

## Trader Joe's Roof Collapses; Majority of Building to Be Razed

By BRIAN TRUSDELL  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — It will be a while before Trader Joe's in Westfield reopens for business.

Three-quarters of the supermarket store between Elm and Prospect Streets will have to be razed within two weeks, Westfield Building Inspector Steve Freedman said. He won't even let workers inside to retrieve the stock.

"It's too dangerous," Mr. Freedman said. "You also don't want it open to vagrants."

The store was the highest profile local casualty of last weekend's snowstorm, with the center of the roof

collapsing early Saturday afternoon during the height of the blizzard and buckling three walls with it, Mr. Freedman and Fire Chief David Kelly said.

No one was inside at the time of the collapse around 2 p.m. and Chief Kelly said none of his firefighters were injured in securing the site before his department turned the matter over to police, which deployed officers to deter looting.

Employees reportedly were in the building earlier in the day but all went home by late morning when Trader Joe's decided not to open because of the storm.

Power and natural gas lines were turned off late Saturday and water

service was cut Sunday.

Plywood boards were erected along the Elm Street sidewalk to keep pedestrians away.

"The Elm Street side is where most of the damage is," said Mr. Freedman, who noted the roof collapsed along with the trusses inside.

Horizontal cracks in the brick wall along Elm Street are visible, but the most apparent damage is along the back of the building facing the Bank of America branch. About two-thirds of the way up the back wall, a large crack can be seen extending from the Elm Street side past the drive-up teller roofs.

The National Weather Service reported that 24 inches of snow had fallen in Westfield as of 10:03 p.m. Saturday as part of winter storm Jonas.

Calls to Carol Greco, who is listed as the owner of the building, were not returned. However, Trader Joe's spokeswoman Alison Mochizuki responded via e-mail from the company's Monrovia, Calif. headquarters.

"Thankfully, the store was closed when this happened, no customers or crew were present — and no one was hurt," she wrote. "All crew members from our Westfield store have the option to work at other locations, and we are in the process of setting up those reassignments. We intend to reopen in (the Westfield) location."

The store doubled its capacity in 2013, reclaiming a portion of the building that originally was used as a supermarket but had been converted into office space last used by financial consultants Wells Fargo Advisors.

"What can I say about Trader Joe's except the entire community is heartbroken," Downtown Westfield Corp.

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Ben Corbin for The Westfield Leader

MORE THAN A FRACTURE...The rear wall of Trader Joe's supermarket buckled Saturday under the weight of accumulated snow from winter storm Jonas, which also collapsed the roof.

## Region Still Recovering From Massive Weekend Blizzard

By CHRISTINA HINKE  
and FRED ROSSI  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

REGION — The local area was still digging out earlier this week from a blizzard that dumped two-a-half feet of snow. The following is a breakdown per town.

### Westfield

Westfield Mayor Andrew Skibitsky said in a statement on Facebook Monday morning that DPW crews were continuing to work on getting to every tertiary roadway, such as cul de sacs,

dead end portions of roadways, and small "one block" streets and were also addressing commuter parking lots and downtown parking lots.

He said that it took longer than expected to get to all of the town's 380 roads open.

"Pushing over two feet of snow is slow going," the mayor said. "Our plow operators were on duty for approximately 35 hours straight and after a 12-hour break they have been back at it since 5 a.m. this morning (Monday) and will continue to work until all roads are open."

Once all roads are open, DPW crews will focus their attention on town-owned sidewalks, and any areas or roadways that warrant follow up attention.

"The sheer volume of snow will require several days to fully complete snow plowing operations," he said.

Meanwhile, Fire Chief David Kelly asked homeowners to dig it out fire hydrants in front their homes. There are over 700 hydrants in the town.

Also, Police Chief David Wayman announced said that any snow-covered abandoned vehicle still parked in the roadway was to be ticketed and towed beginning 8 a.m. January 27th.

"Any vehicle that has remained snow covered and parked in the roadway for a period of more than 48 hours shall be

deemed abandoned pursuant to NJS 39:3-56.5. These vehicles are impeding snow removal and obstructing the flow of traffic," Chief Wayman said.

Westfield Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan thanked workers for clearing school property of snow. "We would like to thank all of our custodians and maintenance staff for working hard through Saturday, Sunday and Monday to clear the snow to ensure the safety of our students."

### Cranford

"Our guys worked early Friday morning through Sunday night. I would say we had a majority of streets cleared by Sunday afternoon. It was a lot more than the news was predicting. We got hit hard. During those tough times it was tough to keep up. But they did a great job," Mayor Andis Kalnins said.

He said crews were working on Monday getting the lots cleared. One of the reasons the township closed municipal offices Monday was so they could focus on municipal lots to make sure people could get to work.

The DPW has had to use front-end loaders to move the snow but that there is nowhere to push it. They plan to salt the roads this week.

"We asked for cars to be off the street; most of the people adhered to the

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Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

ANYTHING THAT SLIDES...Kids in Unami Park trudge back up the hill with sleds, snow scooters, snowboards and inner tubes, some getting a snow snack along the way.

## Skibitsky Gives Update On Blizzard Cleanup

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Mayor Andy Skibitsky on Tuesday night addressed the town's response to the blizzard that pummeled the area with snow over two feet of snow in 11 hours, Mayor Skibitsky said. The Department of Public Works (DPW) was out on the roads for 35 hours straight, with Mayor Skibitsky also riding along in a plow for several hours to gauge the situation.

"We continue to work on our tertiary roads...and have knocked out about 90 percent of our sidewalks," DPW Director Greg O'Neil said in his report to the mayor and council at the workshop meeting held prior to the official council meeting. He said it would take four or five nights to move snow out of the downtown area.

The fire department is asking that homeowners shovel out fire hydrants

in front of their home, if the fire department has not been able to clear the snow away from them yet.

The police department received cardiac arrest calls, Chief David Wayman said. The department would have been "paralyzed," he said, without those military vehicles because their ambulances and trucks were getting stuck in the snow.

In other business, the sewer use fee for a single-family residence was set at \$170 per year and for commercial and industrial properties at \$315 and for multi-family residences at \$100. This rate has not changed since the town began billing property owners five years ago, Councilman Sam Della Fera said. The fee is set based off the sewer charges imposed by the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA). It was noted by Mr. Della Fera that the town incurs more than half of the charge billed by the RVSA,

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## Garwood Gets RVSA Briefing; Officer Sworn In

By BRIAN TRUSDELL  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD — A four-man delegation from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) appeared before the borough council Tuesday to explain the municipality's 8.7-percent increase in its annual assessment, hinting that next year the borough could see a hike about half of this year's.

Explaining that the RVSA assesses towns in the 11-municipality cooperative on a five-year average, Executive Director Jim Meehan said the two consecutive years of steep increases should abate.

"Next year it should be about 2 to 4 percent, maybe closer to zero," Mr. Meehan said. "That's what it looks like next year if the trends continue."

"It should hopefully begin leveling out,"

Mr. Meehan detailed the steps the RVSA has gone through in the past decade to minimize costs, including reducing staff, that has limited budget increases.

RVSA Manager of Regulation Compliance Anthony Gencarelli pointed out that this year's assessment for Garwood

is approximately the same as it was 10 years ago. The RVSA initially assessed Garwood \$679,927 in November, a hike of \$58,133 from last year. It revised that to \$676,057, or an increase of \$54,263, in December.

The presentation drew several questions from residents, who struggled to understand why, if Garwood's flow has decreased the past two years, the borough's assessment has increased. The delegation, which also included Garwood's RVSA commissioner Steve Greet, who additionally serves as chairman of the Garwood Planning Board, said that while the flow amount may

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## School Bond Approved With 9 Percent Turnout

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — With an extremely low turnout three days after a major blizzard struck the area, town voters overwhelmingly passed a \$12.6-million school bond referendum Tuesday.

According to the town clerk's office, with a turnout of 9 percent or 1,969 of Westfield's 21,457 voters, both questions on the ballot passed. A total of 23 persons voted by mail-in or absentee ballots.

Voters passed the first question seeking \$8.6 million for safety and infrastructure upgrades such as smoke detectors and WiFi networks at 10 schools by a tally of 1,393 to 597, and the second question asking for another \$4 million for renovations to the middle school auditoriums passed by a vote of 1,557 to 843.

Tuesday's vote was the third school bond referendum in nine years and fourth in just over 11 years. Previous

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Christina M. Hinke for The Westfield Leader

JUMP RIGHT IN...John Mallon, who was sworn in as a Cranford township commissioner on Monday to replace the resigned Robert D'Ambola, reviews documents during the township committee's workshop session.

### Warmer Weather to Help Melt Snow

REGION — Days after a blizzard dumped over two feet of snow on the area, significant melting has begun as favorable weather forecasts calls for warmer weather.

Temperatures are expected to reach 40 degrees today, the upper 40s Sunday through Tuesday and 55 next Wednesday.

Already a third of the snow has melted in the local area, according to reports.



Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

TRYING TO STAY AHEAD OF IT...Cranford's Department of Public Works crew plows the downtown on Saturday, trying to keep the area passable during the height of winter storm Jonas.

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## Residents Express Concern About Hidi Property

By JONATHAN R. PARKER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — Township resident Frank Krause addressed the Township Committee Tuesday night regarding his concerns about the fate of the Fourth Avenue property in Garwood known as the “Hidi” property.

In November, Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy overturned the Garwood Planning Board’s approval of a nine-townhouse development project due to a shortcoming pertaining to the notice of the hearing.

Mr. Krause said that while the development did not go through at that time due to this technicality, the property owners are moving forward with plans to resubmit their proposal to the Garwood Planning Board.

This time, he hopes that the interests of Cranford and Cranford residents will be represented at the hearings.

The property in question sits right against the municipal boundary line separating Garwood from Cranford.

Mr. Krause questioned why neither the Cranford Township engineer nor zoning officer was present at the earlier Garwood discussions about the property.

According to Mr. Krause, the property is located in an area with a history of flooding. He is worried that the proposed development may increase runoff to the Gallows Hill Brook, increasing the risk of flooding to Cranford residents living along the brook.

Mr. Krause’s wife, Barbara Krause, voiced similar concerns over the property at the January 11 Township Committee workshop meeting.

Mayor Andis Kalnins confirmed that while there is no design in place yet for the property’s proposed storm water management system, and that the Garwood engineer and Cranford engineer are in conversations with each other about potential designs for that property.

## Cranford Planning Board Holds Reorg Mtg.

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — Members of the planning board were sworn in for their reappointment at the reorganization meeting on January 20th.

Peter Taylor, Kathleen Murray, Julie Didzbalis, Mayor Andis Kalnins and Committeewoman Mary O’Connor were reappointed to the board. Bobbi Anderson was reappointed as chairwoman and Lynda Feder as vice-chairwoman. Ms. Murray was reappointed as board secretary and Ann Steinbach as alternate secretary.

Ruthanne Della Serra, who is retiring this year after serving 16 years, was appointed along with her replacement, Patricia Cullen, as the board scribe. Ms. Cullen was hired recently as an assistant zoning officer to work under Zoning Officer Bob Hudak, and will take over as scribe once she is fully prepared to take on the role, Ms. Della Serra said.

Nicholas Giuditta was appointed as board attorney. Mr. Giuditta has served as board attorney since 2007, with a one year hiatus in 2013. The board interviewed him along with Alexander Fisher of Mauro, Savo, Camerino, Grant, Schalk of Somerville.

Maser Consulting and Matrix New World were appointed as the planning consultants who would be called upon as an as needed basis. Mr. Hudak is the in-house planner. Carl O’Brien of Maser Consulting was appointed as board engineer.

Furthermore, Mayor Kalnins referred Mr. Krause to a state statute in place forbidding new development from increasing the amount of runoff from the property.

When Mr. Krause pressed to know whether anyone from Cranford would attend the next Garwood hearing where the property would be discussed, Deputy Mayor Mary O’Connor volunteered to attend.

In other business at Tuesday’s meeting, Assemblyman Jon M. Brammick (R-21st, Westfield) administered the oath of office to new Township Committee member John Mallon. Mr. Mallon fills the seat vacated by Robert D’Ambola, who resigned earlier this month. Mr. D’Ambola’s term was set to end on December 31, 2016. Tuesday’s swearing-in was more of a formality as Mr. Mallon officially took office prior to Monday’s committee meeting.

Mayor Kalnins also appointed Mr. Mallon as Engineering/Department of Public Works (DPW) commissioner.

Commissioner Mallon already had cause to speak in his new capacity as one Dartmouth Road resident complained about the condition of his street three days after the blizzard and questioned when his street would see another snow plow.

Commissioner Mallon said the DPW is committed to getting the job done right. The first priority was to tend to the areas around the schools to help them get back into session. With that work completed, the DPW can now return its focus to the rest of the town.

Mr. Mallon also expressed his gratitude more generally about having this opportunity to serve the town that he has called home for the past 22 years. In his comments at the conclusion of the meeting he stated, “While I have much to learn, I intend to learn quickly and to work hard for the good of our community.”

Matrix New World was also recently hired by the township to design a plan to redevelop North Avenue between Centennial Avenue to North Union Avenue, Mayor Kalnins said. “It will give us ideas of what it can be,” he said.

Part of this area is where Swan Cleaners, Chapman Bros. and Marino’s Seafood are situated. Across the street is the MDTV building that the township recently purchased and is looking to sell to a developer, Mayor Kalnins said.

Next month’s meetings will be held Wednesday, February 3, with no application, and Wednesday, February 17, with an expected application.

A letter submitted by PSE&G is to be forwarded to the tree advisory board for their review and comments that informs the township of its application to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for maintenance of vegetation existing on freshwater wetlands. The state Board of Public Utilities (BPU) changed their rules, Mayor Kalnins said, which included tree height clearance of overhead utility lines. One change was for trees on primary lines, where it used to be it had to be eight feet clearance on sides and 12 feet clearance on top. The new rules make the tree height clearance stricter.

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## Westfield Council

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which is approximately \$3.5 million, and then bills property owners for the remainder.

In her first report as chairwoman of the finance committee, Councilwoman Jo Ann Neylan said the town’s financial outlook is “very strong,” echoing Mayor Skibitsky’s state-of-the-town address at the reorganization meeting earlier this month. Town budgets for about the last decade are available at westfieldnj.gov, she said.

Five homes were burglarized in the last month, Andy Liu of Brown Avenue, who was a victim, told the mayor and council. A neighbor, Tracia Cheng of Birch Avenue, was also burglarized December 31st, while she was out of town. One house on Lawrence Avenue and two

more on Hyslip Avenue were also hit, Mr. Liu said. Since Mr. Liu’s house was burglarized, his children have trouble sleeping and are afraid of it happening again. After the incident, Mr. Liu said he saw a car parked on his street for hours watching the block. “I feel like my life is being watched,” he said. He asked the mayor and council, “What can we do to improve the situation?”

Mayor Skibitsky urged anyone who feels there is something out of the ordinary to call the police immediately. “Go with your gut feeling,” he said. Chief Wayman also spoke to Mr. Liu and Mrs. Cheng after the meeting to discuss setting up a meeting with the neighborhood to address safety precautions and crime prevention tips.



CHILLING WITH THE LEADER...Eighth graders from Westfield’s Roosevelt Intermediate School catch up on the local news inside their custom-made igloo after Saturday’s snowstorm.

Courtesy of Jeannie Arida

## Blizzard

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ordinance. There was a noticeable improvement with less cars on the road to help them plow. They will continue to widen the roads and look at the intersections,” Mayor Kalnins.

Schools in Cranford were closed Monday and Tuesday because the school lots, as well as the pickup and drop off points for children, were not cleared. Mayor Kalnins said those access points likely were not cleared because the schools were going to be closed on Monday. The school district is responsible for clearing its lots.

Cranford Fire Chief Dan Czeh said the Cranford Fire Department (CFD) went on multiple calls during the storm. The CFD was using Humvees that the police department housed at the fire department for the storm event. There were two EMTs and a police officer on hand for each call. Ambulances were getting stuck in the snow, he said, so the Humvees were critical. There were many medical calls. There were no injuries, the fire department said.

### Scotch Plains

Mayor Kevin Gloversaid plow drivers, both township workers and private contractors, did a “terrific” and “heroic” job under the circumstances.

“We had predictions of 20 inches of snow, and we ended up pushing 30 inches,” the mayor said Monday afternoon. He also echoed comments made on Sunday by Public Works Director Joseph Timko that plow drivers had to endure 18 hours of near white-out conditions that made it virtually impossible to see. “As quickly as you could plow a street, you’d have to go back and do it again,” due to the high winds on Saturday, the mayor said.

Commenting on numerous postings on social media from residents complaining about the conditions of their streets, the mayor said the blizzard was “a storm of historical proportions” and that road crews had worked to first make sure primary streets were cleared. He commended Mr. Timko for having a “game plan in place” for how to attack the snowfall and said it was important that he stuck to the plan. In some cases, the mayor said, that meant that some streets “got plowed late on Sunday evening and not at noon that day.” By late Sunday, 24 hours after the snow had stopped falling, the mayor said “over 95 percent of our streets were cleared,” although many were still in need of follow-up plowing to widen access to vehicles.

The mayor met with the township’s

emergency-management team — Township Manager Al Mirabella, Mr. Timko, Dan Sullivan from the rescue squad, Fire Chief Jonathan Ellis, Police Captain Ted Conley and Deputy Emergency-Management Coordinator, Sgt. Ernesto Hernandez, on Sunday morning to review the township’s response to the storm. A meeting followed on Monday morning, and the mayor said that he and Mr. Mirabella, accompanied by emergency-management officials, toured the town to inspect the pace of street-clearing efforts. “Some streets still need a little more tailoring,” Mayor Glover said.

Besides public works employees, the mayor praised the rescue squad, which he said responded to nine calls over the weekend; the fire department, which responded to two vehicle fires; and the police department. One police officer said that during the height of the storm on Saturday patrol cars were driving with their rooftop emergency lights flashing so they could be seen in the conditions.

“If this wasn’t the worst storm, it certainly was the second-worst,” the mayor said. “It was a blizzard.” Noting the amount of snow that fell — and the volume that needed to be shoveled and plowed, and stored — the mayor said, “Go look at the mounds of snow piled 12 and 15 feet high. They weren’t there on Friday night.”

### Fanwood

Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr said the borough received 27.5 inches of snow and that all roads and sidewalks were open as of Monday.

She said as of 3 a.m. on Sunday all streets were plowed curb to curb, and opened up to all cars and emergency services vehicles. Train station commuter parking on both North and South Avenues were cleared by 5 p.m. Sunday. Park buildings also were cleared and open as were municipal properties.

“Fanwood’s total crew of seven men did an outstanding job under the supervision of Clint Dickson,” the mayor said. She said crews would be “spending the better part of the coming week tackling snow removal.”

“I am extremely proud of our DPW, volunteer fire department and rescue squad, who were on site during the blizzard, and to our police department, who were out on the streets under the supervision of (Police) Chief (Richard) Trigo. The constant cooperation and coordination of our emergency responders allowed Fanwood to come through the blizzard pretty darn well. We also saw a spike in citizens who signed up for our eBlasts so they could stay well informed of what was happening in the borough,” Mayor Mahr said.

## Bond Vote

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bond ordinances approved included \$13.6 million in December 2012 for roof repairs and replacements across the district, \$9.4 million in December 2007 for a centralized kindergarten and special needs program, and \$1.4 million in December 2004 for installation of an artificial turf field at Kehler Stadium.

The 2012 vote came three months after voters rejected a larger \$17-million request that also included \$3.5 million for a lighted soccer field. The September 2012 vote had a turnout of 5,394 or 25.22 percent. The December 2012 turnout was 19.22 percent with 4,207 voters participating.

## MS BOE Gets Look at Deerfield Media Center

By KATE BROWNE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — The members of the public as well as the Mountainside school board were given a first-hand look at Deerfield Middle School’s new media center Tuesday, part of the board’s first full meeting of the year.

The collaborative work areas and computer work stations are part of district-wide infrastructure upgrades which were funded by a \$19.4 million bond approved in 2014. The center includes reading labs, a technology counter for laptop computer use and video editing equipment purchased with donations from the Elks and the Mountainside Education Foundation.

The meeting began with the presentation of a \$2,000 check from Elks Lodge 1585. Vincent Ditta, exalted ruler of the Elks branch, explained that the donation by the fraternal organization was to support the community’s children in honor of the service and sacrifice of military veterans.

A highlight of the meeting was Chief School Administrator Nancy Lubarsky’s presentation of the district’s results on the state-mandated Partnership for Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) standardized test taken last spring.

Parents were given a briefing on January 13.

PARCC, based on the “Common Core” curriculum standards, was administered in New Jersey for the first time in 2015 and is different from previous “pen and pencil” standardized tests in that it is taken entirely on a computer or digital device.

She described the new test as including more complex critical thinking questions which require students to refer to textual evidence to support the answers.

She reminded parents that the PARCC is only one of a variety of evaluation tools used at Deerfield and Beechwood schools, which also include monthly writing assessments, math strategy groups, and young writer’s workshops.

Ms. Lubarsky explained that this year’s exam will be 90 minutes shorter than last year, which should simplify the administration of the test without diminishing the goal of the assessment.

In other matters, Ms. Lubarsky shared a proclamation by Gov. Chris Christie declaring January as School Board Recognition Month.

The proclamation noted that there are more than 581 local school boards in New Jersey and urged all residents to acknowledge the contributions which are made by the 4,800 local school board members to support the state’s 1.4 million public school children.

The board members also received state-mandated annual review of New Jersey’s ethics laws conducted by a representative of the New Jersey School Boards Association. The presentation was a briefing of the ethical standards applicable to board members.

The presentation was interactive and included hypothetical scenarios, guidance on the use of social media, an overview of the various financial disclosure requirements and a detailed review of the provisions of the code of ethics, the open public meeting act and the rules regarding conflicts of interest.

The board members thanked Lynn Slotkin, who will retire effective July 1 after 25 years as an art teacher, and Judith Segal, who also will retire July 1 after 23 years as a basic skills teacher.

The board’s next meeting will be Tuesday, February 23.

### Correction

Robert Centrella was not re-appointed to the Downtown Westfield Corporation board as mistakenly reported in last week’s paper. He was replaced by Steve Silverman as a resident member.

## GW Council

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have decreased, each town is charged based on the percentage of flow among the 11 towns that it sends to the RVSA.

In other matters, Mayor Charles Lombardo swore in Jonathan Priddy as the police department’s newest officer. Officer Priddy replaces Andrew Horan, who resigned from the force in December to take a better-paying position with Berkeley Heights.

Mr. Lombardo also announced the resignation of Tom Spera as the mayor’s representative to the emergency management council and replaced him with police Lt. Sam Rocco.

Several council members and nearly half a dozen residents offered praise for the borough’s Department of Public Works for its response to the weekend winter storm, particularly noting the snow removal in comparison to neighboring towns Westfield and Cranford.

Councilman Joe Sarno reported that the police issued a mere 10 summonses and had only seven cars towed for parking on the street. Police were out Sunday morning, working with vendors to remove the buried vehicles so the DPW crews could make a final plow run to clear the streets as wide as possible.

Councilman Mike Martin told the governing body that after Borough Attorney Bob Renaud researched the suggestion by Mr. Sarno to eliminate health insurance benefits for elected officials, he reported back that the borough is obligated to continue providing the benefit to any official who has been receiving it since before May 2010.

Mr. Martin said the laws and licenses committee would discuss the issue at its next meeting. Mr. Sarno did not comment on the report. At the January 12 council meeting, he said that the New Jersey town of Dumont had stopped health insurance for elected officials, and that Midland Park did the same in December.

The only member of the council to whom the issue would apply is Council President Lou Petruzzelli, who won a third term in November 2014.

One other matter that sparked considerable discussion was prompted by Councilwoman Ileen Cuccaro’s committee on aging report. She noted that some residents had expressed concern that depending on who responds to a medical emergency call, an ambulance charge could result in a bill ranging from \$300 to \$7,000.

The discussion involved several council members, residents and even Police Chief Bruce Underhill, who stated that

emergency dispatch procedures are to call the borough’s rescue squad first, then a Union County ambulance based in Westfield, then the rescue squads of the neighboring towns, with which there are cooperative arrangements.

Councilwoman Sara Todisco added that the county has a practice of “soft billing” for ambulance services — issuing its regular bill but accepting whatever insurance pays.

Mr. Renaud interjected by saying that the billing for an emergency response “almost always works themselves out” and was concerned that the discussion may dissuade someone from calling for assistance.

It was not clear what next steps the council would take. Chief Underhill stated that a police officer is immediately dispatched for every emergency medical call, regardless if a Band-Aid or a defibrillator is needed. An ambulance is simultaneously called. He said he is not aware of any response requiring as long as 20 minutes, a reference to a resident who complained about the response time when she had an emergency.

The meeting ended with an hour-long executive session that purportedly included discussion of the borough’s ongoing attempt to get approval for a state-mandated affordable-housing plan and pending litigation, which the council did not specify.

## Trader Joe’s

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Executive Director Sherry Cronin said. “Trader Joe’s is not just a destination within our downtown. They are an essential leader in our downtown business district.”

Ms. Cronin’s sentiments were echoed by Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC) Executive Director Gene Jannotti, who noted GWACC offices were directly impacted.

“Westfield loses, for the time being, a mainstay operation that brings many people to town to shop not only at Trader Joe’s but in other establishments as well,” Mr. Jannotti said. “The Chamber office was directly impacted by the roof collapse as PSE&G shut down the power to our offices next door as a precaution.”

“We hope that Trader Joe’s will quickly rebuild and their products will once again be available to our public.”

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## Region Still Recovering From Massive Weekend Blizzard

By **CHRISTINA HINKE** and **FRED ROSSI**  
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

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plete snow plowing operations,” he said.

Meanwhile, Fire Chief David Kelly asked homeowners to dig it out fire hydrants in front their homes. There are over 700 hydrants in the town.

Also, Police Chief David Wayman announced said that any snow-covered abandoned vehicle still parked in the roadway was to be ticketed and towed beginning 8 a.m. January 27th.

“Any vehicle that has remained snow covered and parked in the roadway for a period of more than 48 hours shall be deemed abandoned pursuant to NJS 39:3-56.5. These vehicles are impeding snow removal and obstructing the flow of traffic,” Chief Wayman said.

Westfield Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan thanked workers for clearing school property of snow. “We would like to thank all of our custodians and maintenance staff for working hard through Saturday, Sunday and Monday to clear the snow to ensure the safety of our students.”

### Cranford

“Our guys worked early Friday morning through Sunday night. I would say we had a majority of streets cleared by Sunday afternoon. It was a lot more than the news was predicting. We got hit hard. During those tough times it was tough to keep up. But they did a great job,” Mayor Andis Kalnins said.

He said crews were working on Monday getting the lots cleared. One of the reasons the township closed municipal offices Monday was so they could focus on municipal lots to make sure people could get to work.

The DPW has had to use front-end loaders to move the snow but that there is nowhere to push it. They plan to salt the roads this week.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Eleven SP-F Employees Receive Governor Awards

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

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Eleven district employees were presented with the Governor’s Educator of the Year Award at the January 21 meeting of the Scotch Plains Fanwood Board of Education meeting Award, honored with a resolution in front of a packed audience.

Those honored with the award included: special education teacher Ella Greenberg from Brunner Elementary, Coles Elementary first-grade teacher Michelle Crisifulli, Coles part-time classroom aide Laurie Prusik, Evergreen Elementary second-grade instructor Debra Evans-Skaar, McGinn Elementary kindergarten teacher Amy George, School One Elementary resource teacher Lynda Chan-Lo School One lunch aide Phyllis Marcovechio, Park Middle School physical education teacher Kyle Banghart, Terrill Middle School instructor Kale Thompson and special education teacher Kelly Robertson and media instructor Robin Stayvas of Scotch Plains Fanwood High School.

In other business, Superintendent of Schools Margaret Hayes introduced the proposed calendar for the 2016-2017 school year, noting it was available on the district’s website (www.spfk12.org).

Under the schedule, teachers and staff would report Thursday, September 1 with students five days later on Tuesday, September 6.

Because of the vote for president of the United States, school would be closed on election day, Tuesday, November 8.

Four emergency — or snow — days are built into the calendar with the school year to end Thursday, June 22, 2017.



**MORE THAN A FRACTURE...** The rear wall of Trader Joe’s supermarket in Westfield buckled Saturday under the weight of accumulated snow from winter storm Jonas, which also collapsed the roof.

## Trader Joe’s Roof Collapses; Majority of Building to Be Razed

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

**WESTFIELD** — It will be a while before Trader Joe’s in Westfield reopens for business.

Three-quarters of the supermarket store between Elm and Prospect Streets will have to be razed within two weeks, Westfield Building Inspector Steve Freedman said. He won’t even let workers inside to retrieve the stock.

“It’s too dangerous,” Mr. Freedman said. “You also don’t want it open to vagrants.”

The store was the highest profile local casualty of last weekend’s snowstorm, with the center of the roof collapsing early Saturday afternoon during the height of the blizzard and buckling three walls with it, Mr. Freedman and Fire Chief David Kelly said.

No one was inside at the time of the collapse around 2 p.m. and Chief Kelly said none of his firefighters were injured in securing the site before his department turned the matter over to police, which deployed officers to deter looting.

Employees reportedly were in the building earlier in the day but all went home by late morning when Trader Joe’s decided not to open because of the storm.

Power and natural gas lines were turned off late Saturday and water service was cut Sunday.

Plywood boards were erected along the Elm Street sidewalk to keep pedestrians away.

“The Elm Street side is where most of the damage is,” said Mr. Freedman, who noted the roof collapsed along with the trusses inside.

Horizontal cracks in the brick wall along Elm Street are visible, but the most apparent damage is along the back of the building facing the Bank of America branch. About two-thirds of the way up the back wall, a large crack can be seen extending from the Elm Street side past the drive-up teller roofs.

The National Weather Service re-

ported that 24 inches of snow had fallen in Westfield as of 10:03 p.m. Saturday as part of winter storm Jonas.

Calls to Carol Greco, who is listed as the owner of the building, were not returned. However, Trader Joe’s spokeswoman Alison Mochizuki responded via e-mail from the company’s Monrovia, Calif. headquarters.

“Thankfully, the store was closed when this happened, no customers or crew were present — and no one was hurt,” she wrote. “All crew members from our Westfield store have the option to work at other locations, and we are in the process of setting up those reassignments. We intend to reopen in (the Westfield) location.”

The store doubled its capacity in 2013, reclaiming a portion of the building that originally was used as a supermarket but had been converted into office space last used by financial consultants Wells Fargo Advisors.

“What can I say about Trader Joe’s except the entire community is heartbroken,” Downtown Westfield Corp. Executive Director Sherry Cronin said. “Trader Joe’s is not just a destination within our downtown. They are an essential leader in our downtown business district.”

Ms. Cronin’s sentiments were echoed by Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC) Executive Director Gene Jannotti, who

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Fred Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**COMING THROUGH...** Streets in downtown Scotch Plains were cleared on Sunday morning in the aftermath of winter storm Jonas that inundated local towns with at least two feet of snow.

## Council Set to Discuss Police Dept. Changes Next Week

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

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — At its conference meeting next Tuesday, the township council is expected to discuss changes to the make-up of the leadership of the police department, with the creation of a new position — police director — at the top of the list.

Police Chief Brian Mahoney is set to retire in March after 10 years heading the department of 43 officers and five civilians. At its meeting last week, the council was set to discuss the creation of the new position to oversee the department and then, later in the meeting, introduce an ordinance to establish the position, which would be filled not by someone within the department but by a civilian.

The discussion and the ordinance were both pulled from the agenda at the last minute last week so that a more thorough discussion could be held next week and so the public could weigh in on the matter. Still unclear is whether the position of police chief — reporting to a director — will be retained.

At the council’s business meeting

last week, the governing body awarded several contracts, including one to Finch Fuel Oil Co. of Kearny for the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel for township vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$220,000. Another contract, not to exceed \$237,000, was awarded to Dauti Construction, LLC. Of West Orange for exterior renovations to the Shady Rest building at Scotch Hills Country Club.

A third contract was awarded to Jersey Professional Management of Cranford to continue its facilitation and coordination efforts for the shared services coordinating council that is composed of Scotch Plains, Fanwood and the joint board of education. Councilwoman Colleen Gialanella and Councilman Llewellyn Jones both voted against the \$2,310 JPM contract, with both expressing dissatisfaction with the firm’s efforts.

In other business, at its January 19 meeting, the council appointed Robert LaCosta to serve as the municipal government’s representative to the Plainfield Area Regional Sewer Authority. He replaced long-time liaison

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Fred Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**CLEANING UP THE TOWN...** Snowblowers sliced through the two feet of snow in front of the municipal building in Scotch Plains to create a safe walking path in the wake of the weekend blizzard.

### Warmer Weather to Help Melt Snow

**REGION** — Days after a blizzard dumped over two feet of snow on the area, significant melting has begun as favorable weather forecasts calls for warmer weather.

Temperatures are expected to reach 40 degrees today, the upper 40s Sunday through Tuesday and 55 next Wednesday.

Already a third of the snow has melted in the local area, according to reports.



**THE WHEELS ON THE BUS GO ROUND...** Officials and residents from Fanwood and Scotch Plains inspect the new seniors bus January 22. The bus was purchased and will be operated under a shared-services agreement between the two municipalities.

Courtesy of Brian Horton

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**THE WORK BEFORE WORK...** Business owners in Scotch Plains spent Sunday morning clearing their sidewalks following the weekend blizzard that blanketed the region with more than two feet of snow.

## Residents Express Concern About Hidi Property

By JONATHAN R. PARKER  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

CRANFORD — Township resident Frank Krause addressed the Township Committee Tuesday night regarding his concerns about the fate of the Fourth Avenue property in Garwood known as the "Hidi" property.

In November, Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy overturned the Garwood Planning Board's approval of a nine-townhouse development project due to a shortcoming pertaining to the notice of the hearing.

Mr. Krause said that while the development did not go through at that time due to this technicality, the property owners are moving forward with plans to resubmit their proposal to the Garwood Planning Board.

This time, he hopes that the interests of Cranford and Cranford residents will be represented at the hearings.

The property in question sits right against the municipal boundary line separating Garwood from Cranford.

Mr. Krause questioned why neither the Cranford Township engineer nor zoning officer was present at the earlier Garwood discussions about the property.

According to Mr. Krause, the property is located in an area with a history of flooding. He is worried that the proposed development may increase runoff to the Gallows Hill Brook, increasing the risk of flooding to Cranford residents living along the brook.

Mr. Krause's wife, Barbara Krause, voiced similar concerns over the property at the January 11 Township Committee workshop meeting.

Mayor Andis Kalnins confirmed that while there is no design in place yet for the property's proposed storm water management system, and that the Garwood engineer and Cranford engineer are in conversations with each other about potential designs for that property.

Furthermore, Mayor Kalnins referred Mr. Krause to a state statute in place forbidding new development from increasing the amount of runoff from the property.

When Mr. Krause pressed to know whether anyone from Cranford would attend the next Garwood hearing where the property would be discussed, Deputy Mayor Mary

O'Connor volunteered to attend. In other business at Tuesday's meeting, Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) administered the oath of office to new Township Committee member John Mallon. Mr. Mallon fills the seat vacated by Robert D'Ambola, who resigned earlier this month.

Mr. D'Ambola's term was set to end December 31. Tuesday's swearing-in was more of a formality as Mr. Mallon officially took office prior to Monday's committee meeting.

Mayor Kalnins also appointed Mr. Mallon as Engineering/Department of Public Works (DPW) commissioner.

Mr. Mallon already had cause to speak in his new capacity as one Dartmouth Road resident complained about the condition of his street three days after the blizzard and questioned when his street would see another snow plow.

He said the DPW is committed to getting the job done right.

The first priority was to tend to the areas around the schools to help them get back into session.

With that work completed, the DPW can now return its focus to the rest of the town.

Mr. Mallon also expressed his gratitude more generally about having this opportunity to serve the town that he has called home for the past 22 years.

In his comments at the conclusion of the meeting he stated, "While I have much to learn, I intend to learn quickly and to work hard for the good of our community."

## Trader Joe's

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

noted GWACC offices were directly impacted.

"Westfield loses, for the time being, a mainstay operation that brings many people to town to shop not only at Trader Joe's but in other establishments as well," Mr. Jannotti said. "The Chamber office was directly impacted by the roof collapse as PSE&G shut down the power to our offices next door as a precaution.

"We hope that Trader Joe's will quickly rebuild and their products will once again be available to our public."



**BLAST OFF...** This group of boys have a blast zooming together down the Echo Lake Park sledding hill Monday.

## Blizzard

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

"We asked for cars to be off the street; most of the people adhered to the ordinance. There was a noticeable improvement with less cars on the road to help them plow. They will continue to widen the roads and look at the intersections," Mayor Kalnins said.

Schools in Cranford were closed Monday and Tuesday because the school lots, as well as the pickup and drop off points for children, were not cleared. Mayor Kalnins said those access points likely were not cleared because the schools were going to be closed on Monday. The school district is responsible for clearing its lots.

Cranford Fire Chief Dan Czeh said the Cranford Fire Department (CFD) went on multiple calls during the storm. The CFD was using Humvees that the police department housed at the fire department for the storm event. There were two EMTs and a police officer on hand for each call. Ambulances were getting stuck in the snow, he said, so the Humvees were critical. There were many medical calls. There were no injuries, the fire department said.

**Scotch Plains**  
Mayor Kevin Glover said plow drivers, both township workers and private contractors, did a "terrific" and "heroic" job under the circumstances.

"We had predictions of 20 inches of snow, and we ended up pushing 30 inches," the mayor said Monday afternoon. He also echoed comments made on Sunday by Public Works Director Joseph Timko that plow drivers had to endure 18 hours of near white-out conditions that made it virtually impossible to see. "As quickly as you could plow a street, you'd have to go back and do it again," due to the high winds on Saturday, the mayor said.

Commenting on numerous postings on social media from residents complaining about the conditions of their streets, the mayor said the blizzard was "a storm of historical proportions" and that road crews had worked to first make sure primary streets were cleared. He commended Mr. Timko for having a "game plan in place" for how to attack the snowfall and said it was important that he stuck to the plan. In some cases, the mayor said, that meant some streets "got plowed late on Sunday evening and not at noon that day." By late Sunday, 24 hours after the snow had stopped falling, the mayor said "over 95 percent of our streets were cleared," although many were still in need of follow-up plowing to widen access to vehicles.

The mayor met with the township's emergency management team — Township Manager Al Mirabella, Mr. Timko, Dan Sullivan from the rescue

squad, Fire Chief Jonathan Ellis, Police Captain Ted Conley and Deputy Emergency-Management Coordinator Sgt. Ernesto Hernandez on Sunday morning to review the township's response to the storm. A meeting followed on Monday morning, and the mayor said that he and Mr. Mirabella, accompanied by emergency management officials, toured the town to inspect the pace of street-clearing efforts. "Some streets still need a little more tailoring," Mayor Glover said.

Besides public works employees, the mayor also praised the rescue squad, which he said responded to nine calls over the weekend; the fire department, which responded to two vehicle fires; and the police department. One police officer said that during the height of the storm on Saturday patrol cars were driving with their rooftop emergency lights flashing so they could be seen in the white-out conditions.

"If this wasn't the worst storm, it certainly was the second-worst," the mayor said. "It was a blizzard." Noting the amount of snow that fell — and the volume that needed to be shoveled and plowed, and stored — the mayor said, "Go look at the mounds of snow piled 12 and 15 feet high. They weren't there on Friday night."

**Fanwood**  
Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr said the borough received 27.5 inches of snow and that all roads and sidewalks were open as of Monday.

She said as of 3 a.m. on Sunday all streets were plowed curb to curb, and opened up to all cars and emergency services vehicles. Train station commuter parking on both North and South Avenues were cleared by 5 p.m. Sunday. Park buildings also were cleared and open as were municipal properties.

"(Fanwood's) total crew of seven men did an outstanding job under the supervision of Clint Dickson," the mayor said.

She said crews would be "spending the better part of the coming week tackling snow removal."

"I am extremely proud of our DPW, volunteer fire department and rescue squad, who were on site during the blizzard, and to our police department, who were out on the streets under the supervision of (Police) Chief (Richard) Trigo. The constant cooperation and coordination of our emergency responders allowed Fanwood to come through the blizzard pretty darn well. We also saw a spike in citizens who signed up for our eBlasts so they could stay well informed of what was happening in the borough," Mayor Mahr said.



**TEAMWORK...** Digging out snowed-in vehicles was sometimes a joint effort in Scotch Plains on Sunday morning in the wake of the weekend blizzard that dumped upward of two feet of snow on the area.

## School Bond Approved With 9 Percent Turnout

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

WESTFIELD — With an extremely low turnout three days after a major blizzard struck the area, town voters overwhelmingly passed a \$12.6-million school bond referendum Tuesday.

According to the town clerk's office, with a turnout of 9 percent or 1,969 of Westfield's 21,457 voters, both questions on the ballot passed. A total of 23 persons voted by mail-in or absentee ballots.

Voters passed the first question seeking \$8.6 million for safety and infrastructure upgrades such as smoke detectors and WiFi networks at 10 schools by a tally of 1,393 to 597, and the second question asking for another \$4 million for renovations to the middle school auditoriums passed by a vote of 1,557 to 843.

Tuesday's vote was the third school bond referendum in nine years and fourth in just over 11 years. Previous bond ordinances approved included \$13.6 million in December 2012 for

roof repairs and replacements across the district, \$9.4 million in December 2007 for a centralized kindergarten and special needs program, and \$1.4 million in December 2004 for installation of an artificial turf field at Kehler Stadium.

The 2012 vote came three months after voters rejected a larger \$17-million request that also included \$3.5 million for a lighted soccer field. The September 2012 vote had a turnout of 5,394 or 25.22 percent. The December 2012 turnout was 19.22 percent with 4,207 voters participating.

## Police Dept.

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

Robert Johnston. The council last week also introduced several ordinances, all of which will be voted on at public hearings set for Tuesday, February 16. One revises the township's fireworks and fire-prevention regulations, a move that will give the go-ahead for a proposed July 4 fireworks display at Scotch Hills Country Club. Another ordinance will set a fee range for the township's June bulky waste pick-up program. Last year's fee per household was \$100; the proposed range is \$80 to \$150, something that Township Manager Al Mirabella said would give the municipal government "flexibility" as it solicits bids from companies to handle the pick-up.

### Correction

Robert Centrella was not re-appointed to the Downtown Westfield Corporation board as mistakenly reported in last week's Westfield. He was replaced by Steve Silverman as a resident member.



**CHILLING WITH THE LEADER...** Eighth graders from Westfield's Roosevelt Intermediate School catch up on the local news inside their custom-made igloo after Saturday's snowstorm.



**HELPING THE UNFORTUNATE...** Union County Freeholders Linda Carter and Al Mirabella present resolutions to members of the Team Red from the Union County Student Training and Enrichment Program (UC STEP) congratulating them on winning the Civic Engagement Challenge of 2016 UC Step. A total of 195 juniors and seniors from 27 high schools throughout the county participated in the program including students from Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Cranford High Schools. Team Red's Campaign "Garments & Gear -- Greatness for Years" will focus on giving sports equipment to less fortunate athletes.



**WINTER WONDERLAND...** Echo Lake Park was a winter wonderland on Sunday at sunset for kids and adults who were sledding down the hill in their sleds and snowboards and climbing back up the hill.



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# Raritan Valley Rail Group Receives Planning Award

REGION - The Raritan Valley Rail Coalition (RVRC) One Seat Ride initiative received an Excellence in Planning Award from the Somerset County Planning Board on January 19 at its reorganization meeting for 2016.

Bernard V. Navatto, Jr., chairman of the planning board, gave a brief synopsis of the history of RVRC, citing the Coalition's use of its website, video and social media to further its cause as the reason for the planning award.

RVRC Chairman Peter Palmer was on hand to accept the award, thanking two people in particular for their contributions.

"While many of us have worked with RVRC for many years, we would not be where we are today without the efforts of Ken Wedeen, our secretary," Mr. Palmer said.

RVRC was established over 18 years ago for the purpose of estab-

lishing a one-seat ride on NJ Transit's Raritan Valley Line. While track connectivity existed into New York, Raritan Valley riders always had to get off in Newark and switch trains because their diesel engines were not allowed into the tunnels.

This changed in 2014 when NJ Transit began using dual-mode locomotives that could switch from diesel to electric, making it possible to have a direct ride into New York City from the Raritan Valley Line.

On March 3, 2014 the first mid-day, weekday one-seat ride train went into New York, and in January of 2015 an after 8 p.m. direct service was implemented.

"We are continuing our crusade to get complete one-seat ride access in all time slots," Mr. Palmer said. "Getting this will mean a major economic boost for all towns along the line."

# Lance Blasts Senate for Failure to Pass Refugee Reform

WESTFIELD - Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) released the following statement after U.S. Senate Democrats blocked consideration of H.R. 4038, legislation that passed the U.S. House of Representatives with a bipartisan veto-proof majority. The bill would have temporarily paused the President's refugee resettlement program and proposed reforms for a more effective vetting and monitoring process.

"I am disappointed Harry Reid and Senate Democrats chose political posturing over adding an additional needed layer of security to our refugee vetting process. We know ISIS terrorists are trying to infiltrate our nation's immigration system. The House took action and passed a serious bill with a bipartisan veto-proof majority that imposes rigorous vetting and still allows those in need to seek refuge. Yet the Senate decided to not even

proceed to debate this issue. This continued gridlock is the reason why I support ending the Senate filibuster," Mr. Lance said.

H.R. 4038 would have placed new standards for a proposed Syrian or Iraqi refugee:

The country's top security officials - the secretary of homeland security, the director of the FBI and the director of national intelligence - must unanimously certify that the individual does not present a security threat; it directs the FBI to validate that the background checks are thorough enough to keep dangerous individuals out of the country; it mandates Congress must receive certifications before admittance; and it instructs the Department of Homeland Security inspector general to assess the refugee approvals independently - making sure that high-risk individuals do not slip through the cracks.

# Contracts Awarded for Union County Bridges

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

COUNTY - The Union County Freeholders approved professional service contracts totaling \$700,000 last Thursday for four county bridges. The work is for design, construction administration and inspection services.

The bridges, Irving Street in Rahway, Hussa Street over the Peach Orchard Brook in Linden, West Tracy Drive over Green Brook in Mountainside, and Elm Street in Westfield, are to be replaced at a total cost of between \$300,000 and \$3.5 million each, according to officials. The board also approved its annual dam inspection contract of \$16,800.

To help fund the Elm Street Bridge project, Union County has received a grant of \$750,000 from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Local Aid Grant under the agency's 2015-Local Bridges Future Needs Program. Located at the intersection of Orchard Street, the existing bridge was built in 1926. It is similar to a culvert and the work will involve addressing underground utilities, according to a county release. The freeholders approved a \$193,492 contract to Remington & Vernick Engineers of Secaucus for the pre-construction services.

For the West Tracy Road bridge, built in 1935, Union County has received a grant of \$300,000. The superstructure is a reinforced concrete slab, which will be removed and replaced. The Hussa Street Bridge was built in 1956. The county received a grant of \$700,000 for construction. The Irving Street Bridge in Rahway was built in 1900 and is historic in nature. Union County has applied for an NJDOT grant of \$1 million for construction.

"One of the things I spoke about when I was sworn in as chairman two weeks ago (January 3) was the importance of transportation to the County of Union and the upgrades and to expand our transportation network, which serves hundreds of thousands of residents, people who work here and visitors as well," Freeholder Bruce Bergen said. "Tonight we got off to a great start by awarding engineering contracts for four bridges...to ensure that our county bridges are up to date with modern safety and transportation safety."

This Is It! Productions of Hoboken was awarded two contracts totaling \$229,650 for planning, production

and management services for the 2016 Summer Concert Series and for the Rhythm and Blues by the Brook Concert at Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield. During the public portion of the meeting, Bruce Paterson of Garwood was critical of \$684,000 in contracts given to Remington & Vernick Engineers of Secaucus, a firm, he said, that has donated \$10,000 over the last four years to freeholder campaigns. He also said Neglia Engineering Associates of Clark, which was awarded contracts for the Mountainside bridge and for on-call general engineering services, totaling \$156,000, gave \$19,000 to the freeholders over the last four years.

Among other contracts awarded, he was critical of T&M Associates of Middletown, which was awarded two contracts for \$172,000 for on-call engineering services and for underground storage tank design services for replacement of tanks under the Union County Department of Public Works garage in Scotch Plains. He said T&M donated \$94,000 over the last four years to the Democratic freeholder candidates.

Mr. Paterson questioned what Winning Strategies, a Washington, D.C. lobbying firm, has done for the county. The board on Thursday gave the company another one-year contract totaling \$138,000.

In other business, the board recognized 20 student winners of the 2015-2016 Union County Student Training and Enrichment Program (UC STEP). UC STEP was created to provide high-school students the opportunity to develop a county-wide community service project around a topic they feel is important, while teaching them leadership and personal growth skills and responsibility within their communities.

Team Red's campaign, "Garments & Gear - Greatness for Years," won the Civic Engagement Challenge and will be the county-wide community service project undertaken by participating Union County high schools in 2016. They will collect donations of equipment for less fortunate athletes. Locally, the team includes Erin Readie from Cranford High School; Jake Canavan, Taylor Diggs and Ian MacPherson from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School; and Shawn Ferreira from Union County Vocational-Technical High School in Scotch Plains.



# Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

## Christie Signs College Credit Bill To Benefit Boys And Girls State

Governor Chris Christie has signed the Jersey Boys State and Girls State College Credit Bill into law. This law permits institutions of higher learning in New Jersey "to grant up to three college credits to high school students who successfully complete the American Legion Jersey Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Jersey Girls State program." Every June, nearly 1,000 top-of-the-class high school students from more than 325 communities across New Jersey attend Jersey Boys State.

"This is a watershed moment in the 71-year history of American Legion Jersey Boys State," said David Bagatelle, director of American Legion Jersey Boys State. "The signing of this legislation is another affirmation in Jersey Boys State's status as a college-level program. I thank Governor Christie and all of our state's legislators who recognize the importance of civic leadership and the Jersey Boys State model."

Prior to the signing, the New Jersey State Senate voted 38-0 in favor of passage and the General Assembly voted 73-0-1. Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21st, Westfield) is one of the primary sponsors of the legislation.

## Estrada Elected 1st VP Of Transportation Authority

Union County veteran Freeholder Angel Estrada (D), who represents the county on the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), was recently elected first vice-chairman of the authority.

The NJTPA is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for 13 northern New Jersey counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren, and the cities of Newark and Jersey City.

## Pallone Pushes for Better Communications

Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6th) joined with federal and local officials at the Woodbridge Community Center to highlight the importance of having resilient communications networks, especially during emergencies. He discussed his legislation, the Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act - or the SANDY Act - which would help to ensure that cellular, television, and 9-1-1 services continue to operate, even when unexpected storms or disasters strike.

Mr. Pallone was joined by Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel and first responders at the Woodbridge Community Center, which is the federally designated Regional Emergency Evacuation and Medical Center in time of disaster. He also toured the Woodbridge OEM Emergency

## Operations Vehicle, a mobile command post for emergency events.

When Hurricane Sandy ripped through New Jersey three years ago, nearly one in four cell towers were knocked out. In some of the hardest hit areas of the state, as many as half of the towers went down - many of them stayed down for weeks.

## Christie Returns to New Jersey To Lead State During Blizzard

Governor Chris Christie left the Presidential campaign Friday to return to New Jersey ahead of last weekend's blizzard. The Governor returned to New Hampshire on Monday. The state's Primary Election is in early February.

Prior to news of the Governor's return, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (D-20th, Elizabeth) said: "If Governor Christie doesn't return to New Jersey to oversee the state's response to a blizzard and coastal flooding, then what's the point of him even being governor anymore?"

"Staying in New Hampshire would mean Gov. Christie has quit on the people of New Jersey. There is no such thing as phoning it in when you're a governor and your state is being hit by a blizzard and coastal flooding. No one should put political ambition above public safety. Hopefully, Gov. Christie ultimately does the right thing."

## Republican 9th Dist. Lawmakers Support Repealing Estate Tax

Remarkably on Governor Christie's State-of-the-State address, Senator Christopher J. Connors, Assemblyman Brian E. Rumpf and Assemblywoman DiAnne C. Gove, Republicans, say they support repealing New Jersey's estate tax, commonly referred to as the "Death Tax."

The 9th District Legislative delegation, representing Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean Counties, has placed its support behind legislative initiatives that would repeal New Jersey's Inheritance Tax and Estate Tax.

## Kean to Speak At School Choice Summit

WESTFIELD - Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21st, Westfield) will serve as a speaker and member of a bipartisan panel of legislators at the New Jersey School Choice Summit at Saint Peter's University. In commemoration of National School Choice Week, the annual conference sheds light on solutions for strengthening New Jersey's public education system. Senator Kean will address GOP plans to ensure all children have access to quality education, regardless of where they live.

The summit will be held this Friday, January 29, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Senator Kean will speak at 9:45 a.m.

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# Mallon Sworn in; Flooding From GW Devel. Discussed

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

CRANFORD—Resident Barbara Krause asked the township committee Monday night if it has followed up on her requests regarding the flooding impacts from the proposed nine-unit townhouse development at 484 Fourth Avenue in Garwood, known as the Hidi property, at the juncture of Walnut Street, would have on Cranford's Brookside detention basin and Gallows Hill Brook.

Township Engineer Carl O'Brien said he has not heard back from a message to Garwood's engineer and will call again. Wetlands take up one third of the property, which is situated near the 100-year FEMA flood zone in Cranford, she said.

The developer is appealing the November 4 court reversal of the Garwood Planning Board's approval of the condo development on a lot that would include about two-thirds impervious coverage and 33 trees to be removed, Mrs. Krause said.

Budget reviews for 2016 have begun in the township, with the fire department, TV 35 and the tax assessor each presenting their budget request for the current year. The fire department is asking for additional funds to train its young firefighters. Of the 20 rank and file firefighters, 14 have less than three years' experience, Battalion Chief Andy Stratton said. "Our job is experience. I have to throw as much training at them as possible," he said. With Cranford being situated in the center of Union County it is heavily called upon for assistance from neighboring municipalities.

The department reduces costs by working with other municipalities to share training and also by finding donations of equipment to use in training, Mr. Stratton explained. The minimum training he has budgeted for is "not fluff," he said, rather it is needed "to keep my men safe."

Surplus training, such as how to respond in a flooding event, a rescue from ice, or a building collapse was also requested. A second unit of EMT was also requested so to reduce costs of firefighters going out on medical calls as well as keeping the firefighter manpower up to take on fire related calls.

"We are going out more and more on these medical calls," Chief Daniel Czeh said. The fire department has seen a 6 percent increase year over year in the last two years, Lt. Matthew J. Lubin said, and has received

some 3,000 medical calls in a one-year period.

TV-35 is asking to improve the municipal chambers by way of new lighting and dais that will improve the sharpness and brightness of on-air broadcasts that are also available online, as well as some new portable cameras and equipment. Ed Davenport, who runs the station, also said in the contract negotiated with Comcast that the cable service provider is at no charge adding a fiber line to the baseball field that will allow TV-35 to air school baseball games live.

The engineer has begun the survey work for the Orchard Brook project but is on hold until the snow clears, Mr. O'Brien said. Under a \$62,200 contract, Maser Consulting is to provide a survey, hydraulics and preliminary design for the improvements to the brook that would assist in less flooding.

John Mallon was sworn in as a commissioner of the township committee Monday at the start of the workshop meeting. Mr. Mallon's term will expire in December, when his predecessor Robert D' Ambola's term would have expired. He was previously on the board of adjustment.

## New Events, Businesses Joined Downtown CF In '15

CRANFORD — Last year, Downtown Cranford welcomed more new businesses, continued public improvements and launched several new events for visitors to the business district. In 2015, five new restaurants opened. Downtown dining choices now include Ambeli Greek Taverna, River and Rail Mexican Cantina, Ciao Bello, Tablespoon and Siam Inn.

New shops, like Anthem Style+Accessories, Swimsuit Junction, Alfonso's Pastry Shoppe and River and Rail Wine and Spirits along with several personal service businesses like Arthur Murray Dance Studio, Esthetique Skin Care and Giggles, a modern take on children's indoor play, are attracting people of all ages.

"These new businesses and other significant investments and improvements, all contributed to a very successful year and lower than average vacancy rate," Mayor Andis Kalnins said. The downtown ended the year with a 96 percent first floor occupancy rate.

Downtown Director Kathleen Miller Prunty said interest in downtown remains very strong and several



**EXCELLENCE AWARD...** The Raritan Valley Rail Coalition (RVRC) One Seat Ride initiative received an Excellence in Planning Award from the Somerset County Planning Board on January 19 at their reorganization meeting for 2016. RVRC Chairman Peter Palmer, left, was on hand to accept the award.

## MVC to Suggest E-Driver's License Rules

TRENTON — Electronic driver's licenses could become a reality in New Jersey depending on what the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) recommends.

Under a bill sponsored by Sen. Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21st, Westfield) and signed into law by Governor Chris Christie on Tuesday, the MVC has a year to study and submit recommendations for "e-driver's licenses" and mobile applications.

Sen. Kean said that the ideal e-driver's license program would allow people to still use traditional plastic licenses if they want. He added that it would make one of the most-used government services more efficient and less costly. "Whenever possible, people should be able to access and use government services and information in a convenient and efficient manner," Sen. Kean said in a release.

"People are literally attached to their phones and devices, with many of us opting for mobile forms of payment, banking, credit and flight boarding passes, for example. Today's action puts New Jersey at the forefront of new technology and innovation in the safest way possible. We will be ahead of the curve and can learn from Iowa, which has implemented an e-driver's license pilot test, and Delaware, which has been pursuing the implementation of e-driver's licenses."

Sen. Kean also sponsored legislation signed into law in May that allows drivers to display electronic proof of automobile insurance.

Sen. Kean, who serves as minority leader in the Senate, represents the 21st Legislative District, which includes Westfield, Cranford, Garwood and Mountainside

# Westfield Mayor's Message On The Blizzard of 2016

WESTFIELD—January 26, 2016 at 7 p.m. - Yesterday the Department of Public Works worked to widen travel lanes as needed, with special attention to areas around the schools. The snow in commuter Lots 3 (south side train station) and Lot 6 (Watterson Street) was removed with front-end loaders, maximizing the number of available spaces. Crews also began addressing sidewalks abutting public parking lots. Tomorrow the crews will continue to clear sidewalks and address any roadways or areas that warrant additional attention. Next on the list is attending to our municipal parks and using front-end loaders to remove snow from the downtown area.

When extraordinary snow events occur, I ride along in a plow for several hours so I can gauge the conditions and observe the plowing operations and progress first hand. I want to reassure residents that the Department of Public Works is putting forth its maximum effort.

All Public Works employees (with the exception of one who was out of state) responded to the call and worked 35 hours straight. For safety reasons, they were sent home early Sunday evening to rest, check on their own families, and dig their own driveways out. By 5 a.m. on Monday morning, everyone was back on duty.

I also want to brief residents on some of the preparations that take place before a major weather event occurs. First, long before the predicted blizzard, the town is thinking about such an event. Thanks to Police Chief [David] Wayman, the town has acquired numerous pieces of military surplus equipment at no cost to help with any possible scenario. For example, once regular patrol vehicles were having difficulty navigating through the snow, the police immediately placed military surplus Hummers into service, ensuring patrols were out throughout the blizzard. Further, amongst other functions, the Hummers are capable of assisting with medical transportation, as may be needed. A military surplus heavy duty tow truck acquired over the summer had to be used on numerous occasions to extricate stuck snow plows and front-end loaders. Right before the snow, the mobile command center was readied in the event of a power outage affecting our 9-1-1 system. The fire department installed chains on the wheels of its engines. The DPW mounts plows on

every available piece of equipment and performs preventative maintenance to avoid breakdowns from the heavy-duty wear and tear of prolonged plowing. Staffing levels are assigned.

Thank you to our public works employees, our police department, our fire department, and our volunteer rescue squad for braving the extreme elements throughout the blizzard.

Thank you Westfield residents.

I want to thank our residents for staying safe; and for their patience and cooperation during and after this unprecedented event. Over two feet of snow fell in approximately 11 hours, the conditions made worse by sustained high winds and wind gusts. I want to offer special thanks to those residents who dug out the fire hydrants in front of their homes, to those who checked on and assisted their neighbors, and those who offered to feed the town employees that were working long hours. I understand the personal frustration. A resident may feel when snowed in, especially residents of tertiary streets, cul de sacs and dead ends, while the crews necessarily attended to arterial, collector, and secondary roadways. At times like this, it may be difficult to understand that the town is mobilizing its resources to best address all the residents and all the 380 streets in as timely a manner as possible with the equipment and resources available. To be sure, there are many competing demands. Unfortunately, the plows just can't be on every street simultaneously.

To the residents who provided feedback, both positive and negative, regarding plowing operations, thank you. All comments received are welcome and all will be included in post-event reviews. Please be aware, however, that it would not be prudent for the town to maintain a higher level of staffing or purchase the additional equipment to manage a snowfall event that may occur once every 20+ years. The town is well equipped to handle the average snowfall of 23.8 inches for the entire season. We received more than that amount in approximately 11 hours.

See it all on the Web!  
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## Digital Dental Radiography

Digital Dental Radiography has been around since the late 1980's. When compared to conventional x-rays, digital x-rays have many benefits.

1. They are more environmentally friendly, as there are no toxic chemicals to dispose of and they produce no waste.
2. It provides instant imaging. There is no developing process which saves time for both the patient and health professional.
3. The digital images can be shared more easily with another health professional, saving the patients time and money in the form of duplication charges.
4. Storage, organization, stability and ease of chronological comparisons of past radiographs are also great advantages of digitalization.
5. The most important feature of digital radiography is the significant 80 - 90% reduction of radiation required to produce an image.

According to the National Council on Radiation Protection, we are all exposed to background radiation on average about 300 mrem per year. (A unit of radiation is measured in rem, and there are 1000 millirem per rem).

1. 228 mrem breathing
2. 28 mrem eating and drinking food
3. 30 mrem cosmic radiation
4. 25 mrem airport x-ray
5. 21 mrem the ground and surrounding buildings
6. 10 mrem cooking with natural gas
7. 2 mrem sleeping next to someone

So what is considered a safe level of radiation? According to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, there is no current data that confirms the occurrence of cancer at radiation levels below 10,000 mrems. Safe yearly full body occupational exposure levels established by the EPA are 5000 mrem per adult and 500 mrem per minor above the background radiation levels.

So how much exposure are you really getting from digital x-rays?

1. 0.4 mrem one digital dental radiograph
2. 1.6 mrem check-up (4 bitewings)
3. 7 mrem complete full mouth series of 18 digital x-rays (taken once every 3-5 years)
4. 1.5 mrems A panoramic radiograph.

Given these numbers, one can see that digital dental x-rays are very safe and expose you to less radiation than just breathing and well below the limits established by the EPA.

In light of this information, forgoing dental x-rays is ill-advised. Waiting until one has pain before consenting for a radiographic examination, more often than not, results in the need for a much more costly procedure than had the problem been diagnosed sooner. So help yourself. Allow your dentist to take radiographs and be your dental health professional.



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## We're Covered With Snow: Now, Where Does It All Go?

Last weekend winter storm Jonas, the inaugural blizzard of 2015-2016, dumped an average of two feet of snow across the northeast; some sections hit with more, others with less. While Jonas departed by Sunday, scores of area towns spent the remainder of this week digging out from often huge snow drifts generated by powerful winds.

The depth of the snow complicated plowing efforts for residents and government employees alike, limiting street parking and rendering some municipal lots inaccessible until midday on Monday. Train commuters were stymied in their ability to get to and from their jobs; even folks employed locally were hard-pressed to find a parking spot. Parents juggled schedules while schools were closed. Some parked cars remained immobile for an extended period, surrounded or covered by packed snow.

Okay, we're a hearty bunch, and we made it through the storm. This wasn't our first rodeo, as they say. Nevertheless, we're still dealing with all Jonas left in his wake. Colossal mounds of snow continued to dot the local landscape this week, particularly in areas where large lots had been plowed, and promise to be with us for a while yet. These frozen behemoths not only pose an inconvenience, but can create a safety hazard for pedestrians and motorists by restricting visibility. Plus, we're only at the tail end of January. Spring is still 53 days away

(not that we're getting anxious here). We probably haven't seen the last of the white stuff.

A potpourri of suggestions has been offered on how to deal with the piled snow from Jonas and other potential storms that may come our way before the season is done.

One idea: Why not dump it locally, such as in the parking lot of the closed PathMark store on South Avenue in Garwood.

Another suggestion: somewhere along Route 22, or better yet, a county park, such as Oak Ridge in Clark. How about one of the local parks or fields, or at the athletic complex in Garwood?

Other recommendations have included dumping the excess snow into the Rahway River or the Arthur Kill. There are environmental factors involved with these options, of course, because of the salt mixed in with the snow. But then again, storm sewers also lead to these waterways.

We encourage the leaders of our local communities to work together on finding the most effective solution to addressing the accumulated snow — perhaps a cooperative endeavor among neighboring towns in which cost and facilities could be shared. While we hope another major storm is not right around the corner, we can never know what Old Man Winter has up his sleeve. Meanwhile, cheer for the sun and sublimation.

## State DOT, Local DPW Crews, Among Those to Be Commended

New Jersey and the tri-state area experienced one of the largest blizzards in history this past weekend. The storm caused schools to be closed Monday and Tuesday; some town government offices were shut and municipal parking lots still were unplowed as of Monday. Neighbors helped each other and listened to the advice of emergency management officials, all while our state Department of Transportation (DOT) and local public works crews worked around the clock to clear our roads and parking lots.

While some may complain about the condition of their residential streets and the fact parking lots were not plowed at all or sufficiently, we believe workers should be commended for their efforts thus far. Clearing our local roads and highways of two feet of snow is no small task. It tied up our local Westfield DPW to the point where they did not get to clear the commuter parking lots near the train station until Monday morning. The crews in our towns worked 36 hours straight before getting time to go home and sleep before returning to snow-clearing efforts Mon-

day morning. We are sure that, eventually, large mounds of piled-up snow will be moved to other locations, such as parks, to alleviate blind spots for motorists while also creating wider streets and more space in municipal parking lots.

At the state level, the DOT was out in force and Governors Chris Christie and Andrew Cuomo were in contact on regional efforts such as the decision to shut bridges over the Hudson River into New York on Saturday afternoon as a safety precaution.

Also, kudos to our fire and police departments. They had to be out in the storm to address such emergencies as car fires and the Westfield Trader Joe's roof collapse. Union County also was out clearing roadways, as large storms require a regional approach.

The public additionally receives our praise for their patience following this storm as crews continue to work to remove the snow. And thank you power companies for keeping the electricity on and all of us warm.

## Letters to the Editor

### Thanks for the Quick Thinking of The Westfield Fire Department

I want to thank Battalion Chief Ryan and his crew from the Westfield Fire Department for their efficient and quick response. Last week we arrived home at 12:30 a.m. after being out of town for a couple of days to no heat and an electrical brownout.

I was also concerned about a potential carbon monoxide situation with the blower not working on the furnace. So I called the fire department.

They arrived and after describing the problem, they figured out it was

the electrical connection on the exterior within one minute. The carbon monoxide was checked and deemed safe.

Then they called PSE&G directly and service was reconnected within an hour. Thanks to the quick thinking of the Westfield Department, a big problem was alleviated before the pipes froze just as our cold snap and Blizzard of 2016 was approaching. Thank you.

Carol Hewit  
 Westfield

### Tiny Tim of Scotch Plains Says Thanks for Carol Night Support

The members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Tiny Tim Fund Board would like to thank all those who participated in the annual Carol Night event on December 3 and made it a successful fundraiser for the organization.

Special thanks are extended to Mr. Tom Britt, proprietor of the Stage House Inn and Tavern on Park Avenue in Scotch Plains, who graciously invited us to use his restaurant as the collection site for the donation canisters. He and his staff provided refreshments and hospitality that were enjoyed by the caroling participants.

The Tiny Tim Fund is a non-profit organization that provides financial

assistance to children of Scotch Plains and Fanwood in need of medical or dental services, psychological testing, prescriptions or medical supplies and equipment.

The organization was established in 1983 and is run by a volunteer board of trustees comprised of residents of Scotch Plains and Fanwood with diverse backgrounds in fields such as education, medicine, religion, social work and business. Donations and/or referrals for assistance can be made in writing to: The Tiny Tim Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 181, Fanwood, N.J., 07023.

Tiny Tim Board of Trustees  
 Scotch Plains

### Air Force One; That's The Price Of Running The United States

A reader of this paper recently criticized the lack of "fair and balanced" (a Fox News slogan) reporting in "New Jersey liberal papers." The reader felt that these papers "go after [Governor Chris] Christie relentlessly" yet never report about the costs of "outlandish" trips taken by the First Family.

He insinuates that the taxpayers are not only paying the bill, but that President Obama has been adding the costs of his family vacations to the "close to \$9 trillion in debt [incurred] since 2008."

The President receives a salary, set by Congress, from which he pays for his family vacations (food and lodging). So yes, we the people, the taxpayers, pay the President's salary, and indirectly, his vacations. It is no different than how my employer pays me a salary from which I pay for my family vacations.

Whether the First Family spends their week at home around Washington, D.C. or whether the Obamas are all vacationing in Hawaii, we the taxpayers pay for the Secret Service to protect them.

Even if I disagree with a President's politics and decisions, I would not want the President of the United

States, the leader of the greatest democracy on earth, to fly commercial and not be able to travel with some of his relatives (as some of us sometimes do). As such, we the taxpayers foot the bill for the First Family to fly on Air Force One. That's the price of running the United States.

I am glad the aforementioned reader and I can agree on the impropriety committed by Governor Christie and the close scrutiny given to him by our local media. I am also not a fan of the steadily growing national debt, but I cannot attribute that solely to the Obama administration.

The government surplus left to us by the Clinton administration and that Congress was wiped out by events begun during the George W. Bush administration (the Afghan and Iraqi wars, the banking/mortgage crisis). These events caused our deficit to balloon well before 2008 (President Bush's last year; President Obama was inaugurated in January 2009).

Until we can get our country out of these wars and regulate Wall Street, we the taxpayers will have to pay these bills too.

Xavier Sanchez  
 Scotch Plains

### County Sheriff Joseph Cryan Pledges to Build on Progress

Last year was a year of change for the Union County Sheriff's Office, as I was sworn in to my first full three-year term. We had a year of progress, with arrests up almost 40 percent, the automation of our time and attendance systems, a full-scale training exercise for response to an active shooter at the courthouse complex, the addition of report management automation and GPS positioning in our cars and the start of implementation of body worn cameras.

We also welcomed over 1.2 million unique visitors to the courthouse complex without incident or complaint, transported over 15,000 prisoners with no incidents, and initiated a new commitment to training for our officers and clerical personnel.

In addition to training our officers, we have significantly advanced the physical security of the courthouse complex through improved security screening processes and a new camera and monitoring system.

Our ability to see and monitor all areas within the courthouse complex has been dramatically upgraded, providing additional security for all concerned. Also, in this past year we developed a new website (ucnj.org/sheriff), developed the "Union County Sheriff's Office" mobile app that is available for free download in both the Apple Store and the Play Store for Android devices, and established a Facebook presence (Sheriff Joe Cryan). We welcome you to follow us, and we certainly solicit your input.

A source of pride for our office is our employees' commitment to excellence and professionalism in their

employment here at the Sheriff's Office, and their commitment as private citizens to the communities they live in and serve.

Our Sheriff's personnel are your neighbors, and share the same values all folks do. They are coaches of Little League baseball, softball, soccer, basketball and football for our youth, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters here in Union County; they are troop leaders of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Brownies and Girl Scouts. Our personnel are members of numerous first aid squads, volunteer fire departments and Junior ROTC.

They are school class mothers, PTA members, they volunteer for beach clean ups, volunteer with the community foodbank in Hillside, rescue dogs, volunteer at animal shelters and participate with The Center for Hope and Hospice.

More than half of our employees contribute regularly to a variety of charities. Last year alone they donated more than 100 pints of blood. The people I'm proud to lead are members of civic organizations such as the Elks, the Knights of Columbus, VFW, American Legion and many more. They come to work as professionals each day, perform random acts of kindness more often than I can list, and every day make Union County and their communities a better place to live.

2016 will provide more challenges for us, as each work day does. Building on our foundation of success, I'm confident we are ready to meet what may lie ahead.

Joseph Cryan  
 Sheriff, Union County

ABCDICTIONOPQRSTDECEPTIONUVWXYZ

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. Cracche — To scratch
2. Crispation — The act of curling, or state of being curled
3. Perfricate — To rub thoroughly
4. Sparth — A battle ax or mace

- CHELONIAN**
1. Any fern or wallflower
  2. In India, a disciple or novice
  3. Pertaining to tortoises or turtles
  4. Having pincerlike claws, such as crabs or lobsters

- APOCRUSTIC**
1. An agnostic or non believer
  2. An astrigent or repellent
  3. Taking away or diminishing the appetite
  4. One given to falsehoods; prevarications

- MILTIER**
1. To become milder, as the weather
  2. To mix; mingle
  3. A male fish during breeding time
  4. A cornfield

- PLEACH**
1. To interweave, as branches of trees
  2. To flatten
  3. To saturate; soak
  4. To rub thoroughly

See more letters on page 17

## Letters to the Editor

### Why Were School Lots Plowed, But Not WF Train Station?

I am writing to voice my frustration at the lack of communication on behalf of the town regarding the Westfield train station's parking lot. When I arrived at the train station Monday around 6:30 a.m. — it wasn't plowed.

There was absolutely no parking available, which was extremely inconvenient. Not only was the train station not accessible, but I was told that all school parking lots were plowed (although school was closed Monday). Can you please explain to me, why this decision was made?

I understand that we received a significant amount of snow over a short period of time, therefore I'm sure all resources for snow removal were being utilized, however there was absolutely no communication to Westfield residents letting them know the train station would be closed Monday morning. It would be beneficial to residents to employ a communications plan that makes people aware of situations like this. There are numerous communication tools at the town's disposal including but not limited to: email, social media, SMS, and phone.

Why was communication non-existent?

I've reached out to the town numerous times Monday and have yet to receive a call back, or email response back. Was hoping if you reached out — you might get a better response regarding their communications plan.

Cara Tabatchnick  
 Westfield

### High School Math Quiz:

How many gallons of water fell in Union County during the blizzard?



**Union County Freeholders**  
 Elizabeth, New Jersey  
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 Al Faella, Mgr. afaella@ucnj.org  
 Bruce Bergen, chair  
 bbergen@ucnj.org  
 Sebastian D'Elia, Public Info.  
 (908) 527-4419  
 sdelia@ucnj.org

LET IT GO, ETHEL.  
 JUST LET IT GO.

WESTFIELD

FLORIDA!

SNOW BALLS

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<b>State LD-21</b> Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R) 425 North Ave. E. Westfield, N.J. 07090 (908) 232-3673 Asm. Jon Brannick (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 Asm. Jim Kennedy (D) 34 E. Cherry St. Rahway, N.J. 07065 (732) 943-2660 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>LD-21</b> includes Westfield, Mountainside, Garwood, Summit and Cranford.	<b>LD-22</b> includes Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Plainfield, Clark and Linden.	<b>12th Congressional District</b> Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D) 850 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 201, Ewing, N.J. 08628 (609) 883-0026 [Fanwood, Plainfield and most of Scotch Plains are in the 12th Congressional District]

senkean@njleg.org, senscutari@njleg.org  
 asbrannick@njleg.org, asmunoz@njleg.org  
 asmkenney@njleg.org, asmgreen@njleg.org

## Resident Questions Scotch Plains' Police Director Plan

Last week we learned that Scotch Plains' municipal management and political leadership are yet again intent on fast-tracking something of major importance to the town. This time it is the idea that Scotch Plains no longer needs a chief of police and instead needs a "police director," with the director having authority over the police department.

Our police department is well run and good at its job, so where this idea came from is a bit of a mystery. No public discussion was scheduled ahead of the introduction of the police director ordinance.

There must have been substantial negative non-public feedback because town management and political leadership removed the ordinance from the agenda at the last minute and announced that it will instead be considered at next week's council meeting.

Doing a little research, I've learned that a "police director" in New Jersey is a civilian position. The director is not a sworn officer and does not have police powers. He or she can't carry a firearm under the same rules as does a sworn officer, can't drive a police car, can't conduct traffic stops, can't make arrests, can't issue firearm permits, can't generally request or read criminal investigative reports or criminal histories, generally can't be in charge of investigations, cannot have access to internal affairs investigative files, may not have access to confidential police reports or other confidential law enforcement documents, nor may he or she access the police department's computer terminal for the New Jersey Crime Information Center or for the National Crime Information Center. A "chief of police" can do all of these things.

I'd like to make four specific suggestions if the council continues down this path.

The ordinance should require the director to live in Scotch Plains. Our current police chief lives in town. I don't think the chief was required to do so under the law, but presumably we can require a civilian director to do so, within a reasonable period of time after appointment. Having the police director actually live in Scotch Plains obviously would be a benefit for residents.

The ordinance should require the director to do the job full-time. It should be clear that the director may not also be employed elsewhere, whether part-time, as a consultant, on a *per diem* basis or otherwise. The job will probably pay at least \$100,000 a year (plus benefits and likely the exclusive use of a new Chevy Suburban) and in exchange for that we ought to get exclusive effort from the person.

Plus having only the one job will reduce the risk of conflicts of interest with another employer and will also help ensure that only people inter-

ested in actually performing the job will apply.

To the extent permitted by state law, the ordinance ought to require that the manager's decision to hire or fire someone as the police director be confirmed by the town council (just like the U.S. Senate confirms important presidential appointments.) These decisions should not be solely within the discretion of the town manager.

While involving the political sphere in these decisions runs a risk of political shenanigans, it might serve as a counterweight to a politically oriented town manager. Town council members are subject to re-election by Scotch Plains residents and that hopefully will cause them to take the town's interests into account.

Lastly, since the director position is essentially a new layer of management between the police department and the town government, the council should examine whether it is appropriate to reduce the town manager's compensation.

It seems likely that the director will supervise the police department much as the manager does now. (If this isn't the case, then it is pretty hard to see what the point is of this idea, unless it's so that someone not a sworn officer can get hired to do a small portion of the chief's job, which seems pretty dumb to me.) The police department is about 20 percent of the town's operations by dollars, even after last year's police budget cuts. If taxpayers will be paying more than \$100,000 a year for someone to take on a big chunk of the town manager's current responsibilities, then the manager's compensation should be reduced. The council should not expect taxpayers to foot the bill for two salaries when only one will be doing the work.

**Rich Fortunato**  
Scotch Plains

## Kean to Speak At School Choice Summit

Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21st, Westfield) will serve as a speaker and member of a bipartisan panel of legislators at the New Jersey School Choice Summit at Saint Peter's University.

In commemoration of National School Choice Week, the annual conference sheds light on solutions for strengthening New Jersey's public education system. As a distinguished panelist, Senator Kean will address New Jersey Senate Republican plans

## Letters to the Editor

### In 2015, Westfield Residents Had 220 Newborn Babies

The Westfield Board of Health met on January 11 for its annual reorganization meeting. One new member, Jaclyn Kirna, was appointed by the Mayor with approval of Town Council. Thomas O'Neill, Dr. Maria LoGrippe and Dr. David Weinman were reappointed. The Board re-elected me as president and Mr. O'Neill as vice-president.

In 2015, Westfield residents had 220 newborn babies, almost the same as last year. There were 92 marriages among residents, an increase of 12 or 15 percent. Another 50 marriages occurred in town among nonresidents. One hundred seventy-seven residents died, a decrease of 17 or 9 percent.

Seventeen residents were reported with Lyme disease in 2015, making it the most common reportable communicable disease in town; we will address Lyme disease in the near future. Four residents were reported with pertussis (whooping cough), one with chickenpox and one mumps. No residents had measles, rubella (German measles), diphtheria or tetanus, attesting to the effectiveness of these vaccines. The Westfield Regional Health Department will continue its childhood and adult vaccination programs.

Eighteen residents had bacterial infections that are often foodborne, such as campylobacter, coliform, salmonella and shigella. The Health Department will enhance its restaurant inspections with new tools for surveillance.

In December, 15 retail food establishments were inspected and 14 were satisfactory. One restaurant was conditionally satisfactory, its third in a row, and will be called to a Board hearing in February.

In 2015, the Board had six court

cases. Two cases concerned tobacco sales to minors, two concerned airborne lead contamination by painters and one concerned a restaurant inspection. In each of these the health department's actions were upheld by the court. One case involved both engendering mosquito breeding, which was upheld by the court, and lack of proof of garbage service, which was dismissed as part of a plea bargain.

The Board recommends that residents should be prepared for the next severe weather emergency. Make or restock your disaster supply kit with at least a three days supply: 1) water, one gallon per person per day; 2) nonperishable food; 3) medications; and 4) flashlight and radio, with batteries. Also, please have a plan to aid family members, take care of pets, and safely shut off utilities. Finally, if you use a portable generator, plan to locate it in a well-ventilated space away from your house.

Please have your heating system checked and have a functioning battery-operated carbon monoxide alarm in your home. Carbon monoxide from a generator or heater can initially cause headache, nausea and dizziness and can be deadly.

The health department is sponsoring health screenings with Overlook Medical Center at the Overlook Downtown Center, 357 Springfield Avenue, in Summit. Cholesterol screening will be on Monday, February 1, and bone density screening on Monday, February 8, both from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a \$10 charge each. Free blood pressure and diabetes screenings will also be available. For more information and to register, please contact the Overlook Community Health Department at 1-800-247-9580.

Information about all of the Department's activities is available at [www.westfieldnj.gov/health](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/health). The complete minutes of the January 11 meeting will be posted after review and approval at our February 1 meeting, which starts at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal building. At that meeting, we will discuss our goals for 2016. As always, the public is invited to attend.

**Lawrence Budnick, MD, MPH**  
President, Westfield Bd. of Health

## Garwood Elected Officials Did What They Were Elected To Do

For those that are not aware, Garwood Republican Club President Sal Piarulli is a marketing consultant. Sadly, marketing skills do not equal truth and substance. In looking at the world of social media, I am quite honestly disgusted by what I see the Republicans turning our small, lovely town of Garwood into: A town where spin trumps facts for the benefit of a few.

I follow the Facebook pages of both political parties in town. The Garwood Democrats page recently posted something positive about cost-savings from the use of Fanwood's Toro machine to make clearing Garwood Borough sidewalks during snow storms easier. We clearly did not have to purchase this equipment, which means it saved tax money.

I have seen our DPW out there snow blowing around the municipal building in past years, so this is obviously more efficient which represents even further savings (time is money to use a marketing catchphrase).

Although skeptical at first about the deal with Fanwood for administrative and equipment sharing, I am pleased to see it is working. My garbage has still been picked up twice per week without fail, leaves were picked up in a timely manner and now snow is being cleared just as well as any other year. This reaffirms something I, along with many other residents, always believed to be true — Garwood has a top notch DPW.

The Republican Club President has accused the Democrats of "patronizing" the DPW staff by highlighting these cost savings, which is absolutely ridiculous. It is in fact the Republicans who have been patronizing the men that do the actual labor — picking up garbage, filling potholes, snow plowing, etc. — by stating they needed a full-time superintendent to supervise them 40 hours a week to be successful. They have been doing a spectacular job as always, even after this shared service agreement passed in the summer and the full-time superintendent was eliminated.

For those pledging in their campaign to "make government do more with less," the Republicans should thank the Democrats and fellow Republican Mike Martin for making the difficult decision this year. They've successfully streamlined government and saved us taxpayer

dollars without any negative impact to services.

It is obvious Mr. Piarulli is less interested in truth and more interested in twisting facts into marketing for his fellow GOPers as seen in his recent tirade of posts on the Democratic page.

He claims we are "giving Fanwood \$40,000 to borrow something." He knows full well that Garwood pays Fanwood \$40,000 per year, which is mainly for administration sharing. The downsizing from a full-time superintendent at \$110,000 per year to paying \$40,000 to Fanwood for a certified public works manager to supervise Garwood part-time, saves Garwood \$70,000. That is simple math.

In addition to saving \$70,000 strictly on administrative costs, Garwood is saving money on equipment. We didn't have to spend money to purchase our own Toro to clear snow from sidewalks, to winterize the irrigation system at the recreation complex and many more items which are now available to us as part of the deal.

We can also use their equipment when ours is down, such as the leaf vacuum this past fall. How is this in any way not a win for the taxpayers of Garwood?

Our elected officials did what they were elected to do: Make tough decisions for the benefit of the taxpayer. The DPW has proved the greatness of their service is thanks to all of the seven full-time laborers and not a single individual.

Thank you to the men of the Garwood DPW for all you do.

**Vincent Kearney**  
Garwood

## Chamber of Commerce Announces Seminar

Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce will present a Winter Seminar Speaker Series at The Crossroads, 78 North Avenue, Garwood from 5 to 7:30 p.m., February 15, featuring Jim Charette, "The Answer is Yes, But First You Have to Ask."

The seminar includes a buffet supper. The Cost for GWACC Members is \$30; for nonmembers: \$40. There is an additional charge of \$10 at the door without a reservation. To purchase tickets, go to [GWACCNJ.com](http://GWACCNJ.com) or call (908) 233-3021.

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While sellers and buyers can expect a professional home inspection to reveal the condition of the home's structure and systems, it may not provide extensive detail about the exterior landscape. This can be a significant oversight because soil grading, trees, shrubs, irrigation systems, decks, and patios can exert a great deal of influence over the condition of the rest of the property. For instance, a diseased tree or overhanging tree limb can pose the threat of damage should it fall or break. Soil that is improperly sloped around the foundation can direct water toward the basement and lead to foundation issues. These and other outdoor issues must be evaluated

as part of a comprehensive home inspection in the interests of all involved.

When considering a real estate purchase, having a certified professional thoroughly inspect the premises is critical. Items like improper grading can cause water to be directed towards the structure, adversely affecting its integrity. We will walk you through the transaction, step by step. Helping you to realize your real estate goals is our #1 priority. Contact us today to arrange an initial meeting at our conveniently located office.

*HINT: Cutting down a single large tree can cost upwards of \$1,500, which is an expense that should be anticipated.*

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## Marjorie Gushard, 95, Loved Cranford; Active With Churches, Scouting, Politics

Marjorie D. Gushard, 95, of Cranford, N.J., died peacefully of natural causes on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

Born September 30, 1920, in Flushing, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late Lloyd and Elizabeth (Knapp) Dressner.

In 1938 Marjorie attended Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pa. where she met the love of her life, William Howard (Gus) Gushard, from Philadelphia, Pa.

In 1942 they were married and spent the next 47 years enjoying their home on Staten Island, N.Y., and their farmhouse in Paintersville, Pa. Over the years she taught Sunday school, was a Cub Scout den mother, volunteered in local political campaigns, and was in charge of distribution of the film *Jesus* to churches on Staten Island. She made an excellent pot roast dinner every Sunday.

Gus died in September 1989. Marjorie spent the years since his passing living in their townhouse in Cranford, N.J., temporary quarters they bought in 1983 to ease the transition before his retirement and their permanent move to Paintersville. As Marge would tell everyone, their temporary quarters has served her now for more than 30 years, and she expects Gus will sternly question her, "What took you so long?" when she sees him again.

The best thing Marjorie ever did in her life, she often said, was to go on a tour of Israel. She adored everything she saw there and held her Bible open on her lap at every site. Marjorie loved living in Cranford; she enjoyed the friendliness of the local shopkeepers, the architecture of the large old homes, and especially the happiness she felt on her beloved river walks.

Almost daily for the past five years, Marjorie would go around the block between "the boats" and the 9/11 Memorial Park, chatting easily for a few minutes with and waving a hearty hello to those she met along the way. She would note the level of the river water, count the number of geese and ducks, and call "woof woof" to every passing dog. Marjorie had a deep faith in God and never stopped thanking Him for all His mercies towards her throughout her life.

She is survived by a daughter, Linda (Lawrence), of Westfield, and two sons, Wayne and Robert (Elizabeth); nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gray Memorial Funeral Home, 12 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, N.J. Go to [grayfuneralhomes.com](http://grayfuneralhomes.com) for condolences. Interment will be at the Lind Memorial Cemetery in Lewistown, Pa.   
 January 28, 2016

## — Obituaries —

### Lynn B. Tipson, 96, Retired Executive; Was Presbyterian Church Trustee

Lynn Baird Tipson died on Monday, January 18, in Basking Ridge, N.J., at the age of 96.



Lynn B. Tipson

He was born in Westfield, where his father was Mayor in 1928-29, and resided there, except for the war years, until 1967. He served on the Board of Trustees of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield. Mr. Tipson was a retired business executive and a 1941 graduate of Princeton University. He also attended the Hill School and later received an MBA from New York University.

Mr. Tipson served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and piloted 11 missions in a B-24 bomber

until he was shot down, hospitalized and sent to a German prison camp until liberation.

He is survived by his wife of 74 years, Yvonne Gaston Tipson; four children, Lynn Jr. of Gettysburg, Pa., Frederick of Moorestown, N.J., David of Glenside, Pa. and Suzy Hall of Milford, Ohio; 11 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 30, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Basking Ridge, with burial at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.   
 January 28, 2016

### Bernice Davies Dodds, Enjoyed Family, Golf, Bowling, Bridge and Travel

Bernice Davies Dodds passed peacefully on this life on Saturday, January 23, in Basking Ridge, N.J.

"Bernie" was born on October 29, 1923 in Newburgh, N.Y., where she grew up. After graduating from Virginia Intermont College she met the love of her life and father of her four children, Bob Davies. Bernice and Bob lived in several towns in central New Jersey before settling in Westfield in 1957.

She was involved in numerous civic and recreational groups as well as being a long-term member of Echo Lake Country Club. Bernice was a loving and supportive mother to her active four children, and a good friend to many with whom she golfed, bowled, played bridge, traveled and generally had barrels of fun. In the early 1970s Bernie and Bob moved to Durban, South Africa, on assignment with Chicago Bridge and Iron. Tragically, just before their return to the States in 1976, Bob was killed in an automobile accident.

Bernie returned to Westfield and later married Ted Klein, an old friend she had known from Echo Lake for many years. Sadly, Ted passed away from cancer. After some time she renewed her friendship with Bill Dodds,

another old friend from Echo Lake, and they were eventually married. They spent many happy years together in Westfield, Jay Peak, Vt. and at their condo at Mariner Sands in Stuart, Fla. She and Bill spent their twilight years at Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge, prior to his passing.

Bernice is survived by her four children, Dwight Davies and his wife, Jennifer, of Richmond Hill, Ga., Pat Davies and his wife, Sharon, of Avon, Conn., Jeff Davies of Ponte Vedra, Fla. and Jody Ketcham of Fayson Lakes, N.J. She also is survived by five grandchildren, Devin, Drew, Rob, Kim and Bryce, and was predeceased by her beloved granddaughter, Casey Ketcham. Bernice also has six great-grandchildren, Bob, Kelley, Hannah, Katie, Sarah and Drew.

Bernie's family would like to offer a special thanks to the staff at Fellowship Village, which took wonderful care of her, especially Jean and Mike. Bernice will be buried in Westfield in a private ceremony on Monday, February 1.

Donations in Bernice's memory can be made to the Frost Valley YMCA in Claryville, N.Y. For online expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit [www.grayfuneralhomes.com](http://www.grayfuneralhomes.com).   
 January 28, 2016

## Mountainside Library Lists Programs For February

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Public Library has announced its calendar of programs for February.

Tuesday Night Movies will include *Mr. Holmes* (PG) on February 2, *'71* (PG-13) on February 9, *Seabiscuit* (PG-13) on February 16, and *The American President* (PG-13) on February 23. The films begin at 6:30 p.m., except for *Seabiscuit*, which starts at 6 p.m.

Brown Bag Academy: The Great Courses will continue on Mondays at 1:15 p.m. with "A History of European Art." This course will end on February 29, after which a new Great Course will be selected. Participants are asked to bring their lunch; coffee, tea and cookies will be served for dessert.

"Journey to the Ancient Middle Kingdom" will be presented on Thursday, February 4, at 7 p.m. For the past 5,000 years, China has amassed a diverse legacy of heroes, myths and values that still resonate in the present. An audio-visual presentation will take attendees on a journey spanning thousands of years of traditional culture,

classical dance and the sounds of ancient musical instruments. Shen Yun Promotions International, a non-profit organization with a mission to revive authentic Chinese culture, is sponsoring this event.

"Friday Operas on Film Series" is scheduled for February 12 at 1 p.m., sponsored by the T. Robel Hill Foundation and presented by Mena Clemson. *The Pearl Fishers*, by Georges Bizet, will be presented this month. This recording, performed at the Teatro La Fenice di Venezia and conducted by Marcello Viotti in 2004, stars Annick Massis and Yasu Nakajima.

"Saturday Musical Getaways" will be featured February 13 at 2 p.m. The City Winds Trio, a professional chamber group consisting of flute, oboe and bassoon, will perform Ragtime music from composers Scott Joplin and Charles "Lucky" Roberts. This program will include live music, movement games, introduction to rhythms and a chance to try a percussion instrument. Through its educational program Musical Innovations, City Winds Trio introduces young children to classical music and the instruments found within an orchestra.

"Guided Meditation for Inner Peace" will be offered Thursday, February 18, at 7:30 p.m. During this monthly program, participants are invited to explore and experience evidence-based meditation techniques for inner peace, overall well-being and stress reduction. This month, Sally Youngmans will teach a self-guided meditation technique using visualization and prompts.

To register for these programs, visit the library or call (908) 233-0115. The Mountainside Public Library is located at 1 Constitution Plaza, Mountainside.



LUNCHES TO SHARE...Members of the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains display bagged lunches they prepared for the Salvation Army program entitled "Sharing Lunches." This outreach effort was conducted in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose birthday was observed January 18 and who advocated service to others.

## College Club Honors MLK By 'Sharing Lunches'

FANWOOD/SCOTCH PLAINS — In an effort to honor and respond to one of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s inspirational sayings, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains made 70 bagged lunches for the Salvation Army program called "Sharing Lunches."

The Salvation Army has supported those in need in the United States without discrimination for more than 130 years, through a variety of services ranging from providing food for the hungry and relief for disaster victims to assistance for the disabled, elderly, homeless and ill and opportunities for underprivileged children.

The lunch bags contained a sandwich, small snack of chips, pretzels or granola, a piece of fruit, a juice box and a few cookies. Club members donated supplies and as-

sembled the bagged lunches for delivery to the Salvation Army unit in Plainfield.

The College Club performs a monthly outreach initiative to address local community needs and also offers, on the third Monday in the months of September through April, free programs at The Chelsea at Fanwood on various topics that are open to the public.

The next program, on February 15, will spotlight local historian George Pierson, who will present stories of two veterans of the American Civil War. While soldiers in the same conflict, they had very different experiences and memories about the United States and its struggles from 1860 to 1865.

For more information about the club's monthly programs, go to [collegeclubfsp-org.doodlekit.com](http://collegeclubfsp-org.doodlekit.com).

*Probitas Verus Honos*

**FEBRUARY 2016**  
EVENTS AT THE WESTFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
550 East Broad Street, Westfield 908.789.4090 [www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org)  
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am - 9:00 pm  
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Closed February 15 for Presidents' Day

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS (Check website for sign up information)		
2/4	7:00 pm	Computer Class: Genealogy on the Web (advanced level)
2/5	1:30 pm	TGIF! Edison: The Father of Invention (video)
2/6	2:00 pm	Life in an Edwardian Manor by Judith Krall-Russo
2/10	7:00 pm	Keith Franklin Jazz-presented by WML Foundation
2/11	7:00 pm	1776 in NJ-Struggle for Independence-By Donald Peck
2/12	1:30 pm	TGIF! Mystery Gorillas (video)
2/19	1:30 pm	TGIF! Washington the Warrior (video)
2/20	2:00 pm	Lincoln Center Local: Kristin Chenoweth "Dames of B'way"
2/24	7:00 pm	Armchair Art Tour-Eternal Spring-Art Prof. Michael Norris
2/26	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie Week: "Casablanca"
2/27	1:30 pm	Backyard Gardening Basics with Karen Camden

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN (Check website for sign up information)		
2/2, 9, 16, 23	1:00 pm	Afternoon Fun for 4's & 5's Storytime
2/2	7:00 pm	Scavenger Hunt-no age limit, must be able to read
2/3, 10, 17, 24	10:30 am	Time for 3's Storytime!
2/4, 11, 18, 25	10:30 am	2's on Thursday Storytime
2/5, 12, 19, 26	10:00 am	Playgroup for Babies (up to 23 months)
2/9	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO Club (grades 1-5)
2/12	3:45 pm	Chess Club for Kids-no age limit, but must know how the pieces move

### ESL Classes to Begin At First Baptist

WESTFIELD — The First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street, will begin ESL (English as a Second Language) classes on Tuesday, February 16. These classes will run for eight weeks.

Beginner to Advanced classes will be offered. The cost is \$10. Interested persons are asked to call the church office at (908) 233-2278.

Tutors also are needed. No special degree is required. Individuals seeking to serve as tutors also are asked to call the church office.



FRIENDLY VISIT...The Westfield Junior Optimists recently brought plants to Sunrise Assisted Living in Westfield and visited with the residents. Any student who would like more information on the club is asked to contact J. Mack Rembisz or Mitch Bryk at Westfield High School."

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## Scotch Plains Rescue Squad: Stay Safe While Shoveling

SCOTCH PLAINS — The cold temperatures are here, and last weekend saw major blizzard conditions across the nation's East Coast. Although it looks nice while falling, removing snow from sidewalks, porches and driveways is hard work.

Many people will grab their shovels and head out to clear the snow without giving it much thought. However, even if you are fairly healthy, cold temperatures can increase heart rate and blood pressure, while constricting arteries and decreasing blood flow. This can lead to serious cardiovascular issues. According to the National Safety Council, snow shoveling is responsible for thousands of injuries and as many as 100 deaths in the United States each year.

Shoveling is a strenuous activity, and requires preparation just like any other exercise. It is important to dress in layers, warm up and stretch muscles, and to wait a while after eating or smoking. Also, remember to stay hydrated by drinking water, just like you would do during any exercise.

While shoveling, do only a small section at a time and pace yourself, especially if the snow is dense and heavy. Lift with your legs while keeping your back straight to avoid any sprains or strains. If at any time you feel light-headed, nauseous, or short of

breath, stop right away. If you experience any pains in your chest, jaw, arms or shoulders, be aware that you may be having a heart attack and call 911.

So take the necessary precautions, and have a safe and enjoyable winter.

The Scotch Plains Rescue Squad is a volunteer organization of Neighbors Helping Neighbors. With over 90 volunteers, we answer calls not only in Scotch Plains but in surrounding towns as well when needed. Besides answering calls, the public will see squad ambulances at many special events held in town, such as Scotch Plains Day, the Memorial Day Parade, high school football games, and the summer concerts on the Village Green. Squad personnel also are available to provide demonstrations for Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, clubs and any other group that may be interested in what the squad does. In addition, the squad lends out wheelchairs, crutches, canes and other assorted medical equipment free of charge. Individuals are invited to reach out to the squad if there is something the squad can do for them, at [scotchplainsrescuesquad@gmail.com](mailto:scotchplainsrescuesquad@gmail.com) or call (908) 322-2103 for non-emergencies.

Contributing Author: Susan Baldani, a member of the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad.

## Westfield Hist. Soc. to Hold Program on Morris Canal

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Historical Society will host a presentation on Friday, February 5, entitled "The Morris Canal: A Journey in Pictures" by Robert Barth, past president of the Canal Society of New Jersey.

Mr. Barth will take attendees on a tour of the Morris Canal, using historic photographs. The canal was a unique engineering marvel that ran across the highlands of New Jersey, near the path of present-day Interstate Route 80. It overcame more changes in elevation than any other transportation canal ever built. The canal's main water source was Lake Hopatcong at an elevation today of 924 feet above sea level. Most of the elevation changes were accomplished through the use of 23 inclined planes, and these were world-renowned structures that were partially copied on planes in Japan, Poland and Nova Scotia.

Attendees also will learn about the importance of Waterloo Village and

the progress along the Morris Canal Greenway that borders the canal.

Mr. Barth has served on the board of the Canal Society of New Jersey for 30 years and was the president for seven. He also serves on the board of the D&R Canal Watch, planning hikes, bicycle rides and other events. He and his wife, Linda, enjoy cruising (at the leisurely pace of four miles per hour) on the historic canals of England, Scotland, France, Canada and other countries.

The program will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, located at 425 East Broad Street. Light refreshments will be served. This program is free and open to the public; there is a suggested donation of \$5 per person to help offset costs and support the work of the Westfield Historical Society. For more information, call the Westfield Historical Society at (908) 654-1794 or contact [westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com).

## Fanwood Presby. Invites All For Ash Wednesday, Lent

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Presbyterian Church, located at 74 S. Martine Avenue, invites everyone to its Ash Wednesday Service and Lenten Soup and Devotions program.

The Lenten Soup and Devotions service will take place on February 10, at 7:30 p.m., in the sanctuary. It will include a brief message, communion, choral music and the imposition of ashes.

The Lenten "Soup and Devotions" will be held on Wednesdays from February 17 through March 15, starting at 6:30 p.m., with soup, salad and bread in the dining room. Visitors are asked to enter through the McDermott Place door. Participants will watch the Passion and Easter components of the mini-series "Jesus of Nazareth," along with excerpts from the new movie *Risen*. Small group discussions will follow and will conclude at or before 8 p.m. Participants will take a trip for a theater screening of *Risen* on Saturday, March 19.

The Fanwood Presbyterian Church welcomes all who would like to join the congregation at any of its services and events. For more

information, call the church office at (908) 889-8891, e-mail [admin@fanwoodpc.org](mailto:admin@fanwoodpc.org) or check the website at [fanwoodpc.org](http://fanwoodpc.org).

### AARP to Gather Monday Evening

WESTFIELD — Westfield Area AARP Chapter 4137 will hold its next meeting on Monday, February 1, beginning at 1 p.m. It will take place at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at the intersection of Jerusalem Road and Plainfield Avenue in Scotch Plains.

Kevin Madden, president of Madden Wealth Advisors, will be the guest speaker. His firm provides investment management and wealth and retirement advisory services. Mr. Madden will talk about income planning, tax strategies and estate and legacy planning.

The chapter's business meeting, refreshments and fellowship will follow this presentation. Because the chapter's main charitable endeavor is contributions to the Westfield Food Pantry, members are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to the meeting.



**KADIMA CARES...**Members of the Kadima youth group chapter at Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains prepare sandwiches in the synagogue's kitchen for the Second Street Youth Center in Plainfield. Pictured, from left to right, are: Josh Friedson, Matt Sabony, Ross Bernstein, Congregation Beth Israel's Kadima advisor; and Samantha Bates.

## Temple Kadima Group Makes Sandwiches For Youth Ctr.

SCOTCH PLAINS — Middle-school students at Congregation Beth Israel prepared sandwiches for Plainfield's Second Street Youth Center on January 13, during a meeting of their youth group, Kadima.

The pre-teens took part in the synagogue's monthly sandwich-making program to provide after-school snacks for school-age participants at the youth center. The Second Street Youth Center Foundation is a multipurpose, non-profit organization that provides educational, vocational, cultural and recreational activities for youth in the Plainfield community.

Congregation Beth Israel's Social Action Committee organizes the sandwich-making events, which are open to all congregants, as well as interested family members and friends.

Kadima is the international youth organization for Jewish pre-teens in grades 6 through 8, sponsored by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Congregation Beth Israel's Kadima chapter meets once a month either at the synagogue or at outside venues, and offers pre-teens social, cultural and community outreach opportunities.

Congregation Beth Israel's Social Action Committee will prepare sandwiches again on the following Wednesday evenings: February 10, March 9, April 13 and May 11. To volunteer to make sandwiches, or to deliver sandwiches to the youth center the next day, contact Laurie Woog at wooglaw@gmail.com.

Congregation Beth Israel is located at 18 Shalom Way, at the corner of Martine Avenue, in Scotch Plains. For more information on Congregation Beth Israel's Kadima chapter, contact Gail Beckman Buchbinder, education director of Congregation Beth Israel, at (908) 889-1830.



**FUN EVENING...**Needle Nite participants share quilting and conversation at the group's January meeting at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church. The group will meet next on Friday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m. Pictured, from left to right, are: Jackie Kao, Janet Greak and Linda Bauvelt.

### Needle Nite Session Set For February 5

FANWOOD — The Needle Nite group will hold its next session at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church on Friday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m., in Westminster Hall on Marian Avenue.

The pattern for the quilters is "Half Square Triangles," which is the project for 2016. Knitters and those who crochet will continue on their projects for charity. All are welcome to come and see what is being done and to join the group.

If fabric, batting or yarn is needed, Needle Nites may e-mail their requests to: needlenite@fanwoodpc.org. Donated materials end up in many forms usable by the charities that receive them. Needle Nite participants then take their newly-learned skills for use at home.

For further information about these projects or for directions to the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, call the church office at (908) 889-8891, e-mail admin@fanwoodpc.org or check the website, fanwoodpc.org.

## Westfield Library to Look At Edwardian Manor Life

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library will present "Life in an Edwardian Manor" on Saturday, February 6, at 2 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

Guest speaker Judith Krall-Russo will present the program, which was inspired by the popular and critically-acclaimed television series "Downton Abbey." The show has sparked interest in the Edwardian era, when King Edward VII reigned in the United Kingdom.

It was a time of great disparity between the haves and the have-nots. Wealthy aristocrats owned huge manor houses, and reveled in luxury, leisure and extravagance. The rich expected their every whim to be indulged, and all their daily needs to be fulfilled, by the lower class of domestic servants.

Ms. Krall-Russo is a regular lecturer and seminar organizer across the state. She has extensive knowledge of food and beverage customs, particularly the history and ceremony of tea, and has melded this information into historical programs. In the past she has spoken at the library regarding Asian tea customs and Colonial and

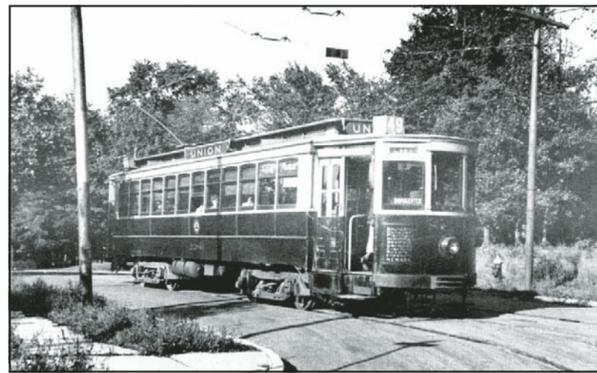
Victorian Christmas customs.

Library hours are 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The library will be closed on Monday, February 15, for Presidents' Day.

For more information on library programs and services, call (908) 789-4090, visit the library's website, wmlnj.org, and sign up for the monthly e-newsletter, "Library Loop," or stop by the library for a copy of its award-winning, quarterly newsletter, "Take Note."

### Caregivers Meeting To Be Held Monday

WESTFIELD — A support group for those caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones meets on the first non-holiday Monday of each month, at 7:30 p.m., in the parish center of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church on Lamberts Mill Road in Westfield. The next meeting of the group will be held on February 1. These are information and sharing sessions. For more information, call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 232-1214.



**REMEMBER WHEN?...**Did you know? Westfield once had a trolley! On September 10, 1935, Car No. 2286 gets ready to turn right onto Prospect Street from Brightwood Avenue.

Photo courtesy of The Westfield Historical Society

### Seniors Announce Valentine Luncheon

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Senior Citizen Club of Mountainside will host its annual Valentine's Day Luncheon on Friday, February 12, at noon. It will be held at the Spanish Tavern, located at 1239 Route 22, East, Mountainside.

The luncheon menu will consist of soup of the day, sangria, choice of chicken, salmon, filet tips or paella for the entrée, and coffee, decaffeinated coffee and tea, plus a choice of three desserts.

The cost is \$28 for club members and \$30 for non-members. Checks should be made payable to the "Senior Citizen Club of Mountainside." For further information, call Eve Vitale at (908) 789-8568.

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## Andrew Davis to Be Among University Award Recipients

FANWOOD — Fanwood resident Andrew M. Davis will be among the honorees at Fairfield University's 28th Annual Fairfield Awards Dinner, "Celebrating a Tradition of Opportunity." It will be held on Thursday, March 31, at the Grand Hyatt New York in New York City.



Andrew M. Davis

The Fairfield Awards Dinner benefits Fairfield University's scholarship funds, expanding access to higher education to worthy students from all social, cultural and economic backgrounds.

Held annually since 1989, the Fairfield Awards Dinner has raised more than \$15 million for the endowed scholarship funds, providing support to hundreds of students.

The Fairfield Awards Dinner also will recognize alumni, parents, faculty and staff for the highest levels of professional achievement, outstanding leadership, academic excellence and meritorious service.

The Alumni Service Award will be presented to Mr. Davis, Matthew McLaughlin and Joseph Solimine,

Jr., all members of the Class of 1989. These three friends created the Michael R. Andrews '89 Scholarship in May of 2005 to commemorate their fellow alumnus Michael Andrews, who died during the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center. To date, nearly \$500,000 has been raised in Mr. Andrews' honor at an annual golf outing and other signature events stewarded by the trio.

Mr. Davis is a commercial finance manager at PA Consulting Group. Mr. McLaughlin is a vice-president and general sales manager at Fox Stations Sales and lives in Ridgewood, and Mr. Solimine is Chief Executive Officer at Meridian Risk Management and lives in Pelham, N.Y.

For more information about this event, contact Fairfield University at (203) 254-4000, extension no. 2115, or visit [fairfield.edu/awardsdinner](http://fairfield.edu/awardsdinner).

Fairfield University is a Jesuit University located in Fairfield, Conn. More than 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students from 36 states, 47 foreign countries, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are enrolled in the university's five schools.

## 'Butterfly Guy' to Present 'Fun With Bugs!' Feb. 20

CRANFORD — The Hanson Park Conservancy will welcome Rick Mikula, "The Butterfly Guy," on Saturday, February 20, at the Cranford Community Center. Mr. Mikula will present "Fun With Bugs!" at 10 a.m. This program is free and open to insect lovers of all ages.

Mr. Mikula will discuss the types of insects that live in the area's parks and gardens. He will show audience members how to find, raise and appreciate bugs using household items. Mr. Mikula will showcase live butterflies and will demonstrate just

how easy it is to care for them.

For more than 35 years, Mr. Mikula has been engaging audiences with his humorous way of looking at butterflies. He currently is president of Butterfly Rescue International and serves as a consultant to both the Association for Butterflies and The International Butterfly Breeders Association.

Mr. Mikula also is the pioneer and inventor of releasing butterflies at weddings and funerals and has helped to make it a global phenomenon. He wrote the award-winning "The Family Butterfly Book." Additionally, he has designed several live butterfly exhibits including the Hershey Butterfly House, the exhibit at Clyde Peeling's Reptiland and at Dollywood. To learn more about Mr. Mikula, visit his website, [butterflyrick.com](http://butterflyrick.com).

The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford. This program is sponsored by the Hanson Park Conservancy and made possible by a grant from Merck. To register for this event, visit [hansonparkconservancy.com](http://hansonparkconservancy.com) or on the organization's Facebook page.

## Sierra to Hear About NY/NJ Baykeeper

AREA — The Sierra Club Loantaka Group will present Debbie Mans, baykeeper and executive director of NY/NJ Baykeeper, which covers the Hudson-Raritan Estuary, at its meeting on Wednesday, February 10. She will discuss the work of the NY/NJ Baykeeper, including conservation, restoration and advocacy efforts.

Ms. Mans also will cover key ongoing activities, including the status of the industrial coast post-Superstorm Sandy, an update on the Soil Safe facility in Carteret on the Rahway River, and the NY/NJ Baykeeper's restoration and resiliency projects in the region.

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

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NEW LEASH ON LIFE...Kristen Collins, director of the ASPCA's Anti-Cruelty Behavior Rehabilitation program, pictured with a canine friend, will be the guest speaker at the Men's Forum on Tuesday, February 2. The Men's Forum is an activity of the Old Guard of Summit.

## Fearful Dogs to Be Topic Of Men's Forum Feb. 2

SUMMIT AREA — Kristen Collins, director of the ASPCA's Anti-Cruelty Behavior Rehabilitation program, will speak to the Men's Forum on Tuesday, February 2, at 10:30 a.m. Her topic will be "A Second Chance for Fearful Dogs."

The Men's Forum is a function of the Old Guard of Summit. All age 50-plus active men are invited to attend its regular Tuesday morning meetings. Meetings are held at the New Providence Municipal Center, located at 360 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence.

Ms. Collins will describe the ASPCA's groundbreaking work at its Behavioral Rehabilitation Center, located at St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in Madison. She

will review the rehabilitation center's treatment program for fearful dogs and related research. Ms. Collins will describe the problematic behavior commonly seen in severely under-socialized dogs, and outline some of the center's remarkable discoveries.

Tuesday morning meetings start with a coffee hour at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10 a.m. business meeting brightened by singing and humor. Guest speakers begin their talk at 10:30 a.m.

Old Guard members participate in sports, bridge, hikes, trips, plays, concerts and other cultural events. For more information, call Jim Hewitt at (908) 233-5507 or log onto the website [summitoldguard.org](http://summitoldguard.org).

## Scotch Plains Library Posts Friday Films For February

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library has announced its schedule of February movies, featuring films about the "golden years." All screenings take place on Fridays at noon.

*About Schmidt* (Rated R, 126 minutes) will be featured on February 5. In it, a man upon retirement embarks on a journey to his estranged daughter's wedding, only to discover more about himself and life than he ever expected. Jack Nicholson and Hope Davis star in this 2002 film.

*Robot & Frank* (Rated PG-13, 90 minutes), starring Frank Langella and Susan Sarandon, will be screened on February 12. In this 2012 movie set in the near future, an ex-jewel thief receives a gift from his son: a robot butler programmed to look after him. But soon the two companions try their luck as a heist team.

*The Intern* (Rated PG-13, 121 minutes) is scheduled for February 19.

In this 2015 film starring Robert De Niro and Anne Hathaway, a retired successful business owner and widower lands an internship at a fashion website run by a young, career-driven woman.

*The Hundred-Foot Journey* (Rated PG, 122 minutes) will be presented February 26. In this 2014 movie starring Helen Mirren and Om Puri, the Kadam family leaves India for France, where they open a restaurant directly across the road from Madame Mallory's Michelin-starred eatery.

These events are free and open to all. Attendees are encouraged to register in advance online at [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org), by calling (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or e-mailing [library@scotlib.org](mailto:library@scotlib.org).

The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue, in the center of the township.

## Frank McGovern to Serve As Parade Grand Marshal

CRANFORD — The 2016 Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee has announced that Frank McGovern of Cranford has been named Grand Marshal of the 20th Annual Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

Mr. McGovern has been involved with the Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade for more than 17 years, serving as the parade's 2005 general chairman.

"It's an honor to be considered by my peers for this role," Mr. McGovern said. "I am excited to be a part of this parade and all that it stands for year after year. This parade is about tradition and family."

Mr. McGovern also has served the parade as chairman of the Investiture Mass and Parade Day Mass, financial secretary, chairman of the Saint Patrick's Honor Guard, parade announcer and, most recently, chairman of the board of trustees.

"Frank has done so much for both the parade and for the community," said Parade General Chairperson Kerry Ricci. "We are so proud to have him lead us as this year's grand marshal."

In addition to his duties with the parade committee, Mr. McGovern has served as president and trustee of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Union County and sits on the board of trustees for Center for Hope Hospice and on the Saint John the Apostle Church Trustees and Finance Committee. He also is a member of the St. John's

Social Concerns and Capital Campaign Committees and a volunteer at Overlook Medical Center in Summit.

The grand marshal traces his Irish roots to County Cavan via County Cork, and Counties Kerry and West Meath.

Mr. McGovern, the general manager of power delivery and infrastructure for Electrical Consultants Inc. in Cranford, has been married to the former Eileen Whalen since 1981. Their family includes daughter Megan Ann of Burlington, Mass. and her husband, Mike Remy; daughter Kelly



Frank McGovern

Elizabeth of Cranford and her husband, Ed Feeley; daughter Bridget Kathleen of Hoboken and son Frank Patrick of Annapolis, Md. Their grandchildren are Brendon and newly arrived granddaughter Lauren Eileen.

Mr. McGovern will be officially installed as grand marshal on Saturday, February 20, at 2:30 p.m., during the parade committee's annual Investiture Mass at St. Theresa's Church, located at 541 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth. A reception will follow at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, located at 33 South 21st Street, Kenilworth.

The 20th Annual Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade will step off at 1 p.m. sharp on Saturday, March 12, on Morris Avenue in Union. For more information about the parade, visit [unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com](http://unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com).

## February Events For Teens On Tap at Local Library

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library has announced its schedule of special programs for teenagers during February.

Teen Scene will be featured on Tuesday, February 2, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Participants will have an opportunity to bring friends and meet new ones while playing Wii and board games, plus enjoying an after-school snack.

A Teen Valentine's Day Party will be held on Monday, February 8, at 3:30 p.m. This event will include festive cupcake decorating, a round of themed Jeopardy, and a card-making workshop. Registration is required for this event.

Books and Beyond will be held on Wednesday, February 10, at 6:30 p.m. Participants will celebrate African-American History Month with historical fiction that brings the past to life. This event is just for youngsters in grades 3 to 8.

Teen Crafternoon is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, at 3:30 p.m., with "color therapy" as the theme. Participants will be able to select from a range of beautiful and intricate coloring pages designed to help stress "melt away."

Teen Leap Year Party will take place on Monday, February 29, at 3:30 p.m. Participants will explore the history of Leap Year, make frog buttons, and send e-mails to their future selves. Registration is required for this event.

Teen events at the library are free and open to those in grades 6

to 12. To register for these activities, e-mail [library@scotlib.org](mailto:library@scotlib.org), call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or stop by the Reference Desk. For more information, visit the library's website, [scotlib.org/sppl/teens](http://scotlib.org/sppl/teens).

The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue, in the center of the township.

## Garwood Knights Launch Food Drive

GARWOOD — The Msgr. John M. Walsh Council No. 5437 Garwood Knights of Columbus are conducting a "Winter Storm" Food Drive on behalf of the St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth.

Donations of canned and dry food goods and supermarket gift cards can be dropped off at the Columbian Club of Garwood building, located at 37 South Avenue, Garwood, opposite the old PathMark store, weekdays from 4 to 6 p.m. At other times and on weekends, call (908) 789-9809 first. Visitors are asked to use the side-door entrance.

For more information, call the Knights at (908) 789-9809 or Keith M. Gallagher at (908) 789-0931.

Since 1983, St. Joseph Social Service Center has served the materially poor and homeless community of greater Elizabeth. For more information on the center, go to YouTube "Homeless in Elizabeth," parts one and two, or visit [sjeliz.org](http://sjeliz.org).

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**PERFECT SCORES...**Westfield High School announced that 6 students have achieved perfect scores in November on SAT standardized tests widely used for college admission criteria. Westfield High School Assistant Principal, Mary Asfendis (far left), expressed her congratulations to these 10th and 11th graders for their top scores (l-r): Sophomores Soo Min Chung and Cindy Qiang - each scoring 800 in Math; and Juniors Emma Cravo - Writing; Charlotte Perez - French w/Listening; Charles Rule - Reading; and Mackail Liderman - Math 2.

## Garwood Merchants Join New Drive to Aid Schools

**GARWOOD** - Nine local businesses have agreed to donate a portion of their sales to the Education Foundation of Garwood during "Show Love for Garwood Schools," a six-hour event on Thursday, February 4.

Between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. that day, the businesses will donate to the foundation five percent of their sales to participating customers. The foundation provides scholarships for Garwood students and grants to teachers planning special projects.

The businesses taking part in the program are: Crossroads Restaurant and Bar, 78 North Avenue, Garwood

Lanes, 345 North Avenue, Kessler's Korner, 250 North Avenue (sports memorabilia), Lorenzo's Family Place, 117 Center Street, Progress, 200 North Avenue (resale clothing), Rosie's Wine Bar, 514 North Avenue, Rudy's Ristorante & Pizzeria, 300 South Avenue, The Station Bar & Grill, 99 Center Street and Treasures by Therese, 246 North Avenue (hand-made gifts for children).

To participate in the program, customers will have to present a flier at the time of service. Fliers are available at the businesses joining the program as well as at Borough Hall, the Garwood Library and Lincoln School.

## Second Annual Westfield Wrangle Hits Home

**WESTFIELD** - On January 10, at the second annual "Westfield Wrangle" hosted by Westfield High School in Westfield, 20 First Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics teams competed for points to raise their state rankings. Westfield, previously composed of coed teams 5968 and 7102 eagerly completed a long-term wish of creating an all female team for the season. Positive Charge, the new all female team, number 10343, has 12 members. Out of the 12 girls, three are new to robotics this year and were excitedly waiting to host and participate in their first home meet.

"I was really excited to host a robotics meet. I've been to meets hosted by other schools...and I wanted to see how ours would compare," shared Anna Masciandro, a sophomore at Westfield High School new to FTC.

"I looked forward [to hosting the meet] too," added freshman newcomer Julia Hollosi of Westfield High School. "Since it was close, my family could come and see our robot and progress. Overall, it was a very thrilling new experience for me."

"I wouldn't trade my experience for anything else," admitted Amanda Zhang, a first year member and sophomore at Magnet High School.

"This year has been a major challenge for us. We had a third team and new members. However, we were

able to work together and help each other," reflected Ashley Rosen, a sophomore at Union County Vocational Technical High School.

During their first of the two final matches against the red alliance of the Knights (3597) and Hypnotic Robotics (4215), Positive Charge found difficulty when trying to move their bot. However, while Positive Charge's robot remained immobile, That Hertz pushed 'debris' on the field and eased their bot up the ramp. Hypnotic Robotics scored. The Knights also made its way up the ramp, but its height was only ephemeral, as the robot flipped over just moments after reaching the first bar. It was a red alliance win of 51-16.

The second match was That Hertz and the Flux Capacitors against Hypnotic Robotics and the Bergen Bees. That Hertz pushed 'debris' alongside The Bergen Bees. Despite trouble with the Flux Capacitors' robot, That Hertz was inches up the ramp, scoring great points. The Bergen Bees climbed up its ramp and scored for the red alliance. The red alliance won against Westfield with a final score of 20-32.

All 3 Westfield teams finished the day proudly with 4th place. "We were very successful at this meet and hope to do well at the upcoming Qualifier," Ms. Rosen remarked after the games.

## Holy Trinity School to Hold Open House

**AREA** - Holy Trinity School invites prospective families to tour its campuses, learn more about the school's academics, extracurricular activities, and athletics, and meet faculty, students, and parents on Sunday, January 31.

Celebrating 100 years of Catholic education, Holy Trinity School provides a rigorous and relevant education that prepares students in grades preK through eight to achieve their full academic and social potential. Holy Trinity is a 2011 National Blue

Ribbon School of Excellence.

The early education center in Mountainside, which provides programs for two-year olds through full day Kindergarten, will host its open house from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Westfield campus (full day Kindergarten through eighth grade) will host its open house from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

More information regarding Holy Trinity School is available at [www.htsnj.com](http://www.htsnj.com) or by calling (908) 233-0484.

## Dean's List Announced at Alvernia University

**READING, Penn.** - The following students have been named to Alvernia University's Dean's List for the fall 2015 semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must carry a semester GPA of 3.5 or better and take a minimum of 12 credits.

Siri Myhre of Cranford, a Junior studying Occupational Therapy at Alvernia and is a graduate of Cranford High School.

Gregory Vicci of Cranford, a Junior studying Criminal Justice at Alvernia and is a graduate of Union Catholic Regional High School

Alvernia is a distinctive Franciscan university, grounded in the Catholic and liberal arts traditions, that combines diverse academic opportunities with personal attention and an unmatched commitment to community service. Alvernia empowers students to become "ethical leaders with moral courage." Through real-world learning and the challenging guidance of faculty mentors, they discover their passion for life and turn what they love into lifetimes of career success and personal fulfillment.

## O'Dwyer Named to Dean's List at SUNY Oneonta

**ONEONTA, N.Y.** - Meghan O'Dwyer of Westfield, was among 1,513 SUNY Oneonta students who earned Dean's List honors for the fall 2015 semester. To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must earn a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher while carrying a course load of 12 hours or more.

A liberal arts institution with a strong focus on undergraduate research and service learning, SUNY Oneonta consistently gains recognition for delivering excellence and value. SUNY Oneonta enrolls 6,000 students in its 70 undergraduate majors and 14 graduate programs.

## Fichiera of Cranford Attains Univ. of Hartford Dean's List

**WEST HARTFORD, Conn.** - The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Madison Fichiera of Cranford has been named to its Dean's List for Fall 2015.

The University of Hartford, centrally located in Connecticut, provides a distinctive educational experience across seven schools and colleges for one of the most diverse student bodies in New England. Hartford's faculty are attracted by

the opportunity to challenge and support students as they pursue degrees in more than 84 programs in the arts, humanities, science, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions. Chartered in 1957, Hartford has more than 5,000 undergraduates, 1,600 graduate students, and 75,000 alumni worldwide. Visit [www.hartford.edu](http://www.hartford.edu) for more information.

## Goldring Earns Scholarship At University of Rochester

**ROCHESTER, N.Y.** - Hannah R. Goldring, a graduate of Westfield High School in Westfield, is a recipient of the Rush Rhees Scholarship at the University of Rochester. Named for the University's third president, this scholarship is given to students for academic excellence and is renewable all four years of college.

Ms. Goldring, a freshman and the daughter of Laurie Woog and Jay Goldring, is a resident of Westfield.

The University of Rochester, founded in 1850, is a private re-

search university located in Rochester, N.Y. The University offers a unique undergraduate curriculum, with no required courses, that emphasizes a broad liberal education through majors, minors and course "clusters"—a Rochester innovation—in the three main areas of knowledge: humanities, social sciences, and physical sciences/engineering. The University (on the Web at [www.rochester.edu](http://www.rochester.edu)) is also home to the world-renowned Eastman School of Music as well as graduate professional schools of business, education, medicine, and nursing.

## Fuller of WF Attains Dean's List at FSU

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** - John Fuller, a 2015 graduate of Westfield High School attained Dean's List at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. John is currently enrolled as a Freshman studying Engineering.

John has also been invited to join Phi Eta Sigma, the national honor society whose goal is to encourage and reward academic excellence among first year students in institutions of higher learning.

## Eleanor Callinan Named To Miami Univ. President's List

**OXFORD, OH** - Eleanor Callinan was named to the Miami University president's list.

Miami University students who achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average for first semester 2015-2016 have been named to the president's list recognizing academic excellence.

Ms. Callinan, from Westfield, is earning a Bachelor of Art majoring in Psychology, American Studies.

Miami University is a public university located in southwestern Ohio, offering more than 120 degree programs in humanities, science, engineering, business, education and fine arts.

## Westfield's Gelinne Received White Coat from USciences

**PHILADELPHIA, Penn.** - Katherine Gelinne of Westfield was one of 37 students from University of the Sciences' physician assistant studies program to join the ranks of professionals following the second annual White Coat Ceremony on December 18, 2015.

The ceremony for the class of 2017 commemorated the formal presentation of a white coat for physician assistant students as they begin working clinically with patients in hospitals and outpatient settings. At the ceremony, the students recited the oath of a physician assistant, a gesture to reinforce their commitment to working with patients compassionately and to enhancing their health and well-being.

Ms. Gelinne continues on the path

to a master of science in physician assistant studies.

University of the Sciences has prepared students to be leaders and practitioners in the healthcare and science fields for nearly 200 years. Key to our distinctive education is a tradition of hands-on research and experiential learning that is evident in every graduate who has walked its campus. Since its founding in 1821 as Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, the first college of pharmacy in North America, USciences has grown to more than 30 degree-granting programs from bachelor's through doctoral degrees in the health sciences, bench sciences, and healthcare business and policy fields. Discover how USciences students are proven everywhere they go at [uscience.edu](http://uscience.edu).

## Local Students Named to Champlain Dean's List

**BURLINGTON, Vermont** - The following students have been named to the Champlain College Dean's List for achieving a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the fall 2015 semester.

Jacob Beckerman of Fanwood who is majoring in Computer Science and Innovation.

Alex Sabatell of Scotch Plains who is majoring in Broadcast and Streaming Media.

Mariana Franzetti of Cranford who is majoring in Management of Creative Media.

Harold Hodges of Westfield who is majoring in Criminal Justice.

Anthony Vultaggio of Cranford who is majoring in Marketing.

Since 1878, Champlain College has provided career-focused education to students from its hilltop campus in Burlington, Vt. Champlain's distinctive educational approach embodies the notion that true learning only occurs when information and experience come to-

gether to create knowledge. Champlain offers traditional undergraduate and online undergraduate courses, along with online certificate and degree programs and 11 master's degree programs. Champlain offers study abroad programs at its campuses in Montreal, Quebec and Dublin, Ireland.

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**NEVER FORGET...** Seventh grade students from Mountainside's Deerfield Middle School had the honor of meeting a Holocaust survivor, Hanna Keselman, center.

## Deerfield Students Learn About Holocaust from Survivor

**MOUNTAINSIDE** - On January 13 the seventh grade students in Mountainside's Deerfield Middle School had the honor of meeting a Holocaust survivor, Hanna Keselman, as the culminating event of a Holocaust awareness unit that integrated language arts, social studies, and math. Mrs. Keselman told the story of her childhood, when she was separated from her parents and held in an orphanage, and then on the run until she finally escaped to America with her mother. Her father was killed in a concentration camp weeks before the liberation. Students also commemorated this unit on this day through the unveiling of a graph paper project that symbolically illustrated the number of victims of this tragic event.

The unit began with the field trip to Drew University to see the play *The Diary of Anne Frank*, thanks to the generosity of the Watts Foundation. In addition to the play, the following activities took place in the seventh grade classrooms: In Language Arts,

students read historical fiction and narrative non-fiction that focused on WWII and the Holocaust and wrote about what they learned. In Social Studies, students learned about the Holocaust through firsthand accounts and resource materials. Students conducted research on inspirational people of the time period who risked their lives to save others. In Math, students watched the 2004 documentary film *Paper Clips*. The film told the story of a middle school in Tennessee that collected 6 million paper clips to represent the 6 million Jewish lives lost as a result of intolerance during the Holocaust.

Mountainside students were inspired to create their own representation. They calculated the number of graph paper pages that they would need to represent 6 million lives if each small square represented one life. Students then taped the graph paper together to form a visual representation. This project was displayed in the hallway on the day of Mrs. Keselman's visit.

## Local Residents Named to Univ. of Scranton Dean's List

**SCRANTON, Penn.** - Local residents were among more than 1,550 students named to The University of Scranton Dean's List, which recognizes students for academic excellence during the 2015 fall semester. A student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better with a minimum number of credit hours to make the Dean's List.

The following students attained the list:

Matthew Marino of Scotch Plains is a freshman exercise science major in the University's Panuska College

of Professional Studies. Sophie Sabatell of Scotch Plains is a junior occupational therapy major in the University's Panuska College of Professional Studies.

Jennifer Reis of Fanwood is a senior exercise science major in the University's Panuska College of Professional Studies.

The University of Scranton is a Jesuit school located in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

*Probitas Verus Honos*

## Miami Student Fine Spends Semester Abroad

**OXFORD, OH** - Miami University student Benjamin Fine spent the fall 2015 semester in Spain as part of a study abroad group.

Mr. Fine, from Westfield, is earning a majoring in University Studies.

With about 38 percent of Miami undergraduate students studying abroad for credit by the time they graduate, Miami is ranked 2nd among public doctoral institutions nationwide for students studying abroad.

In addition to Miami's Luxembourg campus, Miami students can study abroad in over 90 locations around the world. Miami offers more than 350 co-sponsored study abroad programs that permit scholarship transfer.

Miami University is a public university located in southwestern Ohio,

offering 120 degree programs in humanities, science, engineering, business, education and fine arts.

## Mountainside Student Makes Dean's List

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** - Matthew Doyle, the son of Mary and Michael Doyle of Mountainside, has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2015 Semester at Providence College.

The honor is reserved for students who have achieved a GPA of 3.55, with a minimum of 12 credits. The list is issued twice per year during the fall and spring terms.

Matthew is majoring in Finance with a minor in Economics.



Challenger Space Shuttle Disaster - January 28, 1986

# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section  
Pages 11-16

**NIGRO WINS BIG; TOMPKINS, 'DiGIO', SCORESE PIN**

## Cougars Win Final 8 Bouts; Stop Panther Matmen, 43-13

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

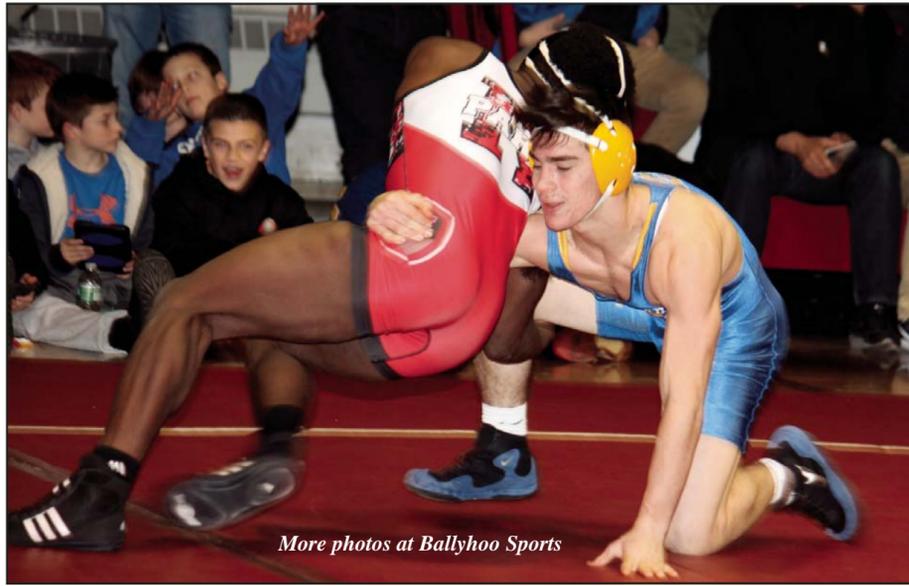
Tom DiGiovanni's pin in the 132-lb class sparked a run of eight straight wins for the Cranford High School wrestling team in its 43-13 victory over the hosting Roselle Park Panthers on January 20. With both teams playing a bit of a chess match, the 6-

1 Cougars got the upper hand from the start by winning the coin toss which would determine when a team had to present its wrestler on the mat first.

The weight juggling came into play moderately in the first bout of the evening at 220-lbs where Cougar Alex Esposito used his football tackling

skills to bulldog Jason Estivene to the mat several times en route to an 11-3 majority decision. Panther Sebastian Leo jumped up to 285-lbs to face Kevin Doran, who got a takedown late in the third period to grab a 3-2 decision.

No weight class juggling occurred  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



More photos at Ballyhoo Sports

SWITCH RESWITCH...Panther Carey Mimy, left, prepares to pull a switch reversal but Cougar Brian McGovern is ready to pull off a reswitch to remain in control of his 160-lb bout. McGovern defeated Mimy, 9-3.

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times



More photos at Ballyhoo Sports

ABOUT TO PASS INSIDE...Blue Devil junior Danielle Rinaldi, No. 1, looks to pass inside to, perhaps, Shannon Devitt, not shown, in the triple overtime game against West Morris Central in Westfield on January 21.

**DEVITT 11 RBs, 12 PTS; RINALDI 6 STEALS, RYAN 11 PTS**

## W. Mo. Central Cagers Starve Lady Blue Devils in 3 OT, 44-40

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

Feast but more famine highlighted the endurance run between the Westfield High School girls basketball team and West Morris Central in Westfield on January 21 but the visiting Lady Highlanders managed to salvage enough of a nibble in time to starve the Blue Devils, 44-40, in triple

overtime.

Obviously, defense on the part of both teams in such an elongated struggle called the shots, in fact it made sure that many of the shots never made it to their desired destination. Blue Devil juniors Shannon Devitt and Danielle Rinaldi, senior co-captain Amalia Montes and sophomore Molly Ryan, in particular, made

it a point to thwart the Highlanders' offensive attacks.

Devitt led her team with 11 rebounds and added four blocks and four steals, while Rinaldi, who scored eight points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and had three assists, committed six acts of theft and had three rebounds. Montes pulled nine re

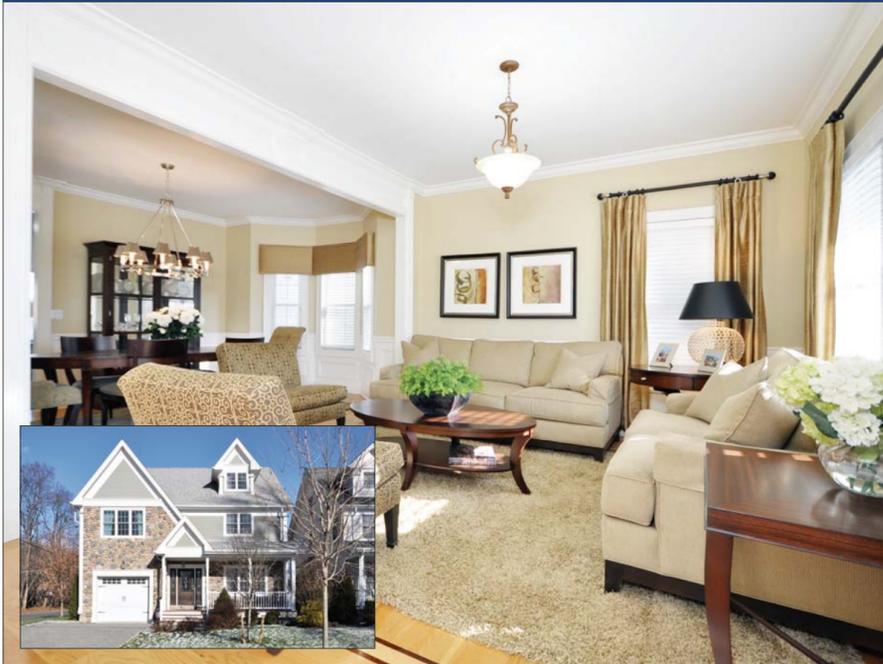
CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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**DRI BBLING AWAY...Raider Aaron Lee, No. 22, dribbles away from Blue Devil Jeff Gagum, No. 14, during Friday night's contest at Westfield.**

**BLUE DEVIL MELE NETS 18 PTS, RAIDER NELSON 13 PTS**

# Blue Devil Cagers Throttle SP-F Raider B-ballers, 70-46

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

Nick Mele scored 18 points, including four 3-point bombs, to lead the Westfield High School boys basketball team to a 70-46 blowout victory over Scotch Plains-Fanwood on January 22 in Westfield. The Blue Devils dropped in 10 3-pointers on their way to improving their Union County Conference Mountain Division leading record to 5-1 and pushing their overall season mark to 11-4.

Westfield broke free of a 9-9 tie with the Raiders late in the first quarter by going on a 16-2 run over a four-minute span that put them up 25-11 early in the second quarter. The surge was keyed by back-to-back 3-pointers from Parker Hess and Mele to close out the first quarter and open up the second period.

"Our strength is always in our three point shooting," said Westfield Head Coach Daryl Palmieri. "When those shots are going in for us, we are a dangerous team. Tonight we were very accurate from long range especially after a slow start."

After a competitive beginning, the

Raiders went into a prolonged offensive deep freeze. The Raiders managed just four points over an eight-minute stretch from late in the first quarter to just before halftime that buried them in a 39-13 hole. Meanwhile Scotch Plains-Fanwood defenders had all sorts of trouble getting out to defend against the Blue Devil shooters from beyond the three-point line.

"Right now there is a lack of connection on the floor," said Raider senior guard Aaron Lee. "We are not on the same page all the time. We break down due to miscommunications and we have a hard time recovering. Against a team like Westfield that can shoot the three pointers, our rotation needs to be much better and much quicker. Our coach is building for the future."

Westfield never took the foot off of the gas in the second half and kept the Raiders in their rear view mirror with a combination of aggressive defense that created several steals and deadly long range shooting. The Raiders could not get closer than 20 the rest of the way.

Nigel Nelson provided one of the few bright spots for the Raiders, who

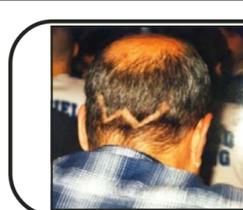
fell to 1-11 on the season. Nelson, a junior, tallied 14 points and showed some nice moves inside with the ball when he could get it in his hands.

"They (SP-F) moved the ball well in the first part of the game," said Palmieri. "They were better tonight than they were the first time we played them. Their coach is doing a nice job over there. He is installing things that will benefit the team."

Westfield demonstrated a balanced offensive attack. Jelani Pierre scored 11 points. Owen Murray chipped in 10 and Matt LaCorte had seven points.

"You know, you always want to guard against complacency," said Palmieri. "It is tough to come back on the heels of a tough game the day before like the one we had against St. Mary's. I think our kids started off a little slow but they shook it off and came on strong as the game moved on. The nice thing about this group is that we can get big performances from a lot of different players. All of them are playing well and a different player seems to step up each night for us."

Sc PI-Fanwood	11	8	12	15	46
Westfield	20	19	17	14	70



**Devil's Den**

## 1924 Girls Hoops Put WHS on Athletic Map

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

**Another in a series on the history of WHS sports**

Contrary to popular belief, WHS had good sports teams before Gary Kehler and Walt Clarkson began their coaching careers in the late 1950s. There was actually one sport in the early 1920s that you could say was the first to make an athletic statement at WHS.

A half-century before NJSIAA tournaments would decide these things, Martha Wheelock's girls basketball teams won the mythical state title in 1920, 1921, 1923 and again in 1924. The 1924 squad actually faced Guthrie, Oklahoma, in a showdown of unbeaten teams for the mythical National Championship.

The games were played April 3, 5, 7 at Roselle High School, which donated the use of its brand new gymnasium. Guthrie won the Westfield Championship Cup by taking two out of three - the scores were 33-22, 34-17 Guthrie, and 27-19 WHS.

"We girls put Westfield on the map, athletically speaking," one anonymous member of the class of 1924 (possibly feisty guard Gladys Wewer?) told *The Leader*. "It took the boys all these years to get a couple of press notices in the New York and Philadelphia newspapers. In just two seasons we girls made the front pages of all the newspapers from here to Frisco... so there!"

The big star of that team was Ruth Miller - no known relation to record-breaking scorer Erin Miller of 2005-08 - had scored 57 points in a 57-17 win over Glen Ridge in 1923. Those were the days of a center jump after every basket, so one team could stay on offense a while. Each team played three girls on offense and three girls on defense, basically two separate 3-on-3 games. No one could cross the midcourt line.

Wheelock left after that 1924 season and two years later the sport, and team, disappeared into the foggy mists of history - almost. Seventy years after their historic run, the 1924 girls basketball team was recognized by the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame at its inaugural induction dinner in 1994. Wewer, the last living team member, remembered teammates Miller, captain Evelyn Woodruff, Florence Mundy, Elizabeth Carr, Kathryn Nicholas, Elizabeth Pleister and Elizabeth Morgan.

WHS started a club team during the 1970-71 school year which went 1-3 under coach Constance Carmichael. Another club team in 1971-72 went 5-3 under coach Kathy Luckey; Penny Meiklejohn, Robin Barnett and Marie Perkowski were the top players.

Then Title IX came along and the government said girls had to have an equal opportunity in everything, including sports. So the 1972-73 season saw WHS officially put a team back on the court. WHS lost to Roselle Park, 66-23, in its debut. The first win was 52-36 over Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Luckey's alma mater. That first team finished 7-3. Luckey coached two more years before stepping down with a 21-17 record. Debbie Lawyer scored a "modern" school record 37 during a 1974 game against Roselle Park.

Greg Gorski, more known as a football and track guy but a decent hoopster at Clark, was the new coach and his first team went 18-6. Led by co-captains Sue Early and Eileen Jackson, the team had good depth with Kathy Tegen, Bonnie Coleman, Eileen Hartnett and Beth Avis. That '76 team beat Holy Trinity in the schools' final meeting - Trinity had

won the year before on a 25-point effort by Debbie Townsend, a Westfield resident - won the Kearny Holiday Tournament and won two games in states.

The next two teams had losing records, including an 8-15 squad that had a school-record seven girls with 100 or more points - Maura Clancy (185), Val Wright (174), Chris Diemer (168), Karin Morgan (112), Teresa Tiller (108), Marie Barr (107) and Beth Wheeler (104), with Karen Goski at 71. But Gorski's final team in 1978-79 was 15-7, led by Morgan (363 points), Wright (256), Diemer (210) and Sue Lewis (114).

George Kapner took over in 1980 and although he had some talented players, he stepped down after six seasons with just one winning record, 11-10 the first year. The highlight was winning the Westfield Tournament, beating Scotch Plains, 45-43,

had a winner when Amy Williams (257 points), Liz McKeon (212), Jen Kemps (182) and Vicky Nusse (106) led the team to a 13-9 mark. With McKeon (1,017 career points), Nusse, Suzanne Vinegra and Megan Devitt, Hauser's final two years were 15-6 and 11-9.

In 1999-2000, Joe Marino took over, but the team didn't win nearly as often as his freshman football and baseball teams. Sweet-shooting Jackie Cusimano was the big scorer the first three years, setting a school record with 88 career 3-pointers.

The team slipped to 2-18 in 2003 and bottomed out in 2004 at 0-21 - including a game in the War of the Worlds Tournament against host West Windsor-Plainsboro North when it went shotless in the third period and scoreless in the second half.

But there was a super group of girls about to enter WHS. Erin Miller,



**UCT GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS...The Blue Devil basketball team under coach Joe Marino defeated the Elizabeth Lady Minutemen, 44-34, on February 24, 2008 to claim its first Union County Tournament crown.**

in the title game. Players like Linda Kosuch, Ro Fusaro, Noreen Morris, Nancy Kasko, Lisa McGowan, Kathy McNally, Traci Love, Linda Mike and Krissy Jeremiah highlighted Kapner's years.

When GK2 stepped down, Dave Shapiro took over and the wins were more frequent than the losses. Jeremiah became the school's first female to score 1,000 points (finishing with 1,169), taking full advantage of the new 3-point basket that came into the rulebook her senior year; Jeremiah made 66, the rest of the team had none. Those three years saw records of 12-11, 13-9 and 17-6, with Marcie Williams, Jen Stagaard, Nanette Cunningham and Claudia Carnevale helping out.

After a 10-10 record in 1989, Shapiro had his best team in 1990, setting a school record with a 19-6 mark. The starting five featured co-captains Williams (302 points) and Kim Kumpf (226), along with Carnevale (263), Rene Stevens (218) and Jodi Heimlich (74). But freshman Tamecka Dixon, the daughter of former WHS star Russell (Boo) Bowers, might've been the team's best talent. She scored 173 coming off the bench. But the next three years saw her playing at Linden. After starring at the University of Kansas where she was an all-American and Big 12 Player of the Year. She was also a first-round draft pick of the WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks.

Kapner came back to fill in one year after Shapiro left, but the Dixon-less team struggled to a 5-18 mark. Linda King replaced Kapner but, despite strong efforts from Ashley Fizzell, Katie McEvily, Carolyn Nobile, Erin Allebaugh, Abby Bomba, Taryn McKenna, Brooke Wiley and Shi-Kia Carter, left after three losing seasons. Kathy Hauser was the new coach in 1995 and two losing seasons later she

Gabby O'Leary, Stephanie Slodyczka, Danielle Infantino and Rose Driscoll came in as freshmen in 2004-05 and the varsity improved to 9-13; Tara Handza, Gabby Jakub, Kerri Pringle and Charlotte O'Leary arrived the following year and the team went 14-10; Diana Venezia, Anne Knisely and Amanda Markowski joined up in 2006-07 and the team went 19-9 and reached the Union County Tournament finals; Katie Ponce came aboard the next year and the team went 17-7 and won the county championship.

Miller set team single-season and career records for assists, steals and points with 1,580. Marino was named Coach of the Year. In four years, the team had risen from the ashes of a winless season to the joy of a county title.

The next two years were 15-10 and 15-9 as some wonderful players - Handza, Venezia, Markowski - finished their careers. But then came the 2011 season, when three-year starter Ponce missed the entire season due to a soccer injury. The team, outside of Martina Landeka, struggled to score all year and finished 3-18.

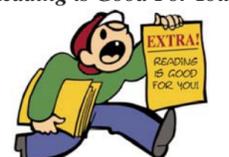
Once again the youth programs delivered some uber-talented kids for the 2011-12 season. Although the 10-16 record didn't reflect it, freshmen Lil Scott, Jackie Knapp, Jamie Miller and Megan Mondon turned things around quickly. With the addition of Olivia Luzzi the next year, the team improved to 15-11. Amalia Montes and freshman Hannah Liddy and Shannon Devitt helped the team go 23-4 the following year. That same winter the javees were 19-0. The varsity won the Len Sepanak Tournament at Ridge, finished second in the conference and lost in the UCT semifinals, with both Scott and Knapp surpassing 1,000 points in their junior year.

For reasons known only by the Board of Education members, Marino was not rehired for the 2014-15 season, and former star player Liz McKeon took over. The team went 17-9, and Scott and Knapp finished 2-3 all-time at WHS with 1,540 and 1,370 points. Luzzi and Liddy were solid contributors, and Montes and Devitt provided an inside presence. The team reached the county final and the sectional semis.

This year, with Brian Ciemniecki joining McKeon's staff, the girls have dealt with the losses of Luzzi (injury) and Liddy (didn't come out), who had combined for 693 career points. Sophomore Molly Ryan has been the go-to girl, with help from Montes and Devitt inside, and Grace Elliott and Danielle Rinaldi outside. The team is 5-7, with several tight losses, including one in triple-overtime at West Morris last week.

**Next: Boys swimming**

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Area stores that carry The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

<b>7-11 of Westfield</b> 1200 South Ave., W. (Leader/Times)	<b>7-11 of Mountainside</b> 921 Mountain Ave. (Leader)	<b>Westfield Tobacco &amp; News</b> 108 Elm St. (Leader)	<b>Westfield Train Station</b> Southside (Leader/Times)	<b>Westfield Mini Mart</b> 301 South Ave., W. (Leader)	<b>Quick Mart Food Store</b> 190 South Ave. (Times)	<b>Mountain Deli</b> 2385 Mountain Ave. (Times)
<b>7-11 of Garwood</b> 309 North Ave. (Leader)	<b>Shoprite Supermarket</b> 563 North Ave. (Leader)	<b>King's Supermarket</b> 300 South Ave. (Leader)	<b>Baron's Drug Store</b> 243 E. Broad St. (Leader)	<b>Scotch Hills Pharmacy</b> 1819 East 2nd St. (Times)	<b>Wallis Stationery</b> 441 Park Ave. (Leader/Times)	<b>Krauszer's</b> 727 Central Ave. (Leader)

CONLON TOUCHES FIRST IN 50-FREESTYLE, 100-FREE

# Lady Blue Devils Swim Past Trinity Hall Swim Girls, 98-72

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

The boys may get most of the attention but the Westfield High School girls swim team has been quietly putting together a strong season. The Lady Blue Devil continued to plug along with a 98-72 victory over Trinity Hall at a meet held on January 20 at the "Y" pool in Westfield. Sophomore Emma Conlon led the Blue Devil effort with victories in both the 50 Free and the 100 Free and was part of two different Relay winning teams. The visitors from Trinity Hall proved to be very tough competition. The Middletown based all girls Catholic School with an enrollment of less than 100 students won six events on the day and actually led 24-22 after three events heading into the 50 Free.

It was here where Emma Conlon (26.15) and Grace Cash (27.01) put together a 1-2 finish that proved to be a turning point in the meet.

"They pushed us," said Conlon of the Trinity Hall effort in the 50 Free. "I think the excitement that our team felt when we went 1-2 in the 50 Free helped us build momentum for the rest of the meet."

Cashedged Trinity Hall's Lily Scott (27.08) for second, a result which helped the Blue Devils gain extra points. Cash, who also swam on the winning 200 Free Relay team, spoke about the effort.

"We knew they would be tough," said Cash. "When we came out of the turn everyone was bunched together. It was just a sprint to the finish. We were happy to go 1-2 because it kind

of got us back in control of the meet."

The Conlon and Cash exacta gave Westfield a 33-29 advantage and a much needed boost.

After Trinity Hall's Maria Wolf (59.44) took the 100 Butterfly over Westfield's second place finisher Gwyn Devin (1:01.9), the overall score tightened up again with the Blue Devils up 40-38.

But it was Conlon heading up a Westfield sweep in the next event, the 100 Free that really put the Blue Devil girls on the fast track to victory. Conlon (56.76), Muriel Maloney (57.63) and Emily Oster (57.66) went 1-2-3 in the event and staking Westfield to a 53-44 lead.

"Going 1-2-3 in the 100 Free was huge," said Conlon. "I think that was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**A BROTHER ACT...**Senior Ryan Daniel, right, took first place in the 50 Free, while sophomore Colin Daniel won the 100 Butterfly event out of Lane 6 in the meet against Christian Brothers Academy on January 20.

BLUE DEVILS SWEEP 100-BUTTERFLY & 100-BREAST

# Blue Devil Swim Boys Sink Top-Ranked CBA, 106-64

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

The Westfield High School boys' swim team washed over top ranked Christian Brothers Academy like a tidal wave during their 106-64 victory in a meet held on January 20 at the Westfield "Y" pool. The Blue Devils won all but two events against the Non Public A, six-time defending champion. Westfield dominated the meet from start to finish.

"Things definitely went our way today," said Westfield senior Ryan Daniel who won the 50 Free. "CBA is a great program and if we raced them again, I'm sure it would be closer but today everyone was on top of their game."

Nothing illustrated that point better than the 100 Butterfly where sophomore Colin Daniel, racing out of Lane 6, headed up a stunning 1-2-3 finish for the Blue Devils with his winning time of 53.91. Daniel was followed by teammates Aedan Collins (54.0) and David Lindros (54.1) in a wild four across sprint to the finish.

"I knew that in the second 50, I can swim very well," said Daniel. "When I saw we were all bunched up coming into that portion of the race I was pumped up and just gave it my all. My teammates swam great today. It really motivated everyone to do that well."

Westfield got off to a fine start in winning the first race of the meet. The

team of David Lindros, Steve Warren, Colin Daniel and Ryan Daniel took the 200 Medley Relay in 1:37.46. The first place finishes were just beginning for the Blue Devils who went on to claim victory in the 200 Free (Aedan Collins 1:45.78) and the 200 IM (Ryan Bebel 1:57.67).

Next up, older brother Ryan Daniel, a senior, took first place in the 50 Free (22.31) just barely beating out teammate Eric Bebel (22.33) in a 1-2 finish for the Blue Devils.

"This was a meet where we all knew we had to be strong in every event," said Ryan Daniel. "Eric's effort in the 50 Free was an example of that. We carried that through right

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**GETTING INTO THE ACT...**Christian Brothers Academy swimmer Connor Wright slips into the photo with Blue Devils Emma Conlon, left, and Grace Cash.

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Jacqueline "Jackie" Waldman  
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James Euwer



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WILLIAMS SCORES 16 PTS., BATTLE BUCKETS 13 PTS.

Raider Basketball Girls Fall To Johnson Crusaders, 45-34,

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

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' basketball team dropped their fifth game in their last six tries in a sluggish, 45-34, defeat at Johnson on January 21 in Clark. It was also the fourth time in the last five games that the Raiders failed to reach 40 points in a game.

Against UCC Mountain Division foe AL Johnson, a team they had defeated handily, 58-47, earlier in the season, the Raiders looked out of sync on offense. Unable to pass the ball into the teeth of the Crusader zone, the Raiders committed turnover after turnover on their way to allowing a 12-6 first quarter advantage evaporate.

"We were switching our defenses throughout the game," said Johnson Head Coach Michele Sharp. "We wanted to keep their point guard off balance. She (Amami Williams) is a great player. We wanted to contain her as best we could because she can really do a lot of damage with her penetration to the hoop.

The Raiders managed just one point in the second quarter, a free throw by Stephanie DiVizio, as Johnson pulled to within 13-12 by the half. The inside/outside Crusader combo Stephanie Visconti (12 points) and Molly Venetta (11 points) troubled the Raider defense all game long.

Visconti started off the third quarter with an inside basket and converted a foul shot to give Johnson a 15-13 lead. It was a lead they would never relinquish. The Crusaders outscored the Raiders, 14-7, in the third quarter to build a 26-20 lead. Still there was a general feeling that the Raiders would eventually pick up the pace and make a move.

When Venetta drained a three-point shot a minute into the fourth quarter to increase the lead to 29-20, it was clear that the Raiders needed to turn up the heat before the game got away from them. In their first encounter, the Raiders took charge of the meeting with defensive pressure. Calling on that same approach this time would not save them.

"We went with defensive pressure in the second half," said McKenna. "Johnson handled it well. It didn't get us what we needed. We were sloppy in a lot of areas today. We made some bad passes, dropped other good passes. We just had no continuity."

Scotch Plains-Fanwood cut it to 29-23 after Williams made a heads-

up play on an inbounds pass by bouncing the ball off the back of Visconti, catching the rebound and converting a lay-up. Williams was fouled and turned it into a three-point play. A pair of three throws by Micaiah Battle and a lay-up off a steal by DeVizio actually pulled the Raiders to within two, at 29-27. But the Raider offense never seemed to click.

Johnson exploited the Raiders' pressure for a few easy baskets, something they failed to do the first time the teams played, and gradually the Crusaders re-established control building to a 41-31 lead with :50 remaining. The Crusaders sank seven of eight free throw attempts over the game's final three minutes to seal the victory.

"We did a much better job against their press than we did the first time," said Sharp. "We were clutch at the four line too which helped."

Williams led the Raiders with 16 points, while Battle added 13 points and Caroline Babis sank five. Nya Downing had seven rebounds.

The win raised Johnson's overall mark to 5-6 (3-3 in the UCC Mountain Division). Scotch Plains-Fanwood also fell to 5-6 overall (4-2 in UCC Mountain Division). Summit currently leads the UCC Mountain Division at 5-0.

Sc PI-Fanwood 12 1 7 14 34
AL Johnson 6 6 14 19 45



JR. ATHLETES OF THE YEAR...Westfield "Y" Flyers, from left to right, are: Melissa Endy, Grace Endy, Alexandra Bonn, Emma Muir and Paul Koizumi.

Four Flyers Named USATF Jr. Olympic Athletes of Year

Four athletes from the Westfield Area "Y" Flyers Track Club were named Junior Olympic Athletes of the Year by the New Jersey Association of USA Track and Field. The awards were presented on January 16 at the annual awards gala at the Pines Manor in Edison. These awards are presented annually to athletes who have excelled at the State, Regional and National Junior Olympics.

- Athletes of the Year:
Ages 7-8 Girls Division- Thrower of the Year: Emma Muir
Ages 9-10 Girls Division - Long Jumper of the Year: Alexandra Bonn
Ages 11-12 Girls Division - Race

Walker of the Year: Grace Endy

Ages 15-16 Girls Division - Race Walker of the Year: Melissa Endy

Y Flyers won two additional awards at the ceremony:

Ages 11-12 Boys Division - Youth Chair Award- Race Walk: Paul Koizumi

Women's Race Walk Grand Prix - Third Place Melissa Endy

The Westfield Area "Y" Flyers Track Club is a USATF certified club that serves over 700 athletes throughout the year. For more information, please contact the club at: www.yflyertrackclub.com, or contact Paul Garwood at (908) 233-2700.

Student Athletes to Be Honored At 80th Annual Hot Stove Dinner

The Union County Baseball Association (UCBA) will honor local student athletes for their achievements in 2015 and induct five new members into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame during award ceremonies on Sunday afternoon, February 21, in Clark.

The 80th annual Hot Stove League Baseball Dinner begins at 1 p.m. at the Grand Centurions banquet hall at 440 Madison Hill Road. The dinner is sponsored by the UCBA, in cooperation with the Union County (UC) Board of Chosen Freeholders and the UC Department of Parks and Recreation.

Among the honorees will be student athletes from local high schools (HS), including: P.J. Walker and Jahad Thomas, graduates of Elizabeth HS who are now teammates at Temple University; Jackie Lima, a graduate of Linden HS who led the Ramapo College Roadrunners to their first NJAC Tournament Championship; Kathleen Walsh, another Linden graduate, who was named to the All Union County First Team and now plays for Walsh University in Ohio; Gianna Randazza, a junior at Arthur L. Johnson Regional HS in Clark, who was named UC Player of the Year with the Crusaders; and Zack Lipshitz, named UC Hitter of the Year with the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Raiders, who now plays for Drew University.

The UCBA will also induct five new members into the UC Baseball Hall of Fame: Joe Alvarez of Elizabeth, Ray Crepeau of Linden, Wally "Sam"

Engelhardt of Elizabeth, Bruce Henderson of Rahway, and Damien Kane of Roselle.

Sparky Lyle, the 1977 Cy Young Award winner and a two-time World Series champion relief pitcher for the New York Yankees, will be the special guest speaker. The celebrated southpaw will always be remembered for his clutch pitching for the Yankees and his book about those days in pinstripes, "The Bronx Zoo." Lyle also was the original manager par excellence of the Somerset Patriots during the ballclub's first 15 years in Bridgewater (1998-2012).

Tickets for the dinner are \$50 each. Proceeds will help fund the UC Summer Youth Baseball League for youngsters 8 to 15 years, and the Fall Wood Bat League for teens.

Since 1937, the Hot Stove League Dinner has been the primary fund-raising effort for the UCBA's summer and fall programs. Over the years, the awards dinner has honored many local and national baseball luminaries - including Phil Rizzuto of Hillside, Don Newcombe of Elizabeth, Joe Collins of Union, Jeff Torborg of Mountainside, Willie Wilson of Summit, and Elliott Maddox of Union.

Tickets are available from the UCBA by visiting www.UCBA-NJ.org or by mailing a check to the Union County Baseball Association, PO Box 176, Fanwood NJ 07023. For more information, please call Jim Iozzi at (908) 917-2523.

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustment of the Town of Westfield, New Jersey will meet on February 8, 2016 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey at 7:30 p.m. to hear and consider the following appeal for bulk (c) and/or (d) variance relief from requirements of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance.

Bill Wilkins, 318 Marlboro Street. Applicant is seeking approval to demolish the existing structure and construct a new home (using a portion of the existing) contrary to sections 11.09E5, 11.09E6, 11.09E9, and 11.09E10 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a street side yard setback of 20 feet. Proposed are setbacks of 14.32 feet and 16.0 feet. Ordinance requires a minimum side yard setback of 10 feet. Proposed is 5.67 feet. Ordinance allows a maximum floor area ratio of 37%. Proposed is 38.4%. Ordinance allows a maximum building coverage of 20%. Proposed is 26.96%. Ordinance requires a front yard setback of 29 feet. Proposed (and existing) is 28.33 feet.

Lauren A. Politi, 724 Tamaquas Way. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a six foot open aluminum pool enclosure fence around the perimeter of the yard contrary to Section 13.02D of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a six foot solid fence pool enclosure. Proposed is a 6 feet open aluminum style fence.

David Palmer, 701 Lawrence Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to retain a fence in the street side yard contrary to section 12.07C of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a fence height of 4 feet. Proposed is 5.15 feet to 6.15 feet.

Nicholas & Mary Jane Gismond, 732 Fairacres Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a two-story addition contrary to sections 12.04F1 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum building coverage of 20%. Proposed is 22.08%.

Karim & Kelley Schultz, 725 Marcellus Drive. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a second story addition contrary to sections 11.09E7 and 11.09E13 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a minimum side yard setback of 35 feet. Proposed is 31 feet, 8 inches. Ordinance allows a maximum continuous wall length adjacent to a side yard of 25 feet. Proposed is 26 feet.

Variations, waivers or exceptions from certain site plan details or relief from requirements may be sought as appropriate. Plans and application are on file in the office of the Town Engineer, 959 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey and may be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Kathleen Nemeth Board Secretary Fee: \$60.18

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF WESTFIELD ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL PERSON TO PERSON TRANSFER

Take notice that application has been made to the Township of Westfield, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090, for a person to person transfer so to transfer from Ahi Tuna Corp, a New Jersey Corporation, to 341 Westfield Corp, a NJ Corporation d/b/a Fujiyama Mama, for premises located at 341 South Avenue East, Westfield, New Jersey 07090, the Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 2020-33-004-014, heretofore to be issued for the SAME premises.

The person or persons who will hold an interest in this license Xiang Li Zheng, 110 Bryant Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, Stockholder and Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

A plan of the proposed licensed premises is contained in the license application and may be examined in the office of the Municipal Clerk. Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to: Claire J. Gray, Clerk, Westfield Township, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 with a copy to the Applicant c/o Fong J. Hou, Esq., 100 Wood Avenue South # 118, Iselin, New Jersey 08830.

Fong J. Hou, Esq., 100 Wood Avenue South # 118 Iselin, New Jersey 08830

2 T - 1/28/16 & 2/04/16, The Leader Fee: \$61.20

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY NOTICE TO VENDORS

Sealed Request for Proposals for the provision of Merchant Processing Services in the Township of Cranford will be received by the Township Clerk on February 18, 2016 in room 108 at the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained in the Office of the Township Clerk, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All proposals shall be submitted in an opaque sealed envelope clearly marked "Merchant Processing Services" with the vendor's name, address and telephone number. Vendors are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

The Township of Cranford reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals or any part thereof, as in its judgment may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Township of Cranford. The Township of Cranford also reserves the right to waive any minor irregularity or technicality.

Tara Rowley Township Clerk Fee: \$29.07

Blue Devils Sink Top-Ranked CBA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

into the 100 Fly and throughout the rest of the meet."

Griff Morgan took first place in the 100 Free (48.94) for Westfield. Ryan Daniel would place second in the 500 Free (4:53.75) to CBA's Kevin Volkov (4:52.85). In the 200 Free Relay, Westfield prevailed again with the team of Aedan Collins, Eric Bebel, Griff Morgan and Ryan Daniel posting a winning time of 1:30.94 and staking the Blue Devils to a 78-46 overall lead in points.

In the 100 Backstroke, CBA's Tyler Kauth got a win in 53.07 touching just ahead of Westfield's David Lindros (53.44). Steve Warren took the 100 Breast for Westfield (58.99) ahead of teammates Stefan Crigler (1:01.55) and Colin Daniel (1:01.77) for another 1-2-3 Blue Devil sweep.

The Blue Devils closed out the meet with another victory in the 400 Free Relay. The team of Aedan Collins, Eric Bebel, Ryan Bebel and Griff Morgan took first in a time of 3:20.02.

The win left Westfield with an undefeated 10-0 mark in meets this season including wins over four ranked teams.

Local High School Sport Shorts:

Cougar Cagers Beat Highlander Boys, 49-36

The Cranford High School boys basketball team got a 10-point half-time jump on the hosting Governor Livingston Highlanders en route to a 49-36 victory on January 21. Sean Leonard pumped in 16 points to lead the Cougars, while Hunter Remley and Kyle Lofton each netted 10 points. Javon Reis-Wilson scored nine points, Don Dre Garcia had eight, Bill Pencsek had seven and Chris Lang netted six for the Highlanders.

Cranford 12 15 9 13 49
Gov. Livingston 11 6 11 8 36

St. Mary Cagers Nip Westfield Boys in OT

Another overtime game for the Westfield High School boys basketball team ended in a 51-48 victory for the hosting St. Mary's (Elizabeth) squad on January 21. Ahmad St. Fluor led St. Mary's with 17 points. Matt LaCorte led the Blue Devils with 21 points, including four 3-pointers, and Parker Hess netted 11 points, including three 3-pointers.

Westfield 14 7 12 12 3 48
St. Mary's 12 9 10 14 6 51

Cougar Cagers Beat Lady Highlanders, 58-39

Lauren Williamson put up 16 points and added five steals and five assists as the Cranford High School girls basketball team defeated the Governor Livingston Highlanders in Cranford on January 20. Bela Speer had 13 rebounds, four blocked shots and six points, Cam Wichelns had 10 points, four assists and two steals, while Lindsay Pace sank seven points.

Lauren Soranno scored 13 points for the Highlanders, while Lindsay DiStaso scored 12 and Lindsay Gerrato scored 11.

Gov. Livingston 10 12 5 12 39
Cranford 18 11 20 9 58

Raider Metmen Bury Brearley Bears, 51-14

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestling team buried the Brearley Bears, 51-14, in Kenilworth on January 20. Justin Sidebottom (113), Jashmar Phillippe (132), Mike Ramos (152) and George Ramos (182) all won by pin. Jacob Perone (120), Nadim Korkmaz (126) and Sam Wustefeld (170) won by majority decisions. Zach Fleischman (160) won by decision, while Bobby Mount (220) and Bill Root (285) received forfeits. Bear Saverio Salcfas won a tight 7-4 decision over Jaylen Bryant at 195-lbs.

Iselin Kennedy Defeats Blue Devil Matmen

The Iselin Kennedy High School wrestling team defeated Westfield, 35-28, in Westfield on January 20. Blue Devils Zach Rabinowitz (106) and Jarek Gozdieski (170) won by fall and Chris Hoerle (120) won by majority decision. Tim Miller (138) and Phil Ricca (220) won by decision and Aiden Schaefer (113) received a forfeit.

Probitas Verus Honos

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD

RESOLUTION 16-01-22 CONTRACTOR: Direct Development, 1338 State Route 36, Hazlet, New Jersey 07730 NATURE OF SERVICE: Newsletter Editorial and Layout Services, Web Hosting, Design & Development

DURATION: For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016 FEE: Not to exceed \$35,400. A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023. Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk Fee: \$19.38

Devils Swim Past Trinity Hall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

really the key in the second half of the meet."

In the 500 Free, Westfield picked up a few more points when Emily McGann (5:38.64) and Betsy Penn (5:46.17) finished second and third, respectively, behind Trinity Hall's Isabelle Pabon (5:31.81).

The Blue Devils then opened things up with a victory in the 200 Free Relay where the team of Conlon, Cash, Oster and Devin posted a winning time of 1:46.62. Blue Devils Liz Diamantopoulos, Lauren Wang, Jenna Daniel and Emilia McCormack picked up points for finishing third (1:53.82).

Trinity Hall's Caroline Amelich took the 100 Backstroke (1:00.13) but Westfield's Maloney (1:03.95) and Keeley Thompson (1:05.07) finished

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

The Tax Assessment List for the Town of Westfield for the 2016 Tax Year will be open for inspection on Friday, February 5, 2016 between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. in the Tax Assessors Office, Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield.

Annamarie Switzer, CTA Tax Assessor 1 T - 1/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$11.22

PUBLIC NOTICE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY

DOCKET NO. F-009033-15 FILE NO. 19735-15 NOTICE TO REDEEM

US BANK/CUST ATR FUND NJ & CAPONE; PLAINTIFF VS. DELPHINE B. MAULDIFF; FRED C. AUSTIN; MRS. FRED C. AUSTIN, WIFE OF FRED C. AUSTIN; GEOFFREY BOB; PAM INVESTORS; C. PRIBBLE A/K/A CINDY PRIBBLE KOCHANSKI; US BANK CUST FOR PHOENIX JOHN PFEIFFER, EXECUTOR OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF BALTHASER HAFNER; OLD REPUBLIC INSURED FINANCIAL ACCEPTANCE CORP.; JONATHAN MCLEAN; STATE OF NEW JERSEY; DEFENDANT(S)

TO: FRED C. AUSTIN; MRS. FRED C. AUSTIN, WIFE OF FRED C. AUSTIN; C. PRIBBLE A/K/A CINDY PRIBBLE KOCHANSKI; JOHN PFEIFFER, EXECUTOR OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF BALTHASER HAFNER; JONATHAN MCLEAN;

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an order made on January 21, 2016, the Superior Court Fixed March 7, 2016 between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon, prevailing time, at the office of the Tax Collector of PLAINFIELD, located at 515 WATCHUNG AVENUE, PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060 as the time and place when and where you may pay to the plaintiff the amount so found due for principal and interest on its certificate of tax sale as follows:

LOT 4 BLOCK 134 on the tax duplicate of PLAINFIELD. Total amount required to redeem tax sale certificate no. 12-0715 is \$23,107.71, together with interest from September 30, 2015 and costs of \$1,371.67.

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

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

Michael G. Pellegrino, Esq., Attorney for Plaintiff PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C. 290 Route 46 West

Denville, New Jersey 07834 (973) 586-2300 1 T - 1/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$62.22

second and third.

Devin clinched it for Westfield with a victory in the 100 Breaststroke (1:11.19) touching just ahead of Trinity Hall's Lauren Joyce (1:11.34).

The Blue Devils finished the day by coming in second in the 400 Free Relay. McGann, Penn, Oster and Maloney turned in a time of 4:08.11 behind Trinity Hall's winning effort of 3:48.34 (Wolf, Panon, Lauren Joyce and Amelich).

Earlier in the meet, Westfield got the day off to an exciting start with a nail biting victory in the 200 Medley Relay. Thompson, Devin, Penn and Conlon won in 1:53.55, touching just ahead of Trinity Hall's team of Amelich, Joyce, Wolf and Lily Scott (1:53.61).

The victory moved Westfield to 9-3 on the season with their only losses coming to top programs like IHA, Bridgewater Karitan and Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

PUBLIC NOTICE SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.5 at the Board offices located at Evergreen Avenue and Cedar Street, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076, from interested vendors (herein referred to as the "Vendor") for Interior Door Replacements - Phase 1 in accordance with the Bid Specifications prepared by the Board.

A copy of the Bid Requests may be inspected and picked up at the Board offices between the hours of 8:30AM and 4:00PM, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Further information may be obtained by calling Ms. Deborah S. Saridaki, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary at (908) 232-6161 ext. 4013. Bid Requests may also be e-mailed to interested providers upon request.

All vendors submitting bids must use and complete all forms in the manner designated and include all information required in the Bid Requests. The Board assumes no responsibility for bids mailed or misdirected in delivery. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening thereof.

Pursuant to P.L. 2004, c. 57, all bids must be accompanied by a New Jersey Business Registration Certificate (BRC) issued by the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue. All vendors are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127, "Law Against Discrimination" and the Affirmative Action statutes and regulations, N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1 et seq.

Bids must be submitted to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education no later than 2:30PM on Thursday, February 18, 2016. 1. Submit three (3) copies of the completed bid package, one (1) with original signatures and two (2) copies in an envelope addressed to: Office of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education Evergreen Avenue and Cedar Street Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 ATTENTION: Ms. Deborah S. Saridaki, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

2. Plainly identify on the outside of the sealed envelope which bid you are submitting; "Interior Door Replacements Bid-Phase 1". 3. A Bid Bond or Certified Check for ten percent (10%) of the bid amount must accompany the Bid, but not in excess of \$20,000.

All bids will be opened and read publicly at that time by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, or her designee. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any informality in the process if it is in the best interest of the Board. No proposal may be deemed accepted until the adoption of a formal resolution by the Board.

By order of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education in the County of Union, New Jersey.

Deborah S. Saridaki Business Administrator Board Secretary 1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$69.36

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-01 A REVISED ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE "LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE", OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CHAPTER 136 ENTITLED LAND DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford desired to amend the Land Development Ordinance promulgated at Chapter 136 of the Township of Cranford General Code to plan and guide the appropriate use or development of all land in a manner which will promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the Township's residents and business owners and will benefit the public; and

WHEREAS, certain pipelines are not public utilities that distribute to end users and are unregulated by the State of New Jersey Board of Public Utilities; and

WHEREAS, these pipelines are designed to transport a variety of materials, including hazardous substances which, if a discharge occurred, result in environmental degradation to the environment, including the land, water and air; and

WHEREAS, these pipelines do not directly provide the public with necessities, such as electricity, gas, telephone, water or wastewater service; and

WHEREAS, these pipelines may pose a threat to the infrastructure that provides these public utility services; and

WHEREAS, these pipelines are not public utilities that distribute services to end users and are unregulated by the Board of Public Utilities, there is limited accountability to the public; and

WHEREAS, these pipelines raise significant safety concerns for the Township of Cranford, potentially threatening the health safety and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing the Township Committee adopted Ordinance 2015-37 on December 15, 2015, which may have been procedurally ineffective and is hereby rescinded;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford as follows:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 2015-37 adopted on December 15, 2015 is hereby rescinded.

SECTION 2. The following shall amend and supplement, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 136 Land Development: 136-1 Purposes; definitions.

B. PIPELINE A pipeline which is not a public utility, that distributes to end users and is unregulated by the State of New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and which is designed to transport a variety of materials, including hazardous substances which, if a discharge occurred, result in environmental degradation to the environment, including the land, water and air.

136-39 Pipelines No person shall install and/or operate a pipeline carrying crude or other petroleum oil within 100 feet of any building intended for human occupancy which is in existence prior to, or under construction at the date of, execution of the right-of-way agreement, or at the date of filing with the Clerk of the Superior Court of a complaint in a condemnation action, unless such person has obtained prior Board of Adjustment ("Board") approval of a permit of the installation and/or operation of the pipeline.

SECTION 3. After introduction, the Township Clerk is hereby directed to submit a copy of the within Ordinance to the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford for its review in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-26 and N.J.S.A. 40:55D-64.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. If any portion of this ordinance shall be determined to be invalid, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of said ordinance.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with law.

Tara Rowley Municipal Clerk 1 T - 1/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$95.88

# Cougars Win Final 8 Bouts, Top Panthers, 43-13

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

at 106-lbs when Mark Montgomery got the 8-1 Panthers on the board with a 5-0 decision over Conor Halpin but when Panther Chris Gural stepped onto the mat at 113-lbs, the Cougars sent out Chris Wozniak so Anthony Capece could jump up to the 120-lbs class. Gural temporarily put the Panthers in the lead when he pinned Wozniak with a double arm bar in 52 seconds. Afterwards, Capece recorded a reversal and a low double-leg takedown to defeat Jon Mejia, 4-2.

At 126-lbs, Josh Mejia's 12-2 majority decision over AJ Bencivegna put the Panthers back into the lead, 13-10. But that was all for the Panthers when DiGiovanni stepped up to 132-lbs and showed Dylan Camillo the lights in 3:16 using an arm bar/

tiring him out. Eventually I broke him. I started to get my points. I was feeling it. I was in the zone and I was having a good time."

Another Cougar who seemed to have a good time was Vince Concina hopping up to 152-lbs to face Joe Devito. Concina recorded a pair of shrug takedowns, a standing switch reversal and topped it off with a low heel takedown to earn an 8-4 victory.

"I am pretty big for my weight class. I wrestle with some bigger guys in the room," Concina said. "I have been working those counter shots and I have been working that shrug a lot. I was hoping to get the major but I slipped up at the end but I got the win and the team got the points."

As to his impressive low heel scoop, he said, "That's a big part of my

County Tournament.

"I had been training all week for counties, so I knew it was my time to win one. I had the confidence going in. This match tonight, we probably knew we all were going to bump up but none of us cared because it doesn't matter who is in front of us," McGovern said.

Cougar Andrew Tompkins had to present himself on the mat first at 170-lbs and was hoping to have a rematch with Will Ferdinando, who had edged him, 3-1 in the county final with a takedown in overtime when it appeared that Tompkins was on the verge of the winning takedown. Instead, the Panthers presented Abel Crespo and Ferdinando moved up to 182-lbs.

"I wanted to go out there and wrestle



BAR AND HALF NELSON...Cougar Tom DiGiovanni, top, begins to turn Panther Dylan Camillo to his back with an arm bar/half nelson in his 132-lb bout. DiGiovanni stacked him with that combination in 3:16.

half nelson stack. Cougar Chris Scorese then took care of business at 138-lbs when he pinned Elvin Guerrero in 1:24 with a nearside cradle.

Cougar Mike Nigro knew he had some work to do when he faced Rene Perez, whom he beat, 2-1, for third place in the counties. At 145-lbs, Perez came on like a ball of fire with a pair of takedowns to seize a 4-2 lead entering the second period but Nigro came to life, recorded a reversal then added a 3-point nearfall in the third

arsenal.

Another great example of how football and wrestling seem to work well together, Cougar Brian McGovern used a series of double-leg tangles and a leg-trip takedown to defeat Carey Mimy, 9-3, at 160-lbs.

"Football helps my wrestling. Wrestling helps my football tackling wise. They go hand-and-hand. That's why I have a good double," McGovern said.

Just the Saturday before, McGovern won the 152-lb crown at the Union

Will again but. It left a bad taste in my mouth in the counties for sure. I was training hard all week to wrestling him again," Tompkins explained.

Tompkins, however, took his wrath out on Crespo, pinning him in 2:39 with an Olympic arm bar/half nelson.

"I was angry from the counties. I was working with whatever I could get to. A bar and a half was what I got and I eventually got him over," Tompkins said.

At 182-lbs, Niko Cappello used a single-leg lift to take Ferdinando to the mat en route to a 3-0 win then in the final bout, 195-lbs, Cougar Dylan Budnik escaped and added a double-leg trip to defeat Devin Hilburn, 3-2.

**BOUT SEQUENCE:**

- 220: — Esposito (C) md Estivene, 11-3
- Hwt: — Doran (C) d Leo, 3-2
- 106: — Montgomery (R) d Halpin, 5-0
- 113: — Gural (R) p Wozniak, :52
- 120: — Capece (C) d Mejia, 4-2
- 126: — Mejia (R) md Bencivegna, 12-2
- 132: — DiGiovanni (C) p Camillo, 3:16
- 138: — Scorese (C) p Guerrero, 1:24
- 145: — Nigro (C) d Perez, 7-4
- 152: — Concina (C) d Devito, 8-4
- 160: — McGovern (C) d Mimy, 9-3
- 170: — Tompkins (C) p Crespo, 2:39
- 182: — Cappello (C) d Ferdinando, 3-0
- 195: — Budnik (C) d Hilburn, 3-2

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-15

**CONTRACTOR:** Jalloh & Jalloh LLC, 21 West Blanche Street, 2nd Floor, Linden, New Jersey 07036

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Conflict Attorney

**DURATION:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016

**FEES:** Not to exceed \$1,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-08

**CONTRACTOR:** Rogut McCarthy LLC, 37 Alden Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Legal Counsel Services as Borough Attorney

**DURATION:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016

**FEES:** Not to exceed \$125,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-06

**CONTRACTOR:** Beckerman & Company, 430 Lake Avenue, Colonia, New Jersey 07067

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Insurance Brokerage Services, General Liability and Workers' Compensation Insurance

**DURATION:** For a period not to exceed December 31, 2016

**FEES:** Fee paid by Garden State JIF

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$19.38



GOING IN FOR A LAY-UP...Blue Devil sophomore Molly Ryan, No. 2, works inside for a lay-up as Highlander Benecia Emiliano, No. 12, attempts to prevent a successful shot.

# W. Mo. Central Starve Blue Devils in OT, 44-40

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

bounds, scored seven points and had two steals. Ryan, who scored 11 points, including three 3-pointers, had five rebounds, three steals and two assists.

"Shannon always plays her heart out and no matter what, she finds a way to get it done, pulling down rebounds, getting blocks. She's always stepping in to help her teammates and I really admire that about Shannon," Rinaldi said.

"Danielle always works hard. She's always got her quick hands up. She steps up when we need to and she's always there even in tough times when they had their running scorers," Devitt said.

The Lady Highlanders entered the game with a 10-2 record, so the Blue Devils were well aware of what to expect. Maddie Salvaggi led the Highlanders with 15 points, including six in the decisive third overtime. Ilissa Webb sank 14 points, which included hitting six of seven from the charity line, and Benecia Emiliano put in nine points.

"We had seen them in a Christmas tournament, so we knew what we were up against. We definitely held out as long as we could. We didn't pull out the win but we did try to survive that third overtime," Devitt said.

Two of Rinaldi's assists went inside to Devitt, who led the Blue Devils with 12 points.

"This year we have an offense to work it inside, work the post as well

as the guards. When we had Lil [Scott] and Jac[kie Knapp], it was more of an outside team. Now we can get it down to two solid post players to get the work done," Devitt said.

The Blue Devils' feast in the game came in the first quarter when Rinaldi began with 2-pointer then banged a pair of threes and Ryan also hit a three to give Westfield a 15-8 lead. Devitt, on respective assists from Mia Melao (2 assists) and Rinaldi, put in four points underneath then converted a steal to another lay-up to give Westfield a 21-13 lead deep into the second quarter. Salvaggi followed with four points then Blue Devil Lauren Sgro was fouled at the buzzer and sank both free throws but the Highlanders won the quarter, 9-8.

Famine struck the Blue Devils in the third quarter and the Highlanders feasted on an 8-1 run to seize a 25-24 lead entering the fourth quarter. Devitt and Montes, however, sank four points each and Ryan banged her second three as Westfield won the quarter, 11-10, sending the game into overtime.

Starvation plagued both teams in the first two overtimes. Ryan converted a steal to a lay-up in the first overtime but Webb countered with a pair of successful free throws. Neither team found the inside of the hoop

in the second overtime, although the Blue Devils went to the line twice for one-and-one shots but missed both first shots. In the third overtime, the hungry Highlanders received manna when Salvaggi drove to the basket and rolled in three lay-ups. Ryan nailed her third 3-pointer in the period and Webb sank a free throw to end the endurance run.

With the graduation of Knapp and Scott, and the loss of co-captain Olivia Luzzi for the season due to injury, the Blue Devils were forced to revamp their entire makeup this season, especially offensively.

"I think in the beginning of the season that was probably our hump to get over. Recently we've really been playing as a team. Everyone has been playing their role really well. I think that's all we can ask, for everyone to play their heart out and everyone to work together," Rinaldi said.

"We started out a little rough but we cemented a good overtime win against Summit, so I think that boosted the team and brought our team together and also got us working toward our goals for the rest of the season," Devitt said.

W. Mo. Central	8	9	8	10	35
Westfield	15	8	1	11	35
W. Mo. Cent	OT	2	0	7	44
Westfield	OT	2	0	3	40



SCRAMBLING FOR POSSESSION...Blue Devils, in white, and Highlanders struggle for possession of the ball in Westfield on January 21.



SETTING UP A SINGLE-LEG TRIP...Cougar Niko Cappello, right, sets up a single-leg trip takedown on Panther Will Ferdinando in the 182-lb bout.

period to claim a 7-4 victory.

"I had some pressure riding on me because I beat him in the county tournament. So I was looking to not have him be that comeback kid. It took a lot of hard work in the room and a couple of days to refocus myself," Nigro said. "When I went into the match, my first period was pretty sloppy. I realized I had to get my head into the game and start working on

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BOROUGH OF GARWOOD**

The Tax Assessment List for the Borough of Garwood for the 2016 Tax Year will be open for inspection on Friday, February 5, 2016 between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. in the Tax Assessors Office, Municipal Building, 403 South Avenue, Garwood.

Annamarie Switzer, CTA Tax Assessor

1 T - 1/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$11.22

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-11

**CONTRACTOR:** Najarian Associates, One Industrial Way West, Eatontown, New Jersey 07724

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Special Engineering Services

**DURATION:** Period ending December 31, 2016

**AMOUNT:** Not to exceed \$1,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-14

**CONTRACTOR:** Sedita, Campisano & Campisano LLC, 145 Route 46 West, Wayne, New Jersey 07470

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Environmental Attorney

**DURATION:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016

**FEES:** Not to exceed \$10,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-13

**CONTRACTOR:** NW Financial Group, LLC, 2 Hudson Place, 3rd Floor, Hoboken, New Jersey 07030

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Financial Advisory Services

**PERIOD:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016

**AMOUNT:** Not to exceed \$5,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-13

**CONTRACTOR:** Carroll Engineering, 105 Raider Boulevard, Suite 206, Hillsborough, New Jersey 08844

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Special Engineering Services

**DURATION:** Period ending December 31, 2016

**AMOUNT:** Not to exceed \$1,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

RESOLUTION 16-01-16

**CONTRACTOR:** Rogut McCarthy LLC, 37 Alden Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Ethics Attorney

**DURATION:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016

**FEES:** Not to exceed \$1,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk

1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

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David B. Corbin (February 2014 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**SHOWING SPECIAL UNIFORMS...**Raider Jasmir Philippe, left, and Blue Devil John Fuller show their "Pin Cancer" uniforms during their 113-lb bout on Alumni Night in Scotch Plains on January 31, 2014. Fuller won, 1-0.

**Short term Memory Lane 2012-14**

—From the archives for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*  
**January 28, 2014:** Nothing seemed to go right and nearly nothing went in for the Westfield High School boys basketball team in a 48-45 loss to Governor Livingston at Westfield, just three days after beating the Highlanders, 45-36, on their turf. Senior Dylan Elliott led the Blue

Devils with 12 points, including three 3-pointers, and three steals. He also had six rebounds, an assist and tipped a pass that ended up in the hands of a teammate. Senior Dave Kane had six rebounds, six points and a pair of steals. Chris Wright sank seven points, while adding five rebounds, a blocked shot and one steal. Chris Boutsikaris also had seven points, two rebounds, a steal and an assist.  
**January 30, 2014:** Senior John



David B. Corbin (2012 Mt. St. Mary's meet) for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**RECORD-BREAKING DAY...**Blue Devil sophomore Caroline Baldwin broke the UCT meet and WHS records in the 50-freestyle and the 100-backstroke, and teamed with Loren Ball, Sarah Cronin and Ellie Reinhardt to break the UCT meet and WHS records in the 200-free and 400-free relays. (January 2012)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinances were passed on first reading by the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey on the 19th of JANUARY 2016, and that said Ordinances will be considered for final adoption at a meeting of the said Township Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 430 Park Avenue, on the 16th day of FEBRUARY 2016 at 7:00 p.m., at which time and place a public hearing will be held prior to final passage of said Ordinances and all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. Copies of said Ordinances can be obtained from the Township Clerk's Office at any time prior to final adoption at no cost to any member of the general public who requests same.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER ENTITLED "POLICE REGULATIONS" BY REPEALING EXISTING §-7 ENTITLED, "FIREWORKS" AND REPLACING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY INTO CHAPTER XVII ENTITLED "FIRE PREVENTION" AS §17-6 "FIREWORKS".**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2016-2**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XXVII ENTITLED, "SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS REGARDING TOWNSHIP FEE FOR CURBSIDE BULKY WASTE COLLECTION.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 20163**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR SUPERVISOR OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

BOZENA LACINA, RMC  
Municipal Clerk  
1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$45.39

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

**RESOLUTION 16-01-30**

**CONTRACTOR:** CME Associates, 141 Bordentown Road, Parlin, New Jersey 08859-1162  
**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Park Planning Services  
**DURATION:** Period ending December 31, 2016  
**AMOUNT:** \$1,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.  
Eleanor McGovern  
Borough Clerk  
1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

**RESOLUTION 16-01-23**

**CONTRACTOR:** Brown & Brown Metro, Inc., 56 Livingston Avenue, Roseland, New Jersey 07068  
**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Risk Management/Insurance Program, Administration and Insurance Broker for Dental And Life Insurances  
**DURATION:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016  
**AMOUNT:** Not to exceed \$15,000.00

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.  
Eleanor McGovern  
Borough Clerk  
1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$20.40

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**

**RESOLUTION 16-01-07**

**CONTRACTOR:** Rogut, McCarthy, LLC, 37 Alden Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016  
**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Downtown Economic Development, Coordinator Services  
**DURATION:** For a period ending no later than December 31, 2016  
**FEE:** Not to exceed \$30,000

A copy of the Resolution and Contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.  
Eleanor McGovern  
Borough Clerk  
1 T - 1/28/16, The Times Fee: \$18.87



David B. Corbin (February 2014 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**REALLY GOING AFTER THE BALL...**Cougars Jack McCaffrey, left, and John Oblachinski, right, put the pinch on Raider Jack Poillon in Cranford on January 30, 2014. The Cougars defeated the Raiders, 56-41.

**D. Blair Corbin's**  
Raiders  
Blue Devils  
Cougars  
**Walk Down Memory Lane**

seven rebounds and nine points. Leo Ramos (4 points) and Quaryee Bull (2 points) each had six rebounds.

**January 31, 2014:** All the chips were on the line when Raider senior Matt Ridge stepped on the mat to face Blue Devil sophomore Kevin Frega in the final bout at 195-lbs in the "Pin Cancer" Alumni Night between the Scotch Plains-Fanwood wrestling team and Westfield at Scotch Plains. All proceeds from the ticket sales and the concession stands were to be donated to the "Pin Cancer" program.

Both coaches were juggling around their lineups throughout like a "chess" match to get the most advantageous match-ups for their team and with the Raiders trailing, 33-30, the final move was made when Ridge bumped up from his regular class at 182-lbs to face Frega and the winner would deliver the victory for his team. Frega took the initiative with a takedown attempt, but Ridge countered to get the takedown and a two-point nearfall. Ridge recorded a side roll reversal in the second period and added a defensive takedown to claim an 8-0 majority decision.

**January 29, 2013:** Four Cougars in the starting five hit double figures in scoring and the other sank eight points as the 13-4 Cranford Cougar

girls basketball team rolled past the 10-8 Linden Lady Tigers, 69-58, in Cranford.

Senior forward Jess McCoy led the Cougars with 20 points, including a 3-pointer, and pulled down eight rebounds. Senior point guard Jenna Goeller netted 10 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and guard Kerry Wischusen put in 16 points, including two 3-pointers, and added three steals

**January 31, 2013:** Senior Reggie Green's effectiveness under the boards and accurate shooting from beyond the perimeter was prevalent in the Cranford Cougar boys basketball team's 58-44 victory over Scotch Plains-Fanwood in Scotch Plains. Green pulled down 11 rebounds and added three blocked shots and a steal, while sinking six points and contributing three assists. Raider senior forward Tom Bonacum turned out to be effective in nearly every aspect of the game. Bonacum also had 11 rebounds, but he was also very dangerous offensively under the board, from mid range and from beyond the perimeter. He finished with a game-high 25 points, which included three of the Raiders' six 3-pointers.  
**January 28, 2012:** Last year, on

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD**

The 2016 Tax List may now be viewed between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday in Room 104 (Assessor's Office) in the Cranford Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford.  
Peter J. Barnett  
Assessor  
Fee: \$9.18

1 T - 1/28/16, The Leader

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD**

**Date Adopted: 01/21/16**

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

**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-82**

**AWARDED TO:** Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company  
**SERVICES:** to renew the Marine Insurance Policy covering UC Marine 1 and UC Marine 2, Union County Police Fire Boats  
**PERIOD:** January 22, 2016-January 21, 2017  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$17,150.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$23.46

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-78**

**AWARDED TO:** Life Technologies  
**SERVICES:** for Validation Testing Services at the Union County Laboratory, as per State requirements  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-84**

**AWARDED TO:** Kanen Psychological Associates, P.A., Ridgewood, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** for the provision of Psychological Evaluation Services  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
**COSTS:** for a total amount not to exceed \$49,500.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-97**

**AWARDED TO:** Weber Dowd Law of Woodland Park, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** in the matter entitled Laquan Kearney v. UC, et als.  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$46,956.48  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-99**

**AWARDED TO:** Winning Strategies Washington, Washington DC  
**SERVICES:** to provide services for comprehensive federal government relations and lobbying services  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
**COSTS:** in the amount of \$138,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44



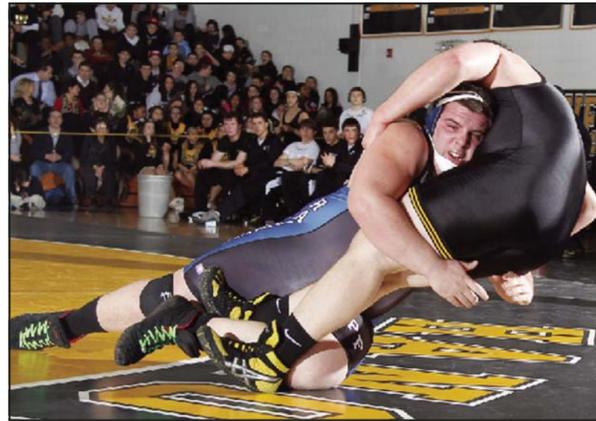
David B. Corbin (February 2012 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**DRIVING TO THE BASKET...**Blue Devil freshman Lillian Scott, No. 20, drives past Raider Alyssa Riporti, No. 13, as Blue Devil Carly Friedman, No. 13, looks on. The Blue Devils beat the Raiders, 49-45, on January 28, 2012.

January 29, 2011 in Westfield, senior guard Danielle Miller banged a big 3-pointer with four seconds remaining to give the Blue Devil girls basketball team a stunning 41-39, victory over rival Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

This past January 28 in Westfield, there were a pair of big shots sank at the buzzer to end the second and third quarters, but it came down to the deadly free throw shooting of senior center Catherine Maguire and the

ranked Blue Devil girls swim team remained No. 1 by touching first in the 400-freestyle relay to defeat, for the first time ever, No. 2 Immaculate Heart Academy of Washington Township in Bergen County, 87-83, at Wallace pool in Westfield.

**January 31, 2012:** The Blue Devil boys swim team, fresh off a UCT championship after stunning the No. 3 SP-F Raiders, defeated the Cranford Cougars, 115-55, in Westfield. Blue Devil Brennan Haley touched first in



Jim O'Connor (njsporports.com) February 2013 files for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**GETTING THE TAKEDOWN IN OVERTIME...**Raider heavyweight Anthony Tufaro earns his 96th career victory when he takes Hanover Park's Nick LaShell to the mat in overtime to claim a 3-1 decision on February 1, 2013.

fast-paced game of a trio of freshmen that earned the Blue Devils a come-from-behind 49-45 victory over the Raiders.

**January 31, 2012:** Holding a slim 79-77 lead entering the final event, Sarah Cronin, Ellie Reinhardt, Lauren Schmeider and anchor Caroline Baldwin saw to it that the No. 1

the 200-freestyle, Stephen Husch touched first in the 100-butterfly, Sam Hays won the 500-freestyle and Matt Daniel took first in the 100-breaststroke. Cougar Julie Byrne touched first in the 100-backstroke, Brian Woo took top honors in the 200-individual medley and Nick Kalafatis touched first in the 50-freestyle.

See it all on the web in color...  
[www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com)

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-87**

**AWARDED TO:** Intervention Strategies, International, Inc., Midland Park, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** for the purpose of providing a comprehensive Employee Assistance Program to County Employees and their families  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
**COSTS:** at a cost not to exceed \$52,360.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$23.97

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-81**

**AWARDED TO:** Great America Assurance Company, Cincinnati, Ohio  
**SERVICES:** to cover accidental death of horses by fire, electrocution or transportation vehicle overturn  
**PERIOD:** January 16, 2016-January 15, 2017  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$1,559.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-85**

**AWARDED TO:** The Institute for Forensic Psychology, Oakland, New Jersey  
**SERVICES:** to provide Psychological Evaluation Services to the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Personnel, and The Office of the Union County Prosecutor  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
**COSTS:** in a total amount not to exceed \$29,500.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$24.48

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-80**

**AWARDED TO:** Hartford Fire Insurance Company  
**SERVICES:** Renewal of Public Official Bond for JoAnn Schwab, Office of the County Surrogate  
**PERIOD:** December 31, 2015-December 30, 2016  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$137.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

# Challenger and Columbia: Why They Still Affect Us

"I touch the future. I teach." — Christa McAuliffe.

Thirty years ago today, on January 28, 1986, our country and its space program suffered the devastating loss of seven crew members — including New Hampshire high school teacher Christa McAuliffe — when the Space Shuttle *Challenger* exploded 73 seconds after liftoff.

A teacher at Concord High School, Ms. McAuliffe had been selected from among more than 11,000 applicants to become the first teacher in space. Also a wife and the mother of two young children, she was 37 years old, and her death made the *Challenger* disaster all the more poignant.

The catastrophe impacted us as a nation, and a people, in a way few events have. Three decades later, many of us still remember where we were when we heard the news, the emotions we felt, the images of Ms. McAuliffe's family among those watching the launch with awe and anticipation — only moments later to be stunned with sorrow and disbelief.

*Challenger* was not our space program's first tragedy, nor would it be the last. This Monday, February 1, will mark 13 years since the loss of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* and its own

crew of seven. These dual anniversaries emphasize for us anew the courage required of the men and women who choose to travel beyond Earth's boundaries, and the ultimate sacrifice some have made on these journeys.

Although she never got to complete her historic mission as a teacher in space, Christa McAuliffe did indeed touch the future through her all-too-brief voyage aboard *Challenger*. A civilian who joined the ranks of highly-trained astronauts, she encouraged her students and others to reach for the stars. She was a role model, especially for women and girls, and redefined what a classroom could be with her planned lessons from space. Her life remains an inspiration, and an enduring reminder that ordinary people truly can make an extraordinary difference.

On this solemn anniversary, we continue to honor the lives, and the sacrifice, made by all members of the crews of *Challenger* and *Columbia*. We also salute all those individuals who dedicate their lives to advancing our knowledge of space and its mysteries — both those who venture into the cosmos and those with whom they collaborate here on Earth.

# Be Wary When You Hear About PILOT Payments

You may have heard the term PILOT. Many are not aware of its full consequences.

Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) is a method by which municipalities entice developers to take an abandoned or blighted property and renovate it or build something new. It's a set fee lower than what would be charged if taxed under the regular assessment, and almost always excludes school taxes. That means the school district gets no revenue.

On a local level, this can be problematic. Education costs comprise one of the largest portions of a homeowner's property tax bill — in some cases half or more.

Without revenue from new sources, the ever increasing costs are borne by the existing taxpayers. So while new business are cheered as a new "ratable," it's not as complete as some are led to believe.

On a state level, it can be even more troublesome in New Jersey.

Assemblyman Jack Citarrelli (R-16th, Somerville) is asking the acting director of the state's division of taxation, Dennis Shilling, to expand its ongoing investigation into the practices of three towns in particular (Elizabeth, Dunellen and Jersey City) regarding PILOTs, tax assessments and state school aid.

His charge is that some towns are using PILOTs and assessments as a

way of keeping the tax base (at least as far as school districts are concerned) artificially low.

Jersey City and Elizabeth are so-called "Abbott" districts — although the term is not officially used any more. They were created by the New Jersey Supreme Court, which in rulings in 1985 and 1990 determined that the state constitution required an equal education to all students, these districts were too poor to do it at the level of a Westfield or a Cranford, and therefore the lion share of state funding should go to them.

That reduced state funding to towns like Westfield and Cranford.

Now, while some feel that PILOTs may not be the best idea when done in richer towns, Mr. Citarrelli sees poorer towns gaming the system to keep the state funding their schools instead of putting it on their own residents.

"The notion of any community not collecting school property taxes on properties when their schools are 50 percent, 60 percent or 70 percent funded by state school aid is dubious if not unacceptable, especially considering that the New Jerseyans providing that aid do, in fact, pay school property taxes," Mr. Citarrelli said in a release.

PILOT payments can be a useful tool, but like the old adage, too much of anything is bad.

# More Letters to the Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

## Many Reports Confirm That Taxes Are Driving Residents Out of New Jersey

Government big spenders and legislators take note.

Forbes reports New Jersey has one of the highest rates of migration out of state of any state in the country.

The Census Bureau projects that between 1995 and 2025 New Jersey will have one of the smallest population increases of any state.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the United States Department of Commerce ranked New Jersey economic 46th in economic growth in 2014.

What could explain these phenomena?

One answer is taxes. Forbes ranks New Jersey 49th in the state and local tax burden. The Tax Foundation reports New Jersey has a higher sales tax than 26 states and the highest real estate taxes of any state. Most other states have no estate tax.

But this does not stop the state legislature, the Westfield Board of Education, the Westfield Town Council, and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders from more taxpayer-funded projects.

A second answer. The Woodrow Wilson School Policy Research Institute concluded that "the high cost of living (and especially the high cost of housing) is the main factor that leads to the state's net out-migration."

A third answer. The Census Bureau reports the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Area has one of the longest commuting times of any American metropolitan area. Anyone driving during rush hour knows this full well. Nor is taking expensive public transportation even if available any fun either.

New Jersey remains a fine place to live and work but for how long? Our elected officials had better get on the stick and reduce the tax burden and

end the commuter nightmare. And solve other serious long-festering problems, including the perilous state pension system and the nearly bankrupt state transportation fund.

The United States Department of Transportation reports that 66 percent of New Jersey roads are "in poor/mediocre condition" and 35.5 percent of its bridges are "structurally deficient/functionally obsolete"

Yet the state legislature's website states, "While legislators spend a considerable amount of their time on legislative matters, service in the legislature is considered to be part-time, and most legislators also hold other employment."

How can a part-time state legislature not meeting year round solve New Jersey's problems? What company remains in business if it does not conduct business year round?

*The Wall Street Journal* reports Gov. Chris Christie in 2015 spent 72 percent of his time out of state or 261 days, including 56 days in New Hampshire! Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno oversaw state affairs 17 times in December 2015 alone. NJ.com reports he spent 137 days out of state in 2014. His out-of-state travel expenses have cost New Jersey taxpayers at least \$1 million.

Gov. Christie should be spending time in Camden with a 35.5 percent poverty rate according to the Census Bureau and in Atlantic City nearly bankrupt because four of its casinos closed at a loss of 8,000 jobs.

Name the employee who can take so much time away from work and not expect a pink slip?

Government — even small government — in the modern era cannot be absent or part time. No business could be run this way and government is business big time.

Stephen Schoeman  
Westfield

# Adjust Priorities, Not Tax To Fund Transportation

The Union County Freeholders approved several contracts last Thursday totaling around \$700,000 to begin preparatory work for replacing several bridges deemed deficient. These bridges are in Rahway, Linden, Mountainside and Westfield. The contracts approved are for construction administration and inspection services. The actual replacement of these bridges will cost between several hundred thousand dollars and \$3.5 million for the Irving Street Bridge in Rahway, Union County Director of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities Management told the freeholders at last week's agenda setting meeting. The county has received state funding of \$1.8 million and has applied for another million for construction costs.

The condition of our infrastructure is critically important to our local economy as people need to get to work and pick up and drop off their kids from school, not to mention the need to keep our roadways open for our police, fire and EMS services.

New Jersey's funding source for transportation projects, the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF), is said to be running out of money. Democrat legislative leaders are pushing to increase the state's gasoline tax with the money to be specifically dedicated for the TTF. Senate President Stephen Sweeney (D-3rd, Gloucester) was quoted by NJ101.5 as saying, "No one is going to fix the bridges with a wand. We really, truly believe we need a \$2 billion (a year)

transportation plan." Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) has said he would support a gas tax, but wants some other tax, such as New Jersey's estate or inheritance tax, reduced.

Regardless of whether the gas tax is the best solution, some funding source is needed to replenish the TTF to ensure New Jersey's highways and bridges remain safe for motorists. If not, a reshuffling of priorities is needed for where our existing revenues are spent. New Jersey's gas tax is among the lowest in the country, certainly in the region, thus keeping the state's per gallon average low.

The state Legislature appropriates around \$80 million annually for the Municipal Aid Program. In Fiscal Year 2014, Fanwood received \$250,000; Garwood, \$225,000; Mountainside, \$201,000; Scotch Plains, \$244,000; Summit, \$250,000; and Westfield, \$150,000.

Keeping our roads in mint condition costs significant dollars, especially given the thousands of cars that use our roads daily. We are hopeful that our lawmakers and Governor Chris Christie can adjust priorities to find a funding solution that won't hit taxpayers too hard and won't cause even more Garden State residents to move out of state.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-60**  
**AWARDED TO: Supplee, Clooney & Company, Westfield, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide statutory audits of accounts of the County of Union and its agencies  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$20.91

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-74**  
**AWARDED TO: This Is It! Productions, Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide the planning, production and management services for the 2016 Concert Series  
**COSTS:** in the amount not to exceed \$109,650.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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#### UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD

Date Adopted: 01/21/16

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

**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-37**  
**AWARDED TO: Neglia Engineering Associates, of Clark, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide Design, Construction Management and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Tracy Road Bridge, Over the Green Brook in the Township of Mountainside, New Jersey  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$131,158.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-40**  
**AWARDED TO: T & M Associates of Middletown, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide On-Call Bridge Engineering Services for the County of Union, New Jersey  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2016- January 31, 2017  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-43**  
**AWARDED TO: French & Parrello of Wall, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide dam inspection and engineering services for the 2016 Inspection of Union County Dams  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$16,850.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$20.40

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-38**  
**AWARDED TO: Remington & Vernick Engineers of Secaucus, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Elm Street Bridge, Township of Westfield, New Jersey  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$193,492.83.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-55**  
**AWARDED TO: Various Agencies**  
**SERVICES:** to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Elm Street Bridge, Township of Westfield, New Jersey  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$99,451.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-44**  
**AWARDED TO: CME Associates of Monmouth Junction, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide additional engineering services related to the former Lenape Park Trap and Sheet facility located in Cranford, New Jersey  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$15,150.00 for a new contract amount not to exceed \$365,061.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-48**  
**AWARDED TO: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Rahway, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** for the provision of space to perform autopsies and external exams  
**PERIOD:** July 1, 2015- June 31, 2016  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$20.91

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-41**  
**AWARDED TO: CME Associates, of Monmouth Junction, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide On-Call Environmental Services for the County of Union, New Jersey  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2016- January 31, 2017  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-47**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2014-15)**  
**AWARDED TO: Funeral Services of New Jersey, Inc. Hillside, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide funeral home and livery services of remains for the Union County Medical Examiner's Office  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2015-December 31, 2015  
**COSTS:** in the amount not to exceed \$20,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$23.97

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-39**  
**AWARDED TO: The RBA Group of Parsippany, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide On-Call Traffic Engineering Services for the County of Union, New Jersey  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2016- January 31, 2017  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-35**  
**AWARDED TO: Remington & Vernick Engineers of Secaucus, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Irving Street Bridge City of Rahway  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$353,154.76.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-41**  
**AWARDED TO: CME Associates, of Monmouth Junction, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide On-Call Environmental Services for the County of Union, New Jersey  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2016- January 31, 2017  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00  
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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-42**  
**AWARDED TO: Neglia Engineering Associates, of Clark, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide On-Call General Engineering Services for the County of Union, New Jersey  
**PERIOD:** February 1, 2016- January 31, 2017  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-56**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2015-416)**  
**AWARDED TO: PROCEED, Inc.**  
**SERVICES:** to provide the New Jersey Division of Family Development Intensive Case Management Program services for the Union County residents  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-June 30, 2016  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-96**  
**amending (Resolution No. 2015-393)**  
**AWARDED TO: Bauch, Zucker, Hatfield of Springfield, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** in the matter entitled Kevin Buckley & Ryan Wilson v. UC, et als.  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$20,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-75**  
**AWARDED TO: This Is It! Productions, Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES:** to provide the planning, production and management services for the 2016 Rhythm and Blues by the Brook Concert at Cedar Brook Park, Plainfield to be held on June 4, 2016  
**COSTS:** in the amount not to exceed \$120,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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**RESOLUTION NO: 2016-79**  
**AWARDED TO: Specialty Underwriters Insurance Company, Oak Creek, WI**  
**SERVICES:** to provide insurance coverage to the County's office machinery, laundry equipment and lab equipment  
**PERIOD:** January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016  
**COSTS:** in the amount not to exceed \$300,000.00  
James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders  
1 T - 01/28/16, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

# CLASSIFIEDS

## PROFESSIONAL OFFICE FOR RENT

North Martine Avenue, Fanwood. 2 rooms, fully furnished, 400 sq. ft., private bath, off street parking, heat, AC & electric included. \$950/month (908) 322-8440

## NEED HOST WESTFIELD FAMILY

Family wanted to host Spanish Grand Niece for WHS school yr 2016-17. Top Straight "A" American speaking Student, Sports, Scout, writer. Contact [tomasquinn03@gmail.com](mailto:tomasquinn03@gmail.com)

## Expert Calculus/Precalc Tutor

AP-certified, veteran HS math tutor specializing in calculus and precalculus. Master's, very experienced, patient, excellent results. Please call Mel: (732) 603-9521.

## CHILDCARE NEEDED

Nannies - Housekeepers BabyNurses Needed Live-in / out, Full/Part-time Solid References Required. CALL (732) 972-4090 [www.absolutebestcare.com](http://www.absolutebestcare.com)

## DEYCI'S CLEANING SERVICES

Are you tired? Let me help you! Experience & Excellent Work Residential, Apartments, Commercial, Offices Free Estimates 100% Guaranteed References Available (908) 510-2542

## Probitas Verus Honos

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

#### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Township of Scotch Plains, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the office of the Township Clerk, Scotch Plains Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, 07076 (ATTN: Bozena Lacinia, Township Clerk) on or before Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, for:

#### ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES (1 YEAR, 2ND YEAR OPTION)

"in accordance with the Specifications and Information to Bidders prepared by the Township. At that time and place, such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. No bids shall be received other than at the time and place herein designated for their receipt, unless mailed to the Township Clerk for receipt at the designated time and place.

Copies of the Bid Documents may be obtained during regular business hours from the Township Clerk. Written questions regarding the bid specifications may be submitted to the Bozena Lacinia, Township Clerk, at 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 no later than five (5) days before the date set forth in the foregoing paragraph for receipt of bids.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27 and all other applicable statutes, laws or regulations.

Bidders are required to submit a valid Business Registration Certificate from the State of New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue.

Each bid shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Township Clerk, bearing the name and address of the bidder, upon which shall be designated: "ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES (1 YEAR, 2ND YEAR OPTION)"

The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2. BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY. Alexander Mirabella Township Manager

## CRANFORD ROOMMATE NEEDED

3 bedroom fully furnished home. Seeking female professional. Washer/dryer, cable, parking. NYC Trans within walking distance. \$775/mo includes utilities. (908) 721-7045

## FITNESS EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Body By Jake FIRMFLEX Total Body Trainer. Complete Workout Exercise Machine. Space Saving Design. Padded Bench. Adjustable Height and Resistance. Perfect For Home or Dorm! Excellent Condition, \$95. Call (908) 654-6091

## County Parks Open For Sledding

COUNTY - The Board of Chosen Freeholders reminds residents that five Union County parks are designated for sledding: Briant Park in Summit, Echo Lake Park (the "Summer Arts Hill" near Springfield Avenue in Westfield); Lenape Park (in Cranford, in areas that are not close to waterways), Meisel Park (Springfield, in the detention basin area), and Unami Park in Garwood.

"We urge all our residents who wish to sled to follow these guidelines and have a safe enjoyable time in our county parks," Freeholder Chairman Bruce H. Bergen said.

To avoid tree hazards, sleds in Union County parks are advised to avoid sledding devices that cannot be steered. Downhill skiing is strictly prohibited in all county parks, but cross-country skiing is permitted in the following parks: Ash Brook Golf Course in Scotch Plains, Oak Ridge Golf Course in Clark, in Watchung Reservation in Mountainside.

Skating on natural waterways in county parks is contingent on the availability of at least four inches of clear ice as measured by parks officials in accordance with widely accepted safety standards. No waterways have met that standard so far this winter.

## SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15005194 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-13008-15 Plaintiff: HUDSON CITY SAVINGS BANK V. Defendant: JORGE CANAS; MONICA CANAS; PNC BANK NA; CT INC D/B/A CAMARATA TRUCKING INC; KASLANDER LUMBER COMPANY INC; CITIBANK, N.A. Sale Date: 02/10/2016

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: \*\*\*Two Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-Two and 54/100\*\*\* \$228,952.54. PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IS LOCATED IN: Borough of Fanwood, County of Union, in the State of New Jersey.

PREMISES COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 9 Midway Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023. TAX LOT# 3, BLOCK# 1. APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 50 X 142. NEAREST CROSS STREET: Terrell Road. All subject to subsequent taxes, water and sewer plus interest through date of payoff.

Total Upset: \*\*\*Two Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Six and 16/100\*\*\* \$235,296.16 together with lawful interest and costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Joseph Cryan Sheriff

## WESTFIELD

Monday, January 18, Shannon Averette, 43, of Plainfield was arrested at the Somerset County jail on an outstanding Westfield criminal warrant. He was transported to police headquarters for arrest processing and taken to the Union County jail to be held in lieu of posting the requisite \$2,500 bail.

Monday, January 18, Diane Seitz, 60, of Westfield was arrested at East Broad Street and Gallows Hill Road and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation. She was processed and released on her own recognition to a responsible person.

Tuesday, January 19, Lisa M. Correia, 47, of Elizabeth responded to police headquarters to surrender herself on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant. She was processed and released after posting the requisite \$89 bail.

Tuesday, January 19, Patrick Thompson, Jr., 27, of Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding Plainfield traffic warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at Westfield Avenue and First Street. He was processed and released after posting bail of \$250.

Wednesday, January 20, Andrea M. Ortis, 23, of Westfield responded to police headquarters to satisfy an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant. She was processed and released after posting \$750 bail.

Wednesday, January 20, Christopher W. Kelly, 42, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation in the area of Lamberts Mill Road near Shackamaxon Drive. He was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Wednesday, January 20, Bernard Jennings, 59, of Plainfield was arrested and charged with shoplifting from a business located on the 300 block of East South Avenue. Further investigation revealed that Jennings had outstanding criminal warrants from South Plainfield, with bail of \$500, and Scotch Plains, with bail of \$186. Jennings was processed and held, awaiting transport to the Union County jail.

Thursday, January 21, Benny Rouland, Jr., 47, of Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding criminal warrant from Westfield, with bail of \$2,500, and an outstanding Watchung traffic warrant, with bail of \$132, pursuant to a prisoner drop-off from Somerset County. He was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and held in lieu of bail.

Thursday, January 21, Amanda Petrocelli, 29, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant, with bail of \$57, pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of East North Avenue and Saint Paul Street. She was transported to police headquarters, where she was processed and released after posting full bail.

Friday, January 22, Lee Melehi, 32, of Staten Island, N.Y. was arrested on two outstanding traffic warrants pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of Central Avenue and Harrow Road. One warrant was from Neptune, with bail of \$120, and the other was from Bass River Township, with bail of \$295. Melehi was transported to police headquarters, processed and released after posting the full bail amount.

Friday, January 22, Lucille Imperial, 59, of Westfield was arrested and charged with DWI pursuant to a motor vehicle accident investigation in the area of Summit Avenue near Clover Street. She was processed and released to a responsible adult.

## FANWOOD

Monday, January 4, a resident of

the 70 block of Watson Road reported that an unknown suspect had entered her unlocked motor vehicle. At the time of the report nothing was determined to be missing.

Tuesday, January 5, a resident of the 70 block of Watson Road reported that an unknown suspect had entered her unlocked motor vehicle. A bag containing personal property, valued at \$30, was removed.

Thursday, January 7, Andrea Ortis, 23, of Westfield was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana after she was stopped by police for a motor vehicle violation at Midway Avenue and Glenwood Road. While the officer was speaking with the driver, he could detect a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle, authorities said. The driver was asked to exit the vehicle so the officer could conduct a search. The officer located the suspected marijuana and the driver was placed under arrest. Ortis subsequently was released pending her court appearance.

Thursday, January 7, a business on the 500 block of North Avenue reported the shoplifting of cigarettes from an unknown customer. The value is \$83.

Monday, January 11, a resident of the 10 block of Gere Place reported that an unknown suspect had entered his unlocked motor vehicle and removed \$30 in change.

Tuesday, January 12, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 400 block of North Avenue. An unknown suspect took several items, valued at approximately \$1,000.

Tuesday, January 12, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 10 block of Montrose Avenue that occurred between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. An unknown suspect removed items valued at approximately \$200.

Thursday, January 14, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 10 block of Stewart Place. An unknown suspect took items valued at approximately \$1,000.

Friday, January 15, Christopher Davis, 20, of Orange was arrested on an active warrant out of Bloomfield following a motor vehicle stop at Midway and Martine Avenues. He was processed, posted bail and released.

# POLICE BLOTTER

Sunday, January 24, a resident of the 30 block of Madison Avenue reported that an unknown suspect had entered their unlocked motor vehicle and removed a jacket.

Sunday, January 24, a resident of the 150 block of Midway Avenue reported that an unknown suspect had entered their four unlocked motor vehicles. It appeared that nothing was missing at the time of the report.

Monday, January 25, a resident of the 10 block of Byron Lane reported that an unknown suspect had entered their unlocked motor vehicle and removed a small television.

Monday, January 25, a resident of the 10 block of Thorne Place reported that an unknown suspect had entered their unlocked motor vehicle and removed a wallet.

## CRANFORD

Sunday, January 10, a 17-year-old male from Roselle has been charged with aggravated assault on a police officer, eluding, resisting arrest, unlawful possession of two bb/pellet handguns, and receiving stolen property. A Stoughton Avenue resident contacted police to report a possible motor vehicle burglary in progress. Responding units located a vehicle on Culin Drive matching a descrip-

tion given by the caller. As police approached the vehicle on foot it pulled away, struck the officer, and fled the scene. The vehicle was located abandoned a short distance away. The officer was not seriously injured in the incident.

The vehicle was impounded and a subsequent search warrant execution revealed property from multiple car burglaries previously reported in Cranford and nearby towns. After a follow-up investigation by detectives the 17-year-old driver was positively identified and apprehended. All charges will be adjudicated in the Family section of the Superior Court, authorities said.

## SCOTCH PLAINS

Monday, January 18, the owner of an East 2nd Street business reported the theft of a pocketbook. The owner reported that a black male entered the store, proceeded to go behind the counter and stole the pocketbook. The store has video of the incident confirming the theft, authorities said. Detectives working the case were able to identify the suspect and a warrant was issued for the individual's arrest.

Friday, January 22, a Victor Street resident reported the theft of a motor vehicle. The resident stated that between 6:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. someone had stolen the 1964 Mustang that was parked in the driveway. The resident said the vehicle was locked and was equipped with a kill switch.

## TRENTON

TRENTON - Assembly Republicans pounced on a study by United Van Lines that showed New Jersey had the highest percentage of people moving out to push their effort to revamp the state's tax system.

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## SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15005160 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-1562-15 Plaintiff: JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION V. Defendant: JOHN MORMILE; LORRAINE MORMILE; WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Sale Date: 02/10/2016

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: \*\*\*Seventy-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Six and 21/100\*\*\* \$75,746.21. The property to be sold is located in the TOWNSHIP OF WESTFIELD, in the County of UNION, and the State of New Jersey.

Monday, January 18, Shannon Averette, 43, of Plainfield was arrested at the Somerset County jail on an outstanding Westfield criminal warrant. He was transported to police headquarters for arrest processing and taken to the Union County jail to be held in lieu of posting the requisite \$2,500 bail.

Monday, January 18, Diane Seitz, 60, of Westfield was arrested at East Broad Street and Gallows Hill Road and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation. She was processed and released on her own recognition to a responsible person.

Tuesday, January 19, Lisa M. Correia, 47, of Elizabeth responded to police headquarters to surrender herself on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant. She was processed and released after posting the requisite \$89 bail.

Tuesday, January 19, Patrick Thompson, Jr., 27, of Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding Plainfield traffic warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at Westfield Avenue and First Street. He was processed and released after posting bail of \$250.

Wednesday, January 20, Andrea M. Ortis, 23, of Westfield responded to police headquarters to satisfy an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant. She was processed and released after posting \$750 bail.

Wednesday, January 20, Christopher W. Kelly, 42, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation in the area of Lamberts Mill Road near Shackamaxon Drive. He was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Wednesday, January 20, Bernard Jennings, 59, of Plainfield was arrested and charged with shoplifting from a business located on the 300 block of East South Avenue. Further investigation revealed that Jennings had outstanding criminal warrants from South Plainfield, with bail of \$500, and Scotch Plains, with bail of \$186. Jennings was processed and held, awaiting transport to the Union County jail.

Thursday, January 21, Benny Rouland, Jr., 47, of Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding criminal warrant from Westfield, with bail of \$2,500, and an outstanding Watchung traffic warrant, with bail of \$132, pursuant to a prisoner drop-off from Somerset County. He was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and held in lieu of bail.

Thursday, January 21, Amanda Petrocelli, 29, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant, with bail of \$57, pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of East North Avenue and Saint Paul Street. She was transported to police headquarters, where she was processed and released after posting full bail.

Friday, January 22, Lee Melehi, 32, of Staten Island, N.Y. was arrested on two outstanding traffic warrants pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of Central Avenue and Harrow Road. One warrant was from Neptune, with bail of \$120, and the other was from Bass River Township, with bail of \$295. Melehi was transported to police headquarters, processed and released after posting the full bail amount.

Friday, January 22, Lucille Imperial, 59, of Westfield was arrested and charged with DWI pursuant to a motor vehicle accident investigation in the area of Summit Avenue near Clover Street. She was processed and released to a responsible adult.

## FANWOOD

Monday, January 4, a resident of

the 70 block of Watson Road reported that an unknown suspect had entered her unlocked motor vehicle. At the time of the report nothing was determined to be missing.

Tuesday, January 5, a resident of the 70 block of Watson Road reported that an unknown suspect had entered her unlocked motor vehicle. A bag containing personal property, valued at \$30, was removed.

Thursday, January 7, Andrea Ortis, 23, of Westfield was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana after she was stopped by police for a motor vehicle violation at Midway Avenue and Glenwood Road. While the officer was speaking with the driver, he could detect a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle, authorities said. The driver was asked to exit the vehicle so the officer could conduct a search. The officer located the suspected marijuana and the driver was placed under arrest. Ortis subsequently was released pending her court appearance.

Thursday, January 7, a business on the 500 block of North Avenue reported the shoplifting of cigarettes from an unknown customer. The value is \$83.

Monday, January 11, a resident of the 10 block of Gere Place reported that an unknown suspect had entered his unlocked motor vehicle and removed \$30 in change.

Tuesday, January 12, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 400 block of North Avenue. An unknown suspect took several items, valued at approximately \$1,000.

Tuesday, January 12, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 10 block of Montrose Avenue that occurred between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. An unknown suspect removed items valued at approximately \$200.

Thursday, January 14, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 10 block of Stewart Place. An unknown suspect took items valued at approximately \$1,000.

Sunday, January 24, a resident of the 30 block of Madison Avenue reported that an unknown suspect had entered their unlocked motor vehicle and removed a jacket.

Sunday, January 24, a resident of the 150 block of Midway Avenue reported that an unknown suspect had entered their four unlocked motor vehicles. It appeared that nothing was missing at the time of the report.

Monday, January 25, a resident of the 10 block of Byron Lane reported that an unknown suspect had entered their unlocked motor vehicle and removed a small television.

Monday, January 25, a resident of the 10 block of Thorne Place reported that an unknown suspect had entered their unlocked motor vehicle and removed a wallet.

## CRANFORD

Sunday, January 10, a 17-year-old male from Roselle has been charged with aggravated assault on a police officer, eluding, resisting arrest, unlawful possession of two bb/pellet handguns, and receiving stolen property. A Stoughton Avenue resident contacted police to report a possible motor vehicle burglary in progress. Responding units located a vehicle on Culin Drive matching a descrip-

tion given by the caller. As police approached the vehicle on foot it pulled away, struck the officer, and fled the scene. The vehicle was located abandoned a short distance away. The officer was not seriously injured in the incident.

The vehicle was impounded and a subsequent search warrant execution revealed property from multiple car burglaries previously reported in Cranford and nearby towns. After a follow-up investigation by detectives the 17-year-old driver was positively identified and apprehended. All charges will be adjudicated in the Family section of the Superior Court, authorities said.

## SCOTCH PLAINS

Monday, January 18, the owner of an East 2nd Street business reported the theft of a pocketbook. The owner reported that a black male entered the store, proceeded to go behind the counter and stole the pocketbook. The store has video of the incident confirming the theft, authorities said. Detectives working the case were able to identify the suspect and a warrant was issued for the individual's arrest.

Friday, January 22, a Victor Street resident reported the theft of a motor vehicle. The resident stated that between 6:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. someone had stolen the 1964 Mustang that was parked in the driveway. The resident said the vehicle was locked and was equipped with a kill switch.

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Atorney: PHELAN HALLINAN & DIAMOND & JONES, PC 400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD SUITE 100 MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054 (856) 793-3080 4 T - 01/28, 02/04, 02/11 & 02/18/16 Fee: \$204.00

Atorney: POWERS KIRN - COUNSELORS 728 MARINE HWY SUITE 200 MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08057 (856) 802-1000 4 T - 01/14, 01/21, 01/28 & 02/04/16 Fee: \$175.44

Atorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC 7 CENTURY DRIVE SUITE 200 PARSIPpany, NEW JERSEY 07054 (973) 538-4700 4 T - 01/21, 01/28, 02/04 & 02/11/16 Fee: \$193.80

Atorney: SHAPIRO & DENARDO, LLC - ATTORNEYS 14000 COMMERCE PARKWAY SUITE B MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054 (856) 793-3080 4 T - 01/07, 01/14, 01/21 & 01/28/16 Fee: \$191.76

Atorney: SHAPIRO & DENARDO, LLC - ATTORNEYS 14000 COMMERCE PARKWAY SUITE B MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054 (856) 793-3080 4 T - 01/07, 01/14, 01/21 & 01/28/16 Fee: \$185.64

Atorney: SHAPIRO & DENARDO, LLC - ATTORNEYS 14000 COMMERCE PARKWAY SUITE B MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054 (856) 793-3080 4 T - 01/07, 01/14, 01/21 & 01/28/16 Fee: \$183.60



**ORCHESTRA OF CHOICE:** The New Jersey Festival Orchestra, based in Westfield NJ, has again been nominated for the JerseyArts.com People's Choice Award

## NJFO Nominated for People's Choice Award

WESTFIELD – The New Jersey Festival Orchestra (NJFO), based in Westfield, has again been nominated for the JerseyArts.com People's Choice Award.

The orchestra, which was nominated for "favorite NJ symphony/orchestra" by fellow Arts organization members of Discover Jersey Arts, is asking the entire Westfield community and beyond to vote for the NJFO as their favorite "Symphony/Orchestra" by going online to the NJFO website at njfestivalorchestra.org or to the orchestra's Facebook page. Voters can also go to JerseyArts.com/vote.

Supporters have every reason to be proud of the NJFO's accomplishments to earn this nomination, according to the orchestra's Director of Marketing Elizabeth Ryan. She cited growing popularity of NJFO and its subsequent expansion into a variety of venues throughout the state, including Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown, PNC Arts Center, Drew University in Madison, Monroe County and Bergen County as well as performances at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York City. In addition to its dynamic programs the fully professional orchestra also sponsors educational and music therapy programs throughout the state of New Jersey.

Nominees for the People's Choice

Awards were nominated by their peers through the Jersey Arts Marketers network, which is made up of hundreds of nonprofit Arts groups across the state.

"We at NJFO are thrilled to be nominated as New Jersey's favorite orchestra once again," said NJFO Music Director David Wroe. We are honored to be recognized by our colleagues and to be part of such a vibrant Arts community. We hope that our wonderful patrons will also support us by voting for us in this year's Awards.

Voters have an opportunity to cast votes in up to 16 arts categories. "Symphony/Orchestra" is the seventh category. Only one vote per e-mail address is allowed. The deadline to vote is Thursday, February 11.

People's Choice Award winners will be announced on Saturday, March 5 and will be honored at the New Jersey Conference on Tourism in Atlantic City that day. To vote, visit njfestivalorchestra.org or go to JerseyArts.com/vote.

NJFO's next performance, Puccini's La Boheme, presented semi-staged, in costume and featuring international guest soloists, will take place on Saturday, March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield. For tickets and information go to njfestivalorchestra.org or call (908) 232-9400.

## American Theater Grp. Opens Season with *The Way We Get By*

RAHWAY – American Theater Group, New Jersey's newest professional theater, will present Neil LaBute's new play *The Way We Get By*. The production, which marks the regional premiere, will be performed at Hamilton Stage of Union County Performing Arts Center (360 Hamilton St., Rahway), Wednesday, February 3 through Sunday, February 14. Directed by Kel Haney, the production features Eric Clem and Turna Mete.

Meet Beth and Doug: two people who have no problem getting dates with their partners of choice. What they do have, however, is a very awkward encounter after spending one hot night together following a drunken wedding reception they attend. They wake up to a blurry morning where the rules of attraction, sex, and society are waiting for them before their first cup of coffee, leading them to ponder how much they really know about each other and how much they really care about what other people think.

Tickets are \$38 each. Student and senior discounts available. For tickets, call (732) 499-8226; visit online www.americantheatergroup.org; or in

person at the Union County Performing Arts Center Box Office at 1601 Irving Street, Rahway, NJ.

Hamilton Stage has ample well-lit parking and is just a five minute walk from New Jersey Transit's Rahway station serving Northeast Corridor and North Jersey Coast lines — a quick 30-minute ride from New York City's Penn Station.

American Theater Group (ATG) produces new and classic works primarily by American Playwrights with an emphasis on the development of new works and the rediscovery of undeservedly neglected older ones. ATG engages audiences by making theater's glorious possibilities accessible to the diverse community in which we live, through remarkable performances as well as quality arts-in-education programming. A cornerstone of Rahway's Arts District and an independent member of the Union County Performing Arts Council (UCPAC).

American Theater Group's home is the new intimate new 199-seat Hamilton Stage at 360 Hamilton Street in Rahway New Jersey. Hamilton Stage is governed and operated by the Union County Performing Arts Center.

## Washington School Presents *Please Don't Stop the Music*

WESTFIELD – Washington School proudly presents *Please Don't Stop the Music*, an original musical production that tells the story of how four determined elementary school students, with a little help from some "celebrity" friends, save music in Westfield schools. Join Madonna, Lady Gaga, KISS, and other musical icons, as they ban together with our young heroes to help save the music, while teaching us about the impor-

tance of music in our lives. Performances are Friday, January 29 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, January 30 at 1:30 and 7 p.m., at Roosevelt Intermediate School. Tickets are \$13.50 and can be purchased from wes.booktix.com.

See it all on the Web!  
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## POPCORN

### Carol Sings a Sad Song 3 popcorns

One Popcorn, Poor — Two Popcorns, Fair — Three Popcorns, Good — Four Popcorns, Excellent

By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER  
film critic

It often takes a long time, sometimes forever and then perhaps never, for someone to become tolerant of something that he or she doesn't understand. More often than not, it's because they feel threatened by it. Director Todd Haynes, who with *Carol* champions for lesbians what his *Far From Heaven* (2002) embraced for male gays, knows homosexuality is way up there on the list. To illustrate the scope of this prejudice, he finds dramatic effect by reaching back to the 1950s and showing how, just yesterday, countless lives were ruined by this primeval bigotry.

This isn't to say civilization has now cured itself of centuries devoted to enforcing strict taboos against alternate lifestyles. However, at the very least, the liberal activism of the '60's initiated a dialogue. As Mr. Haynes so artistically examples, prior to that enlightenment, being gay was accorded full pariah status. Thus, all but the most provincial minds will be aghast at what Cate Blanchett's Carol and her female lover, played by Rooney Mara, must endure.

It is 1953, all buttoned up and proper, especially around the suburban New Jersey neighborhood where the Aird manse sits in pristine glory. But scratch the surface just a touch beyond the stone Tudor opulence and therein resides some pretty unhappy people...specifically, Harge and Carol Aird. They don't mention the cause of their disaffection, but rather talk around it, the reticence to be direct indicative of the myopic disdain hubby feels for this unexplainable thing that has torn his perfect little world asunder.

Cut from the same social fabric, her breeding evident with nearly every gesture, Carol feels badly for the disappointment she represents. But clearly, even though the times they are not yet a changin', she's had it. Being asked to pursue a path that only feels wrong can't be right. She has sued for divorce, the lawyers of the rich and tony sharpening their knives at the prospect of big profits. Doubtless there's an extra-added bonus buried in the bill for avoiding scandal. But just to add heartache to the misery, there'll be a custody fight for the Airds' dear little daughter, Rindy.

To this scenario, courtesy of the screenplay by Phyllis Nagy, adapted from the novel by Patricia Highsmith, Mr. Haynes injects the necessary love story. It begins when Carol, looking for a Christmas gift for Rindy, becomes enamored of Miss Mara's Therese, a shop girl. While the classification is belittling now, it is all the same vital to conferring the disparity in social class and just about every-

thing else, save for the mutual chemistry the ladies feel for one another. The relationship builds subtly, Haynes deftly arranging the stumbling blocks to their verboten liaison.

Problem is, while instructive of the sociology the film seeks to examine and edify, it is not an especially exciting romance. Knowing looks, skeptical glances and eyes full of either love, trepidation or puzzlement substitute for dialogue, precluded by the unmentionable subject. It's what Haynes means to impress, and he is successful in that ambition, but over-all the oblique referencing, accompanied by a score that underlines the inherent, fatalistic sadness of the tale, worked much better in his *Far From Heaven*.

That said, there's no denying the fine performances the Misses Blanchett and Mara etch, achieving an understated elegance that discreetly clamors the unfairness society has foisted upon them. They are beautiful, gentle victims seeking no more than the love all of humankind has sought since first we rose from the muck. While Miss Mara is stellar as the novice afraid but curious to explore her sexual liberation, Cate Blanchett's superbly realized aristocrat embodies all the woes, whims and expected responsibilities of her caste.

Playing her frustrated and confused husband, Kyle Chandler's Harge is the bull in this fragile china shop of conflicting emotions. In one uncomfortable scene at tea, where Carol is attempting to ingratiate herself with her patrician in-laws in hopes of a better child custody arrangement, the clueless bluestock proudly tells Mumsy and Dad that his wife has made considerable progress with the doctor. Psst...actually a psychologist, and he's referring to conversion therapy, a practice from the dark ages that only recently has been repudiated.

Director Haynes's studious delve is rife with historical perspective, complemented by art direction that smartly transports us to a post-war smugness eager to maintain the status quo. Unfortunately, the library-like solemnity by which his message is delivered begs for a boost of energy, perhaps an invigorative subplot, to both enliven matters and promote the thesis from yet another angle. Presenting the social issue in a broader context might have also advanced the cause by introducing *Carol* to a potentially larger audience.

*Carol*, rated R, is a Weinstein Company release directed by Todd Haynes and stars Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara and Kyle Chandler. Running time: 118 minutes

## Lunatic Fringe Brings February Funny to Chatham

MONTCLAIR – Lunatic Fringe will bring its unique brand of comedy to the venerable Chatham Playhouse on Saturday, February 6 at 8 p.m.

New Jersey's oldest continuously performing improv comedy troupe, Lunatic Fringe has been creating comedy without a script and without a net since 1997. The comedians combine music and audience suggestions to create a unique comic experience.

"We love performing in Chatham," said Deb Maclean, director of Lunatic Fringe; "it's a beautiful theater and the audiences are great. And in the middle of the winter everybody needs a laugh to get them through to spring."

Lunatic Fringe performers in the February 6 show include: Paul Murphy, Sean Day, David Groveman and Harvey Chipkin.

Tickets to the February 6 Lunatic Fringe performance at Chatham Playhouse (23 North Passaic Avenue in Chatham) For adults tickets are \$15 at the door, but with a reservation, admission is only \$12; for seniors and students they are \$12 at the door and \$10 with a reservation. For reservations and information, call (973) 429-1527.

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

## The Westfield Memorial Library presents "Life in an Edwardian Manor" On Saturday, February 6 at 2:00 pm



Ms. Krall-Russo is an expert on the food and social customs of the past. Her programs at the Library always fill the house.

Did you love the TV show, *Downton Abbey*? Learn more about life in the Edwardian era with Judith Krall-Russo. She discusses the opulent lifestyle of the wealthy, where aristocrats owned huge manor houses and expected their every whim to be indulged by the lower class of domestic servants. So interesting!



It's your Library ... make the most of it  
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Sign up online at [www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) and click on the Calendar link, or call 908.789.4090 option 0.



**A STEP BACK IN TIME...**The life and times of writer, Jane Austen were shared recently by Trish Chambers at a general meeting of the Woman's Club of Westfield (WCW) held recently at the Masonic Lodge in Westfield. The members learned that Jane Austen was the author of five completed and sought after novels of romantic fiction set among the landed gentry during the 1800's in England. Although she lived a rather short life, her books have earned her a place as one of the most widely read authors in English literature then and through the years to now. Very popular, Jane will always be remembered for her realism, biting irony and social commentary that are found in all her books, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Northanger Abbey*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Mansfield Park*, *Emma* and the uncompleted book, *Sanditon*. Her work was internationally read from the beginning and still remains internationally read today. Picture from left are wcw members: Helen Allegro, Vivian O'Neil, performer Trish Chambers, Jean Murphy and Ruth Positan.

## Westfielder Helped Stage Musical at Baldwin Wallace

BEREA, O.H. – Matthew Lynn of Westfield was part of a talented cast and crew from Baldwin Wallace University (BW) that staged *All Shook Up* during the fall 2015 semester. Directed by Scott Spence, *All Shook Up* combined the legendary music of Elvis Presley with a rollicking and funny book by Broadway veteran Joe DePietro (*Memphis* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*). Matthew, a graduate of Westfield High School majoring in music theatre, played the part of Dennis in the production.

In *All Shook Up*, the Kings greatest hits were interwoven into a brand new story loosely based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. The actors brought the dawn of Rock and Roll and the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement to life. The cast and ensemble performed the hits "Hound Dog," "Love Me Tender," "Jailhouse Rock" and more, would-be lovers pined, sweethearts united, and genders swapped all in the

name of love. *All Shook Up* was also one of an extensive number of opportunities offered by the Baldwin Wallace music theatre program providing students with real-world performance experience. From lead roles on Broadway and London's West End to prime time television, film and more, music theatre alumni have garnered top acclaim for more than 20 years. As a result, BW's program has earned accolades from leading agents, casting directors, critics and other industry professionals.

Baldwin Wallace University, founded in 1845, was one of the first colleges to admit students without regard to race or gender. An independent, coeducational university of 4,000 students, BW offers coursework in the liberal arts tradition in more than 70 academic areas. Located in Berea, 12 miles from downtown Cleveland, BW offers students the cultural, educational and business advantages of a major metropolitan area.

## Kwon, Dubal Special Event At the Watchung Art Center

WATCHUNG – The Watchung Arts Center (WAC) will present internationally renowned pianist Min Kwon in concert, and artist David Dubal in the opening of a solo art exhibition of paintings and line drawings. This special event will be held on Saturday, February 13, at 4 p.m. Ms. Kwon will be joined by highly accomplished pianists from the Center for Musical Excellence performing solo and ensemble works including four and six-hand arrangements. Light refreshments will be served at the reception.

The exhibition is free of charge. Tickets for the concert are \$16 in advance, \$20 (\$18 WAC members, \$10 students) at the door. Tickets may be purchased online at [watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com](http://watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com). To obtain more information about upcoming performances, classes and workshops, and monthly art exhibitions, please visit [WatchungArts.org](http://WatchungArts.org) or call (908) 753-0190.

The Watchung Arts Center, located at 18 Stirling Road in Watchung on the Watchung Circle.

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**AMERICAN THEATER GROUP**  
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 for tickets: [www.americantheatergroup.org](http://www.americantheatergroup.org)

February 3-14



**Arts & Entertainment**

**Celebration Singers to Present Cabaret "Love Is..."**

CRANFORD – The Celebration Singers of Cranford proudly presents its 2016 Annual Fundraiser and Dessert Cabaret, featuring a night

**Comedy Show to Benefit FOP**

MOUNTAINSIDE – The 15th Annual Comedy Show Fund-Raiser for Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) will be held on Saturday, February 27. FOP is a disease that turns normal muscles, tendons and/or ligaments to bone.

In addition to the great line-up of comedians, the event will open with classic and memorable songs performed by The Cameos. The Cameos are an eight piece oldies - vocal harmony group and they will perform their own unique renditions of the most popular songs of the 50's, 60's and 70's. Reservations are required and there is no seating availability for walk-ins. The event will be held at the OLL Hall located at 300 Central Avenue in Mountainside. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 6 p.m. Ticket holders may bring their own food and beverages. The cost per person is \$50 per person and checks should be made payable to the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania and mailed to Gary Whyte, 289 Old Tote Road, Mountainside NJ 07092.

For further contact information call (973) 712-4216 or email via email at [gwhyte982@gmail.com](mailto:gwhyte982@gmail.com).

of songs performed by members of its adult choir around the theme of "Love is..."

The cabaret is set for Friday, February 5 and Saturday, February 6, at its new location: Kenilworth Veterans Center, 33 South 21st Street, Kenilworth. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for both evenings.

Under the direction of the choir's Conductor and Artistic Director Brian Clissold, the showcase will feature a wide array of solos, duets,

trios, as well as small and full ensemble pieces that complete, through song, the phrase "Love is..." Door prizes and homemade desserts will also be available. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors. A 10 percent discount will be offered for full tables of 10. For ticket reservations visit [celebrationsingers.org/Tickets.aspx](http://celebrationsingers.org/Tickets.aspx).

For more information call (908) 522-4656 or email [celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com](mailto:celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com).

**Wardlaw-Hartridge to Host Annual Indie Film Festival**

EDISON – The third annual Wardlaw-Hartridge (W-H) School Indie Film Festival is being held on Wednesday, February 24 at 6 p.m. at the South Orange Performing Arts Center in South Orange.

For the second consecutive year, there will be a "red carpet" event at the venue prior to the film showcase. The students whose films are being presented in the festival will have the opportunity to be escorted from the school to the festival location in limousines and have their pictures taken by members of the local New Jersey press.

The Indie film competition is open to students in grades 5-12. The long-term goal is to create a festival that includes independent schools, statewide, who compete in various categories and for-

mally celebrate their achievement(s) with a showcase.

Wardlaw-Hartridge is proud to welcome a panel of its own alumni judges who work in the television and film industry: Marc Kornblatt '72, Jerry Casagrande '86, Mary McCormack '87, J. F. Musial '04, Lindsay Stevens '05, Eric Prah '08 and Ben Chalfin '08. Awards will be presented for Best Narrative, Best Non-Narrative, Best Director, Best Cinematography and Best Editing.

Parents, friends, faculty and staff will join the students at the festival. The entire W-H community looks forward to a night celebrating Arts in Education.

For more information, contact Rhona Esermer, Director of Global Scholars Program, at [reserner@whschool.org](mailto:reserner@whschool.org).



SHARING THEIR TALENT...The Madrigal Singers of Cranford High School entertain the American Federation of Teachers Retirees of New Jersey at their December meeting. The select group of high school members sang traditional Christmas and Hanukah songs of the season. AFTRNJ meets four times a year and in December met at the Deutscher Club in Clark.

**Union County Performing Arts Center to Hold Winter Gala Feb. 12**

RAHWAY – The Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC) will hold its 2016 Winter Gala on Friday, February 12 from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Luciano's Italian Ristorante in Rahway.

The gala, which benefits the UCPAC's performing arts and educational programs, will feature a five-

course dinner and live entertainment. During the evening, UCPAC supporters will be honored for their contributions to the Arts Center's mission of providing exciting live performances that are educational, affordable and responsive to the diverse interests of our communities.

The cost for the evening is \$115 and

the attire is black-tie optional. Luciano's Italian Ristorante is located in the heart of Rahway's Arts and Business District at 1579 Main Street. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the UCPAC box office at (732) 499-8226 or visit the website at [www.ucpac.org](http://www.ucpac.org). A portion of each ticket is tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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**NIGRO WINS BIG; TOMPKINS, 'DiGIO', SCORESE PIN; CAPPELO BEATS FERDIANDO, 3-0**

## Cougars Win Final 8 Bouts Stop Panther Matmen, 43-13

By DAVID B. CORBIN

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Tom DiGiovanni's pin in the 132-lb class sparked a run of eight straight wins for the Cranford High School wrestling team in its 43-13 victory over the hosting Roselle Park Panthers on January 20. With both teams playing a bit of a chess match, the 6-1 Cougars got the upper hand from the start by winning the coin toss which would determine when a team had to present

its wrestler on the mat first.

The weight juggling came into play moderately in the first bout of the evening at 220-lbs where Cougar Alex Esposito used his football tackling skills to bulldog Jason Estivene to the mat several times en route to an 11-3 majority decision. Panther Sebastian Leo jumped up to 285-lbs to face Kevin Doran, who got a takedown late in the third period to grab a 3-2 decision.

No weight class juggling occurred at 106-lbs when Mark Montgomery got the 8-1 Pan-

thers on the board with a 5-0 decision over Conor Halpin but when Panther Chris Gural stepped onto the mat at 113-lbs, the Cougars sent out Chris Wozniak so Anthony Capece could jump up to the 120-lbs class. Gural temporarily put the Panthers in the lead when he pinned Wozniak with a double arm bar in 52 seconds. Afterwards, Capece recorded a reversal and a low double-leg takedown to defeat Jon Mejia, 4-2.

At 126-lbs, Josh Mejia's 12-2 majority decision over AJ Bencivegna put the Panthers back into the lead, 13-10. But that was all for the Panthers when DiGiovanni stepped up to 132-lbs and showed Dylan Camillo

the lights in 3:16 using an arm bar/half nelson stack. Cougar Chris Scorese then took care of business at 138-lbs when he pinned Elvin Guerrero in 1:24 with a nearside cradle.

Cougar Mike Nigro knew he had some work to do when he faced Rene Perez, whom he beat, 2-1,

for third place in the counties. At 145-lbs, Perez came on like a ball of fire with a pair of takedowns to seize a 4-2 lead entering the second period but Nigro came to life, recorded a reversal then added a 3-point nearfall in the third period to claim a 7-4 victory.

"I had some pressure riding on me because I beat him in the county tournament. So I was looking to not have him be that comeback kid. It took a lot of hard work in the room and a couple of days to refocus myself," Nigro said. "When I went into the match, my first period was pretty sloppy. I realized I had to get my head into the game and start working on tiring him out. Eventually I broke him.

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I started to get my points. I was feeling it. I was in the zone and I was having a good time."

Another Cougar who seemed to have a good time was Vince Concina hopping up to 152-lbs to face Joe Devito. Concina recorded a pair of shrug takedowns, a standing switch reversal and topped it off with a low heel takedown to earn an 8-4 victory.

"I am pretty big for my weight class. I wrestle with some bigger guys in the room," Concina said. "I have been working those counter shots and I have been working that shrug a lot. I was hoping to get the major but I slipped up at the end but I got the win and the team got the points."

As to his impressive low heel

scoop, he said, "That's a big part of my arsenal."

Another great example of how football and wrestling seem to work well together, Cougar Brian McGovern used a series of double-leg tackles and a leg-trip takedown to defeat Carey Mimy, 9-3, at 160-lbs.

"Football helps my wrestling. Wrestling helps my football tackling wise. They go hand-and-hand. That's why I have a good double," McGovern said.

Just the Saturday before, McGovern won the 152-lb crown at the Union County Tournament.

"I had been training all week for counties, so I knew it was my time to win one. I had the confidence going in. This match tonight, we probably knew we all were going to bump up but none of us cared because it doesn't matter who is in front of us," McGovern said.

Cougar Andrew Tompkins had to present himself on the mat first at 170-lbs and was hoping to have a rematch with Will Ferdinando, who had edged him,

3-1 in the county final with a takedown in overtime when it appeared that Tompkins was on the verge of the winning takedown. Instead, the Panthers presented Abel Crespo and Ferdinando moved up to 182-lbs.

"I wanted to go out there and wrestle Will again but. It left a bad taste in my mouth in the counties for sure. I was training hard all week to wrestling him

again," Tompkins explained.

Tompkins, however, took his wrath out on Crespo, pinning him in 2:39 with an Olympic arm bar/half nelson.

"I was angry from the counties. I was working with whatever I could get to. A bar and a half was what I got and I eventually got him over," Tompkins said.

At 182-lbs, Niko Cappello used a single-leg lift to take Ferdinando to the mat en route to a 3-0 win then in the final bout, 195-lbs, Cougar Dylan Budnik escaped and added a double-leg trip to defeat Devin Hilburn, 3-2.

**BOUT SEQUENCE:**

- 220: — Esposito (C) md Estivene, 11-3
- Hwt: — Doran (C) d Leo, 3-2
- 106: — Montegomery (R) d Halpin, 5-0
- 113: — Gural (R) p Wozniak, :52
- 120: — Capece (C) d Mejia, 4-2
- 126: — Mejia (R) md Bencivenga, 12-2
- 132: — DiGiovanni (C) p Camillo, 3:16
- 138: — Scorese (C) p Guerrero, 1:24
- 145: — Nigro (C) d Perez, 7-4
- 152: — Concina (C) d Devito, 8-4
- 160: — McGovern (C) d Mimy, 9-3
- 170: — Tompkins (C) p Crespo, 2:39
- 182: — Cappello (C) d Ferdinando, 3-0
- 195: — Budnik (C) d Hilburn, 3-2





**West Morris Central Girls Edge Blue Devil Hoopsters in Triple Overtime, 44-40**



Paul Lachenauer for *The Westfield Leader*

**TRYING TO STAY AHEAD OF IT...Cranford's Department of Public Works crew plows the downtown on Saturday, trying to keep the area passable during the height of winter storm Jonas.**

## Mallon Sworn in; Flooding From GW Devel. Discussed

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

CRANFORD — Resident Barbara Krause asked the township committee Monday night if it has followed up on her requests regarding the flooding impacts from the proposed nine-unit townhouse development at 484 Fourth Avenue in Garwood, known as the Hidi property, at the juncture of Walnut Street, would have on Cranford's Brookside detention basin and Gallows Hill Brook.

Township Engineer Carl O'Brien said he has not heard back from a message to Garwood's engineer and will call again. Wetlands take up one third of the property, which is situated near the 100-year FEMA flood zone in Cranford, she said.

The developer is appealing the November 4 court reversal of the Garwood Planning Board's approval of the condo development on a lot that would include about two-thirds impervious coverage and 33 trees to be removed, Mrs. Krause said.

Budget reviews for 2016 have begun in the township, with the fire department, TV 35 and the tax assessor each presenting their budget request for the current year. The fire department is asking for additional funds to train its young firefighters. Of the 20 rank and file firefighters, 14 have less than three years' experience, Battalion Chief Andy Stratton said. "Our job is experience. I have to throw as much training at them as possible," he said. With Cranford being situ-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## GW Gets RVSA Briefing; Officer Sworn In

By BRIAN TRUSDELL

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader*

GARWOOD — A four-man delegation from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) appeared before the borough council Tuesday to explain the municipality's 8.7-percent increase in its annual assessment, hinting that next year the borough could see a hike about half of this year's.

Explaining that the RVSA assesses towns in the 11-municipality cooperative on a five-year average, Executive Director Jim Meehan said the two consecutive years of steep increases should abate.

"Next year it should be about 2 to 4 percent, maybe closer to zero," Mr. Meehan said. "That's what it looks like next year if the trends continue."

"It should hopefully begin leveling out."

Mr. Meehan detailed the steps the RVSA has gone through in the past decade to minimize costs, including reducing staff, that has limited budget increases.

RVSA Manager of Regulation Compliance Anthony Gencarelli pointed out that this year's assessment for Garwood is approximately the same as it was 10 years ago. The RVSA initially assessed Garwood \$679,927 in November, a hike of \$58,133 from last year. It revised that to

\$676,057, or an increase of \$54,263, in December.

The presentation drew several questions from residents, who struggled to understand why, if Garwood's flow has decreased the past two years, the borough's assessment has increased. The delegation, which also included Garwood's RVSA commissioner Steve Greet, who additionally serves as chairman of the Garwood Planning Board, said that while the flow amount may have decreased, each town is charged based on the percentage of flow among the 11 towns that it sends to the RVSA.

In other matters, Mayor Charles Lombardo swore in Jonathan Priddy as the police department's newest officer. Officer Priddy replaces Andrew Horan, who resigned from the force in December to take a better-paying position with Berkeley Heights.

Mr. Lombardo also announced the resignation of Tom Spera as the mayor's representative to the

emergency management council and replaced him with police Lt. Sam Rocco.

Several council members and nearly half a dozen residents offered praise for the borough's Department of Public Works for its response to the weekend winter storm, particularly noting the snow removal in comparison to neighboring towns Westfield and Cranford.

Councilman Joe Sarno reported that the police issued a mere 10 summonses and had only seven cars towed for parking on the street. Police were out Sunday morning, working with vendors to remove the buried vehicles so the DPW crews could make a final plow run to clear the streets as wide as possible.

Councilman Mike Martin told the governing body that after Borough Attorney Bob Renaud researched the suggestion by Mr. Sarno to eliminate health insurance benefits for elected offi-

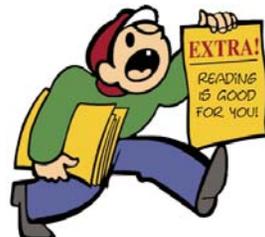
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Paul Lachenauer for *The Westfield Leader*

**ANYTHING THAT SLIDES...Kids in Unami Park trudge back up the hill with sleds, snow scooters, snowboards and inner tubes, some getting a snow snack along the way.**

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## Mallon Sworn in; Flooding from GW Dev. Discussed

ated in the center of Union County it is heavily called upon for assistance from neighboring municipalities.

The department reduces costs by working with other municipalities to share training and also by finding donations of equipment to use in training, Mr. Stratton explained. The minimum training he has budgeted for is "not fluff," he said, rather it is needed "to keep my men safe."

Surplus training, such as how to respond in a flooding event, a rescue from ice, or a building collapse was also requested. A second unit of EMT was also requested so to reduce costs of firefighters going out on medical calls as well as keeping the firefighter manpower up to take on fire related calls.

"We are going out more and more on these medical calls," Chief Daniel Czeh said. The fire

department has seen a 6 percent increase year over year in the last two years, Lt. Matthew J. Lubin said, and has received some 3,000 medical calls in a one-year period.

TV-35 is asking to improve the municipal chambers by way of new lighting and dais that will improve the sharpness and brightness of on-air broadcasts that are also available online, as well as some new portable cameras and equipment. Ed Davenport, who runs the station, also said in the contract negotiated with Comcast that the cable service provider is at no charge adding a fiber line to the baseball field that will allow TV-35 to air school baseball games live.

The engineer has begun the survey work for the Orchard Brook project but is on hold until the snow clears, Mr. O'Brien said. Under a \$62,200 contract, Maser Consulting is to provide a survey, hydraulics and preliminary design for the improvements to the brook that would assist in less flooding.

John Mallon was sworn in as a commissioner of the township committee Monday at the start of the workshop meeting. Mr. Mallon's term will expire in December, when his predecessor Robert D'Ambola's term would have expired. He was previously on the board of adjustment.



Christina M. Hinke for *The Westfield Leader*

**JUMP RIGHT IN...**John Mallon, who was sworn in as a Cranford township commissioner on Monday to replace the resigned Robert D'Ambola, reviews documents during the township committee's workshop session.

## Garwood Gets RVSA Briefing

cial, he reported back that the borough is obligated to continue providing the benefit to any official who has been receiving it since before May 2010.

Mr. Martin said the laws and licenses committee would discuss the issue at its next meeting. Mr. Sarno did not comment on the report. At the January 12 council meeting, he said that the New Jersey town of Dumont had stopped health insurance for elected officials, and that Midland Park did the same in December.

The only member of the council to whom the issue would apply is Council President Lou Petruzzelli, who won a third term in November 2014.

One other matter that sparked considerable discussion was prompted by Councilwoman Ileen Cuccaro's committee on aging report. She noted that some residents had expressed concern that depending on who responds to a medical emergency call, an ambulance charge could result in a bill ranging from \$300 to \$7,000.

The discussion involved several council members, residents and even Police Chief Bruce Underhill, who stated that emergency dispatch procedures are to call the borough's rescue squad first, then a Union County ambulance based in Westfield, then

the rescue squads of the neighboring towns, with which there are cooperative arrangements.

Councilwoman Sara Todisco added that the county has a practice of "soft billing" for ambulance services - issuing its regular bill but accepting whatever insurance pays.

Mr. Renaud interjected by saying that the billing for an emergency response "almost always works themselves out" and was concerned that the discussion may dissuade someone from calling for assistance.

It was not clear what next steps the council would take. Chief Underhill stated that a police officer is immediately dispatched for every emergency medical call, regardless if "a Band-Aid or a defibrillator" is needed. An ambulance is simultaneously called. He said he is not aware of any response requiring as long as 20 minutes, a reference to a resident who complained about the response time when she had an emergency.

The meeting ended with an hour-long executive session that purportedly included discussion of the borough's ongoing attempt to get approval for a state-mandated affordable-housing plan and pending litigation, which the council did not specify.

## Residents Express Concern About Hidi Property

By JONATHAN R. PARKER

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader*

CRANFORD — Township resident Frank Krause addressed the Township Committee Tuesday night regarding his concerns about the fate of the Fourth Avenue property in Garwood known as the "Hidi" property.

In November, Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy overturned the Garwood Planning Board's approval of a nine-townhouse development project due to a shortcoming pertaining to the notice of the hearing.

Mr. Krause said that while the development did not go through at that time due to this technicality, the property owners are moving forward with plans to resubmit their proposal to the Garwood Planning Board.

This time, he hopes that the interests of Cranford and Cranford residents will be represented at the hearings.

The property in question sits right against the municipal

boundary line separating Garwood from Cranford.

Mr. Krause questioned why neither the Cranford Township engineer nor zoning officer was present at the earlier Garwood discussions about the property.

According to Mr. Krause, the property is located in an area with a history of flooding. He is worried that the proposed development may increase runoff to the Gallows Hill Brook, increasing the risk of flooding to Cranford residents living along the brook.

Mr. Krause's wife, Barbara Krause, voiced similar concerns over the property at the January 11 Township Committee workshop meeting.

Mayor Andis Kalnins confirmed that while there is no design in place yet for the property's proposed storm water management system, and that the Garwood engineer and Cranford engineer

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## Residents Express Concern About Hidi Property

are in conversations with each other about potential designs for that property.

Furthermore, Mayor Kalnins referred Mr. Krause to a state statute in place forbidding new development from increasing the amount of runoff from the property.

When Mr. Krause pressed to know whether anyone from Cranford would attend the next Garwood hearing where the property would be discussed, Deputy Mayor Mary O'Connor volunteered to attend.

In other business at Tuesday's meeting, Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) administered the oath of office to new Township Committee member John Mallon. Mr. Mallon fills the seat vacated by Robert D'Ambola, who resigned earlier this month. Mr. D'Ambola's term was set to end on December 31, 2016. Tuesday's swearing-in was more of a formality as Mr. Mallon officially took office prior to Monday's committee meeting.

Mayor Kalnins also appointed Mr. Mallon as Engineering/Department of Public Works (DPW) commissioner.

Commissioner Mallon already had cause to speak in his new capacity as one Dartmouth Road resident complained about the condition of his street three days after the blizzard and questioned when his street would see another snow plow.

Commissioner Mallon said the DPW is committed to getting the job done right. The first priority was to tend to the areas around the schools to help them get back into session. With that work completed, the DPW can now return its focus to the rest of the town.

Mr. Mallon also expressed his gratitude more generally about having this opportunity to serve the town that he has called home for the past 22 years. In his

comments at the conclusion of the meeting he stated, "While I have much to learn, I intend to learn quickly and to work hard for the good of our community."

## Cranford Planning Board Holds Reorg Mtg.

By **CHRISTINA M. HINKE**

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader*

**CRANFORD** — Members of the planning board were sworn in for their reappointment at the reorganization meeting on January 20th.

Peter Taylor, Kathleen Murray, Julie Didzbalis, Mayor Andis Kalnins and Committeewoman Mary O'Connor were reappointed to the board. Bobbi Anderson was reappointed as chairwoman and Lynda Feder as vice-chairwoman. Ms. Murray was reappointed as board secretary and Ann Steinbach as alternate secretary.

Ruthanne Della Serra, who is retiring this year after serving 16 years, was appointed along with her replacement, Patricia Cullen, as the board scribe. Ms. Cullen was hired recently as an assistant zoning officer to work under Zoning Officer Bob Hudak, and will take over as scribe once she is fully prepared to take on the role, Ms. Della Serra said.

Nicholas Giuditta was appointed as board attorney. Mr. Giuditta has served as board attorney since 2007, with a one year hiatus in 2013. The board interviewed him along with Alexander Fisher of Mauro, Savo, Camerino, Grant, Schalk of Somerville.

Maser Consulting and Matrix New World were appointed as the planning consultants who would be called upon on as an as needed basis. Mr. Hudak is the

in-house planner. Carl O'Brien of Maser Consulting was appointed as board engineer.

Matrix New World was also recently hired by the township to design a plan to redevelop North Avenue between Centennial Avenue to North Union Avenue, Mayor Kalnins said. "It will give us ideas of what it can be," he said.

Part of this area is where Swan Cleaners, Chapman Bros. and Marino's Seafood are situated. Across the street is the MDTV building that the township recently purchased and is looking to sell to a developer, Mayor Kalnins said.

Next month's meetings will be held Wednesday, February 3, with no application, and Wednesday, February 17, with an expected application.

A letter submitted by PSE&G is to be forwarded to the tree advisory board for their review and comments that informs the township of its application to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for maintenance of vegetation existing on freshwater wetlands. The state Board of Public Utilities (BPU) changed their rules, Mayor Kalnins said, which included tree height clearance of overhead utility lines. One change was for trees on primary lines, where it used to be it had to be eight feet clearance on sides and 12 feet clearance on top. The new rules make the tree height clearance stricter.

## Garwood Merchants Join New Drive to Aid Schools

**GARWOOD** – Nine local businesses have agreed to donate a portion of their sales to the Education Foundation of Garwood during "Show Love for Garwood Schools," a six-hour event on Thursday, February 4.

Between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. that day, the businesses will donate to the foundation five percent of their sales to participating customers. The foundation provides scholarships for Garwood students and grants to teachers planning special projects.

The businesses taking part in the program are: Crossroads Restaurant and Bar, 78 North Avenue, Garwood Lanes, 345 North

Avenue, Kessler's Korner, 250 North Avenue (sports memorabilia), Lorenzo's Family Place, 117 Center Street, Progress, 200 North Avenue (resale clothing), Rosie's Wine Bar, 514 North Avenue, Rudy's Ristorante & Pizzeria, 300 South Avenue, The Station Bar & Grill, 99 Center Street and Treasures by Therese, 246 North Avenue (handmade gifts for children).

To participate in the program, customers will have to present a flier at the time of service. Fliers are available at the businesses joining the program as well as at Borough Hall, the Garwood Library and Lincoln School.

## Local Letter to the Editor

### Garwood Elected Officials Did What They Were Elected To Do

For those that are not aware, Garwood Republican Club President Sal Piarulli is a marketing consultant. Sadly, marketing skills do not equal truth and substance. In looking at the world of social media, I am quite honestly disgusted by what I see the Republicans turning our small, lovely town of Garwood into: A town where spin trumps facts for the benefit of a few.

I follow the Facebook pages of both political parties in town. The Garwood Democrats page recently posted something positive about cost-savings from the use of Fanwood's Toro machine to make clearing Garwood Borough sidewalks during snow storms easier. We clearly did not have to purchase this equipment, which means it saved tax money.

I have seen our DPW out there snow blowing around the mu-

nicipal building in past years, so this is obviously more efficient which represents even further savings (time is money to use a marketing catchphrase).

Although skeptical at first about the deal with Fanwood for administrative and equipment sharing, I am pleased to see it is working. My garbage has still been picked up twice per week without fail, leaves were picked up in a timely manner and now snow is being cleared just as well as any other year. This reaffirms something I, along with many other residents, always believed to be true — Garwood has a top notch DPW.

The Republican Club President has accused the Democrats of "patronizing" the DPW staff by highlighting these cost savings, which is absolutely ridiculous. It

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## Local Letter to Editor

is in fact the Republicans who have been patronizing the men that do the actual labor — picking up garbage, filling potholes, snow plowing, etc. — by stating they needed a full-time superintendent to supervise them 40 hours a week to be successful. They have been doing a spectacular job as always, even after this shared service agreement passed in the summer and the full-time superintendent was eliminated.

For those pledging in their campaign to “make government do more with less,” the Republicans should thank the Democrats and fellow Republican Mike Martin for making the difficult decision this deal needed. They’ve successfully streamlined government and saved us taxpayer dollars without any negative impact to services.

It is obvious Mr. Piarulli is less interested in truth and more interested in twisting facts into marketing for his fellow GOPers as seen in his recent tirade of posts on the Democratic page.

He claims we are “giving Fanwood \$40,000 to borrow something.” He knows full well that Garwood pays Fanwood \$40,000 per year, which is mainly for administration sharing. The downsizing from a full-time superintendent at \$110,000 per year to paying \$40,000 to Fanwood for a certified public works manager to supervise Garwood part-time, saves Garwood \$70,000. That is simple math.

In addition to saving \$70,000 strictly on administrative costs, Garwood is saving money on equipment. We didn’t have to spend money to purchase our own Toro to clear snow from sidewalks, to winterize the irrigation system at the recreation complex and many more items which are now available to us as part of the deal.

We can also use their equipment when ours is down, such as the leaf vacuum this past fall. How is this in any way not a win for the taxpayers of Garwood?

Our elected officials did what they were elected to do: Make tough decisions for the benefit of the taxpayer. The DPW has

proved the greatness of their service is thanks to all of the 7 full-time laborers and not a single individual.

Thank you to the men of the Garwood DPW for all you do.

Vincent Kearney  
Garwood

## — Local Obituaries —

### Marjorie Gushard, 95, Loved Cranford; Active With Churches, Scouting, Politics

Marjorie D. Gushard, 95, of Cranford, N.J., died peacefully of natural causes on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

Born September 30, 1920, in Flushing, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late Lloyd and Elizabeth (Knapp) Dressner.

In 1938 Marjorie attended Ursinus College in Colledgeville, Pa. where she met the love of her life, William Howard (Gus) Gushard, from Philadelphia, Pa.

In 1942 they were married and spent the next 47 years enjoying their home on Staten Island, N.Y., and their farmhouse in Paintersville, Pa. Over the years she taught Sunday school, was a Cub Scout den mother, volunteered in local political campaigns, and was in charge of distribution of the film *Jesus* to churches on Staten Island. She made an excellent pot roast dinner every Sunday.

Gus died in September 1989. Marjorie spent the years since his passing living in their townhouse in Cranford, N.J., temporary quarters they bought in 1983 to ease the transition before his retirement and their permanent move to Paintersville. As Marge would tell everyone, their temporary quarters has served her now for more than 30 years, and she expects Gus will sternly question her, “What took you so long?,” when she sees him again.

The best thing Marjorie ever

did in her life, she often said, was to go on a tour of Israel. She adored everything she saw there and held her Bible open on her lap at every site.

Marjorie loved living in Cranford; she enjoyed the friendliness of the local shopkeepers, the architecture of the large old homes, and especially the happiness she felt on her beloved river walks.

Almost daily for the past five years, Marjorie would go around the block between “the boats” and the 9/11 Memorial Park, chatting easily for a few minutes with and waving a hearty hello to those she met along the way. She would note the level of the river water, count the number of geese and ducks, and call “woof woof” to every passing dog. Marjorie had a deep faith in God and never stopped thanking Him for all His mercies towards her throughout her life.

She is survived by a daughter, Linda (Lawrence), of Westfield, and two sons, Wayne and Robert (Elizabeth); nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gray Memorial Funeral Home, 12 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, N.J. Go to grayfuneralhomes.com for condolences. Interment will be at the Lind Memorial Cemetery in Lewistown, Pa.

January 28, 2016

## Frank McGovern to Serve As Parade Grand Marshal

CRANFORD — The 2016 Union County Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Committee has announced that Frank McGovern of Cranford has been named Grand Marshal of the 20th Annual Union County Saint Patrick’s Day Parade.

Mr. McGovern has been involved with the Union County Saint Patrick’s Day Parade for more than 17 years, serving as the parade’s 2005 general chairman.

“It’s an honor to be considered by my peers for this role,” Mr. McGovern said. “I am excited to be a part of this parade and all that it stands for year after year. This parade is about tradition and family.”

Mr. McGovern also has served the parade as chairman of the Investiture Mass and Parade Day Mass, financial secretary, chairman of the Saint Patrick’s Honor Guard, parade announcer and, most recently, chairman of the board of trustees.

“Frank has done so much for both the parade and for the community,” said Parade General Chairperson Kerry Ricci. “We are so proud to have him lead us as this year’s grand marshal.”

In addition to his duties with the parade committee, Mr. McGovern has served as president and trustee of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Union County and sits on the board of trustees for Center for Hope Hospice and on the Saint John the Apostle Church Trustees and Finance Committee. He also is a member of the St. John’s Social Concerns and Capital Campaign Committees and a volunteer at Overlook Medical Center in Summit.

The grand marshal traces his

Irish roots to County Cavan via County Cork, and Counties Kerry and West Meath.

Mr. McGovern, the general manager of power delivery and infrastructure for Electrical Consultants Inc. in Cranford, has been married to the former Eileen Whalen since 1981. Their family includes daughter Megan Ann of Burlington, Mass. and her husband, Mike Reny; daughter Kelly Elizabeth of Cranford and her husband, Ed Feeley; daughter Bridgid Kathleen of Hoboken and son Frank Patrick of Annapolis, Md. Their grandchildren are Brendon and newly arrived granddaughter Lauren Eileen.

Mr. McGovern will be officially installed as grand marshal on Saturday, February 20, at 2:30 p.m., during the parade committee’s annual Investiture Mass at St. Theresa’s Church, located at 541 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth. A reception will follow at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, located at 33 South 21st Street, Kenilworth.

The 20th Annual Union County Saint Patrick’s Day Parade will step off at 1 p.m. sharp on Saturday, March 12, on Morris Avenue in Union. For more information about the parade, visit [unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com](http://unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com).



Frank McGovern

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## Celebration Singers of Cranford To Present Cabaret "Love Is..."

CRANFORD – The Celebration Singers of Cranford proudly presents its 2016 Annual Fundraiser and Dessert Cabaret, featuring a night of songs performed by

members of its adult choir around the theme of "Love is..." The cabaret is set for Friday, February 5 and Saturday, February 6, at its new location:

Kenilworth Veterans Center, 33 South 21st Street, Kenilworth. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for both evenings.

Under the direction of the choir's Conductor and Artistic Director Brian Clissold, the showcase will feature a wide array of solos, duets, trios, as well as small and full ensemble pieces that complete, through song, the phrase "Love is..." Door prizes and homemade desserts will also be available. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors. A 10 percent discount will be offered for full tables of 10. For ticket reservations visit [celebrationsingers.org/Tickets.aspx](http://celebrationsingers.org/Tickets.aspx).

For more information call (908) 522-4656 or email [celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com](mailto:celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com).

## 'Butterfly Guy' to Present 'Fun With Bugs!' Feb. 20

CRANFORD — The Hanson Park Conservancy will welcome Rick Mikula, "The Butterfly Guy," on Saturday, February 20, at the Cranford Community Center. Mr. Mikula will present "Fun With Bugs!" at 10 a.m. This program is free and open to insect lovers of all ages.

Mr. Mikula will discuss the types of insects that live in the area's parks and gardens. He will show audience members how to find, raise and appreciate bugs using household items. Mr. Mikula will showcase live butterflies and will demonstrate just how easy it is to care for them.

For more than 35 years, Mr. Mikula has been engaging audiences with his humorous way of looking at butterflies. He currently is president of Butterfly Rescue International and serves as a consultant to both the Association for Butterflies and The International Butterfly Breeders Association.

Mr. Mikula also is the pioneer and inventor of releasing butterflies at weddings and funerals and has helped to make it a global phenomenon. He wrote the award-winning "The Family Butterfly Book." Additionally, he has designed several live butterfly exhibits including the Hershey Butterfly House, the exhibit at Clyde Peeling's Reptiland and at DollyWood. To learn more about

Mr. Mikula, visit his website, [butterflyrick.com](http://butterflyrick.com).

The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford. This program is sponsored by the Hanson Park Conservancy and made possible by a grant from Merck. To register for this event, visit [hansonparkconservancy.com](http://hansonparkconservancy.com) or on the organization's Facebook page.

## Fichiera of Cranford Attains Univ. of Hartford Dean's List

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. – The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Madison Fichiera of Cranford has been named to its Dean's List for Fall 2015.

The University of Hartford, centrally located in Connecticut, provides a distinctive educational experience across seven schools and colleges for one of the most diverse student bodies in New England. Hartford's faculty are attracted by the opportunity to challenge and support students as they pursue degrees in more than 84 programs in the arts, humanities, science, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions. Chartered in 1957, Hartford has more than 5,000 undergraduates, 1,600 graduate stu-

dents, and 75,000 alumni worldwide. Visit [www.hartford.edu](http://www.hartford.edu) for more information.

## Garwood Knights Launch Food Drive

GARWOOD — The Msgr. John M. Walsh Council No. 5437 Garwood Knights of Columbus are conducting a "Winter Storm" Food Drive on behalf of the St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth.

Donations of canned and dry food goods and supermarket gift cards can be dropped off at the Columbian Club of Garwood building, located at 37 South Avenue, Garwood, opposite the old PathMark store, weekdays from 4 to 6 p.m. At other times



**SHARING THEIR TALENT...**The Madrigal Singers of Cranford High School entertain the American Federation of Teachers Retirees of New Jersey at their December meeting. The select group of high school members sang traditional Christmas and Hanukah songs of the season. AFTRNJ meets four times a year and in December met at the Deutscher Club in Clark.

## Dean's List Announced at Alvernia University

READING, Penn. – The following students have been named to Alvernia University's Dean's List for the fall 2015 semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must carry a semester GPA of 3.5 or better and take a

minimum of 12 credits.

Siri Myhre of Cranford, a Junior studying Occupational Therapy at Alvernia and is a graduate of Cranford High School

Gregory Vicci of Cranford, a Junior studying Criminal Justice at Alvernia and is a graduate of Union Catholic Regional High School

Alvernia is a distinctive Franciscan university, grounded in the Catholic and liberal arts traditions, that combines diverse academic opportunities with personal attention and an unmatched commitment to community service. Alvernia empowers students to become "ethical leaders with moral courage." Through real-world learning and the challenging guidance of faculty mentors, they discover their passion for life and turn what they love into lifetimes of career success and personal fulfillment.

and on weekends, call (908) 789-9809 first. Visitors are asked to use the side-door entrance.

For more information, call the Knights at (908) 789-9809 or Keith M. Gallagher at (908) 789-0931.

Since 1983, St. Joseph Social Service Center has served the materially poor and homeless community of greater Elizabeth. For more information on the center, go to YouTube "Homeless in Elizabeth," parts one and two, or visit [sjeliz.org](http://sjeliz.org).

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