 10-0, a total record of 26-4, which included wins over Plainfield in his sophomore and senior seasons. He was captain of the '47 team, which many old-timers feel gets underrated when the school's great teams are discussed.

Red's main sport was football, but he was good enough to be named co-captain, with Frank Coale, of the 1948 swim team that finished fourth at the state championships.

Both Rick and Gerry were before my time," said Braun ('61), a two-time all-state guard/linebacker at

The second of former New York Giant Ed McGinley Sr.'s three football playing sons - Ed Jr. ('45) and high-scoring Rick ('50) were the others - Gerry followed his storied WHS career by continuing the McGinley tradition (the father, all three sons) of attending the University of Pennsylvania. There, in addition to filling the all-American shoes of his father, he also had to replace graduating All-America Chuck Bednarik, a future pro star with the Eagles. As a senior McGinley earned all-America honors, and was a 10th-round draft pick of the Eagles in 1952.



**Gerry (Red) McGinley is pictured with his brothers Ed (left) and Rick**

Instead of pro football, McGinley chose to serve as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After that he started a 40-plus-year career as a stockbroker. He and his wife Pat settled in Short Hills and raised five kids. The oldest of them, John, has enjoyed a solid acting career, appearing in, among others, the movies "Platoon" and "Wall Street," and starring as Dr. Perry Cox on the TV sit-com "Scrubs" for nine seasons.

WHS. "I got to know Gerry from the investment business. We had some mutual clients. Also, I rented a shore house I had in Mantoloking to Gerry and his wife Pat for several seasons. My daughters were always excited because Gerry's movie actor son John stayed in their room."

Next to McGinley's senior photo in the 1948 Weather Vane, it said: "This captain of our undefeated eleven is a fighter in sports, but out of uniform 'Ger' is always a gentleman. Sincere and silent, he is also a leader with unusual perseverance and distinctive red hair. He ranks among the best."

Bowers, who has served as eighth-grade coach for years.

The Blue Devils played two of the state's Top 10-ranked teams - beating No. 7 Roselle Catholic 57-51 and falling to No. 9 Patrick - in the UCT semis and finals, and outscored them 100-96.

"It was a great game and we almost had it," McKeon said. "The girls played their hearts out. It was quite a run."

When the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame opened its doors in 1994, McGinley was one of the dozen individuals inducted in the first class, along with Olympians Chris Campbell and Bob Clotworthy, pro baseball's Jeff Torborg, coaching legends Gary Kehler and Marilyn Diamond, and all-around standouts Frank

GIRLS BASKETBALL UPDATE  
You want to talk about a moment frozen in time? It was the final seconds of the Union County Tournament girls basketball final. WHS was trailing by a deuce and the final seconds are ticking off the clock.

On the bench was senior co-captain Jaime Miller, whose sister Erin was the all-time 3-point leader at WHS. One of the referees was Tom Cusimano, whose daughter Jackie is No. 4 all-time at WHS in "treys." In

JAYVEE COUNTY CHAMPS  
The WHS girls basketball junior varsity captured the Union County Tournament with a 45-43 victory over Cranford. Freshmen Josie Greenwood scored 24 points and Lauren Sgro converted a "old-fashioned" three-point play - a basket and a foul shot - for the winning points.

### Probitas Verus Honos



**UCT JV CHAMPS...The Westfield High School girls' J.V. basketball team won the Union County Tournament on February 27 at Kean University by defeating Cranford, 45-43. The team finished with an overall record of 16-4. The team is coached by Dave Hartzler and the members of the team are: Nicolina Albano, Sam Della Fera, Emily Greaney, Jenna Iorio, Kelsey Moum, Casey Popowski, Josie Greenwood, Sonya Peregrin, Mia Melao, Molly Ryan and Lauren Sgro.**

DEVIN BREAKS RECORD  
Junior Gwyn Devin set a school record in the 100-yard breaststroke with a 1:07.41 during Saturday's time trials at the state Individual Championships at Gloucester Institute of Technology in Deptford. The old mark of 1:07.74 was set 33 years ago by Hall of Famer Janney Zonneville. Caroline Basil's 57.83 in the 100 back improved on her No. 2 time. John Lindros finished second in the 200 freestyle in 1:41.53. No. 2 all-time at WHS.

WHS 'UPSETS' CENTRAL  
The 10th-seeded Blue Devils "upset" seventh-seed Hunterdon Central, 2-1, in Friday's Round of 16 in the Public A tournament, and advanced to play second-seeded Randolph on Monday at Mennen Arena in the quarterfinals. WHS, which had beaten Central 6-2 earlier this season, got 33 saves from goalie Dan DoCampo. It was the third straight year the Blue Devils eliminated the Red Devils, from states.

CLOSE, BUT ...  
Cotter Spurlock (220) was seeded 13th and upset the No. 4 and No. 5 seeds before losing 3-2 on an ultimate tiebreaker to top-seeded Saverio Salfecas of Kenilworth in Saturday's Region 3 semifinals. John Fuller (126) and Jarek Gozdieski (160) both lost to top-seeded kids from Hanover Park at the Region 3 tournament.

CELEBRATE!  
Last Saturday was the 27th birthday, a.k.a. clean anniversary, for my brother Craig, better known to everyone as CJ. He is the former owner of CJ's Extra Innings sports cards and comic book store, a local landmark for over 20 years, selling it about 10 years ago.

IN PASSING  
Don Covay, who wrote '60s hits like "Mercy Mercy," "Pony Time" and "Chain of Fools," passed away on Jan. 31 at age 78.

Leonard Nimoy, one of the great TV actors of my youth, passed away on Feb. 27 at age 83. Nimoy is most famous for his "Star Trek" role as Mr. Spock, the Vulcan master of logic. He later performed many roles, including two seasons as The Great Paris, Martin Landau's replacement on "Mission: Impossible."

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## Blue Devils Stun No. 7 Lions, 57-51, in UCT Semi

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

run all our stuff, so we had to throw some new stuff at them. We knew we had to have some differences here and there. We needed to put new stuff in that would work and it definitely worked today. They were caught off-guard," Knapp said.

"That's what we had to do. We had a bunch of offensive plays. We know that most teams focus on Jac and Lil, so we had to get other girls more involved. They stepped up tonight offensively," Blue Devil Head Coach Liz McKeon said.

But the defensive efforts of Amalia Montes (5 rebounds, 4 points, 2 steals, assist), Shannon Devitt (block, steal, assist) and Abby Demers (4 rebounds, assist) helped keep the Lady Lions and stars Allieyah Cubbage (10

ued their fine mix of offensive plays.

The Lions did manage to tie the score, 42-42, with 4:53 remaining, but Liddy and Luzzi each banged a 3-pointer then Luzzi hit for two to put the Blue Devils back on top, 50-44 with 1:29 on the clock. The Lions went into a necessary fouling mode, but Westfield was ready.

First it was Liddy to the line for a one-and-one. She hit both, but the Lions quickly scored seven unanswered to trail by just one, 52-51. Scott grabbed a key rebound and was fouled. She hit both, then with 20.1 remaining, Knapp made a steal, was fouled, went to the line and sank one. With nine seconds left, Scott was fouled and sank both. She then ended the game when she smothered a rebound.

Scott said. "You got to blank out the crowd, using the pressure and making it a good thing. We were fortunate. Not only did Jackie and I hit our free throws but Hannah did and so did Olivia."

"We practice that every day. Game on the line, that's where you want to be and they were all able to knock them down," Coach McKeon said.

The efforts of the Blue Devils may be considered their best performance of the season.

"Oh Yes! It started on February 14 against New Providence, and we have been rolling ever since then," Coach McKeon said. "Everyone who came in today, when Abby [Demers] came in when we had girls in foul trouble. She was getting some key rebounds.



DRIVING TO THE BASKET...Blue Devil Lil Scott, No. 20, drives to the basket as Roselle Catholic defender Kamille Jacobs, No. 5, follows in the Union County Tournament semifinal game in Rahway on February 24.

points), Dolapo Baloqun (13 points) and Jen McClave (13 points) in check. "This team is very well coached and they are a very fundamental basketball team. So we knew in order to beat them today, we needed a complete effort from every single one of our kids and I think, by far, we did. Hannah had some big shots and some big plays. I know Shannon Devitt and Amalia Montes were critical making sure that we kind of secured rebounds," Scott said.

The Lions crept back into to game when the Blue Devils had some difficulty following up under the boards on their initial shots and won the third quarter, 16-12, to narrow the Blue Devils' lead to 40-36, so the real test came down to the final quarter and the Blue Devils did not relent and contin-

"I got the rebounds. I know our whole entire team was focused on boxing out to make sure we were all able and ready to get the rebounds. We put a big emphasis on rebounding and knowing that we could win if we could secure some solid rebounds. I think the entire team did that today," Scott said.

"We practice free throws all the time just for moments like this. We definitely needed that shot and we knew the crowd would be loud, but we had to focus on putting the ball in the basket," Knapp said.

"That's something we have been doing our whole lives. Maybe the atmosphere was a little different this time. This is something we done every single day, so we were definitely prepared for something like that,"

Even the girls who didn't play. Everyone had an impact on today."

"It's very hard to beat a team three times. This was going to be our time. We knew we had to play for 32 minutes straight very intense basketball. We kept the game at the next level the whole time," Knapp said.

As far as the UCT goes, the next level was for the championship against The Patrick School (No. 9 ranked) at Kean University that was held on February 27.

"We know it's in a bigger arena, the fact that it's the county finals. We haven't really focused on it yet, because we really focused on this game, but I know we will be prepared on Friday," Knapp said.

Westfield	10	18	12	17	57
Roselle Catholic	10	10	16	15	51



More photos at Ballyhoo Sports

TRYING TO WREST THE BALL AWAY...Raiders Brianna O'Brien, No. 2, and Kara Foley, No. 24, attempt to wrest the ball from the grasp of a Pioneer in their season finale in Scotch Plains on February 25.

## O'BRIEN NETS 11 PTS; BATTLE 10 PTS, 10 REBOUNDS

# Lady Pioneers Stop Raiders In Hoops Season Finale, 60-49

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

Sidney Morang and Kate Kinum put on a scoring clinic to lead the New Providence High School girls basketball team to a 60-49 victory over the hosting Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders in their season finale on February 25. The Pioneers, who took the ninth-ranked Patrick School to the limit in a 43-40 loss in the Union County Tournament (UCT) semifinals just the evening before, upped their record to 16-8.

The Lady Raiders, however, who had a very rough start at the begin-

ning of the season, turned it all around in the second half and finished with a 9-13 record. In addition to their loss to the Pioneers, the Raiders recently pushed rival Westfield to the limit in a 46-42 loss in the UCT. The Blue Devils went on to stun No. 7-ranked Roselle Catholic, 57-51, in the UCT semis.

"We came alive in the second half of the season. We really got it to mesh well, to click well towards the end of the season. Our coaching staff was happy about that. Westfield is a very good team and it is not shocking that they are in the finals. They have [Lil

Scott and [Jackie] Knapp, who are very good, so it was tough playing them. We had to play Westfield twice then once in the counties, and I think that was a very good game played by us all-around. That's a good learning experience for our girls," Raider Head Coach Camille Mammolite said.

In the season finale, Morang put in 23 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and Kinum scored 20 points. Morang's height paid dividends when she was able to grab offensive rebounds and convert them to lay-ups. "There's a big height difference

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



SWEET VICTORY...The Lady Blue Devils celebrate after defeating No. 7 Roselle Catholic, 57-51, in the Union County Tournament semifinals.

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GETTING THE DOUBLE LEG...Cougar Niko Cappello gets the double leg takedown on South Plainfield's Christian Gonzalez in the 182-lb semifinals. Cappello then won the title when he beat Rohan Phillip (Plainfield) 7-5 in overtime.

**Cougar Cappello Takes First at Region 3 Tourney**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

my time to get on the podium." Raider JT Beirne, seeded second at 138-lbs, began his journey to the finals with a 17-5, major decision over Brandon Jones (Parsippany) then he had a very tight bout with Dan Hedden (South Plainfield) in the semis but came out on top, 3-2, when he delivered a double-leg takedown in the third period. But before that, Beirne apparently had a takedown in the first period but no points were awarded. "I hit him with a double. I had both legs locked. I don't know what the deal was. I really thought I had two

[points]. But you know what? I had to come back and wrestle hard to get those points back," Beirne said. His victory over Hedden automatically qualified him for the NJSIAA Tournament at Atlantic City (AC). "It's surreal! I have been dreaming about this since I got in high school. To actually be there, it's mind boggling. I worked hard," Beirne said. His title bout would be against Tyler Gazaway (New Providence), who had defeated him in overtime at the Union County Tournament. "It's going to be exciting," said

Beirne, who was true to his word. After a scoreless but active first period, Beirne escaped to take a 1-0 lead but Gazaway got a reversal in the third to go ahead, 2-1. Just before the buzzer, Beirne nearly got a reversal, but Gazaway got away with the victory. Blue Devil Cotter Spurlock moved into the 220-lb fourth-seeded bracket when he defeated Amir Sa'id (North Plainfield), 4-3. Spurlock then recorded a third period takedown to defeat Alexis Villegas (Morristown), 6-4.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

**KELLET SCORES 12 PTs, CHRISTIANO 11 PTs, REMLEY 10**

**Cougar Boys Fall to Pioneers On B-Ball 'Sr. Night', 58-50**

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

There would be no glorious ending for the Cranford High School boys basketball team on "Senior Night". The Cougars lost their season finale, 58-50, to New Providence on February 26 in a game played at Martin Gymnasium in Cranford.

With seven graduating seniors playing their final game before the home crowd, the Cougars stayed true to the form they have displayed most of the season. The Cougar boys fought hard, played well for long stretches of the game but could not overcome an untimely dry spell that ultimately proved to be their undoing.

"We didn't play well in the third quarter and I think that was what did us in," said senior Luke Christiano. "It has been like that most of the season for us. There is always a valley in the game where we don't play well and that pretty much does it."

After a back and forth first half that saw the teams go into the break tied at 26-26, the Cougars appeared to be in good shape. But New Providence managed to go on a 7-2 mini streak to open the third quarter that helped them grab a 33-28 lead. New Providence then finished out the final minute of the third quarter by outscoring the Cougars 5-0 on a pair of inside baskets by Kevin Haggerty and a free throw by Bryan Joyce. These two mini bursts were enough to give the visiting Pioneers a 42-32 advantage heading into the fourth quarter. It also helped that Cranford could only manage six points in the third quarter.

"We settled for a lot of three point shot attempts in that third quarter and throughout the game," said senior Albert Gargiulo. "Not many of them went in. We needed to play better tonight against New Providence and we didn't. I'm not sure why we haven't played more consistently this year." New Providence (17-7) took firm command of the game in the first minute of the final quarter. A three-point basket by Sean Cole followed by a pair of free throws from Joyce gave New Providence a 47-32 lead with just under seven minutes remaining. In the span of just over two minutes, Cranford had gone from being in a nip and tuck battle to being on the verge of getting blown out.

To their credit, the Cougars mounted a small rally, spurred on by a thunderous dunk from senior James Kellet. The rim rattling stuff came off of an alley oop lob pass from fellow senior Steve Willis with 5:52 to play that cut the lead to 47-35. The crowd pleasing play was part of a 9-1 burst that helped pull Cranford to within halting distance at 48-41 with 3:13 to play.

"We drew that play up in practice

yesterday hoping to get a chance to execute it in today's game," said Kellet. "It was Senior Night and we wanted to have some fun out there on the court."

The fun stopped there though as New Providence once again seized control of the game. The visitors would connect on eight of 10 free

chipped in with 10 points for the winners. Kellet scored 12 points, Christiano had 11 points and Hunter Remley added 10 points to the Cougar cause.

Cranford saw seven seniors play their last games this night. Steve Willis, Luke Christiano, Kevin Trotter, James Kellet, Albert Gargiulo, Liam McKay



BIG NIGHT ON "SENIOR NIGHT"...Cougar James Kellett, center, scored 12 points, including a pair of slam dunks against the Pioneers on "Senior Night".

throws down the stretch to eventually rebuild their lead to 11, at 56-45 with :32 to play. A three point basket by Dante Anderson with :22 remaining cut the lead to 56-48 but two more free throws by New Providence sealed the game. Kellet managed one more rim rattling dunk as the clock expired to make the final score 58-50.

Dylan Thomas led New Providence with 12 points and George Daniel

and Dante Anderson were honored in a pre-game ceremony at half court with their parents by their sides.

"Our record this season wasn't very good," said Christiano, who will play football this September for Lehigh. "But I had a lot of fun playing with these guys. It was never a bad experience."

New Providence	13	13	16	16	58
Cranford	12	14	6	18	50



FAN SUPPORT...The crowd shows up in support of the Cranford boys on Senior Night. Included among those pictured, clockwise from lower left, are: Katarina Polyviou, Lyndsay Pace, Isabella Speer and Julia Schork.

**Lady Pioneers Stop Raiders in Hoops Finale, 60-49**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

there between the girls that we had guard them. With that said, there was a lot of help defense today with girls on the court. Our best defender is not as tall as Sidney Morang, so now we

help defense that we played all season since the Summit game that we played good defense today," Coach Mammolite said.

Freshman Brianna O'Brien led the

and hit 2-for-2.

"It was a very physical game. It was a very fast-paced game. There weren't many fouls on either side. I think both teams played well. Both teams took the opportunities that they got. If you are not going to get fouled, you have to make the lay-ups. Both teams did that today," Coach Mammolite said.

Led by Morang, who bucketed 10 of her points, the Pioneers rolled to a 19-9 lead at the end of the first quarter. O'Brien had four points, Battle banged a 3-pointer and Taylor hit for two. Morang and Kinum each netted seven points in a 20-11, second quarter run to make the score, 39-20 at the half. O'Brien swished a 3-pointer and added a 2-pointer.

The Raiders found more success scoring on the inside lanes in the second half and Foley scored four of her points in the third quarter that ended 13-12, Pioneers. The Raiders outscored the Pioneers, 17-8, in the final quarter.

The Raiders' strong and competitive finish to the season bodes well for the future.

"We do lose one senior [Dwunfour] and she is a huge part of the team, but the remainder of the other 10 girls are coming back. It's good for us to end on a positive note to start on a positive note for next year. Those last eight games that we played very, very well and six out of those eight we won, they may say, 'you know what? This is something we can do.' It was still a success for them," Coach Mammolite said.

New Providence	19	20	13	8	60
Sc PI-Fanwood	9	11	12	17	49




RUNAWAY BALL...Pioneer Sidney Morang, No. 22, chases a runaway ball as Raiders Caroline Babis, left, Micaiah Battle, No. 22, and Thabitha Dwunfour, No. 25, observe.

had to play solid help defense and help [Caroline] Babis out if she should get beat. I think we played the best


Raiders with 11 points, She also had three rebounds, two assists and a steal. Babis had four steals and five points. Micaiah Battle netted 10 points, 10 rebounds, two steals and blocked a shot. Myaysia Taylor (3 assists, steal) sank seven of her nine points in the fourth quarter. Kara Foley (assist, 2 steals) scored six points, while Thabitha Dwunfour (7 rebounds, 3 assists, block) and Nya Downing (3 rebounds) each sank four points.

Due to the extreme lack of fouling, the game became a quick up-and-down contest. The Raiders went to the line three times and hit 4-for-6, while the Pioneers went only twice


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Brand New 5BR, 5BA Colonial w/panoramic views of NYC! Gourmet KIT, Exquisite FP in FR, MBR, ste w/2 WICs, Fin bsmt, 3-car gar. **MLS 3176636**




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New 5-6BR, 4.1BA COL to be bilt. Architecturally distinctive home w/quality craftsmanship & meticulous attention to details. **MLS NAEX3383**




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Impressive 4BR, 3.1BA home, LR w/WBFP, expansive FR, banquet sized FDR, reno'd EIK overlooks lrg scmd porch, Mstr ste w/WIC. **MLS 3193254**




**SCOTCH PLAINS** \$789,000  
Cust built 5BR, 4BA Col, gourmet kit w/granite & SS applincs, fin bsmt w/full bath, kit & fr/cpl, garage w/loft, in-ground pool. **MLS 3193807**




**WESTFIELD** \$699,500  
Beautifully maintained 4BR COL w/inventing front porch, grand FLR w/fp flanked by bit-in display cab, FDR w/French drs to FR. **MLS 3198281**




**SCOTCH PLAINS** \$602,000  
Meticulously maintained 4BR 3BA home on 1 ac lot, quiet cul-de-sac loc, opn fr pln, spacious & bright rms, FR w/HWF & VBFP. **MLS 3193795**




**WESTFIELD** \$599,000  
4BR, 2BA Brick Ranch! EIK w/wnw SS applincs, adjoining den, HWF, new wndws, deck, att garage, central air, lovely landscaped yard. **MLS 3196882**



**SCOTCH PLAINS** \$589,000  
Spacious 3BR, 3BA home on wonderful 1/2 acre lot, LR/DR w/stone fplc, EIK w/granite & SS appl, lrg FR w/vaulted beamed ceil. **MLS 3199240**



**MOUNTAINSIDE** \$499,900  
Spacious 4BR, 2BA Ranch. New kitchen & baths, refin HWF, 2 FPLs, inground pool, Master BR w/full bath and walk-in closet. **MLS 3197752**



**SCOTCH PLAINS** \$449,000  
Charming, well maint. 3BR, 2BA Col, updatd Kit w/new appl, FDR/French drs to deck/patio, Sun Rm off kit overlooks back yard. **MLS 3196266**

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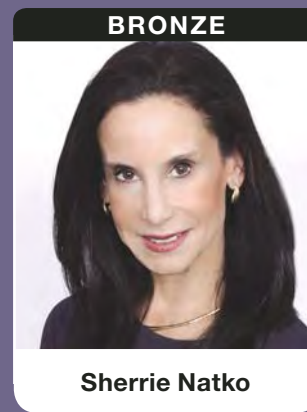
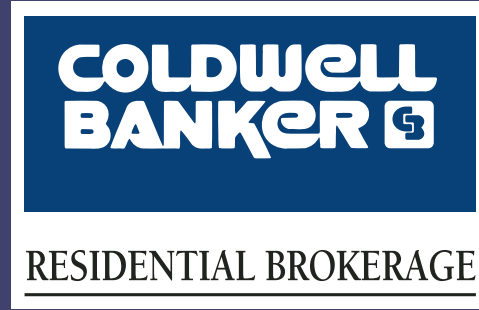


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From the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

**February 29, 2012:** Ice-cold shooting from a disappointing loss to Governor Livingston in the Union County Tournament championship game on February 26 transformed into a blazing fireball when the third-seeded Cranford Cougar girls basketball team scorched the net with eight 3-pointers en route to a 51-36 victory over sixth-seeded Nutley in the quarterfinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 tournament in Cranford.

Senior forward Morgan Miller emitted lightning from her fingertips to char the net with six 3-point-

nology in Sewell.

Sophomore Sarah Cronin with a split of 24.45, senior co-captain Loren Ball with a split of 24.65,

gars, whose first team played nearly flawless ball to jump out to a 36-13 halftime lead en route to a 57-35 victory in the sectional quarterfinals.

Senior forward Diana Venezia scored eight of the Blue Devils' 13 points in the first half and finished with a game-high 20 points. When she hit a two-pointer at the start of the third quarter, Venezia surpassed the 400-point mark for the season.

**March 3, 2008:** Winning a North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 championship was not enough for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys basketball team. Seniors Danny DeCataldo and Bryan Dougher banged 3-pointers in bunches during the first half to lead the 22-6 Raiders to a 71-56 victory over 20-10 Wayne Valley in the Group 3 semifinal round at East Orange Campus on March 3.

**March 5, 2006:** The Lady Raider basketball team had its best showing of the season with a 49-45 victory over second-seeded host South Plainfield in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 semifinals. Raider point-guard Allie Zazzali led the charge with a career-high 27 points, including 10-of-12 from the free throw line.

**March 11-13, 2005:** Three Raider

wrestlers qualified for the trip to AC and two, seniors Steve Mineo at 135-lbs and heavyweight Marc Fabiano, survived to place seventh and eighth, respectively, at Boardwalk Hall in front of a crowd of 10,400. Pat Mineo (140-lbs) lost in the preliminary round.

**March 6, 2004:** The Raider girls basketball team knocked its third top-20 ranked team out of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 playoffs by flattening No. 10 Voorhees in the semifinals, 76-54, in Glen Gardner. Hillary Klimowicz sank 26 points, pulled in 15 rebounds, had six steals and made six blocked shots. Maura Gillyooly sank 16 points.

**March 1, 2003:** A stellar day for the No. 3 Blue Devil boys swimming team began with an overwhelming, 109-61, dunking of No. 4 Cherry Hill East in the Public A Championship at The College of New Jersey in Ewing and ended with a triumphant police and firemen's escort through the streets of Westfield. The victory marked the Blue Devils' 19th state title, which tied Trenton for the most public school titles.

**March 3, 2002:** Raider swimmers Steve and Eric Swenson placed 7-8 in the 100-yard breaststroke at the Meet of Champions held at Gloucester County Institute of Technology in Sewell.

**March 4, 2001:** Raider senior Dana Berkowitz captured fourth twice at the 79th Annual Swimming Meet of Champions at the Gloucester County Institute of Technology in Deptford. Berkowitz touched fourth in the girls 100 butterfly and was timed at 24.57 in the 50-freestyle.

*Probitas Versus Honos*



David B. Corbin (2012 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**SHINING AT MEET OF CHAMPIONS...**Blue Devil Caroline Baldwin placed second in the 100-backstroke, third in the 50-freestyle, was on the winning 200-free relay team and was on the second-place 400-free relay team at the Meet of Champions (March 4, 2012).

ers, finishing with a game-high 20 points. The win gave Jackie Dyer her 100th career victory in her five years as Head Coach at Cranford.

**March 4, 2012:** The No. 1

junior Ellie Reinhardt with a split of 25.0 and sophomore Caroline Baldwin with a split of 23.78 touched the wall at 1:37.88 (WHS record) to beat Mount St. Dominic at 1:38.22.



David B. Corbin (2012 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**REACHING MAGIC NO. 100...**Cranford Head Coach Jackie Dyer, center, reached career victory No. 100 when her Cougars defeated Nutley, 51-36, in the second quarterfinals on February 29, 2012.

Westfield High School girls swim team touched first in the 200-free relay to claim its first Meet of Champions relay title in 30 years (1982) at the NJSIAA Meet of Champions at Gloucester County Institute of Tech-

The time was the third fastest in meet history and the fastest in the state this season.

**March 4, 2010:** Mistake free ball had to be played if the Blue Devil girls basketball team would have a chance to upset the defending North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 champion Columbia Cougars, ranked seventh in New Jersey, in South Orange. Instead, it was the 24-3 Cou-



Jim O'Connor (njsports.com) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**KNOTTING THE SCORE...**Paul DeVita of Westfield, a junior Midfielder at Wagner College, knotted the score at 10-10 in the fourth quarter against Rutgers on February 24. Rutgers won, 13-10.



**THE UNDEFEATED...**The Westfield fourth grade Blue girls basketball team wrapped up its regular season with a home win over Chatham to finish with a 14-0 record under Head Coach Bill Ryan. Assistants Gary Knapp and Jose Castillo, and team manager Clint Factor. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Ciara Durse, Julia Corsentino, Phoebe Costalos, Annie Ryan and Cara Van Allen; top row, Coaches Knapp and Ryan, Bridget Sheehan, Lily Dickerson, Sutton Factor, Paige Gorzyca, Anna Castillo, coach Castillo and Clint Factor. Not pictured: Brooke Williams.



Alex Lowe for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**CRANFORD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK (February 26)...**Cerys MacLellan (not shown), a junior on the basketball team, had 10 points, 10 rebounds, 3 steals and 3 assists on February 21 in a 60-43 win over Union Catholic. Cerys was also nominated in the nj.com best player in Union County online poll. Hunter Remley, a junior on the basketball team, scored 23 points in a 65-50 win over Hillside in the opening round of the Union County Tournament.



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**CRANFORD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK...**Junior wrestler Niko Cappello won Regions this past weekend at Union High School and will now wrestle in the NJSIAA Individual tournament in Atlantic City for the second consecutive year. Junior swimmer Ashley Cave, not shown, was outstanding at the NJSIAA tournament this past weekend in her supporting role on the 200 Medley Relay team and in the 400 Free Relay.

## CR Hockey Club Gets 2nd At Lake Placid Ice Tourney

During the weekend of February 20-22, the Cranford Hockey Club Squirt B Team, coached by Sean Coakley and Stephen Richardson, participated in a youth hockey tournament in Lake Placid, N.Y. Teams from as far away as New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware, Vermont and Canada were in attendance.

During the course of this three day event, the Cranford Squirt B Team played games in the 1932 Olympic Arena and the USA Olympic practice Arena. After two days of competition, the Cranford Hockey Club Squirt B Team advanced to the Championship Game that was held in the historic Coach Herb Brooks 1980 Olympic Arena.

The boys were assigned the same locker room that the 1980 Olympic

Russian Hockey Team was assigned during the 1980 Championship game against the USA Hockey Team. Cranford lost to a tough Milton, Mass. hockey team and came home with the second place silver medal. After the game the Cranford players were given a private tour of the USA Hockey Team locker room, which has remained unchanged since the 1980 Olympics.

This weekend happened to be the 35 year anniversary celebration of the 1980 Olympic Hockey Team in Lake Placid. On Saturday night, February 21, the Cranford Squirt B Team attended a ceremony that was held to honor the 1980 USA Hockey Team in the 1980 Arena. Most of the 1980 USA Hockey Team members were in attendance.



The Cranford Hockey Club Squirt B Team

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**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD**  
Date Adopted: 02/26/15

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-204**  
**AWARDED TO:** Millennium Strategies  
**SERVICES:** for consultant services  
**PERIOD:** March 1, 20145-December 31, 2015  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$20.40

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-190**  
**AWARDED TO:** Pennoni Associates, Inc., of Edison, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** to provide UST Environmental Compliance Services for the County of Union  
**PERIOD:** March 1, 2015-February 28, 2016  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$25,200.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-199**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2014-929)**  
**AWARDED TO:** Antonelli Minichello of Union, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** in the matter entitled Shiquon Fowler v. UC, et al.  
**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 - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-158**  
**AWARDED TO:** This Is It! Productions, Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** to provide the planning, production and management services for the 2015 Union County Summer Arts Festival  
**COSTS:** in the amount not to exceed \$95,600.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-165**  
**AWARDED TO:** The Urban League of Union County  
**SERVICES:** increase demand for housing services for ex-offenders  
**PERIOD:** October 1, 2014-September 30, 2015  
**COSTS:** by \$10,000.00 for a new contract total of \$95,000.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-163**  
**AWARDED TO:** Amy Becker, of Helmetta, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** to serve as the Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Consultant for the County of Union Rape Crisis Center  
**PERIOD:** March 1, 2015-June 30, 2015  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$8,700.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-172**  
**AWARDED TO:** Practitioners/Psychiatry  
**SERVICES:** to provide coverage for weekends/vacations/holidays/emergencies for the patients of the Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital of Union County  
**PERIOD:** March 1, 2015  
**COSTS:** in an additional amount of \$10,000.00 for an amount not to exceed \$58,000.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-164**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2014-957)**  
**AWARDED TO:** Trinitas Hospital  
**SERVICES:** for mental health services for ex-offenders  
**PERIOD:** October 1, 2014-September 30, 2015  
**COSTS:** by \$10,000.00 for a new contract total of \$5,000.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-180**  
**AWARDED TO:** Dietz and Hammer Risk Solutions  
**SERVICES:** to approve the Third Party Claim Administration for general liability, professional liability, and employment practices  
**PERIOD:** March 1, 2015-May 31, 2015  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$24,371.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-181**  
**AWARDED TO:** PMA Insurance Company  
**SERVICES:** to renew the Third Party Claim Administration for worker's Compensation, Auto and Property Claims  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2015-May 31, 2015  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$60,501.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-192**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2014-1082)**  
**AWARDED TO:** Di Wang, M.D.(DW Pathology Services PC)  
**SERVICES:** as an additional per diem pathologist  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2015-December 31, 2015  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-191**  
**AWARDED TO:** Matrix New World Engineering, Inc., of Florham Park, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** to provide Stormwater Compliance Services for the County of Union  
**PERIOD:** March 1, 2015-February 28, 2016  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$20,500.00

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
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**RESOLUTION NO: 2015-200**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2014-932)**  
**AWARDED TO:** Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Fader, LLC of Rochelle Park, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** in the matter entitled Shiquon Fowler v. UC, et al.  
**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 - 03/05/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.44





FOURTH AT 220-LBS...Blue Devil Cotter Spurlock, left, placed 4th at 220-lbs



SECOND AT 152-LBS...Cougar Gavin Murray, front, took 2nd at 152-lbs.



THIRD AT 195-LBS...Raider Alex Mirabella, top, took 3rd at 195-lbs.

## Cougar Cappello Takes 1st at Region 3 Tournament; Cougar Murray, Raider Beirne Place Second

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

"I beat him at the Roselle Park Tournament, 5-3. I know he was going to come on strong. He was going to block my double [leg takedown], but I came back at him with my single. He's a good wrestler. He's got a good shot. I had to handle the adversity in coming back. I had to be strong," Spurlock said.

His semifinal bout would be against Saverio Salfcas (Brearley) who nipped him 5-4 in a dual meet.

"It was close the last time. He got the 'W' last time. Hopefully, it will be a different outcome this time," Spurlock said.

The bout was even tighter, but Salfcas salvaged a 3-2, overtime tiebreaker win, sending Spurlock to the wrestlebacks where he won his first bout then faced Villegas again for third place. This time Villegas denied Spurlock his trip to AC with a 5-3 win.

Seeded first at 152-lbs, Cougar

Gavin Murray defeated Majid Abdur-Rahman (Rahway), 5-1, then advanced to the finals when he pinned Sam Champi (Morristown) in 4:13 with a double arm bar. Before pinning Champi, Murray worked a variety of tilting maneuvers.

"I go to APEX Wrestling School and I have all these coaches help me work on my top [position]. They showed me all types of different tilts on top. I felt really good," Murray said.

Looking to his title bout with Joe Tavoso (Delbarton), Murray said, "I never wrestled him before. It's 1 and 2 in the state. It's going to be a battle. It's good for the sport. Everyone is looking forward to seeing it. It's going to be a fun match."

Murray proved to be dominant from the top position, but Tavoso scored all of his points via takedown to claim a 6-4 decision.

Cougar Chris Scorese, seeded sec-

ond at 126-lbs, grabbed a 7-2 decision over Jeff Johnson (Middlesex) then defeated Anthony Fajardo (Boonton), 11-6, in the semis to automatically qualify for AC.

"He was really good on his feet. He tried to throw me a lot, but I got my hips on top every time," Scorese said.

His bout, however, was not a bowl of cherries as Fajardo made a massive comeback and attempted one more time to throw him to his back in the third period, but Scorese used his hips and legs to get a takedown to seal the deal.

"That was the best part of the match. I was only winning by three. I knew if he threw me to my back, I could lose it. So I got back to what I do and wound up on top," Scorese said.

With his qualification for AC wrapped up, Scorese said, "That was my main goal all year, to get to AC. I didn't get there last year."

Scorese had to face Anthony Cefolo (Hanover Park), who was ranked fifth nationally, and he proved it when he pinned Scorese with a double arm bar stack in 3:04.

Blue Devil John Fuller defeated Justin Hayward (Whippany Park), 5-3, to advance to the 126-lb quarterfinals where he lost 5-0 to Cefolo. He then lost in the first round wrestlebacks to Val Miele (Delbarton) who would eventually take third.

Raider Alex Mirabella made his way to the 195-lb third place bout to face a familiar foe in Khalil Burns (Linden), who took a 2-0 lead after slipping out of a cradle attempt and recording a reversal. But Mirabella added a reversal and went right back to the cradle to record a pin in 2:50 and earn a trip to AC.

"I had to have a clear head. You

can't wrestle this match worrying about them taking points, you got to worry about making your shots, hitting, just focus on winning. He was ready for it since the county tournament, but I came back in. There was no way I was going to lose this match," Mirabella said.

Cougar Tom DiGiovanni got bumped to the 120-lb wrestlebacks after falling to Ty Agaisse (Delbarton) in the semis, but he wrestled back to defeat Summit's Phil Angelo, 3-2, for third place.

Blue Devil Jarek Gozdieski defeated Joe Prato (Whippany Park), 5-1, in the 160-lb quarterfinals then lost to top-seeded Anthony Oliveri (Hanover Park). Gozdieski won his first wrestleback then faced Prato once again for third place. This time, Prato recorded a takedown in overtime to win, 3-1.

Raider Brian Lapham dropped a 5-2 decision to Travis Vasquez (Delbarton) in the 145-lb semis then topped Cougar Brian McGovern to advance to the bout for third where he lost, 9-3, to Christian Bassolino (Hanover Park).

Cougar Anthony Capece was upset in overtime in the 106-lb quarterfinals then later was eliminated after losing to Joe Heilmann (South Plainfield). Cougar Vince Concina was defeated in the second round wrestlebacks at 132-lbs as was Dave Busch at 138-lbs.

In the elimination round on February 25, Blue Devil Chris Hoerle lost, 4-0, to Kyjuan Hutching (Union) and Raider Nadin Korkmaz was pinned in 3:06 by Kevin Jones at 113-lbs. Raider Jack Cannon dropped a 4-0 decision to Charles Cunningham (Section Hall Prep) at 120-lbs. Raider Jashmar Phillippe lost, 9-3, to Fajardo

(Boonton) at 126-lbs. At 138-lbs, Dom Mulhearn (North Plainfield) won an 8-0, major decision over Blue Devil Nick Kalintzis.

At 152-lbs, Blue Devil Jack Miller was pinned in 3:52 by Abdur-Rahman (Rahway). Cougar Andrew Tompkins lost, 3-1, to Nick Anselmi (Delbarton) at 160-lbs. Raider Jaylen Bryant dropped a 13-4, major decision to LJ Castellano (Delbarton) at 182-lbs and Vic Rivera (Barringer) pinned Cougar Kevin Doran in 3:11 at 285-lbs.

CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- 106: — Anthony Glory (Del) d Gerard Angelo (HP), 1-0
- 113: — Sean Conoly (HP) d Kevin Jonse (Parsippany), 4-1
- 120: — Agaisse (Del) md Lou Raimo (HP), 15-5
- 126: — Cefolo (HP) p Scorese (C), 3:04
- 132: — Nick Farro (Del) d Craig DeLaCruz (Summit), 6-5
- 138: — Gazaway (NP) d Beirne (SPF), 2-1
- 145: — Vasquez (Del) d Alex Murray (Watchung Hills), 5-0
- 152: — Tavoso (Del) d Murray (C), 6-4
- 160: — Oliveri (HP) d Dan Kourakas (N. Prov.), 5-1
- 170: — Evan Goodridge (Rahway) d Luke Anselmi (Del), 7-3
- 182: — Cappello (C) d Phillip (P), 7-5 OT
- 195: — Andrew Masefski (Parsippany) d JT Vally (No. Pl.), 6-5
- 220: — David Tobe (Eliz) d Salfcas (Br), 3-2 TB
- Hwt: — Lloyd Jackson (Eliz) d Victor Rivera (Barringer), 2-1

THIRD PLACE:

- 106: — PJ Gohn (Parsippany)
- 113: — Chris Gural (Roselle Park)
- 120: — DiGiovanni (Cranford)
- 126: — Val Miele (Del)
- 132: — Austin Nash (HP)
- 138: — Hedden (So. Pl.)
- 145: — Bassolino (HP)
- 152: — Champi (Mo-town)
- 160: — Prato (Whip. Park)
- 170: — Aaron Feliz (Parsippany)
- 182: — LJ Castellano (Del)
- 195: — Mirabella (SPF)
- 220: — Villegas (Mo-town)
- Hwt: — David Brown (Union)



SECOND AT 126-LBS...Cougar Chris Scorese, top, took 2nd at 126-lbs.



THIRD AT 120-LBS...Cougar Tom DiGiovanni, standing, took 3rd at 120-lbs.

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**410 Mountain Avenue, Springfield** \$390,000.  
Sun light streams in through the many windows enlivening the spacious rooms in this recently remodeled home. The updated baths are joined by refinished hardwood floors, large eat-in kitchen, welcoming family room & ample storage space to craft an inviting home for you.



**657 Hillside Avenue, Mountainside** \$899,000.  
Neighboring Westfield's Gardens area, this unique home effervesces with a charming ambiance, hardwood floors, varying roof lines, sun-catching windows and a coveted first floor master suite. Highlights include a fabulous conservatory and professionally designed gardens.



**30 Station Square, Union** \$420,000.  
This sun lit end unit townhome boasts many upgrades & luxury appointments including 9' ceilings & hardwood floors. The kitchen offers granite counters & stainless steel appliances and the family room has a gas fireplace. There's a soaking tub & shower in the master bath.



**39 Brookside Road, West Orange** \$300,000.  
A lovely property surrounds this charming Colonial complete with four bedrooms, hardwood floors, living room with wood-burning fireplace, eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances, master bedroom with full bath, partially finished basement and a convenient location.



**120 Elizabeth Avenue, Westfield** \$785,000.  
Custom renovated home featuring a sizable family room, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances & granite counters, spacious formal dining room, master bedroom with walk-in closets & lux bath, four more bedrooms, two more full baths & second floor laundry area.

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For more info see:
http://clerk.ucnj.org/UCPA/DocIndex

Westfield: 12/15/14
Michael and Judith S. Bornstein to
Marc B. and Nicole R. Rock, 90
Barchester Way, \$850,000.
Sevag and Knar Vartanian to Emily
S. and Timothy R. Bennett, 309
Woods End Road, \$1,400,000.
Yoichi and Thelma Asakawa to
Michael and Yanina D. Malkinson,
424 Roanoke Road, \$950,000.
Estate of George I. Stirling to Brian
J. and Susan M. Leegan, 960
Lawrence Avenue, \$825,000.
Allan Chrono to Emma and Dougal
Beard, 766 Prospect Street,
\$1,250,000.
Wong Family Living Trust to David
F. and Michelle Y. Hourie, 327
Brightwood Avenue, \$516,000.
Kenneth J. and Martha L. McNulty
to Srinivasa R. and Ratna M. Kola,
943 Brown Avenue, \$360,000.
Douglas T. and Susan Schwartz to
Christopher Bouchoux and Dana M.
Corby, 410 Longfellow Avenue,
\$650,000.
Edward and JeanMarie McGovern
to David P. and Laura A. Linsenber,
628 Coleman Place, \$941,000.
William J. Tanner Trust to Joseph
Gachko, 329 Tuttle Parkway,
\$450,000.
Lisa A. Fischetti to Elshiekh Enter-
prises LLC, 403 Prospect Street,
700,000.

PUBLIC NOTICE
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-047061-14
FILE NO. 19294-14
NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT
(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
PLAINFIELD DEVELOPMENT
CORP.; PMI MORTGAGE INS
CO;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND
REQUIRED to serve upon PELLEGRINO
AND FELDSTEIN, LLC, plaintiff's attor-
neys, whose address is 290 Route 46
West, Denville, New Jersey, an Answer to
the Complaint filed in a Civil Action, in
which RAFAEL A. ROSARIO is the plaintiff
and EDISON GARCIA, ET AL'S; are defend-
ants, pending in the Superior Court of
New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION
County and bearing Docket No. F-047061-
14 within thirty-five (35) days after
March 5, 2015 exclusive of such date. If you fail
to answer or appear in accordance with Rule
4:4-6, Judgment by Default may be ren-
dered 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, Tren-
ton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance
with the Rules of Civil Practice and Proce-
dure.

Richard and Patricia Mockler to
Andrew and Allison Carr, 645
Shackamaxon Drive, \$625,000.
Christopher A. and Susan K. Fraser
to Bryan and Kerri Giordano, 729
Hyslip Avenue, \$760,000.
Ralph A. Rapuano Jr. and Allan
Chrono to Christopher M. and Marisa
C. Iafolla, 712 Scotch Plains Avenue,

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\*
The Board of Education Meeting sched-
uled on Thursday, March 19, 2015 will
begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Evergreen School
Gym located at 2280 Evergreen Avenue,
Scotch Plains for the recognition of the
Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Boys
and Girls Swim Teams.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COMMISSION
2015 MEETINGS
Be advised that the Westfield Historic
Preservation Commission of the Town of
Westfield ("WHPC") will meet in the Coun-
cil Chambers of the Westfield Municipal
Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield,
New Jersey at 7:30 p.m. on the following
Mondays in during the period of March
2015 to February 2016 for the purpose of
acting on items that may be before the
Commission:

CLASSIFIEDS
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\$675,000.
Cheryl Oberman to Manish S. and
Nell M. Patel, 748 Scotch plains Ave-
nue, \$870,000.
Estate of Gladys C. Bormann to
Constantin H. and Kirsty Von Boch-
Galhau, 777 Norgate, \$820,000.
Elizabeth J. Jacox to Elite
HomeBuilding LLC, 925 Willow
Grove Road, \$550,000.
Robert S. and Elaine U. Kolker to
Jennifer Org and Joseph Ranaldo,
916 Summit Avenue, \$540,000.
Thomas F. Kenedly to John and
Candice Norris, 323 West Grove
Street, \$573,500.
Carol Marano and Deborah
Appuzzato to Ramanathan Iyer and
Smitha Ramanathan, 941 Columbus
Avenue, \$507,450.
Westfield Hall Inc. to 923 Central
Avenue LLC., 923 Central Avenue,
\$360,000.
Hsing Lee and Chia Chang Wang
to 1020 Ripley LLC., 1020 Ripley
Avenue, \$472,000.
Rosanne Dente to Xiaozhuang
Wang, 1129 Irving Avenue, \$540,000.
Estate of Mary C. Zito to Mark and
Sara Trokan, 1101 Irving Avenue,
\$510,000.
Construct Enterprises Inc. to Gary
S. and Heather Bryant, 1365
Grandview Avenue, \$1,485,000.
Paula J. and Paul Hymanson to
Xuanshen Yang and Jingwei Li, 249
Welch Way, \$525,000.
Karen J. Egert to Jason E. and
Shira S. Goldberg, 125 Ceder Street,
\$850,000.
Jonathan Tripp and Maiko Ezawa
to Irina Mil. 5 Tudor Oval, \$782,500.
Ying Cai and Yannick Fillon to
Anand Lakshmiratan and Reema
Mishra, 168 Landsdowne Avenue,
\$610,000.
Premier Design Custom Homes
LLC. to Peter A. Dub, 309 Belmar
Place, \$1,065,000.
Fredric P Gallin and Lisa S. Lacon
to Tszyan A. Lai and Camay Cheng,
509 Clifton Street, \$725,000.
Premier Design Custom Homes
LLC. to Francis Cerullo, 62 Tamaques
Way, \$1,289,000.
Ralph A. Rapuano Jr. and Allan
Chrono to Robert E. Young Jr and
Nicole A. Bregman, 27 Tamaques
Way, \$500,000.
Elshiekh Enterprises LLC to
Michael and Stephanie Eckenrode,
132 Ayliffe Avenue, \$1,040,000.

Westfield: 1/12/15
Joseph C. Gentile to Ashok Pant
and Shuva Khanal, 112 West Madis-
son Avenue, \$640,000.
John S. Alloppenna to Robert J. and
Tara Donnelly, III, 1140 Lawrence
Avenue, \$700,000.
Sylvia M. Schwartz to D. Villane
Construction LLC., 321 Orenda
Circle, \$725,000.

Senior Committee Lists
New Thayer Trip Date

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch
Plains Senior Citizens Advisory Com-
mittee has announced that the date
for a planned trip to the Thayer Hotel
in West Point, N.Y. has been changed
by the venue. The original trip date
was Tuesday, April 28; the new date
is Thursday, April 30. This bus trip
will leave from the Scotch Hills Coun-
try Club, located at 820 Jerusalem
Road, Scotch Plains, at 9:30 a.m. and
will return at approximately 5 p.m.
The day will feature a show, "Big
City Jamboree," and a buffet lun-
cheon. Registration will begin on

Monday March 30, 2015
Monday April 27, 2015
Monday May 18, 2015
Monday June 29, 2015
Monday July 27, 2015
Monday August 31, 2015
Monday September 28, 2015
Monday October 26, 2015
Monday November 30, 2015
Monday December 28, 2015
Monday January 25, 2016
Monday February 29, 2016
By:
Chair
WHPC
1 T - 3/5/15, The Leader Fee: \$27.54

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Busy pediatric office in Westfield
looking for a part time reception-
ist. Duties include answering
phones, making appointments,
billing, and posting. Must have
knowledge in CPT coding or certi-
fication. 4 days/week 9:00 - 5:00.
Fax resume to (908) 233-2255.

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Coffee table, end table, Adrian
Pearsall, \$800. Set of 3 Majestic
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lamps and one floor lamp, six
matching shades, \$1,600. Buffet,
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couch and club chair, \$1,000.
(917) 301-3116

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Michael A. and Angela P. Tuller to
Jeffrey and Jessica Lasota, 4 Breeze
Knoll Drive, \$1,340,000.
Jiang Chang and Xiling Yuan to
Christopher and Yvette Bonk, 1
Mountain View Terrace, \$585,000.
John and Kristen Pfister to Gre-
gory and Adele D. Ambrose, 550
Birch Avenue, \$1,450,000.
Jeffrey P. and Joyce M. Luker to
John B. and Kristen H. Pfister, 521
Colonial Avenue, \$1,900,000.
Colicchio Construction LLC. to
Michael and Maureen Saurino, 823
Clark Street, \$1,415,000.
Eric Gerken to Jerald and Jean
Weber, 725 Coleman Place,
\$630,100.
Audrey and Jeffrey Melofchik to
Jiefei Yang and Yimei Lu, 715 Forest
Avenue, \$820,000.
Michael E. and Lindsay Iwanicki
to Kelly E. W. and Armand C. Grez,
III, 257 Edgewood Avenue, \$599,000.
Sydnor Metz Revocable Living
Trust to Darrell W. and Charmaine J.
Block, 12 Cowperthaite Place,
\$499,000.
Gabrielle F. and John A. Wagner to
Justin P. Gleason and Kelly Lynn
Hayes, 136 West Dudley Avenue,
\$1,180,000.
Robert and Adele Ball to Jonathan
Streep, 556 Highland Avenue,
\$1,435,000.
Estate of Elizabeth Currall to Jon
M. and Patricia C. Baker, 540 Alden
Avenue, \$614,050.
Michael Mahoney LLC. to Vincent
and Alexis Collado, 229 Golf Edge,
\$1,795,000.
Christine Charlton to Horst Percival
and Robyn Brown, 121 Golf Edge,
\$995,000.
Horst Percival and Robyn M.
Brown to Hyonchol Lee and Thanh
Tran Nguyen Due, 129 Golf Edge,
\$850,000.
Robert E. and Jeannette W. Miller
to Elshiekh Enterprises LLC., 13
Wychwind Drive, \$600,000.
Ronald A. and Margaret M. Swist
to April L. and Joe L. Gregory, Jr.,
1107 East Broad Street, \$415,000.
Edward W. Witte to Timothy R.
and Randi S. Weniger, 23 Scudder
Road, \$650,000.
Daniel E. and Janis Fridie to Luke
and Allyson A. Funk, 55 Canterbury
Lane, \$649,900.
Robert W. Duris to Ryan C. and
Elizabeth W. Walsh, 210 Harrison
Avenue, \$637,000.
Richard V. Humphreys Living Trust
to Lars J. and Mariana C. Ljoen, 645
Lenox Avenue, \$590,000.
Betty A. and Thurman C. Pace, Jr.
to James P. and Shannon P. Terry, 518
Saint Marks Avenue, \$759,000.
Bertram T. and Margaret H. B.
Chinn to Joseph C. and Tara K.
Jablonski, 538 Arlington Avenue,
\$638,000.

Monday, March 9, for Scotch Plains
and Fanwood residents. The cost is
\$50. For non-residents, registration
will begin on Monday, March 16, at
a cost of \$52.
Individuals may register in person
Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to
4 p.m., in the Scotch Plains Recre-
ation Office, Room 113, 430 Park
Avenue, Scotch Plains; by calling (908)
322-6700, extension no. 223, or online
by visiting scotchplainsnj.com and
clicking on Community Pass. For more
information, call Laura Swidersky,
chairwoman, at (908) 322-2084.

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 2015-06
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
CHAPTER 136, ATTACH-
MENT 1 OF SCHEDULE 1 OF
THE "REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY (1988)," TO MODIFY THE MAXIMUM BUILDING COVERAGE FOR RESIDENTIAL USE
WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford
desires to amend the Land Development
Ordinance to adjust the maximum building
coverage for residential uses, R-1, R-2, R-
3, R-4, R-5 (single family) and R-5-(two
family) to better reflect the desired stan-
dard for the size of homes and additions.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED
by the Township Committee of the Town-
ship of Cranford, New Jersey as follows:
Section 1. Section 136, Attachment 1,
Schedule 1, Township of Cranford, Union
County, New Jersey, Schedule of Zone
District Area, Yard and Building Require-
ments, is hereby amended in pertinent
part to read as follows:

Zone Maximum Building Coverage (percent)
R-1 25%
R-2 25%
R-3 28%
R-4 30%
R-5 (single family) 30%
R-5 (two family) 30%
Section 2. All other provisions of Sec-
tion 136, Attachment 1, Schedule 1 Town-
ship of Cranford, Union County, New Jer-
sey, Schedule of Zone District Area, Yard
and Building Requirements, shall remain
in full force and effect.
Section 3. This ordinance shall take
effect as provided by law.
NOTICE OF PENDING ORDINANCE
The foregoing ordinance was introduced
and approved on first reading at a meeting
of the Township Committee of the Town-
ship of Cranford, New Jersey on February
24, 2015, and will be further considered for
final passage after public hearing to be
held at the Municipal Building, 8 Spring-
field Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey on
March 24, 2015 at 8:00PM or as soon
thereafter as this matter can be reached.
All persons interested will be given the
opportunity to be heard concerning such
ordinance.
Tara Rowley
Municipal Clerk
1 T - 3/5/15, The Leader Fee: \$53.55

POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield
Friday, February 20, Carol Shorts,
22, of Roselle was arrested on a
Kenilworth warrant during a motor
vehicle stop at Cardinal Drive and
Springfield Avenue. Shorts was re-
leased per Kenilworth authorities.

Monday, February 23, a resident of
the 1100 block of Boynton Avenue
reported an incident of fraud/identity
theft. According to the victim, some-
one unknown had attempted to pass
two checks at a local bank. The vic-
tim reported that although the checks
were fake, they had the correct ac-
count number. The account was
closed.

Tuesday, February 24, Marie
Mallon, 78, of Summit was arrested
at police headquarters on an outstand-
ing Westfield warrant. She was pro-
cessed and posted the requisite \$2,500
bail.

Wednesday, February 25, Melvin
Roman, 25, of Hopatcong was ar-
rested at the Essex County jail on an
outstanding Westfield warrant. He was
transported to police headquarters and
held in lieu of posting the requisite
\$500 bail.

Wednesday, February 25, a busi-
ness owner on the 600 block of Cen-
tral Avenue reported a theft of mer-
chandise totaling \$260.52. The vic-
tim had sent products via FedEx to a
customer, and upon their receipt, an
attempt was made to resell them on
eBay without payment to the victim.

Thursday, February 26, Janine M.
Loglisci, 39, of Scotch Plains was
arrested and charged with shoplifting
\$1,358 worth of merchandise from a
business located on the 600 block of
West North Avenue. She was trans-
ported to police headquarters, pro-
cessed and released with summonses
and a mandatory appearance in Supe-
rior Court in Elizabeth.

Saturday, February 28, Dane
Tomlin, 36, of Newark was arrested
on an outstanding Hammonton war-
rant for \$1,000. Tomlin was processed
and released.

Saturday, February 28, Timothy
Parker, 48, of Plainfield was arrested
at the South Bound Brook Police De-
partment on an outstanding Westfield
traffic warrant, for \$835, and a North
Plainfield criminal warrant, for \$201.
Parker was transported to Westfield
police headquarters, processed and,
unable to post bail, was awaiting com-
mitment to the Union County jail.

Saturday, February 28, an incident of
fraud was reported on the 700 block
of West Broad Street. According to the
victim, someone unknown passed a
check at a Delaware bank which pur-
ported to be made out to the victim. The
suspect had obtained a Delaware driver's
license with the victim's name on it.
The amount of the theft was \$6,400.

Fanwood
Saturday, February 14, Jaime Abril,
31, of Plainfield was arrested on an
active warrant out of Florham Park
following a motor vehicle stop.

Monday, February 23, Marquis
Salazar, 26, of Middlesex was arrested
on an active warrant out of Fanwood
following a motor vehicle stop. He
was released after posting bail.

Wednesday, February 25, Sheila
Jeudy, 44, of Plainfield was arrested
on an active warrant out of Union
following a motor vehicle stop. She
was released after posting bail.

Wednesday, February 25, Lisa
Pride, 50, of Piscataway was arrested
on an active warrant out of Plainfield
following a motor vehicle stop. She
was released after posting bail.

Friday, February 27, Rashawn
Simons, 20, of Plainfield was arrested

on an active warrant out of Fanwood
following a motor vehicle stop. He
was released after posting bail.

Friday, February 27, Kyleigh
Carney, 19, of Parlin was arrested and
charged with possession of marijuana
and possession of paraphernalia fol-
lowing a motor vehicle stop.
Participants will hear the stories of
three Career Networking Group
alumni who successfully navigated
the job search maze and experienced
"Happy Landings" in 2014. They will
share tips and lessons learned and
relate how networking led them to
their new professional roles.
The evening will feature a frank
discussion about what it takes to land
one's next job and how to navigate
the twists and turns on the path to re-
employment. The Mountainside Pub-
lic Library is located at One Constitu-
tion Plaza. To register, call (908)
233-0115.

Public Notice
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-001020-14
FILE NO. 18030-13
SBMUNICUST%LBNJ;
PLAINTIFF VS. RONALD WIL-
LIAMS, ET ALS.;
DEFENDANT(S)
NOTICE TO REDEEM
TO: LINCOLN INVESTMENT CORPO-
RATION; TRADE LEASE CORP.; SU-
SAN CLINTON; JOSEPH CLINTON; AMI
READER; SHARI L WILLIAMS; DOO S.
MOON, MD;
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an order
made on February 24, 2015, the Superior
Court Fixed April 9, 2015 between the
hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon
and four o'clock in the afternoon, pre-
vailing time, at the office of the Tax Collector
of HILLSIDE, located at 1409 LIBERTY AV-
ENUE, HILLSIDE, NEW JERSEY 07205
as the time and place when and where you
may pay to the plaintiff the amount so
found due for principal and interest on its
certificate of tax sale as follows:
LOT 10 BLOCK 303 on the tax duplicate
of HILLSIDE. Total amount required to
redeem tax sale certificate no. 111010 is
\$34,666.30, together with interest from
December 31, 2014 and costs of \$2,184.65.
And that unless, at the same time and
place, you or one of you redeem by paying
the aforesaid sum so found due to plaintiff,
then you, and each of you shall be de-
barred and foreclosed of and from all right
and equity of redemption of, in and to the
lands and premises above set out and
described in the complaint and every part
thereof, and that the plaintiff be vested with
an absolute and indefeasible estate of
inheritance in fee simple in said lands and
premises.
Anything to the contrary notwithstanding,
redemption shall be permitted up until
the entry of final judgment including the
whole of the last date upon which judg-
ment is entered.
Michael G. Pellegrino, Esq.
Attorney for Plaintiff
PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C.
290 Route 46 West
Denville, New Jersey 07834
(973) 586-2300
1 T - 3/5/14, The Leader Fee: \$47.43





BE FREE TO PEE...Westfield High School presents *Urinetown: The Musical* March 12 to 14. The show features (from left to right) Frank Guerriero, Madeline Hudelson, Julian Mone, Madeleine Rosenthal, Lauren Echausse, and Michael Poyntz. Tickets for *Urinetown* are on sale now at [wfh.sbooktix.com](http://wfh.sbooktix.com).

## Westfield HS Presents “Urinetown: The Musical”

WESTFIELD—The Westfield High School (WHS) Theatre Department is proud to present *Urinetown: The Musical*, the wickedly funny musical comedy, on Thursday, March 12; Friday, March 13; and Saturday, March 14. All shows are at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for *Urinetown* are on sale now at [wfh.sbooktix.com](http://wfh.sbooktix.com).

A multiple Tony Award winner, *Urinetown* imagines a place where private toilets have been banned, and citizens must pay to use public facilities run by a greedy corporation called UGC — or else face severe punishment. That is, until a hero named Bobby Strong (Julian Mone) decides to lead a rebellion.

The show, a send-up of the big Broadway musical, has laughs, romance, murder, show-stopping songs, big dance numbers, and a variety of musical styles that range from gospel to jazz. Despite the show's indelicate premise, *Urinetown* is appropriate for audiences of all ages.

Director Daniel Devlin said the show “is, above all, a satire and a comedy” with some “seriously silly” characters, but also one that touches on important topics such as greed, corruption and mankind's relationship with the environment.

Frank Guerriero plays Caldwell B. Cladwell, the greedy mogul who runs UGC. Madeleine Rosenthal plays his daughter, Hope, who falls in love with Bobby and joins his revolution.

Madeline Hudelson is Penelope Pennywise, the jaded warden of the public toilets who sings, “If you gotta go, you gotta go through me!” The show's narrators are tough-talking Officer Lockstock (Michael Poyntz) and a sassy street urchin named Little Sally (Lauren Echausse).

Ms. Echausse, a senior, said audiences should not be put off by the show's title. “The show is laugh-out-loud funny. I would recommend bringing people of all ages!” Ms. Echausse said she loves that the cast members have had the chance to take stock Broadway characters and “make them ridiculous in our own personal style.” Other featured cast are Julian

## Four Top Organists to Play Historic Crescent Ave. Church

PLAINFIELD—Organists Gail Archer, William Enriken, Ryan Kennedy, and Domecq Smith will be performing on Sunday, March 8 at 3 p.m. at the historic Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church (CAPC), 716 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. The annual organ festival, this year entitled “The French Connection,” provides an opportunity to enjoy the range and power of the Adams organ, in the gorgeous acoustics of CAPC's Neo-Gothic sanctuary.

This is an experience not to be missed, and one you may have at Crescent

### NJIO Invites Public to Open House Rehearsal

NEW PROVIDENCE — The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra invites the public to join them to practice on Thursdays, March 5 or March 12. Musicians are invited to get the feel of the orchestra and see if they would like to join. Contact Mary Beth Sweet at (908) 603-7691 or [info@njio.org](mailto:info@njio.org) so that music can be provided.

Rehearsal times are: Prelude (Beginning) Ensemble from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Intermezzo (Intermediate) Orchestra from 5:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Symphony Orchestra from 7:15 p.m. to 9:30 pm

NJIO bridges the generations through music and brings artistic excellence to our communities by presenting concerts as well as outreach performances at senior and health care facilities. A finalist for the Eisner Prize for Intergenerational Excellence, NJIO is recognized across the country as a model for intergenerational programming, providing education and performance opportunities for people of all ages that would like to be part of an orchestra or ensemble. NJIO members learn side by side with experienced players and professional musicians who mentor their fellow performers. For more information regarding concerts or patron services, please contact Mary Beth Sweet, [info@njio.org](mailto:info@njio.org) or (908) 603-7691. NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and events are accessible to all. [www.njio.org](http://www.njio.org).

Mazzola as Officer Barrel; Colin Barry as Senator Fipp; Daniel Coelho as Mr. McQueen; Jack Ritter as Hot Blades Harry; Jesse Zimmermann as Little Becky Two Shoes; Emma Stern as Soupy Sue; Tony Peer as Tiny Tom; Max Wasilewski as Robby the Stockfish; Steve Heron as Billy Boy Bill; Connor Wynne as Old Man Strong; Jacqueline Daaleman as Old Ma Strong; Lisa Morgan Simon as Cladwell's secretary; Katherine Ko as Mrs. Millennium; and Alex Cestero as Dr. Billeaux.

Members of the show's ensemble play the town's poor, the staff of UGC and the police. They are: Lizzy Allen, Luke Altman, Marissa Alvarez, Catie Barry, Maggie Bergin, Jack Ciarrocca; Abby Connolly; Amanda DePinto; Alan Fang; Alex Frisch; Charlotte Fountain-Jardim; Gregory Gao; Hannah Haar; Lucy Hale (who is also the show's dance captain); Olivia Kuzman; Maddy Metzger; Mary Kate Miller; Catherine Moore; Victoria Napolitano; Meagan O'Connell; Andrew Orenberg; Noah Plotkin; Lucy Ritter; Abby Rothenberg; Jonathan Saminski; Emma Shakal; Lauren Singer; Sydney Stewart; and Kimmi Zimmermann.

Westfield High School has won multiple awards for its innovative theatrical productions.

In addition to the on-stage talent, WHS students play a big role behind the scenes in *Urinetown* as well, working on the show's costumes, makeup, props, lighting and sound. Students also helped design and build the show's unique two-level set, an “urban dystopia” that includes an on-stage manhole cover that characters use to enter and exit the stage.

Tickets for *Urinetown* are \$13 each. Advance purchases are recommended, because Westfield High School's spring musicals often sell out. Any tickets not sold in advance will be available at the door. All tickets are reserved seating.

All performances will be held in the auditorium of Westfield High School, located at 550 Dorian Road, Westfield.

Concerts Festival of Organists. This year there will be music by iconic French composers such as Franck, Langlais, Widor, Dubois, Boulanger and others performed by the following outstanding organists:

Gail Archer serves as the College Organist at Vassar College and as the Director of the Music Program at Barnard College, Columbia University.

Dr. William Enriken, the Organist and Choir Director at First Presbyterian Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City, Professor of Organ Performance at New York University.

Ryan Kennedy, a third year organ student of Paul Jacobs at the Juilliard School of Music in New York and also an Organ Scholar at the Morristown Presbyterian Church.

Domecq Smith, published composer, Organist and Director of Music at the historic St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Orange, and doctoral candidate at Rutgers University.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$15 for seniors, and \$5 for students. Call (908) 756-2468 or visit [www.crescentconcerts.org](http://www.crescentconcerts.org) for more information about this and upcoming concerts.

### Wooster Chorus to Perform in Roselle

ROSELLE — The acclaimed Wooster Chorus is comprised of undergraduate students representing all the academic areas within the College of Wooster which was founded in 1964. This choir which is starting their 2015 Spring performance tour under the direction of Lisa Wong has been praised for its beauty of sound.

The chorus will perform on Monday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Roselle, 111 W 5th Ave, Roselle. Performance will be free and open to the public. There will be a freewill offering. Reception will be following the program in Fellowship Hall downstairs. Further information can be reached by calling (908) 245-1611 or (908) 241-0272.

## Pineda Musical Theater Opens Summer Registration

CRANFORD — The Pineda Conservatory has announced open registration for its five week summer program held at the Cranford Dramatic Club Theatre. The program runs from Monday, June 29 to Friday, July 31 and offers half day and full day programs. Students participate in daily voice, dance, audition preparation and acting classes as well as industry-related seminars and workshops taught by professional staff with years of experience on Broadway, regionally and on theatre & concert stages around the world. Each program culminates in its own fully staged musical production.

Starlight Theater for students in grades two through six participates in daily dance, acting and singing classes and will perform a fully staged production of *The Magic Treehouse*, *The Knight at Dawn Kids*. Class meets from 8:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m. daily Monday thru Friday. Early drop off will be available.

Spotlight Theater for students in grades six through eight and stu-

### Free Concert Offered By Musical Club of WF

WESTFIELD — The Musical Club of Westfield invites the public to its Free Evening Concert program to be held at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, 170 Elm St. on Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m.

The Concert will feature a varied program performed by club members. Debra Biderman, violin, and Beverly Shea, piano, will perform Mozart's Rondo in C Major and The Hot Canary (Le canari) by composer Ferdinand Polakin.

Mezzo-Soprano Barbara Krause will sing selections by Victor Herbert including *A Kiss in the Dark*, *When You're Away and Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life*. She will be accompanied by Marie-Daniele Mercier on piano.

The program will conclude with Robert Schumann's *Carnival, Op. 9* performed by Sophia Agranovich, pianist.

The audience is invited to a reception after the program to enjoy some light refreshment and to meet the performers.

The Musical Club of Westfield is a 501c3 organization now in its 99th season, and offers scholarships to promising young musicians who are pursuing a musical education. Membership in the club is open to anyone who is interested in music. Those wishing information about membership in the Musical Club of Westfield as a performer or an associate member may visit our website at [www.musicalclubofwestfield.org](http://www.musicalclubofwestfield.org)

## Kean Stage Presents Russian National Ballet's Cinderella

UNION — The Russian National Ballet will perform Cinderella, an enchanting fairy tale of everlasting love at Kean University's Wilkins Theatre on Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. Cinderella intertwines comedy and drama with color and grace in this rags-to-riches story proving the power of dreams. Set to the lyrical and jubilant score by Prokofiev, this time-honored ballet will delight audiences of all ages with its magic, beauty and romance.

The Russian National Ballet Theatre under the artistic directorship of Elena Radchenko was founded in Moscow during the transitional period of Perestroika in the late 1980s, when many of the great dancers and choreographers of the Soviet Union's ballet institutions were exercising their new-found creative freedom by starting new, vibrant companies dedicated not only to the timeless tradition of classical Russian Ballet but to invigorate this tradition as the Russians began to accept new develop-

ments entering 9th grade will perform Disney's *Beauty and The Beast* and will also participate in daily acting, dance and singing classes. Students also participate in audition preparation masterclasses. This class also meets daily Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and also offers and extended full day program to 5 p.m. with participants invited to participate in our Advanced Stagecraft program. Students work hands on to produce, create, design, and build sets, lighting and costumes for the summer productions.

For students in high school auditions are being held Sunday, March 22 for a 5 week intensive with fully staged productions of the Tony Award Nominated musical *The Wedding Singer* and *When You Wish Upon A Star*, a cabaret of our childhood favorites. Students entering 9th grade and graduating high school seniors are eligible to audition for this rigorous training program. Students participate in daily dance, voice, audition preparation and acting classes as well as special industry-related workshops and master classes. In the 2014 season the Center Stage class was treated to a visit from Michelle O'Connell, who plays Carlotta in Broadway's *The Phantom of the Opera* and students also participated in fundraising efforts for Broadway Cares Equity Fights Aids.

Former Pineda Conservatory students have been accepted into some of the nation's leading college theatre programs and conservatories and have gone on to appear in television, movies, professional theatres and opera houses around the country.

The program runs Monday, June 29 to Sunday, August 2, meeting daily Monday through Friday from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. held at the Cranford Dramatic Club Theatre in Cranford. Enrollment is limited and acceptance into the program is by audition only. Every student selected participates in both shows. Those who are ensemble in *The Wedding Singer* will perform as the featured players in *When You Wish Upon A Star*, with songs selected specifically for them.

Auditions are by appointment only. Further Audition information can be found and audition appointments can be made at <http://www.pinedaconservatory.com/Summer-Center-Stage.html> or by calling (908) 731-1377.

For more information and registration visit <http://www.pinedaconservatory.com> or call (908) 731-1377.

ments in the dance from around the world.

The company, then titled the Soviet National Ballet, was founded by and incorporated graduates from the great Russian choreographic schools of Moscow, St. Petersburg and Perm. The principal dancers of the company came from the upper ranks of the great ballet companies and academies of Russia, and the companies of Riga, Kiev and even Warsaw. Today, the Russian National Ballet Theatre is its own institution, with over 50 dancers of singular instruction and vast experience, many of whom have been with the company since its inception.

Wilkins Theatre is located on Kean University's main campus at 1000 Morris Avenue in Union, NJ. Tickets are \$35 Standard; \$20 Senior, Student, Child and are available at the Wilkins Theatre Box Office on campus, by calling (908) 737-SHOW (7469), and online at [www.keanstage.com](http://www.keanstage.com).

## County Announces First UCACT Grant Recipient

UNION COUNTY — The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is proud to announce its first Union County Advancing Community Theater (UCACT) grant program award recipient, Mystic Vision Players of Linden. The grant has been awarded for their March, 2015 production of *Dreamgirls*.

“We are proud to see UCACT off to such a great start, and happy to give such talented people the opportunity to bring their craft to the Mainstage,” said Freeholder Chairman Mohamed Jalloh.

Mystic Vision Players, created in 1992, is the resident theatre company of the Linden Cultural & Heritage Committee and has consistently received critical & audience acclaim and nominations as “Outstanding” in areas of Choreography, Acting, Music, and Overall Productions by the NJ Association of Community Theaters.

*Dreamgirls*, a groundbreaking musical, loosely based on the career of The Supremes, is set to run at the UCPAC's Mainstage, March 6, 7, 13 and 14 at 8 p.m. and Sundays, March

8 and 15 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 with discounted rates for students and seniors, and are available via UCPAC.org.

Through UCACT, the Board of Chosen Freeholders plans on sponsoring and promoting five or more Union County theatre events at the Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC). The program, which grants funding to cover the hard costs associated with putting up at production at the Arts Center, builds on the recent success of *Rent*—a pilot of this program that was initiated in November through a partnership with the UCPAC that sold over 2,000 tickets. 2015 grant applications are still being accepted and can be downloaded at [ucnj.org/ucact](http://ucnj.org/ucact). For additional information, please contact Victoria Durbin Drake, Chief of Staff, Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, at (908) 558-2278.

See it all on the Web!  
[www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com)



35TH ANNIVERSARY...The Oratorio Singers of Westfield will gather at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 8, in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church, One East Broad Street, in Westfield to perform their 35th Anniversary Concert. Under the direction of Music Director Trent Johnson, the chorus of 70 singers will present Bach's Cantata BWV 80, "Ein feste Burg," and Mozart's "Requiem."

## Oratorio Singers Announce 35th Anniversary Concert

WESTFIELD — Grand and glorious music of Johann Sebastian Bach and Wolfgang Mozart is on the program when the Oratorio Singers of Westfield, gather at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 8, in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church, One East Broad Street, in Westfield. Under the direction of Music Director Trent Johnson, the chorus of 70 singers with soloists, members of the New Jersey Symphony and organ will present Bach's Cantata BWV 80, "Ein feste Burg," and Mozart's ever popular "Requiem." The featured soloists will be soprano Maureen Francis, mezzo-soprano Blythe Gaisert, tenor Mark Bleeke and bass-baritone Brace Negron.

Bach's Cantata #80 is based throughout on the hymn tune and text of “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” This well known hymn is one of the most beloved of hymns and its text and tune were written by Martin Luther in the 1520s. In Bach's setting, the opening chorus is one of the most brilliant chorale fantasias ever written by him, with its spectacular counterpoint and interweaving of instruments and voices. The cantata makes use of 4 solo voices, chorus and orchestra and was written for Reformation Day in Leipzig sometime in the 1720s.

Mozart's "Requiem," K.626, is another perennial favorite work for both singers and listeners. Though the "Requiem" was left uncompleted at Mozart's death, there have been several musicians who have made an attempt at completing the work. The Richard Mauder version sung in this performance takes a fresh look at the "Requiem." Movements written by Mozart are of course retained, but those whose orchestrations were left incomplete have been reworked, and an Amen fugue sketched by Mozart has been included. In this version, the work is just as powerful as ever.

Soprano Maureen Francis, a Westfield native, has developed a wonderful reputation for her warm, silvery timbre, acting, and excellent musicianship. She has sung across the country and around the world and recently made her debut at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center with Trilogy: an Opera Company in the premiere of "Robeson" by composer Adolphus Hailstork.

Mezzo-soprano Blythe Gaisert has established herself as a fresh and exciting artist in great demand for opera, concert and recital engagements. She has received great praise from critics for her rich sound and intense, dramatic interpretation of operatic roles. A winner of many vocal competitions she has sung and

premiered numerous roles and has covered several roles at the Metropolitan Opera, including Siegrene in the recent ground breaking production of Wagner's "Die Walkure."

Another Westfield native, Mark Bleeke sings in a wide variety of styles and has sung all over the globe. As the Evangelist in Bach's "St. John" and "St. Matthew Passions," The New York Times called his performance "wonderful...superbly fresh, lyrical and communicative." Recent engagements have been with the Chicago Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and in Japan at the Miyazaki International Music Festival.

Bass-baritone Brace Negron, rejoins the Oratorio Singers with his powerful, dramatic voice and commanding stage presence. Recent engagements have seen him as Figaro with the Bronx Opera and Angelotti in "Tosca" with Chelsea Opera. Brace made his European opera debut performing the title role of Donizetti's

"Don Pasquale" as well as the Bonze in Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" with Lyrique en Mer Opera Company in Belle Ile, France.

As conductor of the Oratorio Singers since 1994, Trent Johnson has led this organization in numerous works from the standard to the unfamiliar, as well as several premieres of his own works. As a composer, 2014 saw the world premiere by the Oratorio Singers, soloists and orchestra of his cantata "Saint Augustine," based upon St. Augustine's Confessions. Johnson's list of compositions includes works for orchestra, chamber music, concertos, works for chorus and orchestra, song cycles, piano and organ works. He has recently been commissioned to write an opera with librettist Richard Wesley for Trilogy: An Opera Company. Mr. Johnson is a graduate of the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University and The Juilliard School.

Tickets for this 35th anniversary concert are \$20, with senior and student tickets at \$15 and will be available at the door. The church and parking lot are handicapped enabled with parking in the church lot adjacent to Ferris Place. For information, call the church office at (908) 233-4211 daily from noon to 4 p.m.

This concert has been made possible in part by grants from the Westfield Foundation and from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Jerseyarts.com Announces 2015 People's Choice Awards Winners

BURLINGTON – After another record-breaking year, the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation is thrilled to announce the winners of the 2015 JerseyArts.com People's Choice Awards. The Awards, which takes place annually to honor the work of New Jersey's vital, vibrant and diverse arts community, saw the greatest number of nominees and voters since its inception in 2008.

"The People's Choice Awards allows us to honor our state's incomparable cultural community and highlight the passion of its supporters," says Adam Perle, President & CEO of ArtPride New Jersey Foundation, the state arts service organization that coordinates the annual awards. "The amazing amount of nominees and votes attests to the incredible impact the arts have on the daily lives of New Jerseyans."

The 2015 JerseyArts.com People's Choice Awards winners are: Favorite Large Performing Arts Center: New Jersey Performing Arts Center - NJPAC (Newark); Favorite Small Performing Arts Center: South Orange Performing Arts Center - SOPAC (South Orange); Favorite Theater to See a Musical: Paper Mill Playhouse (Millburn); Favorite Theater to See a Play: McCarter Theatre (Princeton); Favorite Art Museum: Newark Museum (Newark); Favorite Art Gallery: Grounds For Sculpture (Hamilton); Favorite Symphony/Orchestra: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra - NJSO (Newark); Favorite Choral Group: Newark Boys Chorus (Newark); Favorite Dance Company: American Repertory Ballet (Princeton); Favorite Opera Company: Opera at The Princeton Festival (Princeton); Favorite Music Festival: Jersey Shore Jazz & Blues Festival (Asbury Park, Long Branch, Point Pleasant); Favorite Film Festival: Montclair Film Festival (Montclair); Favorite Adult Art Class: Montclair Art Museum's Yard School of Art (Montclair); Favorite Art Camp: Montclair Art Museum's Summer ART Camp (Montclair); Favorite Theater Camp: Paper Mill Players (Millburn); Favorite Downtown Arts District: Red Bank

"Everyone at McCarter is extremely gratified to learn of this honor," says Timothy J. Shields, Managing Director

of McCarter Theatre Center, a first-time winner. "It's particularly meaningful because it represents the voice of those who attend shows, and therefore is a great indication that our plays are being enjoyed by so many in the community. For a theater to be great, it needs a great audience. It's clear that here in Princeton we have a great audience."

More than 100 nonprofit arts groups and arts districts were nominated for the 2015 Awards by members of the arts community. From the nominations, the public chose their favorites in the 16 categories, with nearly 15,000 ballots

cast for arts organizations statewide.

Winners from the 2015 People's Choice Awards will be honored at the New Jersey Conference on Tourism, held March 12 and 13, 2015 at the Golden Nugget in Atlantic City.

For detailed results and more information, visit [JerseyArts.com/peopleschoice](http://JerseyArts.com/peopleschoice). The JerseyArts.com People's Choice Awards are coordinated through the Discover Jersey Arts program, a cosponsored project of the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation and New Jersey State Council on the Arts aimed at increasing the awareness of and participation in the arts.



FROM UP HERE...Danny Siegel, left and Beth Painter perform an emotional scene in the Alliance Repertory's production of *From Up Here* at the Summit Playhouse. For more information on show times or tickets visit [summitplayhouse.org](http://summitplayhouse.org).



JUMP ON OVER TO EIS...Disney's High School Musical will star a large cast of Westfield's Edison Intermediate School students. Shown here are Casey Cohen, Ethan Jaffe, Abbie Painter, Kate Armstrong, Gabby Estrada, Justin Venturina, Cooper Prieto, Katie Ceraso, Patrick McElynn and Ally Escaldi. 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.

## New York MET Guest Soloists Join NJ Festival Orchestra, Opera at Florham

BERNARDS – New York Metropolitan Opera's Raul Melo and other renowned soloists will join The New Jersey Festival Orchestra (NJFO) and the Opera at Florham on Sunday, March 8, to present "Love Triangles - Comic and Deadly," an in-concert operatic double-bill of tales of love, jealousy and passion, featuring

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 musicians through the stunning scores at the performance, which will be at 3 p.m. at the Ridge Performing Arts Center in the Basking Ridge section of Bernards Township.

Maestro Wroe will blend international soloists of the first magnitude to bring the two exciting operas to life, according to event organizers.

Starring as Turridu in "Cavalleria Rusticana": and Alfred in "The Interrupted Serenade" will be celebrated New York Metropolitan Opera Tenor Raúl Melo. Lauded as "a rarity, a honeyed bel canto tenor in the true lyric tradition," Mr. Melo has performed principal tenor roles in major opera houses throughout United States, Europe and Asia and recently triumphed in Hong Kong with the role of Calaf in "Turmadot."

Starring as the scheming Santuzza in "Cavalleria Rusticana" is soprano Kristin Sampson. Praised by The New

York Times as a "plush-voiced soprano" and a "rich and ample dramatic soprano" by Opera Insider, Ms. Sampson has performed throughout the United States with Santa Fe Opera, Opera Orchestra of New York, El Paso Opera and the National Lyric Opera and internationally with the Opera Society of Hong Kong, Teatro Municipal de Santiago and Teatro dell'Opera di Roma.

Acclaimed baritone Joshua Jeremiah sings the roles of Alfio (Cavalleria) and Arnold (Interrupted Serenade). Mr. Jeremiah has been described by critics across the country as "splendid", "otherworldly", and "exuding of confidence". He has delighted audiences in leading roles with opera companies throughout the country and recently made both his company and role debut as Rigoletto with Arizona Opera to outstanding critical acclaim. His versatility as performer has also led him to excel in concerts with the New Haven Symphony, Cape Cod Symphony, and at a Jazz at Lincoln Center debut in a work by Rufus Wainwright.

"We are thrilled to bring these seasoned soloists to our audience here in central New Jersey," said Opera at Florham President Joan Del Giudice. "Each of them has graced the stages of concert halls and opera houses across the world. With their outstanding technique and artistry, they are sure to delight and inspire the audience."

"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 confrontational 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.

"We are bringing the dull winter months to life with a truly grand afternoon of opera," said 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."

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.

The production has been made possible through the support of the A Louis Scarmolin Trust, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Tickets cost \$26 to \$75, with a discounted rate of \$13 for students. They may be purchased online at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org) and [www.operatflorham.org](http://www.operatflorham.org). Tickets may also be purchased by calling the box office at (973) 408-3978.



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***KELLET SCORES 12 POINTS, CHRISTIANO PUTS IN 11 POINTS, REMLEY ROLLS IN 10 POINTS***

# Cougar Boys Fall to Pioneers On B-Ball ‘Sr. Night’, 58-50

By **ALEX LOWE**

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

There would be no glorious ending for the Cranford High School boys basketball team on “Senior Night”. The Cougars lost their season finale, 58-50, to New Providence on February 26 in a game played at Martin Gymnasium in Cranford.

With seven graduating seniors playing their final game before the home crowd, the Cougars stayed true to the form they have displayed most of the season. The Cougar boys fought hard, played well for long stretches of the game but could not over-

come an untimely dry spell that ultimately proved to be their undoing.

“We didn’t play well in the third quarter and I think that was what did us in,” said senior Luke Christiano. “It has been like that most of the season for us. There is always a valley in the game where we don’t play well and that pretty much does it.”

After a back and forth first half that saw the teams go into the break tied at 26-26, the Cougars appeared to be in good shape. But New Providence managed to go on a 7-2 mini streak to open the third quarter that helped them

grab a 33-28 lead. New Providence then finished out the final minute of the third quarter by outscoring the Cougars 5-0 on a pair of inside baskets by Kevin Haggerty and a free throw by Bryan Joyce. These two mini bursts were enough to give the visiting Pioneers a 42-32 advantage heading into the fourth quarter. It also helped that Cranford could only manage six points in the third quarter.

“We settled for a lot of three point shot attempts in that third quarter and throughout the game,” said senior Albert Gargiulo. “Not many of them went in. We needed to play better tonight against New Providence and we didn’t. I’m not sure why we haven’t played more consistently this year.”

New Providence (17-7) took firm command of the game in the first minute of the final quarter. A three-point basket by Sean Cole followed by a pair of free throws from Joyce gave New Providence a 47-32 lead with just under seven minutes remaining. In the span of just over two minutes, Cranford had gone from being in a nip and tuck battle to being on the verge of getting blown out.

To their credit, the Cougars mounted a small rally, spurred on by a thunderous dunk from senior James Kellet. The rim rattling stuff came off of an alley oop lob pass from fellow senior Steve Wills with 5:52 to play that cut the lead to 47-35. The crowd pleasing play was part of a 9-1 burst that helped pull Cranford to within hailing distance at 48-41 with 3:13 to play.

“We drew that play up in practice yesterday hoping to get a

chance to execute it in today’s game,” said Kellet. “It was Senior Night and we wanted to have some fun out there on the court.”

The fun stopped there though as New Providence once again seized control of the game. The visitors would connect on eight of 10 free throws down the stretch to eventually rebuild their lead to 11, at 56-45 with :32 to play. A three point basket by Dante Anderson with :22 remaining cut the lead to 56-48 but two more free throws by New Providence sealed the game. Kellet managed one more rim rattling dunk as the clock expired to make the final score 58-50.

Dylan Thomas led New Providence with 12 points and George

Daniel chipped in with 10 points for the winners. Kellet scored 12 points. Christiano had 11 points and Hunter Remley added 10 points to the Cougar cause.

Cranford saw seven seniors play their last games this night. Steve Wills, Luke Christiano, Kevin Trotter, James Kellet, Albert Gargiulo, Liam McKay and Dante Anderson were honored in a pre-game ceremony at half court with their parents by their sides.

“Our record this season wasn’t very good,” said Christiano, who will play football this September for Lehigh. “But I had a lot of fun playing with these guys. It was never a bad experience.”

<b>New Providence</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Cranford</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>50</b>



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**BIG NIGHT ON “SENIOR NIGHT”...Cougar James Kellett, center, scored 12 points, including a pair of slam dunks against the Pioneers on “Senior Night”.**



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**FAN SUPPORT...The crowd shows up in support of the Cranford boys on Senior Night. Included among those pictured, clockwise from lower left, are: Katarina Polyviou, Lyndsay Pace, Isabella Speer and Julia Schork.**

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*Story on page 11  
of The Westfield Leader*



**Cougar Cappello Captures 182-lb Crown at Region 3 Wrestling Tournament**







**Cougar Cappello Captures 182-lb Crown at Region 3 Wrestling Tournament**



*More on next page*





**Cougar Cappello Captures 182-lb Crown at Region 3 Wrestling Tournament**







**Lady Blue Devils Stun No. 7 Roselle Catholic Lions, 57-51, in UCT Semifinal**







**New Providence Lady Pioneers Stop Raiders in Basketball Season Finale, 60-49**



*More on next page*





## New Providence Lady Pioneers Stop Raiders in Basketball Season Finale, 60-49





Brian Trusdell for *The Westfield Leader*

**NEWEST POLICE OFFICER... Valerio Zuena, left, is sworn in as the Garwood Police Department's latest addition at the borough council's February 24th meeting by Mayor Charles Lombardo, center, as Mr. Zuena's wife, Pauline, and eight-month old son, Lorenzo, look on.**

## Spring Registration Set For Cranford Rec. Programs

Cranford — The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced that registration for Spring Programs (Session 3) will begin on Monday, March 16. Registration for Cranford residents only may be done in person at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue, or online. Most programs will start the week of April 6.

Preschool and Kinder Programs are as follows: All Sports for Kids, Friday with My First Friends, Mommy and Me Music, Preschool Arts and Crafts, Science Matters, Stretch-n-Grow, US Sports classes, Kinder Yoga, Kinder Book Club and Kinder Cooking and Arts and Crafts.

Youth Programs include: Science Matters, Beginner Quilting, Mannerations-Social Etiquette, Mannerations-Dining Program,

Astronomy Stargazers, Art Class, Lights! Camera! Kids! Action!, Elementary Cooking, Junior Rock-Intro to Rock Instruments, Guitar 101, Keyboard 101, Jr. Scientists, Little Bakers Workshop, Jewelry Design, Creative Art Lab and Kid Safe Self Defense.

Adult Programs, for those age 18 and above, include: Beginner Quilting, Piano (Beginners/Intermediate), Body Barre, Yoga, Astronomy Stargazers, Tai Chi (Beginner/Intermediate) and Pilates.

For more details on these programs, go to [cranford.com/rec](http://cranford.com/rec), click on Information and click on the brochure. Registration may be done in person at the Community Center or online at [register.communitypass.net/cranford](http://register.communitypass.net/cranford). For further information, call the recreation department at (908) 709-7283.

## Local Letters to the Editor

### Mind-Boggling That Union County Gov. Puts Itself Above the Public

We, as the residents and taxpayers of Union County, New Jersey has finally seen proof that our county government and its related authorities are totally disconnected from having to answer to the public. Instead it has become a machine just to self-enrich those "connected." We can comfortably now call it a criminal enterprise. I attended the February 26th Freeholder meeting and came away astounded.

Assemblywoman Linda Stender, who three weeks ago was given a \$90,000 low show job at the county's Union County Improvement Authority, was one topic of concern the residents brought up. It appears that this recent largess job that Stender was given was in response to the breaking news that she and her husband has bullied and scammed the charity Habitat for Humanity to give them grants to build their 2,000-sq.-ft. dream house down the shore. Habitat for humanity is a charity that serves the homeless and low income families, offering services and grants to have a residence of their own.

At the Freeholder meeting, several members of the public pointed this out and that Stender should not be given the county job. At the end, Freeholder Hudak pointed out that this was just a personal problem for Assemblywoman Stender, as if alleged misrepresentation and fraud to gain public monies is just a minor glitch in someone's life.

Even more egregious, an issue that I brought up at the last Freeholder meeting was the Freeholder Mirabella double job/double dip issue. He is a sitting Freeholder and was given, with-

out interview, the business administrator's job at Scotch Plains municipal government. He has zero experience regarding the routine and daily operations of a township and was selected over 15 other applicants that did. On top of that he was given a \$20,000 raise over the last BA who had years of experience.

BTW, the newly appointed Scotch Plains lawyer that "negotiated" Mirabella's contract and much higher salary, had donated \$3,200 to Mirabella's last Freeholder campaign. The lawyer's law firm, Palumbo and Renaud, does business with the county. In late December, when first this

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

### Library Invites Kids To Make ArtBots

Cranford — The Cranford Public Library invites children ages 8 to 12 to make ArtBots on Saturday, March 14, at 11 a.m., in the library's Raddin Room. This workshop is described as perfect for beginners and will provide an introduction to simple circuits. Participants will create and decorate a simple robot that produces its own squiggly art.

Registration is required and space is limited. To register, call the Cranford Public Library at (908) 709-7272 or visit the library at 224 Walnut Avenue. For a list of other upcoming programs, visit the library's web page at [cranford.com](http://cranford.com) and click on the Children's Department tab near the top of the page.

### Probitas Verus Honos

Christina M. Hinke for *The Westfield Leader*

**WELL DESERVED PRAISE...The Cranford Township Committee at its official meeting on February 24th recognized the 37 years of service Fire Chief Leonard Dolan, III, contributed to the Cranford Fire Department. Mayor Andis Kalnins, left, read the resolution.**



## Letters to the Editor

issue of the double job arose, I pointed out at a January Freeholder meeting that this looks like a serious conflict of interest. Freeholder Estrada responded that it wasn't, even though he has no legal expertise. This is on public video of the meeting.

So in this last meeting's public comment portion, I queried county counsel Robert Barry to rule on the record that 1) Mirabella's double jobs are not a conflict of interest and 2) Will Mirabella in the capacity of Freeholder be able to vote on the county budget when it's up for the vote, since he would be voting on county funding and grants for the Scotch Plains Township operations and budget that he also administers. If a freeholder can't vote on his own budget, then he promptly shouldn't be a Freeholder.

Incredulous, he actually responded "no comment." This is all on public video. For a lawyer, who is paid \$164,000 as counsel to serve the public in a legal capacity, to avoid answering publicly the questions that is of major concern is just mind boggling!

After the meeting was over and everyone was leaving, regretfully, I loudly called him a coward, and he slinked away. However, as a resident and taxpayer, Counsel Barry deserved it for what he did in public. On top of that, after the meeting, Freeholder Mirabella, arrogantly needed me on my grave concerns.

My guess is that as long as the county counsel doesn't have to do his job and rule on the conflict, then Mirabella can go merrily along with his double job. For Counsel Barry's malfeasance, who would have to push for Barry's disbarment? Why, one of them would be Freeholder Mirabella, right?

Sal Caruana, ex-Westfield

councilman's editorial in the Feb. 26, 2015 edition of *The Westfield Leader* calling Union County government a "pig trough" and "cesspool" with a "stench" is apropos. And so the public is ignored, and the Union County government cesspool lives on.

**Bruce Patteron  
Garwood**

## Thank You for Toy Drive Donations

On behalf of St. Joseph's Social Services Center, Sister Jacinta Fernandes, and the children of Elizabeth, the Garwood Knights of Columbus (KOC) would like to thank everyone for their donations to our annual Toy Drive. Our thanks to the following people for all their help and support. The members of The Church of St. Anne's Rosary Society and their President Christine Guerriero. The friends and family members from the Kenny Family Christmas Party, Eastman Management Corp. in Livingston, Managing Partners, Michael and Peter Schofel, especially Catherine Mooney who arranged collection boxes in five of their location; including toy collections from her co-workers at Eastman Management and from the many tenants in their building. MPE's Student Council from the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School in Livingston, and their School Counselor, Jennifer Horwitz Kelner, who coordinated collections from the students, teachers, parents, and staff. Ms. Mooney's efforts resulted in two carload of toys being donated.

Your donations were part of 254 large Hefty bags of toys collected throughout Union County for over 325 families in need through St. Joseph's Social Services Center in Elizabeth. For information on St. Joseph's, visit [www.stjosephelizabth.org](http://www.stjosephelizabth.org).

**Keith Gallagher  
William Pevarnik  
Robert Kenny, Jr.  
Garwood KOC**

## Garwood Library to Host Author, Organizer Visits

**GARWOOD** — The Garwood Public Library has announced upcoming events, beginning on Saturday, March 14, when local author Eric Nierstedt will visit the library at 11 a.m. to discuss and autograph his latest book, "The Equites." A continuation of "The Lightrider Journals," it chronicles the adventures of Joe Hashimoto and his hardy band of followers as they track down and fight evil in the world. Light refreshments will be provided.

Professional organizer Jamie Novak will be at the library on Thursday, March 19, at 7 p.m. Her topic will be "Keep This, Toss That." Registration is required and may be done in person at the library, by calling (908) 789-1670 or via the library's interactive calendar found on its website.

Toddler Story Time is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. with activities, songs and stories for children up to age 4. Registration is not required for this ongoing program for toddlers and their caregivers.

Movie Time is offered every Friday at 10 a.m. The library shows first-run movies, classics, old favorites and special requests. Suggestions are always welcome. Light refreshments are provided, and the senior citizen bus will provide transportation for Garwood seniors.

Two book discussion groups are held monthly at the library. The afternoon group meets on the third Monday of each month at 1 p.m. and the evening group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Each group is separate and chooses its own selection to be discussed. Monday's selection for March is "Take Me With You" by Catherine Ryan Hyde, and the Thursday

selection is "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant. Both groups welcome new participants.

The Garwood Public Library is located at the corner of Walnut Street and Third Avenue, behind the Lincoln School complex. The e-mail address is [garwoodlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:garwoodlibrary@gmail.com) and its website is [youseemore.com/garwood](http://youseemore.com/garwood).

Individuals also are invited to "like" the library on Facebook.

## Garwood Knights To Hold Fish Fry

**GARWOOD** — The Garwood Knights of Columbus will hold their Lenten Fish Fry by Thistles on Friday, March 13, from 6 to 8 p.m. It will take place at The Columbian Club building where the Knights of Columbus hold their meetings.

Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door, and \$10 for children under age 12. Fried or baked fish will be available; individuals are asked to specify which when purchasing tickets. Chicken will be available for children age 14 and under only. Dinner will include French fries, coleslaw, dessert and coffee. Attendees may dine in or take out their meals.

Tickets can be obtained at the Council Hall weekdays after 4:30 p.m., or weekends after 2 p.m. For more information, call (908) 789-9809 or Chairman Dennis Clark at (908) 247-5389.

The Garwood Knights of Columbus is located at 37 South Avenue, Garwood, across from the PathMark store. Parking is available in the back lot, off Willow Avenue (turn at Marty Shoes).

## POLICE BLOTTER

### CRANFORD

Wednesday, February 18, Richard Kovolyansky, 26, of Springfield, Joseph Palitto, 26, of Springfield and Regina Bauer, 26, of Union were arrested following a motor vehicle stop. All three were charged with possession of heroin. Kovolyansky also was charged with possession of prescription medication. They were processed and released pending an appearance in Superior Court.

Friday, February 20, Kathleen Roche, 33, of Linden was arrested and charged with possession of prescription medication, and with outstanding warrants from Morris Plains, Neptune and Millburn, following a motor vehicle stop. Roche also was cited for driving with a suspended license.

Friday, February 20, Jessica Matrongolo, 22, of Colonia was arrested following a motor vehicle stop and charged with possession of heroin, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia.

Tuesday, February 24, Ryan Nunley, 23, of Springfield was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia following a motor vehicle stop.

Wednesday, February 25, Bernard Isaac, 57, of Roselle was arrested and charged with theft and credit card fraud following an investigation of a Bryant Avenue resident's report of a stolen purse. Bail was set at \$2,500.

Thursday, February 26, Najir Green, 28, of Irvington was charged with eluding, hindering apprehension and resisting arrest. Authorities said Green provided false identification to police and attempted to flee the scene of a motor vehicle stop on foot. Green was transferred to the Union County jail in lieu of \$1,000 bail.

Friday, February 27, Kyleigh Carney, 19, of Parlin was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia following a motor vehicle stop.



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