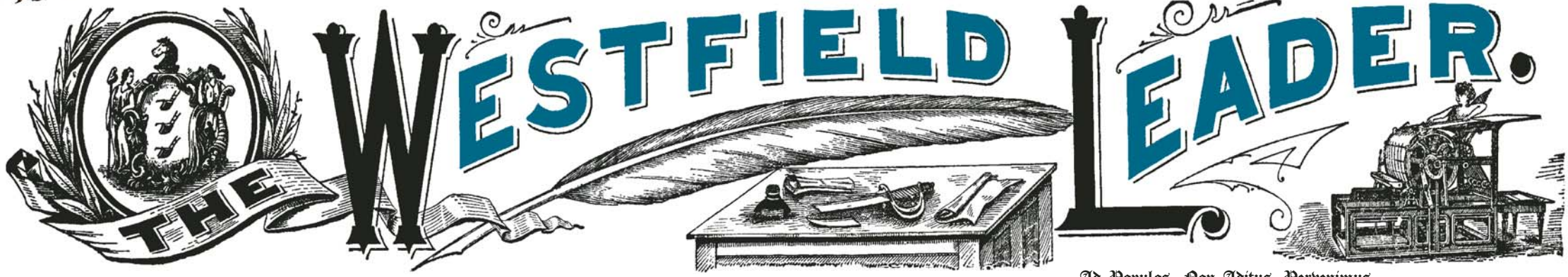




Happy Thanksgiving!



Ad Populos, Non Abitus, Perbenitinus

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ONE DOLLAR

## Mayor Pays Tribute to Robert Newell; Council Argues Over Spending

By REBECCA MEHORTER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Tensions flared at Tuesday's town council meeting as members discussed the rise in Covid-19 cases, downtown holiday lights and special emergency appropriations due to coronavirus-related revenue loss.

Mayor Shelley Brindle opened her remarks with a brief Covid-19 update, saying that there have been 18 new cases reported since her Friday update and that she expected those numbers "to increase significantly" with the updated health department data she will receive later this week. The outlook is "not promising at all," she said. According to the mayor's Covid-19 updates, last week, the town suffered its first Covid-19-related fatality since July.

The governing body observed a moment of silence in honor of Westfield Planning Board Chairman Robert Newell, who died Monday night "after a courageous battle with cancer," Mayor Brindle said.

"As a longtime Westfielder, he surprised me with his openness to new ideas, which only seemed to energize him," she continued. "He was the consummate volunteer, a gentleman's gentleman, a man who lived his life with honor and grace."

In separate business, two resi-

dents spoke about the downtown holiday lighting during the public-comment portion of the meeting. Mike Gagliardi said he had emailed Mayor Brindle, Councilman David Contract and Councilman Mark LoGripio the night prior "about the issue of the decorations."

Mr. Gagliardi said he was upset when he thought snowflake lights were replacing the wreath lights that the town previously used. He said Councilman Contract responded that night but with incorrect information, Councilman LoGripio said he did not know and Mayor Brindle did not respond to the email but did respond to his wife's email about the same issue.

"I was really very relieved to hear that the wreaths are going to go up in concert with the snowflakes at this point and that the snowflakes will continue to be hung up on the lampposts through January, February as a way to attract local business," Mr. Gagliardi said.

Mr. Gagliardi said he thought it was "a bad look for our town council and mayor that not everyone is on the same page about this information."

Resident Terry Quinn also called in to talk about the holiday wreath lights. He said he wanted the town to replace irreparable wreath lights

with new wreaths instead of snowflakes because the town traditionally used wreath lights. He also said, "when it comes down to it, we've all been through so much, and the Westfield comeback is a lot stronger than any snowflake."

Mayor Brindle responded to these remarks at the conclusion of the public-comment portion of the meeting. She said the Westfield 300 Committee opted for the snowflake theme to keep the town vibrant for the entire winter, not just the holidays. But, Councilwoman Dawn Mackey said, residents will "see Christmas is well-represented" in the decorations.

"People are dying around here, people are in the freaking hospital, we've got people who can't gather at Thanksgiving, and this is how people are spending their time?" Mayor Brindle said. "We're trying to do something for the benefit of our businesses downtown and this is what people are arguing about? What a privilege."

Councilman LoGripio asked the mayor who she was talking to, but she was on mute when she responded. "Maybe (you) could have donated the money that was spent on decorations to people who could have utilized it," Councilman LoGripio said.

"Mark, seriously. We've had fundraisers in this town for our downtown businesses." Councilwoman Mackey responded. "I speak to our merchants on a regular basis; this is an economic driver to bring shoppers and diners to our downtown. Perhaps instead of always looking to throw a grenade, you could roll up your sleeves and ask how you can be of help." When Councilman LoGripio laughed,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Cranford BOE Presents Diversity, Inclusion Practices

By JENNIFER GLACKIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The Cranford Board of Education (BOE) on Monday presented the district's efforts to promote diversity and inclusion. It was a collaborative effort that spanned recruiting personnel, statutes and policies, professional development for staff, parent academies, student programs and resources for teachers to use in the classroom.

Gayle Colucci, the district's coordinator of culture and climate, said the district takes part in the Anti-Defamation League's No Place for Hate program, continually updates resources and book titles that incorporate diversity and social justice and participates in Peace Week, along with multiple other initiatives. As part of this overall effort, social-emotional learning (SEL) facilitators create projects and lessons for students at various age levels.

The district also took part in Inclusive Schools Week. Students viewed and discussed the short film *The Present*, watched a "This is Cranford" video and were treated to daily words of wisdom announcements.

SORA, the district's electronic library, has a collection of multicultural and diverse titles, said Brian Heinemann, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. Other online resources such as Newsela, TED Talks about multiple perspectives and teacher resources also are available, he said. Some of the titles that have been added to classroom libraries are "Black Brother, Black Brother" by Jewell Parker Rhodes, "Iqbal" by Francesco D'Adama and the graphic novel "When Stars are Scattered" by Victoria Jamieson. Mr. Heinemann also mentioned the book "Seedfolks," which addresses respect



Ken Zierler for The Westfield Leader

**LUMINARIES TO FIGHT HUNGER...**Holiday luminary kits were distributed on November 20 at St. Helen's Church in Westfield in support of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield Soup Kitchen and Feeding Friends Program, the Westfield Rotary Club Backpack Program, St. Joseph Social Service Center and the Westfield Food Pantry. Volunteers, pictured from left to right, are: Rotarians Ray Kostyack, Warren Rorden and Joe Mindak, and Westfield United Fund's Deirdre Gelinne.

## Garwood Council Updates Borough on Covid Cases

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

**GARWOOD** — As Covid-19 cases continue to rise in Garwood and surrounding communities, Council President Jen Blumenstock gave an update on borough statistics concerning the disease at Monday evening's governing body meeting. Mayor Sara Todisco was excused from the meeting.

According to Ms. Blumenstock's report, six more cases have been re-

ported within the borough since the last council meeting held less than two weeks ago. She stated that this brings the total number of cases reported in Garwood to 89.

In her report, Ms. Blumenstock stated that there had been two deaths from the disease, noting that the last death happened in May.

At the last council meeting, held on November 12, Mayor Todisco reported the occurrence of 13 new Covid-19 cases locally.

The mayor had stated previously that the 13 new cases had been reported since the October 22 council meeting. She had noted that all of Union County and the State of New Jersey likewise were seeing a higher rate of Covid-19 cases.

All council representatives reminded residents that everyone should still wash their hands regularly, use antibacterial hand sanitizer with at least a 60-percent alcohol content when hand washing is not an option, practice social distancing when possible, wear face masks and stay at home if they are feeling sick.

Council members urged residents "to remain vigilant against Covid-19, especially during the holidays."

Additionally, it was stated that Garwood park equipment and benches were sanitized three times per week.

In other business, Resolution 20-13 was unanimously passed upon its first reading at Monday evening's meeting.

The resolution raises the rate for bulk pickup by \$5. The rate will now be \$105.

Officials noted that the reason for the increase was to make sure the tonnage estimate is not exceeded. Multiple council members emphasized the importance of maintaining a tight budget.

The second reading and public hearing regarding the resolution is scheduled for the Thursday, December 10 meeting.

In separate business, it was announced that a Union County Community Development Block Grant had been awarded to the borough, in the amount of \$395,000 from the state for Garwood's 2021 municipal project. This project consists of repaving and the re-curb of such streets as Maple, Hazel and Third Avenues.

It was reported that this grant was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Ken Zierler for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**BE THE LIGHT!**...Volunteers distributed holiday luminary kits to help fight hunger this past Friday at St. Helen's Church in Westfield in support of the Presbyterian Church of Westfield Soup Kitchen and Feeding Friends Program, the Westfield Rotary Club Backpack Program, St. Joseph's Social Services Center and the Westfield Food Pantry. Volunteers left to right: Erin Malley, Caroline Sullivan, Ginny Malley, Joe Mindak and Deirdre Gelinne.



Ken Zierler for The Westfield Leader

**BRAND NEW ATHLETIC PARK...**Chairman of the Union County Board of Commissioners, Alexander Mirabella, addresses attendees at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Oak Ridge Athletic Park in Clark this past Monday. The park will be the home field for Union County College Soccer, Lacrosse and Track and Field.

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**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY...**To support Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) will be distributing a total of \$5,000 in vouchers to spend at downtown merchants. The first 250 customers that visit our new holiday Downtown Welcome Center, located at 167 E. Broad Street in the former Ann Taylor space, on Saturday, November 28 starting at 10 a.m. will receive a Downtown Dollars voucher worth \$20 which they can spend at any participating downtown Westfield business. A complete list of participating merchants will be provided along with each voucher. In addition to this Small Business Saturday promotion, the holiday Downtown Welcome Center will offer free gift wrapping for any presents purchased downtown from any merchant beginning this Friday and continuing every day through Christmas Eve. Hours for the Downtown Welcome Center are 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. seven days a week.

## Board of Education Backs SP-F School Closure

By JENNIFER GLACKIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — Superintendent Joan Mast, Ed.D., began the November 19 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education meeting with a statement regarding her recent decision to move to all-remote learning. “I know the decision to shift instruction was not supported by all,” said Dr. Mast. She continued by saying that while she understands the disapproval, she must “err on the side of safety.”

“Dr. Mast had the full support of the board in this decision,” said Board President Dr. Karen Kulikowski. Dr. Kulikowski shared insight as to the timing of the decision, another point many parents have questioned. As of the previous board meeting on November 12, the district had planned on opening the middle and high schools for their first in-person day on Monday, November 16, which changed rapidly over the course of that weekend. New statistics began to roll in on Friday and Saturday morning, said Dr. Kulikowski, which concerned the board and the district administration.

According to Darlene Tomasulo, the district’s Covid-19 nurse coordinator, there was an 11.8-percent positivity rate in the community and 28 of the community’s 112 active Covid-19 cases were in the district’s schools (14 students and 14 staff) at the time of the meeting. School districts use the color-coded guidance from the state and are advised to consider closing schools while in the orange zone, said Ms. Tomasulo, which the local area entered last week.

The staff cases had caused an issue with safely staffing the schools, according to Peter Pitucco, director of human resources. While there were 14 staff members with a positive test, others have had to quarantine. These absences would be in addition to more conventional absences, such as non-Covid-19 illnesses, meetings or personal days. Attempting to fill those positions with a combination of substitutes and internal coverage (teachers on their preparation periods) had become “untenable,” said Mr. Pitucco.

Many Scotch Plains-Fanwood parents called in during the public comment portion of the meeting to voice

either support or criticism of the decision. One parent said she received a call letting her know that her child’s teacher had tested positive for Covid-19 and was grateful to know steps had been taken to keep her child safe. Others stated that they “fully support” the closure to keep staff and students safe.

Parent Lauren Reid said that she supported the closure but that the district needed to communicate more effectively and empathize with parents who needed to scramble to find childcare in under 24 hours.

Others, such as vocal critic Danielle Wildstein, recent BOE candidate Dr. David Levine and local pediatrician Dr. Sharon Filler, questioned the decision. Dr. Filler said states that have a high positivity rate (around 20 to 40 percent) have a 0.15-percent transmission rate in schools. “We need to stop looking at community spread and start focusing on school transmission,” said Dr. Filler.

Speakers also requested specifics as to when schools could reopen, especially if they can be opened earlier than January 19. Dr. Mast said she did not have any precise metrics but needed to see the positivity rates return to a moderate level for a period of time.

Board member Amy Winkler acknowledged that everyone feels the stress of the current situation and urged the community to be positive for the children because they will reflect the emotions of those around them.

The next BOE meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, December 17.

## Garwood

the highest Community Development Block Grant awarded to date for Garwood and will cover 74 percent of the entire bill for the project.

It was announced that a virtual tree-lighting event with a visit from Santa is scheduled for this Saturday, November 28. It was noted that the borough also will conduct a Toys for Tots drive and will accept letters to Santa at the municipal building.

The next Garwood Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 10, at 7:15 p.m.

## Cranford Recognizes TV 35’s Edward Davenport

By ALEXANDRA LEBOVITZ  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The Cranford Township Committee recognized H. Edward Davenport, TV 35’s studio manager, during the committee’s official meeting on Tuesday for his hard work and dedication during his career with the Township of Cranford.

Mayor Patrick Giblin read Resolution No. 2020-380, authorizing that TV Studio 35 be renamed and dedicated as the H. Edward Davenport TV 35 Studio in recognition of his tireless efforts and dedication to Cranford’s community. All the committee members enthusiastically voted to pass the resolution.

TV 35 is Cranford’s local cable access channel, which provides residents with information. Mr. Davenport began working as a volunteer in TV 35 Studio in 1986 and started working as a part-time employee in 1993. He currently is TV 35’s studio manager. During his career, he has worked to provide current technology for Cranford’s television studio and meeting spaces and directed the renovation of the Council Chambers and Room 108 of the Cranford municipal building. Resolution No. 2020-380 recognizes that Mr. Davenport has provided Cranford residents and other members of the public with access to important township events and information over the past 34 years.

Mr. Davenport was present at the meeting and thanked the committee for the passing of the resolution.

The committee passed all of the resolutions on its official meeting agenda. It also adopted Ordinance No. 2020-16, authorizing the undertaking of various improvements in, by and for the township, appropriating therefore the sum of \$733,653.41 and providing that such sum so appropriated shall be raised from capital surplus of the township.

The committee congratulated and welcomed Commissioner-elect Brian Andrews and Commissioner-elect Jason Gareis, both of who were present at the meeting. Committee members also thanked Chrissa Stilpin and Regina Gina Black for their campaigns.

This Saturday, November 28, is Small Business Saturday. Both Mayor Giblin and Commissioner Jean-Albert Maisonneuve encouraged residents to visit downtown Cranford and go to the new stores and restaurants that have opened. Mayor Giblin thanked residents for the pride they take in their downtown and stressed the importance

of supporting local businesses, saying, “Now, more than ever, they need our help.”

The committee wished residents a happy and safe Thanksgiving. Referencing the current pandemic, Mayor Giblin said, “we really need you to be extra vigilant, especially with the Thanksgiving holiday.” He reiterated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, which call for people to celebrate only with those they live with.

During the committee’s workshop meeting Monday, officials were updated on the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act reimbursement for the township. The township currently is making a fourth submittal, and a fifth submittal for Tuesday, December 15, is being worked on. The municipality received two checks for its first two submissions for a total of \$165,047.94.

## Spending

Councilwoman Mackey said, “You can laugh all you want, Mark.”

After calling the meeting back to order, Mayor Brindle instructed the financial committee to present its resolutions. Councilwoman Linda Habgood passed a slew of resolutions and ordinances on first reading, including three pieces of legislation to authorize the approval of a set of special emergency mechanisms for the town.

The two resolutions, one to authorize the chief financial officer to submit an application for approval of a special emergency certification and the resulting deferred charges and one to authorize the issuance of special emergency notes equal to the amount of the special emergency appropriation, passed.

Special Ordinance No. 2220 passed on first reading to authorize a special emergency appropriation related to Covid-19 revenue losses. Town Administrator Jim Gildea said the ordinance and the resolutions are “new mechanisms” provided by the state to allow towns to prepare for Covid-19-related revenue loss, specifically in pool utility, court and parking fees, by spreading the loss impact over a six-year period. Setting up the special emergency appropriation, Mr. Gildea continued, does not mean the town must follow through, but instead allows the town to become eligible if needed.

The resolutions and ordinances were approved by all council members except Councilman LoGripio, who said “the town did have a \$14.5-million surplus at one time, and at this point, I just feel we’re punting to the town council in the future to be responsible for this money.”

The council also passed two general ordinances, No. 2199 and No. 2200, to amend the town code, respectively related to bus stops and to stop signs.

The final town council meeting of 2020 will be held Tuesday, December 8, at 8 p.m. Residents are encouraged to watch via Facebook Live or YouTube and to participate via Zoom.



Ken Zierler for The Westfield Leader  
JUST BAG IT...Volunteers from Community Outreach and the Holy Name Society of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church were collecting donated frozen turkeys and other holiday fixings on November 22 at the “Just Bag It” Turkey Drive. This drive was held in support of homebound members of the parish, as well as the Community Foodbank of New Jersey. Volunteers were aiming to top last year’s total of over 250 donated turkeys and 400 food-filled bags.

## Town Hall Functions May Stay In Downtown

By FRED T. ROSSI  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — Redevelopment officials are now looking to relocate township administrative offices not to Plainfield Avenue, as has been the plan for the past few years, but instead include them in the same building as the new library being planned on Bartle Avenue.

Mayor Alexander Smith told *The Westfield Leader* this week that the plan is now to add to the planned three-story library building a fourth story that will house township administrative offices including the mayor and township manager, the building and zoning department, parks and recreation, the township clerk and the finance department.

During the past two years, the downtown redevelopment committee had focused on a plot of township property on Plainfield Avenue near Evergreen Avenue as a viable site for a new municipal building as well as new headquarters for the police and fire departments and the rescue squad. Residents living near that site — which has been zoned as C-Conservation for nearly 20 years — have been vocal in their opposition to the plan, raising concerns about vehicle and pedestrian safety in the neighborhood as well as whether putting the fire, police and rescue squad facilities in that part of town will reduce first responders’ ability to travel quickly and efficiently to emergencies.

The mayor told *The Leader* this

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## Diversity

Ms. Podbelski is a 36-year veteran teacher of the Cranford school district, whose retirement was approved the same evening. “I can honestly say there is no place I would have rather been than Cranford public schools,” said Ms. Podbelski.

Board member Brett Dreyer, a former student of Ms. Podbelski, said that the teacher had a lasting impact on his life and that he still remembers many of the lessons from her class 30 years ago. Cranford Education Association President Rich Hurley, who worked with Ms. Podbelski in the high school for 20 years, said she would be missed by the staff as well.

“Your impact goes way beyond your students,” Superintendent Scott Rubin, Ed.D., told Ms. Podbelski. “We are very fortunate to have had you these many years.”

The next meeting of the BOE will be on Monday, December 14.

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Ken Zierler for The Westfield Leader  
DRIVE-UP TURKEY DRIVE...Members of Community Outreach and the Holy Name Society of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church volunteered this past Sunday in support of homebound members of the parish, as well as the Community Foodbank of New Jersey. Two hundred holiday stockings were also distributed for children at area hospitals and local shelters.

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## Thomas Joseph Mullen, Jr. Photographer, Sailor, Poet

Thomas Mullen of Westfield passed away suddenly on Sunday, November 15, with his loving wife, Lorraine, at his side. He lived a long and wonderful life full of laughter and love, famous for his tremendous sense of humor and colorful storytelling.



Thomas Joseph Mullen, Jr.

He was born at his family home on Water Street in Perth Amboy, on Groundhog Day 1927. Known to his friends as “Moon,” he enjoyed an idyllic childhood sailing in Raritan Bay on his uncle’s schooner, “Maid of Perth,” water-skiing and all kinds of antics on and off the water with his brother, Jimmy; cousin, Louis Booz, and friends known as the “River Rats.” Mr. Mullen is a 1945 graduate of Perth Amboy High School, where he was the school photographer and one of the stars of the track team running the quarter-and-a-half-mile distances. He also participated in the prestigious Penn Relays.

Mr. Mullen served in the U.S. Army in World War II with the 177th Military Police Company in Livorno and Naples, Italy. He was later assigned as Regimental Photographer with the 350th Infantry Regiment 88th Division in Tarcento, Italy, where he photographed the people and beauty of northern Italy as well as General Eisenhower during his visit to the region.

He graduated from Rutgers in 1951 and earned a Master’s Degree in Education from NYU in 1957. In the ‘50s Mr. Mullen taught Biology and Science at Keyport and Piscataway High Schools. He later became the Audio-Visual Director for Westfield Public Schools, where he worked for over 30 years until his retirement. He lived in his home in Westfield since 1962.

A skilled and passionate sailor, Tom was a lifelong member of Raritan Yacht Club in Perth Amboy,

racing Comets and his 24’ sloop, “Blue Moon,” along with his favorite first mate, his beautiful wife, Lorraine.

Tom enjoyed skiing in New England, Canada and out west with his family well into his 70s. Along with Lorraine, he traveled extensively throughout Europe and celebrated his 85th birthday by taking his entire family on a trip to Italy.

A member of the Watchung Valley Players, Tom’s comedic sensibilities were evident in his portrayal of Andrew Carnes in *Oklahoma!*, Herbie in *Stalag 17* and Murray-the-Cop in *The Odd Couple*. A harmonica virtuoso, Tom regaled friends, family and cruise ship audiences by playing the instrument out of two orifices.

Tom enjoyed writing poetry and observations of nature and the world around him. He called it “Poetry with a Twist.” In one, he pondered whether the sandpipers on the beach “knew each other.”

Tom was “Pop-pop” to six grandchildren, Karr Thomas and Madeline Mullen, Lucy Moon Fitzsimons, Mackenzie, Mollie and Maegan Wood. He is also survived by his wife, Lorraine, of 67 years; daughters, Colleen Fitzsimons and her husband, Jeff, and Laurie Wood and her husband, Craig, and his daughter-in-law, Hillary Mullen. He is predeceased by his parents, Madeline Rasmussen Mullen and Thomas Joseph Mullen; his brother, James, and his son, Patrick. A memorial celebration of his life will take place at a later date.

Many former Westfield Elementary School students may remember his creative, comical and now prophetic messages at the end of the monthly music assembly recordings: “This is the end of the tape, please rewind.”

November 26, 2020

## Mrs. Joyce Maxwell Subjack, Loved Family, Animals and Antiques

Joyce Maxwell Subjack quietly and unexpectedly passed to her heavenly reward in her sleep on Monday, November 16, 2020, at the age of 74.

Joyce was born in Liverpool, England, to the late John Henry Maxwell and Isabelle Cannon. Arriving in the United States at age seven, she and her family settled in South Amboy, New Jersey. She graduated from Drew University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, and continued her education to earn a teaching certificate in Early Childhood Education.

Joyce was known to all as a gentle soul who dearly loved her husband of 54 years, Bill Subjack. She cherished her three children, Jenny Piezas (Josh) of Cranford, N.J., Christine Davis (Robert) of Highland Park, Ill., and Bill Subjack, Jr. (Taylor) of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and her four grandchildren, Max and Benjamin Piezas and Isabel and Linnea Davis.

The family lived in Harrisonburg, Va., Westfield, N.J., and Surry, Va. Joyce was an active member of St.

Paul Episcopal Church in Surry, Va., for the past two decades. She and husband Bill worked as antique show dealers with Neverbird Antiques, specializing in needlework samplers and rare autographed letters and documents.



Joyce Maxwell Subjack

Joyce loved the weather, gathering for holidays with family (Christmas was her favorite), and making family recipes that had been passed down through the generations, like Placek. She loved animals and leaves behind a talking pet cockatoo, Schmoozie. Teddy bears always made her smile.

Joyce was loved by so many and emanated light and love with a selfless and generous nature. She will be dearly missed.

A Celebration of Life Service for Mrs. Joyce M. Subjack was held on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at 1 p.m., at the family residence, with the Reverend Jim Browder III officiating. The service was private.

Professional services have been entrusted to the staff of the J.L. Dodson and Sons Funeral Establishment, 25824 Greensville Avenue, Petersburg, Virginia 23803, Rev. Jeffrey L. Dodson, Sr., Funeral Director, (804) 732-5959. Online condolences may be registered at [www.jldodsonandsons.com](http://www.jldodsonandsons.com) “Our Family Servicing Your Family.”

November 26, 2020

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## — Obituaries —

### Phyllis Anderson, Formerly of Westfield; Devoted to Family and Community

Phyllis Q. Anderson passed away on Thursday, November 5, 2020, at home, surrounded by her loving children. The daughter of Neal and Katharine Quimby, Phyllis was born in Newark, N.J., on May 18, 1923. She moved with her family between New Jersey and New York State, before they settled in West Orange, N.J.

As a teen, Phyllis was active in the St. Cloud Presbyterian Church youth group and choir, where courtship with her future husband, Henry (Hank) Anderson, began. She and Hank were married in that same church on June 14, 1947, and enjoyed 64 wonderful years together.

Phyllis graduated in 1943 with a teaching degree from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va. At the age of 20 she began teaching elementary school in Morris Plains, N.J., and later in West Orange, N.J. She retired in 1948 to begin raising her family, living first in West Orange and moving to Westfield, N.J., in 1952.

Phyllis was devoted to her community and to her growing family. She served in various roles at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, as a Youth Chairman and driver for the local Red Cross, a Girl Scout leader, a driver for Meals on Wheels, and was one of the original docents and cooks for the Miller-Cory House Museum in Westfield. She was an avid cheerleader for all nine of her children’s activities, sports and interests!

Music was a lifelong love of Phyllis’. She played baritone horn in both her high school marching band and while at college and later with the Grafton Brass Band in Vermont. In her early 20s she organized a singing trio with her sister and cousin, performing for military servicemen in New Jersey during World War II. Throughout the years she sang with various groups, including church choirs, the Chansonettes of Westfield and barbershop quartets and was a member of the Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir.

After retiring to Vermont, she became very active in the Westminster First Congregational Church

through Women’s Fellowship and choir, and with her husband, founded the church’s handbell choir. Together they also founded and acted in the Westminster Follies for five years, which raised funds for the church and highlighted talented members of the community. She also enjoyed volunteering at the Westminster Center School and the Recycle Center.

Phyllis was a board member emeritus of Westminster Cares, a non-profit organization serving the local senior population. Delivering Meals on Wheels to those in need since 1988,



Phyllis Q. Anderson

she later rode along the route with her son Don until as recently as two weeks before her death. Her family is so grateful for the caring support the organization and its members gave to their mother in her last years.

Among Phyllis’ many hobbies and interests were antique collecting, chair caning, quilting, sewing, archery, jigsaw and crossword puzzles, bridge and board games, and she was an avid Mets and Patriots fan. Somehow she managed to coordinate many camping trips, eventually fitting all 11 family members into one tent! She organized countless family reunions and always remembered important occasions with a card or phone call to friends and family.

Phyllis is survived by eight of her children, Sue Gioulis, Don Anderson, Wendy Schoenemann, Jill Kimber, Jennifer Anderson, John Anderson, Heidi Anderson and Bonnie Anderson, as well as 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She is immensely missed by everyone. She was predeceased by her husband, Hank; her sister, Priscilla Wilson; her daughter, Melanie DeLonge, and her granddaughter, Greta Schoenemann.

A celebration of Phyllis’ life will be held in the Spring of 2021. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Congregational Church of Westminster, Vt., or to Westminster Cares, Inc. in Westminster, Vt.

November 26, 2020

### Vivian Phillips, Former Resident of Cranford

Vivian Phillips of Guilford, Conn., formerly of Cranford, New Jersey, passed away on Thursday, November 19, at Gladeview Healthcare Center, Old Saybrook, at the age of 94 years.

Vivian was born in Manhattan, N.Y., on June 17, 1926, daughter of the late Rachel and Gabriel Isaacson. Loving mother of Emily Phillips (the late Salvatore Capaccio) of Guilford and Paul Phillips (Kathryn Jennings) of Half Moon Bay, Calif., she is also survived by four grandchildren, Sonny and Annabella Capaccio and Joanna and Alanna Phillips. She was predeceased by her two brothers, David and Jack Isaacson.

After raising her family, she attended college and received her Associate’s Degree at Union College and then went on for a Bachelor’s Degree at Kean University. Vivian then enjoyed many years in a rewarding career as a Recreational Gerontologist. She would say that being around the older population kept her young.



Vivian Phillips

She enjoyed music, reading biographies of Hollywood personalities, crossword puzzles, going to Broadway shows, movies and live performances, traveling and working in her yard. Vivian’s family wishes to thank the staff and caregivers of Gladeview Nursing Center for their loving care.

Burial services were held privately in Cedar Park Cemetery in Paramus, N.J., on Monday, November 23, 2020. Due to restrictions of the pandemic, there will be a Shivah Minyan via Zoom on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at 4 p.m. Anyone interested in attending, please contact her daughter, Emily Phillips. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Labre Indian School at [www.stlabre.org](http://www.stlabre.org) or the World Wildlife Fund at [www.worldwildlife.org](http://www.worldwildlife.org). Arrangements are in care of the Guilford Funeral Home, 115 Church Street, Guilford. To share a memory or leave condolences, visit [www.guilfordfuneralhome.com](http://www.guilfordfuneralhome.com).

November 26, 2020

### Leonard Cherensky, 91, Longtime Westfield Resident, Shoe Store Owner

Leonard Cherensky, father to Adam and Joanna Cherensky, grandfather to grandson Zachary and granddaughter Wilder, husband of Marcy Cherensky (who passed in 2018), lover of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald and The Mets, passed away in Los Angeles from the coronavirus in November at the age of 91.

Everybody who knew him — as a longtime shoe store owner, colleagues at Union County, synagogue members, neighbors and friends, and most recently fellow residents in assisted living — loved him. Leonard’s clever and sly sense of humor was only surpassed by his

capacity for kindness. He loved taking drives and exploring Los Angeles after moving there almost two years ago, to be closer to his grown children. And he grew to become a cat lover during decades living with a quintessential cat lover, Marcy.

Leonard lived a full life of two careers, two children, one marriage of 40+ years and many summers in western Massachusetts in the Berkshires, listening to classical music at Tanglewood. Most of all, Leonard made sure his children knew that he loved them and that he loved being our Dad. He was a gem to all who knew him. He will be sorely missed.

November 26, 2020

## John A. ‘Chick’ Miller, Beloved Husband, Father and Grandfather

John A. “Chick” Miller, 94, a lifelong resident of Westfield, passed away at his home early on Monday, November 16, 2020. He was the son of the late Adam and Eleanor (née Probasco) Miller.

Chick was a 1943 graduate of Westfield High School, where he lettered in sports, especially baseball. He was selected by the Boston Red Sox, but was soon drafted into the U.S. Army during World War II, where he served in Italy.

Chick was retired from the U.S. Postal Service, working in the Westfield Post Office, and later the Mountainside Post Office, where he was the acting supervisor. Following retirement, Chick worked as a school crossing guard for more than 20 years on North Avenue and Tuttle Parkway.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Westfield, the Westfield Historical Society’s 300 Club, the

Martin Wallberg Post No. 3 of the American Legion, Westfield, and the Mountainside Rotary Club. An avid sports fan, Chick competed in the Senior Olympics, where he played first base on the baseball team.

He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Jane (née Morton) Miller; his daughters, Carol Sica and her husband, Steven, and Nancy Johnson and her husband, Raymond; his son, John A. Miller, and his wife, Debra; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Chick’s visitation will begin at 10 a.m. on Friday, November 20, 2020, at Gray Funeral Home, 318 East Broad Street, Westfield, where his funeral service will follow at 11 a.m. Friday. Interment with military honors will be at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield. Please go to [grayfuneralhomes.com](http://grayfuneralhomes.com) to offer condolences.

November 26, 2020



John “Chick” Miller

### Matilda L. Molocznik, 93, Longtime Resident, Owned Towne Barber Shop

Mrs. Matilda Lorraine Molocznik passed away peacefully on Monday, November 16, 2020, at her home in Westfield. She was 93 years old.

Born in Hamtramck, Michigan, to Peter and Aniela Kudla, Matilda grew up in Elizabeth, N.J. Upon marrying John Molocznik in 1952, she moved to Westfield and lived there until her death.

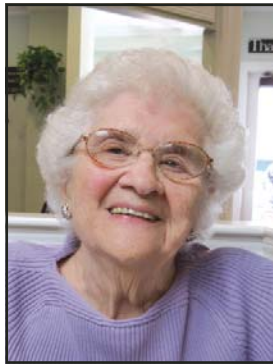
Her husband, John, was the owner of Towne Barber Shop, and Mattie managed his books meticulously until his death in 2002. At 93 years of age, Mattie played computer games,

cruised on Facebook, read her kindle, and searched on Google like an FBI agent. In her younger years, Mattie was a 260 bowler and an avid knitter and quilter.

Matilda Molocznik was predeceased by her husband, John, in 2002, and by her son, John Peter, in 2013.

She is survived by her daughters, Jane, Lorraine and Suzanne, as well as eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Mattie loved and adored her grand and great-grandchildren.

November 26, 2020



Matilda L. Molocznik

### Flemming Gillesberg 1928 — 2020

Flemming Gillesberg died peacefully in his sleep at BrightView Senior Living in Warren, N.J., on Saturday, November 14, just two weeks shy of his 92nd birthday.

He was a native of Hellerup, Denmark and, as a young man, lived for five years under German occupation during World War II. After the war, he fulfilled his compulsory military service in the Royal Danish Navy, and then pursued a career in business. He came to the United States on an exchange visa in 1953, and worked at the G. Fox & Co. department store in Hartford, Conn.

Before returning home to Denmark, he embarked on a cross-country road trip to see for himself the vast beauty of America. The memories of that journey stayed with him for the rest of his life, and inspired his deep love of nature and commitment to conservation.

His trip concluded in San Francisco, where he met Katherine Swanson and the trajectory of his life changed. They married in her hometown of Montclair, N.J., in 1957, and ultimately settled in Westfield, where they raised their three daughters.



Flemming Gillesberg

Flemming became a naturalized citizen in 1962, and worked for nearly three decades in international sales for Tenney Engineering in Springfield. He enjoyed tennis, opera, salty licorice, and vigorous philosophical debate.

He is survived by his daughters, Carol Gillesberg of Warren, Anne-Marie Gillesberg of Cape May, and Linda Lawrence, son-in-law, Len Lawrence, and granddaughter, Katherine Mae Westmoreland, of Yelm, Wash. Survivors also include his sister, Aase Marthinussen of Dyssegaard, Denmark; his extended Danish family of nieces and nephews, and his former wife, Katherine Fletcher of Lacey, Wash.

At the end of his life, Flemming struggled with dementia, but never lost his courtly European charm nor his kind and gracious spirit.

Cremation was private. Donations in Flemming’s memory can be made to Compassion & Choices at [www.compassionandchoices.org](http://www.compassionandchoices.org).

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Higgins Home for Funerals in Watchung, N.J.

November 26, 2020

### Sarah E. ‘Sally’ Dubois Moberg, Beloved Mother and Grandmother

Sarah Elizabeth “Sally” Dubois Moberg, 92, entered into the loving hands of her Creator on Saturday, November 14, 2020, at Givens Highland Farms in Black Mountain, N.C.

Sally was born in West Orange, N.J., on November 21, 1927 to the late Leroy Irving Dubois and Gwendolyn Waters Miller Dubois. She is preceded in death by her husband, Edgar E. Moberg, and previous husband, Louis L. Seivard. Sally attended Kimberley Academy in Montclair, N.J., West Orange High, and Green Mountain College in Vermont. She was a mother and homemaker, enjoying gardening, gourmet cooking, fashion and art.

She taught riding at Montclair Riding Club. Living in Westfield, N.J., for 60 years, she worshipped as a Presbyterian and later at the United Church of Christ in Plainfield, N.J.

Surviving Sally is her son, Louis Dubois Seivard of Powhatan, Va.;

daughter, Reverend Sarah Seivard Colvin of Asheville, N.C.; sister, Mary Jane Preiser of Whiting, N.J.; grandchildren, Steven Seivard, Jeffrey Seivard, Gregory Colvin, Christopher Colvin, Emily Colvin, Benjamin Colvin and Molly Colvin; nine loved great-grandchildren and loved nieces, nephews and cousins.

Due to Covid, the family will be holding a service in the spring or summer of 2021. She will be buried at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Montclair, N.J.

Memorials can be made to Givens Highland Farms in her memory. Sally’s family has gratitude for her life, love, her appreciation of family, friends, nature, faith, beauty and spirit. Special thanks to the staff of Givens Highland Farms for their comforting love and care.

Condolences can be expressed to the family at [www.ashevilleareaalternative.com](http://www.ashevilleareaalternative.com).

November 26, 2020

### Winter Reading Challenge on Tap

CRANFORD — From January 1 to January 31, the Cranford Public Library will participate in Beanstack’s Fourth Annual Winter Reading Challenge, “Books Like Us,” sponsored by Simon and Schuster.

Library patrons are challenged to read at least 60,000 minutes during the month and to keep track of their reading on the library’s Beanstack site at

[cranfordlibrary.beanstack.org](http://cranfordlibrary.beanstack.org). Thousands of libraries and schools across the nation will encourage their communities to read a target number of minutes and books. Prizes will include book collections and virtual author visits. Ten winning schools or libraries will each get a collection of 50 books from the “Books Like Us” collection.

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Winter Reading Challenge on Tap

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26 Homes Sold Nov 15 – Nov 22, 2020 in Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield							
TOWN	ADDRESS	STYLE	RMS	BRS	BTH	GAR	SALE PRICE
Cranford	79 JOHNSON AVE	Colonial	6	3	1.0	0	\$300,000
Cranford	511 CENTRAL AVE	Colonial	9	4	1.1	1	\$437,500
Cranford	20 CRANFORD TER	Colonial	7	3	2.0	0	\$449,000
Cranford	204 WALNUT AVE	Colonial	9	4	1.1	1	\$519,000
Cranford	91 WINANS AVE	Colonial	8	4	2.1	0	\$550,000
Cranford	15 GEORGIA ST	SplitLev	7	3	3.1	1	\$740,000
Garwood	345 2ND AVE	CapeCod	8	4	2.0	0	\$390,000
Garwood	241 MYRTLE AVE	SplitLev	6	3	2.0	1	\$445,000
Garwood	209 HEMLOCK AVE	Colonial	10	4	1.1	0	\$475,000
Mountainside	233 CENTRAL AVE	Colonial	5	2	1.0	0	\$257,700
Mountainside	1089 SUMMIT LN	Ranch	8	2	3.0	2	\$620,000
Scotch Plains	518 FOREPAUGH AVE	Bi-Level	10	3	2.0	1	\$260,000
Scotch Plains	222 MOUNTAINVIEW AVE	CapeCod	7	3	2.0	1	\$325,000
Scotch Plains	1767 MOUNTAIN AVE	CapeCod	7	4	2.0	1	\$425,000
Scotch Plains	40 FIELDCREST DR	SplitLev	7	3	1.2	1	\$585,000
Scotch Plains	7 TREVIEW CIR	Colonial	10	4	3.1	2	\$886,000
Scotch Plains	5 SASSAFRAS CT	Colonial	11	4	3.1	2	\$885,000
Scotch Plains	2013 DOGWOOD DR	SplitLev	11	4	3.1	2	\$970,000
Scotch Plains	1700 COOPER RD	Custom	13	6	5.1	2	\$1,300,000
Westfield	37 C3 SANDRA CIR	OneFloor	5	2	1.0	0	\$205,000
Westfield	515 TRINITY PL	TwnEndUn	4	1	1.0	1	\$275,000
Westfield	321 BENSON PL	SplitLev	8	3	2.1	2	\$480,000
Westfield	913 STEVENS AVE	Colonial	10	4	2.1	2	\$930,000
Westfield	622 DORIAN RD	Colonial	11	5	2.1	2	\$1,075,000
Westfield	869 SHADOWLAWN DR	Colonial	9	5	3.1	1	\$1,200,000
Westfield	828 GRANT AVE	Colonial	12	5	5.0	2	\$1,280,000

Happy Thanksgiving and wishing you and your family many blessings.

My Best to You, Susan

\*Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield, NJ data according to the Garden State MLS, as of 11/15/20 – 11/22/20 Featured properties may not have been listed or sold by the office/agent presenting this data for more information on these or other real estate matters, contact Susan Massa at 908-400-0778. Information deemed RELIABLE. Home is one of the most important and significant purchases and sales you will make in your lifetime. It's important to stay informed. If you are thinking about a MOVE now is the time to prepare. CALL me, the time is now susan@susanmassa.com or susanmassa2@gmail.com

www.NJHomeShowcase.com

www.Summitwestfieldhomes.com

## Westfield Library to Return To Curbside Service Only

WESTFIELD — As of Saturday, November 28, the Westfield Memorial Library will transition back to curbside service only, as a result of a significant increase in Covid case counts in the region and out of concern for the safety of the community and the library staff.

The library will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Curbside service hours will be Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Patrons will be able to pick up materials that they have placed on hold the day after the hold was placed. Requests for books can be placed during these hours only: between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The process for reserving books (placing a hold) is demonstrated on the library's YouTube video site.

When returning materials, patrons should use Door 7 to the library, which

leads to the Meeting Room. They should use the outside book drops when the library is closed. All items are quarantined for 72 hours before they are checked in as per American Library Association guidelines.

The library is not accepting any donated materials at this time. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is still available. Any Westfield residents who do not yet have a library card can visit the library's website at wmlnj.org and complete the form on the Get a Card page. A library card will be mailed to the requester.

If patrons need any help with their accounts, they should call the library at (908) 789-4090, extension no. 6, and leave a voicemail. A staffer will return the call.

The library has added programs to its YouTube channel, which can be found at youtube.com/user/westfieldmemoriallib, or by clicking on the YouTube icon on the library's website. Other program information can be found on the library's website and the library's Facebook page, facebook.com/wmlnj.



AVID GARDENERS...Jeanette Pelikan, left, and Kay Cross of the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield spruce up the community garden on the north side of the Westfield Train Station. Richard Pelikan also joined in the endeavor.

## Rake and Hoe Members Clean Train Station Garden

WESTFIELD — Despite the pandemic, a masked trio of members of the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield got together October 15 to clean up the community garden at the north side of the Westfield Train Station.

The activity was led by Kay Cross and supported by husband-and-wife team Jeanette and Richard Pelikan. Ms. Cross provides horticultural oversight of the garden by organizing cleanups and maintaining appropriate plantings. During the year, members of the club also maintain community gardens at Shadowlawn, the Miller-Cory House Museum and the Claire Brownell Wildflower Garden at the Westfield Historical Society's Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center.

The garden at Shadowlawn includes a Butterfly Garden which is designed to provide a nurturing habitat for butterflies and other pollinators. This section of the garden is maintained by the Rake and Hoe Juniors. All the gardens are open to the public.

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club is affiliated with the Garden Club of New Jersey and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at noon at the Scotch Hills Country Club in Scotch Plains. Membership is open to residents of Westfield and surrounding towns. The Juniors, ranging from kindergarten through high-school students, meet monthly after school during the school year to work on projects focused on flower design, gardening and community service.

For more information about the club, call Beth Siano at (908) 233-4150 or visit the club's website, rakeandhoe.org, or Facebook page.

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SPREADING WARMTH...Families from the JCC of Central New Jersey's Brody Family Early Learning community gather for the fall outerwear clothing drive to benefit The Newark Y Emergency Residence program.

## JCC Early Childhood Families Share Warmth With Needy

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey's Brody Family Early Learning community just wrapped up its fall outerwear clothing drive to benefit The Newark Y Emergency Residence program. The Newark Y Residence provides a safe and supportive residential program to sustain and keep families strong during periods of crisis.

With the approach of the cold fall and winter months, the JCC's Early Childhood community felt it was important to help those in need with essential items.

"We are so proud that our incredible JCC community was able to aid another community," said Abby Price, an Early Childhood parent and volunteer. "As always, Early Childhood and the JCC membership showed an overwhelming sense of generosity and

care for others. Three hundred people calling the Newark Y Emergency Residence home at the moment will not have to worry about securing cold-weather clothing!"

All totaled, over 1,000 new and gently-used items were delivered to the Newark Y, including children's and adult coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, boots and socks.

For more information about the JCC and all of its programs, contact Membership Director Jodi Hotra at jhotra@ccnj.org or (908) 889-8800, extension no. 235, or visit ccnj.org.

Located at 1391 Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains, the JCC of Central New Jersey is a constituent agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ, United Way of Greater Union County and the Westfield United Fund. Financial assistance is available for membership and various programs.

## Garwood Library Highlights Hours, December Activities

GARWOOD — The Garwood Public Library is now open to the community Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Five people are permitted in the library at a time for 30 minutes. No appointments are needed. The staff is available to assist with copying and faxing. One computer is available for printing or a quick check of email. Social distancing and masks are required. Curbside service also is available when the library is open. The library will be closed December 24, 25 and 31 for the holidays.

In collaboration with Mad Science and Image Arts Academy, the library will present the Art of Conservation on Wednesdays, December 2, 9 and 16, at 3:30 p.m. Participants will learn about endangered animals, then experiment with a variety of art techniques to create animal-inspired art projects, from a frog painting to polar bear sculptures. The program is open to children in grades 1 to 6. To register for the class, call the library at (908) 789-1670 or access the events calendar on the library's website, yousemore.com/garwood. The class is limited to 20 participants.

Families can visit Santa — the cardboard variety — on two Saturdays, December 5 or 12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., by appointment and weather permitting. The library will place its holiday backdrop outside along with a cardboard Santa for photo opportunities. Participants can grab a take-away picture frame craft on their way home. Registration is required and limited to 12 families per Saturday.

On Monday, December 7, local author Laura Sassi will join second and third graders via Zoom. She will share her picture book "Love Is Kind," recently published in Spanish. It celebrates the bond kids have with their grandparents and the many forms love and happiness can take. Ms. Sassi will read the story in English and highlight some key Spanish phrases. Signed and personalized copies of "Love Is Kind" also will be available for purchase.

Virtual Kid's Craft will be featured on Tuesday, December 8, at 3 p.m. Participants may pick up supplies from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. that day. A craft tutorial will appear on Facebook Premiere on the library's Facebook page on December 8 at 3 p.m. The video will be available for viewing thereafter. Registration is required and is limited to 15 participants. To sign up, visit the library website's events calendar or call the library.

Zoom Lego continues on Thursdays, December 3, 10 and 17, at 3:30 p.m. A new build will be featured each week. Participants can sign up on the calendar section of the library website or by calling the library. The Zoom link will be sent to them by email.

Virtual Adult Craft will be offered on Tuesday, December 15. Participants can pick up their craft supplies from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. that day. A slide show tutorial will appear on Facebook Premiere on the library's Facebook page on December 15 at 3 p.m. The video will be available for viewing thereafter. Registration is required and is limited to 10 participants. To sign up, visit the library website's events calendar or call the library.

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## If You Don't Wear Your CPAP, Don't Give up on Treatment for Sleep Apnea

CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) is considered the gold standard treatment for sleep apnea because its use can improve sleep-related symptoms and quality of life. Despite these benefits, nightly CPAP use remains problematic for many patients. Difficulty with CPAP may stem from mask discomfort or claustrophobia, pressure intolerance, lifestyle or social considerations, or a combination of these factors.

At times, it is a patient's bed partner who cannot sleep well while their partner uses their CPAP at night.

Oral appliance therapy, OAT is indicated for, and can benefit carefully selected patients with mild to moderate OSA, or those with severe OSA who are unwilling or unable to use CPAP.

Dr. Sunita Merriman, founder of the NJ Dental Sleep Medicine Sleep Center in Westfield, NJ says, "Years ago, I learned firsthand how the lack of restful sleep devastates the body and mind. That motivated me to pursue an advanced education in Sleep Medicine. At NJDSMC, we recognize that credentials and competence must be complemented with empathy and compassion to provide high quality care. We see how lack of sleep compromises not only the health, energy, and quality of life of our patients, but that of our patients' partners as well. We strive to bring relief to them in a way that goes well beyond giving them an oral



Dr. Sunita Merriman

appliance. We understand how medical comorbidities and mental health impacts the severity of sleep disorders. That is why we partner and collaborate with our patients' other health care providers. It is only with committed, integrative care, that we can achieve the best results for our patients."

If you are one of the many CPAP intolerant individuals out there, it's important for you to know that there are multidisciplinary alternatives to CPAP. Don't let your condition go untreated. It may have serious health consequences for you, in addition to lowering the quality of your life.

With over 25 years of clinical experience, Dr. Sunita Merriman is a graduate of the College of Dentistry at NYU. She is one of a select group of dentists in the US to have the distinction of earning Diplomate status with two separate Dental Sleep Boards- AADSM, American Board of Dental Sleep Medicine and the ABCDSM, American Board of Craniofacial Dental Sleep Medicine. To learn more about Dr. Merriman, or NJDSMC, you can go to [www.njdentalsleepmedicine.com](http://www.njdentalsleepmedicine.com). Call 908-389-0222 for an appointment. Located at 229 Charles Street in Westfield, Dr. Merriman and her team are honored to be named a NJ Top Dentist of NJ for the past 10 years in a row.

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## Fitch and McAloon Are Named Bowdoin Scholars

BRUNSWICK, Me. — Bowdoin College held its annual Sarah and James Bowdoin Day ceremony virtually on October 23 to honor those undergraduates who have distinguished themselves with excellence in scholarship.

Those students who are designated as Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholars are in the top (highest GPA) 20 percent of each class for the previous academic year. In addition, scholars who earned a GPA of 4.0 are designated Sarah and James Bowdoin Book Award winners.

The following local residents are among the newest Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholars:

Connor Fitch of Cranford, a Book Award winner, is a member of the Bowdoin College Class of 2021 and has been nominated for membership in Phi Beta Kappa. He is pursuing a major in economics and mathematics and a minor in German.

Colleen McAloon of Mountainside is a member of the Bowdoin College Class of 2023. She has not declared a major.

Founded in 1794, Bowdoin College enrolls approximately 1,800 students from across America and around the world. Bowdoin offers Bachelor of Arts degrees in more than 40 majors, including interdisciplinary programs. For more information, visit Bowdoin College online at [Bowdoin.edu](http://Bowdoin.edu) and follow the college on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholar designation honors James Bowdoin III and his wife, Sarah. James Bowdoin III was the earliest patron of the college and was instrumental in its founding. Sarah Bowdoin also gave many gifts to the college, including most of the Bowdoin family portraits in the collection of the Bowdoin College Museum of Art.


Further information about Sarah and James Bowdoin Day 2020 can be found at [bowdoin.edu/events/family-weekend/sarah-and-james-bowdoin-dayhtml](http://bowdoin.edu/events/family-weekend/sarah-and-james-bowdoin-dayhtml).

Affordable Apartments for Rent in Westfield, NJ

Preliminary applications are currently being accepted for 5 affordable rentals at The Westfield Bentley. Rents for 1, 2, and 3 bedroom units will range from \$563 to \$1,275 (utilities not included.)

Join the Westfield rental waiting list at [www.AffordableHomesNewJersey.com](http://www.AffordableHomesNewJersey.com) by January 28, 2021 to be included in the random drawing.

Maximum Income Limits (per household)



1 person household: \$59,085

2 person household: \$67,526

3 person household: \$75,967

4 person household: \$84,408

5 person household: \$91,160

6 person household: \$97,913

Although any income eligible households may apply, residents and workers of Essex, Morris, Union and Warren will be selected before residents of other counties or states. Income Guidelines Apply. Rents and Income Limits may change.

To submit a preliminary application, please visit: [www.AffordableHomesNewJersey.com](http://www.AffordableHomesNewJersey.com) and Join the WESTFIELD RENTAL WAITING LIST if you do not have email, call 609-664-2769, ext 5



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TIMES

Since 1959

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## Giving Thanks For Our Kids: They Rock!

By PATRICIA STECKLER, Ph.D.  
and SAMARA USELOFF  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

As we celebrate this season of thanks, I dedicate this week’s column to our kids, all of them, young or older, here or far. Our children make holidays joyful. They stimulate the best in us, reminding us what matters most in life. Let’s toast our kids while we share turkey, cranberries, stuffing, sweet potatoes (curried, in my home) and apple and pumpkin pie.

I especially thank Westfield High School student Samara Useloff, who wrote this thoughtful and helpful essay, excerpted here. Samara reminds us how resilient and knowledgeable our kids can be:

Using Mindfulness to Cope With a Global Pandemic

“Breathe in. Feel your lungs expand as they fill with air. Breathe out. Feel your body soften as you gently close your eyes. You are now on your way to a meditative state.

For many, Covid-19 profoundly altered their emotional landscape. People feel the effects daily, causing a dramatic increase in depression and anxiety. People have turned to meditation to incorporate positivity and clarity into their daily lives.

A meditative practice can anchor us in the here-and-now and inject long-lasting benefits into life. When people meditate, stress levels lower, focus improves and kindness increases.

The use of meditation apps has spiked during the Coronavirus pandemic. The Washington Post reported that downloads for mindfulness apps increased by 25 percent during the week of March 29 compared to weekly averages in January and February. Downloads of Headspace, Calm and Ten Percent Happier are surging.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo teamed up with Headspace to offer free meditation and mindfulness guidance. “For individuals who are isolated, it is important to have tools to use for coping,” said Sarah Kuriakose, a New York psychologist in this initiative. “We know that meditation and mindfulness can have positive effects when regularly practiced for a few minutes a day.”

Many organizations offer meditation programs. In Westfield, Temple Emanu-El organized a meditation service during the High Holy Days, focusing on healing the mind, body and spirit.

A WHS junior has been incorpo-

rating mindfulness practice into her daily life for the last two years. “When I started meditating, I learned that I needed to lean into uncomfortable things,” said the student. “For me, meditation is not about emptying my mind of thoughts; it’s about acknowledging those thoughts and feelings – whether they be good, bad or neutral – as they come up in the moment.”

Meditation puts her more at ease and enables her to be her most authentic self. “My favorite thing about meditation is learning to savor life’s little moments and get out of my own way,” said the WHS junior.

Although meditation won’t completely erase the hardships of the Coronavirus, it can ease our minds and help us tackle the worries that come with this hard-hitting pandemic.”

Thanks, Samara, and happy Thanksgiving to all of you, dear readers!

Share your Thanksgiving or meditative experiences with *The Westfield Leader and The Times* by writing “Gratitude” in the subject line and emailing press@goleader.com or pattisteckler@gmail.com.

## Educator’s Corner: Practicing Gratitude

By JENNIFER GLACKIN  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

This week seems like a good one to focus on gratitude, not only because of Thanksgiving, but because the rise in cases and uncertainty of schools opening and closing, are bound to add stress to an already stressful time of year.

What does gratitude have to do with education? Quite a lot. Research has shown that students who regularly practice gratitude have a more positive outlook overall and achieve higher grades than those who don’t.

In an “ever-changing” world plagued by “Covid fatigue,” we are all tired. Tired of feeling cooped up, tired of wearing masks, tired of restrictions, the worsening news, missing friends, etc. The list can go on and on. It is important to practice gratitude to help us, and our children, see light in the darkness.

Practicing gratitude is not blindly ignoring the swirling mess around us. It’s a moment to remember that despite the swirling mess, there are meaningful, im-

portant and (dare I say) happy moments taking place simultaneously.

Here are some ways to practice gratitude even after Thanksgiving is over:

1. Gratitude Journal – Older children and teenagers can use lined paper. Younger ones can draw a picture then write a few words or tell a grown-up what they drew about. (I once did a similar project with preschoolers for my graduate degree, so it can be done at a variety of ages!)

2. Gratitude Jar or Box – This can be a family activity. Everyone can write something they are thankful for on a strip of paper and add it to a jar. You can share the writings or mark the jar with a marker or string at the end of each day/week to track the growing gratitude. Younger kids who have not yet learned to write can place a pom-pom or bead into the jar to represent their gratitude.

3. Send a Note – Think of one person a week to send a thank-you note to. It could be as simple as “Thank you for being my friend.”

(Cue 80s sitcom music here...).

4. Talk – If making the time to write it out seems overwhelming, talk about it! Meals are a good time to do this – whichever meal your family shares most.

5. ABCs of Gratitude – Use the premise of “Going on a Picnic” (“I’m going on a picnic and I’m bringing apples, blanket, carrots, etc.”). One at a time, players add the next item from the alphabet while repeating the items said before. Modify the game with thankful things (It’s Friday, and I’m thankful for alarm clock, breakfast, cousins, etc). Test your memory and cooperate to get to the end!

6. Make a Collage – Pictures, stickers or stamps can create a beautiful visual.

In each of these practices, it’s also important to talk to kids about why they (and we) are grateful for those choices.

It’s easy to find the negative (especially in 2020), but it is important to seek out the good and be grateful for it, whenever and however we find it.



## Letters to the Editor

### Union County Clerk Thanks Voters for Support

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank your readers for their overwhelming and historic support of my re-election as Union County Clerk. The county had one of the highest turnouts in its history of Presidential elections, more than 76 percent of voters voted. What makes this such an astonishing feat is that it occurred during a worldwide pandemic and slowdown of the USPS when voters were mandated to vote by mail, a process that few voters were acquainted with.

As the office designated to design ballots — both machine and vote-by-mail — and distribute same, my office was pro-active in pursuing a multi-phased education campaign on how to vote by mail. We increased hours of operation, provided informational videos and written materials, spoke at dozens of community zoom meetings and designed newspaper and TV ads to get the message out.

In the midst of this, I was running for my 6th term as County Clerk, and although I could not “campaign” in the normal sense, I was doing the job you elected me to — organizing the hand collection and distribution of 70 different ballot versions for 340,000 vote-by-mail ballots.

You re-elected me with the largest plurality of any candidate in the county, and I am very grateful for your support as well as the dedicated and committed work ethic of my great staff, who worked tirelessly. Be assured I will continue to bring my talent and experience to the job in my new term.

The challenges of this year brought out the best in our citizens, and they stepped up to vote, helping to keep our democracy strong and vital. Be well and happy holidays.

Joanne Rajoppi  
Union County Clerk

### Kean Congratulates Malinowski on Win

The votes have been counted in NJ-7, and Tom Malinowski has won this election.

Congressman Malinowski has my congratulations and my commitment for a bipartisan partnership in my capacity in the New Jersey Senate as we both continue to represent New Jersey in difficult times.

The one percent margin between Rep. Malinowski and myself demonstrates the desire for strong leadership, but also for the need to find bipartisan solutions to the challenges facing our

country right now. Our nation and the people of this Congressional district need to look forward.

I am proud of the campaign we ran and incredibly thankful for all of our supporters. I am overwhelmed by the amount of time, energy and resources that were invested into my campaign. Rhonda and I will be forever grateful for your generosity, support and friendship.

Tom Kean, Jr.  
Westfield

### It’s Time to Close the Schools Says Westfield Resident

Thank you again for allowing me to speak at the most recent BOE meeting. As I stated, I am a concerned parent, who has already pulled my kids from hybrid school, but I remain concerned about the health and well-being of the students and workers in Westfield schools. As I’m sure you’re aware, the New Jersey Department of Health Covid-19 Activity Level Report now lists our region as High (https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID\_19\_Report\_Week\_46.pdf).

Per the NJDOH Covid-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools, it is recommended that districts: (https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts\_K12Schools.pdf)

1. Consider implementing fully remote learning.

2. Restrict activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts.

As you know, Lincoln School mixes students from various kindergarten classes during the “Wrap” portion of the school day.

At the middle and high schools, hybrid students change classes numerous times per day. (Though, of course,

WHS has been closed for weeks.)

All the schools have shared staff members who work in more than one school and therefore with numerous groups of students.

Given the NJDOH guidance referenced above and Westfield Regional Health Department Director Meg Avallone’s statement during the November 10, 2020, Westfield Town Council Meeting that many people in our community do not cooperate with contact tracers, it is reasonable to conclude that our schools are no longer safe for students or staff. It is time to close the schools.

While families have a choice to keep their children at home to learn full remote, our beloved teachers and school workers do not have this choice. My oldest child is in 7th grade and my youngest is in 3rd – which means our family has been a part of the Tamaques School community for seven years and our kids view many of the teachers as part of our extended family. We love and care for our teachers and other school workers; it is time to safeguard the health and safety of these workers.

Lee Schaefer  
Westfield

### Westfield Resident Offers Leaf Collection Warning

Last year on November 20, 2019, my driveway was damaged during leaf collection. I spoke to John, the driver of the vehicle that damaged my driveway, and he told me that he would report the incident and that it should be repaired as soon as leaf collection was over. I also sent an email to the town with a picture of the damage.

Leaf removal was completed, and then snow removal was completed, and I never heard from Westfield regarding the repair of my driveway. After numerous calls that were neither answered or returned, I contacted the town administrator, and he told me to contact his assistant to get a “notice of claim” for me to fill out and they would forward it to the insurance company. I immediately completed and signed the form and personally returned it.

Ten days later, I received a letter from Qual-Lynx, the insurance company for Westfield, and they informed me that Title 59:8-8 of the Statute states that “the claimant shall be forever barred from recovering against a public entity if: he failed to file a claim with the public entity within 90-days of the accrual of this claim.”

If your property is damaged by the

Town of Westfield, do the following immediately:

1. Call the Westfield Town Administrator’s assistant – (908) 789-4040.
2. Request a “notice of claim.”
3. Return the completed “notice of claim” as soon as possible.

There is a 90-day window, and if you miss it the Town of Westfield is not responsible.

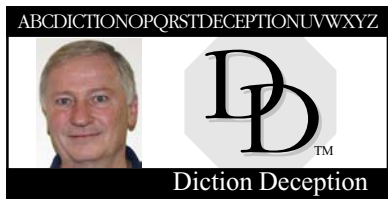
John R. Nichols  
Westfield

### Smith and Spera Concede SP Races

We would like to congratulate Mayor-elect Josh Losardo and Councilwoman-elect Ellen Zimmerman on their victory in the November 3, 2020, election. We look forward to working with them in transitioning to the new council.

We would again like to thank all of those who supported us in the election.

Mayor Al Smith  
Councilman Ted Spera



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. Orcus – The lower world; Hades
2. Hirundine – Relating to the swallows (birds)
3. Sillon – A defense built in a wide ditch
4. Chiliad – A thousand of anything

ROYNE

1. To bite or gnaw
2. A small stone; pebble
3. Of royalty; royal
4. Mean; nasty

LAGOSTOMA

1. Sluggishness; lethargy
2. In music, denoting passages to be rendered in a mournful manner
3. Speech impediment; slurring
4. Harelip

CUDGEL

1. A short, thick stick of wood used as a weapon
2. To ridicule; prod
3. To delude by flattery
4. To nestle or draw close for comfort

LEGERDEMAIN

1. Gracefulness; flowing
2. The holdings of a Scottish laird or landowner
3. Pertaining to forests; heavily wooded areas
4. Sleight of hand or trickery

Letters to the Editor

The Deadline is Monday 9 AM for publication on the coming Thursday. The size limit is 200-500 words.

## All The News



www.goleader.com

## Letters to the Editor

### St. Joseph’s Center Offers Thanks

Beloved neighbors, you have done it again. We are beyond thankful to all of you. Thanks to your generosity, our food pantry has been stocked and restocked over and over with donations from the greater Westfield community, and we have been able to share that food with over 700 households this week. Please know that every item and every dollar that you donate is even more appreciated during this challenging economic time. Our center is simply a bridge that connects what is needed to those that need it, and you are all part of our support system.

We especially thank our friends at Vicki’s Diner. Despite the financial challenges of this year, they still made their annual donation of over 40 turkeys and trimmings.

All of us at St. Joseph’s wish you a healthy and happy Thanksgiving.

Bernadette Murphy  
Director

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goleader.com/subscriber



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Alex Mirabella  
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Sebastian D’Elia, Public Info.  
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sdelia@ucnj.org

<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 Asw. Linda Carter (D) 200 West 2nd St., Suite 102 Plainfield, N.J. 07060 (908) 561-5757	<b>7th Congressional District</b> Representative Tom Malinowski (D) 75-77 N. Bridge St., Somerville, N.J. 08876 (908) 547-3307 [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, Rahway 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 asmbrennick@njleg.org, aswmunoz@njleg.org asmkenney@njleg.org, aswcarter@njleg.org



# The Student View

A collaboration with the  
Westfield High School Journalism Program

## How We Can Put an End to the Trend of Toxic Masculinity

By KERRY DONOVAN  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Since the beginning of time, there have been gender-based stereotypes, from women wearing dresses and acting ladylike to men wearing suits and being resilient. In more recent years, younger generations have begun to go against these gender labels, defying the term “toxic masculinity.” As people are beginning to utilize social media more than ever, we can, and have already begun to, put an end to this venomous ideology that once put a label on what it means to be a man.

Toxic masculinity is defined as a set of ways of behaving that are stereotypically associated with men. The idea of maintaining an appearance of manliness and “tough-guy” behavior was woven into society in previous decades. In the 1950s, the idea that men would go out and work for their families and wear a suit, while women would stay home and dress up, supported this idea of preserving what it traditionally meant to look like and act as a man.

In present day, men have begun to oppose this stereotypical idea of what it means to be “manly,” defying the toxicity of adhering to traditional gender roles. Celebrities such as Harry Styles, Conan Gray, Finn Wolfhard, Timothée Chalamet, Tyler The Creator and more have all gone against masculine stereotypes.

Styles, who is well-known for his fashion sense, was recently praised for wearing a dress in the Vogue December 2020 edition. People ranging from fans to celebrities supported Styles across social media for breaking gender labels, tweeting “be like Harry,” and that he is “plenty manly, because manly is whatever you want it to be.”

From floral blazers to bright pink suits, Timothée Chalamet has also set the example of destroying toxic masculinity through fashion, showing that he isn’t afraid to express himself and dismantle toxic stereotypes on the red carpet, late-night talk shows and more.

## NJ Republicans Call for Special Legislative Session

TRENTON — Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Assembly Republican Leader Jon Brannick, Senate Republican Budget Officer Steve Oroho and Assembly Republican Budget Officer Hal Wirths called for both houses of the New Jersey Legislature to hold a special session before Thanksgiving to approve an emergency aid package to help small businesses and nonprofits impacted by Covid-19.

New Jersey received a \$2.4 billion block grant through the federal CARES Act in April to provide emergency relief to local governments, small businesses, and nonprofits impacted by Covid-19.

The Republican legislators called for an emergency session to consider S-3210, which appropriates \$300 million of those federal block grant funds to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) to provide financial support, such as loans or grants, to small businesses and not-for-profit organizations for the costs associated with business operation interruptions caused by any state-required closures due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.

“Many of our businesses are on the brink of permanent closure if they don’t get help,” said Assemblyman Brannick (R-21).

An analysis by the state auditor found that Governor Phil Murphy’s administration had spent barely 10 percent of New Jersey’s CARES Act funds by the end of September.

The governor’s recently approved FY

Men have also begun to break the standards of toxic masculinity through music. In artist Tyler The Creator’s song “A Boy is a Gun,” from his 2019 album Igor, he sent the message that he can be more than what society trained him to be as a man, cultivating his own idea of manliness while going against the societal standards.

On social platforms such as TikTok and YouTube, it’s become common for male creators to post makeup tutorials. There has been an increased number of men filming these videos as well as starting their own makeup lines, such as Bretman Rock and James Charles, contradicting the original stereotype that makeup is strictly for women.

When people with a large following set an example of opposing these gender stereotypes and inevitably inspire others to do the same, we can collectively join the fight in ending toxic masculinity. Despite the fact that society was systematically built to believe in these gender stereotypes, we are beginning to break this unjust trend by embracing the fact that how a person wants to look and act can and should go unlabeled.

Today, the idea of being vulnerable has become manly; we are beginning to idolize those who have begun to embrace who they want to be, regardless of their gender and/or sexual orientation. As we continue to educate ourselves socially through the media, we should continue to fight against these toxic stereotypes in order to create change and redefine what it means to be a man.

To those who still support this once toxic trend of men being strong and invulnerable: It isn’t the 1950s anymore. There is a sense of ambiguity present among genders within society that is now accepted. Because of society’s drive to break these gender stereotypes, we can diminish the once common trend of toxic masculinity, allowing men to feel comfortable in their own skin whether they’re rocking a suit and tie or a sparkly dress with heels.

2021 State Budget calls for \$450 million of those relief funds to be spent on State employee salaries, despite a multi-billion surplus in the budget that continues to grow.

“For months, we’ve been trying to get Governor Murphy to do the right thing and release CARES Act funds for their intended purposes of helping our economy stay afloat,” said Senator Oroho (R-24). “Instead, the governor’s biggest dedication of relief funds has been to subsidize his own administration’s spending while he’s building a massive surplus that won’t help anyone. The Legislature needs to step in and correct course to prevent unnecessary harm to New Jerseyans who have already gone through so much.”

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF WESTFIELD**  
**WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY**  
**SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2220**  
**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 COVID-19 SPECIAL EMERGENCY**  
**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53(m) (Ch. 144, P.L. 1965 as amended, including Ch. 46, P.L. 2010 and P.L. 2020 c.74) the sum of \$1,273,900 is hereby appropriated for COVID-19 affected revenue losses and shall be deemed a special emergency appropriation as defined and provided for in N. J.S. 40A:4-53 and 40A:4-55.  
  
Of the \$1,273,900 to be appropriated, \$866,000 is for the Current Fund and \$407,900 is for the Swim Pool Utility Fund.  
  
The amount to finance the appropriation shall be provided for in succeeding annual budgets beginning in 2022 by inclusion of at least 1/5 of the amount authorized pursuant to this act (N.J.S. 40A:4-55).  
**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that this ordinance shall take effect at the time and manner provided by law.  
  
**NOTICE**  
  
The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Westfield held on November 24, 2020 and was read for the first time. This ordinance will be further considered for final passage by said Town Council at the Westfield Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 at a meeting beginning at 8:00 PM on December 8, 2020 or at any time and place to which such meeting may be adjourned. All persons interested will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning such Ordinance. If the meeting on December 8, 2020 must be held virtually due to COVID-19, the public hearing will be held digitally by using the following link: <http://www.bit.ly/WestfieldTownCouncilMeeting> or via telephone by calling 646-518-9805, Webinar ID 753 829 581 #. Copies of this ordinance are available at the Office of the Town Clerk, Westfield Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.  
  
Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk  
1 T - 11/26/20, The Leader Fee: \$51.51

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF WESTFIELD**  
**WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY**  
**GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2199**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, CHAPTER 13 AS IT RELATES TO BUS STOPS**  
**NOTICE**  
  
Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on November 24, 2020.  
  
Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk  
1 T - 11/26/20, The Leader Fee: \$16.32

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF WESTFIELD**  
**WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY**  
**GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2200**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, CHAPTER 13 (THROUGH STREET AND STOP SIGNS)**  
**NOTICE**  
  
Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on November 24, 2020.  
  
Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk  
1 T - 11/26/20, The Leader Fee: \$16.83

## Letters to the Editor

### Remember Non-Profits On Giving Tuesday

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the world for all of us.

Our daily lives have been upended as we endeavor to navigate the new normal that is in complete contrast to what makes us feel part of a great community like Westfield. We’re physically distanced from our families, friends and co-workers, unable to offer a much needed hug or shoulder for support. So, we cancel or postpone celebrations and milestones, large and small, as we continue to follow social distancing guidelines and look forward to the day we can return to our former lives, both emotionally and economically.

Tuesday, December 1, 2020, is “Giving Tuesday,” the largest global day of nonprofit giving. The economic impact of Covid-19 has been dramatic for nonprofits. Public funding and contributions have dwindled leaving nonprofit organizations without the ability to provide the essential services upon which many of our community members have come to rely. For The Westfield Community Center (WCC), that means no place for our vulnerable seniors to socialize and get a hot meal, it means uncertainty for our after school programs and it means the loss of revenue that allows us to provide the vital programming we do. Our amazing staff and volunteers continue to make themselves available to the WCC and, most importantly, to our valued members, ensuring they have what they need during these trying times. We can’t do it without the support of the community. We can’t do it without you.

This Giving Tuesday, please consider a donation. If your attachment to the WCC stretches generations, if you simply attended one of our social events or if you want to see affordable programs continue in our community, we’re asking for your help. Any contribution you make will ensure The WCC can continue to serve our community into our 86th year and beyond.

If you have a connection to another nonprofit, please give. There are wonderful organizations in the greater Westfield area that also need your help. Organizations that provide spiritual guidance, support local youth and senior groups, assist in providing resources to community members who are underserved and countless others. Find an organization that resonates with you and give. Any amount, no matter, how small can make a difference. If you’re not able to offer a donation this Tuesday, consider an act of kindness to help a friend, neighbor or stranger.

Donations to the Westfield Community Center can be made on our website, [www.westfieldcommunitycenter.org](http://www.westfieldcommunitycenter.org) or by mail to Westfield Community Center, 558 East Broad Street, Westfield, NJ 07090.

As we look forward to better times, our family at The Westfield Community Center wishes the best to all of you.

**Andrew Davlourous, President, Westfield Community Center**  
**Velvet Roger, Executive Director, Westfield Community Center**

## Scotch Plains Mayor Al Smith Thanksgiving Message

I want to wish you all a different Thanksgiving this year.

While we are accustomed to thinking of the day as one of being thankful for all we have, this year let’s focus on the “giving.” The spirit of Thanksgiving has really always been one where Americans translate their gratitude into helping those less fortunate. Voluntary giving has been ingrained in our character since the pilgrims and the Wampanoag shared their meal in the Autumn of 1621—just 63 years before Scotch Plains was founded—and it lives on in us today. Blessed as we are with freedom and prosperity, Americans have always instinctively understood that one must give in order to receive.

Take time this holiday to reflect on the full meaning of the day. Searching our hearts, let’s ask what we can do as individuals to demonstrate our gratitude to God for all He has done. Such reflection can only add to the significance of this precious day of remembrance for all that we have.

Under the dark cloud of a pandemic, it is more important than ever that we continue in this spirit. This will be the toughest Thanksgiving in years for many in New Jersey. There will be families whose tables will be bare due to the loss of jobs and income. There will be those who are unable or unwilling to travel safely to see their loved ones. And there will be almost 17,000 empty seats at dinner tables that would have otherwise been filled if not for this terrible virus. We have much to be thankful for, but even more to give to those in need.

The generosity of our town residents is great, and I don’t believe there is anyone who cannot celebrate Thanksgiving with a turkey and fixings. The wonderful Kindsgiving program run through the FSP YMCA is helping those in need with food and uniting our community. A North Side resident just completed a Toys for Tots drive for needy children. And Terrill Middle School hosted a clothing drive for kids and teens this past Saturday. We are truly a community that cares.

Even if you cannot participate in these or similar actions, let us commit ourselves to coming out of the pandemic stronger and more vibrant than ever before. We should always be proud of and thankful for our long American history of fighting for more freedom and fairness for everyone. We cannot be cowed or guilted as a people into submission, and we will triumph over this pandemic in the very near future as vaccines and other therapeutics become available. We are proud Americans celebrating a long tradition that will springboard us into better times.

God Bless and Happy Thanksgiving.

**Mayor Al Smith**  
**Scotch Plains**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**  
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## Thanksgiving Traditions Continue

Over the past 20 years, my brother and I would normally give out several hundred turkeys for Thanksgiving. Over the past 6 years, our two children became involved in the family tradition and helped with distributing the turkeys to families and Churches in Elizabeth and Newark. I wanted to share this story as we approach Thanksgiving this week.

A week ago I saw that Covid was spiking in Elizabeth, Newark and Jersey City, the areas we distributed the turkeys. We were concerned and I felt that it was just too unsafe this year.

Last week, my son Ethan, and my niece Sophia, who both attend Franklin School, came to me and asked: "when are we giving out the turkeys to the people who need them?" I told them that this year was different, the economy had negatively impacted our business, just like everyone else, and more importantly, that I couldn't take them to hand out turkeys in areas where the coronavirus has spiked to 30 percent. It was just too unsafe.

Later that day, both Ethan and Sophia came back to me, they told they had a meeting and wanted to make me a proposal. Ethan said, "Daddy I know things are tough this year, but on the TV things are tougher for the people we help every year." Then Sophia told that they both agreed they would stay home this year, so

they wouldn't get sick. They know that their Dad's have money saved for their college fund. They both decided that they want us to use their money for the turkeys this year and when they get older they can work to replace the money.

I looked at these two kids and I thought my Irish Catholic immigrant mom in Heaven would be so proud. I remember when I was a little boy, about the same age as my son, and we came to America, it was our first Thanksgiving in America and my mom told me about this American tradition where everyone spent the day thanking God for their Blessings. My mom loved Thanksgiving and this tradition became part of us. I took the children up on their generous offer and my brother and I spent this past Saturday delivering hundreds of turkeys to people in neighborhoods much different from our Westfield. I took pictures and videos on the way and sent them to the kids. I'm very proud of them. My mom would be very proud that we learned what she taught us, and like her, we love the true meaning of this American tradition.

They reminded me that even when things are tough we should be thankful for what we have.

**Happy Thanksgiving**  
**From The Wards**

## Brightwood Park and Mountain Biking: I'm Against it...Here's Why

I've lived in Westfield for 33 years, never once stepping into Brightwood Park (although I knew of its existence) until September, 2020, after I saw the one-page announcement about "Keeping Brightwood Park Natural" and "Saving our Sanctuary". After I visited the Park, on invitation from John Linderman and Dr. Trudy Burke, I became a "Friend of Brightwood Park". I was immediately drawn to these dedicated people and was blown away with their work ethic. The Friends have already put in more than 300 hours of work in the park, eradicating invasive species, and removing rubbish. I don't know what they have for breakfast, but "I'll have what they're having." They are truly motivated to follow in Noel Taylor's footsteps to uphold words which appear on the entry plaque for Brightwood Park from Prospect Street:

"A quiet sanctuary for all lovers of nature where one can relax and listen to the sounds of nature, enjoy its beauty, or begin to understand the lesson that man depends on wildlife for survival. If one understands that man does depend on nature for his existence, one can also understand that man cannot to continue to subdue the whole planet earth. Man and living things must learn to live together."

The full quote is from his book: "Brightwood Park, Westfield, NJ". This park was dedicated to be a passive park, a quiet preserve for education, inspiration, meditation. It's been in use by many people for years for passive pursuits like walking a dog, hiking, or taking pictures. It never was large enough for the sports the way Tamaques Park is used.

Although the Friends motivation started with the negative of stopping mountain biking, which is vital because it will change the quiet and the ecology of the area, somewhere along the way, the motivation started to change, to evolve, into something more substantial...something positive. I attribute this to Denise Ricci, who encouraged us to be both posi-


tive and proactive in our mentality. Friends love this "poor little gorgeous park"! (It looks so sad with all the invasives cut back. But, that was absolutely necessary for the health of this ecosystem.) It will look so much better come Springtime.


Maybe the next super antifungal will come from something in Brightwood...did you know that Merck's Cancidas (caspofungin acetate), an important intravenous antifungal drug, came from pond scum?

Could that happen here? Maybe a Merck scientist could write to this paper about the history of this discovery.

**Claudia Barnes Cuca**  
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Sports Section  
Pages 7-9

# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

## COUGARS RUN TABLE TO CAPTURE CENTRAL EAST D TITLE

### Cougars Jar Jackson Liberty In Girls Soccer Sectional, 7-0

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

Mercy Rule “soccer style” played out five minutes into the second half when senior center back Abby Ahern rifled in the seventh goal of the game for the fourth-seeded Cranford High School girls in a 7-0 shutout of the fifth-seeded Jackson Liberty Lady Lions in the quarterfinal round of the Central East D Group 3 Tournament at Memorial Field in Cranford on November 18. The final 35 minutes featured the entire Cougar bench receiving plenty of playing time in what could be called a game of “keep away”. The Cougars would go on to capture the crown with an impressive triumph over Brick Township (*See final paragraph*).

There was no doubt early on that the 5-6 Lions were in deep trouble when Cougar sophomore attacking

midfielder Oliva Russomanno ripped two vicious shots at goalkeeper Camryn Weise within the first 30 seconds. That ruthlessness, especially with the assistance of junior Riley Korzeneski, along with co-captain Sophie Montague, Kirsten Williams, Aileen and Aislinn McGovern, Josie Gunther and Gabriella Baiada continued unendingly for the next eight minutes. Then with 31:24 on the clock, Korzeneski sent a right-to-left cross into the box where Russomanno, who scored two goals and an assist, finished to make the score 1-0.

On her part in scoring, Russomanno explained, “Basically you just have to beat the flat line. They had a very high flat line and we had to adjust with it in the beginning but as the game went on, we learned how to play around it. I had two breakaways and we just all played well collec-

tively to make those two goals and all the other goals in the game.”

On her assist, Korzeneski added, “I had it down the line and Liv (Olivia) was right there and open.”

The Lions got their only opportunity to score less than two minutes later when Cougar keeper Amanda Vath got pulled out of position but the shot into the open net missed to the right. Four minutes later Korzeneski was on the right side and launched one of the Cougars’ seven corner kicks of the half into the danger zone causing a stir.

Korzeneski had a couple of opportunities to score but to no avail. Then with 16:44 on the clock, Russomanno hooked a corner kick from the left side into the box where Korzeneski made the score 2-0.

“Liv (Olivia) put it right there and

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more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

TAKING THE BRUNT OF THE RAIDER DEFENSE...Raiders Matt Power, No. 4, Isaiah Nathaniel, No. 10, and Liam Mahr, No. 79, along with their teammates crunch the Mustang running back in Scotch Plains on November 19.

## MARTIN 2 TD, WIDDER 3 TD PASSES; YEAGER, MAHR ON ‘D’

### Raiders Corral JFK Mustangs In Home Football Clash, 40-2

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

No mercy in the first half resulted in a “Mercy Rule” once the first second ticked off to start the second half of the football game between the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders and the JFK Mustangs in Scotch Plains on November 19. Senior quarterback Hayden Widder engineered an offense that yielded three running touchdowns and three passing touchdowns, all in the first half, while seniors Kenny Yeager and Liam Mahr led a defense that held the Mustangs to minus rushing yardage in a 40-2 victory.

After dropping their first game to Woodbridge and being stung by Cedar Grove, the Raiders have reeled off four straight victories and have a chance to make it five when they would host Colonia on November 25.

Widder revealed that he had more receivers than just senior Christian Piesch and completed five of seven passes for 110 yards, which included a 55-yard bomb down the left sideline to Piesch at the end of the first quarter and touchdown passes of 13 yards to junior wide receiver Noah Gavin Cocco and 19 yards to junior wide receiver Matt Power both in the second quarter. Power also had a four-yard reception and junior tight end Isaiah Nathaniel had a 10-yard reception.

Raider senior running back Shawn Martin carried 12 times for 94 yards, including touchdown runs of 28 yards and 30 yards. Junior running back Anthony Robinson carried 15 times for 69 yards and Widder carried four times for 28 yards, including a one-yard bash.

But the big story would be the

defensive efforts led by the big men Yeager and Mahr, who pressured quarterback Connor Heaney all evening and even put him to sleep with a number of big time sacks to go with several throws for losses. The disabled Mustangs were held to minus 28 yards on the ground, while Heaney could only complete two passes for four yards in the first half and three more passes for 61 yards in the second half. The only Mustang score was a safety against the Raider reserves with less than two minutes remaining in the game.

“We got our big man in the middle, Thomas Schmidt. We got a couple of guys out there in the secondary, Damon Schumann, Matt Power. We got linebackers, Anthony Robinson, Isaiah Nathaniel. They are all

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GETTING THE JUMP ON A LION...Cougar Olivia Russomanno, right, gets a jump on a Jackson Liberty Lion in the quarterfinals in Cranford on November 18. Russomanno scored twice. The Cougars beat Colts Neck in the semis then claimed the Central East D, Group 3 Championship with a 4-0 victory over second-seeded Brick Township on November 22.

## LYGHT NETS HAT TRICK AGAINST TOMS RIVER NORTH

### Soccer Raiders Bomb Bombers, Edge Jackson Mem, Swamp TRN for Title

The second-seeded No. 9 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls soccer team had trouble figuring out how not to score goals and the result was a 9-0 bombing of the Sayreville Bombers in the quarterfinal round of the Central East F, Group 4 Tournament in Scotch Plains on November 18. Two days later at the same location, scoring became a rarity but the Raiders managed to edge third-seeded Jackson Memorial, 1-0, to advance to the championship game to face top-seeded, No. 4 Toms River North on November 22 where they saved their best performance to last by swamping the Mariners, 4-0, for the crown.

Against the Bombers, senior co-captain Corinne Lyght netted a pair of goals and an assist, while Jamie Valian scored twice for the Raiders. Junior Leah Klurman netted a goal and an assist, while Georgi Vacca, Sophia Lama, Jamie Weinberg and Jasmine Gutierrez each scored once. Co-captains Holly Nelson and Faith Price, Lily Camacho, Alexa Fazio and Sara Lehman each added an assist. Rebecca Kessler, Ava Hausle and Liz Bedatsky shared the goalkeeping duties.

In the showdown against the 18th-ranked Jackson Memorial Jaguars, it seemed to be only a matter of time when the 11-1-1 Lady Raiders would find the net. In the first half, Lyght,

Nelson, Fazio and Camacho applied constant pressure and had several opportunities. Finally late in the second half, Klurman ripped in the game winner.

With the sectional title at stake, the Raiders finished their season with a 12-1-1 record and handed 15-1-1 Toms River North its first loss of the season. After a scoreless first half, the flood gates opened wide and Lyght gushed forward with a hat trick (3 goals) and Nelson made good with a header off an assist from Klurman. Kat Zikas, Camacho and Price each contributed and assist. Kessler recorded four saves and TRN keeper Cam Kennett recorded six saves.



more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

BREAKING A TACKLE...Cougar running back Lucca Limeira, No. 6, breaks a tackle during the game with St. Joseph (Metuchen) at Memorial Field in Cranford on November 20. The Falcons capitalized on Cougar mistakes to win 21-9.

## JOHNSON TD, DAUTAGA FG; LIBRERA, LIMEIRA SACKS

### St. Joseph Falcons Capitalize; Defeat Cougar Gridders, 21-9

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

Three mistakes cost the Cranford High School football team dearly in its season finale against the St. Joseph (Metuchen) Falcons at Memorial Field in Cranford on November 20. A blocked punt in the first quarter and an interception at the beginning of the second quarter set up a pair of easy touchdowns for the Falcons then another interception in the third quarter cut short a Cougar scoring drive paving the way for a 21-9 St. Joseph victory.

Despite the early misfortunes, the 6-2 Cougars still had an opportunity to make a great comeback when they narrowed the Falcon’s lead to 14-9 then followed by nailing the runner at the one-yard line on ensuing the kick-

off. But the Falcons eventually wiggled their way to the 16 then sealed the Cougars’ fate when running back Omari Jones hooked down the right sideline for an 84-yard touchdown with 3:12 remaining in the game.

Other than that huge run, the Cougar defense limited the Falcons to 47 yards on the ground and allowed quarterback Matt Stanton to complete just three of 13 passes for 13 yards. Senior linebackers Nick Librera and junior Lucca Limeira recorded a pair of huge sacks and joined co-captains Kevin Keogh, Matt Coates and Nate Caldwell, along with lineman Kevin Shriner, Mike Anzalone, Matt Fries and Garrett Lunch in multiple throws for losses.

Cougar senior Dennis DeMarino and junior Shane Van Dam shared quarterbacking duties and combined

to complete nine of 21 passes for 149 yards. Wide receiver Arjun Petrgrave had four receptions for 89 yards, including a 42-yard reception. Jake Chapman had two receptions for 19 yards. Caldwell had two for 16 yards and Limeira had a 25-yard reception. On the ground, Chapman carried 11 times for 41 yards, Marcus Johnson carried eight times for 15 yards, which included a one-yard touchdown plunge, and Limeira had six carries for 37 yards. DeMarino carried six times for 16 yards and Van Dam carried five times for 22 yards.

The first misfortune happened when the Cougars’ punt was blocked on their second series and the Falcons took over at the 22-yard line. Four short runs later, the Falcons were on


CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MAKING HER MOVE...Raider senior Corinne Lyght, No. 6, makes her move in the Central East F, Group 4 semifinal against Jackson Memorial in Scotch Plains on November 20. The Raiders won, 1-0, then defeated top-seeded No. 4 ranked Toms River North, 4-0, on November 22 for the crown. See additional photo on page 8 and others at Ballyhoo Sports




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**MOB SCENE...Cougars Kevin Shriner, No. 77, Matt Coates, No. 50, and Garrett Lynch, No. 66, plug up the holes in the game against St. Joseph (Metuchen).**

## St. Joseph Falcons Capitalize; Defeat Cougar Gridders, 21-9

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

the 11 and Stanton rumbled in for the touchdown with 4:41 left in the first quarter. Chris Wyldé kicked the first of his three points after.

On the first play of the second quarter, Falcon Rocco Bellamy intercepted to put the ball on the Cranford 12. Three plays later from the four-yard line, Stanton hooked up with Bellamy in the end zone with 10:00 remaining in the half.

The Falcons attempted to engineer another drive later in the quarter but Limeira's 10-yard sack of Stanton put a stop to that thought. After the punt, the Cougars took over at their own 13-yard line and got to the Falcon five on 12 plays. On fourth down, a pass into the end zone intended for wide receiver Will Gallagher was batted down with four seconds on the clock.

Early in the third quarter, Cougar defensive back Luke Infante broke up a pass that forced the Falcons to punt. The Cougars moved the ball to the St. Joseph 30 but Falcon Don Stralkus intercepted and brought the ball to the 37. However, Librera's big sack and a partial blocked punt by Anzalone gave the Cougars possession on the Falcon 33. Five plays later the ball rested on the 19 and Diar Dautaga booted a 36-yard field goal with 3:21 left in the quarter.

The Cougar defense did its job and another Falcon punt came to rest at the Cranford 33. Despite a 10-yard penalty, the Cougars moved from their own 23 to the Falcon one in 10 plays thanks to Petgrave's 42-yard reception. From there, Johnson pushed in for the touchdown with 6:09 left in the game.

Situations looked really good when the Cougars nailed the return man at the one-yard line. Four running plays

put the ball at the 16 then Jones swept around the right side, outrunning all pursuers for the touchdown to secure the victory.

Reflecting on the season, Librera said, "These group of guys were absolutely wonderful this whole season. It started COVID came out. We didn't even know if we were going to have a season this year, so we went into groups and everybody was willing to work. We were willing to work for the opportunity to winning a title."

"This season was weird for everyone, not just for us but for the entire state of New Jersey, the entire country. It's tough! It really is! There's no way around it! There's no playoff this year. That hurts. That's unfortunate. We adapted. We didn't get any games cancelled on our end, which is something I am very proud of. We were one of the few teams in the state that did that. It was a great job by us. It was not the way we wanted it to end for sure but we had a great season," Coates expressed.

"It was a special season with a special group. It came down to lack of execution and we came up short. That's all I've got to say," DeMarino said.

"Today was our playoff. Today was our state championship. It was a lack of execution but I'm proud of everybody on this team. I'm proud of everybody who came forth. (Former players) Rob Schork, Weslock. My sophomore year they guided us. The next year (Connor) Katz, Cole (Blazek). This year we went by them. I am proud of these guys win or lose. We came up short. Stuff happens," Librera concluded.

St. Joseph (Met)	7	7	0	7	21
Cranford	0	0	3	6	9

## SPF B & C Teams Compete In PAL NJSYF Super Bowl

A return to the Super Bowl in the New Jersey Suburban Youth Football League was the goal set by both the Raider seventh grade B team and the Raider sixth grade C team when the season began and each accomplished its mission. A year ago, the current SPF B team fell to Chatham in the National Conference's Super Bowl (NCSB). The present SPF C team had earlier captured the NCSB with a victory over New Providence.

On November 21, each SPF team competed in the American Conference's Super Bowl but each fell short of winning a league championship. In Old Bridge, the Raider B team fell to Old Bridge-Sayre Woods, 14-0, a result that followed the SPF C team's 32-0 setback to Bridgewater.

"We are only 18 strong and limited in size to our opponents, but we overcame our challenges on the field with grit, speed and passion to succeed. I'm truly proud of these young men and I try to teach them the importance of preparation and nothing in life is handed to you, you have to earn it," SPF B team coach, Anthony Martucci, proclaimed.

Martucci singled out numerous players and explained how they excelled through a season that ended with a 4-2-2 record.

"These players have also shown me what that learned, starting with our lineman front and center every game," said Martucci, who praised such linemen Thomas Dowling, Paul Boyle, Travis Moore, Thomas Riley and Matt Krantz.

Martucci added, "The men in the backfield are special to me, starting with Joe LaRosa, who tells us at every practice, 'coach I'll play whatever you need me'. And Jayvon Young and Patrick Maignan, who both always want the ball."

Additionally, he said, "Callum

Fynes plays tight end and running back and who is a true talent and playmaker on the field. Aiden Lickman, this kid never gives up on offense and defense and he causes havoc on the field and wants to get into the end zone. The wide receivers, Michael Martucci and Lorenzo Tittanegro, they are always trying their best running their routes and anticipating the long bomb. And finally our QB, Jake Martucci, what he may lack in size, does not compare to the heart, passion and knowledge of the game."

Martucci concluded, "We had a great season, and a top-notch coaching staff, and next year the championship trophy will be ours Go Raiders."

C team Head Coach Mike Marranca shared his feelings of his sixth graders. "The kids played amazing defense all season, except for Bridgewater, these kids were dominant all season. Our defensive line of Jay Sachkowsky, Omar McFarlane, Max Markho and Nick Marranca set the tone up front with a fierce rush. Jackson Vaughn was a force to deal with as a blitzing linebacker. Cooper Dupuis and Micah Smith consistently set the edge on the outsides."

The Raider C team finished the season with a 6-2 record. Both losses came to the hands of Bridgewater.

"On the offensive side, the running attack of Micah Smith, Chris Horn, Ryan Scarpa and Sebastian Assuncao set the tone all season for the offense. The kicking game was handled by Jack Wilber, who did both punting and kicking."

Looking to the future, Marranca said, "The coaches are very proud of this group, going 15-3 and making two Super Bowls over that last two seasons. I can't wait to see how these kids improve with another year of experience."

## SPF Topples TRN & Monroe; Fall to Southern in Field Hockey

The seventh-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School field hockey team has been peaking at the right time and topped second-seeded, 12-3 Toms River North, 2-1, in Toms River in the quarterfinal round of the Central East D Tournament on November 17. Two days later, the Raiders knocked off third-seeded Monroe, 3-1, in the semifinal round then on November 21, their quest for the title ended with a 2-0 setback to top-seeded, undefeated, 17-0 Southern.

Against Toms River North, Allie Serio and Julia Zambrio each netted a goal for the Raiders, while Meagan Bourke and Sophia Novello each added an assist and goalkeeper Emilia Saccento recorded 12 saves. Olivia Fraticelli scored a goal and Morgan Keller provided the assist for TRN, while keeper

Katie Marra recorded five saves.

Serio scored a goal and added an assist in the triumph over Monroe. Bourke and Olivia Stahley each netted a goal and Novello contributed a pair of assists. Goalkeeper Saccento made two saves. Kaley Battaglia scored Monroe's only goal.

The girls from Southern were just too much to handle for the Raiders as Kate O'Boyle and Cuinn Deely each netted a goal, while Kiera Lyons and Bella English each added an assist. Raider keeper Saccento was kept very busy throughout and recorded 14 saves.

Sc PI-Fanwood	1	0	0	1	2
Toms River North	0	0	0	1	1

Sc PI-Fanwood	2	0	1	0	3
Monroe	0	0	1	0	1

Sc PI-Fanwood	0	0	0	0	0
Southern	1	1	0	0	2



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**GETTING CONTROL...Raider co-captain Holly Nelson, No. 10, gets control of the ball in the game against Jackson Memorial on November 20.**

### Cougar Boys Nip Colonia, Lose to Colts Neck

Tim O'Donovan scored a second-half goal to propel the second-seeded Cranford High School boys soccer team past sixth-seeded Colonia, 1-0, in the semifinal round of the Central East E Group 3 Tournament in Cranford on November 19. On November 21, top-seeded 15-2 Colts Neck scored once in the first half and twice in the second half to top the 7-6-1 Cougars, 3-0, for the crown. Dave Tuchmann notched the hat trick for Colts Neck.

## A Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Fall Sports

From the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* — full accounts found at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com) - year, month-week

**October 25, 2019:** The Cranford football team's quest to gain a share of the Mid-State 38 Raritan Division title dissolved when the North Hunterdon Lions took an early 20-0 lead and held on to earn a 34-21 victory in Annandale. QB Connor Katz (18 carries, 61 yards, 15-yard TD) completed 15 of 28 passes for 188 yards, including a TD and an interception. Running back Dennis

carried five times for 11 yards, including a one-yard TD run, completed eight of 13 passes for 70 yards, which included a 32-yard screen pass to junior Shawn Martin, who took it to the end zone. Martin also carried 20 times for 70 yards. Sophomore running back Anthony Robinson gobbled up 57 yards, including a 14-yard TD run, on seven carries. Senior QB Jake Hahn threw a 36-yard strike to junior wide receiver Christian Piesch.

**November 1, 2018:** Somewhat dissatisfied with sharing the Union County Tournament crown with Union, the sixth-seeded WHS boys

kills) and Stephanie Margolies (4 kills, 1 block, 6 digs, 13 service points, 5 aces) led a balanced Blue Devil attack that took charge early and was never seriously threatened by the 12th-seeded Raiders.

**October 25, 2017:** WHS senior Kaeley Hazard slipped the game winner into the back of the net clinching a 3-1 victory in strokes over North Hunterdon in an NJSIAA Tournament North Jersey, Section 2, Group IV field hockey first round match in Westfield. Seventh-seeded Westfield struggled all game against the feisty 10th-seeded Lions. The two clubs played to a rousing 2-2 tie in regulation then battled through two tense, scoreless overtime periods before having to settle the issue on strokes.

**October 25, 2017:** Repeating as Union County Tournament cross-country champions was a little bit more difficult for this year's WHS Lady Blue Devils. Senior Mia Melao, sophomore Grace Morgan and freshman Caroline Collins finished 3-4-6, while junior Sarah Hacker, the number 4 runner, finished 11th ahead of Governor Livingston's number 3, 4 and 5 runners to help the Blue Devils edge the Highlanders by just one and the Union Catholic Vikings by two, 49-50-51, and to claim their second straight title at Warinanco Park in Roselle.

**October 25, 2017:** Pack mentality and a very close 1-2 finish by Union's Jon Mobisa and Blue Devil Matt Meusel, respectively, highlighted the Union County Tournament that was won for the third straight year by the

ers held Comet running back Brian Ugwu in check and received an outstanding kicking performance from senior Valentino Ambrosio in a 34-21 triumph. Ambrosio was showcasing his booming kickoffs and was even more impressive this time, blasting all seven of his kickoffs into the end zone, giving the speedy Comet return men no chances to become heroes.

The Cougars had a pair of three-yard TD runs by Anthony Araujo. Jamie Shriner had a 44-yard sprint that set up the second TD. Quarterback Dan Curren completed four passes for 114 yards and three receptions were to sophomore Tom Korzeneski for 109 yards and the other was a five-yard TD strike to Jake Bradford. The Cougars sealed the deal when Josh Cadet took the ensuing kickoff on the 20 and wiggled his way through numerous tacklers for an 80-yard TD.

**November 1, 2016:** Sudden impact! Exactly 30 seconds into the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 first round game against the Summit Hilltoppers, sophomore forward Lauren Williamson received a pass from freshman forward Maggie Murray and buried a shot into the upper center of the net, setting the tone for the sixth-seeded Cranford girls soccer team to emerge with a 2-0 victory in Cranford. Williamson netted the second goal on Murray's corner kick.

The real story, however, was the pressure both defenses had to endure with constant back-and-forth shifts in momentum throughout and the Cougar back line of senior co-captain Kat



Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**LETTERS OF INTENT...Pictured, left to right, WHS seniors Chloe Pappalardo, Mia Fleming, Brooke Scheuermann and LJ Kehler signed National Letters of Intent to play lacrosse at colleges/universities next fall. Back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendos, Coaches Katie DaSilva and Abigail Cohn, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.**

### WHS Seniors Sign Sports Letters of Intent

Thirteen Westfield High School student-athletes signed Letters of Intent with colleges and universities, signifying recognition of the seniors' accomplishments both academically and athletically.

The following will continue to compete at the college level: Sebastian Birse, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Lacrosse; Mia Fleming, University of Southern California, Lacrosse; Matthew Gruters, Sacred Heart University, Lacrosse; Katherine Hamilton, Duke University, Cross Country/Track and Field; Christopher Ho, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baseball; Jack Kelesoglu, Connecticut College, Soccer; Laurajane "LJ" Kehler, Colgate University, Lacrosse; Gianna Mangiamale, Franklin and Marshall College, Volleyball; Aidan McLane, Fairfield University, Lacrosse; Chloe Pappalardo, Susquehanna University, Lacrosse; Mack Prybylski, Villanova University, Lacrosse; Brooke Scheuermann, Salisbury University, Lacrosse; Colin Summers, Fairfield University, Golf.

See all photos of signings at [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com) Ballyhoo Sports

### Raider Boys Nip New Brunswick, Fall to Monroe

Senior co-captain Eric Watt set up Nkem Okorie with the winning goal in the second half to earn the visiting 12th-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys soccer team a 1-0 victory over fourth-seeded New Brunswick in the quarterfinal round of the Central East F Group 4 Tournament on November 17.

Two days later the Raiders lost to top-seeded, No. 6 ranked Monroe, 3-1, in the semifinal round. Matt Dembiec scored for the 6-4-2 Raiders, while goalkeeper Graham Kois made nine saves. Josh Cruz scored twice and Jared Krasnov scored once for 13-0-1 Monroe, who went on to top Elizabeth, 3-2, in two overtimes.



David B. Corbin (October 2019 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**ABOUT TO GROUND A CARDINAL...Raider Christian Piesch, No. 10, with Tom Schmidt, No. 73, and Liam Mahr, No. 79, begin to bring down a Plainfield Cardinal running back at Hub Stine Field in Plainfield on October 26, 2019.**

DeMarino carried nine times for 41 yards, which included a two-yard TD.

Tom Korzeneski had seven receptions for 82 yards, which included a 21-yard TD grab. Nate Caldwell was involved in 14 tackles. Evan Kanterman and Nick Librera each had 7 tackles. Jake Chapman and Matt Coates recorded 9 tackles.

**October 26, 2019:** Since 2014 the previous SPF football team had not won a regular-season game. The only games that were won during that drought were consolation games. However the "New Raiders" managed to hold off the Plainfield Cardinals, 21-20, in Plainfield to earn their fourth win and even their record at 4-4.

Junior QB Hayden Widder, who

soccer team came out like a blazing inferno against third-seeded Watchung Hills in the quarterfinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament in Warren. But it was not until there was 4:06 remaining in the first overtime that the Blue Devils could grab the gold with a 2-1 victory when senior forward Devin Cahery received a feed from senior forward Evan Meade and buried the ball into the net. Andrew Silber scored the Blue Devils' first goal.

**November 1, 2018:** Westfield cruised to a straight set victory over Hillsborough (25-12, 25-15) in a second round match of the NJSIAA Group IV girls volleyball Tournament held in Westfield. Uzi Ijoma (9



David B. Corbin (November 2019 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**CREATING CHAOS IN THE BOX...Cougar Sophia Montague, left, creates chaos in the Wolfpack goal area which gave Cranford a 1-0 lead en route to a 3-2 victory in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament at Cranford (October 31, 2019).**



David B. Corbin (November 2018 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE KEEPER...Blue Devil co-captain Henry Schwartz, No. 10, puts the pressure on Warrior goalkeeper Jake Seyda during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 quarterfinal at Warren on November 1, 2018.**

WHS boys cross-country team at Warinanco Park in Roselle. The Blue Devils, who placed all seven of their runners in the top-15, finished with a total of 30 to easily outdo the Union Catholic Vikings, who finished with a total of 88.

There was only a 15-second stretch between the first-placed finisher, Mobisa, who crossed in 16:21, and the 10th-placed runner, Maximus Russo (Summit), who crossed in 16:36. Meusel crossed in 16:23, followed by Raider Ben Fleischer at 16:25.

**October 27, 2017:** Special efforts yielded special results for the Cranford football team in its showdown with the Hillside Comets and their powerful running game in Cranford. The Cougar defensive line and lineback-

Mackenzie, senior Maya Lawler and junior Caroline McCaffrey, along with senior co-captain/goalkeeper Cam Hay, who had three saves, passed the test with high marks.

**October 31, 2015:** Thirty eight years ago (1977) there was the infamous New York City Blackout. Apple Computer was incorporated, snow actually fell in Miami (January 19), David Berkowitz (Son of Sam) was arrested, Star Wars opened, Reggie Jackson hit three home runs in a World Series win over the Dodgers, Saturday Night Fever was released and it was the last time that the Westfield High School football team went 7-0. That was until the Blue Devils routed the Warriors of Watchung Hills, 40-0.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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Raiders Corral Mustangs in Football Clash, 40-2

Cougars Jar Jackson Liberty in Soccer Semi, 7-0

playmakers. They come here and they give everything,” Yeager emphasized. “This was the first time on our home field in a couple of weeks. We have been dying to get out here under the lights,” Mahr added.

The 4-2 Raiders took nine plays (8 running) to cover 58 yards and scored



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GETTING GREAT BLOCKING...Raider running back Shawn Martin, No. 3, gets great blocking and adds two more touchdowns to his list.

when the offensive line opened up the hole and Martin broke through for 28 yards with 8:15 left in the quarter. Akin Akinwunmi kicked the extra point. The Raiders then scored again when Martin found the seams and sprinted 30 yards into the end zone with 2:54 remaining.

“The whole line was magnificent. Kenny Yeager, Mike Banic, Thomas Schmidt, Joe Monaco and all of them did a really good job with my two touchdowns that I got,” Martin pointed out.

On the Mustangs’ next offensive series, junior safety Damon Schumann

came so close to making an interception but the ball dropped out of his grasp. “I had to check his hands out to see if they are just bricks because I am telling you I could catch that. That was the easiest pick-six I’ve ever seen. I don’t know how he dropped it,” Mahr said with a chuckle.

Schumann would, however, make a key interception in the third quarter to prevent the Mustangs from scoring. The Raiders’ third score came with :05 left of the first quarter when Widder connected with Piesch down the left sideline for the 55-yard catch and run touchdown to make the score 20-0.

“The first one was a play-action play. They really thought Shawn was going to get the ball. The corners and the safeties both came up on the run and he (Piesch) was just wide open down the field,” Widder explained.

Three minutes into the second quarter, Widder threw a 13-yard touch-

down strike to Cocca upping the lead to 27-0.

“It was to Cocca on the slant. We send Shawn in motion for a Jet. If the guy that’s guarding him moves with him, the window is wide open. That’s how that one happened,” Widder described.

The next touchdown was a piece of cake and it was set up by Nathaniel with a 15-yard sack, followed by a defensive gang tackle at the one on a fourth down. Widder simply added the icing to make the score 33-0.

The final touchdown took six plays that ended with Widder’s strike to Power near the left pylon.

“The corner stayed down. The safety was in the middle. I saw Power wide open. Touchdown,” Widder explained.

Time ticked away quickly in the second half. Schmidt recovered a fumble late in the fourth quarter. The Raider reserves took over on offense but were unable to move forward. Then as time was running out, Mike Hein recorded a safety for the Mustangs.

“We still shut them out. This is the first one on our home field in I think like 13 years, so this is one of the best feelings ever as a team,” Mahr expressed.

“Yes! You get the momentum with the guys we got. We know we have the best team on the field. You just got to come out and show them every time. Let them know who we are,” Yeager expressed.

“This is my senior year. I knew I had to put on the gas and I had to keep going. We have one more game and we have to keep pushing,” Martin said.

After the game, Raider Head Coach Austin Holman was awarded the Championship Belt for defeating the Mustangs, who are coached by his brother.

JFK Mustangs	0	0	0	2	2
Sc Pl-Fanwood	20	20	0	0	40

it hit off a few people and I finished it,” Korzeneski recalled.

“I hit it in. It was kind of a jumbled mess and K(irsten) Will(iams) back-heeled it to Riley,” Russomanno added.

With the Lions’ defense being battered so incessantly, scoring came even easier in the final eight minutes of the half. Russomanno’s corner into the box was knocked a bit up field where Cougar Lily Young got a foot on it and converted.

Young described, “Gabby (Baiaa) the right back was telling me to go short. I don’t usually do it, so I sort of drifted across. It (corner lick) went in but it popped out. I saw the opportunity. It was nice to get one as a defender. It was fun!”

With 3:30 remaining, Aileen McGovern assisted Russomanno on her second goal then with only :04.1 left, Williams made good on Russomanno’s corner kick.

“That was Liv’s corner from the right side and I think what happened was I knew every other corner was almost there. Liv had an amazing corner. It was right to the back post. Kristina Lynch was right in front of me. I called her off of it and I headed it. As soon as I made contact with my head, I knew it was going in,” Williams recalled.

Only 43 seconds ticked off the clock in the second half when senior Christina Lynch ripped a shot from the left-center to make the score 6-0. With 35:10 remaining, Ahern charged down the right-center and launched a wicked shot that made the score 7-0.

“I tried to do the same thing before. I tried to dribble it past the defense line but they stopped it. This time I just passed then ran onto it and tried to hit it to the far left of the goal,” Ahern

explained.

From that point, the Cougars, with the bulk of their reserves getting play-

I think if we keep working hard, it’s going to be ours. One, game at a time, one practice at a time and tomorrow is



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GETTING A CLOSE UP...Cougar senior Kirsten Williams, No. 2, gets a close up view of the ball in the game against Jackson Liberty on November 18.

ing time, initiated their game of keep away. The Lions did get one final opportunity to make good on a penalty kick but Cougar reserve goal-keeper Grace Kellensee dove to her left to make the save.

“That’s like the best experience, playing with the people you play with all the time and seeing them get the opportunity,” Ahern commented.

Next, the Cougars would face top-seeded, No. 19 Colts Neck in the semifinals on November 20.

“I think we are all really psyched about the semifinals. We are going to try our hardest to get to the finals and win it,” Ahern said.

“With all the challenges that we have faced this year, I think was we are really stepping it up. We really want this and

a new day,” Williams said.

The Cougars did work hard and their efforts paid off as they emerged with a 2-0 victory. Russomanno and Meghan Normann both scored goals and Sophia Montague had an assist.

On November 22, the Cougars squared off with second-seeded Brick Township and flattened them, 4-0, for the title. Russomanno with assists from Montague, who finished with two assists, and Normann, stuffed in a pair of goals, while Aislinn McGovern assisted her sister Aileen on a goal. Williams added the icing with a second-half goal. Vath made four saves for the Cougars and Trinitie Maloney made 10 for Brick.

Jackson Liberty	0	0	0
Cranford	5	2	7

\*\* A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Fall Sports Activities \*\*

at Kehler Stadium.

That 1977 team, which featured Butch Woolfolk and Owen Brand, now one of the Blue Devil coaches, went on to beat Barringer in the sectional championship game at Giants Stadium in front of a crowd of 33,000 to finish 11-0. In the section semifinal, the Blue Devils defeated Livingston in the presence of 13,000 screaming fans at Kehler Stadium.

Against the Warriors, the Blue Devil defense refused to give QB Sean Sullivan any breathing room, recording six sacks and forcing nearly all of his passes. Defensive tackle Nick Maher recorded three sacks, while Owen Kessler, Jake Vall-Llobera, Kyle Dombrowski, Devin Zrebiec, Tom Morley and Jeff Gagum were also involved in sacks.

Senior running back Jack Curry finished with 93 yards rushing on 18 carries, including respective TD runs of 12 yards, four yards, 17 yards and eight yards. Kicker Mike Moriarty added respective field goals of 24 yards and 37 yards. Junior quarterback Phil Martini shared time with Zach Kelly and the twosome mixed a fine running game with a passing game and came up with 134 yards in the air and 178 with the run. Jack Shirk had



tal to 16 and 18th overall for the program. The victory also elevated Breznitsky career win total to 671.

Alex Guevara put the Raiders on the scoreboard when he lifted a looping shot from 25 yards out. Less than eight minutes into the second half, Jassiem Watuse ripped a shot that was deflected and co-captain Jake Longo came to the ball and tapped it in for the score. The Blue Devils put on a furious surge in the final 10 minutes and it paid off when co-captain Mike Prosek punched in a goal.

**November 1, 2014:** Turnovers and emotions prevented the possibility of a blowout, but it did not prevent the Cranford Cougars football team from achieving something that the program never experienced, an 8-0 start after defeating the hosting Governor Livingston Highlanders, 30-13.

Cougar QB Jack Schetelich mixed his variety of plays well and running back Dan DeLayo had the opportunity to carry five times for 26 yards, including a four-yard TD, and added two receptions for 13 yards. Schetelich completed nine of 13 passes for 176 yards, including three TDs, and Luke Christiano had three receptions for 131 yards, including TDs of 36 yards and 73 yards.

**November 10, 2012:** Defense against defense, and this time, the Raiders football team overcame the frustration of three straight losses (Cranford, Watchung Hills, Warren Hills) with a solid defensive effort that paid off in a 10-2 victory over Westfield in Scotch Plains. The Raiders’ huge defensive line featuring James Kaiser, Anthony Tufaro, Billy Castore, Cody Biondi, Rashaun Gary and company stuffed every Blue Devil attempt of breaking through the interior, forcing outside runs and passing plays.

Raider QB Emendo Thomas carried 19 times for 118 yards, including a TD run of 12 yards late in the second quarter. With 4:51 remaining in the third quarter, John Murphy capped another 58-yard scoring drive with a 30-yard field goal to make the score, 10-2.

**November 5, 2011:** Host Bishop Ahr won its fifth straight North Jersey, Section 2 gymnastics championship in North Edison with a team

Cunningham fired in a pair of goals and forward Kelly Yeager notched in a goal early in the first half as the top-seeded Raider girls’ soccer team staggered the ninth-seeded Millburn Millers, 3-0, in a quarterfinal round showdown of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 state



David B. Corbin (November 2014 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT...Cold too, especially after the Raiders dumped a bucket of Gatorade over Head Coach Tom Breznitsky's head after his team edged Westfield, 2-1, for their 4th straight UCT title (November 1, 2014).

tournament in Scotch Plains.

**November 5, 2011:** Rarely does a ninth-ranked high school team become the victim of the “Mercy Rule” – 35-point lead by the opposing team – but although it was late in the game it happened at Gary Kehler Stadium. And it happened to No. 9 Immaculata as the Blue Devils amassed a 37-0 lead by the time there was 1:10 remaining in the game and finished with a 37-6 victory when the Spartans scored on a 61-yard “Hail Mary” pass to Rich Ferguson, Jr. with no time on the clock.

James O’Rourke totaled 117 yards on 28 carries and finished with respective TD runs of five yards, 20 yards and three yards. Running back Brendan Dugan finished with 10 carries for 65 yards, including a two-yard TD. Shakiyl Glasco had six carries for 47 yards, including a two-yard TD.



Fred Lecomte (November 2013 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GETTING HER SECOND GOAL...Raider senior Kathryn Cunningham drills in her second goal of the game on a penalty kick against Millburn in the quarterfinals of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 tournament in Scotch Plains on November 7, 2013. The top-seeded Raiders won, 3-0.

**November 6, 2010:** Intense pack mentality and the friendly rivalry of frontrunners Jack Leahy and Andrew Kirna brought home the North Jersey, Group 4, Section 2 championship for the No. 2-ranked Blue Devil boys cross-country team at Warinanco Park in Roselle. Leahy placed third with a time of 16:21 and Kirna was fourth at 16:26.

**November 6, 2009:** Fans from the Blue Devils’ side of the field were chanting, “Overrated,” to 11th-ranked Union late in the third quarter when the Blue Devils had a commanding, 35-7 lead en route to a 35-14 victory in Union. QB Danny Kerr completed an eight-yard TD strike to wide receiver Pat Gray. Running back Joe Ondi had 23 carries for 100 yards, including TD runs of three and two yards. Running back AJ Murray, who had a one-yard TD run in the second quarter, rumbled 57 yards on 10 carries, which included carrying all seven times on a 49-yard scoring march in the third quarter that was concluded with another one-yard TD plunge.

**November 7, 2009:** History was made as the Cranford boys’ soccer

team defeated the Blue Devils, 1-0, in the final of the 44th Union County Tournament in Clark. It was the first title captured by the undefeated and top-seeded Cougars in school history. Cougar striker Pat Hartnett used his head to bury the ball into the left side of the net with 3:08 remaining in the first half after Eric Walano crossed a pass from the right side of the field.

**November 8, 2008:** QB Tony DiIorio, receiver Chris Sheehan and running back Ricardo Johnson definitely brought their A-game in the Blue Devil football team’s 35-12 victory over the Raiders at Kehler Stadium.

DiIorio, who already owned the career completion mark, broke Dave Brown’s career attempts of 269 set in 1986 with his total of 275 and also set the single-season completion record with 78. DiIorio completed 10 of 16 attempts for 173 yards, including TD pass plays of 19 and 57 yards. Sheehan had eight receptions for 134 yards to increase his WHS career reception record to 57. Johnson tore up the turf with 166 yards, including TD runs of 1, 19 and 51 yards, on 23 carries.



David B. Corbin (November 2008 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GETTING ANOTHER TOUCHDOWN...Blue Devil Ricardo Johnson, No. 31, shoots through a hole in the Raiders’ defense for a 19-yard TD. Johnson also had a one-yard TD run and a 51-yard TD run (November 8, 2008).

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# Co-founder of Robotics Lab Charged with Sexual Crimes

AREA — A co-founder of a Summit-based robotics laboratory has been charged with sexual crimes against three students who attended classes there, acting Union County Prosecutor Lyndsay V. Ruotolo and Summit Police Chief Andrew Bartolotti jointly announced November 19.

Christopher P. Marbaix, 59, is charged with two counts of second-degree sexual assault of a child under the age of 13, three counts of second-degree endangering the welfare of a child and three counts of fourth-degree criminal sexual contact with a child.

The charges are the result of a joint investigation conducted by members of the Summit Police Department and the Prosecutor's Office's Special Victims Unit, according to Union County Assistant Prosecutor Bryan Tiscia, who is prosecuting the case. The investigation revealed that on multiple occasions from September 2016 through December 2018, Mr. Marbaix allegedly inappropriately touched the three victims over their clothing when they were between the ages of 12 and 15 while they were under his personal instruction at Robot Revolution on Maple Avenue.

Robot Revolution describes itself on its website as the largest robotics school in the state, having given instruction to more than 3,000 students since it opened nearly a decade ago.

Mr. Marbaix was taken into custody without incident Thursday morning,

pending a first appearance to take place in Union County Superior Court.

"Children seeking to learn and expand their knowledge were entrusted to this defendant. His alleged actions constitute a betrayal of that trust," Prosecutor Ruotolo said. "These charges are the result of fine collaboration and investigative work by Summit PD and the Prosecutor's Office and reflect law enforcement's shared commitment to protecting the children of Union County."

"Without exception, the Summit Police Department strives to engender public confidence and ensure that our efforts protect children within safe and secure learning communities," Chief Bartolotti explained. "The results of the successful joint investigation by the Summit Police Department and Union County Prosecutor's Office brought forward sufficient evidence to introduce charges today. I am thankful for the diligent work of these two agencies, and for this outcome."

Anyone with information regarding Mr. Marbaix's activities is urged to contact Summit Police Department Detective Sgt. Ryan Peters at (908)273-5871.

Convictions on second-degree criminal offenses are commonly punishable by 5 to 10 years in state prison.

These criminal charges are mere accusations. Every defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.



**VIRTUAL TOUR GUIDES...**Councilwoman Dawn Mackey (right) with fellow volunteer Cary Prisch leads a virtual tour of AddamsFest. Ms. Mackey and other volunteer tour guides enabled adults with severe disabilities and medical challenges to participate virtually in Westfield's AddamsFest, a townwide Halloween celebration. More than 50 participants toured the homes of the Haunt Your House Contest and searched for fairy doors in Mystical Mindowaskin.

# DWC Discusses Grants, Parklets in Last '20 Meeting

By REBECCA MEHORTER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) members convened via Zoom on November 18 for their monthly meeting. Participants discussed a grant the organization received and the future of the downtown parklets in their last official meeting of 2020.

The DWC received a \$72,530 grant from Main Street New Jersey. The money, which comes from the CARES Act, will help offset Covid-19-related expenses in the downtown. During the meeting, DWC Executive Director Bob Zuckerman gave a breakdown of where some of the money will go and what the corporation will do with the money it saved by receiving the grant.

The DWC will pay \$10,000 for downtown ambassadors to help direct shoppers and hand out masks and maps. Two ambassadors will work each day, and the program will run from Black Friday to Christmas. The DWC also will hire gift wrappers to work at the visitors' center, which will be set up at the former Ann Taylor store. The DWC will use \$10,000 of the grant money to create the center, which will feature Westfield 300 merchandise for sale, gift wrapping, maps and other materials.

Five-thousand dollars will go toward funding the new maps of all the downtown businesses, and \$6,000 will go toward the creation of approximately 2,500 canvas reusable bags with a "shop local message," Mr. Zuckerman said. Some money also will be used to purchase more barrier covers for parklets as well as reimburse the DWC for the covers it already bought.

The DWC additionally is using grant money to set up a free delivery service to Westfield and its neighboring towns. Mr. Zuckerman said the DWC is partnering with Deliverynow.com to offer a free delivery service for downtown purchases. He said there is \$7,500 set aside for the deliveries, which he estimates will number about 1,000 in total.

The grant also will pay for a retail study the DWC is having done to better recruit businesses. Mr. Zuckerman said the study started months ago and was already budgeted for, but the grant will now cover the costs, so \$20,000 is freed up for

other expenses.

Mr. Zuckerman said the \$20,000 will mostly go toward "major promotions" for downtown businesses. One project the DWC is doing is sending postcards to "every door in Westfield, Cranford and Mountainside"—about 22,000 households — promoting downtown Westfield holiday shopping. The DWC also will allocate \$5,000 for a special Small Business Saturday promotion in which the first 250 people to walk into the visitors' center will receive \$20 vouchers, usable at any downtown business.

"We keep plugging along with all this promotion stuff and hammering home the message 'shop local, shop local, shop local,'" Mr. Zuckerman said. "And hopefully, it will all make a really big difference this holiday season."

The meeting participants also discussed the future of the many parklets and the Quimby Street pedestrian plaza as the winter approaches. Initially, Mr. Zuckerman said, the DWC planned to take down the parklets on December 1, but Mayor Shelley Brindle requested the corporation survey restaurants for their thoughts on outdoor dining.

"Every single restaurant that has a parklet wrote back that they would like to keep it through the winter," Mr. Zuckerman said. He speculated that indoor dining may come to an end soon, which, without outdoor dining, would lead restaurants back to takeout/pickup only.

The main issue with keeping the barriers and tables up during the winter is snow removal. Town Administrator Jim Gildea said that the parklets would hinder plowing and that the narrow travel lanes with snow could make it difficult for emergency vehicles to get in and out. Mr. Gildea also pointed out that it took days to move the barriers, tables and other parklet materials into place. It would take time to remove them in case of a big storm. Luckily, he said, there are not any big storms headed toward Westfield at this point, so the parklets can at least stay for now.

The DWC board also approved a motion to spend up to \$5,000 for reusable snowflake window clings to put up in empty storefronts.

The DWC will not officially meet during the month of December. The next official DWC meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

# Covid-19 Infection Rate Rises Locally Among Youth

By REBECCA MEHORTER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

AREA — The fear of a "second wave" of the Covid-19 pandemic is becoming more and more legitimate as cases around New Jersey continue to rise. According to Covidactnow.org, the Union County infection rate (or the number of people one sick person passes Covid-19 to) is 1.13, somewhat down from last week, and there are 50.4 new cases daily per 100,000 people. A month ago, there were 4.8 cases per 100,000 residents.

But even eight months into the pandemic, the health departments are struggling to keep track of positive tests. Regional Health Officer Megan Avallone explained some of the reasons it has been increasingly difficult to give exact numbers of confirmed cases.

Ms. Avallone said at the November

they might have Covid-19 — the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test and the rapid test. PCR tests are more accurate, but rapid tests are more convenient for residents. "In public health we consider the PCR results confirmatory and a rapid test to be a presumptive result," Ms. Avallone said to *The Leader*.

The PCR tests are more labor-intensive to complete and are run through a lab. "Most labs are already set up to automatically submit the result to the NJ Department of Health," Ms. Avallone explained via email, but rapid tests are performed at the point of service (like walk-in clinics) and do not automatically connect to the database.

So, Ms. Avallone explained at the board of health meeting, the rapid-response tests are instead faxed to local health departments, and then

## COVID-19 Totals May 28, 2020

Union County - 15,293 cases, 1,030 deaths  
Cranford - 460 cases  
Fanwood - 92 cases  
Garwood - 42 cases  
Mountainside - 67 cases  
Scotch Plains - 268 cases  
Westfield - 274 cases

## COVID-19 Totals November 24, 2020

Union County - 26,347 cases, 1,251 deaths  
Cranford - 660 cases  
Fanwood - 163 cases  
Garwood - 89 cases  
Mountainside - 250 cases  
Scotch Plains - 589 cases  
Westfield - 472 cases

2 board of health meeting that most people, especially teenagers, with Covid-19 are presenting no symptoms or mild symptoms, most commonly headaches, achiness and sometimes diarrhea.

"We're not getting fevers, we're not getting a cough, maybe sometimes a runny cold, but mild, mild symptoms," she said at the meeting. "And I think it's becoming harder for individuals without a known exposure to know when it may be Covid-like symptoms."

Finding known exposures also is becoming increasingly difficult, as Ms. Avallone said at the board of health meeting, in that contact tracers "are getting talked to more aggressively than ever, and 'more aggressively' is the nice way of putting it." She said that some residents are refusing to quarantine after being exposed and that individuals who have tested positive and have been told to isolate have not been home when contact tracers call them. "It's incredibly frustrating for us," she said.

Contact tracers will sometimes appear on Caller ID as the health department, but since they are calling seven days a week, they will also use their cell phones, Ms. Avallone said. Contact tracers will always leave voicemails and even texts with a number to call back. Without the cooperation of residents who have been exposed and/or tested positive for Covid-19, it becomes difficult to find those asymptomatic cases.

The fear is that someone who is presenting no or mild symptoms will give the virus to someone who may develop severe symptoms. If a resident is not presenting symptoms, he or she may not get tested, which would affect the official case count.

"As rates of Covid-19 rise in the region, we encourage anyone who develops symptoms consistent with Covid-19 to stay home until they can get tested," Ms. Avallone said via email to *The Westfield Leader*.

There are two types of tests residents can take if they are concerned

health department employees must manually input the cases into their personal database. This hiccup in the process means the health department is, one, taking time to constantly enter data and, two, always behind on reporting the complete number of cases.

"We have been having a huge, huge problem — statewide, not just here — with the increased availability of the rapid-test results, the antigen results," she said at the health board meeting. "I can assure you [inputting the results is] not a quick process: It takes a lot of time, you get kicked out a lot, so it's frustrating for us, the efficiency."

Recently, a major provider of rapid tests in the county "was able to connect to the NJ Department of Health database so we are now receiving more rapid results come through the system," Ms. Avallone said via email, so there is less time spent on inputting faxes into the Westfield Regional Health Department's system.

The New Jersey Department of Health database only officially reports confirmatory (PCR) tests. The list Ms. Avallone sends to Mayor Shelley Brindle includes the rapid-test results, but the list the police chief receives does not, which leads to the differentiation in the mayor's reports.

In Mayor Brindle's November 13 Covid-19 update, she wrote, "Regional Health Director Megan Avallone indicated that there are multiple other self-reported cases to her office from schools and day care centers that still require lab verification before they can be shared in her numbers, and I continue to hear from many other residents about additional cases that they know of that have not yet reached our reports."

"It is also important to remember that the reported numbers both in the Mayor's totals and the NJ Dept. of Health totals do not give a full picture of the amount of community spread — as there are still many rapid tests that are not reported or that are reported weeks later," Ms. Avallone said via email.

# Freeholders Announce New Caregivers Grant Program

COUNTY — The Union County Freeholder Board is pleased to announce the new "Rest Easy Caregivers" grant opportunities for families in need of assistance in caring for children with disabilities and special needs during the Covid-19 outbreak. Approximately \$1 million of federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act dollars with fund the grant program.

Details on applying for a grant are available at [ucnj.org/rest-easy-caregiver-grant](http://ucnj.org/rest-easy-caregiver-grant). Additional questions about the program can be submitted by email to [uccarespite@ucnj.org](mailto:uccarespite@ucnj.org).

"The 'Rest Easy Caregivers' grant program is designed to help families who have been impacted by the Covid-19 crisis to care for their children with disabilities," said Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "With a trained respite care worker to assist them, parents can make time to pursue employment opportunities and tend to tasks that require them to be outside of the home."

"The Freeholder board is dedicated to finding ways to help all of our residents during this time of crisis, and the new grant program focuses on the challenges faced by families with special needs children. It is the result of many conversations I have had with special education educators, parents and caregivers, who are searching for resources that support the ability of school-age special needs children and young adults to continue learning and making progress from home, until they can return to their classrooms. The funds will provide additional assistance to Union County students who are most in need, while offering caregivers an opportunity to pursue other obligations while the respite provider is there," said Freeholder Sergio Granados, who is the liaison to the Human Services Advisory Committee.

The "Rest Easy Caregivers" grant

program will provide in-home respite services Monday through Saturday, with a limit of 10 hours per week.

Expenses covered by the program also include administrative support and supplies needed for Covid-19 prevention.

The grant program covers all 21 municipalities; however, applications will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Priority will be given to applicants residing in designated Communities of Opportunity, as identified in the 2019 Union County Department of Human Services Community Needs Assessment. The Communities of Opportunity include Elizabeth, Hillside, Linden, Plainfield, Roselle, Rahway and Union.

For more information about programs and services for Union County residents with disabilities and special needs, visit the Office for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs online or contact the Office Director Manuel Ramirez at [mramirez@ucnj.org](mailto:mramirez@ucnj.org) or (908)527-4807.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**TOWN OF WESTFIELD  
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY  
GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2202  
NOTICE OF PENDING  
ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY**

General Ordinance No. 2202, a summary of which is included herein, was introduced at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Westfield held on November 24, 2020 and was read for the first time. This Ordinance will be further considered for final passage by said Town Council at the Westfield Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 at a meeting beginning at 8:00 p.m. on December 8, 2020 or at any time and place to which such meeting may be adjourned. All persons interested will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning such Ordinance. If the meeting on December 8, 2020 must be held virtually due to COVID-19, the public hearing will be held digitally by using the following link: <http://www.bit.ly/WestfieldTownCouncilMeeting> or via telephone by calling 646-518-9805, Webinar ID 753 829 581 #.

Copies of this ordinance are available in full at the Office of the Town Clerk, Westfield Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090

General Ordinance No. 2202 is summarized as follows:

**TITLE: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, CHAPTER 29A**

**1. Section 29A-5 – "Tree Preservation Commission; membership; terms; appointment."** of the Town Code shall be changed by amending the following language in its entirety:

**A. Tree Preservation Commission.** A Tree Preservation Commission is hereby created which shall assist the Planning Board or the Board of Adjustment, as the case may be, in an advisory capacity on tree preservation and management matters pertaining to the Town. The Tree Preservation Commission of the Town Council shall consist of seven members, all of whom shall be residents of the Town, and shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Town Council as follows:

(1) One member shall be a Class IV member of the Planning Board and shall serve for a one-year term;

(2) One member shall be a member of the Code Review and Town Property Committee of the Town Council and shall serve for a one-year term; and

(3) Five members shall be from the general public ("general members") and shall each serve three-year terms.

**SECTION II.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with any part of the terms of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are in such conflict or inconsistent.

**SECTION III.** In the event any section, part or provision of this ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof other than the part so held unconstitutional or invalid.

**SECTION IV.** This ordinance shall take effect after passage and publication, as soon as, and in the manner permitted by law.

Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**BOROUGH OF GARWOOD  
PLANNING/ZONING BOARD  
MEETING NOTICE**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:** The matter is scheduled for a virtual / electronic public hearing before the Garwood Planning Board for December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:30 pm (there will be no in-person meeting). In response to the COVID-19 emergency, pursuant to Governor Murphy's 2020 NJ Executive Orders Nos. 103, 107, et seq. and per the corresponding guidelines issued by the N.J.D.C.A. Division of Local Government Services, the public hearing will be conducted virtually, via RingCentral, and the hearing will be accessible to the public at the below login:

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/6432970558>

Alternatively, you may dial in to hear/participate at audio dial-in: Telephone: Dial: +1 (646) 357-3664, Meeting ID: 643 297 0558

**RE: Case #PB20-05, 337 Myrtle Avenue, R/A Zone.**

Applicant: Joseph Smolinski, Seeking a Certificate of non-conformity for a two-family house in a one family zone

All application documents, plans, filed materials exhibits and related information will be accessible online at [www.garwood.org](http://www.garwood.org). All filings will be submitted / available within the applicable statutory deadlines. If a member of the public wishes to participate in the virtual meeting, it is recommended that the Board Secretary, Adele Lewis, be contacted at [alewis@garwood.org](mailto:alewis@garwood.org) and advised of the intention to participate. The municipal building remains closed to the public as of the date of this notice. If a member of the public lacks the technology capability to view materials online, log-in and/or dial-in to the proceeding(s), it is recommended that the Board Secretary be contacted to determine how to obtain/review physical documents, whether at the Borough of Garwood Municipal Building (403 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey) at some other location designated by the municipality or by mailing, at the municipality's determination.

JOSEPH SMOLINSKI  
337 Myrtle Avenue  
Garwood, New Jersey 07027  
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# Y Men's Club Christmas Tree Sale

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## Starts Saturday, November 28th • Elm Street Athletic Field

Weekdays Monday to Friday 5PM - 9PM • Saturdays & Sundays 9AM - 6PM

All Proceeds Donated To Local Charities & Non-Profits

### Arts & Entertainment

## Monmouth Museum Seeking Emerging Artists' Entries

AREA — The Monmouth Museum is seeking entries for the next New Jersey Emerging Artists Series (NJEAS). Artists must be New Jersey residents and have never had a solo-exhibition at an AAM-accredited Museum. Six artists will be chosen to hold month-long solo-shows in the Nilson Gallery and online in our virtual gallery.

To see the prospectus and to submit go to <https://monmouthmuseum.submittable.com/> submit. The deadline to submit is Friday, March 5, 2021, at midnight.

The Monmouth Museum is committed to providing opportunities for New Jersey artists. The NJEAS started in 2007 to give a platform to local artists who had yet to exhibit their works in solo-shows and to create a nurturing environment to develop their careers. NJEAS has worked with over 70 local artists since the program's inception, and the program has become a popular staple at the museum.

Each New Jersey Emerging Artist Series consists of six monthly solo exhibitions in which artists are given a platform to exhibit their work, discuss their process in a gallery talk and are guided through the stages of a solo exhibition, including the installation of the show. Artists are also provided promotional material and an opening reception by the museum.

The museum focuses in the Emerging Artist Series to represent the underrepresented in the arts as it applies to all fields and disciplines. We look to thoughtfully engage a broad group of emerging artists and prioritize diversity in all areas including gender, age, background, socioeconomic level, sexual orientation, ethnicity and the special needs community. By creating a platform and providing a voice to these diverse perspectives, the exhibitions and their workshops can provide and inclusive and interactive space for artistic exploration and support s collaborative environment for attendees.

The Emerging Artist Series structure implements peer-reviewed selection processes and committee-based decision making. Our jurors are professional artists, curators, academics and community members with a keen focus on diversity, creativity and excellence.

## Mixing With Zest

By HILLARY SHOPE  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

## Library Zoom Programs To Offer Trivia, Music, History

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library continues to offer virtual programs through the platform Zoom. They can be found on the library's website, [wmlnj.org](http://wmlnj.org), and the library's Facebook page, [facebook.com/wmlnj](https://facebook.com/wmlnj).

Trivia for Teens and Adults is on tap for Tuesday, December 1, at 7 p.m. Players can bring their own teammates, team up with others, or be a one-person outfit. Everyone age 16 and over is welcome to play. The questions are designed to be accessible to a large range of ages and interests.

Vocalist Rhonda Denet will present "Jazz to Soul: The Holiday Edition" on Thursday, December 3, at 7 p.m. She will cover songs that touch on giving thanks, enjoying the winter weather and celebrating the holiday season. Her repertoire consists of songs by artists such as Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin, Sam Cooke, Diana Ross and The Supremes, Nat King Cole, Etta James, Tony Bennett, Gladys Knight, Ray Charles and more.

Ms. Denet's professional career allows her to perform throughout the New York Metropolitan region and across the country, with appearances at concert halls, theaters, clubs, resorts and museums. She performs regularly with her band,

The Bad Cats; as a lead vocalist for The Kazz Music Orchestra; as a cast member of the Off-Broadway show *The Gong Show Live*, and as Echoes of Sinatra vocalist for "Ella and Frank: A Tribute."

In addition, she is proud to be the founder and primary performer for the Silver Fox Songs showcase series, a program which brings live music to various community services organizations and celebrates American classics from jazz to soul.

On Fridays, December 4 and 18, at 1:30 p.m., the TGIF! series will continue virtually. The first program is "Pearl Harbor: Legacy of the Attack," and the second is "Antarctica: A Year on Ice." Information about both of these topics can be found on the library's Facebook page before the programs.

Currently, library hours are Monday to Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4:45 p.m. The library will close at 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, and be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, for Thanksgiving.

The library also has added programs to its YouTube channel, which can be found at [youtube.com/user/westfieldmemoriallib](https://youtube.com/user/westfieldmemoriallib), or by clicking on the YouTube icon on the library's website at [wmlnj.org](http://wmlnj.org).

## 4-H Program Offers Kids Free Science-at-Home Kits

COUNTY – Union County students can explore science topics at home with the help of free kits assembled by Union County 4-H, a youth development program that engages K-12 students in hands-on learning and civic service while practicing teamwork, organization, public speaking and other important life skills.

Union County 4-H is run by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County under the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Each kit provides students with simple materials for building lava lamps and balloon rockets, baking bread and making meals and more.

The Extension staff has also created how-to videos and handouts to go with the kits. To view a sample video, visit the Elizabeth Public Library on Facebook.

To request a kit, contact the Elizabeth Library Children's Department at [CFlores@elizpl.org](mailto:CFlores@elizpl.org) or contact the Rahway Library Children's Department at [childrens@rahwaylibrary.org](mailto:childrens@rahwaylibrary.org).

The Extension has developed several new virtual programs to continue its public education mission during the Covid-19 pandemic including the 4-H from

Home interactive webinar series. The Extension is also hosting a food security current webinar series for teens presented by the World Food Prize New Jersey Youth Institute. Both series run through December.

Union County 4-H belongs to the national 4-H youth program, the largest youth development program in the United States. Participation in 4-H is associated with better grades at school and a stronger interest in taking science classes, attending college and contributing to the community. A recent Tufts University study found that as a group, girls who join 4-H clubs are especially likely to demonstrate positive behaviors.

Union County 4-H is run by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County and supported in part by the Freeholder Board, with offices at the Union County Complex at 300 North Avenue East in Westfield. For more information on how to join Union County 4-H, contact Union County 4-H Agent James Nichnadowicz at (908)654-9854 or [jnichnadowicz@ucnj.org](mailto:jnichnadowicz@ucnj.org).

For information about all Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County programs for youth and adults [ucnj.org/rce](http://ucnj.org/rce).

## Community Calendar

Brought to you by Trinitas Regional Medical Center



### Cranford Virtual Tree Lighting

with tree decorating, caroling and a visit from Santa Friday, November 27, 6 p.m. View the live broadcast on TV35.

### Westfield Area Y Men's Club Christmas Tree Sale

Saturday, November 28, 2020 at 9 a.m. at the Elm Street Athletic Field, Westfield. Monday through Friday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Small Business Saturday

November 28, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Downtown Scotch Plains. Raffle and free tote bag at Alan Augustine Village Green.

### Black Saturday Sale

Saturday, November 28, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop, 1741 E. Second Street, Scotch Plains.

### A Cracked Christmas Carol

Saturday, November 28. Pre-recorded Zoom performance. 7:30 p.m., \$15 suggested donation. [www.onthestage.com/show/the-theater-project/a-cracked-christmas-carol-29053/tickets](http://www.onthestage.com/show/the-theater-project/a-cracked-christmas-carol-29053/tickets).

### Trivia for Teens and Adults - Westfield Memorial Library

Tuesday, December 1, 7 p.m. Zoom info at [www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) or Facebook.

### Women of the American Revolution

virtual luncheon program, Wednesday, December 2, 12 p.m. Registration required by Sunday, November 29, \$10-\$15. [westfieldhistoricalsociety.org](http://westfieldhistoricalsociety.org), (908) 654-1794.

### Rhonda Denet performs "From Jazz to Soul: The Holiday Edition"

Thursday, December 3, 7 p.m. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86780863867>.

### Introduction to Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)

live zoom webinars Fridays, December 4 and 11, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The beginners course is designed for mental health professionals. Register at [www.dbtj.org](http://www.dbtj.org).

### Scotch Plains Christmas Tree Lighting

Tuesday, December 7, 5 p.m. Virtual celebration only to be streamed on Facebook Live.

### The Perfect Storm: Managing Challenging Behaviors During Covid-19

Tuesday, December 8 and Wednesday, December 9, virtual conference. Healthcare professionals may register for one or both days. Contact Lelie Diana for registration at (908) 272-3606 or [LDiana@trinitas.org](mailto:LDiana@trinitas.org).

### Scotch Plains Menorah Lighting

Thursday, December 10, 5 p.m. Virtual celebration only to be Streamed on Facebook Live.

### New Jersey Cares Coat Drive

through Friday, December 11. Collecting new and gently used winter coats. Drop off to Christine Cosenza, State Farm, 2 Elm Street, Westfield. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

### Watchung Arts Center Holiday Concert

Saturday December 12 at 8 p.m. AMANI will perform a selection of holiday favorites as well as some hits from a variety of genres on Zoom. Tickets: \$20 per person. Purchase tickets at [watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com](http://watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com).



Look, Listen and Learn at your Library!

Zoom info at [www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) or Facebook



### Trivia for Teens and Adults

Tuesday, December 1 at 7:00 pm

For 16+ years. Varied questions for various interests. Bring your teammates or be a one-person outfit.



### Rhonda Denet performs "From Jazz to Soul: The Holiday Edition"

Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 pm

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## Auction Set for Butterflies From Downtown Exhibit

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Public Arts Commission has announced the upcoming online auction of the butterflies from its first public art exhibit, Art Takes Flight.

Eighteen butterflies will be available for public auction beginning at noon on Friday, December 4 with minimum opening bids of \$500 and will conclude on Thursday, December 10 at 10 p.m. All funds raised at the auction will be used to support future public art projects in Westfield. The remaining butterflies from the exhibit are being purchased by their respective sponsors or kept by the town for permanent public display.

Bidders may visit [www.32auctions.com/westfieldbutterflies](http://www.32auctions.com/westfieldbutterflies) to view the available butterflies and set up an account, which is required for placing a bid. Winners will be contacted by members of the Westfield Public Art Commission to arrange pickup beginning on Friday, December 11.

"The Public Arts Commission heard from many residents about the joy the butterflies brought to the community during a difficult time," said Councilwoman Dawn Mackey, liaison to the Westfield Public Arts Commission. "We

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onion into small pieces, making sure to remove the seeds

3. Brown the ground pork in a cast iron skillet with touch of olive oil over low heat until fully cooked through, drain oil, then set aside to cool the pan

4. Place the diced veggies into a pan and sauté in a splash of olive oil on low heat until soft (about 10 minutes)

5. While your veggies are cooking, whisk together 8 eggs in a medium bowl and add a pinch of black pepper, set aside

6. Once the veggies are cooked through, add two handfuls of spring mix into the veggies and cook down (once the spring mix has wilted, you're ready to construct your egg bake)

7. Make sure the pork is evenly distributed on the bottom of the cast iron skillet forming a nice even layer

8. Add your cooked veggies evenly on top of the pork, do not mix

9. Pour your eggs over the veggie mixture, do not mix

10. Lastly, sprinkle the cheddar cheese over the top of the veggie mixture and add red pepper flakes on top if you want a touch of spice, do not mix

11. Place the cast iron skillet into the oven and bake for 20-25 minutes until fully cooked through

12. Allow to cool for a few minutes and then slice to enjoy

Directions for Sriracha Mayo:

1. Mix together ½ cup of mayonnaise, 1 tablespoon Sriracha and a ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper. Mix until combined and make sure to refrigerate leftovers.



David B. Corbin (October 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**ABOUT TO GROUND A CARDINAL...** Raider Christian Piesch, No. 10, with Tom Schmidt, No. 73, and Liam Mahr, No. 79, begin to bring down a Plainfield Cardinal running back at Hub Stine Field in Plainfield on October 26, 2019.

David B. Corbin (November 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**CREATING CHAOS IN THE BOX...** Cougar Sophia Montague, left, creates chaos in the Wolfpack goal area which gave Cranford a 1-0 lead en route to a 3-2 victory in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament at Cranford (October 31, 2019).

## A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

From the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* — full accounts found at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com) — year, month - week

**October 25, 2019:** The Cranford football team's quest to gain a share of the Mid-State 38 Raritan Division title dissolved when the North Hunterdon Lions took an early 20-0 lead and held on to earn a 34-21 victory in Annandale. QB Connor Katz (18 carries, 61 yards, 15-yard TD) completed 15 of 28 passes for

188 yards, including a TD and an interception. Running back Dennis DeMartino carried nine times for 41 yards, which included a two-yard plunge, and Marcus Johnson had 28 yards on four carries.

Tom Korzeneski had seven receptions for 82 yards, which included a 21-yard TD grab. Jake DeClerico had two receptions for 35 yards and Arjun Petgrave had two catches for 34 yards. Nate Caldwell was involved in 14 tackles. Evan Kanterman and Nick

Librera each had 7 tackles. Jake Chapman (1 throw for a loss) and Matt Coates recorded 9 tackles.

**October 26, 2019:** Since 2014 the previous SPF football team had not won a regular-season game. The only games that were won during that drought were consolations. However the "New Raiders" managed to hold off the Plainfield Cardinals, 21-20, in Plainfield to earn their fourth win and even their record at 4-4.

Junior QB Hayden Widder, who carried five times for 11 yards, including a one-yard TD run, completed eight of 13 passes for 70 yards, which included a 32-yard screen pass to junior Shawn Martin, who took it to the end

zone. Martin also carried 20 times for 70 yards. Sophomore running back Anthony Robinson gobbled up 57 yards, including a 14-yard TD run, on seven carries. Senior QB Jake Hahn threw a 36-yard strike to junior wide receiver Christian Piesch.

**November 1, 2019:** Smooth sailing received a bit of a jolt late in the first half of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament quarterfinal game held at Kehler Stadium when the sixth-seeded Piscataway Chiefs were awarded a penalty kick and made good on it, but the second-seeded Westfield boys soccer team kept up the pressure to hold onto a 2-1 victory. Juniors Matt Blake and AJ Bertch each scored once.

**November 1, 2019:** Ryan

Widman and Owen Murphy each scored goals to lead second-seeded SPF to a 2-0 victory over 10th-seeded Plainfield in the quarterfinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament in Scotch Plains. Widman's goal came in the 27th minute. Murphy's second-half goal in the 74th minute gave the Raiders firm control of the contest. SPF will play number three seeded Westfield in the semifinal round.

**October 26, 2018:** The WHS boys soccer team battled to a 1-1, double overtime tie against Union to gain a share of the Union County Tournament (UCT) crown at Kean University. In so doing, the Blue Devils captured

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David B. Corbin (November 2018 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE KEEPER...** Blue Devil co-captain Henry Schwartz, No. 10, puts the pressure on Warrior goalkeeper Jake Seyda during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 quarterfinal at Warren on November 1, 2018.

David B. Corbin (November 2017 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**UNION COUNTY CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPS...** Pictured, left to right, are Blue Devils sophomore Grace Morgan, juniors Sarah Hacker and Brianna Hatch, senior co-captain Lucy Gretskey, seniors Caroline Stockwell and Mia Melao, and freshman Caroline Collins (October 25, 2017).

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## A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

their second straight UCT co-championship after tying with Elizabeth in the finals a season ago. Evan Meade scored the Blue Devils' sole goal.

**November 1, 2018:** Somewhat dissatisfied with sharing the Union County Tournament crown with Union, the sixth-seeded WHS boys soccer team came out like a blazing inferno against third-seeded Watchung Hills in the quarterfinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tour-

namment in Warren. But it was not until there was 4:06 remaining in the first overtime that the Blue Devils could grab the gold with a 2-1 victory when senior forward Devin Caherly received a feed from senior forward Evan Meade and buried the ball into the net. Andrew Silber scored the first Blue Devils' goal.

**November 1, 2018:** Westfield cruised to a straight set victory over Hillsborough (25-12, 25-15) in a second round match of

the NJSIAA Group IV girls volleyball Tournament held in Westfield. Uzi Ijoma (9 kills) and Stephanie Margolies (4 kills, 1 block, 6 digs, 13 service points, 5 aces) led a balanced Blue Devil attack that took charge early and was never seriously threatened by the 12th-seeded Raiders.

**November 2, 2018:** Goals by Maggie Murray and Lauren Williamson were enough to propel the Cranford girls soccer team past Mendham, 2-1, in the NJSIAA

North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 quarterfinals at Memorial Field in Cranford. The win put the second-seeded Cougars (17-3) into a semifinal match against sixth-seeded Millburn on November 7 in Cranford.

**October 25, 2017:** WHS senior Kaeley Hazard slipped the game winner into the back of the net clinching a 3-1 victory in strokes over North Hunterdon in an NJSIAA Tournament North Jersey, Section 2, Group IV field

hockey first round match in Westfield. Seventh-seeded Westfield struggled all game against the feisty 10th-seeded Lions. The two clubs played to a rousing 2-2 tie in regulation then battled through two tense, scoreless overtime periods before having to settle the issue on strokes.

**October 25, 2017:** Repeating as Union County Tournament cross-country champions was a little bit more difficult for this

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David B. Corbin (November 2017 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**UNION COUNTY X-C CHAMPIONS...** Pictured, left to right are Blue Devils Spencer Weigand, Will Loggia, Stuart Pollock, Zach Spergel, Ethan Belka, Matt Meusel, Jon Givelber and James McCutcheon (October 25, 2017).

David B. Corbin (November 2016 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**NOT PLANNING TO GO ANYWHERE SOON?...Cougars** Dylan Budnik, No. 59, Alex Esposito, No. 78, and Patrick Hoey, No. 41, see to it that the Comet running back has no plans to go anywhere soon. The Cougars downed the Comets, 49-13 (October 29, 2016).

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year's WHS Lady Blue Devils. Senior Mia Melao, sophomore Grace Morgan and freshman Caroline Collins finished 3-4-6, while junior Sarah Hacker, the number 4 runner, finished 11th ahead of Governor Livingston's number 3, 4 and 5 runners to help the Blue Devils edge the Highlanders by just one and the Union Catholic Vikings by two, 49-50-51, and to claim their second straight title at Warinanco

Park in Roselle. Summit took fourth at 122, Scotch Plains-Fanwood was fifth at 127 and Cranford took eighth at 202.

**October 25, 2017:** Pack mentality and a very close 1-2 finish by Union's Jon Mobisa and Blue Devil Matt Meusel, respectively, highlighted the Union County Tournament that was won for the third straight year by the WHS boys cross-country team at Warinanco Park in Roselle. The

Blue Devils, who placed all seven of their runners in the top-15, finished with a total of 30 to easily outdo the Union Catholic Vikings, who finished with a total of 88.

There was only a 15-second stretch between the first-placed finisher, Mobisa, who crossed in 16:21, and the 10th-placed runner, Maximus Russo (Summit), who crossed in 16:36. Meusel crossed in 16:23, followed by

Raider Ben Fleischer at 16:25.

**October 27, 2017:** Special efforts yielded special results for the Cranford football team in its showdown with the Hillside Comets and their powerful running game in Cranford. The Cougar defensive line and linebackers held Comet running back Brian Ugwu in check and received an outstanding kicking performance from senior Valentino Ambrosio in a 34-21 triumph. Ambrosio

was showcasing his booming kickoffs and was even more impressive this time, blasting all seven of his kickoffs into the end zone, giving the speedy Comet return men no chances to become heroes.

The Cougars had a pair of three-yard TD runs by Anthony Araujo. Jamie Shriner had a 44-yard sprint that set up the second TD. Quarterback Dan Curren com-

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David B. Corbin (November 2015 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**WRAPPING UP A WARRIOR...**Blue Devil defensive tackle Tom Morley, No. 77, and a host of Blue Devils wrap up running back Nadir Beyah at Kehler Stadium on October 31, 2015. Westfield ransacked Watchung Hills, 40-0.

David B. Corbin (November 2014 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT...**Cold too, especially after the Raiders dumped a bucket of Gatorade over Head Coach Tom Breznitsky's head after his team edged Westfield, 2-1, for their 4th straight UCT title (November 1, 2014).

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## A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

pleted four passes for 114 yards and three receptions were to sophomore Tom Korzeneski for 109 yards and the other was a five-yard TD strike to Jake Bradford. The Cougars sealed the deal when Josh Cadet took the ensuing kickoff on the 20 and wiggled his way though numerous tacklers for an 80-yard TD.

**October 29, 2016:** Playoff berth No. 6 in a row was easily achieved when the Cranford football team downed the Hillside

Comets, 49-13, at Hillside. After a sluggish first quarter, although scoring once, the 6-2 Cougars blew the Comets away with four more TDs in the second quarter to seize a 35-0 lead and to immediately set the Mercy Rule clock ticking at the beginning of the second half.

QB Brian Oblachinski had respective TD runs of 20 yards and 44 yards and added a 20-yard interception for a TD. Running back Brian McGovern (9 carries,

60 yards) had a 27-yard TD run and running back Connor Fitzsimmons was on the receiving end of a 14-yard TD pass from Oblachinski. After the Mercy Rule went into effect, running back Anthony Araujo added a one-yard TD run and backup quarterback Daniel Curren added a four-yard TD run.

**November 1, 2016:** Sudden impact! Exactly 30 seconds into the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 first round game against

the Summit Hilltoppers, sophomore forward Lauren Williamson received a pass from freshman forward Maggie Murray and buried a shot into the upper center of the net, setting the tone for the sixth-seeded Cranford girls soccer team to emerge with a 2-0 victory in Cranford. Williamson added netted the second goal on Murray's corner kick.

The real story, however, was the pressure both defenses had to endure with constant back-

and-forth shifts in momentum throughout and the Cougar back line of senior co-captain Kat Mackenzie, senior Maya Lawler and junior Caroline McCaffrey, along with senior co-captain/goalkeeper Cam Hay, who had three saves, passed the test with high marks.

**November 3, 2016:** The SPF boys soccer team took one more step in the right direction on their quest for a state title by

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Courtesy of Charles Mulrooney (November 2013 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**BRINGING DOWN THE QUARTERBACK...**Blue Devil Dave Kane, No. 85, sacks Panther quarterback Mike Fair in Bridgewater on November 1, 2013. The Blue Devils won, 40-10.



David B. Corbin (November 2014 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**OFF AND RUNNING...**Cougar Kevin Trotter, No. 22, made six tackles (2 for a loss) and assisted on 13. Defensive back Luke Christiano, left, assists Trotter to bring down Highlander running back Urim Marke, No. 44 (November 1, 2014).

## A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

scoring a 2-0 victory over Ridge in an NJSIAA North Jersey, Section 2, Group IV quarterfinal match held in Scotch Plains. The Raiders got goals from Ryan Peterson and John Murphy and their defense did the rest in shutting down the 11th-seeded Red Devils.

**October 31, 2015:** Thirty eight years ago (1977) there was the infamous New York City Blackout, Apple Computer was incorporated, snow actually fell in Miami (January 19), David Berkowitz (Son of Sam) was arrested, Star Wars opened, Reggie Jackson hit three home runs in a World Series win over the Dodgers, Saturday Night Fever was released and it was the last time that the Westfield High School football team went 7-0. That was until the Blue Devils routed the

Warriors of Watchung Hills, 40-0, at Kehler Stadium.

That 1977 team, which featured Butch Woolfolk and Owen Brand, now one of the Blue Devil coaches, went on to beat Barringer in the sectional championship game at Giants Stadium in front of a crowd of 33,000 to finish 11-0. In the section semifinal, the Blue Devils defeated Livingston in the presence of 13,000 screaming fans at Kehler Stadium.

Against the Warriors, the Blue Devil defense refused to give quarterback Sean Sullivan any breathing room, recording six sacks and forcing nearly all of his passes. Defensive tackle Nick Maher recorded three sacks, while Owen Kessler, Jake Vall-Llobera, Kyle Dombrowski, Devin Zrebiec, Tom Morley and Jeff

Gagum were also involved in sacks and exerting extreme pressure.

Senior running back Jack Curry finished with 93 yards rushing on 18 carries, including respective TD runs of 12 yards, four yards, 17 yards and eight yards. Kicker Mike Moriarty added respective field goals of 24 yards and 37 yards. Junior quarterback Phil Martini shared time with Zach Kelly and the twosome mixed a fine running game with a passing game and came up with 134 yards in the air and 178 with the run. Jack Shirk had four receptions for 75 yards.

**October 31, 2015:** The SPF girls' soccer team did its part to keep the legacy of Union County soccer dominance strictly within the Raider family. Scotch Plains-Fanwood won its sixth straight

Union County Tournament championship in a dramatic, come-from-behind, 2-1 victory over Westfield at Johnson High School in Clark. Christina Rodgers drilled a direct penalty kick into the back of the net with 8:38 left in regulation giving the Raiders a 2-1 lead that they would defend to the finish.

Westfield had the Raiders on the ropes early in the second half when Hannah Liddy on an assist from Hannah Hawkins, slipped one past the Raiders usually unbreakable goalkeeper Andrea Leitner. Raider Sophie Brause played in a corner kick to Caroline Babis, who headed the ball past Westfield goalkeeper Lizzie Brucia to tie it at 1-1.

**November 1, 2014:** The SPF football team finally got all its parts functioning at the same

time with a 35-20 trampling of Warren Hill in Scotch Plains. Kobe White rumbled 261 yards on 20 carries, including three long TD runs. Andrew Ciccarino was a one man wrecking crew. He made several impressive tackles on Warren Hills giant running back Justin Iaione rendering him a non-factor. He also had an acrobatic interception, and downed a punt inside the five-yard line.

**November 1, 2014:** Threepeat was the outcome when it came to showdowns this season with rival Westfield, and it happened in the championship game of the Union County Tournament when the top-seeded Raider boys soccer team defeated the second-seeded Blue Devils, 2-1, at Kean University.

Fourpeat, however, also had a

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David B. Corbin (November 2012 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**STOPPED BY A SWARM OF BLUE DEVILS...**Raider running back Dein Rice, No. 2, gets surrounded by Blue Devils Dylan Elliott, No. 10, Joe Scaglione, No. 68, Luke Prybylski, No. 17, Evan Williams, No. 20, and Chris Sweeney, No. 65, and tackled by Jack Simcox (November 10, 2012).



Fred Lecomte (November 2013 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**GETTING HER SECOND GOAL...**Raider senior Kathryn Cunningham drills in her second goal of the game on a penalty kick against Millburn in the quarterfinals of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 tournament in Scotch Plains on November 7, 2013. The top-seeded Raiders won, 3-0.

## A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

significance, because the 18-3 Raiders also won the UCT title in 2011, 2012 and 2013 and lifted Head Coach Tom Breznitsky's UCT championship total to 16 and 18th overall for the program. The victory also elevated Breznitsky career win total to 671.

Junior Alex Guevara put the Raiders on the scoreboard when he lifted a looping shot from 25 yards out. Less than eight minutes into the second half, Raider Jassiem Watuse ripped a shot that was deflected and co-captain Jake Longo came to the ball and tapped it in for the score. The Blue Devils put on a furious surge in the final 10 minutes and it paid off when co-captain Mike Prosuk punched in a goal.

**November 1, 2014:** Turnovers and emotions prevented the possibility of a blowout, but it did not prevent the Cranford Cougars football team from achieving something that the program never experienced, an 8-0 start after defeating the Governor Livingston Highlanders, 30-13, in Berkeley Heights.

Cougar QB Jack Schetelich mixed his variety of plays well and running back Dan DeLayo had the opportunity to carry five times for 26 yards, including a four-yard TD, and added two receptions for 13 yards. Schetelich completed nine of 13 passes for 176 yards, including three TDs, and Luke Christiano was again his biggest target with three receptions for 131 yards, including

TDs of 36 yards and 73 yards.

**November 1, 2013:** Offensive disorientation in the first half, perhaps as a result of a bye week, became a cause for early concern; however, increasingly aggressive defensive behavior quickly snapped the Blue Devil football team out of its temporary coma en route to a 40-10 thumping of the Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers in Bridgewater. In the first half alone, Blue Devil linemen Joe Scaglione, Chris Sweeney and Mike Anderson recorded three sacks or throws for losses in addition to limiting the Panthers to just 12 rushing yards.

Running back Eugene Rawles, who had 12 rushes for 41 yards, including a TD run, in the first half, scooted for 122 more yards

and two more TDs before being rested after two runs in the fourth quarter. QB Chris Hogge and Jackson Simcox, who had an interception, each had one-yard TD bashes and Jelani Pierre had a 39-yard TD reception.

**November 5, 2013:** Rarely do the starters get the opportunity to sit out the majority of the second half and observe their reserves in a sectional tournament, but it happened when the fifth-seeded Blue Devil boys soccer team overwhelmed 12th-seeded Columbia, 7-0, in the first round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament in Westfield.

The Blue Devils grabbed a 4-0 lead by halftime and added two more before the midway point of

the second half. Junior midfielder Mike Prosuk buried three of the goals, while senior forwards Mate Landeka and Sam Sokolin, and juniors Matt Williams and Dereck Amadye each netted one goal. Senior forward Alik Morgan assisted on the first two goals with some nifty right-to-left footwork.

**November 7, 2013:** Heroes emerged! Midfielder Kathryn Cunningham fired in a pair of goals and forward Kelly Yeager notched in a goal early in the first half as the top-seeded Raider girls' soccer team staggered the ninth-seeded Millburn Millers, 3-0, in a quarterfinal round showdown of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 state tournament in Scotch Plains.

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David B. Corbin (November 2011 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**MITCH'S GO-TO RECEIVER...**Blue Devil flanker Peter Ondi, No. 27, had nine receptions for 63 yards against Immaculata. Quarterback Nate Mitchell knows Ondi is a go-to guy when a first down is at stake (November 5, 2011).

Mitch Aronson (November 2010 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**SENDING THE GAME INTO OVERTIME...**Blue Devil James O'Rourke, No. 2, blocks a 39-yard field goal attempt with seven seconds remaining in regulation to send the Saturday's Westfield-Linden game into overtime. Westfield defeated Linden, 30-24 (October 30, 2010).

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**November 10, 2012:** Defense against defense, and this time, the Raiders football team overcame the frustration of three straight losses (Cranford, Watchung Hills, Warren Hills) with a solid defensive effort that paid off in a 10-2 victory over Westfield in Scotch Plains. The Raiders' huge defensive line featuring James Kaiser, Anthony Tufaro, Billy Castore, Cody Biondi, Rashaun Gary and company stuffed every Blue Devil attempt of breaking through the interior, forcing outside runs and passing plays.

Raider QB Emendo Thomas carried 19 times for 118 yards, including a TD run of 12 yards late in the second quarter. With 4:51 remaining in the third quarter, John Murphy capped another 58-yard scoring drive with a 30-yard

field goal to make the score, 10-2.

**November 13, 2012:** Top seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood used its quarterfinal round game of the NJSIAA, North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 tournament in Scotch Plains with the ninth-seeded Ridge HS boys soccer team as a warm-up for the more intense state games to come. The No. 1 state ranked Raiders played what could be considered a half-court game to rock the Red Devils and to easily roll to a 5-0 victory.

**November 5, 2011:** Host Bishop Ahr won its fifth straight North Jersey, Section 2 gymnastics championship in North Edison with a team score of 110.45, while Cranford and Westfield placed 2-3 with respective scores of 107.55 and 107.225. Cougar

Mary Kate Walch earned the top score on the vault with a 9.425, took top honors on the balance beam with a 9.35 and also won the all-around with a 37.575. Blue Devil Abby Cook placed fourth with an all-around total of 36.65, while Cougar Alex Puryear placed fifth at 35.575.

**November 5, 2011:** Rarely does a ninth-ranked high school team become the victim of the "Mercy Rule" – 35-point lead by the opposing team – but although it was late in the game it happened at Gary Kehler Stadium. And it happened to No. 9 Immaculata as the Blue Devils amassed a 37-0 lead by the time there was 1:10 remaining in the game and finished with a 37-6 victory when the Spartans scored on a 61-yard "Hail Mary" pass to

Rich Ferguson, Jr. with no time on the clock.

James O'Rourke totaled 117 yards on 28 carries and finished with respective TD runs of five yards, 20 yards and three yards. Running back Brendan Dugan finished with 10 carries for 65 yards, including a two-yard TD. Shakiyl Glasco had six carries for 47 yards, including a two-yard TD.

**October 30, 2010:** Seats at Kehler Stadium became more rounded because everybody was on edge for a long time to witness the outcome of a "classic" showdown between No. 20-ranked Linden and the Blue Devils football team on Senior Day. After an interception by Peter Ondi halted the Tigers' possession in the second overtime, QB Danny Kerr popped a pass eight

yards over the middle to tight end John Landzano to give the Blue Devils a 30-24 victory over the 5-2 Tigers.

**November 6, 2010:** Intense pack mentality and the friendly rivalry of frontrunners Jack Leahy and Andrew Kirna brought home the North Jersey, Group 4, Section 2 championship for the No. 2-ranked Blue Devil boys cross-country team at Warinanco Park in Roselle. Leahy placed third with a time of 16:21 and Kirna was fourth at 16:26.

**November 6, 2009:** Fans from the Blue Devils' side of the field were chanting, "Overrated," to 11th-ranked Union late in the third quarter when the Blue Devils had a commanding, 35-7 lead en route to a 35-14 victory in

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David B. Corbin (November 2008 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**GETTING ANOTHER TOUCHDOWN...**Blue Devil Ricardo Johnson, No. 31, shoots through a hole in the Raiders' defense for a 19-yard TD. Johnson also had a one-yard TD run and a 51-yard TD run (November 8, 2008).

Fred Leconte (November 2009 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**TRYING DESPERATELY TO GAIN CONTROL...**Cougar Ray ElKhoury, pictured left, and Blue Devils Phillip Mendel, No. 15, and Henry Smith, No. 19, attempt to gain control of the ball in the soccer final of the 44th Union County Tournament at A.L. Johnson High School in Clark on November 7, 2009.

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Union. QB Danny Kerr completed an eight-yard TD strike to wide receiver Pat Gray. Running back Joe Ondi had 23 carries for 100 yards, including TD runs of three and two yards. Running back AJ Murray, who had a one-yard TD run in the second quarter, rumbled 57 yards on 10 carries, which included carrying all seven times on a 49-yard scoring march in the third quarter that was concluded with another one-yard TD plunge.

**November 7, 2009:** History was made as the Cranford boys' soccer team defeated the Blue Devils, 1-0, in the final of the 44th Union County Tournament at A.L. Johnson HS in Clark. It was the first title captured by the undefeated and top-seeded Cougars in school history. Cougar striker Pat Hartnett used his head

to bury the ball into the left side of the net with 3:08 remaining in the first half after Eric Walano crossed a pass from the right side of the field.

**November 8, 2008:** The Blue Devil gymnastics team placed second to Bishop Ahr at the North Jersey Section 2 meet at Ridgewood. Bishop Ahr had a team total of 114.425, which was the highest total recorded of a five section tournament this season. The Blue Devils' 112.175 total, which was the sixth-highest total of all sections, set a WHS record and qualified them for the NJSIAA team championship. Blue Devil junior Lacy Cummings took top honors with an all-around total of 37.975 and also won the vault for the second straight year with a score of 9.65.

**November 8, 2008:** QB Tony

DiIorio, receiver Chris Sheehan and running back Ricardo Johnson definitely brought their A-game in the Blue Devil football team's 35-12 victory over the Raiders at Gary Kehler Stadium.

DiIorio, who already owned the career completion mark, broke Dave Brown's career attempts of 269 set in 1986 with his total of 275 and also set the single-season completion record with 78. DiIorio completed 10 of 16 attempts for 173 yards, including TD pass plays of 19 and 57 yards. Sheehan had eight receptions for 134 yards to increase his WHS career reception record to 57. Johnson tore up the turf with 166 yards, including TD runs of 1, 19 and 51 yards, on 23 carries.

**November 8, 2007:** Fourth-seeded Mendham waited a year to get another shot at the North

Jersey, Group 3, Section 2 title and, this time, the Lady Minutemen succeeded with a 2-0 victory over the second-seeded Raider girls soccer team in Scotch Plains. Last year, the Raiders won their first ever, sectional title with a 1-0 victory over the same foe, Mendham, when Allie Hambleton crossed to Colleen LaForge who slid the ball past Minuteman keeper Melanie Pierson with four minutes remaining.

**November 4, 2006:** Senior QB Tom Bonard and the rest of his classmates have waited a long time to settle a score, which has dated back to seventh grade PAL football, with the seniors from Scotch Plains-Fanwood. The score was settled when Bonard ran for three TDs and threw for another to guide the Blue Devils football team to an emotionally

charged 28-21 victory over the Raiders, who had won the previous four meetings, in Westfield.

**November 5, 2005:** Jeff Perrella won his second straight North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 title to lead the Westfield boys cross-country team to a second-place finish at Warinanco Park in Roselle.

**November 11, 2005:** History repeated itself as another display of strong defense and an unrelenting offense spelled "shut-out" as the second-seeded, ninth-ranked Raider boys' soccer team flattened Voorhees, 3-0, in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 tournament final to earn its third consecutive sectional championship and 13th overall in Scotch Plains. Senior Matt Fleissner and sophomores Taylor Molinaro and

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David B. Corbin (November 2007 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**ANTICIPATING THE IMPACT OF THE BALL...**Raider Stephanie Glover, left, and a Mendham striker anticipate the impact of the ball near the Raiders' goal in the sectional final game (November 8, 2007).

David B. Corbin (November 2006 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**AN INTENSE RIVALRY AT KEHLER STADIUM...**Blue Devil quarterback Tom Bonard, No. 3, scored three touchdowns and threw for another in a 28-21 victory over the Raiders witnessed by a crowd of 3,000. Raiders Jason Boff, No. 84, and Rob Scibek, No. 42, chase Bonard as Blue Devil Joe Schurig, No. 67, follows the play (November 4, 2006).

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Michael Devizio each struck pay dirt.

**November 13, 2004:** A close showdown with a quality team that had revenge on its mind never materialized as the Raider soccer team overwhelmed Middletown South, 4-1, in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 championship game in Scotch Plains. The victory earned the Raiders their 12th sectional title. Forward Sean Young led the assault with two goals and defender Greg Leischner and midfielder Matt Fleissner added one each. Junior Jeff Bell assisted on two goals.

**November 8, 2003:** The Blue Devil girls cross-country team turned on the "pac" mentality to win the North Jersey, Section 2,

Group 4 title at Warinanco Park in Roselle. Deenie Quinn finished sixth, Annie Onishi took seventh and Meg Driscoll crossed ninth.

**November 2, 2002:** Win ugly, but win! Lack of concentration on the part of 5-2 Westfield and a spunky, never-give-up attitude on the part of Newark East Side made for an interesting football game at Shabazz Stadium in Newark. Fumbles, penalties and overconfidence almost caused a stinging upset but the Blue Devils got enough of their rhythm back in the second half to defeat the Red Raiders, 27-19. Senior Brian Butts did the most damage with TD runs of 15 and 12 yards, a TD reception of 33 yards and a crushing, eight-yard sack.

**November 16, 2001:** Anx-

ious anticipation of victory in the second half may have proved to be the downfall of the SPF football team during the North Jersey, Group 3, Section 2 semifinals in Chester. After a 14-6, halftime lead, the overcharged

Raiders self destructed and literally watched West Morris Central fullback Lance Lynch slip through the seams for four TDs en route to a 32-20 victory.

Raider QB Brian Schiller completed five of 14 passes – one interception – for 133 yards, including TD passes of 19 yards and 58 yards to wide receiver Steve Williams. Sophomore halfback Kyle Baker rushed 11 times for 89 yards and senior Adam Bendik recovered a Baker fumble in the end zone for a TD.

**November 4, 2000:** The second-ranked Blue Devil gymnastics team won its third-straight North Jersey, Section 2 title with a team total of 108.15 in Union. Junior Lauren Caravello also won her third-straight all-around title

with a total of 37.5.

**November 9, 1999:** Yellow cards were flashing and the stakes were high; however, in the end, the Raider and Blue Devil boys battled to a 3-3 tie after one overtime in Westfield. The Raiders gained the Watchung Conference National Division title with the tie. Senior Ralph Rapuano had all three of the Blue Devil goals.

**November 13, 1998:** The Raider boys soccer captured its fifth-straight and 10th overall Section 2, Group 3 State Championship by defeating West Morris Central, 2-0, in Scotch Plains. Friday the 13th was definitely good luck for junior Eugene Ferrara as he hexed the Wolfpack's net with both goals.

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## Raiders Corral JFK Mustangs in Home Football Clash, 40-2







## Raiders Corral JFK Mustangs in Home Football Clash, 40-2







## Raiders Corral JFK Mustangs in Home Football Clash, 40-2







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## Cougars Jar Jackson Liberty in Girls Soccer Sectional, 7-0







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of The Westfield Leader*



*more photos next page*

## St. Joseph Falcons Capitalize; Defeat Cougar Gridders, 21-9







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*more photos next page*

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## Raiders Bomb Bombers, Nip Jackson, Swamp TRN for Title







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## WHS Seniors Sign Sports Letters of Intent with Colleges and Universities

Thirteen Westfield High School student-athletes signed Letters of Intent with colleges and universities, signifying recognition of the seniors' accomplishments both academically and athletically.

The following will continue to compete at the college level:

Sebastian Birse, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Lacrosse  
Mia Fleming, University of Southern California, Lacrosse  
Matthew Gruters, Sacred Heart University, Lacrosse  
Katherine Hamilton, Duke University, Cross Country/Track and Field  
Christopher Ho, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baseball  
Jack Kelesoglu, Connecticut College, Soccer  
Laurajane "LJ" Kehler, Colgate University, Lacrosse  
Gianna Mangiamiele, Franklin and Marshall College, Volleyball  
Aidan McLane, Fairfield University, Lacrosse  
Chloe Pappalardo, Susquehanna University, Lacrosse  
Mack Prybylski, Villanova University, Lacrosse  
Brooke Scheuermann, Salisbury University, Lacrosse  
Colin Summers, Fairfield University, Golf



Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**LETTERS OF INTENT...**Pictured, left to right, WHS seniors Chloe Pappalardo, Mia Fleming, Brooke Scheuermann and LJ Kehler signed National Letters of Intent to play lacrosse at colleges/universities next fall. Back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Coaches Katie DaSilva and Abigail Cohn, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.



*more photos next page*

Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**HEADING TO DUKE...**WHS senior Katie Hamilton will run Cross-Country/Track for Duke University next fall. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Coach Jen Buccino, Katie Hamilton, Coach Joe Berardi; back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Coach John Preston, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.



Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

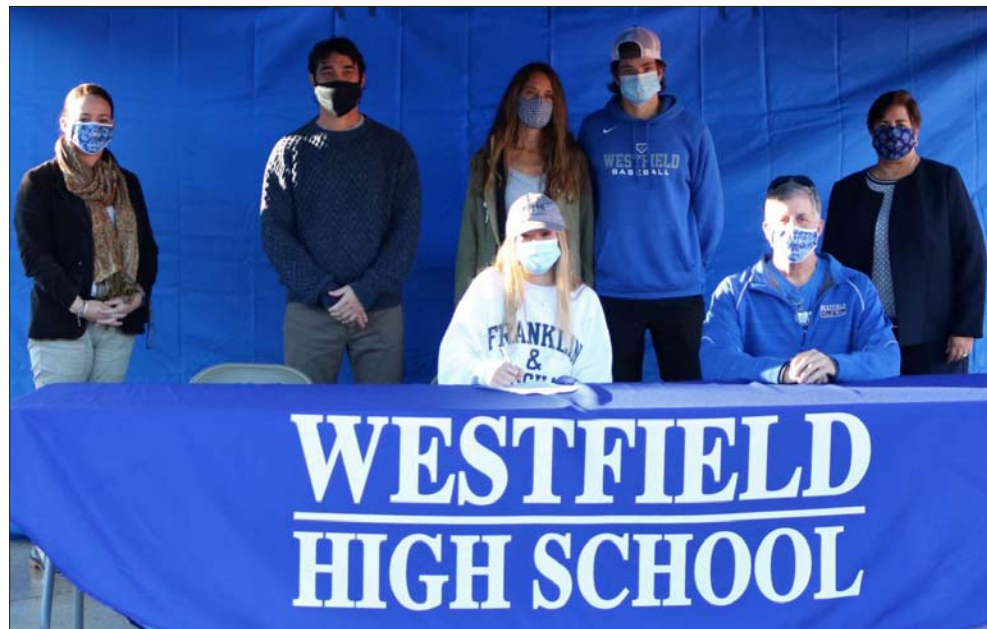
**HEADING TO CONNECTICUT...**WHS senior Jack Kelesoglu will play soccer at Connecticut College next fall. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Coach Eric Shaw, Jack Kelesoglu, Coach Demont Heard; back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Mr. and Mrs. Kelesoglu, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.





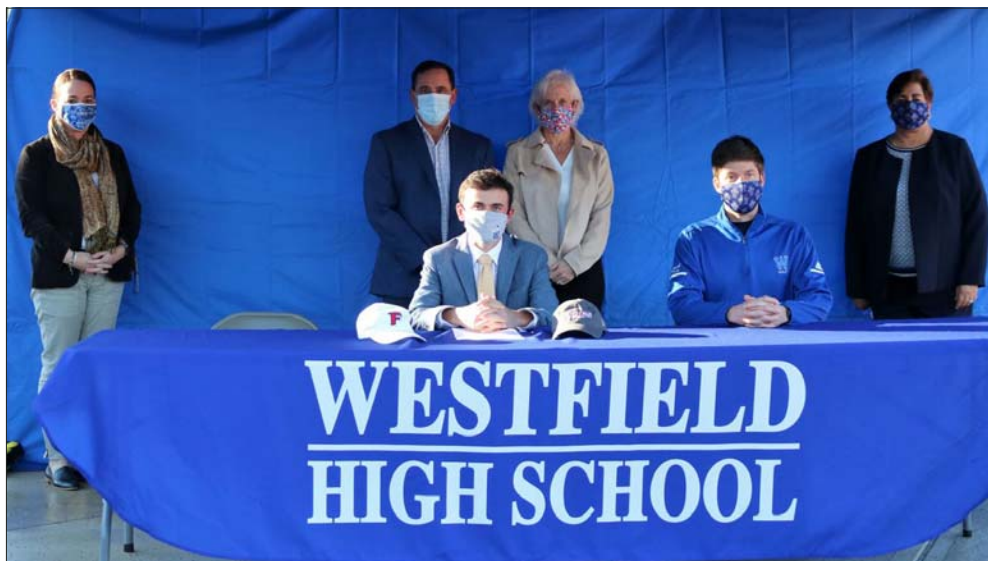
Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**LETTERS OF INTENT...**From left to right, WHS seniors Sebastian Birse, Matthew Gruters, Mack Prybylski and Aidan McLane signed National Letters of Intent to play lacrosse at colleges/universities next fall. Back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Coach Boomer Wertheimer, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.



Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**LETTER OF INTENT...**WHS senior Gianna Mangiamiele will play volleyball for Franklin & Marshall College next fall. pictured, left to right, are: front row; Gianna Mangiamiele, Coach Ed Saggio; back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Mangiamiele Family, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.



Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**LETTER OF INTENT...**WHS senior Colin Summers will play golf for Fairfield University next fall. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Colin Summers, Coach Ryan Daly; back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Mr. and Mrs. Summers, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.



Courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

**HEADING TO MARYLAND...**WHS senior Christopher Ho will play baseball at University of Maryland, Baltimore County next fall. Front row, Coach Bob Brewster, Christopher Ho, Coach Brian Sloan; back row, WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Mr. and Mrs. Ho, Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary.