

## Westfield Zoning Board OKs Seven Applications

By MICHAEL BONACCORSO  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Seven applicants were approved by the Board of Adjustment Monday night.

The board approved Mitchell and Isabel Peixoto's application to construct an addition with a deck. Mr. and Mrs. Peixoto proposed a deck creating a continuous wall 38 feet in length. The town ordinance allows for a 25-foot maximum continuous wall length adjacent to the property line.

"The addition will make the prop-

erty look cleaner and does not encroach on neighbor's properties," Mrs. Peixoto said. The board unanimously approved the application.

Applicant Frances Connors, 518 Kimball Avenue, was approved in a 4-to-1 vote for a 14-foot by 17-foot deck. Ms. Connors current deck is 12 feet by 12 feet.

"The deck would provide functionality for my husband and me. Especially as we are getting older and use the downstairs patio less," Ms. Connors said. "I believe the purpose of this board is to ensure

homeowners can seek relief in situations that make sense. Respecting neighbors' privacy and neighborhood aesthetics is also important," said board member Mary Alice Ryan. Board member Robert Whitehead voted against the application.

Joshua Dunkelmann, 226 South Scotch Plains Avenue, was approved to construct a two-story addition. Mr. Dunkelmann proposed a continuous wall length of 42 feet where The town ordinance allows for a continuous wall length of 25 feet adjacent to the property line.

"The homeowner under technical precedent has the right to develop a bathroom on the first floor of his home," Board Chairman William E. Heinbokel said.

Mr. Dunkelmann's application was unanimously approved.

Gordon and Wayne Holder, 324 Livingston Street, proposed a two-story addition with a deck. Under town ordinance decks must be located in the rear yard. The Holders' proposed deck is on the side yard. The Holders are brothers whose mother currently lives at the address.

"My grandfather built this home in the 1920s. We want to restore it and make it stand-out in the neighborhood as respectable," Gordon Holder said.

"The deck is understood as functional to accessing this multi-family home and will not present a hazard to neighbor's privacy," said Mr. Heinbokel. "It is understood the deck is merely used as a landing and not as a place of leisure and entertainment" said board member Christopher Masciale. The board unanimously approved the application.

Applicants Neil and Hillary  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



EGG HUNT RETURNS!...The Westfield Lions Club will hold its 82nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday, April 15, at Mindovaskin Park, for Westfield children up to age 7. Participants and their parents should assemble in the playground area by 12:45 p.m., as the hunt begins at 1 p.m. sharp. The Easter Bunny will be there beginning at noon for picture-taking. See article with additional details on page 7.

## Birchwood Redevelopment Hearing Set for April 20

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The planning board at its workshop meeting last Wednesday discussed its upcoming Thursday, April 20 hearing of the of over 15 acres of properties located at 215 and 235 Birchwood Avenue the township purchased. The planning board is to determine whether to make a recommendation that the property should be designated by the governing body of the Township of Cranford as a Non-Condensation Area in Need of Redevelopment pursuant to state statute.

The township agreed to purchase the property at the end of 2016 for some \$18 million from the developer S. Hekemian, who had won a builder's remedy lawsuit to build a

360-unit apartment building there. As part of the township's due diligence period of its purchase, the township hired an environmental firm to perform site tests. A consulting firm has tested the groundwater there, Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr. said, and it "has come back good."

"There are some base neutrals in some of the samples they took. So they are doing more samples," Mayor Hannen said. "We should be in pretty good shape based on what we were told so far."

The board also welcomed the newly hired Zoning Officer Ron Johnson after the previous zoning officer and the assistant zoning officer resigned.

Mr. Johnson previously held the position of assistant planner in Plainfield. He also is experienced in web design and writes a blog about planning issues, Mr. Johnson said of his experience. He developed PlainfieldPermits.com. The

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Benjamin B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader

FIRE PREVENTION GRANT...The Westfield Fire Department was recently presented with an \$850 check as part of a grant from FM Global towards the purchase of a camera with accessories for fire prevention. Pictured, from left to right, are: Town Administrator Jim Gildea, Lieutenant Michael Duels, FM Global representative John Antola, Town Councilwoman Jo Ann Neylan, Fire Chief David Kelly and Deputy Chief Anthony Tiller.



Kristina McAlliney for The Westfield Leader

OPENING DAY...The Garwood Baseball League held their opening day parade on Saturday to mark the start of the spring season.

## Cranford to Publish RFP For Birchwood Property

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The township committee passed, 5 to 0, a resolution Tuesday to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for the sale and redevelopment of the property it purchased for some \$18 million at 215 and 235 Birchwood Avenue. On Thursday, April 20, the committee will ask the planning board to evaluate whether the property should be designated an area in need of redevelopment.

Jeffrey Surenian was authorized

for a contract of \$5,000 to provide affordable-housing legal services.

The committee also passed two ordinances on final reading that pertain to garbage can placement and the property maintenance code.

The committee also introduced an ordinance amending the code pertaining to property maintenance. The committee had revised it to deal with vacant and underutilized properties. Additionally, the committee is looking to cull a list of abandoned properties.

"This allows us to take other steps that weren't in the original ordinance," Mayor Thomas Hannen, Jr. said.

Two tax refunds were granted: \$126,615 to 500 North Avenue East, and \$63,627 to 3 Phillips Street.

The committee discussed the 2017 capital budget at its workshop Monday and conference session on Tuesday. The capital budget is likely to be introduced at its next public meeting.

During workshop, Commissioner Andis Kalnins had said he would prefer the budget be at \$3.4 million as in previous years. Commissioner Ann Dooley said, "I am disappointed what we are doing with road

resurfacing. I am concerned about Elm Street and James Street."

The road resurfacing portion of the budget is just under \$2 million, about 30 percent less than in 2016, Ms. Dooley said. It is about half the amount in 2014, when the committee decided to start investing in resurfacing roads.

Superintendent of Public Works Steve Wardell has a proposed list of roads that need repair, Commissioner Dooley said. "This budget was not enough to meet his existing list," she noted.

As discussed at workshop, part of the capital budget is to include \$450,000 for a new traffic light at North Union Avenue and Alden Street, as well as some new handicap-accessibility ramps at the intersections there and resurfacing a portion of Alden Street. The capital budget is to include about \$75,000 for new valves for the backflow preventers that recently broke at the pump station on Riverside Drive. Also, a server at town hall needs to be upgraded after it went down recently.

In an attempt to reduce the capital budget further in talks at the confer-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Garwood OKs Resolution For Fair Share Housing Plan

By MICHAEL BONACCORSO  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD — The borough council announced Tuesday night that a special meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, for the purpose of considering and adopting a resolution endorsing the fair share housing plan element summary. The adopted summary will be submitted to the court at the Fair Share Hearing at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth.

"The county fair share hearing will answer the rhetorical question on whether towns adhere to a broader definition of being fair to low income and moderate income housing," said Board Attorney Robert F. Renaud.

Mayor Charles Lombardo and the council said it is important for Garwood and all towns to be aligned with state standards on fair housing to avoid builder remedy lawsuits.

"It is unclear how fair share housing will be defined under a new Governor and the state Supreme Court. All we have is current standards and definitions defined currently," Mr. Renaud said.

In other business, it was noted that Garwood residents do not have to separate recyclables from their general garbage. Waste Management's contract with the borough states the company will dispose both residential recycle and garbage placed in the same bag. The agreement is meant to make disposal an easier process for residents.

"I feel as if the single-stream system disposing garbage and recycle into the same truck takes advantage of our taxes. The resident pays for both, but the company may not separate the two," resident Bruce Pateron said. "I understand some residents may separate recycle from their

general garbage. This is not necessary and Waste Management separates the two entities at their plant," Council President Sara Todisco said.

"Either which way by law, we must pay for both recycling and garbage disposal as separate entities no matter how it is removed by a company," Councilman Joseph Sarno said.

"Hartman Park would better serve the community if at least a single bathroom was installed and the park was better kept," said resident Amanda Langston, during the public comment part of the meeting.

Councilwoman Todisco agreed that the Building and Grounds Committee can find ways to enhance Hartman Park. "I will see if we have capital expenditure funding in our budget or seek grants to enhance the park," said Councilwoman Todisco, who is also chairwoman of the finance committee.

The municipal budget will be adopted in a separate public hearing on Tuesday, April 25. The meeting will be held at 7:15 p.m. or soon thereafter.

Village Supermarket, Inc. was approved for a \$22,438 property tax refund.

"The refund will be offset by money set aside for refund liability," Council President Todisco said.

In addition she said, "Four tons of asphalt was utilized by the municipality to mend residential roads" following the winter season.



Christina M. Hinke for The Westfield Leader

KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE...Barbara Krause, center, and Bonnie Cierkowski, members of the Crane's Ford Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, present Mayor Tom Hannen, Jr. with a national historic preservation recognition award for the refurbishment of the World War I flagpole at Eastman Plaza that was originally erected in 1918. A sum of \$50,000 was raised through efforts of the flagpole restoration committee for the flagpole's restoration.

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**LEADER IN JERUSALEM...** Janet Frigerio, wife of the late Ronald Frigerio, former Westfield mayor, center, is pictured holding *The Westfield Leader* with her daughter, Susan Buckley, and grandson, Ronald Buckley, both of Pennsylvania, while visiting Jerusalem, Israel. They are shown standing in front of the Dome of The Rock, which was completed in AD 691 as a shrine to Muslims everywhere after the great mosques of Mecca and Medina, both in Saudi Arabia.

## Birchwood RFP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ence session Tuesday, the committee discussed halving the parks budget to \$100,000. However, Mayor Hannen suggested moving that to road resurfacing. Commissioner Mary O'Connor said, "If we take 100,000 out for parks I'd rather reduce the budget and not add to the roads. Deputy Mayor Patrick Giblin said he would rather have the funds allocated to the parks. "We are splitting hairs on \$2 to 300,000 when we have an \$18-million Birchwood purchase," Mr. Giblin said.

After finding reductions to bring the capital budget down to just over \$3.7 million, Mr. Kalnins said he was still not in favor of the capital budget, and would want it to be lowered to \$3.4 million. He suggested removing the purchase of a new sewer truck and an ambulance, and spend less on resurfacing Alden Street.

Also, the township had a meeting with a representative of Union County yesterday about Droscher Park and Sperry Park to address desilting and desnagging the river and repair of the dams there. Ms. Dooley had said that about two weeks ago the county said it did not own the dams, while Ms. Dooley contends the county owns those dams but Cranford maintains them.

In the engineers report presented Monday, Township Engineer Carl O'Brien said the baseball field is to be completed Friday, and by the end of next week the work at the perimeters of the field will be complete.

The remaining piece of resurfacing Lincoln Avenue, as well as the basketball courts at Lincoln Park, are scheduled to be complete by July 1 and ready for use by Fourth of July weekend.

The flood control projects for Or-

chard Brook and Phase 2B remain in the planning stage. Mr. O'Brien is to schedule a meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). "We need to move forward on a few things. We need some help down there," Mr. O'Brien said.

Police Chief James Wozniak spoke to the committee at its conference session Tuesday. They discussed hiring a new sergeant to replace Detective Sergeant Richard Vitale, who retired in January after 25 years of service. Sergeant Gene Perrotta was reassigned to fill Mr. Vitale's position in the internal affairs division. Detective Sergeant Matthew Nazzaro was subsequently reassigned from his duties as School Resource Officer to fill Mr. Perrotta's position. Detective Kelly Rieder currently serves as School Resource Officer, as part of the Juvenile Bureau, and was working together with Mr. Nazzaro in that role before his reassignment.

Chief Wozniak had made the request to the committee in mid-December 2016 to hire a new officer to fill the sergeant position that would be left vacant from the retirement. Then, in January, a resolution was on the agenda to approve a new hire but was subsequently pulled from the agenda, "without explanation," Chief Wozniak said.

"If the support isn't there to maintain our staffing levels...I need to know," Chief Wozniak said. Currently, the Cranford Police Department has 52 officers. The Police Department has requested to have 54 officers, which had been denied by the committee last year.

"It became a burden to one of my lieutenants," said Chief Wozniak, going on to say it lowered morale and affected job performance.

## Suicide Prevention Changes To Be Made at Cornerstone

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

COUNTY—The Freeholder Board is expected to vote tonight to increase two vendor contracts for upgrades at the Cornerstone Behavioral Health Hospital at what is now Runnells Center for Rehabilitation Healthcare in Berkeley Heights per new state suicide prevention regulations. The regulations date back to before the county sale of Runnells Specialized Hospital in December 2014, although the county still operates Cornerstone.

The first resolution is for a change order of \$125,000 with Maffey's Security Group of Elizabeth for a new contract of \$465,500.

"We've got to do a bunch of work up there," said Joseph Graziano, director of the Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities Management, at last Thursday's agenda meeting.

The second contract change is for an additional \$8,980 with Motivated Security Services at Cornerstone for a contract of \$91,264.

Human Services Director Frank Guzzo said the state has indicated that a new set of regulations will likely be needed to govern all mental health hospitals in New Jersey.

He said the changes at Cornerstone

are for equipment and hardware.

"This is a necessary thing; it's a good thing," Mr. Guzzo said, at the agenda meeting. He said a lot of the work is being completed by employees in Mr. Graziano's department. He said the suicide prevention hardware still needs to be ordered per the additional money in the Maffey Security contract.

Mr. Guzzo said the county has been given until August to complete the work.

The board also will vote on a \$355,000 contract with Manor II Electric of Holmdel for installation of an emergency generator at the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains. Mr. Graziano said once a permanent generator is installed the county will be able to use the academy building as an alternate to the Westfield public safety building as an emergency management operations center.

The board also discussed at the agenda meeting a contract to be voted on at tonight's regular meeting with Remedy Analytics of Milwaukee, Wis.

Steve Weiner of Acrisure, the county's insurance broker, said Remedy would review the county's current prescription benefits contract to look for savings as well as renegotiating rebate amounts.

"Ultimately the final goal is to renegotiate it in terms of realized savings," he told the freeholders. He said the contract will cost nothing to the county out of pocket other than "a percentage of actual achieved savings."

He said on average the company has helped their clients save on average 20 percent in overall prescription costs.

Union County has budgeted \$16.5 million for prescription costs in the proposed 2017 budget, an increase of \$1.8 million over last year. The budget is set for adoption by the board on Thursday, April 27.

As per the three-year contract, the county would pay Remedy a 20-percent commission on demonstrated savings over the length of the contract.

County Manager Al Faella said county employees would still have the same level of prescription coverage including access to the same drugs they have now.

## Redevel. Hrg.

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site, when live, will allow people to file for permits, describe and advise people best on how to get a permit, and also explain rules about historic preservation.

"I worked with the zoning board and planning board in Plainfield closely," Mr. Johnson said.

"I would love to develop tools for the Cranford community as well," he said.

Mr. Johnson said he also developed two transit villages in Plainfield while there. He is a graduate of the Edward J. Bloustein School at Rutgers University.

In other discussion, the mayor said the Downtown Management Corporation (DMC) has asked the planning board to codify design standards for the downtown.

Commissioner Ann Dooley said she had reviewed a draft of the DMC's strategic plan, which partly explores parking and traffic congestion. "They are doing great things and have concrete suggestions," Ms. Dooley said.

Planning board member Dan Aschenbach brought up the underutilization of the parking garage in the downtown.

Mayor Hannen suggested that should North Avenue go under a redevelopment with mixed-use buildings, that developers could pay the town for parking in the garage in lieu of parking on site.

It was also noted by board member Lynda Feder that parking on North Avenue in front of the train station is mostly empty, and suggested to allow longer term parking there.

The board met in executive session following the open workshop meeting.



**A GARWOOD TRADITION...**A Garwood fire engine leads the Garwood Baseball League opening day parade on Saturday. The parade started at Lincoln School en route to the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex.



**NEW ZONING OFFICER...**Cranford's new Zoning Officer Ron Johnson was welcomed by the planning board at last Wednesday's board meeting. He previously held the position of assistant planner in Plainfield.

## SP Planning Board Begins Talks On Community Ctr.

By FRED T. ROSSI  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS—The planning board on Monday discussed the concept of a community center, with board chairman Joseph Doyle saying it was important to first gauge the feasibility of building such a facility and whether the public supports it.

The township's recent master plan pointed out the eventual need for a community center. While the newly-renovated Shady Rest facility at Scotch Hills Country Club could serve as a place for senior citizens' activities, a more expansive community center will also be necessary at some point, the report stated. "It's clearly a need," said Mayor Alexander Smith at Monday's meeting, adding that the top questions are where to locate it and how to finance its construction.

One spot briefly talked about was the property adjacent to the library at the corner of Forest Road and Grand Street, although board members emphasized that other options might become available as the process moves forward. Board member Paulette Coronato said it would be ideal for the center to be "centrally-located" and be tied in with the efforts to redevelop the downtown business district. She envisioned it being part of "a real town center where everything is available."

Mr. Doyle said the planning board is creating a subcommittee of four members—himself, Mrs. Coronato, Marc Ginsberg and Carla Kelly—to investigate the feasibility of a new center as well as its possible location, size and cost. He called public support for any such project "essential." Mr. Ginsberg said a possible ballot referendum on whether to build a community center, like the open-space trust fund referendum ballot question in 1999, "may be the feasibility study" as voters cast their yes or no votes on the matter.

Mrs. Coronato said it was important to coordinate the board's ef-

forts regarding the planned center with those of the newly-created downtown development committee. She also spoke favorably about community centers in nearby towns, including Cranford, Rahway, Springfield and Clark, with Mr. Doyle adding that board members should look at how those towns utilize their facilities.

Speaking about how development of a facility would be financed, Mr. Doyle said it was not necessary for construction dollars to all come from the township. Instead, he mentioned grants, partnering with individuals and corporations and "selling" rooms and events to corporate sponsorships. He also mentioned the lobby at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ PAC) in Newark where a wall contains the names of companies that contributed to its construction 20 years ago. He tasked the subcommittee with looking at how other towns financed their community centers.

Mrs. Coronato also wondered if the township's open space trust fund could be tapped to help with the construction. Mayor Smith said the fund, which is financed via a two-cent per \$100 of assessed value levy, had been used in recent years to pay off municipal bonds, leaving it depleted. He said the council plans to earmark \$100,000 in this year's municipal budget for open-space purposes, and said the question of whether those funds could be used for a community center needed to be looked into.

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**FLAPJACK FUNDRAISER...**Westfield UNICO held a flapjack breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's benefiting injured veterans and soldiers' families through the Bonds of Courage. Pictured is Lieutenant Colonel Bill Morris of Bonds of Courage, kneeling at left, along with chapter officers and members at the Applebee Flapjack Breakfast. Over 100 people attended the event.

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Courtesy of Natalie DeAngelo  
**FIND THE EASTER EGGS...**The Fanwood Annual Easter Egg Hunt held Saturday morning drew crowds of parents and children. Over 1,500 eggs with prizes were placed throughout Forest Road Park for children of all ages to collect.

## Council to Consider Budget And Capital Bond Ord. Next Week

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

SCOTCH PLAINS — At its meeting next Tuesday night, the township council will hold public hearings on the 2017 municipal budget and the capital bond ordinance, both of which mark breaks from recent years' practices.

The municipal budget, with a little over \$25 million in proposed outlays, will be financed in part by a 1.97 percent, or 2.9-cent, increase in the local property tax rate, meaning an additional \$35.4 million in the municipal portion of the average

homeowner's property tax bill. This year's proposed tax increase follows last year's one-point reduction in the municipal tax rate and a rate freeze in 2015.

The budget, which is slightly more than \$231,000 higher than last year's outlays, includes money to hire two new police officers and one new public works employee. Four special police officers will also be hired and be tasked with parking enforcement duties as well as assisting at special events in the downtown. There will also be a reduction of nearly two-thirds in police overtime costs, from \$560,000 in 2016 to \$200,000 budgeted for this year. Four new police vehicles as well as some technology upgrades will also be purchased using \$200,000 that is being shifted from the capital bond to the operating budget. The budget will also retain \$100,000 to be used for possible open-space purchases instead of being used to pay debt service.

Besides the \$14,935,957 in total property taxes expected to be collected — a \$296,000 increase over last year — the 2017 budget will also be financed by using \$3.4 million of the township's \$4.5 million in surplus

funds and \$2.3 million in state aid, a level that's remained constant for the past several years. Funding will also come from an anticipated \$730,000 in construction code fees and \$75,000 in anticipated interest on investments.

The capital bond ordinance totaling \$1.9 million is far below last year's \$4.2-million bond, and Mayor Alexander Smith said during the bond's introduction on April 4 that the council had "pared it down" from the levels of the past few years so that it will finance "the essentials." Earlier, there had been criticism that the large capital bonds in 2015 and 2016 were being used to finance the purchase of goods and services typically financed directly through the township's operating budget as a way of freeing or reducing property tax rates.

Mayor Smith said last week that with the township paying off some older bonds this year, the \$1.9 million in this year's bond ordinance will not add to the municipality's debt level.

The largest allocation in this year's capital bond ordinance is the \$763,000 earmarked for various road repair projects, including East Second Street, Glenside Avenue, Westfield Avenue between Westfield Road and the public works facility and Raritan Road east of Lake Avenue. Another \$54,700 will be allocated for storm sewer improvements.

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Fred T. Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**MEET THE EASTER BUNNY...**These youngsters meet the Easter Bunny during Saturday's Easter Egg Hunt in Scotch Plains.

## Bid to Modify North Ave. Gas Station Is Withdrawn

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

SCOTCH PLAINS — A zoning board of adjustment hearing to consider a modification to a previously-approved application was withdrawn last week, meaning that a 7-Eleven convenience store, and not a Dunkin' Donuts outlet, will be built along with a new gas station on North Avenue.

Last April, Plainfield Gas Realty won the board's approval to build a gasoline station and a 2,500-square-foot 7-Eleven convenience store at the corner of North and Hetfield Avenues, on the site of the former Lou's Gulf station and auto repair facility. Earlier this year, Plainfield Gas requested a hearing to modify its plans and replace the convenience-store facility with a 2,632-square-foot Dunkin' Donuts restaurant, with 22 seats and a drive-through window on its east side.

At the start of last Thursday's meeting, Board Chairman Ken Anderson announced to the eight neighborhood residents who were in attendance that Plainfield Gas

had withdrawn its application. Marc Rogoff, an attorney representing the Demartino family that resides next to the site and had voiced objections to the application last year, told the board that "we are very happy with that development."

In other business, the board gave unanimous approval to a variance application by Richard Fortunato to erect a six-foot fence at a house he owns at 1461 Martine Avenue. The home is situated on the corner of Fields Lane and is considered to have two front yards, where fences can be no higher than four feet. The board approved privacy fencing along Fields Lane to the front of the house and along the rear of the property, which abuts a drainage easement. Aluminum rail fencing was also approved to extend from the front corners of the house outward to the property lines.

The board also gave its unanimous approval, following a hearing that lasted an hour, to an application by Anthony Ginesi to raze an existing two-family home and four-

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Courtesy of Natalie DeAngelo  
**LET THE EGG HUNT BEGIN...**Children eagerly awaiting the start of the Easter Egg Hunt Saturday morning at Forest Road Park in Fanwood.



Fred T. Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**EASTER SEASON TRADITION...**Hundreds of children of all ages took part in the Easter Egg Hunt in Scotch Plains on Saturday morning.

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Courtesy of Janet Frigerio  
**LEADER IN JERUSALEM...** Janet Frigerio, wife of the late Ronald Frigerio, former Westfield mayor, center, is pictured holding *The Westfield Leader* with her daughter, Susan Buckley, and grandson, Ronald Buckley, both of Pennsylvania, while visiting Jerusalem, Israel. They are shown standing in front of the Dome of The Rock, which was completed in AD 691 as a shrine to Muslims everywhere after the great mosques of Mecca and Medina, both in Saudi Arabia.

## Westfield Zoning Board OKs Seven Applications

By MICHAEL BONACCORSO  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

**WESTFIELD** — Seven applicants were approved by the Board of Adjustment Monday night.

The board approved Mitchell and Isabel Peixoto's application to construct an addition with a deck. Mr. and Mrs. Peixoto proposed a deck creating a continuous wall 38 feet in length. The town ordinance allows for a 25-foot maximum continuous wall length adjacent to the property line.

"The addition will make the property look cleaner and does not encroach on neighbor's properties," Mrs. Peixoto said. The board unanimously approved the application.

Applicant Frances Connors, 518 Kimball Avenue, was approved in a 4-to-1 vote for a 14-foot by 17-foot deck. Ms. Connors current deck is 12 feet by 12 feet.

"The deck would provide functionality for my husband and me. Especially as we are getting older and use the downstairs patio less," Ms. Connors said. "I believe the purpose of this board is to ensure homeowners can seek relief in situations that make sense. Respecting neighbors' privacy and neighborhood aesthetics is also important," said board member Mary Alice Ryan. Board member Robert Whitehead voted against the application.

Joshua Dunkelman, 226 South Scotch Plains Avenue, was approved to construct a two-story addition. Mr. Dunkelman proposed a continuous wall length of 42 feet where The town ordinance allows for a continuous wall length of 25 feet adjacent to the property line.

"The homeowner under technical precedent has the right to develop a bathroom on the first floor of his home," Board Chairman William E. Heinbokel said.

Mr. Dunkelman's application was unanimously approved.

Gordon and Wayne Holder, 324 Livingston Street, proposed a two-story addition with a deck. Under town ordinance decks must be located in the rear yard. The Holders' proposed deck is on the side yard. The Holders are brothers whose mother currently lives at the address.

"My grandfather built this home in the 1920s. We want to restore it and make it stand-out in the neighborhood

as respectable," Gordon Holder said.

"The deck is understood as functional to accessing this multi-family home and will not present a hazard to neighbor's privacy," said Mr. Heinbokel. "It is understood the deck is merely used as a landing and not as a place of leisure and entertainment" said board member Christopher Masciale. The board unanimously approved the application.

Applicants Neil and Hillary Brown, 543 Prospect Street, proposed an addition expanding their kitchen by 10 feet. The addition would eliminate their garage. The ordinance requires a garage.

"We have lived in this town for 40 years and we need space for our grandchildren to sit at our dinner table," Mrs. Brown told the board, who said the garage is not currently used for storage, and that "space is still available for a garage to be built in the future; for the next owners."

"The application does not pose a risk to neighborhood traffic, parking, nor future property use," Mr. Heinbokel said prior to the board's unanimous approval.

The applications of FAB Properties LLC., 316 East Broad Street, and Ruthal Holding West, LLC., 177 East Broad Street, were postponed until the Monday, May 8 meeting.

FAB is seeking preliminary and final major site plan approval with use and bulk variances to convert the basement level to office space and to allow a parking area with nine parking spaces contrary to the land use ordinance as 17 spaces are required.

Ruthal is seeking approval to construct a 1,290-square-foot, one-story addition contrary to the land use ordinance which allows a second-floor office use only. The applicant is proposing a first-floor office use. Also, the ordinance requires 33 parking spaces while the applicant's plan contains zero parking spaces.

In addition, applicant Robert Hickey, 725 Dorian Road, was not present. His application will be heard at a future meeting. He is seeking approval to construct an in-ground swimming pool.

Jeffery Gabriel, 118 Oak Tree Pass, was granted an extension until June 30. He is seeking board approval to construct a new single-family home but needs variances for front and rear yard setbacks.

## Garwood OKs Resolution For Fair Share Housing Plan

By MICHAEL BONACCORSO  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

**GARWOOD** — The borough council on Tuesday night approved a resolution Tuesday night endorsing the fair share plan housing element summary. The adopted summary will be submitted to the court at the Fair Share Hearing to be held Thursday, April 20 at 1:30 p.m. at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth.

"The county fair share hearing will answer the rhetorical question on whether towns adhere to a broader definition of being fair to low income and moderate income housing," said Board Attorney Robert F. Renaud.

Mayor Charles Lombardo and the council said it is important for Garwood and all towns to be aligned with state standards on fair housing to avoid builder remedy lawsuits.

"It is unclear how fair share housing will be defined under a new Governor and the state Supreme Court. All we have is current standards and definitions defined currently," Mr. Renaud said.

In other business, it was noted that Garwood residents do not have to separate recycles from their general garbage. Waste Management's contract with the borough states the company will dispose both residential recycle and garbage placed in the same bag. The agreement is meant to make disposal an easier process for residents.

"I feel as if the single-stream system disposing garbage and recycle into the same truck takes advantage of our taxes. The resident pays for both, but the company may not separate the two," resident Bruce Pateron said. "I understand some residents may separate recycle from their general garbage. This is not necessary and Waste Management separates the two entities at their plant,"

## Capital Ord.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Public Works Department will receive nearly \$460,000 to purchase several new vehicles, including a dump truck and a backhoe, as well as new radios. Another \$171,000 will be allocated to the fire department to purchase new turnout gear for firefighters as well as new digital radios while the Police Department will receive about \$54,000 for new digital radios and tactical equipment. The bond also earmarks \$133,300 to be used to renovate the bathrooms at Greenside Park and for upgrades to the playing field at Terrill Middle School. And just over \$95,000 will be used to upgrade the township's telephone system.

## Com. Ctr.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said the council plans to earmark \$100,000 in this year's municipal budget for open-space purposes, and said the question of whether those funds could be used for a community center needed to be looked into.

Council President Sara Todisco said.

"Either which way by law, we must pay for both recycling and garbage disposal as separate entities no matter how it is removed by a company," Councilman Joseph Sarno said.

"Hartman Park would better serve the community if at least a single bathroom was installed and the park was better kept," said resident Amanda Langston, during the public comment part of the meeting.

Councilwoman Todisco agreed that the Building and Grounds Committee can find ways to enhance Hartman Park. "I will see if we have capital expenditure funding in our budget or seek grants to enhance the park," said Councilwoman Todisco, who is also chairwoman of the finance committee.

The municipal budget will be adopted in a separate public hearing on Tuesday, April 25. The meeting will be held at 7:15 p.m. or soon thereafter.

Village Supermarket, Inc. was approved for a \$22,438 property tax refund.

"The refund will be offset by money set aside for refund liability," Council President Todisco said.

In addition she said, "Four tons of asphalt was utilized by the municipality to mend residential roads" following the winter season.

## Gas Station

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

car garage at 1998 Westfield Avenue and construct a new two-family duplex. A variance was required since the property sits in a single-family home zone, and there was some back and forth between Mr. Ginesi, his attorney and the board about whether the home, which was built in the early years of the 20th century, had always been a two-family dwelling. Board planner Mary Moody said tax records revealed that it had once been a one-family home.

The lot is very deep — 330 feet from the front property line to the rear, according to planner James Watson — and could conceivably accommodate multiple single-family houses. But Mr. Watson said a two-family home would not only be an improvement over the existing condition but also keep too many houses from being squeezed onto the lot. He displayed sketches of the planned duplex, which will have two attached garages opening onto two 10-foot wide driveways. He also said the rear yard would extend 230 feet from the back of the new house to the rear property line, although a flood zone at the very back of the lot takes up about 30 feet.

Board members were generally supportive of the application, with Frank DeLuca calling the existing house "outdated" and Dan Sullivan describing it as an "eyesore," adding that the new house would be "an improvement over what's there now." Guy Checchio said the present home "sticks out" too close to the street.



**FLAPJACK FUNDRAISER...**Westfield UNICO held a flapjack breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's benefiting injured veterans and soldiers' families through the Bonds of Courage. Pictured is Lieutenant Colonel Bill Morris of Bonds of Courage, kneeling at left, along with chapter officers and members at the Applebee Flapjack Breakfast. Over 100 people attended the event.



Fred T. Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**CHASING EASTER EGGS...**A huge group of kids and adults showed up for Saturday's Easter Egg Hunt in Scotch Plains.

## Birchwood Redevelopment Hearing Set for April 20

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

**CRANFORD** — The planning board at its workshop meeting last Wednesday discussed its upcoming Thursday, April 20 hearing of the of over 15 acres of properties located at 215 and 235 Birchwood Avenue the township purchased. The planning board is to determine whether to make a recommendation that the property should be designated by the governing body of the Township of Cranford as a Non-Condemnation Area in Need of Redevelopment pursuant to state statute.

The township agreed to purchase the property at the end of 2016 for some \$18 million from the developer S. Hekemian, who had won a builder's remedy lawsuit to build a 360-unit apartment building there. As part of the township's due diligence period of its purchase, the township hired an environmental firm to perform site tests. A consulting firm has tested the groundwater there, Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr. said, and it "has come back good."

"There are some base neutrals in some of the samples they took. So they are doing more samples," Mayor Hannen said. "We should be in pretty good shape based on what we were told so far."

The board also welcomed the newly hired Zoning Officer Ron Johnson after the previous zoning officer and the assistant zoning officer resigned.

Mr. Johnson previously held the position of assistant planner in Plainfield. He also is experienced in web design and writes a blog about planning issues, Mr. Johnson said of his experience. He developed PlainfieldPermits.com. The site, when live, will allow people to file for permits, describe and advise people best on how to get a permit, and also explain rules about historic preservation.

"I worked with the zoning board and planning board in Plainfield closely," Mr. Johnson said.

"I would love to develop tools for the Cranford community as well," he said.

Mr. Johnson said he also developed two transit villages in Plainfield while there. He is a graduate of the Edward J. Bloustein School at Rutgers University.

In other discussion, the mayor said the Downtown Management Corporation (DMC) has asked the planning board to codify design standards for the

downtown.

Commissioner Ann Dooley said she had reviewed a draft of the DMC's strategic plan, which partly explores parking and traffic congestion. "They are doing great things and have concrete suggestions," Ms. Dooley said.

Planning board member Dan Aschenbach brought up the underutilization of the parking garage in the downtown.

Mayor Hannen suggested that should North Avenue go under a redevelopment with mixed-use buildings, that developers could pay the town for parking in the garage in lieu of parking on site.

It was also noted by board member Lynda Feder that parking on North Avenue in front of the train station is mostly empty, and suggested to allow longer term parking there.

The board met in executive session following the open workshop meeting.

## Cornerstone

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Remedy Analytics of Milwaukee, Wis. Steve Weiner of Acrisure, the county's insurance broker, said Remedy would review the county's current prescription benefits contract to look for savings as well as renegotiating rebate amounts.

"Ultimately the final goal is to renegotiate it in terms of realized savings," he told the freeholders. He said the contract will cost nothing to the county out of pocket other than "a percentage of actual achieved savings."

He said on average the company has helped their clients save on average 20 percent in overall prescription costs.

Union County has budgeted \$16.5 million for prescription costs in the proposed 2017 budget, an increase of \$1.8 million over last year. The budget is set for adoption by the board on Thursday, April 27.

As per the three-year contract, the county would pay Remedy a 20-percent commission on demonstrated savings over the length of the contract.

County Manager Al Faella said county employees would still have the same level of prescription coverage including access to the same drugs they have now.



Kristan McAlaney for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**OPENING DAY...**The Garwood Baseball League held their opening day parade on Saturday to mark the start of the spring season.



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## Dardia Announces Candidacy For 2nd Ward

WESTFIELD—Democrat Michael Dardia has announced his candidacy for the second ward seat on the Westfield Town Council.

A 14-year resident of Westfield and the father of two boys with his wife Meredith, Michael is fully entrenched in the Westfield community, especially in athletics. In addition to spending weekends cheering his two sons from the sidelines, he has coached Westfield Youth Lacrosse for the past seven years, and plays middle and goalie for Westfield's Men's Lacrosse Program (aka Team 135).

"Living in Westfield is in many ways like being part of a team. We all seem to want to get involved so that our hometown can thrive," Mr. Dardia explains.

Off the field, Mr. Dardia volunteers for several organizations including a Bergen County chapter of the American Diabetes Association where he is a team leader, the Cancer Foundation "STOMP the Monster" and



Michael Dardia

Jewish Family Services Food Pantry.

Throughout his 20-year career in healthcare management, he has developed an ability to strike a delicate balance between optimal patient care and fiscal responsibility.

"That's a skill that should come in handy to energize our downtown and build on the strengths we already possess," Mr. Dardia explained. He recently founded his own business, Trifecta Health Consulting, LLC. He also serves as the vice-president of operations for Partners In Care, Corp., a company focused on improving the delivery of care for independent physician practices throughout New Jersey.

Michael and Meredith's eldest son, Theo, is a sophomore at Westfield High School, where he wrestles and plays goalie for the lacrosse team; Beckett is a freshman who plays full-back for the football team and is a lacrosse defenseman. Mr. Dardia received his undergraduate degree in communications from Ithaca College and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Kean University, where he graduated magna cum laude. Aside from lacrosse, he enjoys skiing, mountain biking and traveling the world with his family.

Mr. Dardia will be kicking off his candidacy at an event on Thursday, April 27 from 7 to 9 p.m.



## Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of *The Leader/Times*

**Pallone Blasts Rumor of Expanded Offshore Drilling**

Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6th) issued the following statement after reports that the Trump administration is planning an executive order seeking an expansion of drilling off the U.S. coastline.

"The Trump administration's reported plans to expand offshore drilling is just the latest development in its dangerous and reckless anti-environment agenda that threatens the future of our environment and New Jersey's coast. Oil spills don't respect state borders. The fact remains that opening up the Atlantic Ocean for fossil fuel development is unnecessary, poses a serious threat to our coastal communities, and is the wrong approach. An oil spill anywhere along the Atlantic Coast would cause severe environmental damage to fisheries, popular beaches and wildlife – which is why members of both parties have stood up against proposals to expand coastal drilling."

Rep. Pallone has been sponsoring legislation since 2010 to prevent expansions of offshore drilling. Mr. Pallone wrote to the secretary of the interior in 2010 voicing opposition to a plan to enable drilling in the Atlantic. He did this even before the Deepwater Horizon disaster brought offshore drilling to the forefront of the news."

**Lesniak Rips Murphy Over Public Bank Plan**

The Ray Lesniak gubernatorial campaign has commented on a proposal by Phil Murphy, who has received support throughout the state from party leaders, on Mr. Murphy's plan for a New Jersey public bank.

"When former Governor and Goldman Sachs Executive Jon Corzine left office he joined MF Global and promptly lost \$3 billion of investors money. Now Phil Murphy, Democratic candidate for governor and also a former Goldman

Sachs executive, wants to establish a state bank to put billions of public funds currently in public banks insured by the FDIC, into an uninsured state bank and into the hands of political appointees to make loans. This reckless idea has been rejected by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and now by a former treasurer of the State of New Jersey."

In a op-ed written by former treasurer Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff, Mr. Eristoff wrote that Mr. Murphy has "vowed to take that money out of Wall Street and put it to work for New Jersey - creating jobs and growing the economy [by] using state deposits to finance local investments ... and ... support billions of dollars of critical investments in infrastructure, small businesses, and student loans - saving our residents money and returning all profits to the taxpayers."

"There is no guarantee that a public bank would make a profit. The bank's deposits would insured only by the "full faith and credit" of the State of New Jersey - with a credit rating already under stress - not the FDIC. That leaves taxpayers on the hook," Mr. Eristoff said.

**Nearly Half of NJ Districts To Have Primary Races**

Based on a look at last week's deadline to file in the June Primary Election, of New Jersey's 40 legislative districts, there are nine districts with Senate Primary races. One of the more interesting races has Bergen County Republican Chairman and former Assembly majority and minority leader, Paul DiGaetano, in a three-way race with Passaic County Clerk Kristin Corrado and security and private investigations industry professional, Edward Buttimore, to replace Senator Kevin O'Toole, who is not seeking reelection.

There are primaries in 15 of the 40 districts in the Assembly including a number of four-way races and even a six-way race on the Democratic side in the second district in South Jersey.

## Scotch Plains to Celebrate Earth Day on April 22

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Earth Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 22 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Alan Augustine Green, located at 430 Park Avenue next to the municipal building. The township in partnership with the Environmental Commission, the Scotch Plains Garden Club and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Community Garden, will host the activities.

Participants can volunteer to clean up township parks, participate in activities provided by the Scotch Plains Library, the Garden Club, Environmental Commission and Community Garden. Giordano Recycling will be on hand to provide information on the "Right Way to Recycle." Free tree seedlings will be offered to residents courtesy of the New Jersey Tree Recovery Program.

Participants should plan to arrive at 9 a.m. to grab their Earth Day commemorative shirt, garden gloves and park clean up location. Upon return to the Green, they will have the opportunity to learn about butterflies, recycling, gardening and more.

At 11 a.m., Let's Grow Together will present a program on vermicomposting. Participants from the ages 3 to 10 will learn what leftover foods can and cannot be turned into compost and how to reduce the trash further by creating a vermicomposting bin.

All programs and activities are free

of charge; however, space is limited so residents should register at [www.scotchplainsnj.gov](http://www.scotchplainsnj.gov).

For more information, please contact Margaret Heisey at [mheisey@scotchplainsnj.com](mailto:mheisey@scotchplainsnj.com) or (908) 322-6700.

The program is partially funded by a grant from Clean Communities.

## Pallone Statement on U.S. Airstrikes in Syria

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6th) released the following statement after U.S. forces conducted a tomahawk missile strike targeting a Syrian government airfield.

"Bashar al-Assad is a war criminal, and his use of chemical weapons against his own people this week was the latest tragic reminder. I have traditionally believed in pursuing diplomatic solutions before engaging the use of military force. Tensions in a very fragile part of the world have now escalated and threaten to pull the United States into another intractable war in the Middle East. Following last night's (April 6th) action taken by the Trump Administration, Congress must now be consulted, and we must engage in deliberations as to how to end this crisis in partnership with our international allies with as little risk to our men and women in uniform, and without escalating the crisis on the ground in Syria."

## Watson Coleman Comments On U.S. Response to Syria

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-12th) released this statement after U.S. forces conducted a tomahawk missile strike targeting a Syrian government airfield, following a brutal chemical weapons attack perpetrated by the Assad Regime:

"We need to take decisive steps to combat Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's war crimes, but Congress has a Constitutional duty to ensure a calculated and warranted response – especially when that response requires military action. We honor and pray for the courageous men and women of our military for their continued sacrifices on behalf of our nation. The commitment of these men, women, and their families make it

critical for the President to engage in a dialogue with Congress about the rationale of this drastic measure and any further action being considered – a debate that should have transpired ahead of these air strikes.

"Seemingly short-sighted actions like these strikes have a potential to be regressive and dangerous. Passing a new authorization for use of military force would allow Congress to establish a responsible plan through debate to move toward peace in Syria. This President owes the American people an explanation of his strategy and a clear plan to execute his goals. The administration's "America First" agenda cannot leave out the American people nor the men and women elected to serve in their best interests."

## Summit Expands Ridesharing Program for Commuters

SUMMIT — The City of Summit has announced a six-month extension of its ridesharing program for residential commuters. The program, the first of its kind in New Jersey, was implemented in October 2016 and has been successful in helping to alleviate parking congestion at the NJ Transit Summit Station.

The initial pilot program was offered to 100 resident commuters and is being expanded to include 50 additional residents who are on the program waiting list. Parking Services Agency staff are monitoring usage and will continue to expand the program to reach a goal of 100 commuters accessing the ridesharing option daily.

"The ridesharing pilot with Uber is successful in reducing some of the daily demand for parking in Summit," explained Summit Mayor Nora Radest. "Each day, approximately 30 spots are made available for use by other residents or employees. We are looking to increase that number to 100 as we invite additional commuters into the program."

Under the city's program, Summit residents with prepaid parking permits are eligible for free Uber rides

to and from the station during week-day commuting hours; residents without prepaid permits will be eligible for \$2 Uber rides, which is equivalent to the cost of the city's \$4 daily parking. Trips must begin or end within Summit or at the train station and be completed Monday through Friday between the hours of 5 a.m. and 9 p.m.

For more information about the ridesharing program or parking in Summit, visit [cityofsummit.org](http://cityofsummit.org) or contact the Parking Services Agency at [parking@cityofsummit.org](mailto:parking@cityofsummit.org) or (908) 522-5100.

**Tremley Point Set to Receive TFF Funding**

TRENTON — Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-3rd) and Senator Nicholas P. Scutari (D-22nd, Linden) were scheduled to hold a news conference yesterday (as this newspaper went to press) to announce funding from the state's Transportation Trust Fund (TFF) for the Tremley Point Connector project, which will create a key access road to remove heavy truck traffic from local roadways.

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## How to Report A Pothole In County

UNION COUNTY — With the winter weather that has just passed, potholes are a frequent issue for drivers.

To report a pothole or any other issue with a county road, use an online form available through the Union County Department of Public Works and Facilities Management at [www.ucnj.org/pot-hole/](http://www.ucnj.org/pot-hole/)

The online form lists only County roads. Persons without Internet access can report potholes on Union County roads by calling (908) 789-3660. For potholes on state highways, call the New Jersey Department of Transportation at 1-800-POT-HOLE or use the online form at [www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/potholeform.shtm](http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/potholeform.shtm).

For local roads, contact the municipality in which the road is located. Website links for all 21 Union County municipalities are available through the county website, [www.ucnj.org/municipalities](http://www.ucnj.org/municipalities).

To plan a commute around major road projects that may disrupt traffic patterns in Union County, visit the "Road Construction Update" page at [www.ucnj.org/traffic](http://www.ucnj.org/traffic). For all mass transit information, visit Union County ConneXions at [www.ucnj.org/connect](http://www.ucnj.org/connect)

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## Summit Police Launch Summit PD CARES

SUMMIT — The Summit Police Department has launched a community outreach program to help serve the members of the Summit community with Autism, Alzheimer’s, and Dementia.

Summit PD CARES was designed after several months of research, training, and collaboration with community partners and was created to help foster strong relationships and communication with Summit residents diagnosed with Autism, Alzheimer’s, and Dementia.

“I am extremely pleased about the official launch of our new Summit PD Cares community service program,” explained Mayor Nora Radest during a Monday press conference at City Hall. “It is another laudable and important step in Summit Police Department outreach and its goal of connecting with the community.”

“Summit PD CARES showcases an investment of dedicated resources and highlights our continuing work to enhance our abilities to provide the highest level of professional law enforcement services to every resident of our city and furthers our outreach to residents with

Autism, Alzheimer’s, and Dementia,” Police Robert Weck said. “The lines of communication and information available to our officers via CARES will help us respond to calls for service with advanced information to help better serve our community.”

The police department also worked closely with the regional emergency dispatch center for Summit, New Providence, and Millburn emergency services, to facilitate the program.

“Summit PD CARES represents a truly proactive law enforcement response to an important public safety need,” Chief Weck said. “I’m proud that our department continues to be a leader in using community and inter-agency partnerships to develop initiatives that benefit our city and its residents.”

### St. James Church To Hold Festival

SPRINGFIELD — St. James the Apostle Church, located at 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, will hold its annual festival Tuesday through Saturday, May 2 to 6, on the parish grounds.

Featured will be rides, food, games, a money wheel, a Tin Can Auction and a beer truck (identification required). A Super 50/50 raffle will be drawn on May 6 at 9:30 p.m.

“All-you-can-ride” bracelets are \$25 from 6 to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and on Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m. Festival hours are Tuesday to Friday, 6 to 10 p.m., and Saturday from 2 to 10 p.m. For more information, call the church at (973) 376-3044.

### Amtrak, NJT Officials Summoned to Trenton

TRENTON—Amtrak and NJ Transit officials have been summoned to appear before the Senate Legislative Oversight and Assembly Judiciary Committees following last week’s train derailment, the second one to occur in recent weeks.

The Friday, April 28 hearing will focus on the causes of the New York Penn Station derailments; the safety, maintenance and repair of Penn Station’s tracks and signaling system, and Amtrak’s and NJ Transit’s contingency planning and response to the massive commuter delays that followed the April 3 derailment.



MY COUNTY...The top winners of the 2017 “My County” poster contest, sponsored by the Union County Constitutional Officers, are congratulated by, from left to right, Union County Sheriff Joseph Cryan, Clerk Joanne Rajoppi and Surrogate James LaCorte . The top winners of the contest are (from second left): Sofia Ortiz (first place) from the Sherman School in Roselle Park, Madisyn Brunson (second place) from St. John the Apostle Elementary in Clark, Ying Chow (third place) from the Sherman School in Roselle Park and Addison Heuck (fourth place) from Holy Trinity Interparochial School in Westfield. More than 200 fourth-grade students from schools throughout Union County entered the contest.

## Gateway Chamber Hosts Annual Mayors Dinner

ELIZABETH – The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce last week hosted its 28th annual mayors dinner held at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel. More than 400 people listened as mayors or their designees from 20 of Union County’s 21 municipalities provided updates on the states of their communities.

This year’s winners were: Mayor of the Year, Mayor Adrian Mapp of Plainfield; Business Administrator, John Laezza of Clark; Public Safety Official, Joe Cryan, Union County Sheriff; Economic Development Official, Richard Puschel of Linden; Best Speaker of the Night, Mayor Mapp.

“Businesses and government leaders work hand-in-hand to strengthen their communities and those partnerships lead to commerce, jobs and taxes that help ease the burden of

property taxes on homeowners,” said Jim Coyle, chamber president. “The Gateway Chamber is honored to represent the business community as we say thank you to these leaders for their support.”

### Summit FD Responds To Broad Street Fire

SUMMIT – The Summit Fire Department responded to the report of an outdoors structure fire at Broad Street residence at 4:21 a.m. on Tuesday. On arrival, crews found a well-involved detached garage fire. While firefighters were able to effectively contain the fire to the garage, the structure sustained significant damage. The fire was declared under control at 4:39 a.m..

“Our firefighters made a quick stop and were able to effectively knock down the fire,” explained Summit Fire Chief Eric Evers. “There were no reported injuries to residents or responding firefighters at the scene.”

The Summit Fire Department was assisted at the scene by Millburn Fire Department, Berkeley Heights, Fanwood and Mountainside Fire Departments provided additional station coverage.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Summit Fire Department Investigations Unit.

## Tax March, Unity Rally Saturday In Plainfield

PLAINFIELD—Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield will be the site of a Community Unity Rally, Voter Registration Drive and Tax March on Plainfield this Saturday, April 15, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“In these challenging times, we all need to come together and educate ourselves about current policies and proposed changes to policies and the federal budget,” explained Maggie Savoca of Fanwood, who is chairing the rally committee. “It’s also going to be a wonderful day to celebrate the rich, diverse culture of Union County. It will be a big picnic – with entertainment, education and voter registration drive.”

Mayor Adrian Mapp of Plainfield will open the rally and welcome the crowd. “I am so happy the organizers have chosen Plainfield to host this event. I look forward to welcoming my fellow Plainfield residents, as well as many people from across Union County. We are a densely-populated county and it is wonderful some of the gubernatorial candidates have chosen to come and speak here. They will find Union County residents are aware of the issues facing our state and our cities, and we will be interested in hearing the plans of the candidates to lead us.”

Invitations to speak have been issued to all gubernatorial candidates as well as organizational leaders in the arenas of transparency in government, freedom of the press, social justice, education, healthcare and

immigration.

Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate Jim Johnson will speak at the rally. Assemblyman Jerry Green (D-22nd, Plainfield) also will address the crowd as will gubernatorial candidate and state Senator Raymond Lesniak (D-20th, Plainfield). Green Party Gubernatorial Candidate Seth Kaper-Dale has also agreed to attend and speak. When asked about what motivated him to run for office Mr. Kaper-Dale explained, “There’s plenty of money in New Jersey. It’s time to shift the burden off of the poor and working class and have the rich pay their fair share.”

Additionally, Rahway Councilman Bob Bresenhan, Jr., Paul Alirangues (a Democratic candidate for Assembly in District 22) and Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate Bill Brennan will also speak.

The Tax March is similar to the Women’s March on Washington, D.C. More than 100 marches will take place in 45 states in the U.S. and the District of Columbia. Marches will also take place in the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and New Zealand.

The event is free, however, those wishing to attend must RSVP for planning purposes. To RSVP or for more information on the Plainfield event, to donate, sponsor or RSVP, visit [www.taxmarchplainfield.org](http://www.taxmarchplainfield.org). People are encouraged to bring blankets and a picnic lunch. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.



NEW HOME FOR BASKING RIDGE OAK...Union County Freeholder Chairman Bruce H. Bergen joined Union County College President Margaret McMenamin, Ed.D.; Union County College Board of Trustees Chairman Victor M. Richel; UCC biology professor Thomas M. Ombrello; Bill Emmitt, co-chair of the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church Tree Committee; Bernards Township Administrator Bruce McArthur and students at the ceremony marking the removal for relocation of the progeny of the Basking Ridge Oak tree from Union County College’s Historic Tree Grove in Cranford. The Basking Ridge White Oak tree, believed to be one of the oldest trees in North America, is estimated to be at least 600 years old and is located at the Presbyterian Church of Basking Ridge. The new 16-year-old, 20-foot-tall oak will be transported to the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church to continue growing in a spot near its predecessor.

# The Presbyterian Church in Westfield



## Easter Sunday Services

### April 16

9am  
Sanctuary

10am  
(wired4worship.com)  
Westminster Hall

11am  
Sanctuary

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and for Westfield, Mountainside, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Cranford and Garwood

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# Local Holiday Traditions Are Worth Keeping Alive

This time of year brings with it time-honored traditions, among them the celebrations of Easter and Passover, and the many favorite rituals associated with each. These holidays and accompanying activities are an integral part of who we are as people and communities, and they help us to maintain a connection with our faith and our national heritage.

One such tradition related to Easter festivities are the enduringly popular egg hunts that have taken place in our local towns for decades. Last Saturday saw eager youngsters scurrying around Alan Augustine Park in Scotch Plains and Forest Road Park in Fanwood in pursuit of colorful, goodie-filled ovals while also anticipating a visit with the Easter Bunny. This Saturday, April 15, Westfield children will have their turn when the Lions Club of Westfield hosts its 82nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Mindowaskin Park.

This year's event marks a welcome return for the Westfield egg hunt, which was not held last year due to unforeseen circumstances. Begun in 1936, the Lions' Easter Egg Hunt holds cherished memories for generations of current and former town residents, and we are likewise glad to see it back this year. The Westfield Lions have acknowledged the support of fellow organizations, the Friends of

Mindowaskin Park and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Westfield, in helping with the event this year.

The Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt is significant in that it has remained a fixture in the community since the first Depression-era children took part, has not faded away like so many other aspects of suburban life, and has not been forced to bow to "political correctness" as the organizers of some activities attached to a certain faith tradition have been pressured to do — compelled to change the title or theme of their event.

Additionally, such events offer an opportunity for youngsters — and parents, too — to take a break from their electronic devices and enjoy some fresh air, family togetherness, and old-fashioned fun. Many parents at these events were likely once egg-seekers themselves, and can share these memories with their children.

We wish all members of our community peace, prosperity and happiness for Easter, Passover or other traditions they may observe. It is our hope that customs such as the Easter egg hunt will continue to be a part of the tapestry of life in our towns, bridging our past and present, and reminding us anew each year how community traditions can stand the test of time.

# Another Primary Featuring Few Competitive Races

Last week candidates from governor down to local councils filed for New Jersey's Tuesday, June 6 Primary Election. This year there is not much excitement, as Phil Murphy appears to be a lock for the Democratic Party nomination for governor in a crowded field that includes two state legislators. The Republican battle between Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno and state Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli is the more interesting race. There also are a few lesser-known candidates seeking the GOP nomination.

In Union County, there is a challenge for county sheriff on the Democratic side between former Hillside police officer Peter Corvelli, the party's choice, and sheriff's officer Gail Smith Alexander. The only other competitive Primary race in the readership area of this newspaper is the 22nd Legislative District, where there is a three-way race for two seats on the ballot in the State Assembly on the Democratic side. Assemblymen Gerald Green and James Kennedy are being opposed by Paul M. Alirangues of North Plainfield.

As usual, there are no Primary races for municipal councils this year. And, as has not occurred in several years, the county Democratic Party-endorsed organization line for freeholder is not facing any Primary competition this year. The problem is most voters do not take part in Primary elections in New Jersey, either because they are not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican Parties or because, most likely, they simply are not used to voting in June. And with no races on tap there is no incentive to turn out at the polls. That is why we have

been saying New Jersey election law needs to be changed to allow all voters to vote in Primary elections. Right now the bulk of people voting in these elections are elected officials and those active in politics.

In terms of the General Election in November, we congratulate the Westfield Democratic Committee for running a full slate of candidates for mayor and town council, thus giving voters a choice. That has not been the case in Fanwood and Mountainside, where the Fanwood Republican Party and Mountainside Democratic Party having been missing in action. The Fanwood GOP absence of candidates the last few years particularly surprises us; although one candidate did file his candidacy last week, there are two seats on the ballot this year for borough council. No borough GOP candidates ran for council in 2014, 2015 and 2016. And the one candidate who ran in 2013 did not stage much of a campaign.

It is the job of the two major political parties to file candidates for local offices except school board, which is non-partisan in nature. On a side note, the local school boards should seek to move the school elections back to April. The savings to school budgets was miniscule compared to the lost opportunity by voters to decide whether or not to pass school tax levies. It would be better to simply leave the election in November while also placing the school budget back on the ballot.

We know this creates an issue as there are often municipal questions on the ballots mailed to registered voters, but it is the right thing to do.



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

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Commentary

Cranfords' Mixed-Use Development  
On North Avenue In Downtown

When the township committee decided to purchase the almost 16-acre of property on Birchwood Avenue from the developer that sought to build a 360-unit apartment building on the outskirts of the township, members of the committee said it decided to add to its debt as a means to alleviate influx of children to the school system. The board of education said it would cost the school district an additional \$1.6 million if the 360 units were built as planned. So, now the township has agreed to purchase Birchwood and find a developer to build it with about 100 fewer units, and about half the affordable housing units.

Then the mayor says he wants to see North Avenue developed. Next up for possible redevelopment is 750 Walnut Avenue, on the border of Clark — again more families, more children. Which is it? Is the township concerned that the schools will become overcrowded with more development or is there some other agenda with the purchase of Birchwood? Why would the committee say development of Birchwood would burden the school district, yet further development on North Avenue would not? They may say families won't move in there, but Cranford is named the number one town in Union County for families. So, new development would certainly attract young families who want to walk to the downtown, live affordably, and have their children attend great schools.

Also, the issue of flooding comes into play with the Rahway River flowing through part of the area on North Avenue they wish to develop. Remember Irene, and how that area was deep with flood-water only boats could get through? PSE&G even decided to raise its substation, which sits behind the North Avenue section the township wishes to develop, to avoid power outages due to flooding.

The township officials have double talked when it comes to flood control concerns. The township fought in court to have Birchwood Avenue not developed, saying it was not developable because it is situated in a floodway. On Thursday, April 20, the township will ask the planning board to deem Birchwood an area in need of redevelopment. If the township was so concerned about adding to the flooding problems with further development than it would find other ways to comply with its affordable housing requirements, and not build in areas that are already burdened by flood problems.

The township purchased the former MDTV building on North Avenue and the parking lot across the street, and it still sits without a buyer. Is the township looking to unload its debt by making that portion of North Avenue an area in need of redevelopment, thus attracting developers with tax abatements? A public space may be a better solution on North Avenue instead of four-story apartment buildings, considering the Downtown Management Corporation has said the downtown lacks a public space to congregate. Cranford government wants open space, until it doesn't.

Let the taxpayer decide the fate of further downtown development, and whether it should invest in flood protection, and open space in the downtown, by adding a referendum in this year's election. In the final analysis, the taxpayer gets the bill.

Letters to the Editor

## Board of Health Reports on Inspections, Child Care Ctr. Audits

The Westfield Board of Health held a meeting on April 3, 2017.

The Westfield Regional Health Department reported 30 inspection activities for the month of March. Twenty-six of the inspection activities resulted in ratings. The ratings were broken down as follows: Twenty-two food handling facilities had satisfactory ratings, one was found to be conditionally satisfactory, and one unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory resulted in a re-inspection that found the facility conditionally satisfactory. Both facilities with conditionally satisfactory ratings have up to 30 days from the rating date to come into compliance. Five walk-in inspections were conducted that did not result in ratings changes. Two inspections were for pre-operational facilities. Four were for pre-approvals for upcoming events in town.

The public health nursing report included the results from 15 child care center audits conducted to ensure compliance with vaccination requirements. Any facility not at 100 percent compliance will be re-audited. The results of these audits are submitted to the New Jersey State Vaccine Preventable Disease Program.

Three cases of Lyme disease were reported in the public health nursing report. Lyme is a tick-borne disease and the public can take precautions to reduce exposure. Information about the disease and prevention measures can be found at the New Jersey Department of Health website, <https://nj.gov/health/cd/lyme/index.shtml>.

The public health nurse would also like to announce several health screening events held in cooperation with

Overlook Medical Center. The full list of Overlook, and other events, can be found at the Westfield Regional Health Department website, [www.westfieldnj.gov/health](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/health). The remaining events in April are as follows:

Monday, April 17 – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., glucose and blood Pressure Screenings and Monday, April 24 to 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., glucose and blood pressure screenings;

Each screening requires pre-registration unless otherwise noted. There is no fee for the blood pressure and glucose screenings. All screenings will be held at the Overlook Downtown Center located at 357 Springfield Avenue, Summit, unless otherwise indicated. Call 1-800-247-9580 to register.

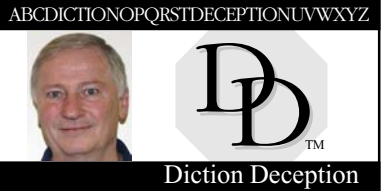
The animal control report included a case of feeding a wild animal, in this case a fox. The public is urged not to feed wild animals, either directly or by leaving food outside for household pets unattended. Feeding wild animals habituates animals to rely on humans for food. Wild animals can cause injury, bites and scratches, to the feeder or their pets without warning. Animals may carry diseases including rabies. The public is reminded to have their dogs and cats licensed. The primary reason for licensing is to ensure that the rabies vaccine is up to date. Information on licensing can be found at [www.westfieldnj.gov/townclerk](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/townclerk) and by going to the permits and licensing section.

The board held a discussion on the possibility of an ordinance prohibiting the sale of tobacco products and nicotine delivery systems to persons under the age of 21 years. Some 42 towns have already passed similar ordinances. Fact finding is ongoing and the discussion will continue at future meetings.

The next meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled for Monday, May 1, at 5:30 p.m. in Town Hall.

**Thomas K. O'Neill, President  
Westfield Board of Health**

<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 asmbrannick@njleg.org, aswmunoz@njleg.org asmkennedy@njleg.org, asmgreen@njleg.org		



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. Churru – A gum resin which oozes from the Indian hemp
2. Chukker – One of the periods into which a polo game is divided
3. Lanate – Covered with a hairy substance or wool
4. Dichostasis – Spontaneous subdivision

**VALISE**

1. A small suitcase
2. A sleeveless garment worn over or under armor
3. A type of sweet onion
4. A light, rounded helmet with a visor

**LAMPADEDROMY**

1. A large dolphin of the North Atlantic having few teeth
2. A torch in honor of Prometheus
3. A catfish native to the River Nile
4. An electric eel

**MAMMONISM**

1. Acting indiscreetly; carelessly
2. The act of defiling; corruption
3. Devotion to the greedy pursuit of riches
4. Passing on unfavorable genetic traits

**PHILTER**

1. A pleasant stroll
2. To please, charm or delight
3. To scold or nag
4. A love potion

See page 5

Letters to the Editor

## Bramnick: Policy Allowing Passenger to Be Dragged From Plane Should Not Stand

WESTFIELD – Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) has spoken out against the treatment of a passenger who was physically dragged off a plane from Chicago O'Hare International Airport to Louisville, Kentucky, on Sunday.

"The overbooking of a United Airlines plane causing the removal of a passenger, who is a doctor, is deeply worrisome," said Asm. Bramnick said. "This policy will not stand."

**United Shares Tumble**

BBC - Stock in United Continental Holdings dropped by more than 4 percent at one point on Tuesday, and at one point nearly \$1bn (£800m) was wiped off its value. Its CEO defended employees' conduct and said the passenger had been "disruptive and belligerent." But the company has come under intense criticism online.

Outraged customers have threatened in droves to stop flying with United and the CEO's response to the incident has been criticised. Share prices recovered slightly later in the day, but were still below opening prices. The footage taken inside the airliner shows a man being pulled out of his seat and dragged, screaming, down the aisle. He is later seen with blood on his face.

The man has not been officially identified, but a passenger who sat next to him told BBC Radio 5 Live that he said he was originally from Vietnam and had been living in Louisville, Ky., for about 20 years. He said he and his wife were both doctors. The flight from Chicago to Louisville on Sunday evening had been overbooked - a fairly common practice - so the airline wanted to get four passengers to leave the flight to make room for four staff members.

## United Is Largest Airline at Newark





Commentary

Once Jews Were Slaves in Egypt

Around the world this week, Jews commenced with their annual celebration of Passover, a remembrance of a time when the Jewish people were slaves in Egypt and when Moses led them to freedom.

The eight-day holiday traditionally begins with a Seder meal and the reading of the Haggadah. The Haggadah is a book that guides readers through the service and tells the story of how plagues were brought by G-d against the Egyptian Pharaoh, eventually causing him to release the Jewish people from slavery. The holiday is called Passover because the tenth plague “passed over” the homes of the Jews, only afflicting the Egyptians. Judaism regards the plagues as an unfortunate series of events that are not to be celebrated. These plagues are commemorated with regret that it took so many plagues and so much suffering to make the Pharaoh free the Jews. The Haggadah also explains

why, in the rush to flee Egypt, there was no time to wait for the bread to rise giving way to the tradition of consuming only Matzo for the entire holiday.

The true purpose of the Seder is to tell the story to the next generation. Included in the story is a guide on how to answer children’s questions on the meaning of the holiday. Through a mixture of storytelling, prayer and song – a meal is interwoven with history.

While some families will be more observant and read the Haggadah in Hebrew, others will use a mix of English and Hebrew; and there are videos on YouTube of some very creative Hamilton-style Seders. Whatever your observance level or tradition, the entire staff of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* wishes all those who celebrate a “Zissen Pesach” (sweet Passover).

Driving While On The Cell Phone, The Road To Hell

Putting teeth in the cell phone law in reference to operating a motor vehicle. The following protocol should be put in place. Upon an officer issuing a summons for using a cell phone (or texting) while operating a motor vehicle, the cell phone will be confiscated by the officer. The serial number will be recorded on the summons. The subject would be required to attend a drivers responsibility class. Upon completion and summons paid, the cell phone will be returned.

I can just hear the moans and groans pouring out of cell phone use offenders. It takes too much time, its inconvenient; it’s overboard enforcement for a vehicle violation.

Tell your complaints to the tens of thousands of people who have to live the rest of their life either paralyzed or without limbs or the ultimate horror, the loss of a loved one, a mother or father, child, sister or brother, tell it to them. Tell them cell phone use while operating a vehicle is only a

motor vehicle violation. How much pain and suffering and how many more have to die before we take this seriously?

Just a note, confiscation of money, property and all assets that have been part of law enforcement protocol, any building or object or asset used in the commission of a crime and subject found guilty, those assets or property are seized by the federal government, state and local authorities. The liquidation of those properties goes back to the state, federal and city governments to fund the war against crime. To the people of New Jersey, my Facebook friends, like this truth and share it with all your Facebook friends. Let us make noise so loud that the Statehouse in Trenton will hear us.

Some of you may pause and think it can’t be that simple, well it can if you all join in.

Walter Sosnosky  
Kenilworth

News Posted at www.goleader.com

Item 2017-04-10 Garwood - Clothing Drive, Ladies Auxiliary of the Garwood Fire Dept., Saturday, April 29 at the Garwood Fire Dept. From: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine. The following items are being collected: Shoes, stuffed animals, handbags, linens, belts men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing. Clothes will not be cut up. Money earned from the clothing drive goes to support our volunteer department and scholarships for local children. For additional information or for a pick-up of your items on Saturday, April 29, please call Barb at 868-4358.

Item 2017-04-10 Cranford - The Cranford Police Department will be conducting a Driving While Intoxicated checkpoint within the township from 9 p.m. on Friday, April 28 until 3 a.m. on Saturday, April 29.

Legal Advertising

MORE IN BACK SECTION

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

PLEASE BE ADVISED that at the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting of the Township of Scotch Plains held on April 6, 2017, the Board memorialized the following Resolutions:

**William & Kathleen Rooney**, 2339 Promenade, Block 8002, Lot 30, were **approved** to remove the existing rear walks and patio and construct new rear walks and a patio of approximately 198 square feet of new lot coverage on this property.

**Debi & Ross LeBrun**, 2048 Algonquin Drive, Block 8504, Lot 3, were **approved** to utilize a portion of the existing garage space at the aforementioned premises for a master bathroom, and use the remaining 10 foot by 10 foot 6 inches area as a garage for the single family residence at this address.

A copy of said Resolutions has been filed in the office of the Board and/or the office of the municipal clerk and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

Shannon Rapant  
Secretary to the Zoning Board  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Times Fee: \$26.52

goleader.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD

NEW JERSEY PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on **Monday, April 17, 2017**, at 7:30 pm. there will be a meeting of the Planning Board in the Municipal Building located at 403 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey. The meeting will convene to consider the following:

Resolution Endorsing the 2017 Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(E), review of revisions to: South Avenue Transit Oriented Redevelopment Plan. Report from Planner Victor Vinegra dated November 2015-amended May 27, 2016. The redevelopment area is identified on the Borough Tax Maps as Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 of Block 401.

The Board may also consider a Certificate of Non-Conformity for **Case #PB17-4, 550 4th Avenue, Block 101, Lot 2, R/ A Zone Applicant: David & Rose Conceicao**. Seeking a Certificate of Non-conformity for a two-family house.

Action may be taken.  
Adele C. Lewis  
Board Secretary  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Leader Fee: \$28.05

Letters to the Editor

‘Do Not Lie. Do Not Deceive One Another.’ – Ecclesiastes 19:11

President Cleveland told the country he was taking a friend’s yacht on a four-day fishing trip when he was about to undergo surgery on the yacht for removal of a malignant tumor on the roof of his mouth.

President Wilson was kept physically isolated from the Cabinet, the Vice-President, Congress, and the public in order to hide his debilitating stroke.

President Hoover, “The fundamental business of the country, that is, production and distribution of commodities, is on a sound and prosperous basis.” (four days before the Stock Market crash.)

FDR staged-managed his public appearances to hide his paralysis. He ran for a fourth term even though his personal physician, Dr. Howard C. Bruenn, had on March 27, 1944 found hypertension, hypertensive heart disease, and left ventricular heart failure.

Then Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy said after asking LBJ to be his vice-presidential running, “I’m 43 years old and I’m the healthiest candidate for President in the United States.” This even though Kennedy had life-threatening Addison’s disease.

LBJ, “But we are not about to send American boys 9 or 10,000 miles away from home to do what Asian boys ought to be doing for themselves.” (speech, Akron University, October 21, 1964).

President Nixon, “I can say categorically that ...no one in the White House Staff, no one in this Administration, presently employed, was involved in this very bizarre incident (Watergate break-in)” (press conference, August 29, 1972).

President Reagan, “The United

States has not swapped boatloads or plane loads of American weapons for the return of American hostages.” (national address, November 13, 1986). To his credit he later did what most leaders do not do. He apologized for misinforming the public. (national address, August 12, 1987.) “I was stubborn in my pursuit of a policy that went astray.”

George H. W. Bush, “Read my lips: no new taxes.” (acceptance speech, Republican National Convention, August 18, 1988.)

President Clinton, “I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky.” (press conference, January 26, 1998.)

President George W. Bush, “Major operations in Iraq have ended. In the battle of Iraq the United States and our allies have prevailed.” (USS Abraham Lincoln, May 1, 2003.)

President Obama, “If you like the plan you have, you can keep it. If you like doctor you have, you can keep your doctor too. The only change you’ll see are falling costs as our reforms take hold.” (weekly address, June 6, 2009.)

Without the trust of the people no President can succeed. And without telling the truth there can be no trust.

George Washington concluded his “Rules Of Civility” with “LABOUR to keep alive in your Breast that Little Spark of Celestial fire called Conscience.”

Now more than ever we need leaders with conscience enough to tell the truth and not just when it is politically expedient to do so. For in time of national or international emergency we must know a President is telling the truth.

Stephen Schoeman  
Westfield

Rep. Leonard Lance Statement On Gorsuch Confirmation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) released this statement on the confirmation of Judge Neil Gorsuch for the Supreme Court of the United States:

“Judge Neil Gorsuch deserves to be on our Nation’s High Court. Judge Gorsuch is a mainstream conservative who will be a fair jurist on the important issues facing the Nation. I am impressed with his com-

mand of jurisprudence and his respect for the rule of law. I commend President Trump on his nomination of Judge Gorsuch and the Senate on its confirmation of him. I congratulate United States Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch.”

PUBLIC NOTICE  
TOWN OF WESTFIELD  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER/EMT  
ENTRANCE EXAM  
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
ANNOUNCEMENT DATE  
APRIL 13, 2017

Notice is hereby given that applications are being accepted for the position of Probationary Firefighter/EMT, with the Westfield Fire Department. Applications may be obtained starting Monday April 17, 2017, from the Westfield Fire Prevention Bureau located at Westfield Firehouse Two, 1029 Central Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey; Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Applications will not be mailed and must be picked up in person. A nonrefundable application fee of \$75.00 shall be paid at the time the completed application is returned to the Fire Prevention Bureau in person. Cash payments will be accepted along with checks and money orders made out to the Westfield Fire Department, credit card payments will not be accepted. No applications will be accepted without the fee. Applicants must be a United States Citizen 21 to 35 years of age. Applicants shall possess and provide proof of the following: High School Diploma, valid New Jersey Driver’s License, current New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Firefighter-1 Certification, and current New Jersey EMT Certification. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Limited up to the first hundred qualified applicants received on or before April 28, 2017 at 2:00 PM.  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Leader Fee: \$34.68

Filing Your Income Tax

Offers.com conducted several surveys to determine how taxpayers are expecting to be impacted, taxpayer education level on taxes, and the expectation to have to pay to file taxes. The survey revealed that nearly half (45.3 percent) of taxpayers don’t realize that tax extensions don’t extend your payment deadline. With over 140 million filing taxes in 2016, it is important for taxpayers to stay educated.

Some survey results:

When did you or will file a tax return?

January – 11.3 percent  
February – 22.7 percent  
March – 26.2 percent  
April – 23.2 percent  
Filing an extension – 4.4 percent  
Not Filing – 12.2 percent  
Do you expect to get a refund?  
Yes – 55.6 percent  
No – 44.4 percent  
The IRS says eight out of 10 people will get a refund.

For Fake Tax Reform, Let Your Voices be Heard

Come to a FairTax Rally on Saturday April 15, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Trump Tower, East Side of 5th Avenue, between 55th and 56th Streets, New York City. This may be the most important issue of our lifetime and this will be our best chance to see true tax reform become the law of the land. The U.S. tax code is destroying our nation. It is destroying American jobs by sending businesses overseas, it causes Patriotic American citizens fear of being audited. It lowers our standards of living, puts our jobs, pensions, and savings at risk to benefit career politicians, lobbyists and special interest groups.

During his campaign for President, Donald Trump called for tax reform. His vision was a revised tax code that;

- 1) Simplifies the Tax Code
- 2) Eliminates the Estate Tax
- 3) Gives Incentive for U.S. Busi-

nesses to retain and create jobs here in the U.S.

4) Eliminates the “Marriage Penalty”

5) Grows the American Economy

The Fair Tax and only the Fair Tax will accomplish all the things President Trump is asking for while creating a broader tax base. The Fair Tax will be a win-win for America. The Fair Tax is looking to hold sister rallies concurrently throughout the nation. If you live in the N.Y. Metropolitan Area please consider doing us or consider attending one of the various rallies being held.

This is our chance and our time, Let’s make The FairTax a Reality. Contact: Dave Corsi dcorsi3119@gmail.com or info@fairtax.org, 1-800-FAIRTAX.

Jim Bennett  
Summit



PRESIDENT-ELECT...The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison elected its Student Council Executive Board officers for the 2017-2018 school year: President CJ Stueck of Scotch Plains, pictured; Vice-President Stanislaw DeLaurentiis of Plainfield and Secretary/Treasurer Logan D’Amore of Scotch Plains.

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2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, COUNTY OF UNION  
FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2017

Revenue and Appropriation Summaries

SUMMARY OF REVENUES - CURRENT FUND		ANTICIPATED	
	2017	2016	
1. Surplus	358,000.00	500,000.00	
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	957,784.53	1,067,896.38	
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	375,000.00	235,000.00	
4. Minimum Library Tax	222,033.00	209,962.36	
5. Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	6,083,497.37	5,959,473.19	
Total General Revenues	7,996,314.90	7,972,331.93	
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS - CURRENT FUND		FINAL	
	2017 BUDGET	2016 BUDGET	
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	2,966,170.00	2,941,020.00	
Other Expenses	3,508,081.90	3,577,966.93	
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	739,741.00	713,072.00	
3. Capital Improvements	10,000.00	5,000.00	
4. Debt Service	332,322.00	325,273.00	
5. Judgments			
6. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	440,000.00	410,000.00	
Total General Appropriations	7,996,314.90	7,972,331.93	
Total Number of Employees - Full & Part Time	70	70	
BALANCE OF OUTSTANDING DEBT		GENERAL	
Bond, Loan & Note Principal	3,612,512.53		
Bond, Loan & Note Interest	69,818.14		
Outstanding Balance	3,682,330.67		

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union on March 28, 2017.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution will be held at the Municipal Building on April 25, 2017 at 7:15 o'clock (PM) at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2017 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Copies of the detailed budget are available in the office of Christina Ariemma, Borough Clerk, at the Municipal Building, 403 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey, 07027, (908) 789-0710, during the hours of 9:00 (A.M.) to 4:30 (P.M.).  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Leader Fee: \$126.99



# Joanne Rajoppi to Spotlight Women Vets, Now and Then

SUMMIT AREA — Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi, author and Union County Clerk, will speak to the Summit Area Old Guard at its Tuesday, April 18 meeting. She will talk about “Veterans: Now and Then (after the Civil War).”

There were some 400 women soldiers in the Civil War; some estimate substantially more. Some were spies; others were soldiers, masquerading as men. They engaged in combat, were wounded and taken prisoner. Some were killed in action.

They went to war by choice; their reasons varied greatly. Some wished to fight by the side of a loved one. Others sought excitement and travel. Poor women sought a regular paycheck. Patriotism was an underlying factor. The women in the ranks, both Union and Confederate, refused to stay in their socially-mandated place, even if it meant lying about their sex. They faced the guns of the enemy, but also the sexual prejudices of their society.

When the Civil War began, America had 80,000 veterans from previous conflicts, who were treated at a handful of veterans’ homes scattered across the nation. The Civil War added more than 1.9 million soldiers to the rolls. At President Abraham Lincoln’s request, 11

## Alzheimer’s Group To Meet April 21

WESTFIELD — Jewish Family Service (JFS) of Central New Jersey, a non-sectarian health and social service agency, will host an Alzheimer’s support group through Alzheimer’s New Jersey on Friday, April 21, from 10 to 11 a.m. It will take place at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, located at 140 Mountain Avenue, Westfield.

Free and open to Alzheimer’s/Dementia caregivers in the community, the group is run in accordance with Alzheimer’s New Jersey guidelines. Participants are welcome to join the group at any time.

Registration is recommended. If planning to attend, or needing more information about JFS’ program for Alzheimer’s and Dementia Disorders, contact Alice Greenberg-Sheedy at agreenbergsheedy@jfscentralnj.org or (908) 352-8375.



**CELEBRATING CITIZENSHIP...**Local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) co-sponsored an immigration naturalization ceremony at the Plainfield Public Library on April 1, when 24 people were sworn in as new legal U.S. citizens. Pictured, from left to right, are: Front row, Beth Scheiderman, Elizabeth Snyder-Continental DAR Chapter regent; Gayle Loftis, Esq., New Jersey DAR Americanism chairwoman, Claverack Chapter; Ruth Ryno, North Plainfield DAR Chapter regent, and Ann Genlot, Westfield Chapter DAR, and back row, Lisa Kane, Westfield Chapter DAR registrar; Barbara Benko, Westfield Chapter regent; Kathryn McElroy, Westfield DAR Chapter, and Lorene Knierem, Westfield DAR Chapter.

## SP-F Plans Concert, Parade For Memorial Day Weekend

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD — The 2017 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day Parade Committee has announced that its annual concert and parade will be held on Sunday, May 28, and Monday, May 29, respectively. The concert is entitled “A Tribute to Fallen Heroes,” while the theme of this year’s parade will be “They Gave Their Tomorrows...For Our Today’s.”

The sixth annual Memorial Day Concert will take place at the Alan Augustine Village Green on Park Avenue, adjacent to the Scotch Plains Municipal Building, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Full Count Big Band will play patriotic tunes and traditional marches. Additionally, the program will include the reading of letters written by mem-

bers of the United States military to their loved ones back home.

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, there will be a memorial service and presentation of wreaths at 9 a.m. at the Fanwood Memorial Library, located at 5 Forest Road. A memorial tribute and laying of wreaths will take place at 10 a.m. at the gazebo on Park Avenue and Front Street in downtown Scotch Plains.

The 2017 Memorial Day Parade will start at 10:45 a.m. at the gazebo in downtown Scotch Plains, proceeding along Park Avenue to Martine Avenue, into downtown Fanwood. The parade ends at La Grande Park in Fanwood.

The annual parade is funded by the Township of Scotch Plains and the Borough of Fanwood. The concert is presented through the generosity of local donors – individuals, businesses and community organizations – that underwrite the expenses of staging the concert.

Individuals or organizations interested in participating in the parade or making a donation to support the concert are asked to contact Bob LaCosta at the Township of Scotch Plains at (908) 939-8448 or blacosta@scotchplainsnj.com.

homes were ultimately added to the list. Some (very few) women received care at these veteran homes. For most women, it was a tale of facing an altered world, confronted by widowhood, or burdened with returning war-wounded soldiers. Using correspondence between the Hamilton family living in New Brunswick and soldiers at war, Ms. Rajoppi will describe the legacy one woman left her children.

Today, women receive a panoply of services from the Veterans Administration, including disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, burial and special services to help women who experience sexual trauma. Finally, Ms. Rajoppi will describe her current role in helping veterans receive the benefits they justly deserve.

All active men age 50-plus are invited to attend the Tuesday morning meetings of the Summit Area Old Guard. Meetings are held at the New Providence Municipal Center, 360 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence. A coffee hour starts 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.

## Ladies Auxiliary Sets Clothing Drive Date

GARWOOD — The Ladies Auxiliary of the Garwood Fire Department will hold a clothing drive on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will take place rain or shine at the Garwood Fire House, located at 415 South Avenue.

The following items are being collected: shoes, stuffed animals, handbags, linens, belts, men’s, women’s and children’s clothing. Clothes will not be cut up. Money earned from the clothing drive goes to support the volunteer fire department and scholarships for local children.

For additional information or for a pickup of items on April 29, call Barb at (908) 868-4358.



**FLORAL DESIGNS...**Paulina Neliwocki, founder of Blue Jasmine Floral Design Studio and Specialty Boutique in Westfield, conducts a demonstration March 21 for the Garden Club of Westfield.

## Local Floral Designer Visits Garden Club of Westfield

WESTFIELD — Paulina Neliwocki, founder of Blue Jasmine Floral Design Studio and Specialty Boutique in Westfield, was the guest speaker March 21 for members of the Garden Club of Westfield.

Ms. Neliwocki explained and demonstrated ways to design attractive pieces for a home or event using skills she learned in prestigious New York City design studios.

According to Ms. Neliwocki, the

secret of her success is that she listens to each client’s vision with the goal of ensuring a beautiful interpretation that is unique and personal.

The Garden Club of Westfield normally meets on the second Tuesday of each month, excluding summer months, at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at Plainfield Avenue and Jerusalem Road in Scotch Plains. For more information, call Club President Merrilyn Crane at (908) 232-3223.

## Father Schroth to Discuss ‘The Pope, Public and Press’

WESTFIELD — The Peace and Justice Committee of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic and St. Helen’s Roman Catholic Churches will present a talk by Father Raymond A. Schroth, S.J., entitled “The Pope, the Public and the Press,” on Wednesday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. It will take place in the Holy Trinity Parish Center, located next to the church on Westfield Avenue. This event is free and all are welcome to attend.

Son of a journalist and a teacher, and now book editor of *America* magazine, Father Schroth grew up in Trenton, graduating from St. Joseph’s Prep in Philadelphia and Fordham University. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1957 after two years in the U.S. Army in Germany. For three years he taught at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, N.Y. Since his ordination in 1967, he re-

ceived his Ph.D. in American Thought and Culture at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and has taught journalism, theology and American Studies or served as dean at five Jesuit colleges and universities — Fordham, Rockhurst, Holy Cross, Loyola New Orleans and St Peter’s College — and three secular universities. He has been an associate editor at *Commonweal* and a columnist for the *National Catholic Reporter*, editor of the Jesuit university magazine *Conversations*, and a contributor to many publica-



**Fr. Raymond Schroth**

tions.

Among his nine books are “The American Journey of Eric Severeid,” “Fordham: A History and Memoir,” “The American Jesuits: A History” and, most recently, “Bob Drinan: The Controversial Life of the First Priest Elected to Congress.”

## ‘Creative Women’ to Meet In Garwood on April 22

GARWOOD — The “Creative Women” group, which offers women an opportunity to meet and talk about creative issues, receive inspiration, discuss projects and support each other, will hold its next meeting on Saturday, April 22. It will take place from 11 a.m. to noon at the Garwood Public Library, located at 411 Third Avenue, Garwood.

This group is geared toward women who knit, sew, embroider, scrapbook, paint or do any other activity they consider “creative,” even if they do not define themselves as an “artist.”

It exists for participants to inspire one another, stimulate creative potential and explore new ways of looking at their creative goals and their work. Lively discussions and information about galleries and stores to visit for inspiration also are part of the agenda. Meetings are informal.

The group was started by Garwood

artist Leona M. Seufert, who stated that, “Women who aren’t professional artists don’t exhibit or sell what they create, so this would be an opportunity to share their creativity with others and receive like-minded support. I moved to Garwood in 2015 and have met many a ‘creative woman’ here. So let’s get together and inspire each other!”

Ms. Seufert is a professional artist, creating unique jewelry and doing digital photography enhanced in Photoshop. She has exhibited her artwork in numerous group and solo shows in galleries in the tri-state area and at the Hoboken Historical Museum in Hoboken and the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. Ms. Seufert has her studio in Garwood. To view her art on her online gallery, visit studio-l.tripod.com/index.htm. She may be contacted at studio-l@att.net. For questions about the Creative Women Group, call (908) 228-2427.

## James J. Gilmartin III Achieves Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisor Status

WESTFIELD — James J. Gilmartin III, CFP®, APMA® with Gilmartin & Associates, a financial practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., has become an Ameriprise Financial Private Wealth Advisor.

Mr. Gilmartin, with an office in Westfield, N.J., is among the 13 percent of approximately 10,000 Ameriprise financial advisors to achieve this status.

Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisors provide personalized client service and are dedicated to meeting the complex and unique financial needs of their clients. To become eligible for this status, advisors must be experienced in providing comprehensive financial planning and advice, complete specialized training and achieve superior business results.

As an Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisor, Mr. Gilmartin is focused on providing advice and financial solutions for clients with high asset levels.



**James J. Gilmartin III**

He is knowledgeable on a variety of topics and strategies including retirement, tax and estate planning, insurance and asset management. Gilmartin & Associates is located at 125 Elm Street, Suite 10, Westfield, N.J. Mr. Gilmartin has served the Westfield area since 1995. For more information, please contact James J. Gilmartin III at (908) 301-9236.

About Ameriprise Financial  
At Ameriprise Financial, we have been helping people feel confident about their financial future for more than 120 years. With a network of 10,000 financial advisors and outstanding asset management, advisory and insurance capabilities, we have the strength and expertise to serve the full range of consumer financial needs. For more information, visit <http://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/james.j.gilmartin/>.

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## Deacon Pluta to Be Feted At Paul Jackson Gala

WESTFIELD — Deacon Tom Pluta, a longtime resident of Westfield, will be honored at The Paul Jackson Fund “Giving Hope” Gala on Saturday, May 20, at the Grand Summit Hotel.

Deacon Pluta was ordained in May 1992 and began his ministry at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield in 2000. Over the past 25 years, he has touched the lives of many, both in his parish and in the community.

Deacon Pluta is ministry coordinator for Holy Trinity Church and regularly conducts the liturgical duties. Married to his wife, Barbara, for 52 years, he is the father of three daughters and grandfather of six grandchildren.

“We are so pleased to honor Deacon Tom. He has dedicated his life to serving God and being of assistance to his parishioners and to the community,” said Mary Jackson, president of The Paul Jackson Fund. “Tom guided my brother, Paul, when he was a young boy and

has been supportive of The Paul Jackson Fund and a friend of the family for many years. We are delighted to be able to honor him at the upcoming gala.”

The Paul Jackson Fund, located in Westfield, assists families who are experiencing a financial crisis because of a long-term illness or disability. The charity began as a grassroots effort to assist Paul Jackson, a 1979 Westfield High School graduate who became paralyzed during surgery to remove a spinal cord tumor. When Mr. Jackson no longer needed the financial help of The Fund, he assumed its leadership and began helping other individuals and families in crisis. Since Mr. Jackson passed in 2009, The Fund continues to benefit those who are in need and have nowhere else to turn.

Tickets to the “Giving Hope” Gala may be purchased online at [pauljacksonfund.org](http://pauljacksonfund.org). For more information or to donate items to the auction, call Mary Doherty at (908) 233-6110.

## Library Book Club Plans Discussion on Tuesday

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Afternoon Book Club at the Scotch Plains Public Library will discuss “The All-Girl Filling Station’s Last Reunion” by Fanny Flagg on Tuesday, April 18, at 1 p.m.

The book introduces readers to Mrs. Sookie Poole of Point Clear, Ala., who has just married off the last of her three daughters and is looking forward to relaxing and perhaps traveling with her husband, Earle. The only thing left to contend with now is her mother, the formidable and imposing Lenore Simmons Krackenberry, never an easy task. Lenore may be a lot of fun for other people, but is, for the most part, an

overbearing presence for her daughter. Then one day, quite by accident, Sookie discovers a shocking secret about her mother’s past that knocks her for a loop and suddenly calls into question everything she ever thought she knew about herself, her family and her future.

The library’s book clubs are free and open to all. For more information, visit [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org), e-mail [library@scotlib.org](mailto:library@scotlib.org), call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or stop by the library Reference Desk. The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue, in the center of the township.

## WNC Announces Debut Of Charity Basketball Game

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Neighborhood Council (WNC) will launch its First Annual Community Unity Charity Basketball Game on Saturday, April 22, from 2 to 5 p.m. It will take place at Roosevelt Intermediate School, located at 301 Clark Street, Westfield. The game will be a match-up between members of the WNC (“Team Westfield”) against Momentum Prep, an elite youth sports program in Rahway.

Following the game, families will have a special opportunity to meet WNC President Tamecka Dixon, a retired WNBA All-Star, and Horace Jenkins, a former Detroit Piston, at an autograph-signing session.

“Since Westfield is such a great sports town, we thought we could inspire kids by introducing them to real professional athletes,” said Ms. Dixon. “It’s the perfect way to bring our town together to support the WNC, a vital resource to our community that provides educational and recreational services to children, adults and seniors.”

Ms. Dixon joined the Los Angeles Sparks in 1997, the inaugural season of the WNBA. As a rookie, she

ranked in the Top 10 in field goal percentage, three-point percentage and steals, and went on to play in the WNBA for 12 years. She was recruited from Linden High School to play for the University of Kansas in 1993. During her senior year, Kansas was crowned Big 12 champions and Ms. Dixon was named conference’s Player of the Year and an All-American.

Mr. Jenkins was born and raised in Elizabeth and played for the Detroit Pistons during their 2004-2005 season when the team went to the NBA Finals. He also has played professionally in Italy and Israel.

In addition to the special autograph-signing session, the event will feature music by DJ Nix in the Mix, T-shirts, games (including 50/50) and refreshments. Donations are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children. Youngsters age 5 and under may attend for free. All proceeds from the event will support the WNC. The WNC is located at 127 Cacciola Place, Westfield.

Tickets are available at Avis Rental Car (see Tamecka Dixon) or via [wnccommunityunity.game.org](http://wnccommunityunity.game.org).

## 5K Run, 1-Mile Fun Run To Benefit Rec. Programs

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Recreation Department will hold its annual 5K Run and 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk next month. “Run The Park” will take place on Sunday, May 21, at 9 a.m. The event will start and end in Tamaques Park in Westfield.

The goal of the event is to get as many families as possible out and walking or running, according to the recreation department.

The 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk encourages family participation from local residents of all ages and abilities, while the 5K race assures a more competitive venue.

All proceeds assist in funding drug- and alcohol-free programs offered by the Westfield Recreation Department throughout the year. Among them are the summer playground program, camps, enrichment

programs, events and performances by the Westfield Community Concert Band.

The 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk will begin at 9 a.m., with the 5K race beginning at 9:30 a.m. The registration table will be available starting at 8 a.m. To register online, visit [RaceNJ.com](http://RaceNJ.com). All pre-registered 5K runners can pick up their packets at The Westfield Running Company, 123 Quimby Street, Westfield, on Saturday, May 20. Packets also can be obtained at the race pre-registration table starting at 8 a.m. the morning of the race.

Anyone with questions or who is interested in volunteering or becoming a 2017 Race Sponsor is asked to contact the Westfield Recreation Department at (908) 789-4080 or by e-mail at [recreation@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:recreation@westfieldnj.gov).

## Westfield Area Y to Hold Fitness ‘Fun’ Raiser

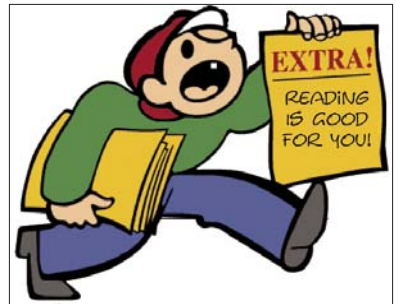
WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area YMCA’s Annual Fitness “Fun” Raiser will be held on Saturday, April 29, from 7 to 11:30 a.m., at the Main Y Facility, located at 220 Clark Street, Westfield.

In addition to the Y’s regular classes, an Outdoor Boot Camp class, Outdoor Yoga class and special Water Exercise class will be offered. Raffle prizes will be available. The prizes will be on display in the lobby from April 24 to 29.

Members and non-members are invited to participate. Registration for this event is going on now at the Welcome Center. Kids Club is available for those who need it. Pre-registration

is required for Kids Club. For additional information, call Jean White at (908) 233-2700, extension no. 246, or e-mail [jwhite@westfieldynj.org](mailto:jwhite@westfieldynj.org).

All proceeds benefit the Annual Support Campaign, which ensures that no one who lives or works in Cranford, Garwood, Mountainside or Westfield and is experiencing a bona fide financial hardship is denied the opportunity to participate. In 2016, the Y provided \$410,103 in direct financial assistance to 276 individuals, primarily for child care and summer day camp services. For more information, including on Westfield Area YMCA programs, visit [westfieldynj.org](http://westfieldynj.org).





## Presbyterian Church Posts Schedule For Holy Week

WESTFIELD – The Presbyterian Church in Westfield has announced the special services that will be held the week leading up to Easter known as Holy Week. All services are free, open to the public, and children are welcome.

The church will host a special Maundy Thursday service this evening, April 13, in Assembly Hall on the first floor of the building at 140 Mountain Avenue, Westfield. Barrier-free parking is handicap-accessible for all services held in the

### Temple Men’s Club Slates Blood Drive

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Men’s Club of Congregation Beth Israel will hold a blood drive on Sunday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the synagogue.

Runby Community Blood Services of New Jersey, the drive is open to anyone in the community, age 18 or older, who is medically eligible to donate blood. No pre-registration is required. A continental breakfast will be served to all donors.

The Men’s Club of Congregation Beth Israel hosts a winter and spring blood drive annually.

Congregation Beth Israel is located at 18 Shalom Way, at the corner of Martine Avenue, in Scotch Plains. The blood drive and breakfast will be held in a bus stationed in the synagogue’s parking lot adjacent to its building. For more information, call the synagogue office at (908) 889-1830 or Walter Chinoy, Blood Drive chairman, at (908) 230-0062.

main building. Maundy Thursday begins the three-day (or Triduum) observance with “an Experiential Worship at Table” by serving of the Lord’s Supper at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14, is the day of remembering Christ’s crucifixion. The day will offer two different opportunities for worship. From noon until 7 p.m., a meditational labyrinth will be set up in Westminster Hall, an adjacent building to the main sanctuary. People may spend as much time as they want in walking, praying and meditating in the quiet space.

A Tenebrae Service will be held at 7 p.m. in the main sanctuary and will include readings, music and reflection culminating in the darkening of the sanctuary in commemoration of the time when Christ was placed in the tomb.

Easter Sunday morning will feature three services that offer special music, prayer and rejoicing of Christ’s resurrection. The services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. will be in the flower-decorated main sanctuary, and the 10 a.m. Wired4Worship, the contemporary service, will be held in Westminster Hall. Light refreshments will follow each service.

With a motto of “Invite, Grow, Serve,” people of all ages are welcome to offer talents and praise to God through this church.

For more information about the church itself or the specific services, check the website at westfieldpc.org or call The Presbyterian Church in Westfield during business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (908) 233-0301.



READY TO SOAR...New Eagle Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 77 in Westfield are joined by Congressman Leonard Lance (R-Th), left, and Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield), both of whom spoke to the Scouts and gave them certificates of recognition of their achievements. Congressman Lance in particular spoke to the boys of the importance of achieving the Eagle rank in Scouting and its significance in a world in which the leaders of tomorrow are needed. The Eagle Scouts, pictured left to right, are: Harrison Bailey, Matthew DeBenedetto, Philip Lizzo and Mark Kostyack.

## Four Members of Troop 77 Achieve Eagle Scout Rank

WESTFIELD — Boy Scout Troop 77, chartered by the Vestry of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Westfield, at an Eagle Court of Honor on March 26 recognized four Scouts who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

The new Eagles include Harrison Bailey, son of David and Robin Bailey; Matthew DeBenedetto, son of Matthew and Sharon DeBenedetto; Mark Kostyack, son of Ray and Maria Kostyack, and Philip Lizzo, son of John and Marguerite Lizzo.

The Scouts have earned 21 merit badges, demonstrated leadership within the troop, and successfully planned and completed a service project within the community. In addition, the character of the candidates was confirmed by their parents, teachers, employers, neighbors and religious advisors.

Troop 77 has, over the last four years, had 13 Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle. Presently, five more Scouts within the troop are working on their Eagle projects, and it is expected that most, if not all, of them will complete their Eagle rank by the end of the current school year, to be recognized at a June Court of Honor.

Eagle is the highest rank available in Boy Scouting. Among famous individuals who have been

Eagle Scouts are President Gerald Ford, astronauts Neil Armstrong and James Lovell, and Sam Walton of Walmart.

Troop 77 is actively recruiting for new Scouts. No prior experience in Scouting is necessary; any boy age 11 to 18 may join the troop. The troop will hold an open house at its Monday, May 1 troop meeting. Anyone interested in attending may contact Troop Committee Chairman Gary Schwartz directly at 77troop77@gmail.com or (908) 208-2136, or Scoutmaster John Lizzo at lizzos@verizon.net. Philip Lizzo is the third of John’s three sons to achieve the Eagle Scout rank.

### Cranford Rec. Has Program Openings

CRANFORD — The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced that there are still openings in its Spring 2017 programs. Registration for all programs in Pre-School, Kinder, Youth and Adult may be done online by visiting register.communitypass.net/cranford.

For additional information or questions, call the Cranford Recreation and Parks Department at (908) 709-7283. Classes are for Cranford residents only.



TRADITION MEETS ‘TOP CHEF’...Fourth-grade students and their parents participate in a family education program about Passover at Congregation Beth Israel’s Religious School in Scotch Plains March 26. Students and their parents separated into teams and competed against one another in a “Top Chef”-style cook-off to determine who could create the best Haroset, a ceremonial dish served during the Passover Seder that symbolizes the mortar that the ancient Israelites used to make bricks when they were enslaved in Egypt. The team pictured here with their Haroset are, from left to right: Robyn and Marin Pekarsky, Jennifer and Amelia Mamlet, and Joseph and Samuel Perone.

## Westfield Lions Egg Hunt Returns This Saturday

WESTFIELD — The Lions Club of Westfield will hold its 82nd annual Easter Egg Hunt in Mindowaskin Park this Saturday, April 15, for Westfield children up to age 7. Participants and their parents are asked to assemble in the playground area of the park by 12:45 p.m. as the hunt will start precisely at 1 p.m., weather permitting.

There will be three age-appropriate areas set aside for the children: toddler to age 3; 4- and 5-year-olds, and 6- and 7-year-olds.

More than 1,200 plastic eggs will be hidden in the playground area next to North Euclid Avenue. Immediately after the hunt, complimentary bags containing gourmet jelly beans will be distributed to the

### Library Chess Club Available For Youth

SCOTCH PLAINS — Scotch Plains and Fanwood Library cardholders ages 9 to 16 are invited to participate in the chess club led by instructor Errol Singh at the Scotch Plains Public Library on Wednesday, April 19, at 6 p.m.

Pre-registration is required for the chess club and is limited to Scotch Plains and Fanwood cardholders. Online registration is now underway. Space is limited. For more information, call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204; e-mail library@scotlib.org or stop by the library Reference Desk. Information about other upcoming teen activities is available on the website scotlib.org/teens.

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

### Teen Scene Provides Activities at Library

SCOTCH PLAINS — Middle-school students are invited to relax, socialize and have fun every Monday and Wednesday, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., during Teen Scene at the Scotch Plains Public Library.

Students can complete homework in the gallery space or head into the meeting room for games, snacks and maker activities with friends. No registration is required.

These events are free for students in grades 5 to 8. For more information, call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204; e-mail library@scotlib.org, or stop by the library Reference Desk. For more information about other upcoming teen activities, check out the website scotlib.org/teens.

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

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## St. Paul’s Church to Offer Triduum, Easter Services

WESTFIELD — The community is invited to experience the Paschal (Easter) Triduum at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, located at 414 East Broad Street, Westfield, which marks the end of Lent. It will begin on Maundy Thursday and continue with the Good Friday Liturgy, culminating with the Great Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and the first Eucharist of Easter.

The Maundy Thursday Liturgy will begin at 7:30 p.m. this evening, April 13, with the St. Paul Choir performing music by Crotch, Titcomb, Schubert and Harker. This ancient service includes the clergy washing the feet of parishioners, symbolizing Jesus’ similar act with his disciples. This will be followed by the Lord’s Supper and the stripping of the altar and all ornaments of the church. Then, those who wish may retire to the chapel to “watch” and meditate during the one-hour Vigil, in symbolic union with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Worshippers are invited to participate in some or all of this liturgy.

The Holy Triduum will continue on Good Friday, April 14, at noon with the Good Friday Liturgy. The reading of the Passion dominates this service, followed by a sermon, Solemn Collects and prayers, hymns and special music by the Choir including works by Maunder and Hallock. The Reverend Nathan P. Ritter, Priest In Charge at St. Paul’s, will deliver the sermon. Good Friday services also include a special Children’s Liturgy in the chapel for

families at 3:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday on April 15 will feature a brief liturgy at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel. At 7:30 p.m., the Great Vigil of Easter will begin in the darkened church with the Lighting of the New Fire and then the Paschal

Candle. That candle, in turn, is used to light the candles of all those in attendance.

In the glow of candlelight, a series of prophetic lessons are read prefiguring the New Covenant. After a homily, Holy Baptism will occur with the congregation also renewing its baptismal vows. All of this leads up to the lighting of the altar candles and the ringing of bells and the celebration of

the first mass of Easter with music provided by the St. Paul Choir.

Easter Sunday, April 16, will include three celebrations of the Easter Eucharist: 7:45 a.m. with hymns; the 9 a.m. Family Eucharist featuring the Primary and Junior Choirs, and the 11:15 a.m. Festal Choral Eucharist featuring the St. Paul Choir and Brass quintet and percussion with music by Handel and Haydn, among others, all under the direction of Charles M. Banks. The service ends with joyful music featuring brass, trumpets, organ and choir performing the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s *Messiah*. Reverend Ritter will deliver the Easter Message.

For more information, visit stpaulswestfield.org, contact cbanks@stpaulswestfield.org or call (908) 232-8506, extension no. 10.



Rev. Nathan Ritter

## Westfield Seeks Volunteers For Earth Day Cleanup

WESTFIELD — In honor of Earth Day, Mayor Andrew Skibitsky, the town council and the Green Team have teamed up to plan for the 6th Annual “Westfield Earth Day” cleanup event at select locations in the town on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to noon. The rain date is Sunday, April 30.

Volunteers who are willing to give a little time to celebrate Earth Day in this way are asked to bring a pair of gloves and a rake, if possible, to one of the following locations, where a member of the town council or Green Team will coordinate cleanup activities:

Brightwood Park  
Clark Park

Grove Street at Grandview Avenue  
Maryland Avenue at Grandview Avenue

Mindowaskin Park, in partnership with the Friends of Mindowaskin Park  
Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops in need of fulfilling community service requirements are welcome.

All minors need to be supervised by a parent or adult guardian.

Interested persons are asked to register by sending their name and the location they plan to help at via e-mail to Mayor@westfieldnj.gov so that organizers know how many volunteers to anticipate, but drop-ins also will be welcome.



IMAGINE A NEW HOME...Over 100 people turned out February 22 at Imagine’s new location at 244 Sheffield Street, Mountainside, for an open house and ribbon cutting with the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC). Pictured, from left to right, are: Maria Fuentes, chairwoman, GWACC; Mindy Scarlett, GWACC board member; Marilyn Haggerty, Imagine Circle of Hope member; Terry Viney, GWACC board member; Lisa Wagner, Imagine board member; Scott West, State Farm Agent and Imagine supporter; Mayor Paul Mirabelli, Mountainside; Mary Robinson, Imagine executive director; Marilyn Stiglitz, Springfield, Imagine supporter; Stuart Arnold, Imagine board chairman; Chris Devine, past chairman, GWACC; Tim York, first vice-president, GWACC; Michael Scalera, State Farm Agent, Springfield; Mandi Zucker, Imagine program director, and Michael Bongiovanni, Imagine volunteer and program participant.

### NJIO to Perform Spring Concert

SUMMIT — The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) will perform its spring concert, entitled “Grand Gestures,” on Sunday, May 7, at 3 p.m. It will be held at Summit Middle School, located at 272 Morris Avenue, Summit.

This free concert will feature renowned NJIO associate concertmaster and violinist Brennan Sweet. Works by Respighi, Bruch, Beethoven and others will be performed. For more information, call (908) 603-7691 or visit njio.org.

For more information about the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, visit njio.org.

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Nifty ...  
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## Rita Villane, Aug. 7, 1931-April 8, 2017; Was Beloved Wife and Mother

Mrs. Rita K. Villane, the former Miss Rita Kathryn Gray, was born to Edward and Anna Mae Gray in New Market (presently Piscataway) on August 7, 1931. She was the youngest of six children and is survived by her sister, Mary Stover of Emmaus, Pa. She graduated Holy Trinity High School Class of 1949 in Westfield. She put herself through school, after raising eight sons, to earn a nursing degree. Rita had been employed as a nurse at Muhlenberg Hospital, then at Westfield Convalescent Center, before retiring in 1985. Rita Villane is well respected for her kindhearted, patient nature.

She is and always will be the blushing bride of William Joseph Villane, Sr., who she married on December 27, 1952. They met through Rita's best friend, Rose (Villane) Russo, William's sister. They lived in Indiana while William went to college, moved to Levittown, Pa. and finally settled back in Westfield in 1964. She was a member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church and active in the Holy Trinity Social Club and Holy Trinity Rosary Society. Rita passed peacefully in her home surrounded by many, many loved ones. She is survived by her ever loving husband, William, of Westfield; a loving family of six sons and four daughters-in-

law, including William Jr. of Toms River, Michael of Westfield, Richard and Kerri of Scotch Plains, Don and Mary of Westfield, Dominick and Betty of Lanesboro, Mass., and David and Nina of Westfield. She was predeceased by two sons, James (third son) in 1982 and Robert (the youngest) in 2006. She also leaves behind 14 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, with four more on the way, along with a very large extended family.

We lost our MOM today. Our anchor has been lifted and we are all adrift at sea. She was our guiding light, our compass. Helping to keep us on track to follow the right path. Guiding us through dark times and keeping us secured during rough weather. We feel an emptiness, a void and an overwhelming loss. We also feel proud and blessed to have had such a great influence in our lives. She taught us humility, dignity, discipline, kindness, honor and love. MOM was not big on fashion and style, but had more class and strength than anyone we ever knew. She never tried to impress others but was such an impressive person. She never spoke badly about anyone and constantly offered to help others, never looking for anything in return. MOM was not a complainer and was as tough as nails, but always fair. She always gave her time to listen to everyone's problems and stories, even if someone told her the same story five minutes ago. We love you, MOM, and thank you for always being there for us. Thank you for being you. Say hi to Jimmy and Robert in heaven and we will all meet up eventually for a Sunday dinner once again.

Visitation was held Tuesday, April 11, at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue, Westfield.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, April 12, at the Holy Trinity Church in Westfield. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield. Donations in Rita's name would be appreciated to the Westfield Rescue Squad.

April 13, 2017

### Program to Depict Revolutionary Soldier

AREA—The Snyder Academy of Elizabethtown and The Old First Historic Trust will present "Life of a Revolutionary War Foot Soldier" on Thursday, April 20, at 10:30 a.m. It will be held at The Snyder Academy, located at 42 Broad Street, Elizabethtown.

The program will feature Damien Cregeau, a historian and re-enactor, in the full uniform and kit of a typical Revolutionary War foot soldier. Mr. Cregeau will talk about the various challenges the soldiers faced, including not just battles, but also foraging for food, finding or constructing shelters, procuring clothing and trying to stay healthy.

Mr. Cregeau also will explain the various parts of his clothing and kit, including his flintlock musket.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Elliot Dee at Elliot@acadenj.org.

#### SHERIFF'S SALE

**SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-17000899**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY**  
**CHANCERY DIVISION**  
**UNION COUNTY**  
**DOCKET NO. F-051919-14**  
Plaintiff: DITECH FINANCIAL LLC  
VS.  
Defendant: APOLONIA  
ONWUANAEBGULE; DONATUS  
Sale Date: 05/03/2017  
Writ of Execution: 12/29/2016  
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the Union County Administration Building, 1st Floor, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabethtown, New Jersey on Wednesday, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales. The judgment amount is: \*\*\*Three Hundred Eighty Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Four and 77/100\*\*\* \$380,594.77  
Municipality: Borough of Fanwood  
Street Address: 48 Trenton Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.  
Tax Lot: 2.  
Tax Block: 120.  
Approximate dimensions: 50 feet x 100 feet.  
Nearest cross street: Jefferson Avenue.  
Total Upset: \*\*\*Three Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Fifty-Seven and 49/100\*\*\* \$392,057.49 together with lawful interest and costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.  
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Joseph Cryan  
Sheriff

Attorney:  
PLUESE, BECKER & SALTZMAN, LLC  
20000 HORIZON WAY  
SUITE 900  
MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054  
(856) 813-1700  
4 T - 04/06, 04/13, 04/20  
& 04/27/17  
Fee: \$153.00

**SHERIFF'S SALE**  
**SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-17000924**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY**  
**CHANCERY DIVISION**  
**UNION COUNTY**  
**DOCKET NO. F-051919-14**  
Plaintiff: WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5  
VS.  
Defendant: MARSHALL ANTHONY; TASCHA ANTHONY; HUSBAND AND WIFE; MARINA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT CO LLC T/B BORGATA  
Sale Date: 05/03/2017  
Writ of Execution: 12/15/2016  
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the Union County Administration Building, 1st Floor, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabethtown, New Jersey on Wednesday, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales. The judgment amount is: \*\*\*Five Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Nine and 3/100\*\*\* \$539,539.03  
Municipality: Township of Scotch Plains.  
Street Address: 520 Hidden Hollow, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.  
Tax Lot: 21 fka 14.  
Tax Block: 6 fka 1 fka 157.  
Approximate dimensions: 25.00 feet x 590.20 feet x 12.35 feet x 117.00 feet x 131.39 feet x 75.67 feet.  
Nearest cross street: Rolling Peaks Way.  
Total Upset: \*\*\*Five Hundred Sixty-One Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Six and 56/100\*\*\* \$561,364.56 together with lawful interest and costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.  
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Joseph Cryan  
Sheriff

Attorney:  
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& 04/27/17  
Fee: \$230.52

## Obituaries

### Jean Marie Gallagher, 94, Had Been Active With CSH and PEO

Jean Marie Stewart Gallagher, 94, of Wilmington, N.C., passed away on Thursday, April 6, 2017, at her home in the Davis Health Care Community.

She formerly resided in Mountainside and Westfield, N.J.

Jean was born on December 3, 1922 in Philadelphia, Pa. She graduated from Girls' High in Philadelphia and attended Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa. In 1942 Jean married Robert Hillegass Gallagher.

They moved to Mountainside in 1966. Jean remained there until 2011, when she moved to Sunrise Senior Living in Westfield. In 2014, she moved to Wilmington, N.C., to be close to her daughter.

Jean volunteered for many years at the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside. Initially she worked in the classrooms and then in the Pharmacy Department, where she kept the pharmaceutical records. She played Bridge and was a member of the PEO Sisterhood Chapter U in Westfield.



Jean Gallagher

Jean was predeceased by her husband, Robert. She is survived by her two children, Robert H. Gallagher of Bettendorf, Iowa and Nancy G. Heide of Hampstead, N.C.; seven grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Jean's visitation will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2017, at Gray Funeral Directors, 318 East Broad Street, Westfield, where her funeral service will follow at 11 a.m. Private interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield, where she will be laid to rest next to her husband, Robert. For condolences, please go to www.grayfuneralhomes.com. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Children's Specialized Hospital, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside, N.J. 07092 or to the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue & Rehabilitation Center, 302 Tortuga Lane, P.O. Box 2095, Surf City, N.C. 28445.

April 13, 2017

## WHS Interact Club Plans Family Movie Night

WESTFIELD — The Westfield High School (WHS) Rotary Interact Club will present a Family Movie Night, with a screening of *Zootopia*, on Friday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m., on the Westfield High School field. In the event of rain, the movie will be shown at the Westfield Area Y's Bauer Branch, located at 422 East Broad Street, Westfield.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children under age 12, and will be sold at the door. There are no chairs allowed, but attendees may bring blankets and pillows. Water, candy and other snacks will be sold before and during the movie.

The WHS Rotary Interact Club is a

group of students who perform community service activities and raise money to help others who are in need. This event is a fundraiser for Mary's Meals, a program that feeds school children in Africa. The club is hoping to raise \$12,000 this year to feed 600 children in a Liberian village for an entire year. The food is distributed to the children at school, which ensures that they receive a proper education along with their meals. The food is purchased from local businesses, which improves the economy, helping the entire village to come out of poverty.

For more information, contact the club at whsinteracts@gmail.com.

## Cunningham Selected to Attend US Air Force Acad.

WATCHUNG – Veronica Cunningham of Scotch Plains is one of two members of the senior class at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung who will attend a United States military academy following their June graduation.

Veronica plans to major in astronautical engineering with a minor in Arabic at the United States Air Force Academy.

Her classmate, Jacqueline McNulla of Plainfield, will study nuclear engineering or aerospace engineering. She is considering a double major in Arabic and hopes to either work on a submarine or become a pilot when she is commissioned.

A rigorous application process was described by Veronica, who admitted that the Air Force Academy was her first choice: "I began my application on March 1, 2016 in the middle of my junior year. I completed a pre-candidate questionnaire

which allowed the Academy to deem me competitive to continue my application for the Class of 2021."

The formal application, which came out in July of 2016, necessitated the completion of physical examinations, essays, letters of recommendation, and at least one interview with an Admissions Liaison Officer (ALO) who is either a retired or active duty Air Force officer.

Veronica also interviewed with Congressional and Senatorial staffers to compete against several other applicants for one of the sought-after nominations.

"I received my nomination from Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman on December 8, 2016 and I am honored to have done so," she said. "I am extremely fortunate to have received one of the 1,200 appointments to the Air Force Academy Class of 2021. A year and nine days after submitting my pre-candidate questionnaire, I received an appointment."

#### SHERIFF'S SALE

**SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-17000812**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY**  
**CHANCERY DIVISION**  
**UNION COUNTY**  
**DOCKET NO. F-022697-15**  
Plaintiff: PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC  
VS.  
Defendant: TIMOTHY L. RIVERS, PAMELA D. RIVERS AKA PAMELA D. WILLIAMS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
Sale Date: 04/19/2017  
Writ of Execution: 12/19/2016  
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the Union County Administration Building, 1st Floor, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabethtown, 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: \*\*\*Nine Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Two and 41/100\*\*\* \$965,762.41  
The property to be sold is located in the TOWN of WESTFIELD, County of Union and State of New Jersey.  
Commonly known as: 226 EDGEWOOD AVENUE, WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07090.  
Tax Lot No. 30 in Block No. 808.  
Dimension of Lot Approximately: 50 x 246.  
Nearest Cross Street: CLARK STREET.  
BEGINNING at a point on the Northwesternly sideline of Edgewood Avenue distant 300.00 feet Southwesterly along said line of Edgewood Avenue from its intersection with the Southwestly sideline of Clark Street, said beginning point being also the Easterly corner of Lot 16 as shown on above-referenced Filed Map and running; thence

**PRIOR LIENS/ENCUMBRANCES**  
TOTAL AS OF January 19, 2017: \$2.00  
Total Upset: \*\*\*One Million Nine Hundred Eighty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Four and 99/100\*\*\* \$1,009,875.21 together with lawful interest and costs.  
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.  
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Joseph Cryan  
Sheriff

Attorney:  
FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC  
7 CENTURY DRIVE  
SUITE 200  
PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054  
(973) 538-4700  
4 T - 03/23, 03/30, 04/06  
& 04/13/17  
Fee: \$187.68

## Janet Sonntag, 88, Had Been Social Worker and Realtor

Janet Sonntag (Hoos), 88, of Westfield passed away on Saturday, April 8, 2017.

Mrs. Sonntag worked as a Social Work Supervisor for the Union County Board of Social Services, School Social Worker and a realtor with Century 21 Taylor and Love in Westfield.

Mrs. Sonntag received a bachelor's degree from the University of Mary Washington in Virginia and a master's degree in social work from Kean University. She was a member of the New Jersey Education Association. Mrs. Sonntag was a 45-year resident of Westfield.

She was predeceased in 2006 by her husband, George W. Sonntag, Jr. Mrs. Sonntag is survived by her daughter, Susan Weiss, and her husband, Matthew, of Union; her son, George W. Sonntag, III of North Plainfield, and her grandson, George Sonntag, IV.

The funeral service was held on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, at Higgins and Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home, 582 Springfield Avenue, Westfield; www.higginsandbonner.com. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

April 13, 2017

## Rose Marie Pearson, 88, Local Realtor; Enjoyed Family, Friends, Volunteering

Rose Marie Pearson (née Fischer), 88, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, surrounded by her loving family.

Rose Marie was born on August 11, 1928, the daughter of Lawrence and Centa Fischer.

Mrs. Pearson was a longtime resident of Westfield and was a realtor associated with Coldwell Banker in town for many years. She was a volunteer for Children's Specialized Hospital and the Center for Hope Hospice. She also was a longtime parishioner of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield and Sacred Heart in Bay Head, and enjoyed being a Girl Scout and Boy Scout leader. Rose Marie enjoyed spending time with family and friends at her summer home in Point Pleasant and also enjoyed playing tennis and Bridge, traveling, cooking and entertaining.

She is predeceased by her husband, Robert, and is survived by her son, Gary Pearson, and her daughter, Gail Dietz. She also will be deeply missed by her grandchildren, JJ and his wife, Amanda, Jeffrey, Brandon and Ashley, and her great-granddaughter, Piper.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Saturday, April 8, at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, followed by interment at Saint Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia.

Arrangements were by the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue, Westfield.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

April 13, 2017

### Ellen S. Sorger, 75

Ellen S. Sorger, 75, passed away on Monday, April 10, 2017, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Beloved wife of Dr. James Sorger, she also was the devoted mother of Dr. Joel (Dr. Kathy) Sorger and Jill (David) Molee; loving grandmother of Jacob, David and Michael Sorger, Nicole, Julia and Matthew Molee, and dear sister of Linda Moss.

Memorial services will be held today, Thursday, April 13, at 11 a.m., at the Weil Funeral Home, 8350 Cornell Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45249.

Memorial contributions to the Arthritis Foundation would be appreciated.

April 13, 2017

## Westfield UNICO to Hold Italian Heritage Event

WESTFIELD — The Westfield chapter of UNICO National invites residents to attend its "Rediscover Your Italian Heritage" event on Sunday, April 30, in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, located at 425 East Broad Street, Westfield.

Participants will have the opportunity to celebrate the culture, traditions and history of Italian-Americans in a fun and festive atmosphere that will include food tastings, demonstrations, a fun Italian lesson, entertainment and cultural information.

Homemade Italian specialties will be available for sampling after which some Italian desserts will be served while attendees enjoy an entertaining heritage and culture program. There will be a special exhibit called "Treasures From Home," a display of mementos and collectibles from Italy that were brought to America by ancestors of UNICO members.

Westfield UNICO is a local chapter of UNICO National, the largest Italian-American service and charitable organization in America with more than 120 local chapters in 22 states. Founded in 1922, UNICO National is dedicated to promoting and defending Italian heritage

while supporting charitable causes such as cancer research, Cooley's anemia, mental health, granting scholarships to deserving young people and many other causes, locally and nationally.

New members are always welcome and membership applications will be available at the event.

There is no cost to attend this Italian heritage program, but reservations are required and attendance is limited. The reservation deadline is Tuesday, April 25. For reservations or information, call Sandra at (908) 277-6098 or e-mail sgiordano835@gmail.com.

### Blood Drive to Be Held on April 27

CLARK — New Jersey Blood Services will host a Community Blood Drive on Thursday, April 27, between 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. It will take place at the Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad, located at 875 Raritan Road, Clark. To make an appointment, visit tinyurl.com/ClarkBloodDrives or call 1-(800) 933-2566. Walk-ins also will be welcome.

## ADS PLACED IN THE LEADER/TIMES BRING RESULTS

**SHERIFF'S SALE**  
**SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-17000911**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY**  
**CHANCERY DIVISION**  
**UNION COUNTY**  
**DOCKET NO. F-002219-16**  
Plaintiff: NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANK, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO PENN FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK  
VS.  
Defendant: BARNABAS VERES, THERESA VERES, AND THE TOWN OF NEW JERSEY  
Sale Date: 05/03/2017  
Writ of Execution: 01/05/2017  
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the Union County Administration Building, 1st Floor, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabethtown, 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: \*\*\*One Million Three Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-One and 26/100\*\*\* \$1,365,821.26  
All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Westfield, County of Union and State of New Jersey:  
Street: 280 Canterbury Road, Westfield, New Jersey.

Nearest Cross Street: Winyah Avenue East.  
Tax Lot and Block No.: Lot 1, Block 2203.  
Dimensions (approximately): 77.20 x 131.92 x 93.00 x 141.56 feet.  
As the above description does not constitute a full legal description, said full legal description is annexed to that certain mortgage recorded in the Office of the Union County Clerk/Register on June 12, 2006 in Mortgage Book 11726, Page 53, et seq., and the Writ of Execution on file with the Sheriff of Union County.  
Total Upset: \*\*\*One Million Four Hundred Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Six and 03/100\*\*\* \$1,400,136.03 together with lawful interest and costs.  
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

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

Attorney:  
SHERMAN WELLS SYLVESTER & STAMELMAN LLP  
210 PARK AVENUE  
2ND FLOOR  
FLORHAM PARK NEW JERSEY 07932  
(973) 307-9700  
4 T - 04/06, 04/13, 04/20  
& 04/27/17  
Fee: \$181.56

Attorney:  
PLUESE, BECKER & SALTZMAN, LLC  
20000 HORIZON WAY  
SUITE 900  
MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054  
(856) 813-1700  
4 T - 04/06, 04/13, 04/20  
& 04/27/17  
Fee: \$169.32

Attorney:  
POWERS KIRN - COUNSELORS  
728 MARINE HWY  
SUITE 200  
MOORESTOWN NEW JERSEY 08057  
(856) 802-1000  
4 T - 03/23, 03/30, 04/06  
& 04/13/17  
Fee: \$193.80

Attorney:  
MILSTEAD & ASSOCIATES, LLC  
EAST STOKES ROAD  
MARLTON, NEW JERSEY 08053  
(856) 482-1400  
4 T - 03/30, 04/06, 04/13  
& 04/20/17  
Fee: \$185.64



Westfield High School announces the second marking period honor roll for the 2016-2017 school year. Westfield High School recognizes student achievement every marking period at two levels: Honor Roll and Distinguished Honor Roll. Determination of inclusion is based on the following criteria: For the Distinguished Honor Roll, the GPA must be between 3.75 and 4.0 with no grade lower than a B. For the Honor Roll, the GPA must be between 3.5 and 3.74 with no grade lower than a B.

**Distinguished Honor Roll**

**Grade 9**

Karen Abaya, Kaleb Amarante, Ethan Ament, Ashley Amman, Daniel Andrade, Christina Arida, Matthew Arndt, Majeed Assadi, Adam Attia, Kathryn Bartlett, Olivia Bergman, Katherine Billing, Ryan Billings, Chelsea Birkel, Morgan Boll, Eva Boyes, David Broughton, Madison Bryant, Carly Burke, Anthony Butera, Sydney Butler, Anna Cagnassola, Logan Calder, Julia Campbell, Sofia Carayannopoulos, Annabella Cerria, Eliana Cestero, Valerie Chang, Helen Chinn, Thomas Chirichella, Gabrielle Cho, Alethea Cladis, Gregory Claiborne, Madeline Cohen, Charles Compton, Benjamin Conrod, Julia Csorba, Jason Currie, John Czarniecki, Thomas Davis, Julia DeAlmeida, Gabrielle DeCotiis, Jillian DeDomenico, Clea Dewuynck, Tyler Devitt, Caroline Dwyer, Andrew Echausse, Eric Ellner, Lainie Engelke, Emily Ensslin, Samuel Ertman, Mark Falletta, Ava Feldman, Zachary Fischer, Anastasia Fowler, Colin Freer, Grace Friedberg, Abigail Frontero, Julia Gagliardi, Caroline Gallagher, William Gamba, Lauren Gaudin, Georgia Geoghan, Christopher Giglio, Jonathan Givelber, Emily Greenzang, Jonathan Grossman, Ian Gurland, Alexis Hammer, Daniel Hipschman, Luke Hoerle, Maya Hooey, Brad Hornbeck, Julia Horne, Kurt Hu, Leonie Humig, Kathryn Humphrey, Grace Hutchinson, Uzezi Ijoma, Emily Isaacman, Abigail Jarecki, Luke Jayroe, Angelina John, Andrew Kapadia, Benjamin Kaplan, Madeline Katz, William Kessler, Aidan Kilbourn, Oleksandr Korotkyi, Jeremy Kronheimer, Marcelina Krowinska, Mitra Kumarasamy, Jacqueline LaMastra, Jillian Lacont, Kaitlin Laskaris, Jason Lee, Tia Lemberg, Diana Li, Alison Lisanti, Jessica Lisanti, William Litcholt, Connie Liu, Theresa Lizzo, William Loggia, Thomas Lupicki, Michael Magnotti, Jack Maranz, Rachel Markowitz, Sofia Martinez, Christina Martini, Nicholas Martini, Katherine Martinson, Alexander Maurillo, Erin McAndrew, Madelyn McDevitt, Abigail McKinney, Greta McLaughlin, Talia McRoberts, Henry Meiselman, Stephanie Michael, Catharine Miller, Matthew Morgan, Lydia Nisita, Emily O'Connell, Dillon O'Connor, Anna Ohsargent, Lauren Oligino, Amanda Paden, Dustin Paden, Jason Paden, Roberto Panora, Stephen Park, Ava Paul, Adam Perez, Sandrine Perez, Daniel Petersen, Leanna Prip, Trey Rabinowitz, Megan Raftery, Zachary Rever, Libby Richardson, Halle Riordan, Madeline Ripper, Morgan Rollins, Nicholas Romeo, Elizabeth Rosenberg, John Rosenberg, Emma Roth, Olivia Roth, Spencer Rothfleisch, Sintra Rumpeters, Nicholas Russo, Anna Saber, Sara Saber, Grace Sacco, Franco Saglio, Elisa Saint-Denis, Emma Sarrazin-Boespflug, Justin Sawina, Rachel Saxon, Giavanna Schifando, Jessica Schlewitz, Regan Schultz, Adam Schwartz, Joshua Schwartz, Celeste Scott, Rachel Seigerman, Remi Shendell, Carly Sherman, Lindsay Sherman, Samantha Shih, Alexandra Sica, Jeremy Silber, Giovanna Silva, Sarah Simon, Julia Singer, Eden Siskind, Sloane Slusher, Elijah Soh, Alan Solovey, Madeline Stack, Tara Sullivan, William Surks, Hasumi Tanemori, Jakob Tannenbaum, Max Tennant, John Tilyou, Julia Tompkins, Katherine Troutman, Demi Tsavokou, Sumana Turimella, Tristan Waddell, Brooke Walden, Nicholas Walsweer, Angela Wang, Poetica Wang, Sophia Wayner, Brianna Weber, Alex Weinberg, Jakob White, Brianna Worms, Kevin Yucetepe, Ryan Zadrozny, Etan Zeller Maclean, Abbey Zidel

**Distinguished Honor Roll**

**Grade 10**

Dylan Alfano, Caitlin Amman, Ireland Applegarth, Kathryn Armstrong, Julianne Aronson, Joshua Ballecer, Caitlyn Basile, Fernando Bejar Aguilera, Megan Bertsch, Maria Biegler, Danielle Bonelli, Nicole Boutsikaris, Rachel Bowman, Thomas Brennan, Alison Brown, Kayla Butera, Matthew Caffero, Aaron Camacho, Andrew Caminiti,

Michael Carlone, Aiden Cascio, Katherine Ceraso, Austin Chen, Nicholas Chermak, Charlotte Clausen, Casey Cohen, Avery Conrad, Madeline Covington, Celine Crenshaw, Julie Dannevig, Theo Dardia, Daniella Deis, Sydney Dobson, Liam Dougherty, Emma Downer, Mackenzie Dulski, Morgan Eng, Jeremy Enslin, Allison Escaldi, Gabriella Estrada, Carley Farella, Sebastian Ferrero, Corinne Flaherty, Sean Flynn, Amy Forbes, Anne Friel, Charlotte Geary, Fiona Gillen, Drew Glassman, Jared Greenspan, Lauren Greenspan, Grace Gruters, Rachel Hamelburg, Emma Hamilton, Alana Hammond, Megan Hanlon, Sydney Harding, Brianna Hatch, Sophie Hendricks, Corinne Herz, Brian Hinkel, Julia Hollosi, Adam Holtzman, Greta Horn, Elisha Israel, Michelle Israel, Ethan Jaffee, Hannah Jepsen, Meghan Johnson, Justin Joseph, Dorothy Kaplan, Jesse Katz, Margaret Kelly, Meghan Kobrin, Marie Koglin, Christian Kreuzer, Emma Krueger, Sarah Laide, Celia Lanza, Amanda Latowsky, Erica Lawrence, Amanda Lee, Jasper Lemberg, Matthew Leone, Yan Leyzerovych, Kevin Li, Lauren Logozzo, Kamryn Lombardi, Ava Maurillo, Lillian Maz, James McCutcheon, Erin McDonald, Timothy McGann, Thomas McGuire, Mary McHugh, Matthew McIntyre, Devon McLane, Alyssa Milrod, Luke Mizus, Sophia Morales, Kate Murphy, Megan Neiswenter, Natalie Nolan, Jackson O'Brien, Matthew Paden, Alexander Park, James Peretz, Mikayla Pinto, Julia Plawker, Paige Radice, Emily Reddy, Roseline Reyes, Madeline Reynders, Julia Rickert, Abigail Riordan, Kendall Robertson, Julia Romano, Sean Root, Julia Rubel, Gabriella Russitano, Julia Sackett, Julia Salvato, Jack Sharkey, Jai Sharma, Mary Joy Sidhom, Sarah Silva, Jacob Singman, Brady Smith, Alexandra Spiezo, Caroline Steiner, Savannah Stewart, Ashlen Suen, Brooke Sullivan, Lauren Sullivan, Amanda Szaro, Tomas Taaffe, Keeley Thompson, Sofia Toggia, Lauren Triarsi, Ainhua Urech-Aricha, Ethan Useloff, Taylor Venturino, Brian Vergilis, Daniella Vollaro, Bridget Warren, Emily Wistner, Edward King, Larry Yu, Allison Zager, Hanna Zakharenko, Andrew Zanfagna, Chloe Zimmerman

**Distinguished Honor Roll**

**Grade 11**

Melanie Agne, Jason Alvarez, Yara Assadi, Yallen Bai, Rutger Barraza, Lee Beauchamp, Charles Billek, Natalie Bond, Nicholas Bond, Alexandra Borg, Daniel Bracco, Hannah Brogan, Tess Brown, Eric Brunt, Julia Buoscio, Jack Butera, Joshua Camacho, Liam Campanile, Alexander Campbell, Michael Canabarro, Olivia Carnevale, Matthew Cetlin, Ryan Chirichella, Katherine Clark, Andrew Cohen, William Collum, Eve Crandall, Marie Ann Cuenca, Shannon Cutinello, Tamara Daligaur, Madeline Davis, Jacob Dayon, Andrew Dazzo, John Devanney, Steven DiMaria, Theodore Diamantopoulos, Nicole Dispenza, Jack Dobosiewicz, Matthew Doyle, Paige Dumont, Lucy Earl, Andrew Eliades, Shea Elliott, Katharine Encinas, Noah Ensslin, Emma Escaldi, William Evans, Matthew Feinberg, Isabelle Feinstein, Alex Fonseca, Sarah Fox, Lindsay Freidenrich, Julia Friss, James Fritz, Jessica Fritz, Samantha Fritz, Maria Garabete, Lindsey Garnhart, Fiona Gillespie, Inna Gorelik, Alexandra Gulla, Annie Harrington, Olivia Harrison, Tyler Hoffmann, Caitlin Hogge, Stephanie Hoodja, Ally Hornstein, Tani Horton, Yenteen Hu, Luke Hunziker, Aryeh Iosif, Emma Jackler, Justin Kelly, Humaira Khan, Ryan Kirby, Eric Krauss, Emma Koznecki, Kylvinn Kraemer, Julia Kuhn, Abigail Lafemina, Samuel Lamchek, Daria Lara-Rodriguez, Jake Lerie, Emma Levitt, Marisa Li, Jordan Lipkind, Elena Lisci, Jason Little, Madelyn Love, William Magnanini, Keira Mangam, Ethan Manning, Nadia Matin, Allison Mattessich, Hannah Mayer, Julian Mazzola, Timothy McAuliffe, Emilia McCormack, Olivia McElheny, Madison McKenna, Mia Melao, Joshua Mendelson, Matthew Meusel, Laura Meyer, Matthew Mineo, Benjamin Mizrach, Olivia Mueller, Asia Muselli, Haley Mykytka, Juliette Naeveke, Kayla Neal, Henry Ohlig, Thomas Omberg, Drew Ortiz, Michael Pagliarlunga, Ryan Palmer, Sydney Paoletti, Gianna Parsekian, Madison Pena, Samuel Pitnitsky, Katherine Pink, Alex Pinkowski, Alexandra Piscitelli, Ryan Qin, William Rackear, Brendan Riccardi, Kayla Rinn, Tomas Rios, Julia Robb, Fiona Rodger, Christine Rogers, Linzy Rosen, Julia Roth, Ryan Roth,

# HONOR ROLL

## Westfield High School - 2nd Marking Period

Casey Ryan, Molly Ryan, Aman Sachdev, Clara Saint-Denis, David Sampson, Paul Sawina, Harry Schlenger, Payton Schlewitz, Noah Schwartz, Emma Shakal, Lindsey Sharlow, Daniel Shenker, William Sherry, Jessica Shih, John Sickles, Jonathan Silva, Andrew Smith, Mackenzie Smith, Charles Spinardi, Maxine Stone, Timothy Storms, Joshua Stryker, Cole Swingle, Sydney Swingle, Jacob Tananbaum, Rollins Terry, Haley Tomasso, Saranya Turimella, Gianna Tyahla, Jake Vall-Lobera, Adriana Vergara, Christopher Wagner, William Walsweer, Mark Walter, Sarah Ward, Jordan Warner, Steven Warren, Leo Warsh, Eli Weaver, Alex Wendel, Peter Wezyk, Julia Whitman, Joseph Wirtshafter, Tyler Wright, Junlin Yi, Sophia Yodice, Karolina Zboralska

**Distinguished Honor Roll**

**Grade 12**

Nicolina Albano, Alisha Asija, Olivia Aurigemma, Owen Bartok, Emily Beattie, Carly Bechtloff, Taylor Bechtloff, Samuel Bennett, Matthew Bernstein, Evan Binder, Kristen Bonelli, Dana Boretz, Elizabeth Brown-Cordero, Eli Burk, Nicholas Calcagno, Loukas Carayannopoulos, Erica Cheung, Soo Min Chung, Katherine Colleran, Francesca Colucci, Emma Cravo, Stefan Crigler, John Cunningham, Jacob Davis, Nicholas DePinto, Samantha Della Fera, Shannon Devitt, Katherine Driscoll, Joshua Ebel, Jack Edmondson, Melissa Endy, Mark Fico, Spencer Fishman, Katherine Foley, Hannah Frankel, Jordan Gasson, Gabriel Givelber, Jaret Gold, Rebecca Goldberg, Chloe Gordner, Sydney Gordner, Samantha Greenaway, David Greenburg, Lucy Hale, Jack Hall, Olivia Hamilton, Michael Hauge, Steven Heron, Sara Hipschman, Christopher Hoernner, Emily Holtzman, Sophie Hurwitz, Jenna Iorio, Sara Israel, Madelyn Jacobs, Hayley Kasko, Emily Kelly, Olivia Kuzman, John Laide, Rafaela Laitamaki, Evan Latowsky, Catherine Li, Amy Liang, Emmy Liederman, Philip Lizzo, Nicholas Maher, Maximillion Martin, Jesse McBrearty, Cameron McLaughlin, Zachary Model, Griffin Morgan, Lea Moynihan, Christopher Ng, Nicholas Nolan, Benjamin Norton, Kayla Nuzzo, Meagan O'Connell, Emily Oster, Christian Panarese, Charlotte Perez, Emma Pettit, Hannah Prieto, Owen Prybylski, Cindy Qiang, Zoe Rader, Matthew Reed, Noah Reich, Alexis Riley, Danielle Rinaldi, Michael Rodriguez, Connor Root, Henry Sacco, Lexa Samer, John Sanders, Cameron Scalera, Eleanor Scott, Eric Storms, Morgan Sturdevant, Brittney Tiffault, Jacob Triarsi, Kevin Tsui, Olivia Turner, John Tyahla, Elizabeth Villane, Kevin Wang, Katherine Whipple, Parker Yarusi, Nicholas Youssef, Philip Zanfagna, Natalia Zeller MacLean, Eli Zidel

**Honor Roll**

**Grade 9**

Julie Ashare, Shannon Baker, Jack Bowman, Katelyn Bromberg, Shayan Burns, Sierra Byrne, Sean Canavan, Elias Carayannopoulos, Camilo Cardenas-Caceres, Daniel Carminio, Juan Castillo, Rachel Centurion-Rocha, Jack Cioffi, Elise Colannino, Gillian Constantinou, Liam Culkin, Eric Daaleman, Faith Dobosiewicz, Tate Fallon, Aliyah Feinberg, Nicholas Forno, Daniel Fox, Roselyne Garabete, Tyler Habib, Jacob Harnisher, Brendan Harrington, Erin Harris, Alexander Joseph, Gabriella Kaplun, Emma Karp, Abdul-Rahman Kharboutli, Derek Kingsley, Ashley Klein, Mia Kochis, Daniel Kohler, Declan LeWarn, Andrew Li, Anni Liu, Amanda Ludwig, Claudia Millwater, Sophia Mirrione, Grace Anne Morgan, Christopher Mulholland, Luke Pardo, Alexandra Percival, Sophia Powell, Jacob Rock, Benjamin Rosen, Emily Rossi,

Nicholas Rubinetti, Christian Sawina, Joseph Schoen, Rachel Seiden, Nicholas Senyk, Henry Shapiro, Jonathan Sherman, Abigail Sternberg, Maxwell Switlyk, Lillian Talmont, Trevor Tanella, Philip Tepper, Sivaji Turimella, Kaylen Ugalde, Brianna Vaca, Lucille Vanecek, Brian Viscido, Kevin Vricella-Stokes, Alissa Witzel, Emma Wojcik

**Honor Roll**

**Grade 10**

Tahani Ahmed, Jillian Alvarado, Kaela Azzaretto, Jeffrey Bennett, Leah Bremer, Cooper Brennan, Nora Brindle, Julia Burk, Devin Caherly, Jacqueline Callahan, Kyle Campanello, Colby Chen, Ellie Curry, Jaime De Dea, Jillian DeBenedetto, Zoe DelVecchio, Jack DiFilippo, Taylor Dobson, Christopher Duffy, Diana Fitzmaurice, Jack Gerris, Maya Grantz, Rachel Haar, Connor Hach, Sarah Hacker, Elias Hamlin, Daniel Han, Rachel Harvey, Ryan Heffernan, Kyle Henderson, Zachary Hom, Genevieve Howell, Lauren Kamienski, Jacqueline Kurtz, Sofia Lemberg, Ava Luzzi, Joseph Maldonado, Olivia Miedrzynski, Tomas Moore, Leah Norton, Justin O'Boyle, Colleen O'Connor, Ajay Olson, Jarrod Orioli, Karl Peter, Dayne Peterson, Nicole Player, Vaughan Price, Bridget Reinhard, Marshall Roberson, Chloe Root, Anna Rossen, Rachel Rothenberg, Christopher Rule, Jake Sammartino, Bridget Scaglione, Nicole Scheuermann, Sara Shen, Tucker Siegel, Samantha Stravach, Juan Thompson, Nicole Vaz, Justin Venturina, Eliza Weiniger, Rebecca Wolfe, Jeffrey Yang, Zachary Youssef

**Honor Roll**

**Grade 11**

Darien Abaya, Leah Andrews, Georgos Angelides, Abigail Apostolos, Omnia Attia, Harrison Bailey, Christopher Beaulieu, Eric Bebel, Ryan Bebel, Thomas Beck, Ashley Beurer, Cory Billings, Jordan Binkowitz, Michael Birl, Niklas Birse, Grace Blake, Emily Bloomfield, Emily Boll, Stephanie Borr, Kaetlin Boyle, Miya Bradshaw, Matthew Bromberg, Allison Bronander, Chloe Brown, Ryan Burns, Matthew Canabarro, Grace Cash, James Cerria, Jessica Chicola, Nicco Chin, Nicholas Christopher, Jack Cifelli, Julia Clifford, Zachary Composto, Emma Conlon, Colin Daniel, Tanner Devin, Sean Dwyer, McKenna Edmondson, Andrew Ellner, Elizabeth Evans, Robert Fakter, Drew Fasano, Drew Ferriss, Emily Finn, Samantha Forcht, Chelsea Frisch, Greta Frontero, Jack Garceau, Ashley Gigon, Jason Glickstein, Kathryn Gonzalez, Angelina Greco, Evan Gruters, Julia Hinderliter, Kyle Huber, Russell Hughes, Claire Hunter, Bridget Hyland, Jiana Ingrassia, Sara Isser, Andrew Johnson-Milstein, Benjamin Kevelson, Marielle Keville, Mohammad Sa'id Kharboutli, Michael Knapp, Ana Maria Kobori, Tate Kronick, Isabel Lee, Ava Lehavi, David Liang, Shi Ying Lin, Joseph Lotano, Hayley Luerssen, Muriel Maloney, Matthew Manning, Joshua Markowitz, Anna Masciandro, Melina McDevitt, Patrick McIlroy, Sean Melone, Noelle Mesbah, Kayla Miedrzynski, Elizabeth Mooney, Catherine Moore, Peter Morariu, Ophelia Murray, Mark Natiello, Christopher O'Connor, Emily Palumbo, Noah Plotkin, Stuart Pollock, Hailey Priscoe, Spencer Quinn, Allison Rever, Gianna Ricerca, Lucille Ritter, Matthew Rizzi, Fiona Romano, Abby Rothenberg, Damien Ruparel, Jordan Sacher, Joseph San Giacomo, Evan Schaefer, Erica Schoenfeld, Grace Serafin, Lauren Sgro, Matthew Shendell, Leah Sherman, Isabella Silber, Lauren Singer, Luke Spellman, David Sprung, Jonathan Stiles, Caroline Stockwell, Stefan Sujanthakumar, Sean Taylor,



**READING AROUND...**As part of the Read Across America initiative, Tamaques students read over 150,000 minutes, raising more than \$10,000 in the elementary school's 2017 Reading Marathon. The funds will go towards enhancing the school library, towards local charities such as Imagine, and to support a Tamaques 5th grade Girl Scout Troop's project to benefit Children's Specialized Hospital. Principal Duels is pictured with Top Readers from the event, proudly showing the amount raised. Tamaques PTO volunteers Barb Wellnitz, Jennifer Carbone, Jacie Jacobowitz and Cara Lerner chaired the event.

Nathalie Tucker, Juliana Tully, Kayla Tupper, Tessa Verga, Matthew Viscido, Danielle Vo, Julia Vricella-Stokes, Alan Wagner, Sarah Wasserman, Spencer Weigand, Nicholas Weiner, Kimberly Zimmermann

**Honor Roll**

**Grade 12**

Nina Alamen, Benjamin Albert Halevy, Samantha Alfano, Madeleine Armstrong, Daniel Audino, Joelle Ballecer, Cullen Birkel, Kayla Bleich, Jared Bonina, Grace Brindle, Elizabeth Brucia, Sydney Bryant, Kevin Campanello, Joseph Chen, Hsiao-Yi Chiang, Patrick Chirichella, Quinn Clarke-Magrab, Devin Datwani, Matthew DeBenedetto, Amanda DePinto, Christina Di Bella, Marcus DiNardo, Michael Echausse, Nicole Eisenberg, Haley Farella, Lauren Fernandez, Sara Frankel, Michael Gagliardi, Sara Gargiulo,

Caroline Gilman, Brendan Glenn, Emily Greaney, John Heimall, Jack Humiston, Alistair Kapadia, Jacob Kaplan, Benjamin Kelly, Owen Kessler, Max Kleiman-Lynch, Jaime Knapp, Erin Livermore, Jeremy Lu, Philip Martinez, Julia Mazzucco, Lindsay Miller, Isabella Montes, Michael Moriarty, Brianna Muselli, Victoria Napolitano, Coston O'Brien, Matthew Omberg, Andrew Orenberg, Sean Pass, Aidan Paul, Antonio Peer, Katelyn Pelletiere, Elizabeth Penn, Sonya Peregrin, Kevin Reinhard, Samantha Ricci, Charles Rele, Benjamin Salerno, Charlotte Sarkos, Margaret Schantz, Olivia Clarke-Magrab, Devin Datwani, Matthew DeBenedetto, Amanda DePinto, Christina Di Bella, Marcus DiNardo, Michael Echausse, Nicole Eisenberg, Haley Farella, Lauren Fernandez, Sara Frankel, Michael Gagliardi, Sara Gargiulo,

## Susan Naples Is Chosen As Educator of the Year

GARWOOD – Susan M. Naples, a veteran teacher, has been chosen as Garwood's Educator of the Year. She will be honored at the 13th annual Appreciation Dinner sponsored by the Education Foundation of Garwood.

Ms. Naples, who holds a bachelor's degree from Kean University, teaches at various levels, including fifth-grade science and sixth-grade language arts. She has taught in Garwood for more than 20 years.

"Sue Naples puts her heart and soul into teaching," said Teresa Quigley, the borough's superintendent of schools.

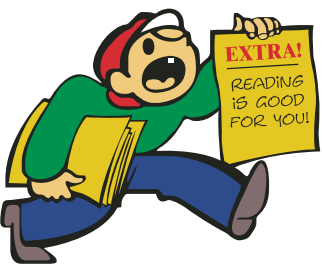
Ms. Naples has lived in the borough for 34 years, and both of her children – Emily, a licensed optician, and Jeremy, an apprentice electrician – attended Garwood schools. The dinner, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, at the Westwood, 438 North Ave., will include a "tricky tray" auction offering a chance to win a lottery-ticket basket, a movie-themed basket, gift certificates from local businesses and a framed drawing valued at \$150.

Dinner tickets cost \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door. They are available at the Garwood Public Library, 411 Third Ave., or through the foundation president, Sara Todisco

(saramtodisco@gmail.com or (908) 377-7890). Tickets will cover a buffet dinner, beer and wine. Mixed drinks will be available at a cash bar.

More than 100 people attended last year's Appreciation Dinner, which raised more than \$4,000 for the foundation, a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization. It was founded in 2004 to work with the Garwood School District "in pursuit of educational excellence." It provides scholarships to graduating eighth-grade and high school students and grants to Garwood teachers in support of enrichment projects.

### Subscribe or Renew Online!



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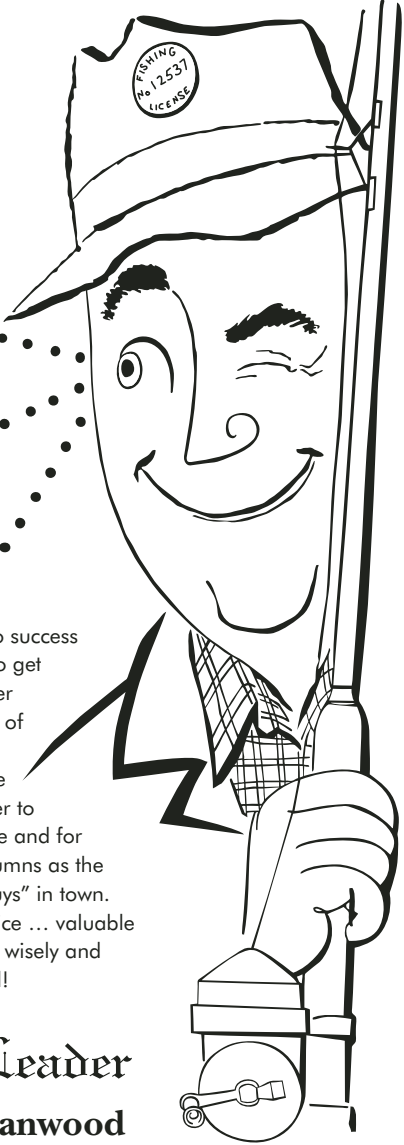
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CASAZZA CRACKS WALKOFF 2-RUN DOUBLE FOR WIN

Cougars Plate 2 in 7th; Shock GL Highlander Softballers, 2-1

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

Zeros cluttered the scoreboard for six full innings due to the effective pitching performances of Governor Livingston senior Alanna Namit and Cougar junior Brenna Dolan in a high school showdown between a pair of 2-0 teams at Adams Field in

Cranford on April 7. Heroics were needed at the plate and both teams responded positively when the Highlanders scored once in the top of the seventh but senior Liz Casazza stepped to the plate with two outs and runners on second and third in the bottom of the inning and rapped a double over leftfielder Madison

Phillips' head to give the Cougars a stunning 2-1 victory.

"When I was running through the bases, I thought, 'Oh my God! Did she catch it?' I saw it behind her and I was really excited. I started jumping and I said to my coach [Heather Wolf], 'is that the game? She said 'yes' and I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



SOARING INTO THIRD...Cougar Jayna Mallon soars into third base in the seventh inning and eventually scores the tying run against Governor Livingston. The Cougars defeated the Highlanders, 2-1, at Adams Field in Cranford on April 7.



DIVING HOME FOR THE SCORE...Blue Devil Chris Wagner dives home for the score as Cougar catcher Patrick Connelly awaits the throw at Bob Brewster, Sr. Field in Westfield on April 8. The Blue Devils won 9-3.

CRUZ HRs; SCANLON Ks 6, WALKS 0; 'OBO' 2B, 1B, RUN

Blue Devils' Bats Deliver 9-3 Victory Over Cranford Nine

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

Pitching did not work out well for the visiting Cranford Cougars but the Westfield High School baseball team received a fine pitching performance from senior Connor Scanlon, along with an offensive onslaught that led to a 9-3 Blue Devil victory on April 8. The 1-1 Blue Devils tagged Cougar pitchers Vince Genova, Chris Librera

and Kevin Donovan for 12 hits, which included a pair of doubles and a home run.

"It starts with pitching and if we are going to have any success, it's going to have to be on the mound," Cougar Head Coach Dennis McCaffery stressed during a preseason interview (March 30 issue).

"You definitely got to get on the mound and throw strikes. You got to

make all the plays in the field," Cougar senior Brian Oblachinski said.

"We have a lot of good pitchers that are interchangeable as starters or relievers. As long as we get the ball over the plate, we will be successful," senior Ryan Bakie said.

Scanlon held the Cougars scoreless for the first three innings before yielding two runs in the fourth and one in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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SWIPING SECOND BASE...Blue Devil Alex Pancini swipes second base in the third inning as Cougar second baseman Mike Meola gets the throw and shortstop Brian Oblachinski backs him up.

## Blue Devil Bats Deliver 9-3 Win Over Cougars

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

the fifth. Scanlon pitched six complete innings and recorded six strikeouts, while walking none and allowing eight hits.

"I felt great out there. People were making plays behind me and I had confidence in our order to get some runs to help me secure the 'W,'" Scanlon said.

"The thing about him, last week he threw in a scrimmage and threw 35 pitches in one inning. Today it took him four innings to get to 35 pitches because his control was right where he wanted it," Blue Devil Head Coach Bob Brewster pointed out.

Tyler Hoffman tossed the seventh inning and struck out one batter and allowed just a double to Bakie.

"I definitely am not hitting the way I would like to but it's only the first two games in. Coach 'Mac' always says the way to win a high school baseball game is first pitching, second defense, third hitting. As long as we figure out hitting, I think we will be successful for the rest of the season," Bakie said

The two-run home run and one of the doubles came off the bat of senior Victor Cruz, who finished 2-for-4 with two RBI and two runs scored. Cruz doubled in the first inning and scored off Owen Kessler's looping single into shallow right field. His two-run homer sparked a three-run third inning that gave the Blue Devils a 4-0 lead. With Alex Pancini (1-for-3) on base with a walk, Cruz tagged Genova's pitch and plopped it over the leftfield fence. Chris Wagner (2-for-3, 2 runs) followed with a single, Kessler took a fastball on the foot, Jake Vall-Llobera (1-for-3, 2 runs, RBI) chopped an infield single to load the bases then Wagner scored on Jake Lerie's RBI ground out.

"I was a little passive. I haven't seen that pitcher so I actually took the first two strikes on both counts. Both were 0-2 and he threw me a curveball right down the middle. It was a mistake on his part and I took advantage," Cruz explained.

"Victor is one of our fellow captains. For him to get the power going will be huge for us," Scanlon said.

The Cougars' two-run fourth inning began with a leadoff double by Oblachinski (2-for-4, RBI, run), Patrick Connelly (2-for-4, RBI, run) curled a single over third. James Shriner (2-for-3, double) ricocheted an RBI single off Scanlon. Connelly scored the second run when Tom Armstrong's grounder slipped between the second baseman's legs.

"He threw two inside fastballs on both my hits. I pulled them to leftfield. One was in the air. One was on the ground but he [Scanlon] did a great job on the mound," Oblachinski said.

In the Westfield fourth, James Friel slashed a single over first, advanced to second on Steve Barden's sacrifice bunt and dashed to third on Pancini's slow single by short. Friel then scored on Libera's balk. First baseman Armstrong got the third out with a sliding catch in the mud in foul territory.

In the Cranford fifth, Jim Wozniak tapped a one-out single then was forced out at second on Bakie's grounder to first. Bakie sprinted to third on Oblachinski's hit-and-run single then Connelly lined an RBI

### Bulldogs Rip Raiders In Softball, 10-4

The Jonathan Dayton High School softball team scored all of its runs in the first three innings to defeat Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 10-4, in Springfield on April 8. Dayton's Holly Wilson was quite a wrecking crew, going 3-for-4 with six RBI and three runs scored. Maggie Phillips had three hits, an RBI and two runs scored and Marina Kwinta singled, doubled and scored twice.

Jess O'Neil had a double, a single, and RBI and a runs scored for the Raiders. Hannah Lyman tripled and scored once. Zoe Cardenas singled and scored twice. Casey Ferguson and Michaela Sullivan each singled, walked and scored once.

Sc Pl-Fanwood	000	310	0	4
Dayton	325	000	x	10

single to center.

Westfield answered with two runs. Vall-Llobera walked, Lerie (2-for-4, run, 2 RBI) singled and Matt LaCorte (2-for-3) put down a bunt single, loading the bases. Friel launched an RBI sac fly then Lerie scored on a wild pitch. Barden stepped up and was instructed to attempt a squeeze bunt with two strikes but it rolled foul for an out.

"That's just Brewster. He's always trying whatever way to get in runs whether it be timely hits or playing small ball to try to get the win anyway," Cruz said.

"I tried it. Stevie is a very good bunter but the kid threw a nasty curveball to the left-hand batter's box. At least he got his bat on the ball and that's OK. It allowed everybody to know that we will hunt at any time. We got that one the fifth inning, beau-

tiful bunt by Matty LaCorte. Got a bases loaded and started a big rally for us," Coach Brewster said. "We did a lot of little things well."

In the sixth, Wagner singled. Later Vall-Llobera's everybody-safe fielder's choice allowed Wagner to dance home. Vall-Llobera scored on Lerie's long double to center.

"Last year we started 0-3. This year we got a win in our second game, which is a big confidence boost. We have a deep pitching rotation and a great lineup, so we are excited for the rest of the year," Scanlon said.

"We definitely got to hit better. We had some times where we had a man on second, no outs and Westfield had three straight strikeouts in a row, which kind of kills it," Oblachinski said. "We will be alright!"

Cranford	000	210	0	0
Westfield	103	122	x	9

## FOX 3 RBI; YAREM 3-FOR-3, 4 RUNS; CANAVAN 3 HITS

By ALEX LOWE

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

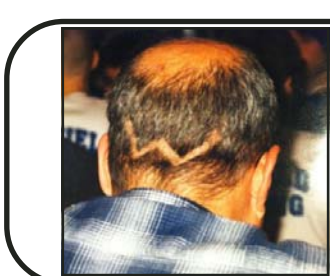
The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School baseball team rapped out 14 hits on the way to a 13-2 victory over Elizabeth at Williams Field in Elizabeth on April 8. Originally scheduled in Scotch Plains, the game was moved as a result of the heavy rain, which left the Raider field too damp for play. Matt Fox drove in three runs and scored a run, while teammate Ryan Yawger had two RBI to pace the Raider attack.

The 2-0 Raiders demonstrated a balanced and potent hitting attack, gritty pitching and some outstanding defensive efforts, particularly by

prises me in practice with his speed and ability to get to the ball. He has also done a really nice job with the bat. Those plays he made in the field today were fantastic."

The Raiders scored two runs in the top of the first inning compliments of Fox. The Raiders added two more in the second. Sam Schetelich laced a leadoff double down the leftfield line, moved to third on a balk then scored on Patrick Downey's grounder to short. Canavan, who had three hits, then beat out an infield single and stole second base. Peter Warren singled into center, scoring Canavan.

After Elizabeth cut the deficit to 4-



It's the circle of life. (Or at least it's my personal circle of life).

The new year opens in September with WHS football season. Then it's WHS swim season, with the warm smell of chlorine getting me through the winter. And the year ends in late May/early June with WHS baseball season. For sure, there are other sports, but that's we've rolled for over a half-century.

So now it's the spring ... WHS baseball ... and rain. While the Blue Devils regularly produce 20-plus victory seasons – four of the last six years and 12 times during coach Bob Brewster's 34-year career – they are still chasing that elusive first state championship trophy. Could this be the year?

Brewster has been WHS's varsity baseball coach since 1983. He was also an all-county catcher at WHS and proudly notes that he's seen all of WHS's 14 county baseball championships, either as a fan, player, assistant coach or head coach. He started coaching football and baseball at WHS in 1974-75 and served eight years as the junior varsity baseball coach under Pete Lima.

"Brew' brought a 594-299-3 baseball coaching won-lost record into this season – and should have another nice team this spring, so victory No. 600 should come soon. And if you've got some time, he can tell you about every one of those 896 games, including the three ties – 4-4 vs. Irvington in 1987, 7-7 vs. SPF in 1997, and 3-3 vs. Clifton in 2002.

Of course, Brewster is far too wise to ever attempt picking a team of his best-ever players. Why risk ticking off dozens of his former ex-standouts? The Devil's Den, of course, has never been accused of being too wise, or of ducking an argument-fueled controversy.

So ... here is my unauthorized all-Brew Crew, my personal 34 favorite players of the past 34 seasons (with this starting lineup):

Brew Crew lineup: Lamont Turner ss, Brian Ciemniecki cf, Mike Murray dh, A.J. Murray c, Clint Factor lf, Evan

## Devil's Den It's Never Too Early To Talk WHS Baseball

By BRUCE JOHNSON

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Shapiro 3b, Jay Cook rf, Dan Kerr 1b, Mike Diaz 2b.

RHP: Kris Williams, Chris Jenkins, Chris Vogel

LHP: Kevin Stock, Chuck Mueller, Brad DeMartino

Bench (alphabetically): Jorge Amorim, Mike Androconis, Brian Butts, Stephen Cheek, Dave Duels, Brian Flynn, John Fox, Billy Hearon, Chris Infantino, Mike Ionta, Drew Keehn, Bob Meyer, Justin Olsen, James O'Rourke, Anthony Perconte, Brett Picaro, Tom Ricciuti, Chris Rinaldi, Mike Varano.

Now let's pick a pre-Brew Crew team from the previous 34 seasons,

Brew Crew, I came across some old articles and box scores from 1964 about coach Ron Gutek's unbeaten Roosevelt Junior High baseball team.

The lineup: Bobby Flynn cf, Jim Ohaus ss-2b, Tom Hood rf, Glenn Whitmore 2b-p, Ed Down 3b, Randy James lf, Dick Storr 1b, Kevin Billet c, Mike Mease p-ss.

Eighth-graders Bob Brewster (catcher) and Steve Gentino (pitcher) also saw action.

Flynn and Ohaus are in the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame, Flynn for baseball and Ohaus mainly for soccer.

Flynn is currently teaching Special Education Resource English IV and Algebra II at Paterson Kennedy High School. But he remembers that team well, noting, "I can still remember hitting the ball into the leftfield street (Tuttle Parkway) on a couple of occasions."

### 50 SUMMERS AGO

Fifty summers ago, Westfield had two entries in the 1967 Tri-County Tournament for 11- and 12-year-olds – the equivalent of the modern-day travel teams. Westfield American was coached by Doug Merrill and Charlie Schroepe. Westfield National was coached by Bob Brewster Sr., Pat Papaccio and Bruce Johnson.

The lineups:

Westfield American: Chris Campbell rf, Paul Pecka cf, Steve Tebbetts 1b, Joe Krakorass, Pete Kraft c, Steve Lee lf, John Hanrahan 3b, Billy Wolfe 2b, Tom Anderson, Bob Jester, Chip Danker p.

Bench: Bob Jennings, Joe Sexton. Westfield National: Monte Turner cf-p, Jeff Davis ss, Mark Jackson 1b, Craig Johnson p-cf, Mark Harbaugh c, Dave Bonnetti 2b, Rob Bixler 3b, Scotty Boone lf-p, Bob Davis rf.

Bench: Tom Betz, Keith Bremer, Paul Crystal, Rick Jennings, Buzzy Turner, Alan Webster.

The umpires were Jasper Fuhrman and Mark Dorne for American with Joe Wheatley and John Schneider for National.

### DID YOU KNOW ...

... that Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame coach John Lay was a three-year star at Montclair High in soccer and baseball, and also lettered in basketball? He played on the Mounties' 1942 Greater Newark Tournament championship team, which beat Irvington 3-2 in the final at Bears Stadium.

... that the *Newark Evening News* picked its first all-state baseball team in 1946, but WHS didn't have an all-stater until Bob Williams was named third-team Group 3 in 1951? Williams was a transfer from Dunellen, who struck out a school-record 19 Plainfield batters in one seven-inning game as a junior. He also hit .362 out of the cleanup spot.

... that the Newark newspapers – *The Evening News* and *The Star-Ledger* – both named their first all-county baseball team in 1948, but WHS didn't have a first-team selection until Bob List in 1955? The 1949 Blue Devils went 14-2 and were awarded the sectional title, but had nobody on first or second team, OR honorable mention. The heart of that lineup included Rudy Stanzel (.304), Sam Mitchell (.333) and Dave Townley (.377).

... that Nino Carnevale made third team Group 3 as a junior in 1954 after hitting .347? Ironically, he didn't make all-state as a senior, when batterymate Bob List was second-team all-Groups? Nino's nephews included future WHS football-baseballers Dave, Jeff and Rod Yacilla.

... that when Jeff Torborg ('59) made the all-county team in 1959, one of fellow first-teamers was Plainfield's Stan Stagaard? Stan became well-known at WHS in the 1980s as the father of WHS athletes Mike, John, Jen and Mine. Also on that 1959 all-county team were the Rahway power trio of Tom Hoagland, Joe Williams and Barry Henderson.

... that Jeff Stember ('76) did not make all-county or all-state, yet pitched in the major leagues for the San Francisco Giants? Wearing uniform No. 50, the 22-year-old was called up from Phoenix to start against the Astros on Aug. 5, 1980, in the Astrodome. He went three innings, allowed two hits and three runs, but only one earned run (a home run by Terry Puhl). With the bases loaded in the top of the fourth, he was taken out for a pinch-hitter ... and never pitched in the big leagues again.

## Blue Devil Netmen Take 2nd At Bryan Bennett Tournament

The Westfield High School boys tennis team got a very good indication of where it stands with the best by placing second at the Bryan Bennett Tournament at Delbarton on April 8-9. The Blue Devils blanked Bridgewater-Raritan (BR), 5-0, and stopped Livingston, 3-2, before being edged by West Windsor-Plainsboro South (WWP), 3-2, for the championship.

Against the BR Panthers, Damien Ruparel won 6-4, 6-0, at first singles. Noah Reich blanked his opponent, 6-0, 6-0, at second singles, as did Owen Bartok at third singles. Ron Faktor and Matt Su won their first doubles match, 6-2, 6-0, while Dave Sprung and Jacob Tananbaum at second doubles won theirs in three sets, 7-6

(7-5), 1-6, 11-9.

Ruparel also won his first singles match against Livingston, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4). Reich added another 6-0, 6-0, shut-out at second singles and Owen Bartok breezed, 6-2, 6-1, at third singles. After winning the first set, 6-2, Faktor and Su dropped their next two sets, 6-3, 10-4, at first doubles. Tananbaum and Jai Sharma lost , 6-2, 6-1, at second doubles.

In the championship match with WWP, Ruparel won his first set, 7-6 (7-3), but lost his next two, 6-4, 6-4. Reich lost 6-3, 6-2, at second singles and Owen Bartok won his third singles match, 6-2, 6-1. Faktor and Su won their first doubles match, 6-0, 6-2, while Sean Pass and Dave Sprung lost at second doubles, 6-3, 7-5.



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

OFF AND RUNNING...Raider leadoff hitter Jake Canavan is off and running in the game against the Elizabeth Minutemen on April 8. The Raiders defeated the Minutemen, 13-2, in six innings at Williams Field in Elizabeth.

centerfielder Jake Canavan. The speedy senior turned in two gems robbing Elizabeth hitters of certain extra base hits. Canavan's first gem came in the bottom of the third inning when Brandon Wreckler launched a deep fly ball towards the centerfield fence, which at Williams Field, is at a distance of 420 feet.

Canavan got on his horse and tracked the ball down about 10 feet short of the fence. Canavan's second theft was even better. With one out in the fifth, Rafeal Vasquez drove Nick McCormack's pitch into the right centerfield gap. Canavan closed quickly on the sinking liner and stretched out to make a fully extended, lunging grab for the out.

"Jake Canavan has been tremendous for us so far," said Raider Head Coach Joe Higgins. "He always sur-

1 with a run in the second. Scotch Plains-Fanwood blew the game open with three in the third without getting a hit. Elizabeth went through three pitchers in the inning combining to issue three walks, two pitches in the dirt and then suffering through a dropped fly ball that scored a run.

Two more Raiders scored in the fourth on a two-run single through the box by Fox to make it 9-1. George Mueller, who had been hit by a pitch and Peter Yarem (3-for-3, 4 runs), who dropped a bloop single into center, scored on the play.

The Raiders got a solid pitching performance from McCormack, who came in early to relieve Dan Wilkinson. McCormack went two and a third innings allowing just one earned run, while giving up one hit on his way to notching the victory.

runs in the sixth inning that eventually led to the game being called on the 10-run rule. Raiders Colin McAlindin and Sam Schetelich each had an RBI and a run scored.

The Raiders forced Elizabeth to utilize six pitchers. Together the Minutemen staff issued six walks to go along with three balks and a couple of passed balls.

"I'd say right now that we are getting strong performances defensively as a team and I'm happy with our base running," said Higgins. "I think we are causing a lot of problems for opponents with our speed on the base paths. As far as the defense goes, we return a veteran group and I would expect that this would help us be more efficient and have better chemistry."

Sc Pl-Fanwood	223	204	13
Elizabeth	010	100	2





CAUGHT IN A DOUBLE RUNDOWN...Raider shortstop Peter Warren puts the tag on Cougar Chris Librera to complete a successful double rundown in the sixth inning. The Cougars scored twice in the seventh to win, 3-2, in Cranford.

GRACEFFO, GEISSEL TOSS GEMS; ‘OBO’ WINNING RBI

Cougars Score 2 in Seventh; Sting Raider Baseballers, 3-2

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

Some luck or, at least, miracles were needed to snap the superb pitching performances of Raider lefty Timmy Geissel and Cougar Gordon Graceffo and both teams got them in a showdown between the Cranford High School baseball team and Scotch Plains-Fanwood at Orange Avenue Field in Cranford on April 10. Trailing 2-1 in the bottom of the seventhinning, pinch runner Vince Genova scored from second when Ryan Bakie’s sharp grounder to short caused a throwing error then Brian Oblachinski hopped an RBI base hit that bounced over the leftfielder’s head to give the Cougars a 3-2 victory.

The very beginning of the game gave a hint of the drama that would play out throughout the game. Raider leadoff hitter Jake Canavan (3-for-4) slapped a triple down the right field line. He then beat the throw home on a fielder’s choice, while Peter Warren

sprinted to first safely. George Mueller tapped a grounder to the second baseman, who missed the tag on Warren, then Peter Yarem lined an RBI single to left-center.

When Matt Fox was hit-by-a-pitch, Graceffo was faced with a bases-loaded situation with no outs and the Raiders leading 2-0. After Cougar Head Coach Dennis McCaffery held his conference at the mound, Graceffo proceeded to strikeout the side. Graceffo would complete the game with eight strikeouts, while yielding six hits and a hit batter.

“He [Coach McCaffery] said bear down and get the guy out,” said Graceffo, who added, “I had no doubt in my guys all game long and they came through.”

Geissel’s early road was not quite as rocky although he did hit a few bumps, especially in the sixth and seventh innings. Geissel finished the game with four strikeouts, while allowing eight hits and two walks.

“Graceffo did a really nice job of settling in. He could have really folded in the first inning and he battled really hard to get out of it. Timmy Geissel I really didn’t think he was going to be in it all the way because he wasn’t sharp early. He got sharp as the game went on. Both pitchers did a tremendous job today,” Raider Head Coach Joe Higgins said.

“He kept us off-balance the entire game. He’s a crafty lefty,” Graceffo said of Geissel.

“Both pitchers did a great job. I think we owe this game to Gordon, holding onto two runs in the first inning. He did a great job on the mound throwing strikes and I am glad he’s on our side,” Bakie said.

Bakie led off the Cougar first with a bunt single but Geissel got the next three batters to ground out to the infield. After three Raiders also grounded out in the second, James Shriner (2-for-3) led off the Cranford second with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



HANGING ON TO SECOND...Highlander Nicole Trezza smothers second base as Cougar shortstop Liz Casazza keeps close in the top of the seventh inning. Trezza scored the sole Highlander run in a 2-1 Cranford victory on April 7.

Cougars Plate 2 in 7th, Shock Highlanders, 2-1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

ran to my teammates,” Casazza said.

The seventh inning sequence began when Highlander Nicole Trezza sizzled a grounder right over third base for a single. After stealing second base, Trezza then scored on Namit’s plopping single into leftfield. Dolan then got Katie Debbie to ground out to second for the third out.

The Cranford seventh began with a walk to Jayna Mallon. Grace O’Brien laid down a bunt in an attempt to advance Mallon to second but the bat hit her when she was out of the box resulting in a dead ball out and no advancement. Namit struck out the next batter and needed just one more out for victory. Julie Lefano had different plans, however, and chopped a single past second.

Casazza stepped to the plate. Namit threw a wild pitch, allowing Mallon and Lefano to advance to third and second, respectively. Casazza fouled off a pitch but then got a good one, slammed it to deep leftfield, bringing home Mallon with the tying run and Lefano with the winning run.

“I was a little nervous because I knew how much pressure was on the play. If I didn’t hit it, we weren’t going to win. I hit the foul and I said I just need to get back in the box, focus and watch the ball in all the way. When the pitch came, I was on it and hit it as hard as I could,” Casazza described.

Pressure was on both Namit and Dolan throughout the game. Namit

finished with eight strikeouts, while allowing four hits and walking four. Dolan walked four, struck out four and yielded four hits.

“Alanna Namit is a senior and I have so much respect for her. I have been watching her since my freshman year. She has been such an inspiration, so it’s an honor to really be able to go against her as an athlete and be able to grow to such a level to really compete with her,” Dolan said.

The other Cranford hits came from Jillian Skalsky (second base) in the first inning and Christina Ilkow (first base) in the second inning. Taylor Reitzel, O’Brien and Lefano drew the other three walks. Jaime Belfer had two singles for the 2-1 Highlanders.

The Highlanders also had major threats in the third and fifth innings and both times the Cougar infield tightened up to prevent any scoring. Both innings the Highlanders had the bases loaded and both times the Cougars wiggled out of harm’s way.

“Bases loaded is a huge deal when the other team has you. We just wanted to get the out. If you shut a team down with the bases loaded, it reduces their confidence. We did that a few times. That was really important for this win,” Casazza said.

The Cougar infield also wanted to make sure that they limited the Highlanders to just one run in the seventh.

“I play short, so I knew I had to lead the infield and make sure with every-

one to make sure we were confident on the next play. We already had two outs. We just needed to get one more out and we had a chance to hit next,” Casazza said.

“We have a group of talented athletes but what coach really works on is our mental game. This season we have been really growing strong with the mental game. I think that’s where we exercised it today with runners on all three bases to get us in a tizzy. We really settled in and got into our element,” Dolan said.

With respect to softball, Dolan has been putting in some overtime in the off-season.

“Over the summer, I was in a national tournament and we won the tournament. We were in the winners’ bracket the whole time. That was amazing and I can like connect it to this feeling. My heart was jumping out of my chest and Liz is such an amazing teammate and we are a close team,” Dolan said.

The victory was also a step up for the Cougars since the Highlanders have been regular contenders for the Union County Tournament title.

“It’s amazing! That’s an awesome and confident way to start out the season. I think we are getting better one day at a time. We are picking each other up. There’s only up from here and we are on our way,” Dolan said.

Gov. Livingston Cranford	000 000 1	1
	000 000 2	2

WF’S CRUZ HRS; GL’S REID HRS, COCCHIA FANS SIX

G.L. Highlanders Trip Up Blue Devils in Baseball, 6-2

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

Sophomore Stephen Reid delivered a two-run homer in the bottom of the third inning to break a scoreless tie and spark Governor Livingston to a 6-2 victory over Westfield in Berkeley Heights on April 10. Highlander starting pitcher Nick Cocchia was in total command, going six and two-thirds innings, striking out six, while scattering eight hits to earn the win. The win moved Governor Livingston, which has outscored opponents 29-4, to 3-0 on the season.

“It all starts on the mound,” said Governor Livingston Head Coach

Chris Roof. “I think we played well in all facets today against a very good team but it helps when you get solid pitching. I’m pleased with the kind of start to the season we are having but we have to forget it because it is over. Now it is time to get ready for Cranford.”

The game was an early season showdown between two teams expected to contend in Union County this season. Early on it was a pitchers’ duel with Cocchia and Westfield starter Cory Hiltz keeping things scoreless through two innings. Hiltz escaped a one-out, bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the second inning by retiring Will

Jennings on a popup to third base then striking out Drew Compton on a high off-speed pitch to end the threat.

Cocchia navigated a one out, first-and-third situation in the third by getting Chris Wagner to hit into a 4-6-3 double play. Reid put an end to the scoreless deadlock when he stepped to the plate and blasted his two-run shot off Hiltz over the leftfield fence in the third inning.

“As soon as I stepped into the box, he threw me the same pitch he had in my first at bat,” said Reid. “He is a consistent thrower. As soon as I made contact with the ball, I knew I had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



GETTING TO THIRD...Highlander Sean Quinn gets to third base before Blue Devil Victor Cruz makes the tag. Governor Livingston defeated Westfield, 6-2, at Berkeley Heights on April 10.

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# Scotch Plains-Fanwood Winter Sports; Some Reminders of the Distant Past

Tom Atkins, SPFHSG Graduate Class of 1967 and Municipal Manager Scotch Plains, 1980 through 2008

The 2016-2017 Winter Sports Season at SPFHHS was remarkable in a number of ways. I must begin by congratulating Raider wrestler Sam Wustefeld on his second place finish in the NJ State Championship Tournament in Atlantic City. Harry Wowchuck, Steve Parker and Rudy Lanza are all very proud of Sam I am sure. Additional comments about Sam, Harry, Steve and Rudy will follow.

It must be mentioned at the start of this article that the Boys and Girls Varsity Swim Teams are always of championship caliber. Since those teams have so much success, we almost take their many victories for granted, which is a shame. It always seems like each and every year the Swim teams excel and rank in the top-10 teams in our State. This is truly a fantastic accomplishment that should not be minimized. And other Raider athletes this winter always put out their best effort for their competitive teams. But this piece will focus on the accomplishments of the Varsity Boys Basketball team and the Wrestling team.

The Varsity Boys Basketball team ended their season with an outstanding record of 22-6. Coach Steve Siracusa and his staff should be highly commended for the vast improvement in the team record from just a year ago. Some experts might argue that the change in competition level helped the team and even if that is true to some degree, 22 wins is still an outstanding accomplishment. And the team was

extremely well balanced with many players contributing to the success.

Coach Siracusa had many players that he had confidence in to produce positive results and he never hesitated to use nine or 10 players consistently each game. And for any Raider basketball team to garner 22 wins in a season is a reason for celebration. I do not believe that any Raider averaged more than 10 points per game but many averaged eight or nine points per game contributing to the high level of team play. Some players deserving recognition individually are Nigel Nelson, Teddy Wilmott, Lamont Cruse, Tommy Drubulis, Jack Brady and Cooper Heisey. All these young men averaged over 5.5 points per game and contributed positively in all respects on the floor. Some are underclassmen who will be returning for the 2017-18 season.

I have followed the Raiders sports scene for decades and I do not recall any team winning 22 games in basketball with the possible exception of the 2008 State Championship team led by All-State player Brian Dougher. My thoughts here will only pertain to Raiders basketball teams of the 1960's and early 1970's as those were the teams I followed or played on while attending SPFHHS.

Was this Raider team as good as some from the very distant past? It is impossible to compare teams from one era to the next. The very first Raider team I remember as a young boy was the 1960 State Sectional Championship team led by Joe Scarpati and Dan Remler, both out-

standing, rugged players. Joe played in the NFL for close to 10 years after graduating from NC State University in Raleigh. The 1963 Raider basketball team led by Rich and Rob Smith and Art Coon was an outstanding team also. The 1965 team where many players excelled were particularly led by Rick Felmeister and Ed Kolakoski. That 1965 team was State Sectional Champ also before losing to an exceptional Bridgewater-Raritan team.

I was Co-Captain of the team in 1967 — we were not necessarily anywhere nearly as good perhaps as the teams mentioned earlier but we won the Watchung Conference Championship in 1967 for the first time in a decade. The 1967 team was fortunate to have Dan Jayson as floor general, who could pass, handle the ball with ease and hit clutch shots. Jim McDede was only a sophomore in 1967 but he was third on the team in scoring and made major contributions at all times. Jim later became the top scorer in the history of SPFHHS but his record has since been broken (as all records should be). And the other Co-Captain of the team with me was Ken Arnesen, one of the most versatile and athletic players that you could ever play with. The 1970 team led by Frank Zelesnik and Randy Hughes achieved great heights also. All of those teams were coached by Chuck Dettmar — a most steady leader.

And now back to our Wrestling team coached by Marc Fabiano, who is a 2004 graduate of SPFHHS. Marc was a fine athlete while at SPFHHS. Wrestling is close to my heart. My son Greg (SPFHHS Class of 94) was a Varsity

wrestler and he currently coaches the SPF PAL Novice team. Two (2) of the wrestlers on the PAL Team are my grandsons Mason and Vinny. Coach Fabiano and his staff led the Varsity team to a record of 19-12 facing very tough competition. And just about all the wrestlers, if not all can return for the 2017-2018 season. I would think that next season would be quite successful on the mats for the Raiders.

Sam Wustefeld placed second overall in the State Tournament, which is most difficult to do. To my memory if Sam had won in the Finals that day, he would have been the first Raider wrestler in exactly 50 years to be crowned State Champion. We wish Sam all the best next year — the road to ultimate victory is a very difficult and rocky one but Sam is up to that challenge.

Back to Harry Wowchuck, Steve Parker and Rudy Lanza — they are the only Raider wrestlers to be crowned State Champs in the history of our school. Harry was State Champ in 1965, Steve in 1966 and Rudy in 1967. SPFHHS had three State Champs in a row from 1965 through 1967 all coached by the legendary Mike Sorrentino. I do not believe we have had one since that time. Harry and Steve wrestled at around the 148 lb. weight class and Rudy was crowned State Champ at the 136 lb. weight class. Rudy was also a three-sport varsity athlete earning letters also in football and baseball.

All SPFHHS Raider wrestling fans look forward to a great season next year. Coach Fabiano will have them ready to go.



SECOND AT 182-LBS...Sam Wustefeld placed second in the NJSIAA Wrestling Tournament at 182-lbs. Pictured, left to right, are: Jesse Martinez, William Harden III, Sam Wustefeld and Head Coach Marc Fabiano.

## SPF Board of Education Recognizes Winter Athletes

On March 30, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education celebrated the accomplishments of student athletes for the memorable season of winter sports. Sam Wustefeld was recognized for emerging as the No. 2 top wrestler in the State of New Jersey. Izu Mozie was recognized for winning the North II Group 3 Sectional Championship for his shot put throw of over 50 feet.

The Varsity Bowling Team had a phenomenal season a 13-4 record completing its season as the North II, Group 3, Finalists, the Union County Conference Watchung Division Champions, and the Union County Champions.

The 33 members of Girls Varsity Swim Team ended their season as the North II, Group B, State Sectional Finalists followed by the 25 members of the Boys Varsity Swim Team winning their third consecutive Sectional Title in the North II, Group B, Sectional Championship meet.

Some of our swimmers competed at the Meet of Champions where they brought home gold, silver and bronze medals. Rachel Maizes qualified for the 100 Breaststroke and she earned a Silver Medal, placing her second in the State of New Jersey.

The Girls Medley Relay Team comprised of senior Stephanie Judge, junior Rachel Maizes, junior Danielle (DeeDee) Maizes and junior Erika Frazier qualified for and defended their prior championship by earning the Gold Medal, placing them first in the State of New Jersey.

Sophomore Josh Cohen qualified for the 500 Freestyle and earned the Bronze Medal, placing him third in the State of New Jersey.

Senior and United States Naval Academy committed recruit, Chris Bondarowicz, qualified for the 100 Breaststroke and completed his high school swimming career by earning the Gold Medal, placing him first in the State of New Jersey.

PUBLIC NOTICE					PUBLIC NOTICE					PUBLIC NOTICE					PUBLIC NOTICE									
BOARD OF EDUCATION CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY 07016																								
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the legal voters of the Cranford Township School District, in the County of Union, of the State of New Jersey, that a Public Hearing will be held in the Board Room at Lincoln School of the Cranford Township Board of Education, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, on Monday April 24, 2017 at 7:00 P.M., for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the following budget for the 2017 - 2018 school year.																								
The complete budget will be on file and open to examination at the office of the Business Administrator, at Lincoln School, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07017, Union County New Jersey between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.																								
The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the Core Curriculum Content Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.																								
Robert J. Carfagno, CPA, RMA, PSA Business Administrator/Board Secretary																								
SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET STATEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018																								
UNION - CRANFORD TWP																								
ADVERTISED ENROLLMENTS																								
ENROLLMENT CATEGORIES					October 15, 2015				October 15, 2016				October 15, 2017											
					Actual				Actual				Estimated											
Pupils On Roll Regular Full-Time					3,245				3,263				3,266											
Pupils On Roll Regular Shared-Time					4				6				6											
Pupils On Roll - Special Full-Time					632				632				632											
Pupils On Roll - Special Shared-Time					9				11				11											
Subtotal - Pupils On Roll					3,890				3,912				3,915											
Private School Placements					18				21				20											
Pupils Sent to Other Districts - Reg Prog					2				0				0											
Pupils Sent to Other Distis - Spec Ed Prog					9				11				11											
Pupils Received					66				63				62											
Pupils in State Facilities					0				2				2											
UNION - CRANFORD TWP																								
ADVERTISED REVENUES																								
Budget Category					Account				2015-16 Actual				2016-17 Revised				2017-18 Anticipated							
Operating Budget:																								
Revenues from Local Sources:																								
Local Tax Levy					10-1210				51,962,474				53,971,870				55,279,312							
Total Tuition					10-1300				3,860,793				3,614,341				3,704,528							
Unrestricted Miscellaneous Revenues					10-1XXX				174,629				139,440				152,429							
Subtotal - Revenues From Local Sources									55,997,896				57,725,651				59,136,269							
Revenues from State Sources:																								
Categorical Transportation Aid					10-3121				71,333				81,969				81,969							
Extraordinary Aid					10-3131				448,480				439,433				439,433							
Categorical Special Education Aid					10-3132				2,013,546				2,016,678				2,016,678							
Equalization Aid					10-3176				91,898				88,682				88,682							
Categorical Security Aid					10-3177				58,908				67,128				67,128							
Parcc Readiness Aid					10-3181				0				37,155				37,155							
Per Pupil Growth Aid					10-3182				0				37,155				37,155							
Professional Learning Community Aid					10-3183				0				36,990				36,990							
Other State Aids					10-3XXX				91,101				0				0							
Subtotal - Revenues From State Sources									2,775,266				2,805,190				2,805,190							
Revenues from Federal Sources:																								
Medicaid Reimbursement					10-4200				0				21,593				23,789							
Subtotal - Revenues From Federal Sources									0				21,593				23,789							
Budgeted Fund Balance - Operating Budget					10-303				0				340,812				662,009							
Adjustment For Prior Year Encumbrances									0				112,308				0							
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures									-618,442				0				0							
Total Operating Budget									58,154,720				61,005,554				62,627,257							
Grants and Entitlements:																								
Other Revenue From Local Sources					20-1XXX				52,944				110,942				27,141							
Total Revenues From Local Sources					20-1XXX				52,944				110,942				27,141							
Revenues from State Sources:																								
Other Restricted Entitlements					20-32XX				138,280				147,435				125,319							
Total Revenues From State Sources									138,280				147,435				125,319							
Revenues from Federal Sources:																								
Title I					20-4411-4416				98,966				98,748				98,748							
Title II					20-4451-4455				67,900				66,534				66,534							
I.D.E.A. Part B (Handicapped)					20-4420-4429				902,563				870,778				870,778							
Other					20-4XXX				0				3,061				0							
Total Revenues From Federal Sources									1,069,429				1,039,121				1,036,060							
Total Grants And Entitlements									1,260,653				1,297,498				1,188,520							
Repayment of Debt:																								
Transfers From Other Funds					40-5200				393,353				0				0							
Revenues from Local Sources:																								
Local Tax Levy					40-1210				462,703				132,770				840,545							
Total Revenues From Local Sources									462,703				132,770				840,545							
Budgeted Fund Balance					40-303				0				1,089,595				393,355							
Total Local Repayment Of Debt									856,056				1,222,365				1,233,900							
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures									349,962				0				0							
Total Repayment Of Debt									1,206,018				1,222,365				1,233,900							
Total Revenues/Sources									60,621,391				63,525,417				65,049,677							
Total Revenues/Sources Net of Transfers									60,621,391				63,525,417				65,049,677							
UNION - CRANFORD TWP																								
ADVERTISED APPROPRIATIONS																								
Budget Category					Account				2015-16 Actual				2016-17 Revised				2017-18 Anticipated							
General Current Expense:																								
Instruction:																								
Regular Programs - Instruction					11-1XX-100-XXX				18,170,250				18,473,577				18,960,200							
Special Education - Instruction					11-2XX-100-XXX				7,323,226				7,259,204				7,474,348							
Basic Skills/Remedial - Instruction					11-230-100-XXX				565,075				561,180				580,455							
Bilingual Education - Instruction					11-240-100-XXX				48,774				50,344				51,130							
School-Spon. Co/Extra Curr. Actvts. - Inst					11-401-100-XXX				340,960				361,381				368,191							
School-Sponsored Athletics - Instruction					11-402-100-XXX				753,543				760,383				769,763							
Summer School					11-422-XXX-XXX				151,714				155,040				140,722							
Community Services Programs/Operations																				11-800-330-XXX	27,014	33,887	29,506	
Support Services:																								
Undistributed Expenditures - Instruction (Tuition)																				11-000-100-XXX	1,666,796	2,337,186	2,405,679	
Undist. Expend.-Attendance And Social Work																				11-000-211-XXX	2,450	2,700	2,700	
Undist. Expenditures - Health Services																				11-000-213-XXX	680,687	684,074	697,973	
Undist. Expend.- Speech, OT, PT And Related Svcs																				11-000-216-XXX	1,067,711	1,147,903	1,176,262	
Undist Expend-Oth Supp Serv Std-Extra Serv																				11-000-217-XXX	1,019,697	1,121,877	1,052,106	
Undist. Expenditures - Guidance																				11-000-218-XXX	767,924	828,114	853,280	
Undist. Expenditures - Child Study Teams																				11-000-219-XXX	1,564,085	1,517,738	1,548,133	
Undist. Expend.-Improv. Of Inst. Serv.																				11-000-221-XXX	1,070,460	1,238,375	1,258,711	
Undist. Expend.-Edu. Media Serv./Library																				11-000-222-XXX	426,305	439,078	443,246	
Undist. Expend.-Instr. Staff Training Serv.																				11-000-223-XXX	164,982	129,913	136,551	
Undist. Expend.-Support Serv.-Gen. Admin.																				11-000-230-XXX	818,168	826,490	847,830	
Undist. Expend.-Support Serv.-School Admin.																				11-000-240-XXX	2,779,115	3,008,104	2,974,896	
Undist. Expend. - Central Services																				11-000-251-XXX	758,989	864,527	833,031	
Undist. Expend. - Admin. Info Technology																				11-000-252-XXX	289,704	300,433	303,595	
Undist. Expend.-Oper. And Maint. Of Plant Serv.																				11-000-26X-XXX	4,597,663	4,845,040	4,872,281	
Undist. Expend.-Student Transportation Serv.																				11-000-270-XXX	1,328,478	1,480,965	1,518,377	
Personal Services - Employee Benefits																				11-XXX-XXX-2XX	11,729,086	12,525,824	13,314,607	
Total Undistributed Expenditures																					30,732,300	33,298,341	34,239,258	
Total General Current Expense																					58,112,856	60,953,337	62,613,573	
Capital Expenditures:																								
Equipment																				12-XXX-XXX-730	28,180	28,369	0	
Facilities Acquisition And Const. Serv.																				12-000-400-XXX	13,684	13,684	13,684	
Total Capital Outlay																					41,864	42,053	13,684	
Transfer Of Funds To Charter Schools																				10-000-100-56X	0	10,164	0	
General Fund Grand Total																					58,154,720	61,005,554	62,627,257	
Special Grants and Entitlements:																								
Local Projects																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	52,944	110,942	27,141	
Other State Projects:																								
Nonpublic Textbooks																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	15,817	14,756	12,543	
Nonpublic Auxiliary Services																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	50,420	52,712	44,805	
Nonpublic Handicapped Services																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	33,322	37,471	31,850	
Nonpublic Nursing Services																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	24,712	23,040	19,584	
Nonpublic Technology Initiative																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	7,084	6,656	5,657	
Nonpublic Security Aid																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	6,925	12,800	10,880	
Total Other State Projects																					138,280	147,435	125,319	
Total State Projects																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	138,280	147,435	125,319	
Federal Projects:																								
Title I																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	98,966	98,748	98,748	
Title II																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	67,900	66,534	66,534	
I.D.E.A. Part B (Handicapped)																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	902,563	870,778	870,778	
Other																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	0	3,061	0	
Total Federal Projects																				20-XXX-XXX-XXX	1,069,429	1,039,121	1,036,060	
Total Special Revenue Funds																					1,260,653	1,297,498	1,188,520	
Repayment of Debt:																								
Total Regular Debt Service																				40-701-510-XXX	1,206,018	1,222,365	1,233,900	
Total Debt Service Funds																					1,206,018	1,222,365	1,233,900	
Total Expenditures/Appropriations																					60,621,391	63,525,417	65,049,677	
Total Expenditures Net of Transfers																					60,621,391	63,525,417	65,049,677	
UNION - CRANFORD TWP																								
ADVERTISED RECAPITULATION OF BALANCES																								
Budget Category					Audited Balance 6/30/2015				Audited Balance 6/30/2016				Estimated Balance 6/30/2017				Estimated Balance 6/30/2018							
Unrestricted:																								
—General Operating Budget					982,615				1,520,697				1,748,216				1,136,662							
—Repayment of Debt					1,832,912				1,482,950				393,355				0							
Restricted for Specific Purposes - General Operating Budget:																								
—Capital Reserve					1				1				1				1							
—Adult Education Programs					0				0				0				0							
—Maintenance Reserve					0				0				0				0							
—Legal Reserve					0				50,455				50,455				0							
—Tuition Reserve					0				0				0				0							
—Current Expense Emergency Reserve					0				0				0				0							
—Impact Aid Reserve for General Expenses (Sections 8002 and 8003)					0				0				0				0							
—Impact Aid Reserve for Capital Expenses (Sections 8007 and 8008)					0				0				0				0							
Repayment of Debt:																								
—Restricted for Repayment of Debt					0				0				0				0							
UNION - CRANFORD TWP																								
ADVERTISED PER PUPIL COST CALCULATIONS																								
Per Pupil Cost Calculations					2014-15 Actual Costs				2015-16 Actual Costs				2016-17 Original Budget				2016-17 Revised Budget				2017-18 Proposed Budget			
Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost					\$13,837				\$14,309				\$14,693				\$14,637				\$15,024			
Total Classroom Instruction					\$8,485				\$8,811				\$9,030				\$8,860				\$9,173			
Classroom-Salaries and Benefits					\$8,174				\$8,490				\$8,661				\$8,503				\$8,833			
Classroom-General Supplies and Textbooks					\$226				\$203				\$203				\$228				\$203			
Classroom-Purchased Services					\$86				\$88				\$166				\$129				\$137			
Total Support Services					\$2,145				\$2,218				\$2,280				\$2,311				\$2,359			
Support Services-Salaries and Benefits					\$1,905				\$1,964				\$2,009				\$2,007				\$2,093			
Total Administrative Costs					\$1,491				\$1,521				\$1,570				\$1,631				\$1,631			
Administration Salaries and Benefits					\$1,312				\$1,340				\$1,381				\$1,439				\$1,445			
Total Operations and Maintenance of Plant					\$1,378				\$1,400				\$1,446				\$1,464				\$1,482			
Operations and Maintenance-Salaries and Benefits					\$857				\$877				\$910				\$914				\$938			
Board Contribution to Food Services					\$0				\$0				\$0				\$0				\$0			
Total Extracurricular Costs					\$322				\$344				\$349				\$352				\$360			
Total Equipment Costs					\$9				\$7				\$7				\$7				\$0			
Legal Costs					\$41				\$51				\$34				\$35				\$35			
Employee Benefits as a percentage of salaries*					29.30%				30.69%				32.36%				32.21%				33.35%			
*Does not include pension and social security paid by the State on-behalf of the district.																								
** Federal and State funds in the blended resource school-based budgets.																								
The information presented in columns 1 through 3 as well as the related descriptions of the per pupil cost calculations are contained in the Taxpayers Guide to Education Spending (formerly Comparative Spending Guide) and can be found on the Department of Education website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/education/guide/">http://www.state.nj.us/education/guide/</a> . This publication is also available in the board office and public libraries. The same calculations were performed using the 2016-17 revised appropriations and the 2017-18 budgeted appropriations presented in this advertised budget. Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost is defined as current expense exclusive of tuition expenditures, transportation, residential costs, and judgments against the school district. For all years it also includes the restricted entitlement aids. With the exception of Total Equipment Cost, each of the other per pupil cost calculations presented is a component of the total comparative per pupil cost, although all components are not shown.																								
1 T - 4/13/17, The Leader																								
Fee: \$535.00																								





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Cranford Cougars Score Twice in Bottom of Seventh Inning; Sting SPF Raiders in Baseball, 3-2

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

a single to left then later scored on Jim Wozniak’s infield single.

Graceffo yielded a single to Fox in the third and Geissel yielded a single to Oblachinski in the third and a single to Matt Perino in the fourth then Canavan wiggled a leadoff single by short and made it to third on successive infield groundouts but Graceffo got Yarem to pop up to first for the third out.

A little chaos began in the Raider sixth. Fox’s grounder caused a throwing error, allowing him to reach second. Colin McAlindin hacked a slow chopping single as pinch runner Jon Ramos sped to third. McAlindin’s steal of second prompted a throw. Ramos

headed home but Oblachinski (short-stop) fired to nail him at the plate. Graceffo fanned the next batter and got the following Raider to ground out.

But the chain of events in the Cougar sixth really jacked up the adrenalin. Mike McGee drilled a leadoff single to center and Shriner plopped a single over first and both were replaced by pinch runners. Geissel was in deep trouble with no outs. Both runners hesitantly attempted to advance on a pitch but Yarem (catcher) fired to first and both base runners were engaged in a rundown. After preventing the lead runner from advancing to third, the trailing runner was tagged out by the first baseman who charged right at

the lead runner, forcing him to commit. Once the commitment was made, he was tagged out by Warren (short-stop) and suddenly there were two outs. Geissel took a breath and fanned the next batter.

“That definitely made things easier. With two guys on and no outs, knowing Cranford they were looking to bunt and that would put runners on second and third with one out. It’s a lot easier to pitch with the bases empty and two outs,” Geissel.

“I knew we were going to have to go back out there and I had to pitch against them and I was the one that had to get us out of that inning and come back and score again,”



DAVID B. CORBIN FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER AND THE TIMES

**NAILED AT THE PLATE...Raider pinch runner Jon Ramos leaps in the air as he gets tagged out at the plate by Cougar catcher Patrick Connelly in the sixth inning at Orange Avenue Field in Cranford.**



JIM OCCEI FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER AND THE TIMES

**KEEPING CLOSE TO A RAM...Cougar Connor Fitch, No. 8, stays close to an Oratory Prep Ram at Memorial Field in Cranford. The Cougars pulled out a 9-8 victory. Dan Allen led the 1-4 Cougars with five goals and an assist. Hunter Brogan netted a pair of goals and an assist, while Dante Cassaro and Mark Ciemniecki each added a goal and an assist.**

Graceffo said.

Graceffo did just that, allowing just an infield single to Canavan, bringing the Cougars to the plate. Mike Meola drew his second walk of the game and was replaced by Genova, who sprinted to second on Perino’s sac bunt to third. After a groundout to third for the second out, Bakie rifled a hard smash to Warren at short, whose off-balance throw allowed Genova to score and Bakie to reach second. Oblachinski stepped up and hit a looper to left that took a huge hop and Bakie headed home.

“I did see the hop. It came right at

his head. I knew I was going to get to third at least and it bounced over his head and all I knew was I was going to score. As soon as I saw that ball go over his head, I had a big smile on my face,” Bakie said.

“They are both great players. They give it all and they fought till the end. They were the two guys who hit the ball really hard at the end,” Geissel said of Bakie and Oblachinski.

“We had plenty of chances to put ourselves in a better situation. That’s a rough way to end it but at the same time we could have done a better job to make sure we weren’t in that situ-

ation. Cranford, one of the things that makes them good every year is the guys always play with a lot of composure. They did a better job of that than we did. They play hard but they play very even keel baseball in tight games. They are in familiar territory in game like this,” Coach Higgins said.

“It was a very competitive game. Playing Cranford has always been a very emotional game for both sides. Just what happened to be was they were able to pull through in the last inning,” Geissel said.

Sc Pl-Fanwood	200	000	0	2
Cranford	010	000	2	3

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GETTING TOUGH...Blue Devil midfielder Markey Frega, No. 20, puts a hard check on Raider Kevin Lewis, No. 8, as Blue Devil defender Christian Burgdorf, No. 17, adds support. Westfield won, 15-4, in Scotch Plains (April 11, 2011).

D. Blair Corbin's

Blue Devils

Raiders

Cougars

Walk Down Memory Lane

From the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* — goleader.com

**April 8, 2015:** The Westfield boys tennis team certainly staked its claim as one of the top teams around with a convincing 5-0 victory over Delbarton. Sophomore first singles player Noah Reich won his match, 6-3, 6-3, against Parker Pridgen. Damien Ruparel (second singles) completely dominated Delbarton's Robert Steer on his way to a 6-2, 6-0 victory. Owen Bartok racked up another strong win at third singles where he easily dispatched of Cameron Ketchum, 6-0, 6-0.

**April 8, 2015:** Senior midfielder Mark Christiano found the mark six times and added an assist to lead the Cranford High School Cougars boys lacrosse team to a 14-2 humbling of the Columbia Cougars at Memorial Field in Cranford. The impressive

ing a double, Matt Ravetier ripped a pair of singles and scored once. Mike Gamba and Albert Gargiulo each singled, scored a run and added an RBI. Leadoff hitter Tommy Trotter singled and scored once.

Raider Christian Zazzali doubled and scored once. Chris Gibbons singled and scored once. Matt Marino rapped an RBI single. Zach Lipshitz scored once and had an RBI.

**April 13, 2013:** Seventeen schools competed at the Cougar Relays in Cranford and the Blue Devil boys and girls track & field teams won the overall title with a 105 total. The Lady Blue Devils took first with a total of 58, while the boys placed second with 47 behind the Governor Livingston Highlanders, who had 65 points. The Cougars took fifth overall. The girls finished second and the boys placed fifth.

Blue Devil sophomore Johanna



IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT AT FIRST SINGLES...Blue Devil sophomore Noah Reich won his first singles match, 6-3, 6-3, against Delbarton's Parker Pridgen. The Blue Devils swept every flight to defeat the Delbarton Green Wave, 5-0, at Memorial Park in Westfield on April 8, 2015.

triumph after a shaky 13-9 win over Lakeland on April 6, elevated the Cranford Cougars' record to 7-0. Another very valuable asset was his twin brother Luke's ability to win all but two of the face-offs. Attacker Richie Hurley scored four goals.

**April 12, 2014:** Senior Gabby Stravach, Kelly Morrison, Meghan O'Dwyer and Natalie Marcotullio put it all together to earn the Blue Devil girls first place in the 4x800-meter relay at the Blue Devil Invitational Track & Field Relays in Westfield. Quarryee Bull and Quincy Sanchez presented the SPF Raider boys a victory in the triple jump.

**April 10, 2014:** Clever base running, a number of fine defensive plays and a few just out-of-reach hits tilted the scales in favor of the Cranford Cougar baseball team, resulting in a 4-3 victory over the SPF Raiders at Memorial Field in Cranford. Cougar Jack McCaffrey went 2-for-2, includ-

Mermer (1200 meters), senior Lily Burtness (400), sophomore Meghan O'Dwyer (800) and junior Gabby Stravach (1600) placed first in the Distance Medley Relay (DMR) with a time of 12:59.44. In the boys' meet, Blue Devils Pat Terry (1200), Josh Capistrano (400), Michael Reilly (800) and Kevin Smith (1600) captured first in the DMR with a time of 10:52.49. The foursome was in third position in each of the three handoffs, but Smith inched his way on the front runners then poured it on down the stretch to coast first.

Cougars Ashley McGuire, Regine Hunter, Kate Dezer and Bryanna Grant finished first in the shuttle hurdles at 1:07.88. Grant and Hunter placed 1-2 in the triple jump with respective distances of 36-6.5 and 36-5.

**April 13, 2012:** Junior Julie Siragusa has been mostly known for her solid performances on the mound;



PREPARING TO MAKE A SHIFTY MOVE...Cougar Mark Christiano, No. 21, prepares to pull a shifty move on a Columbia Cougar defender. Christiano notched six goals and had an assist in the 14-2 win at Memorial Field on April 8, 2015.

however, her performances at the plate have been striking, especially in the Cranford Cougars' 12-1, five-inning victory over the visiting Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School softball team. Siragusa doubled twice, walked and launched a towering homerun, unlike any seen in a high school softball game, and scored on all four plate appearances. On the mound, she improved her team's record and her record to 6-1, scattering four hits and hitting one batter.

Shortstop Allison Verrelli went 2-for-2 with a double and three RBI while scoring twice. Kerry Wischusen (2 runs scored) rapped a pair of singles in her three at-bats and Stephanie Bagniewski drilled a two-run double.

**April 16, 2012:** Strong defense, especially on the part of sophomore goalkeeper Megan Welch, nearly allowed the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls lacrosse team to topple Caldwell from the ranks of the undefeated, but a pair of late goals from Annie Mergner salvaged a 10-9 victory for the 6-0 Lady Chiefs in Scotch Plains. Welch, who had six

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



RECEIVING THE HANDOFF...Blue Devil Mike Reilly gets the handoff from Josh Capistrano to begin the 800 (third) leg of the Distance Medley Relay. Pat Terry, Capistrano, Reilly and Kevin Smith won in 10:52.49 on April 13, 2013.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Westfield Public Schools will accept bids for **Partial Roof Recover at Wilson Elementary School (FVHD-4992)**, 301 Linden Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey 07090, together with all work incidental thereto, in accordance with the requirements of the drawings and specifications prepared by Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. (FVHD) Architects-Planners, www.fvhdp.com.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED AS FOLLOWS: SINGLE OVER-ALL CONTRACT (C008 OR C009 WITH C068)

Sealed Bids are due by **May 4, 2017, 2:00 PM** (prevailing time) to the Westfield Board of Education, attention of Ms. Dana Sullivan, Business Administrator, Room 101, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090, and will be publicly opened and read immediately thereafter. Any Bid received after that time shall be rejected.

Bid Documents for the proposed Work are on file at the office of the Architect, FVHD, 1515 Lower Ferry Road, Trenton, New Jersey 08618, and may be inspected by prospective bidders during regular business hours. Any bidder should contact the Architect's office at (609) 883-7101 to confirm availability of documents. The Bid Documents may be obtained from the Architect upon **deposit of \$150** (One Hundred Fifty Dollars) for each set, made payable to Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie. If bidder requests documents to be shipped, they must provide their direct shipping account number to the Architect and a **separate non-refundable** handling fee of \$25 per set payable in advance to Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. Deposits will be refunded if the bid documents are returned in whole in good condition, bound in proper order, unmarked and returned within ten (10) days after the opening of bids, by a Bidder submitting a bona fide bid. **All questions must be sent only by mail or facsimile at (609) 883-2694 with the job number referenced.**

Bid Proposal shall be submitted in duplicate (one original and one copy) in a sealed: (1) addressed to the owner, (2) bearing the name and address of the bidder written on the face of the envelope, and (3) clearly marked "BID" with the contract title and/or bid number on the outside of the envelope and must be accompanied by a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond drawn to the order of the Owner for not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid, but in no case in excess of \$20,000; and must be delivered to the above place on or before the hour named. The Board of Education and the Architect

LEGAL NOTICE

assume no responsibility for bids mailed or misdirected in delivery.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2—33, the bidder must be pre-qualified by the New Jersey Division of Property Management and Construction (DPMC) prior to the date that bids are received if the cost of the work exceeds \$20,000. Any bid submitted under the terms of New Jersey statutes not including a copy of a valid and active Pre-qualification/Classification Certificate will be rejected as being non-responsible to bid requirements.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:18A-25, each proposal shall be accompanied by a Consent of Surety from a Surety Company stating it will provide each bidder with a separate Performance and Payment Bonds, each in the amount of 100% of the contract sum. Also, Surety agrees to furnish Bidder with a Maintenance Bond in required form. The Consent of Surety shall be executed by an approved surety company authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:44-143, and 2A:44-144 and with the three highest rating categories of rating companies nationally recognized and listed as per Appendix A (go to www.nj.gov/dobi/surety.htm).

Pursuant to "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act" (P.L. 1999, c238), Bidders and their subcontractors are required to be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor and to possess a current certificate by said Department indicating compliance with the Act prior to the time and date that bids are received.

All contractors and subcontractors must provide a Business Registration Certificate (BRC) per N.J.S.A. 52:32-44.

All Contractors and Subcontractors who bid on the project must be registered pursuant to New Jersey State Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.27 et seq.

All bidders must comply with the requirements Laws Against Discrimination N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq., Affirmative Action Regulations, N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. (P.L. 1975, c.127), N.J.S.A. 17:27-1.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.8. An Initial Project Workforce Report will be required from the successful bidder (Form AA-201).

Bidding shall be in conformance with the applicable requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. "Public School Contracts Law."

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to waive informality in the bidding if it is in the interest of the Owner to do so.

BY ORDER OF THE WESTFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Dana Sullivan,  
Business Administrator  
Board Secretary

1 T - 4/13/17, the Leader Fee: \$113.22

Highlanders Trip Up Baseball Blue Devils, 6-2

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

gotten all of it. I knew it was going over the fence."

Hiltz limited the damage and emerged from the inning without giving up any more runs. The lefty Blue Devil kept GL off the board in the fourth inning as well before running into trouble in the fifth when the Highlanders tagged him for four runs. Tyler McCullough and Cocchia led off with singles. DJ Gonnelli rapped an RBI double. Hiltz got into further trouble when courtesy runner Sean Quinn scored from third base after a pickoff throw to first base went awry making it 4-0. Compton drove in another run on a sacrifice and Danny Serretti tripled to the centerfield fence to drive in the Highlanders' sixth run of the game.

Westfield finally got on the board against Cocchia when leadoff batter Victor Cruz drove a solo shot over the leftfield fence in the sixth to cut the deficit to 6-1.

"I know Nick pretty well but sometimes he can be hard to read," said Cruz. "Thit his curveball the first time up so I was guessing and hoping that he would come back with a fastball the next time around. I guessed right. Nick is always good out there and he brought it today."

Cocchia responded by retiring the next three batters, including two by strikeouts, to keep Westfield from starting any substantive rally.

"He got his curve over today and did a great job of mixing his pitches," said Westfield Head Coach Robert Brewster. "He had a lot of velocity and movement on his pitches today and he gets great support from that defense. I mean, those kids make all the plays in the field. They are really strong fundamentally."

The Blue Devils scratched out another run in the seventh after Matt LaCorte led off with a single then stole second base. Steve Barden drove

him home with a two-out single. Governor Livingston Coach Roof brought in reliever Sean Savage to close the door. Savage promptly got Alex Pansini to ground out to third base on his first pitch.

Though Cocchia did not get the complete game just about every other box was checked on his performance list this day. Cocchia did not walk a batter in 93 pitches.

"I definitely felt like I was on top of my game out there today," said Cocchia. "The big thing was that I had my curveball working today. I was getting it over for strikes throughout the game and that really helps to keep batters off balance."

The loss left Westfield with a 1-2 early-season mark. LaCorte and Cruz each had a pair of hits for the Blue Devils. Barden, Jake Vall-Llobera, Pancini and Jake Lerie each had a hit.

Westfield	000	001	1	2
Gov. Livingston	002	040	x	6



STARS OF THE GAME...Highlander sophomore Stephen Reid, No. 16, delivered a two-run homer in the bottom of the third inning and pitcher Nick Cocchia, No. 27, scattered eight hits to pick up the victory over the Blue Devils.

High School Sport Shorts:

Blue Devils Rock Mo-town in Softball

After three scoreless innings, the Westfield High School softball team plated three runs each in the fourth and fifth innings then added a run of icing in the sixth to rock Morristown, 7-1, in Westfield on April 8. Rachel Rothenberg delivered a home run and three RBI for the 1-1 Blue Devils and pitcher Bridget Hyland recorded eight strikeouts, while allowing six hits and just one walk in six innings. Reliever Lauren Sullivan tossed a scoreless seventh inning.

Sophomore Erica Lawrence went 2-for-3 with a triple and two RBI, Danielle Rinaldi went 2-for-3 with a double and a walk, and two runs scored, and Natalie Patterson went 2-for-3 wit an RBI. Julia Romano singled, walked and stole two bases. Molly Murphy went 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI for Mo-town and Meghan Acampora went 2-for-3 and scored once.

Morristown	000	100	0	1
Westfield	000	331	x	7

Cougars Nip Oratory, 9-8, in Boys Lacrosse

Leading 7-4 after three quarters, the Cranford High School boys lacrosse team withstood a fourth-quarter surge to hold off Oratory Prep, 9-8, at Memorial Field in Cranford on April 8. Cougar goalkeeper Phil Marotta recorded 15 saves in the victory.

Offensively, Dan Allen led the 1-4 Cougars with five goals and an assist. Hunter Brogan netted a pair of goals and an assist, while Dante Cassaro and Mark Ciemniecki each added a goal and an assist. Brian Windisch scored three goals and had two assists for the Rams, while Joel Pascuzzi notched two goals and an assist, and Anthony Silvestri added a goal and an assist.

Oratory Prep	2	1	1	4	8
Cranford	2	1	4	2	9

Delbarton Laxers Top Blue Devil Boys, 12-2

The hosting Delbarton Green Wave scored half of their points in the fourth quarter to overwhelm the Westfield High School boys lacrosse team, 12-2, on April 8. Griffin Aslanian and Owen Prybylski each scored a goal for the Blue Devils and Nick Bond added an assist. Goalkeeper Jack McCauley had 11 saves. Colin Crowley had three goals and Casey Shoemake had two goals and an assist for Delbarton

Westfield	0	0	2	0	2
Delbarton	1	3	2	6	12

Danny Harcourt Wins Hershey Cup in Golf

HERSHEY, Pa. – Sophomore Danny Harcourt (Fanwood/Saint Peter's Prep) shot a 2-over 73 for the second day in a row and captured medalist honors with a 146 at the Hershey Cup on April 3 at the Hershey Country Club.

It was the third career victory for Harcourt, who pared 24 of his 36 holes, while adding four birdies to beat out 86 other golfers. He has now shot 73 or better in seven of his 15 rounds this season and is averaging a team-leading 74.1.









Photo courtesy of Janet Nelson  
**SISTER ACT...***Elsa Hahn, right, and her sister, Eleanor Lowery, relax after a successful day at the Harvest Quilters annual show March 25 at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains. Ms. Hahn was the featured quilter, displaying more than 40 of her artistic works. She also won three ribbons this year, amongst them first place for the art quilts. Her sister helped Ms. Hahn set up and take down the entire display.*

## Doherty Attends World Hlth. Day for Operation Smile

WATCHUNG – Rose Doherty, a junior at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, attended World Health Day U-Lead for Operation Smile on April 1, at Lawrence High School in Lawrenceville.

The goal of the event, which was attended by over 45 students from around the state, was to spread awareness about Operation Smile and how to become more involved in the organization.

Rose was introduced to Operation Smile in middle school when her cousin attended a mission trip to Nepal on behalf of the organization.

“When he came back, he told me so many inspiring stories. These made me want to become involved as well,” she said. “I joined the Operation Smile club at the Mount my freshman year and immediately fell in love with it. I have always loved children and helping out my community, and was very happy that Operation Smile combines both of

these.”

Since her freshman year at Mount Saint Mary Academy, Rose has attended the Operation Smile Summit, U-Lead, as well as the International Student Leadership Conference (ISLC) 2016 in San Diego, Calif.

“I am fortunate enough to be going to Rome, Italy, in July for both Summer Mission Training and ISLC 2017,” she reported.

During World Health Day U-Lead on April 1, Rose learned, “We listened to a few students give presentations about Operation Smile. One option is to join the Regional Leadership Council (RLC) or the National Leadership Council (NLC), both of which help to spread awareness and plan fundraisers to benefit Operation Smile on a regional and national level.

“After hearing their inspirational stories, I am very excited to attend my mission later this year and to make a difference in the same ways that these girls have,” she concluded.

Rose is the daughter of Mark and Susan Doherty of Westfield.

**Probitas Verus Honos**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**  
**PLANNING BOARD**

Please take notice that on April 26, 2017 at 7:30 PM at the Fanwood Borough Hall, located at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, the Planning Board will hold a hearing on the application of the undersigned. The property in question is located at: 389 Midway Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 38 Lot 3, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by Telma Loureiro.

The applicant requests Driveway Expansion which is in violation of:  
Section 184-115 (2) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Parcel width; Permitted: 75.00 feet; Present: 65.00 feet; Proposed: 65.00 feet.  
Section 184-115 (1) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Area Width; Permitted: 7500.00 feet Minimum; Present: 7,425.00 feet; Proposed: 7,425.00 feet.

Section 184-115 (5) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Side yard setback; Permitted: 9.5 feet; Present: 7.67 feet; Proposed: 7.67 feet.  
Section 184-134 (D2) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Patio Side Yard; Permitted: 8.5 feet; Present: 5.0 feet; Proposed: 5.0 feet.

Section 184-163 (E) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Driveway width; Permitted: 3 feet; Present: 5 feet; Proposed: 0.

The applicant will also seek such other relief as may be determined necessary at the public hearing based upon review of the application or amendment(s) to the application.

The file pertaining to this application is available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Friday) from the Secretary of the Planning Board at the Administration Office of the Borough of Fanwood at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey.

Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Fanwood Planning Board.

Applicant:  
Telma Loureiro  
389 Midway Avenue  
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Times Fee: \$46.92

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**BOROUGH OF FANWOOD**  
**PLANNING BOARD**

Please take notice that on April 26, 2017 at 7:30 PM at the Fanwood Borough Hall, located at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, the Planning Board will hold a hearing on the application of the undersigned. The property in question is located at: 95 Farley Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 58 Lot 23, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by Michael & Kimberly Beck.

The applicant requests remove current garage and driveway. Relocate garage against the house and add second floor master bedroom above garage which is in violation of:  
Section 184-115 (4) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Minimum Front Yard Setback (Paterson); Permitted: 30 feet; Present: 14.44 feet; Proposed: 14.44 feet.  
Section 184-115 (4) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Minimum Front Yard Setback (Farley); Permitted: 30 feet; Present: 24.39 feet; Proposed: 24.39 feet.

Section 184-115 (2) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Lot width; Permitted: 75 feet; Present: 53.75 feet; Proposed: 53.75 feet.

Section 184-115 (1) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Lot area; Permitted: 7,500 square feet; Present: 6,270 square feet; Proposed: 6,270 square feet.

The applicant will also seek such other relief as may be determined necessary at the public hearing based upon review of the application or amendment(s) to the application.

The file pertaining to this application is available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Friday) from the Secretary of the Planning Board at the Administration Office of the Borough of Fanwood at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey.

Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Fanwood Planning Board.

Applicant:  
Kimberly & Michael Beck  
95 Farley Avenue  
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Times Fee: \$47.43

## POLICE BLOTTER

**WESTFIELD**  
Wednesday, March 29, Eman A. Fawaz, 19, of North Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding criminal warrant from Westfield, with \$1,000 bail, pursuant to surrendering at police headquarters. Fawaz was processed and held in lieu of bail.

Wednesday, March 29, a burglary was reported at a residence on the 200 block of Hyslip Avenue that occurred between 6:30 and 8:15 p.m. Entry was gained through a second-floor window in the rear of the house. Numerous pieces of jewelry were reported stolen from the residence.

Thursday, March 30, Justin Cruz, 22, of Scotch Plains was arrested on charges of possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia, pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of 600 West South Avenue. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released with a complaint-summons.

Thursday, March 30, Ozan Yucetepe, 22, of Westfield was arrested on a traffic warrant from Fanwood, with bail of \$153, pursuant to a motor vehicle stop on Central Avenue near Washington Street. Yucetepe was transported to police headquarters, processed and released after posting bail.

Sunday, April 2, Luis Alvarez, 24, of North Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding traffic warrant from Plainfield, with bail of \$180, pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at West South Avenue and Boulevard. He was processed and posted bail.

Monday, April 3, Shawn Kim, 46, of Fort Lee was arrested on an outstanding traffic warrant from Weehawken, with bail set at \$145, subsequent to a motor vehicle stop at West Broad Street and Rahway Avenue. Lee was transported to police headquarters, processed and released on his own recognizance.

Tuesday, April 4, Varathara Thambiah, 57, of Iselin was arrested on an outstanding traffic warrant from Woodbridge subsequent to a motor vehicle stop at Park Street and Central Avenue. Thambiah was transported to police headquarters, processed and released after posting the full cash bail of \$165.

Tuesday, April 4, Kelly O'Toole, 47, of Westfield turned herself in at police headquarters on two outstanding traffic warrants from Westfield. O'Toole posted a total of \$127 bail and was released.

Tuesday, April 4, police arrested two people pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at West South Avenue and West Broad Street. Ashton Lofton, 21, of Hillside, the driver, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. James Jenkins, a passenger in the vehicle, was charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance (CDS) and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both were transported to police headquarters, processed and released on a summons.

Wednesday, April 5, Westfield police officers responded to Bayside State Prison to pick up Bernard L. Jennings, Jr., 60, of Plainfield, who was wanted on a criminal warrant from Westfield, with bail set at \$2,500. Jennings also was wanted on detainees from South Plainfield, with \$1,500 bail; Plainfield, with \$525 bail, and Scotch Plains, with \$250 bail. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and held pending an April 6 appearance in Westfield Municipal Court.

**FANWOOD**  
Monday, March 20, Omar Abduljalil, 30, of Clifton was arrested on active warrants out of Clifton and Paramus after a motor vehicle stop at Terrill Road and East Second Street for a motor vehicle violation. Abduljalil was processed, posted bail and released.

Wednesday, March 22, Shyheim

PUBLIC NOTICE		PUBLIC NOTICE	
SUMMARY OR SYNOPSIS OF 2016 AUDIT REPORT OF TOWN OF WESTFIELD AS REQUIRED BY N.J.S.A. 40A:5-7 COMBINED COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEETS			
	DECEMBER 31, 2016	DECEMBER 31, 2015	
ASSETS			
Cash and Investments	\$25,115,932.67	\$20,719,149.92	
Taxes, Assessments and Liens Receivable	1,460,967.17	1,529,962.65	
Property Acquired for Taxes-Assessed Value	312,720.00	312,720.00	
Accounts Receivable	1,686,647.13	2,221,172.84	
Fixed Capital	1,956,443.67	1,956,443.67	
Fixed Capital - Authorized and Uncompleted	4,890,000.00	4,890,000.00	
Deferred Charges to Future Taxation- General Capital Fund	25,330,401.82	24,923,584.51	
Deferred Charges to Revenue of Succeeding Year	12,771.26	1,462.60	
Fixed Assets	46,879,540.00	43,415,144.00	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$107,645,423.72</b>	<b>\$99,969,640.19</b>	
LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES			
Bonds and Notes Payable	\$25,674,000.00	\$23,768,500.00	
Improvement Authorizations	1,819,093.93	2,654,633.50	
Other Liabilities and Special Funds	12,011,479.81	11,691,504.45	
Amortization of Debt for Fixed Capital Acquired or Authorized	4,563,443.67	4,273,443.67	
Reserve for Certain Assets Receivable	3,137,966.50	3,458,254.40	
Fund Balance	13,559,899.81	10,708,160.17	
Investment in General Fixed Assets	46,879,540.00	43,415,144.00	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$107,645,423.72</b>	<b>\$99,969,640.19</b>	
COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - CURRENT FUND			
	YEAR 2016	YEAR 2015	
REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED			
Fund Balance Utilized	\$974,344.00	\$167,172.00	
Miscellaneous - From Other Than Local Property Tax Levies	14,430,530.38	12,980,927.77	
Collection of Delinquent Taxes and Tax Title Liens	1,392,379.28	1,439,587.23	
Collection of Current Tax Levy	167,428,066.18	163,344,969.94	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$184,225,319.84</b>	<b>\$177,932,656.94</b>	
EXPENDITURES			
Budget Expenditures	\$41,566,776.03	\$39,964,564.13	
County Taxes	40,869,011.68	39,544,431.91	
Local School Taxes	95,935,948.00	93,404,426.00	
Special Improvement District Tax	409,757	409,757.00	
Other Expenditures	1,642,840.77	1,450,174.54	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$180,424,333.48</b>	<b>\$174,773,353.58</b>	
Excess in Revenue	\$3,800,986.36	\$3,159,303.36	
Fund Balance, January 1	9,583,022.72	6,590,891.36	
	\$13,384,009.08	\$9,750,194.72	
Less: Utilization as Anticipated Revenue	974,344.00	167,172.00	
Fund Balance, December 31	\$12,409,665.08	\$9,583,022.72	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE SWIMMING POOL UTILITY OPERATING FUND		
	YEAR 2016	YEAR 2015
REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED		
Fund Balanced Utilized	\$68,377.00	\$58,745.00
Collection of Pool Fees	1,113,413.00	1,178,491.73
Miscellaneous From Other Than Pool Fees	15,278.34	45,360.09
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 1,197,068.34</b>	<b>\$1,282,596.82</b>
EXPENDITURES		
Budget Expenditures:		
Operating	\$ 788,062.00	\$747,755.00
Capital Improvements	5,000.00	5,000.00
Debt Service	373,815.00	376,790.00
Deferred Charges and Regulatory Expenditures	41,500.00	41,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,208,377.00</b>	<b>\$1,171,045.00</b>
Excess/(Deficit) in Revenue	(11,308.66)	\$111,551.82
Statutory Excess to Fund Balance		
Operating Deficit to be Raised in Budget of Succeeding Year	11,308.66	
Fund Balance, January 1	530,821.50	478,014.68
	\$ 530,821.50	\$589,566.50
Decreased by:		
Utilized by Swimming Pool Operating Budget	68,377.00	58,745.00
Fund Balance, December 31	\$ 462,444.50	\$530,821.50
RECOMMENDATION		
NONE		
The above summary or synopsis was prepared from the report of audit of the Town of Westfield, County of Union, for the calendar year 2016. This report of audit submitted by Suplee, Cloney & Company, Registered Municipal Accountants and Certified Public Accountants, is on file at the Town Clerk's office and may be inspected by any interested person.		
Claire J. Gray Town Clerk Fee: \$171.36		
1 T - 4/13/17, The Leader		

Jordan, 19, of Plainfield was arrested after police conducted a random license plate check on Terrill Road and discovered that the motor vehicle had been reported stolen. Jordan was processed, charged with receiving stolen property and released with a court appearance date.

Wednesday, March 22, a victim reported the theft of her purse from her motor vehicle between 5:57 and 6 p.m. on the 300 block of South Avenue. She had left the purse in the vehicle and when she returned to her vehicle, discovered it had been taken. It is unknown how the suspect entered the vehicle. The total value of the theft is approximately \$1,240.

Sunday, March 26, Melvin Hanciles, 25, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with committing a lewd act. Officers responded to Forest Road Park on a report of a person who committed a lewd act in the park. When police arrived they located the suspect. After a brief investigation the suspect was arrested, processed, charged with a lewd act and released pending his court appearance.

Sunday, March 26, Helen Delpopolo, 24, of Westfield was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) after police observed a motor vehicle parked in the lane of traffic on the Terrill Road Bridge. When the officer approached the driver he was unable to communicate with her. Once the officer finally made contact with her she appeared disoriented. Upon further investigation it appeared that the driver was under the influence. The officer charged the driver with DWI pending her court appearance.

Wednesday, March 29, Carol Riordan, 49, of Westfield was arrested and charged with DWI after police responded to the area of Martine and Midway Avenues on a report of a careless driver. Police located the vehicle and made a motor vehicle stop at Martine Avenue and Church Street. While the officer was speaking with the driver he could detect a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle. The driver was asked to exit the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests which she was unable to complete. Riordan was placed under arrest, processed, charged with DWI and released to a responsible person.

Thursday, March 30, Michael Vignola, 54, of Fanwood was arrested and charged with DWI after a motor vehicle stop at Martine and Coriell Avenues for a motor vehicle violation. While the officer was speaking with the driver he could detect a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle. The driver was asked to exit the vehicle to perform some field sobriety tests which he was unable to complete. Vignola was placed under arrest, processed, charged with DWI and released to a responsible person.

Saturday, April 1, Oscar Rodriguez, 23, of Colonia was arrested on active warrants out of Roselle Park and Woodbridge after a motor vehicle stop at Terrill Road and South Avenue for a motor vehicle violation. He was processed, posted bail and released.

Saturday, April 1, it was reported that criminal mischief occurred to the Fanwood Nature Center located off Cray Terrace. There was damage to the trails, bird blinds, picket fences and birdhouses.

Wednesday, April 5, Kenya Adams, 22, of Plainfield was arrested after a motor vehicle stop at Terrill Road and Third Street for a motor vehicle violation. While the officer was checking the driver's license it appeared that the driver gave false information to the officer. The driver was arrested

and charged with volunteering false information and on an active warrant out of Union. She was processed, charged with hindering, posted bail and released pending her court appearance.

Friday, April 7, Jaalil Spruiel, 30, of South Plainfield was arrested on a warrant out of Mountainside after a motor vehicle stop at Terrill Road and East Second Street for a motor vehicle violation. Spruiel, a passenger, was arrested, processed and turned over to Mountainside police.

**SCOTCH PLAINS**  
Monday, April 3, Paul Tallman, 24, of Keasbey was arrested as a result of a motor vehicle stop. Tallman was a passenger, and as a result of a brief investigation it was determined that he had a warrant for his arrest from the Woodbridge Police Department.

Monday, April 3, Brian Devaney, 22, of Matawan and Whitney Tylicki, 30, of Sayreville were arrested in connection with the burglary of a Park Avenue residence. A witness observed the two allegedly exiting from a window of the residence. They were later released on a summons.

Tuesday, April 4, Shamir Roscoe, 28, of Irvington was arrested on a motor vehicle warrant. He was processed and released.

Saturday, April 8, Juan Calderon-Nunes, 37, of Avenel was arrested on an ATS warrant out of Watchung. The arrest was the result of a motor vehicle stop.

**GARWOOD**  
Tuesday, March 28, Cody Kettwig, 27, and Robert Thorngren, Jr., 29, of Sioux Falls, S.D. were arrested and charged with credit card fraud and forgery after police received a complaint from the Garwood branch of the U.S. Postal Service that two white males were in the post office purchasing stamps with what postal employees believed to be credit cards containing fraudulent information. Postal employees recognized one of the individuals from a prior transaction two weeks earlier involving a credit card purchase with stolen information. Police responded and detained Kettwig as he exited the post office. At that time Kettwig had on his person 41 credit cards and a room key for the Homewood Suites in Cranford. At the same time officers came upon the second suspect, Thorngren, walking down Center Street. Both were taken into custody. A search warrant was obtained for the room at the Homewood Suites. In the room were several industrial printers used to print credit cards, embossing machines, hard drives and approximately 1,000 blank credit cards. Both suspects were charged with multiple complaints including theft by unlawful taking, forgery and fraudulent use of credit cards.

Thursday, March 30, Anthony Miller, 50, of Elizabeth was arrested on charges of criminal trespass and hindering apprehension after a representative of a store complained that a man who has been banned from the establishment for prior acts of shoplifting was on the premises. Officers responded and spoke to the man, who identified himself as Tariq Ishamel. During the course of their investigation the officers were able to properly identify the individual as Anthony Miller and confirm that he was in fact banned from the store. It also was discovered that Miller had three outstanding warrants totaling \$1,250. Miller was served two complaints for criminal trespass and hindering apprehension by providing a false name. He was transported to the Union County jail on the outstanding warrants.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY**  
**CHANCERY DIVISION**  
**UNION COUNTY**  
**DOCKET NO. F-00236417**  
**FILE NO. 22746-16**

**NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT**  
**(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:**  
**JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR.;**  
**MRS. JOHNNY A.**  
**MIDDLETON, JR., WIFE OF**  
**JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR.;**  
**RENEE S MIDDLETON;**  
**MULTI HEATH CORPORATION;**  
**CREDIGY RECEIVABLES INC.;**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon PELLEGRINO AND FELDSTEIN, LLC, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 290 Route 46 West, Denville, New Jersey, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a Civil Action, in which TTLBL, LLC is the plaintiff and JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR., ET ALS; are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION County and bearing Docket No. F-002364-17 within thirty-five (35) days after April 13, 2017 exclusive of such date. If you fail to answer or appear in accordance with Rule 4:4-6, Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

You are further advised that if you are unable to obtain an attorney you may communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of Venue and that if you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Venue. The telephone number of such agencies are as follows: Lawyer Referral Service 908-353-4715 - Legal Services Office 908-354-4340.

THE ACTION has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the following tax sale certificate:  
1. A certain tax certificate 14-0190, sold on 10/9/2014, dated 10/15/2014, and was recorded on 7/13/2015 in Book 13952 at Page 449, made by DAVID MARSHALL, Collector of Taxes of PLAINFIELD, and State of New Jersey to TTLBL, LLC and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, TTLBL, LLC. This covers real estate located in PLAINFIELD, County of UNION, and State of New Jersey, known as LOT 28 BLOCK

**LEGAL NOTICE**

221 as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and Tax Map duplicate of PLAINFIELD and concerns premises commonly known as 18-20 MARINERS PLACE, PLAINFIELD, New Jersey.

YOU, JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR., are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because you are the owner of a property which is the subject of the above entitled action.

YOU, MRS. JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR., WIFE OF JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR., are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because plaintiff has been unable to determine whether defendant JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR. is married, and if married, the name of JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR.'s spouse. If JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR. is married, the plaintiff joins MRS. JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR., WIFE OF JOHNNY A. MIDDLETON, JR. as a defendant for any possessory or marital rights you may have.

YOU, RENEE S MIDDLETON, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on April 2, 2014, a child support judgment was entered in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Union County, by Renee S. Middleton against Johnny A. Middleton. Said judgment was entered as Judgment No. J-060909-2014, CS9093321A. Said judgment is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien.

YOU, MULTHEATH CORPORATION, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on December 7, 2004, a judgment was entered in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Union County, by Multi Health Corporation against Johnny A. Middleton disclosing a debt in the amount of \$570.00, plus costs and interest. Said judgment was entered as Judgment No. D.J-326117-2004. Said judgment is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien.

YOU, CREDIGY RECEIVABLES INC., are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on April 24, 2007, a judgment was entered in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Union County, by Credigy Receivables Inc. against Johnny A. Middleton disclosing a debt in the amount of \$10,016.69, plus costs and interest. Said judgment is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien.

DATED: April 7, 2017  
Michelle M. Smith, Clerk  
Superior Court of New Jersey  
PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C.  
Denville Law Center  
290 Route 46 West  
Denville, New Jersey 07834  
(973) 586-2300  
1 T - 4/13/17, The Leader Fee: \$102.00

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**DANCING AWAY THE DAY...**The rain and dreary weather didn't keep people from coming to the ninth annual Why We Dance event on March 26 at the Forest Road Park in Fanwood. More than 60 people participated in the workshops, Bollywood/Bellydance led by Naleesa Jacobs, the energetic hip hop class led by Tatianna Dorsey and the health workshop led by motivational speaker Saideh Browne (pictured) who, in addition to providing health tips, gave out samples of fingernail polish. Coordinator Candace Waller said she is thankful for the participants, the volunteers who assisted and the local businesses for their donations.

## Paintings by Westfield Artist Displayed at Pearl St. Gallery

ELIZABETH – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is pleased to present an exhibit of giclée fine art prints of paintings by Gina Minichino of Westfield in the gallery space at the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located in the historic St. John's Parsonage at 633 Pearl Street in Elizabeth. A selection of her work entitled "Junk Food Mania 2017" is on display at the Pearl Street Gallery through Friday, June 9. The public is invited to enjoy the exhibit during regular gallery hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

"The talent and diversity of our county artists assure an inspiring variety of exhibits at the Pearl Street Gallery," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board. "We are delighted to display colorful fine art prints of Gina Minichino's entertaining paintings."

"I grew up with a pencil, pen or marker in my hand. After graduating from Westfield High School, I knew I wanted to go to art school in New York to learn to draw cartoons," Ms. Minichino said. "At the School of Visual Arts I studied with great cartoonists like Harvey Kurtzman, Will Eisner and Sam Viviano. After graduation, I took a painting class and found a new passion."

## Opera at Florham Holds Annual Vocal Competition

MADISON – Following a successful 2016 fall-winter season, Opera at Florham (OAF) welcomes the arrival of springtime by presenting its annual Vocal Competition and Musicales on Sunday, April 23, and its final Musicales for the season on Sunday, May 21, featuring the winners of this 2017 competition.

Opera at Florham's 29th Annual Vocal Competition and Musicales continues to honor Violetta DuPont, its co-founder and original Competition benefactor, and features singers between the ages of 21 and 35 who are pursuing a career in opera. The competition will be held at the Florham Campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University on Sunday, April 23 at 2 p.m. in the Mansion's Lenfell Hall (Hennessy Hall).

The preliminary audition of 60 candidates, chosen from 100 applicants, will be held this week in New York City at the Kosciuszko Foundation Concert Hall to choose 10 finalists for the April 23 event. The Competition is in cooperation of the Gerda Lissner Foundation, organized and directed by OAF's Board of Trustees member, Stephen DeMaio, president of Gerda Lissner Foundation. Last year's competition featured a record number of 18 finalists and five winners due to the high quality of the candidates.

The accompanist for the preliminary judging and for the final Vocal Competition will be Mary Pinto,

"I loved exploring light and color and learning how it all worked," she added. "I continue to paint things that fascinate me...like people...and junk food."

In 2016, Ms. Minichino had a solo exhibit at the George Billis Gallery, NYC. In 2014 her work was in Jersey Women Artists Now: Contemporary Visions, George Segal Gallery, Montclair. She exhibited in the 25th International Juried Show at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit, and in many other venues around throughout the USA.

Ms. Minichino is an accomplished realist painter. She draws on her technical ability as a painter to create miniatures of classic American food. In addition, Ms. Minichino has been drawing caricatures at events for over 20 years. These days she teaches private art classes in her Westfield studio.

Union County artists (whose works can be hung on a wall) interested in exhibiting in the gallery space are welcome to apply. For more information about the Pearl Street Gallery or other programs, please contact the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth, N.J. 07202. Free on-site parking is available. Call (908) 558-2550. NJ Relay users can dial 711 or send e-mail to culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

who is also the vice-president at OAF. The judges for the preliminary auditions and the final competition will include Stephen DeMaio, Maestra Eve Quelar, Robert Lombardo, and Barbara Ann Testa.

Prizes will be awarded to the three winners: first prize of \$5,000 donated by Gerda Lissner Foundation; second prize of \$3,000 donated by Betty McColgan, and third prize of \$1,500 donated by Carl Michael and the DuPont Family. Encouragement awards will be given to the other finalists donated by members of the OAF Board of Trustees and additional donors.

The tickets are \$25 for the competition at 2 p.m., and \$75 for the combo ticket, which includes admission to the competition as well as lunch with the judges in Hartman Lounge (12:30 p.m.). Fancy desserts will be served at intermission. Tickets can be ordered by calling (973) 443-8620 or online. Checks can be mailed to Opera at Florham, P.O. Box 343, Convent Station, N.J. 07961.

The Florham Campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University is located at 285 Madison Ave., Madison, N.J. 07940. For more information, visit [www.operaatflorham.org](http://www.operaatflorham.org).

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## POPCORN

### Ghost in the Shell

#### Machine Politics

#### 3 & ½ popcorns

One Popcorn, Poor — Two Popcorns, Fair — Three Popcorns, Good — Four Popcorns, Excellent

By **MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER**  
*film critic*

Viewing director Rupert Sanders's highly imaginative *Ghost in the Shell*, based on Shirow Masamune's Japanese comic series, it occurred to me: How do I know I'm not a cyborg, installed by some great Machiavellian organization to surreptitiously spread their deceptions through my film criticisms? It can't be. . . I'm just a nice liberal guy, trying to make sure folks spend their movie money wisely. Or is that simply what I've been programmed to think?

Although still not sure, as sci-fi writer Philip K. Dick asked, if androids dream of electric sheep, I now must move on to wondering if Ancestry.Com might help a disillusioned cyborg learn his identity. All of which recalls the wisdom implicit in the rhetorical question posed by a pretty but tired, middle-aged waitress in a rural Iowa diner, circa 1969, who, looking up from wiping the worn, Formica counter, opined, "Who's to say what's real?" Her thoughts aptly foretold the provocative questions asked by "Ghost in the Shell."

Doing a backflip off the roof of a high-rise building in a stunningly colorful, jam-packed metropolis with Asian overtones, Scarlett Johansson's Major Mira Killian, counterterrorist fighter extraordinaire, makes like the human version of Angel Falls. Only thing is, maybe like me, she's not completely human, which, in a variation of "to be or not to be," is the question. You see, her original anatomy was destroyed, but thanks to Juliette Binoche's Dr. Ouelet at the Hanka Corporation, under contract to the government, her brain was put in a robotic body.

Connoisseurs of the female form will be happy to note that the engineers at Hanka, run by a fellow named Cutter (Peter Ferdinando) who we immediately distrust, do a very good job of reconstructing Ms. Johansson's figure. And don't worry...that somersault in the previous paragraph leads not to the sidewalk below, but rather magically into the digital, cyber world of the near future where beings who share the Major's hybrid attributes try to make sense of the information explosion's infinite potentiality, good and bad.

Yep, it's all pretty anthropomorphized down there, or wherever it is, replete with hacker-installed viruses that, in some cases, whimsically take the form of insects. But what it really is, for all intents and purposes, is the battleground of the Brave New World....a place I fear we are currently experiencing in its threatening nascency. When you are hungry, you notice restaurants, and so it makes sense that in our search for truth, jus-

tice and the American way, we notice supportive allegories in our art.

Thus, it might not be irony at all that, in this entertaining tale, we recognize our own patriotic attempt to discover whether or not a foreign power has exerted its will on us through computer wizardry, and whether that cyber warfare was aided and abetted by human confederates. Our present situation is metaphorically echoed in the lessons of "Ghost in the Shell." Truth itself is under attack.

Of course this obscene threat to civilization couldn't stand a chance if it weren't for the rise of a whole new class of deniers...a Greek chorus to the villain. They have been duped into thinking that things will be better for them in their demagogue's phony world, and enthusiastically bear false witness to obfuscate the quest for honesty. Such is what is sown out of fear and in search of pie-in-the-sky solutions. It is much easier to believe in ideology than to face the hard facts of reality. It's not for nothing that the great philosopher assured that truth is beauty.

Though director Sanders injects a smidgen of gray area into his story, he's much more interested in the age old fight between good and evil. It's a given that, in the world depicted, a raft of civil liberties have already gone by the wayside. So the goal now is to hold that line, and to be ever vigilant of the unholy alliance that can occur when business, technology and government allow humanity's greedier instincts to take precedence over charity, wisdom and an altruistic vision for the future.

Hence, while the tale does include a rebel group of cyborgs seeking its own form of vengeance against The Man, there is otherwise little quibbling about what is right or wrong. Mira is a terrific heroine, a Yin and Yang of human/robot convergence who symbolizes a frightening but ultimately optimistic melding of biology and machine. She is worthy of idolizing song and lunch box adoration.

As such, I especially recommend her example to those senators and congressmen who have thus far stayed neutral in our moral crisis. As for their minions who don't necessarily care about subtext, hifalutin axioms, Aesop-like deductions or even the fight for freedom for that matter, we can only hope that the exciting action that plays across the eye-filling landscape in *Ghost in the Shell* sparks a civic-minded spirit in them.

\*\*\*  
*Ghost in the Shell*, rated PG-13, is a Paramount Pictures release directed by Rupert Sanders and stars Scarlett Johansson, Pilou Asbæk, and Takeshi Kitano. Running time: 107 minutes.

## Fanwood Library Presents A Streetcar Named Desire

FANWOOD – The Fanwood Memorial Library will present *A Streetcar Named Desire* on Saturday, April 22. The public is invited to the library for this iconic Tennessee Williams play performed by the Hudson Shakespeare Company.

Set in New Orleans in the 1940s, Blanche DuBois (Cassidy Dermott) arrives at the home of her sister, Stella, and husband, Stanley Kowalski (Peter Banks-Kenny) after suffering the loss of her ancestral home and job. Skeptical of the story, Stanley grows infuriated by Blanche losing his wife's birthright, and sets out to reveal the truth behind the circumstance. The conflict

between the two unfolds with tragic and violent consequence.

William Shakespeare once wrote "All the World's a Stage" and no other passage can better describe the history and philosophy of the Hudson Shakespeare Company. Since 1992, the company has produced over 100 productions and counting in a variety of venues from city parks to libraries to courtyards.

This performance of *Streetcar Named Desire* is sponsored by the Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library. For more information and registration for this or any of our programs, visit [www.fanwoodlibrary.org](http://www.fanwoodlibrary.org) or call (908) 322-6400.

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**FINE TUNED...**Following a March 18 audition with approximately 135 students throughout New Jersey, all four auditioning Edison Intermediate School students were accepted to perform in the All State Intermediate Orchestra. The Westfield musicians who will perform on Saturday, May 13, at 3 p.m. at Summit High School, from left to right, are: Kevin Chen, sixth grade, viola; Amy Xiao, seventh grade, violin; Kelly Eagan, eighth grade, bass; and Dylan McCann, eighth grade, viola. Amanda Gant, instrumental music director at Edison Intermediate School, acknowledged, "It is a great privilege to be accepted into this group and I couldn't be prouder of these hard working, talented young musicians."

## National Poetry Month Celebrated in Fanwood

FANWOOD – The Carriage House Poetry Series invites the public to attend its annual National Poetry Month celebration with a free evening of poetry readings on Tuesday, April 18 beginning at 8 p.m. in the Patricia Kuran Arts Center on Watson Road, off North Martine Avenue, adjacent to Fanwood Borough Hall (GPS use 75 North Martine Avenue).

The evening's readings will feature two poets, John Amen and Hank Kalet.

Mr. Amen is the author of four collections of poetry, including *At the Threshold of Alchemy* and *Strange Theater*, a finalist for the 2016 Brockman-Campbell Award. His new collection, *Illusion of an Overwhelm*, will be released soon by NYQ. Mr. Amen's poetry, fiction, reviews, and essays have appeared in journals nationally and internationally, and his poetry has been translated into Spanish, French, Hungarian, Korean, and Hebrew. He founded and continues to edit *Pedestal Magazine*. In addition, he has released two folk rock CDs: "All I'll Never Need" and "Ridiculous Empire."

Mr. Kalet is an award-winning New Jersey journalist and poet whose work has appeared in on-line and print journals and newspapers. He ran the poetry series at the South Brunswick Library and teaches at Rutgers University and Middlesex County College. Mr. Kalet's poetry has appeared in *Exact Change Only*; *Exit 13 Magazine*; *Middlesex*; *Spitball*; *U.S. 1 Worksheets*, and other publications. His poetry collections include *Certainties and Uncertainties* and *Stealing Copper*. A new book, *As an Alien in a Land of Promise*, is a hybrid work

of journalism and poetry about men and women who lived in the now defunct Tent City in Lakewood.

The Carriage House Poetry Series was launched in 1998 and is now in its 19th year at the Kuran Arts Center, an historic Gothic Revival structure that was once a 19th century carriage house, hence the name of the series. The April 18 reading is free and open to the public. An open mic will follow the featured performances.


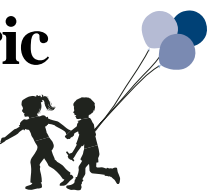
For more information, call (908) 889-7223 or (908) 889-5298. For online directions, information, and to see the 2017 Poetry Series calendar, visit [carriagehousepoetryseries.blogspot.com](http://carriagehousepoetryseries.blogspot.com).

## Hamilton Star to Teach Master Classes

AREA – New Jersey Youth Theatre (NJYT), a nonprofit theatre education organization, announced that Okieriete "Oak" Onaodowan, a Nigerian-American actor known for originating the roles of Hercules Mulligan and James Madison in Broadway's *Hamilton* will be teaching two Master Classes for NJYT focusing on "Acting Through Song." These classes will take place on Saturday, April 22, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for 13-15 year olds and 5 to 6:30 p.m. for 16-20+ year olds at the Audio Inc./NJYT studios at 172 West Westfield Avenue in Roselle Park. Only 30 seats are available for each class so reservations should be made as soon as possible.

To register for one of Mr. Onaodowan's Master Classes visit [www.njyouththeatre.org](http://www.njyouththeatre.org) or call (908) 233-3200.

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## Orchestra Friends Announce 33rd Tour of Notable Homes



**NOTABLE HOME...**This gracious 19th Century home with wrap around front porch and magnificent architectural details throughout is one of four stunning Westfield residences on display at this year's Tour of Notable Homes on Saturday, May 13 to benefit New Jersey Festival Orchestra.

WESTFIELD – On Saturday, May 13, there will be an opportunity for all to visit four outstanding Westfield homes with diverse histories and styles according to the Friends of New Jersey Festival Orchestra, the fundraising organization of the 34 year-old orchestra. To be held between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., this annual event is a tradition when homeowners open their doors for the popular Tour of Notable Homes.

In a joint announcement, co-chairs of the tour, Michelle Pierce and Samantha Altieri, this week revealed that one of the homes, a gabled Queen Anne built in 1895, is majestically situated on three quarters acre and was originally built for the Loft family who operated a grass seed company from the site.

"The home has a stylish wrap-around verandah facing the avenue where many other historical homes add to the prestigious setting," according to Ms. Pierce. As she ushers visitors through the foyer she points to such whimsical elements as the gargoyle newel post carved from mahogany in the 19th Century and a perfect "Harry Potteresque" closet under the staircase.

The co-chairs use pocket doors to access the library whose centerpiece, they point out, is a fireplace above which is a complex display of panel moldings. Adding to the warmth and character of this room is a marble wet bar. Ms. Altieri describes the formal dining room opposite the library, "It has a coffered ceiling and leaded glass windows with period wall sconces set off by a 21st Century chandelier creating an eclectic nuance."

"There is so much to see," Ms. Pierce says. "Just some of the amenities include a massive, open space that incorporates an up-to-date kitchen and great room with French doors opening to the lush grounds beyond. The home has eight bedrooms, five totally renovated bathrooms and a complete gymnasium on the third floor."

"The Tour of Notable Homes is an important fundraising element of the orchestra's budget," Alicia Barker, President of the Friends' group explains. "Ticket sales and subscriptions account for only a third of the cost of putting on a professional concert season. Income from the Home Tour also supports NJFO critical educational outreach and music therapy programs."

Tickets for the 2017 Tour of Notable Homes are \$35 in advance (\$40 on May 13) and will be available on line at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org). Tickets are also available at Baron's Drugs and Town Book Store in Westfield; Christoffers Florist in Mountainside; Norman's Hallmark in Fanwood, and Periwinkles in Cranford.

For more information, go to [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org) or visit the Friends of New Jersey Festival Orchestra on Facebook.

### 9 to 5, The Musical Gives Comedic Finish to Season

CRANFORD – In May, at CDC Theatre in Cranford, three unlikely friends will take control of their office and learn there is nothing they can't do, even in a man's world. *9 to 5 The Musical*, with music and lyrics by Dolly Parton and book by Patricia Resnick, is based on the seminal 1980 hit movie. Set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking and even a little romantic.

"Having loved the movie, I was excited to see show when it was on Broadway, and was not disappointed," said Clifford Parrish. Already in rehearsal at the theatre's home at 78 Winans Avenue in Cranford, Mr. Parrish, who is both the director and musical director of the show, shared some of his reasons for coming back to work on a show at CDC Theatre. "The audience was really with these women as their story unfolded. Even though we've come a long way on women's issues since 1979, the story still needs to be told. Even though it's a comedy, this show is about women's empowerment. The Dolly Parton score is also a lot of fun, with some truly beautiful ballads. I am excited about working with a tremendously talented cast."

The large cast features frequent performers at CDC and some new faces. Kara Wilson, Melissa Timpson and Hannah Schroeder take the leading roles of Judy, Violet and Doralee. Richard Colonna will be their lecherous boss Mr. Hart and Arlene Britt his adoring employee Roz. Jason Cilento is Joe, a handsome accountant smitten with Violet while Mark Piltz plays Doralee's supportive and attractive husband Dwayne, with Will Roper as Violet's teenage son Josh. Joel Redmount will play Hart's boss and Chairman of the Board, Mr. Tinsworthy and Danielle Gruskiewicz is Hart's unsuspecting wife. The ensemble and featured roles will be brought to life by Michele Greenspan, Katherine Brown, Joanna Riley, Carolyn Milhiser, Beth Kasper, Zach Mazouat, Edgar Hidalgo and Tommy Lackamy.

The production will open on Friday, May 5 and run weekends through Saturday, May 20. Additional information and tickets can be found by visiting [www.cdctheatre.org](http://www.cdctheatre.org).

### Panel Discussion Planned On College Dance

PRINCETON – On Friday, April 28 at 5:15 p.m., American Repertory Ballet will host a panel discussion, "Dancing Your Way into College," as part of its On Pointe enrichment series. This event will be held at ARB's Princeton studios, located in the Princeton Shopping Center (301 North Harrison Street, above McCaffrey's). This event is free and open to the public.

This event caters to students both interested in pursuing a degree in dance or a degree in another subject area while continuing to dance as an extracurricular activity. Princeton Ballet School's Dean of Students, Lisa de Ravel, will lead a discussion for parents and students with Cheryl Whitney, asst. professor of dance at Rider University and faculty at Princeton Ballet School. "Dancing Your Way into College" is recommended for high school students and their parents or guardians.

For more information about American Repertory Ballet and Princeton Ballet School, please visit [www.arballet.org](http://www.arballet.org).

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**858 Summit Avenue, Westfield** **\$1,275,000.**  
Honored as Westfield Living's Home of the Month, the inventive layout of this young Colonial melds with your life. The fire lit family room flows to the gourmet kitchen. Highlights include a marvelous master suite, loft, a third floor media room or guest suite and an outdoor kitchen.



**46 Mildred Terrace, Clark** **\$579,000.**  
The open floor plan offers an ideal venue for comfortable yet gracious living. Whether you are in the family room with cathedral ceiling or the living room with fireplace you are near the updated eat-in kitchen, laundry room and patio. A private master with updated bath is nearby as well.



**6 Normandy Drive, Westfield** **\$939,000.**  
Situated on a half acre of property, the move right in interior warms your heart with impressive foyer, family room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen with access to laundry/mud room, truly spacious bedrooms, updated baths - 2013, newly finished basement - 2014 and a wonderful deep backyard.



**415 Woodland Avenue, Westfield** **\$620,000.**  
Step back in time amid vintage craftsmanship mingled with coveted modern amenities. An updated kitchen and multi-zone central air sit side-by-side with wide plank pumpkin pine floors and beamed ceilings. The second floor baths are updated and there's a fabulous view of the golf course.



**2137 Maple View Court, Scotch Plains** **\$515,000.**  
The spacious interior of this Colonial captivates with gleaming hardwood floors and meaningful updates such as the kitchen with stainless 5-burner gas stove & built-in microwave and main bath. The family room offers a powder room and the master bedroom has a full bath & walk-in closet.



**413 Clifton Street, Westfield** **\$1,350,000.**  
The intuitive interior of this newer Colonial anticipates almost all your needs. The family room boasts custom built-ins while the adjoining eat-in kitchen is thoughtfully laid out for easy of use. There's a first floor guest suite, easily finished third floor, junior suite and basement with full bath.

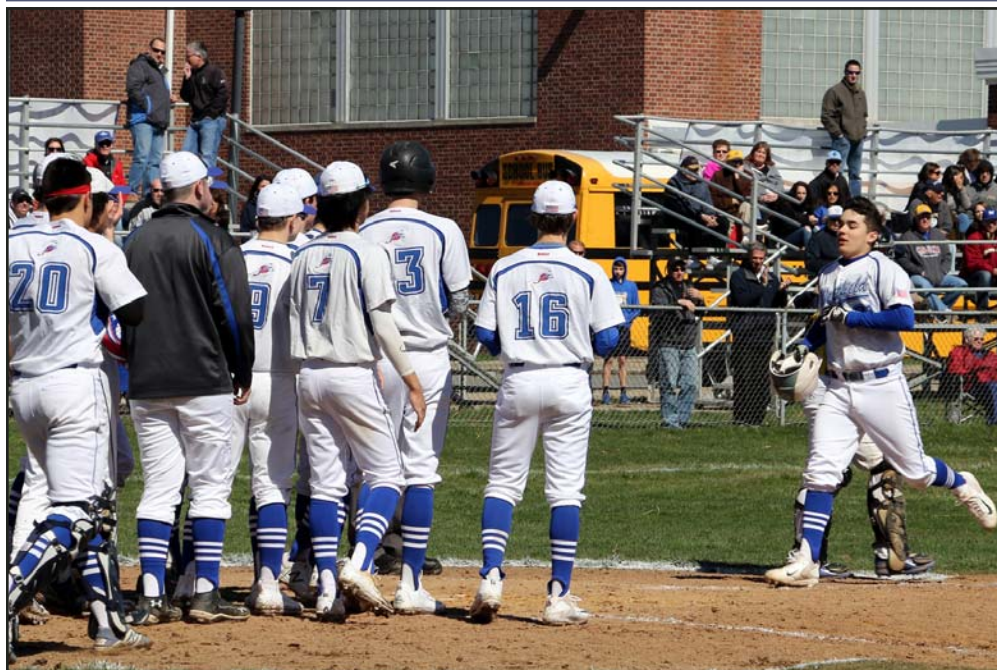
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***CRUZ WHACKS HR, DOUBLE; SCANLON Ks 6, WALKS 0; 'OBO' 2B, 1B, RUN; BAKIE DOUBLES***

## Blue Devils' Bats Deliver 9-3 Victory Over Cranford Nine

By **DAVID B. CORBIN**

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Pitching did not work out well for the visiting Cranford Cougars but the Westfield High School baseball team received a fine pitching performance from senior Connor Scanlon, along with an offensive onslaught that led to a 9-3 Blue Devil victory on April 8. The 1-1 Blue Devils tagged Cougar pitchers Vince Genova, Chris Librera and Kevin Donovan for 12 hits, which included a pair of doubles and a home run.

"It starts with pitching and if we

are going to have any success, it's going to have to be on the mound," Cougar Head Coach Dennis McCaffery stressed during a preseason interview (*March 30 issue*).

"You definitely got to get on the mound and throw strikes. You got to make all the plays in the field," Cougar senior Brian Oblachinski said.

"We have a lot of good pitchers that are interchangeable as starters or relievers. As long as we get the ball over the plate, we will be successful," senior Ryan Bakie

said.

Scanlon held the Cougars scoreless for the first three innings before yielding two runs in the fourth and one in the fifth. Scanlon pitched six complete innings and recorded six strikeouts, while walking none and allowing eight hits.

"I felt great out there. People were making plays behind me and I had confidence in our order to get some runs to help me secure the 'W,'" Scanlon said.

"The thing about him, last week he threw in a scrimmage and threw 35 pitches in one inning. Today it took him four innings to get to 35 pitches because his control was right where he wanted

it," Blue Devil Head Coach Bob Brewster pointed out.

Tyler Hoffman tossed the seventh inning and struck out one batter and allowed just a double to Bakie.

"I definitely am not hitting the way I would like to but it's only the first two games in. Coach

'Mac' always says the way to win a high school baseball game is first pitching, second defense, third hitting. As long as we figure out hitting, I think we will be successful for the rest of the season," Bakie said.

The two-run home run and one of the doubles came off the bat of senior Victor Cruz, who finished 2-for-4 with two RBI and two runs scored. Cruz doubled in the first inning and scored off Owen Kessler's looping single into shallow right field. His two-run homer sparked a three-run third inning that gave the Blue Devils a 4-0 lead. With Alex Pancini (1-for-3) on base with a walk, Cruz tagged Genova's pitch and plopped it over the leftfield fence. Chris Wagner (2-for-3, 2 runs) fol-

**BALLYHOO**

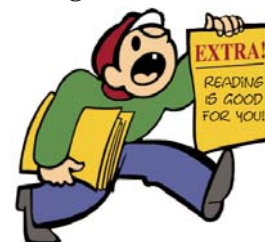
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lowed with a single, Kessler took a fastball on the foot, Jake Vall-Llobera (1-for-3, 2 runs, RBI) chopped an infield single to load the bases then Wagner scored on Jake Lerie's RBI ground out.

"I was a little passive. I haven't seen that pitcher so I actually took the first two strikes on both counts. Both were 0-2 and he threw me a curveball right down the middle. It was a mistake on his part and I took advantage," Cruz explained.

"Victor is one of our fellow captains. For him to get the power going will be huge for us," Scanlon said.

The Cougars' two-run fourth inning began with a leadoff double by Oblachinski (2-for-4, RBI, run). Patrick Connelly (2-for-4, RBI, run) curled a single over third. James Shriner (2-for-3, double) ricocheted an RBI single off Scanlon. Connelly scored the second run when Tom Armstrong's grounder slipped between the second baseman's legs.

"He threw two inside fastballs

on both my hits. I pulled them to leftfield. One was in the air. One was on the ground but he [Scanlon] did a great job on the mound," Oblachinski said.

In the Westfield fourth, James Friel slashed a single over first,

advanced to second on Steve Barden's sacrifice bunt and dashed to third on Pancini's slow single by short. Friel then scored on Librera's balk. First baseman Armstrong got the third out with a sliding catch in the mud in foul



territory.

In the Cranford fifth, Jim Wozniak tapped a one-out single then was forced out at second on Bakie's grounder to first. Bakie sprinted to third on Oblachinski's hit-and-run single then Connelly lined an RBI single to center.

Westfield answered with two runs. Vall-Llobera walked, Lerie (2-for-4, run, 2 RBI) singled and Matt LaCorte (2-for-3) put down a bunt single, loading the bases. Friel launched an RBI sac fly then Lerie scored on a wild pitch. Barden stepped up and was instructed to attempt a squeeze bunt with two strikes but it rolled foul for an out.

"That's just Brewster. He's always trying whatever way to get in runs whether it be timely hits or playing small ball to try to get the win anyway," Cruz said.

"I tried it. Stevie is a very good bunter but the kid threw a nasty curveball to the left-hand batter's box. At least he got his bat on the ball and that's OK. It allowed everybody to know that we will bunt at any time. We got that

one the fifth inning, beautiful bunt by Matty LaCorte. Got a bases loaded and started a big rally for us," Coach Brewster said. "We did a lot of little things well." In the sixth, Wagner singled. Later Vall-Llobera's everybody-safe fielder's choice allowed Wagner to dance home. Vall-Llobera scored on Lerie's long double to center.

"Last year we started 0-3. This year we got a win in our second game, which is a big confidence boost. We have a deep pitching rotation and a great lineup, so we are excited for the rest of the year," Scanlon said.

"We definitely got to hit better. We had some times where we had a man on second, no outs and Westfield had three straight strikeouts in a row, which kind of kills it," Oblachinski said. "We will be alright!"

<b>Cranford</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Westfield</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>9</b>

*Probitas Verus Honos*





## Westfield Blue Devils' Big Bats Deliver 9-3 Victory Over Cougars in Baseball





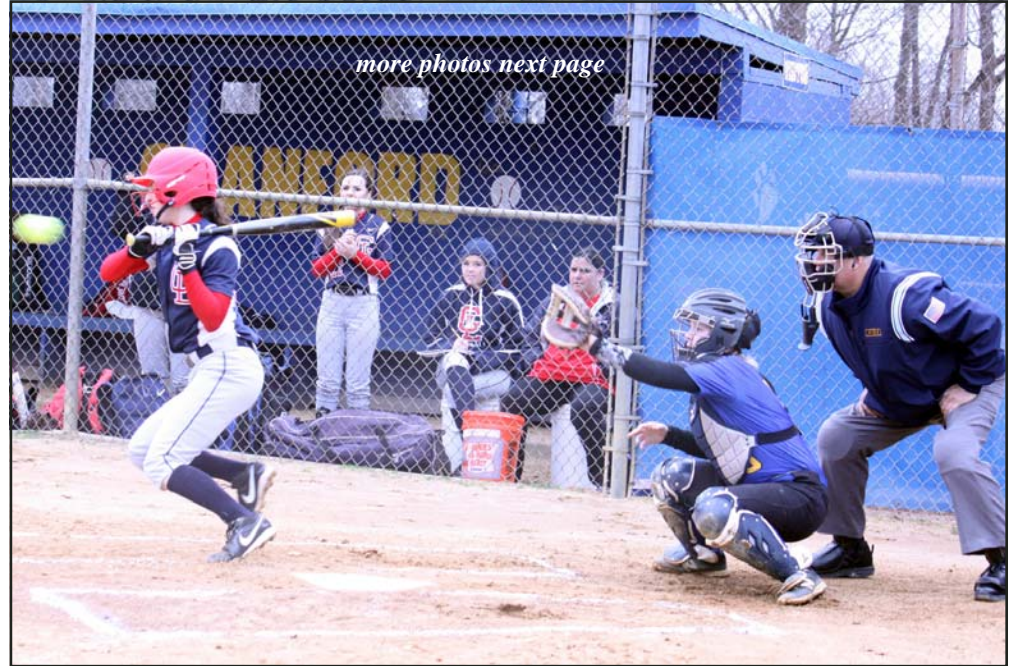


## Westfield Blue Devils' Big Bats Deliver 9-3 Victory Over Cougars in Baseball





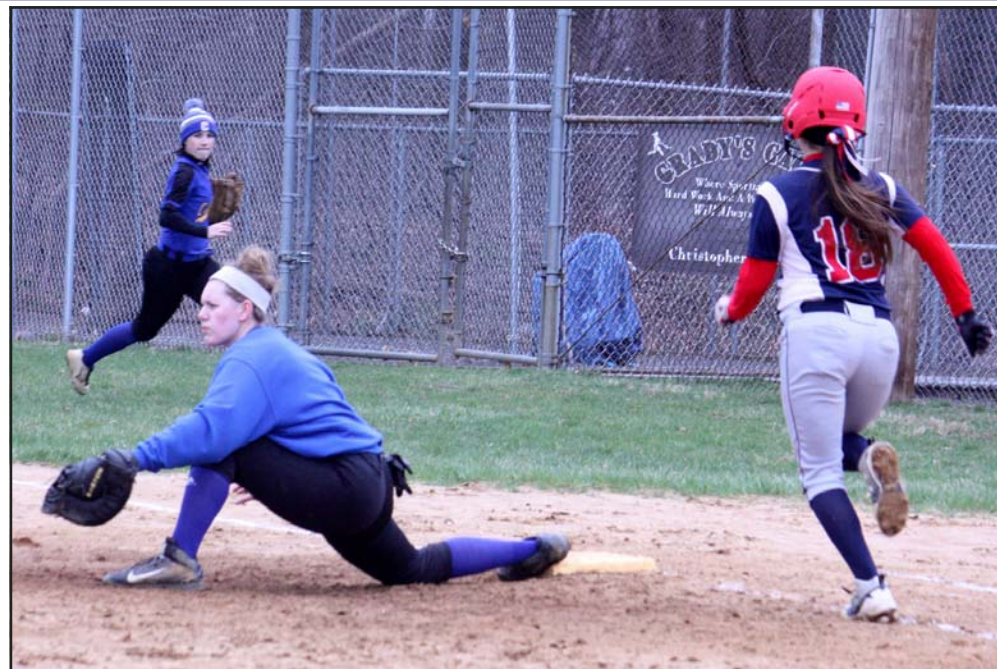
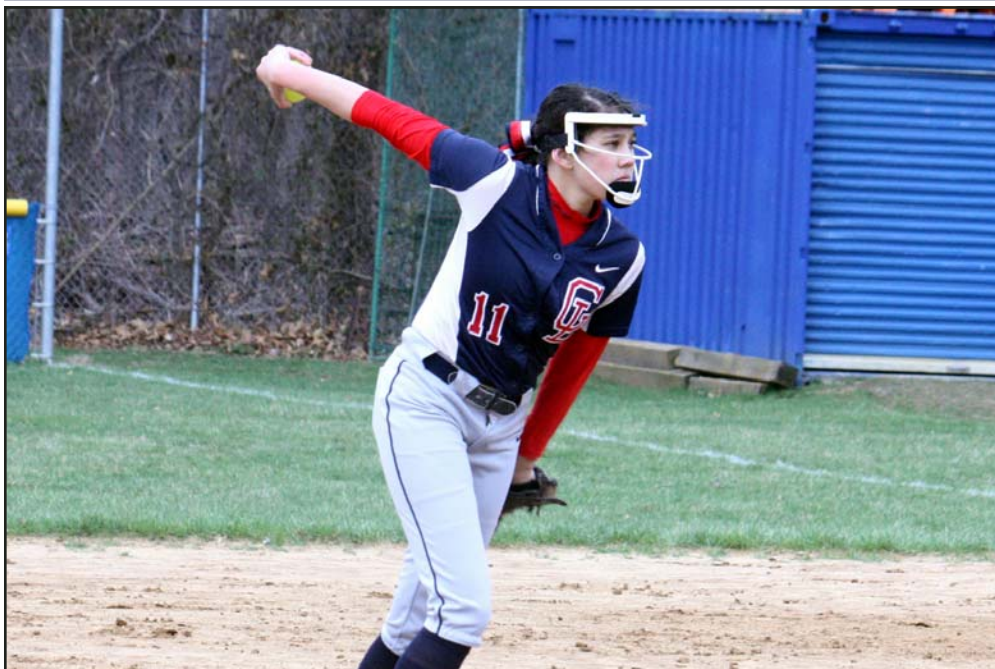
Story on page 11 – The Westfield Leader



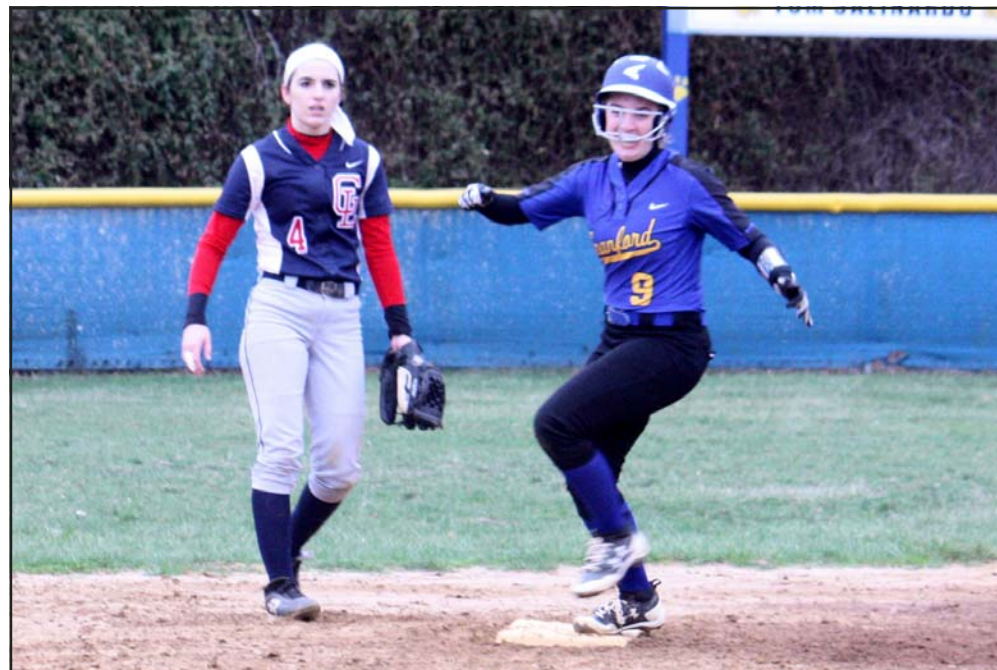
## Cougars Score Twice in Seventh; Stun Governor Livingston Highlanders, 2-1







## Cougars Score Twice in Seventh; Stun Governor Livingston Highlanders, 2-1





*Story on page 13 – The Westfield Leader**more photos next page*

## Cranford Cougars Score Twice in Seventh; Shock Raiders in Baseball Classic, 3-2







## Cranford Cougars Score Twice in Seventh; Shock Raiders in Baseball Classic, 3-2







## Cranford Cougars Score Twice in Seventh; Shock Raiders in Baseball Classic, 3-2





# Cranford to Publish RFP For Birchwood Property

By **CHRISTINA M. HINKE**  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

**CRANFORD** — The township committee passed, 5 to 0, a resolution Tuesday to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for the sale and redevelopment of the property it purchased for some \$18 million at 215 and 235 Birchwood Avenue. On Thursday, April 20, the committee will ask the planning board to evaluate whether the property should be designated an area in need of redevelopment.

Jeffrey Surenian was authorized for a contract of \$5,000 to provide affordable-housing legal services.

The committee also passed two ordinances on final reading that

pertain to garbage can placement and the property maintenance code.

The committee also introduced an ordinance amending the code pertaining to property maintenance. The committee had revised it to deal with vacant and underutilized properties. Additionally, the committee is looking to cull a list of abandoned properties.

"This allows us to take other steps that weren't in the original ordinance," Mayor Thomas Hannen, Jr. said.

Two tax refunds were granted: \$126,615 to 500 North Avenue East, and \$63,627 to 3 Phillips Street.

The committee discussed the 2017 capital budget at its workshop Monday and conference session on Tuesday. The capital budget is likely to be introduced at its next public meeting.

During workshop, Commissioner Andis Kalnins had said he would prefer the budget be at \$3.4 million as in previous years. Commissioner Ann Dooley said, "I am disappointed what we are doing with road resurfacing. I am concerned about Elm Street and James Street."

The road resurfacing portion of the budget is just under \$2 million, about 30 percent less than in 2016, Ms. Dooley said. It is about half the amount in 2014, when the committee decided to start investing in resurfacing roads.

Superintendent of Public Works Steve Wardell has a proposed list of roads that need repair, Commissioner Dooley said. "This budget was not enough to meet his existing list," she noted.

As discussed at workshop, part of the capital budget is to include \$450,000 for a new traffic light at North Union Avenue and Alden Street, as well as some new handicap-accessibility ramps at the intersections there and resurfacing a portion of Alden Street. The capital budget is to include about \$75,000 for new valves for the backflow preventers that recently broke at the pump station on Riverside Drive. Also, a server at town hall needs to be upgraded after it went down recently.

In an attempt to reduce the capital budget further in talks at the conference session Tuesday, the committee discussed halving the parks budget to \$100,000. However, Mayor Hannen suggested moving that to road re-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Kristan McAliney for The Westfield Leader

**OPENING DAY...**The Garwood Baseball League held their opening day parade on Saturday to mark the start of the spring season.

## Garwood OKs Resolution For Fair Share Housing Plan

By **MICHAEL BONACCORSO**  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

**GARWOOD** — The borough council announced Tuesday night that a special meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, for the purpose of considering and adopting a resolution endorsing the fair share housing plan element summary. The adopted summary will be submitted to the court at the Fair Share Hearing at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth.

"The county fair share hearing will answer the rhetorical question on whether towns adhere to a broader definition of being fair to low income and moderate income housing," said Board Attorney Robert F. Renaud.

Mayor Charles Lombardo and the council said it is important for Garwood and all towns to be aligned with state standards on fair housing to avoid builder rem-

edy lawsuits.

"It is unclear how fair share housing will be defined under a new Governor and the state Supreme Court. All we have is current standards and definitions defined currently," Mr. Renaud said.

In other business, it was noted that Garwood residents do not have to separate recyclables from their general garbage. Waste Management's contract with the borough states the company will dispose both residential recycle and garbage placed in the same bag. The agreement is meant to make disposal an easier process for residents.

"I feel as if the single-stream system disposing garbage and recycle into the same truck takes advantage of our taxes. The resident pays for both, but the company may not separate the two," resident Bruce Paterson said. "I

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Christina M. Hinke for The Westfield Leader

**KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE...**Barbara Krause, center, and Bonnie Cierkowski, members of the Crane's Ford Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, present Mayor Tom Hannen, Jr. with a national historic preservation recognition award for the refurbishment of the World War I flagpole at Eastman Plaza that was originally erected in 1918. A sum of \$50,000 was raised through efforts of the flagpole restoration committee for the flagpole's restoration.



## Cranford to Publish RFP for Birchwood Prop.

surfacing. Commissioner Mary O'Connor said, "If we take 100,000 out for parks I'd rather reduce the budget and not add to the roads. Deputy Mayor Patrick Giblin said he would rather have the funds allocated to the parks. "We are splitting hairs on \$2 to 300,000 when we have an \$18-million Birchwood purchase," Mr. Giblin said.

After finding reductions to bring the capital budget down to just over \$3.7 million, Mr. Kalnins said he was still not in favor of the capital budget, and would want it to be lowered to \$3.4 million. He suggested removing the purchase of a new sewer truck and an ambulance, and spend less on resurfacing Alden Street.

Also, the township had a meeting with a representative of Union County yesterday about Droscher Park and Sperry Park to address desilting and desnagging the river and repair of the dams there. Ms. Dooley had said that about two weeks

ago the county said it did not own the dams, while Ms. Dooley contends the county owns those dams but Cranford maintains them.

In the engineers report presented Monday, Township Engineer Carl O'Brien said the baseball field is to be completed Friday, and by the end of next week the work at the perimeters of the field will be complete.

The remaining piece of resurfacing Lincoln Avenue, as well as the basketball courts at Lincoln Park, are scheduled to be complete by July 1 and ready for use by Fourth of July weekend.

The flood control projects for Orchard Brook and Phase 2B remain in the planning stage. Mr. O'Brien is to schedule a meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). "We need to move forward on a few things. We need some help down there," Mr. O'Brien said.

Police Chief James Wozniak spoke to the committee at its conference session Tuesday. They discussed hiring a new ser-

geant to replace Detective Sergeant Richard Vitale, who retired in January after 25 years of service. Sergeant Gene Perrotta was reassigned to fill Mr. Vitale's position in the internal affairs division. Detective Sergeant Matthew Nazzaro was subsequently reassigned from his duties as School Resource Officer to fill Mr. Perrotta's position. Detective Kelly Rieder currently serves as School Resource Officer, as part of the Juvenile Bureau, and was working together with Mr. Nazzaro in that role before his reassignment.

Chief Wozniak had made the request to the committee in mid-December 2016 to hire a new officer to fill the sergeant position that would be left vacant from the retirement. Then, in January, a resolution was on the agenda to approve a new hire but was subsequently pulled from the agenda, "without explanation," Chief Wozniak said.

"If the support isn't there to maintain our staffing levels...I need to know," Chief Wozniak said. Currently, the Cranford Police Department has 52 officers. The Police Department has requested to have 54 officers, which had been denied by the committee last year.

"It became a burden to one of my lieutenants," said Chief Wozniak, going on to say it lowered morale and affected job performance.

## Ladies Auxiliary Sets Clothing Drive Date

**GARWOOD** — The Ladies Auxiliary of the Garwood Fire Department will hold a clothing drive on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will take place rain or shine at the Garwood Fire House, located at 415 South Avenue.

The following items are being collected: shoes, stuffed animals,

handbags, linens, belts, men's, women's and children's clothing. Clothes will not be cut up. Money earned from the clothing drive goes to support the volunteer fire department and scholarships for local children.

For additional information or for a pickup of items on April 29, call Barb at (908) 868-4358.



Kristan McAlinney for The Westfield Leader

**A GARWOOD TRADITION...**A Garwood fire engine leads the Garwood Baseball League opening day parade on Saturday. The parade started at Lincoln School en route to the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex.

## GW OKs Housing Resolution

understand some residents may separate recycle from their general garbage. This is not necessary and Waste Management separates the two entities at their plant," Council President Sara Todisco said.

"Either which way by law, we must pay for both recycling and garbage disposal as separate entities no matter how it is removed by a company," Councilman Joseph Sarno said.

"Hartman Park would better serve the community if at least a single bathroom was installed

and the park was better kept," said resident Amanda Langston, during the public comment part of the meeting.

Councilwoman Todisco agreed that the Building and Grounds Committee can find ways to enhance Hartman Park. "I will see if we have capital expenditure funding in our budget or seek grants to enhance the park," said Councilwoman Todisco, who is also chairwoman of the finance committee.

The municipal budget will be adopted in a separate public hearing on Tuesday, April 25. The meeting will be held at 7:15 p.m. or soon thereafter.

Village Supermarket, Inc. was approved for a \$22,438 property tax refund.

"The refund will be offset by money set aside for refund liability," Council President Todisco said.

In addition she said, "Four tons of asphalt was utilized by the municipality to mend residential roads" following the winter season.



Christina M. Hinkle for The Westfield Leader

**NEW ZONING OFFICER...**Cranford's new Zoning Officer Ron Johnson was welcomed by the planning board at last Wednesday's board meeting. He previously held the position of assistant planner in Plainfield.



# Birchwood Redevelopment Hearing Set for April 20

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The planning board at its workshop meeting last Wednesday discussed its upcoming Thursday, April 20 hearing of the of over 15 acres of properties located at 215 and 235 Birchwood Avenue the township purchased. The planning board is to determine whether to make a recommendation that the property should be designated by the governing body of the Township of Cranford as a Non-Condensation Area in Need of Redevelopment pursuant to state statute.

The township agreed to purchase the property at the end of 2016 for some \$18 million from the developer S. Hekemian, who had won a builder's remedy lawsuit to build a 360-unit apartment building there. As part of the township's due diligence period of its purchase, the township hired an environmental firm to perform site tests. A consulting firm has tested the groundwater there, Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr. said, and it "has come back good."

"There are some base neutrals in some of the samples they took. So they are doing more samples," Mayor Hannen said. "We should be in pretty good shape based on what we were told so far."

The board also welcomed the newly hired Zoning Officer Ron Johnson after the previous zoning officer and the assistant zoning officer resigned.

Mr. Johnson previously held the position of assistant planner in Plainfield. He also is experienced in web design and writes

a blog about planning issues, Mr. Johnson said of his experience. He developed PlainfieldPermits.com. The site, when live, will allow people to file for permits, describe and advise people best on how to get a permit, and also explain rules about historic preservation.

"I worked with the zoning board and planning board in Plainfield closely," Mr. Johnson said.

"I would love to develop tools for the Cranford community as well," he said.

Mr. Johnson said he also developed two transit villages in Plainfield while there. He is a graduate of the Edward J. Bloustein School at Rutgers University.

In other discussion, the mayor said the Downtown Management Corporation (DMC) has asked the planning board to codify design standards for the downtown.

Commissioner Ann Dooley said she had reviewed a draft of the DMC's strategic plan, which partly explores parking and traffic congestion. "They are doing great things and have concrete suggestions," Ms. Dooley said.

Planning board member Dan Aschenbach brought up the underutilization of the parking garage in the downtown.

Mayor Hannen suggested that should North Avenue go under a redevelopment with mixed-use buildings, that developers could pay the town for parking in the garage in lieu of parking on site.

It was also noted by board member Lynda Feder that parking on North Avenue in front of the train station is mostly empty, and suggested to allow longer term parking there.

The board met in executive session following the open work-session meeting.

## Commentary

### Cranfords' Mixed-Use Development On North Avenue In Downtown

When the township committee decided to purchase the almost 16-acre of property on Birchwood Avenue from the developer that sought to build a 360-unit apartment building on the outskirts of the township, members of the committee said it decided to add to its debt as a means to alleviate influx of children to the school system. The board of education said it would cost the school district an additional \$1.6 million if the 360 units were built as planned. So, now the township has agreed to purchase Birchwood and find a developer to build it with about 100 fewer units, and about half the affordable housing units.

Then the mayor says he wants to see North Avenue developed. Next up for possible redevelopment is 750 Walnut Avenue, on the border of Clark — again more families, more children. Which is it? Is the township concerned that the schools will become over-

crowded with more development or is there some other agenda with the purchase of Birchwood? Why would the committee say development of Birchwood would burden the school district, yet further development on North Avenue would not? They may say families won't move in there, but Cranford is named the number one town in Union County for families. So, new development would certainly attract young families who want to walk to the downtown, live affordably, and have their children attend great schools.

Also, the issue of flooding comes into play with the Rahway River flowing through part of the area on North Avenue they wish to develop. Remember Irene, and how that area was deep with floodwater only boats could get through? PSE&G even decided to raise its substation, which sits behind the North Avenue section the township wishes to develop, to avoid power outages due to flooding.

The township officials have double talked when it comes to flood control concerns. The town-

ship fought in court to have Birchwood Avenue not developed, saying it was not developable because it is situated in a floodway. On Thursday, April 20, the township will ask the planning board to deem Birchwood an area in need of redevelopment. If the township was so concerned about adding to the flooding problems with further development than it would find other ways to comply with its affordable housing requirements, and not build in areas that are already burdened by flood problems.

The township purchased the former MDTV building on North Avenue and the parking lot across the street, and it still sits without a buyer. Is the township looking to unload its debt by making that portion of North Avenue an area in need of redevelopment, thus attracting developers with tax abatements? A public space may be a better solution on North Avenue instead of four-story apartment buildings, considering the Downtown Management Corporation has said the downtown lacks a public space to congregate. Cranford government wants open space, until it doesn't.

Let the taxpayer decide the fate of further downtown development, and whether it should invest in flood protection, and open space in the downtown, by adding a referendum in this year's election. In the final analysis, the taxpayer gets the bill.

### Cranford Rec. Has Program Openings

CRANFORD — The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced that there are still openings in its Spring 2017 programs. Registration for all programs in Pre-School, Kinder, Youth and Adult may be done online by visiting [register.communitypass.net/cranford](http://register.communitypass.net/cranford).

For additional information or questions, call the Cranford Recreation and Parks Department at (908) 709-7283. Classes are for Cranford residents only.

### News Posted at [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com)

Item 2017-04-10 Garwood - Clothing Drive, Ladies Auxiliary of the Garwood Fire Dept., Saturday, April 29 at the Garwood Fire Dept. From: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine. The following items are being collected: Shoes, stuffed animals, handbags, linens, belts men's, women's, and children's clothing. Clothes will not be cut up. Money earned from the clothing drive goes to support our volunteer department and scholarships for local children. For additional information or for a pick-up of your items on Saturday, April 29, please call Barb at 868-4358.

Item 2017-04-10 Cranford - The Cranford Police Department will be conducting a Driving While Intoxicated checkpoint within the township from 9 p.m. on Friday, April 28 until 3 a.m. on Saturday, April 29.





## POLICE BLOTTER

## GARWOOD

Tuesday, March 28, Cody Kettwig, 27, and Robert Thorngren, Jr., 29, of Sioux Falls, S.D. were arrested and charged with credit card fraud and forgery after police received a complaint from the Garwood branch of the U.S. Postal Service that two white males were in the post office purchasing stamps with what postal employees believed to be credit cards containing fraudulent information. Postal employees recognized one of the individuals from a prior transaction two weeks earlier involving a credit card purchase with stolen information. Police responded and detained Kettwig as he exited the

post office. At that time Kettwig had on his person 41 credit cards and a room key for the Homewood Suites in Cranford. At the same time officers came upon the second suspect, Thorngren, walking down Center Street. Both were taken into custody. A search warrant was obtained for the room at the Homewood Suites. In the room were several industrial printers used to print credit cards, embossing machines, hard drives and approximately 1,000 blank credit cards. Both suspects were charged with multiple complaints including theft by unlawful taking, forgery and fraudulent use of credit cards.

Thursday, March 30, Anthony Miller, 50, of Elizabeth was arrested on charges of criminal trespass and hindering apprehension after a representative of a store

complained that a man who has been banned from the establishment for prior acts of shoplifting was on the premises. Officers responded and spoke to the man, who identified himself as Tariq Ishamel. During the course of their investigation the officers were able to properly identify the individual as Anthony Miller and confirm that he was in fact banned from the store. It also was discovered that Miller had three outstanding warrants totaling \$1,250. Miller was served two complaints for criminal trespass and hindering apprehension by providing a false name. He was transported to the Union County jail on the outstanding warrants.

## 9 to 5, The Musical Gives Comedic Finish to Season

CRANFORD – In May, at CDC Theatre in Cranford, three unlikely friends will take control of their office and learn there is nothing they can't do, even in a man's world. *9 to 5 The Musical*, with music and lyrics by Dolly Parton and book by Patricia Resnick, is based on the seminal 1980 hit movie. Set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking and even a little romantic.

"Having loved the movie, I was excited to see show when it was on Broadway, and was not disappointed," said Clifford Parrish. Already in rehearsal at the theatre's home at 78 Winans Avenue in Cranford, Mr. Parrish, who is both the director and musical director of the show, shared some of his reasons for coming back to work on a show at CDC Theatre. "The audience was really with these women as their story unfolded. Even though we've come a long way on women's issues since 1979, the story still needs to be told. Even though it's a comedy, this show is about women's empowerment. The Dolly Parton score is also a lot of fun, with

some truly beautiful ballads. I am excited about working with a tremendously talented cast."

The large cast features frequent performers at CDC and some new faces. Kara Wilson, Melissa Timpson and Hannah Schroeder take the leading roles of Judy, Violet and Doralee. Richard Colonna will be their lecherous boss Mr. Hart and Arlene Britt his adoring employee Roz. Jason Cilento is Joe, a handsome accountant smitten with Violet while Mark Piltz plays Doralee's supportive and attractive husband Dwayne, with Will Roper as Violet's teenage son Josh. Joel Redmount will play Hart's boss and Chairman of the Board, Mr. Tinsworthy and Danielle Gruskiewicz is Hart's unsuspecting wife. The ensemble and featured roles will be brought to life by Michele Greenspan, Katherine Brown, Joanna Riley, Carolyn Milhiser, Beth Kasper, Zach Mazouat, Edgar Hidalgo and Tommy Luckamy.

The production will open on Friday, May 5 and run weekends through Saturday, May 20. Additional information and tickets can be found by visiting [www.cdctheatre.org](http://www.cdctheatre.org).

## 'Creative Women' to Meet In Garwood on April 22

GARWOOD — The "Creative Women" group, which offers women an opportunity to meet and talk about creative issues, receive inspiration, discuss projects and support each other, will hold its next meeting on Saturday, April 22. It will take place from 11 a.m. to noon at the Garwood Public Library, located at 411 Third Avenue, Garwood.

This group is geared toward women who knit, sew, embroi-

der, scrapbook, paint or do any other activity they consider "creative," even if they do not define themselves as an "artist."

It exists for participants to inspire one another, stimulate creative potential and explore new ways of looking at their creative goals and their work. Lively discussions and information about galleries and stores to visit for inspiration also are part of the agenda. Meetings are informal.

The group was started by Garwood artist Leona M. Seufert, who stated that, "Women who aren't professional artists don't exhibit or sell what they create, so this would be an opportunity to share their creativity with others and receive like-minded support. I moved to Garwood in 2015 and have met many a 'creative woman' here. So let's get together and inspire each other!"

Ms. Seufert is a professional artist, creating unique jewelry and doing digital photography enhanced in Photoshop. She has exhibited her artwork in numerous group and solo shows in galleries in the tri-state area and at the Hoboken Historical Museum in Hoboken and the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. Ms. Seufert has her studio in Garwood. To view her art on her online gallery, visit [studio-l.tripod.com/index.htm](http://studio-l.tripod.com/index.htm). She may be contacted at [studio-l@att.net](mailto:studio-l@att.net). For questions about the Creative Women Group, call (908) 228-2427.

## Susan Naples Is Chosen As Educator of the Year

GARWOOD – Susan M. Naples, a veteran teacher, has been chosen as Garwood's Educator of the Year. She will be honored at the 13th annual Appreciation Dinner sponsored by the Education Foundation of Garwood.

Ms. Naples, who holds a bachelor's degree from Kean University, teaches at various levels, including fifth-grade science and sixth-grade language arts. She has taught in Garwood for more than 20 years.

"Sue Naples puts her heart and soul into teaching," said Teresa Quigley, the borough's superintendent of schools.

Ms. Naples has lived in the borough for 34 years, and both of her children – Emily, a licensed optician, and Jeremy, an apprentice electrician – attended Garwood schools.

The dinner, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, at the Westwood, 438 North Ave., will include a "tricky tray" auction offering a chance to win a lottery-ticket

basket, a movie-themed basket, gift certificates from local businesses and a framed drawing valued at \$150.

Dinner tickets cost \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door. They are available at the Garwood Public Library, 411 Third Ave.; the Lincoln School, 400 Second Ave., or through the foundation president, Sara Todisco ([saramtodisco@gmail.com](mailto:saramtodisco@gmail.com) or (908) 377-7890). Tickets will cover a buffet dinner, beer and wine. Mixed drinks will be available at a cash bar.

More than 100 people attended last year's Appreciation Dinner, which raised more than \$4,000 for the foundation, a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization. It was founded in 2004 to work with the Garwood School District "in pursuit of educational excellence." It provides scholarships to graduating eighth-grade and high school students and grants to Garwood teachers in support of enrichment projects.

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