

# Westfield Council Unveils Plan For Paving of Roads

By REBECCA MEHORTER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Town Council unveiled its multi-year road improvements plan at the end of March. The plan utilizes a road assessment that was completed in 2019 and gave the streets of Westfield an empirical score based on their conditions.

The assessment was done two years ago by a third-party engineering firm, Councilman David Contract said in a meeting with residents from and near Myrtle Avenue. Roads with scores of 40 or under are considered poor/very poor and are the top priority to repave. The average score on the paving plan was approximately 51. The road with the lowest score, claiming the title of the worst road in Westfield, is Hampton Court, with a score of 25.

When first released at the end of March, the plan listed the roads to be paved in 2021, 2022 and 2023, but in response to resident feedback, the council added a list for 2024 to the plan as well.

“We are going to be adding a fourth year of paving to that plan ... to make sure all roads in the two worst categories are paved over the next four years,” Councilman Contract said at the April 6 town council conference meeting. “I think it’s smart, and also given how much variability is in this plan, it’s highly likely that some of

these roads will be paved sooner.”

The speed at which roads are paved partially depends on how public bidding goes for the town. Town Administrator Jim Gildea said at the April 6 conference meeting that if the bids come in under the budgeted amount, the town can add roads or expedite the process because it will have more funds. He also said more roads will be paved because of the relatively new partnership between utility companies and the town.

“Two years ago, this town council voted on an entirely new ordinance for utility companies,” Councilman Contract said. “They used to be able to pave the half of the side where they trenched to put in new pipes — no longer. If a utility company does work and opens up a road, they have to pave curb-to-curb now.”

The partnership benefits both parties, Mr. Gildea said. “The utilities are coming to us now seeking to do work in town because now we know that if they do work of a certain length, the whole road has to be paved curb-to-curb,” he said. “And now they know that we’re likely to approve their

project, rather than defer it, because we’re in need of getting paving done.”

The road-paving plan, which can be found online at westfieldnj.gov/roadimprovements, lists which streets will be paved by the town and which will be paved by utility companies.

The town is still able to do pothole paving and patching if roads are in bad shape, Councilman Contract told Myrtle Avenue residents.

“We still have a lot more paving to do, but we’re trying to tackle it worst first, because that’s the appropriate way to do it,” Councilman Contract said. “We have to pave the roads in the worst shape.”

## Commissioners Adopt \$16.8M Ordinance for New Complex

By MICHAEL P. CARVALHO  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

COUNTY — The Union County Board of County Commissioners adopted an ordinance to appropriate \$16,750,000 for the Union County Government Complex Project during its bi-weekly meeting last Thursday.

This ordinance was introduced at the board’s March 25 meeting, when it was given its first reading. During last week’s meeting, the ordinance was then voted on and adopted by the board after the meeting was opened up for public comment on the ordinance. The \$16.75 million will be appropriated from the capital improvement fund and capital surplus.

Bibi Taylor, director of the Union County Department of Finance, was on hand at the meeting to explain where exactly the funds are coming from and why this path was taken.

“The capital ordinance that is on for consideration this evening is being funded as a result of all of the ordinances that we have previously cancelled when projects were completed and we would close out the books. If those were funded, those pieces of the funded ordinances would lapse to capital surplus,” explained Ms. Taylor.

“And we’ve done that throughout the years in order to build up what is essentially a nest egg, so that way we don’t have to issue debt for projects,” continued Ms. Taylor.

Started in 2020, the Union County Government Complex Project involves consolidating the county’s administrative services into two new buildings that would be constructed on the site of the county’s motor vehicle services division in Elizabeth.

The Union County Improvement Authority is tasked with the planning, design and construction of the new county government complex at 61-99 West Grand Street. The project will allow the county to continue efforts to reduce its lease and overhead costs, while providing efficient service delivery for county residents.

Ms. Taylor added, “As the ordinance relates to the government complex, that project is anticipated to save approximately over \$100 million as a result of coming out of leases.”

The original estimation for the project ranged from \$100 million to \$145 million and will allow the county to combine its government infrastructure into one complex.

“So, when we are issuing the debt for this project, the debt that we are authorizing is \$120 million and we are using capital surplus and capital improvement funds in order to not have to issue debt for the additional \$16.7 million associated with the project,” explained Ms. Taylor.

DIGroup Architecture, a New Brunswick-based firm, was awarded the design contract for what will be a two-building, 225,000-square-foot project to help consolidate the county’s footprint.

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BATTER UP...Majors fifth and sixth graders swing away at Gumbert Field this past Saturday following the opening day ceremony.

Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

# Westfield Democrats Introduce Familiar Faces As ’21 Candidates

By REBECCA MEHORTER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Democratic Committee has announced its nominees for mayor and Wards 1 through 4 council seats for the upcoming elections. Mayor Shelley Brindle and incumbent council members Linda Habgood, Michael Dardia, David Contract and Dawn Mackey are running for re-election under the name “Westfield Together.”

Mayor Brindle said that the past four years have taught her to have a high level of empathy when dealing with resident concerns. “If it’s important to them, then it’s important to me,” she said, even when she personally does not consider a concern a high priority. She said that, as mayor, she has realized that “things aren’t always what they seem” in local government. She said that as a resident, she assumed slow progress indicated incompetence, but there are procedures in place to make changes that

are important. She said the hard work town officials have done — like the Master Plan Re-examination — is complete, and now, “the fun part” of implementing the public input into physical changes can begin.

“When you’re a local politician, saying ‘no’ is very easy; saying ‘yes’ is hard,” Mayor Brindle said. “Our town is in the middle of a reinvention, and I want to be part of it.”

Councilwoman Habgood, who represents Ward 1, serves as chair of the Finance Policy Committee and as a member of the planning board. She also is a co-founder of the Westfield Mental Health Council. Reflecting on her last four years, Councilwoman Habgood said she has learned the importance of communication and echoed Mayor Brindle’s statement about the process of government.

“As an elected official, I think it is paramount that residents have clarity on the nuances of complex issues or ordinances that I am voting on and

why,” she said. “Change is welcome and possible, but sometimes takes longer than you want it to!”

She said she hopes to finish the projects this group of officials have started, namely, further diversifying the town’s revenue sources “to further reduce the burdens on the resident taxpayers,” advancing redevelopment that is both “smart and environmentally protective” and improving town parks.

Ward 2 Councilman Dardia chairs the Pedestrian Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee and serves on the Public Works Committee. He said the long-term strategic plan the Westfield Together team has created is ready to be actualized. “It is now time to put those plans into action by realizing this vision that will enable and encourage more visitors to our downtown stores and restaurants,” he said.

Individually, Councilman Dardia said he will focus on resident safety, including community-policing efforts and providing “adequate fire department resources, including the planning and funding for a much-needed new firehouse that meets modern safety standards.” He also mentioned improvements to street lights and pedestrian-safety measures.

“The pandemic has certainly challenged us in many ways, but many of our challenges can also be reframed as opportunities,” Councilman Dardia said. “When I watched the coverage on various news channels, I couldn’t help but think that Westfield would be the place where I would want to live if I was a young parent in the city considering a move.”

Councilman Contract, of Ward 3, chairs the Public Works Committee and is the vice chair of the Finance Committee. He also serves as the liaison to the Green Team and to Lifelong Westfield. Like his colleagues, Councilman Contract cited the importance of communication as what he has learned during his term.

“This took on even more significance during the pandemic when communication about health and safety protocols and shutdowns/openings/vaccinations became critical and misinformation could turn out to be literally harmful,” Mr. Contract said via

# Mindowaskin Park Takes on Spring Cleaning

By REBECCA MEHORTER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Mindowaskin Park is currently undergoing a spring metamorphosis. Passersby may notice the cleared Daffodil Bank, also known as Daffodil Hill, where the town has removed overgrowth and a few trees. While clearing the area, the Garden Club of Westfield spotted what is believed to be a Native American mortar. The mortar was previously donated to the park, but its precise location had been lost for some time, according to Margaret Allen of the Garden Club of Westfield.

Town Administrator Jim Gildea said the Friends of Mindowaskin Park has requested the town’s assistance on the project for years. Mr. Gildea said that the town was inspired to take on the project after Clara Christian, the Westfield Girl Scout who is creat-

ing a sensory garden in Mindowaskin, started her project. The town is getting input from the Friends of Mindowaskin, Ms. Christian, the Department of Public Works and the garden club for the design and maintenance of the new and improved Daffodil Bank.

“We’re only in the beginning phases of restoring the natural beauty to the park,” Mr. Gildea said in the April 6 town council conference meeting. He said the design and implementation of plans will continue throughout the spring and summer.

Last Friday, the Garden Club of Westfield discovered what members believe to be a Lenape grinding mortar buried in the hill. Garden club member Margaret Allen said that the artifact was intentionally placed there long ago but that “no one had been

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UNEARTHING HISTORY...While working on Daffodil Hill in Mindowaskin Park, the Garden Club of Westfield spotted what is believed to be a Native American mortar.

Photos courtesy of Margaret Allen

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## Earth Day Activities on Tap At Trailside April 24

COUNTY — The Union County Board of Commissioners invites residents of all ages to meet live animals, celebrate wildlife and embrace environmental conservation at a fun and educational event in honor of Earth Day at Union County’s Trailside Nature and Science Center, located in the Watchung Reservation at 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

The event will take place outdoors on the grounds of the Trailside Center on Saturday, April 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“Our Earth Day event provides residents and visitors of all ages with an opportunity to celebrate the Earth as a community while enjoying the outdoors with family and friends,” said Board of Commissioners Chairman Alexander Mirabella.

Among other activities, Earth Day at Trailside will feature three live-animal experiences.

In Rizzo’s Reptile Discovery, visitors will meet live snakes, turtles and an alligator as they learn about the characteristics of these cold-blooded creatures. This show will be offered at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

A presentation showcasing live mammals and birds from around the world, entitled “Eyes of the Wild,” will be featured at 12:30 p.m.

Visitors will have an opportunity to listen for the sounds of spring and have fun looking for wildflowers, young leaves, bird nests and baby animals by taking part in a guided Spring Nature

Walk. The walks will be available at 10 a.m., noon and 2:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is required for all programs. To register, visit [ucnj.org/trailside](http://ucnj.org/trailside).

A fee per person per program of \$7 applies for Union County residents. The fee is \$8 for non-county residents.

As part of Earth Day Every Day, event visitors can take a self-guided stroll along Union County’s Sensory Friendly Trail and enjoy a Recycled Art Wildlife Walk. Participants will learn about the importance of recycling as they encounter colorful eco-art made from more than 4,000 recycled plastic bottles as part of this free outdoor exhibit. No pre-registration is required for this activity.

Masks are required and must be worn by all participants, and social-distancing guidelines must be observed.

Earth Day is officially recognized worldwide each year on April 22. More information is available at [earthday.org](http://earthday.org).

For more information about the special programs offered for Earth Day and upcoming programs for seniors, families and children at Trailside, visit [ucnj.org/trailside](http://ucnj.org/trailside) or call (908) 789-3670.

In-person activities in Union County parks are limited during the Covid-19 outbreak in accordance with statewide public-health guidelines, and Trailside is closed to the public until further notice.

## Library Zoom Event to Offer Look at ‘Science of Smell’

SCOTCHPLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library will present “The Strange Science of Smell” on Thursday, April 22, at 7 p.m., featuring Dr. Robert Pellegrino of the Monell Chemical Senses Center.

While the mechanics of hearing, touch and vision have long been understood, only in the 20th century did scientists begin to really unravel the mysteries of the senses of smell and taste. The experiences of Covid-19 patients have led to a surge of new insights and discoveries, as many who contracted the virus not only lost the ability to smell (anosmia) but also experienced troubling and bizarre alterations of what they did smell (parosmia and phantosmia).

Dr. Pellegrino will join participants via Zoom to talk about what is known and what is being learned about smell. He will share the ways

human lives can be improved through ongoing research, including the development of a rapid Covid-19 diagnostic test based on smell. Dr. Pellegrino will discuss how the sense of smell can be lost through Covid-19 and other causes, and the consequences of living without it.

Participants can experience for themselves some of the ideas he will cover during the program. Registered participants can opt to pick up a kit containing an individual pack of jelly beans and a sample of a newly-developed smell test card that will be used to demonstrate the basic principles of odor perception.

Registration is required. The registration form and information about the library’s entire month of programming can be found on the library’s website, [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org).

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## — Obituaries —

### Allan Chrono, 78, Lifelong Westfield Resident, Longtime Business Owner

Allan Chrono, 78, a lifelong Westfield resident and long-time Westfield business owner, passed away on Monday, April 5, 2021, at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Westfield, Allan was the son of the late Eugene and Elizabeth Chrono. He graduated from Westfield High School in 1960 and attended Rutgers University, where he was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Allan was the long-time owner of the Towne House Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge, located at 114 Central Avenue, a well-regarded Westfield staple for good food and drink. He retired from the restaurant business in 1996 after 35 years, but continued to manage his ownership of numerous Westfield properties until his death.

Allan will be fondly remembered by his many friends and business associates as the “Mayor of Quimby Street.”

Allan is survived by his wife, Vivien, with whom he happily spent the last forty-two years. Together they shared many fond memories

and a large, loving family. He is survived by four daughters, Karen Cavacini (John) of Margate, Janice Chrono of Mays Landing, Victoria Giannos (John) of Las Vegas, Nev., and Lynda Jannicelli of Ogdensburg. He is also survived by three sons, Jeffrey Chrono of Mountainside, William Jannicelli (Desiree) of Fairfield and Michael Jannicelli of Las Vegas. He also leaves behind a beloved brother, Eugene (Carolyn) of Frisco, Tex., and a devoted sister, Judith Battiloro of Garwood.

Allan is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins, as well as eleven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Visitation for family and friends took place on Friday, April 9, 2021, at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue, Westfield, N.J. 07090, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at The Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity, 315 First Street, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery, 1100 East Broad Street, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

April 15, 2021

STUDYING MARINE LIFE...Wardlaw+Hartridge students Cooper Rosen of Westfield, front, and Joshua Simeonidis of Scotch Plains join teacher Tim Head of Cranford in the virtual marine biology tour.

## W+H Fifth Graders Take Marine Biology Virtual Tour

AREA — Fifth-grade students at The Wardlaw+Hartridge School in Edison took a virtual walking tour during early March in the town of Port Orford, Ore., to learn about marine biology. The tour took place under the guidance of Jennifer Head, a marine biologist and sister of fifth-grade teacher Tim Head of Cranford, along with other members of the Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve Community Team.

Participants covered 11 topics by watching videos titled “Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve,” “Battle Rock,” “A Walk on the Beach,” “Intertidal Ecology,” “Scuba Diving,” “Port Orford Sustainable Seafood,” “OSU Field Station,” “Gray Whale Research,” “The Port,” “Eco Tourism: South Coast Tours” and “Commercial Fishing.”

Ms. Head was joined by colleagues Tom Calvenese, champion of the Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve, director of the Oregon State University field station and leader of the Redfish Rocks Community Team, and Tara Ramsey, developer of the Redfish Rocks/PO Junket

tour and community and event coordinator for the Redfish Rocks Community Team. The students completed the tour prior to the presentation and came to the Zoom having submitted more than 150 questions, which the three experts addressed in great detail.

### Blood Drive to Be Held Next Week

CLARK — A blood drive will take place next Thursday, April 22, from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad, located at 875 Raritan Road, Clark. To sign up, access [nybc.org/njdrive](http://nybc.org/njdrive), sponsor code 11959, or call/text Genevieve at (732) 672-5281 for an appointment.

Participants are reminded to eat and drink beforehand and to bring their donor identification card, or identification with their name and photo, to the donation site.

Donors presenting must wear a mask or face covering; will have their temperature taken, and must be 14 days symptom-free if recovered from Covid-19. Individuals may not donate if they have a positive diagnostic test or have experienced symptoms of Covid-19 in the prior 14 days, or if they currently are on self-quarantine restrictions.



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## Holocaust Survivors’ Legacy Is Vital Lesson For Students

WESTFIELD — As part of a Historical Fiction unit, fifth graders in Westfield Public Schools read “Number the Stars” by Lois Lowry, a historical fiction novel that follows a friendship between a Jewish girl and a Christian girl in Copenhagen and their journey to freedom during World War II. Recent virtual presentations on the Holocaust provided students important real-life context to these classroom experiences.

Holocaust survivor Peter Fleischmann joined Tamaques Elementary School fifth graders virtually on March 26 to share his story. Mr. Fleischmann was 14 years old when his family fled Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia in 1941.

“Six million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. That is a statistic,” said Mr. Fleischmann as he showed the students a picture of his beloved aunts and uncles during his virtual presentation. “These aunts and uncles took care of me every summer. They were close to me. They made sure I was okay. [All but two] were killed in concentration camps. Their only guilt was that they were Jews. They are not statistics. They are persons who were close to me, with personalities, who took care of me. I miss them to this day.”

The journey from Czechoslovakia took Mr. Fleischmann, his parents and older brother to Germany, France, Spain, Portugal, Cuba and finally to New York City. While at the French-Spanish border, a stranger intervened to save the family from having to remain in Nazi-occupied France.

“We survived because a total stranger saw something happening that he did not feel was correct and came to our assistance,” said Mr. Fleischmann, who explained that his father’s name had appeared on a list of people who fought against the Nationalists during the Spanish Civil War. “This stranger put us up for the night and explained to the police chief that the Paul Fleischmann on the list was not my father.”

This misunderstanding was cleared up and the family was able to continue their journey, said Mr. Fleischmann, who works with the Holocaust Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Metrowest New Jersey to share his experience with students. The Tamaques fifth-grade team of teachers, Marisa Truselo, Victor Alfonso, Nicole Barbuto and Lori Swanson, worked with the Holocaust Council to arrange the virtual presentation.

“Every day I work with survivors to bring their stories to students like you. I hope and pray they are here to tell their stories for many, many years to come,” said Ilyse Shainbrown, director of Holocaust Education at the Holocaust Council. “You are probably the last generation to meet with a Holocaust survivor, to meet them face-to-face and hear their story. Think of somebody you will see or speak to in the next 24 hours — your parents, siblings, a friend — and please promise to tell the story of Mr. Peter Fleischmann to that person. If we each tell that story one time, we double the amount of people who hear his story.”

### Former Mayor Boothe’s Oral History Of Westfield Available

WESTFIELD — In 2007, former Westfield Mayor Bud Boothe (1932-2009) sat down with the Westfield Historical Society for a recording of his oral history on the Town of Westfield. The oral recording and YouTube video can be accessed at [westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/oral-history](http://westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/oral-history).

“The lesson I would ask you to learn from my story is not necessarily the details of my story but that, in your lives, you cannot go through life with a blind eye or deaf ears,” Mr. Fleischmann added. “Don’t stand by and allow something to happen that shouldn’t be happening. Don’t do something that you shouldn’t be doing. Don’t be a bystander. Be an upstander.”

A stranger also saved Holocaust survivor Sally Frishberg and her family. McKinley Elementary School fifth graders welcomed her for a virtual presentation on March 18.

“Our fifth graders continued a tradition, albeit in a different way, by listening to and learning from Mrs. Frishberg,” said McKinley Principal Marc Biunno, Ed.D., in an email to the school community. “Mrs. Frishberg joined our fifth-grade classes remotely and took them through her story while she urged them to be the sorts of people who do the right things on behalf of others.”

Born in Poland in 1934, Mrs. Frishberg shared her experiences as a young child whose family was forced to flee their home in Poland when the Nazis invaded their village. She and her family were taken in by a Polish farmer and hidden in his attic for two years.

“He was the man who saved us,” Mrs. Frishberg told the students. “He was an extraordinary man who never gave up helping us.”

After the war ended, the family eventually immigrated to America. Mrs. Frishberg, a former high-school teacher, was awarded the Yavner Award for Excellence in Holocaust Education in 2005 and now speaks regularly to students. A mother and grandmother, she encourages her audiences to choose kindness over hate.

“These differences between us are very small. They don’t matter,” she said. “You reduce the value of your life when you hate.”

“After traveling at night and living in an attic for two years to escape the Nazis, Mrs. Frishberg has taught us to help others through kindness,” said McKinley fifth-grade teacher Ann McDonough, who organized the virtual program with fellow teachers Nicole Giles, William Hannis and Joseph Paradise. “Without the kindness of others, she and many others would never have lived. Never give up hope. Hate hurts but love heals.”

Asked about Mrs. Frishberg’s presentation, fifth grader Dominick DiDario said, “Hate is never the answer and growing up with that can lead to disastrous things like Hitler. It made me feel encouraged to be more thoughtful.”

“Mrs. Frishberg made a point to highlight the ideas of strength, perseverance and courage,” Principal Biunno added. “As I listened to her, I thought of perspective and how certain experiences can rock us out of current troubles in order to appreciate where we are and how we live.”

The McKinley fifth-grade team and their students also made a virtual field trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Brooklyn, New York, on March 10.

The museum is “a living memorial to the Holocaust,” said Gallery Educator Lisa Hunter as she shared some of the museum’s artifacts virtually. “It’s very important that we keep the memory alive.”

Superintendent Margaret Dolan, Ed.D., noted that these “powerful, age-appropriate presentations” enhance the district’s Holocaust Education curriculum.

“We are grateful to Mrs. Frishberg, Mr. Fleischmann and others who share their stories with our school community, reinforcing the common message that hate cannot and will not be tolerated anywhere.”

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## Knights' Corned Beef Dinner Benefits Scholarship Fund

CRANFORD — Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Cranford Knights of Columbus Council No. 6226 could not hold its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance in 2020 and again this year in 2021.

As an alternative, the Council decided to hold a corned beef dinner fundraiser that was a tremendous success. Brother Knights and their families cooked more than 650 pounds of corned beef and prepared and sold 550 dinners.

In addition, 110 dinners were donated to Cranford Family Care and five trays of leftover corned beef to St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth. From the pro-

ceeds, the Council was able to raise \$4,000, which was donated to the Cranford PAL's Will DeGregorio Scholarship Fund.

The Cranford Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to four core principles: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The Cranford Council supports multiple charities and civic causes locally, statewide and nationally and is committed to being a viable part of the community. For information about joining the Council, contact Deputy Grand Knight Jerry Conneeney at (908) 416-3464 or visit the Council website at [cranfordknights.org](http://cranfordknights.org).



**KNIGHTS REMEMBER WILL...**The Cranford Knights of Columbus Council No. 6226 donated proceeds from their recent corned beef dinner fundraiser to the Cranford PAL's Will DeGregorio Scholarship Fund. Pictured at the check presentation at the St. Michael Church Mary Garden, from left to right, are: Council Chaplain Monsignor Tim Shugrue, Worthy Consultant Jim Byrnes, Grand Knight Jim Feehan, Jr., Deputy Grand Knight Jerry Conneeney, Will's mother, Kara Shields; Will's aunt and Cranford PAL Board member Kim Capece, Cranford PAL President Lt. Chris Polito and Executive Director Lt. Matt Nazzaro. The Knights Council thanks the Cranford community for its tremendous support of this fundraiser.

## Westfield Three Earn President's Honors at University of Hartford

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford congratulates those students who have been named to the President's Honors List for Fall 2020. The President's Honors List is made up of an extremely select group of students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher for the semester.

Westfield residents Uzezi Ijoma, Christine Rogers and Emma Shakal are among the honorees.

Spread across seven schools and colleges, the University of Hartford is located on a 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city. It enrolls approximately 5,000 undergraduate and 1,500 graduate students from 48 states and countries. The university offers degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education and health professions. For more information, visit [hartford.edu](http://hartford.edu).



Kamilla Kocsis



Beianka Tomlinson



Vasiliki "Vas" Vlastaras

## Three Area UCC Alumni Moving On To Elite Four-Year Schools

CRANFORD – Union County College (UCC) has announced that three of its Spring 2020 graduates are continuing their education at prestigious four-year colleges and universities.

Kamilla Kocsis of Rahway is attending Dartmouth College, Beianka Tomlinson of Irvington is attending Princeton University, and Vasiliki "Vas" Vlastaras of Union is attending Georgetown University.

Ms. Kocsis is majoring in international relations at Dartmouth. She was an American Honors student at UCC with a 4.0 GPA. In 2020, she was named a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholar. This prestigious award includes up to \$40,000 per year in financial support to attend a four-year college or university. Ms. Kocsis was selected as one of only 50 recipients out of almost 1,500 applicants.

Beianka Tomlinson was accepted as one of only 13 transfer students admitted to Princeton University for the Fall 2020 semester. She graduated from UCC with a 4.0 GPA and her Associate in Science degree in Chemistry. Ms. Tomlinson is majoring in chemistry at Princeton and hopes to pursue a career in medicine as a cardiovascular surgeon.

At Georgetown, Ms. Vlastaras is majoring in government with a minor in modern Greek. She gradu-

ated from UCC with her Associate in Arts degree in Public Administration and hopes to become a lobbyist or campaign staffer.

"Each of these three outstanding students made their mark at Union before moving on to their dream four-year schools. Their hard work and dedication has paid off," stated UCC President Margaret M. McMenamin. "As Kamilla, Beianka and Vas did, we welcome all students to start their higher education journey at Union: earn an affordable and excellent education and then go on to attend the four-year school of your choice. We look forward to seeing what they do next."

Registration for the Fall 2021 semester is open. To apply to UCC with its free application, search for classes, learn about financial

aid and more, visit [ucc.edu/fall](http://ucc.edu/fall) or call (908) 709-7000.



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**TEES 2 TOTES...**Michelle Audino conducts a "Tees 2 Totes" demonstration last month at Westfield's Brightwood Park during Girl Scout Week 2021. The Westfield High School sophomore is working toward her Girl Scout Gold Award with this project.

## Michelle Audino's Gold Project Aims to Help Environment

WESTFIELD — Michelle Audino, a sophomore at Westfield High School and a member of Girl Scout Troop 40491, is working toward her Gold Award — the highest award in Girl Scouting — with a project called Tees 2 Totes.

The project involves recycling T-shirts into tote bags. Michelle describes it as, "a fun, easy craft to do with your friends, family, youth groups, sports teams, students and clubs that can support the community and save the environment."

Tees 2 Totes is aimed at combating industrial and freshwater pollution generated by the fashion industry, while also fulfilling a community need, since single-use plastic bags will be banned from stores in New Jersey effective May 2022.

According to Michelle, recycling T-shirts into tote bags will address two environmental issues — by cutting down on fashion-related pollution as well as plastic pollution in landfills and oceans.

The completed, recycled T-shirt tote bags will be donated to various organizations, including The Hope Chest, a thrift shop located in downtown Westfield that benefits the Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care, and the Westfield Food Pantry, housed at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the project is invited to contact Michelle, who will be happy to con-

duct Zoom meetings with organizations to make the totes. She may be contacted through her email address, [mmaitunes@gmail.com](mailto:mmaitunes@gmail.com).

For personal use, interested persons may view the detailed, step-by-step instructions in Michelle's YouTube video, "Tees 2 Totes T-shirt Tote Bag Tutorial." Viewers are asked to complete the survey linked in the bio of the video.



**BUNNY RUN...**The Cranford Wrestling Team traditionally does a Santa Run on Christmas Eve, but with their season being in the Spring this time around, they switched to an Easter Bunny Run instead. Getting into the spirit, team members donned rabbit ears — with some in full costume — and were joined by their faithful mascot.

Photo courtesy of Kevin Murray

## CWC College-Planning Event Geared to Grade 8-10 Parents

WESTFIELD — Members of the community are invited to join the College Woman's Club (CWC) of Westfield as it hosts a special evening with Susana MacLean, of MacLean College Counseling, to learn what eighth, ninth and 10th graders can do to prepare for the college admissions process.

The evening discussion will be held on Wednesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. This is a virtual event via Zoom.

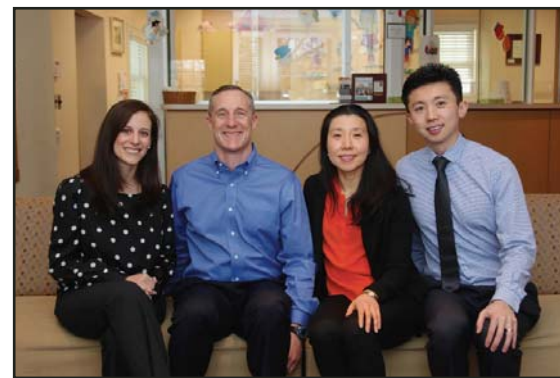
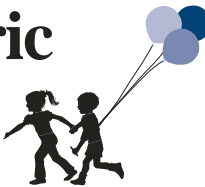
This program will cover multiple topics, including what colleges will be looking for, how students should select their courses, what a student should be doing outside of the classroom, whether standardized tests still matter, and what students do not need to worry about.

Ms. MacLean is an experienced college admissions counselor, based in Westfield, who works with families to navigate the college admissions process. This event is the

eighth in the CWC's special "College in the COVID Landscape" series. It is free to the public and all are welcome. To register on the CWC website, visit [bit.ly/CWCGettingAHeadStartRegister](http://bit.ly/CWCGettingAHeadStartRegister).

The CWC has distributed more than \$1 million in scholarships since 1995. To learn more about the CWC, go to its website, [cwclubwestfield.org](http://cwclubwestfield.org). Anyone with questions is asked to email the club at [cwc.westfield@gmail.com](mailto:cwc.westfield@gmail.com).

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# Gratitude for Pets: They Promote Well-Being, Especially Now

By PATRICIA STECKLER, Ph.D.  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Pet-owners and their dogs and cats create a perpetual love-fest of mutual delight and affection. Rover, Duke, Gruff, and Autumn light up our lives, especially during these pandemic-depriving days. Take a walk, and you'll encounter dog-owners pausing to pat their dogs, speaking words of endearment, and who will proudly fill you in on this favorite creature's name, sex, and breed. Dog-less walkers bond with their dog-walking neighbors in moments of mutual pleasure.

A local resident relates her pet-sharing gratitude tale:

"Our next-door neighbors have come to love our dog, Autumn. They asked this past Sunday morning if they could see her. (We call it 'an Autumn fix.')

Since the start of the pandemic, Autumn is allowed inside their home for playdates. She is the only family member currently entering indoor spaces unmasked!"

"I love petting and snuggles with Autumn with touch so scarce these days, and (especially as my kids become more independent)! I love the unconditional devotion of a loyal companion who never tires of you (unlike the human in-home inhabit-

ants). My cuddler-on-the-couch nestles when I watch TV and warms my heart!"

"Autumn brings love and entertainment to all. The neighbors purchase special treats for her from Whole Foods! She's smart and makes a beeline for their front door when I ask if she wants to visit them."

"Shortly after Autumn arrived next door on Sunday morning, my neighbor texted, saying, 'Thanks for the gift of Autumn. She's the best dog ever!!' To me, that speaks volumes about the benefits of interacting with pets during a pandemic. So happy I can share her with others."

\*\*\*

Not only do dogs like Autumn give immense pleasure to their owners and neighbors, but research shows that pets promote well-being and improve mental health. A British study found that pets reduce stress, depression, and anxiety. Just ten minutes of playing with or stroking a dog or cat can reduce cortisol, the stress hormone, in all people.

Pets motivate their owners to go outside for walks, where chats with passing neighbors can happen spontaneously. These mini-visits dimin-

ish the loneliness, so prevalent now, for both the pet-owners and their neighbors. Caring for a pet gives a sense of purpose and accomplishment.

Therapy dogs, specially trained to be gentle and kind, calm children and adults with attention deficit disorder, autism, anxiety, or depression. The British study found that for "people with autism, animals can reduce sensory overload and increase the desire and ability to connect socially with others."

News Flash! To top off the list of dog-owning benefits, dogs can save lives! A recent *Washington Post* story told how a Teaneck, New Jersey man, home alone, collapsed too far from his phone to call for help. His rescue dog, Sophie, a German Shepherd, dragged him fifteen feet to where he could reach his phone. Later, at Englewood Health Hospital, the man learned that he'd suffered a stroke. Sophie saved his life.

Share your pet stories with *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* by writing Gratitude in the subject line and emailing: press@goleader.com or pattisteckler@gmail.com

Gratefully yours,  
Patti

# Educator's Corner: Nurturing Minds with Nature

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

Earth Day and Arbor Day are around the corner! Being in nature has been proven to improve learning, boost mood and reduce stress levels. Now is the perfect time (allergies excluding) to get outside.

Nature has inspired poetry and stories for generations! Challenge your kids (and yourself) to create a poem or a story based on the nature you observe. "Our Tree Named Steve" by Alan Zweibel is a heartwarming story about a special tree that almost becomes part of the family. (Bonus: There's a bit of higher order thinking — inferencing — that needs to happen at the end of the book!)

When I was getting my graduate degree, a professor challenged us to navigate solely by trees. Since I get lost without a navigation system or landmarks, my immediate thought was "nope." However, that professor's idea made me slow down and really examine the differences in trees on a walking path near my house. It's important to plan some unstructured time to simply go for a nature walk and observe the world

around us.

Find a cluster of trees and compare the bark, taking special notice of subtle differences between trees in the same area. Bring a paper and a crayon with you to do some rubbings. Local libraries may have tree bark reference guides if you want to identify the species.

Find a tree where you can see the leaves start to bud. Check back daily. Fold a sheet of paper into three or four sections and create an observation journal. Kids can draw the changes from day to day. Leaves are often rolled up inside the bud, so use binoculars or a magnifying glass to really get the details! If you like to incorporate technology, there are apps that identify tree species by their leaves — though you may have to wait for the leaves to really pop!

If you want a more structured activity, practice math through gardening. Measure the height of seedlings in your garden and track their growth. You can also graph the needs of each plant. Picture a bar graph with two colored bars for each plant: one for water and one for sun. (The backs of seed packs often discuss how much

sun and water plants need, or you can look for those resources on the internet.) Kidsgardening.org is a fun resource for more planting activities, like Earth Day seed paper.

For future engineers, research the benefits and struggles of green energy. (Solar panels save energy for many years, but recycling and disposal of the panels can be difficult.) What type of machine would you build to help recycle these? Can we build a "future farm" that is efficient and environmentally friendly?

Have a kid who's interested in government or activism? Plan out laws or programs that can aid the process of reducing waste from green energy sources. Write letters to representatives expressing their viewpoints.

Nature is an important part of our lives, so it's important to take the time to enjoy it!

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## Letters to the Editor

### Westfield Board Of Health President Recaps April Meeting

The Westfield Board of Health met on April 5. Covid-19, its effects on Westfield and the programs to keep residents informed and to vaccinate them were the principal areas of discussion.

Currently, Covid-19 activity appears to be increasing in New Jersey, probably due to the variants. It would probably be worse if residents were not being vaccinated and continuing to adhere to the 4 Ws when appropriate. These well-established, effective health promotion infection control measures are:

Wear a mask.  
Watch your distance.  
Wash your hands.  
Work or school only when well.

The current vaccination programs in the state have expanded, which should continue to help. Starting April 19, all New Jersey residents at least 16 years old will be eligible to be vaccinated. The Westfield Regional Health Department has had several programs to educate town residents and to help vaccinate Westfield residents who are homebound or less able to access vaccinations. As a clinician who has been vaccinated, I urge you to register for the vaccination too if you are eligible <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>.

More information is available at the Westfield Coronavirus Information Center at <https://www.westfieldnj.gov/coronavirus> and the State Covid-19 Information Hub at <https://covid19.nj.gov/forms/datadashboard>. These may help you go to several community resources to help you get vaccinated or find a vaccination site if needed.

The board unanimously passed a resolution marking the week of April 5 to 11 as National Public Health Week to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the Westfield Regional Health Department, its professional and staff personnel and its director, Megan Avallone, RN, MS. The department's employees have worked tirelessly during the past year to provide Covid-19-related services, assistance and information for the residents of Westfield, and we are very grateful. For example, they investigated over 2,000 cases in Westfield residents, answered in-

numerable queries and assisted getting hundreds of residents vaccinated.

In addition to its work related to Covid-19 prevention, surveillance, education and control, the Westfield Regional Health Department has continued to provide all the public health promotion and disease prevention services required by the state and Westfield sanitary codes. These activities include the following:

animal health and control services, including animal bite investigations, rabies prevention and rat control,

chronic disease screenings, communicable disease control and surveillance,

disease and injury prevention and investigations, including of clusters, environmental inspections and licensing, including restaurants and pools,

health education, immunizations for children and adults, including influenza vaccinations,

injury prevention, including bicycle helmet promotion, lead surveillance, control and investigations,

maternal and child health promotion, including nutritional counseling and support,

noise abatement, vaccination audits and vital statistics recording and tracking.

Information about all of the health department's activities, including helpful health-related advice and recommendations and free education programs, is available at <https://www.westfieldnj.gov/health>. Recent topics in the department's monthly newsletter, "Your Health Matters," include mental health and substance abuse issues related to Covid-19, alcohol awareness and child abuse prevention. It is available on the department's website in the April Newsletter tab.

The complete minutes of the April board meeting will be posted after review and approval at our May 3 meeting, which starts at 5:30 p.m. and will be virtual. As always, the public is invited to attend.

Lawrence D. Budnick, MD, MPH  
President, Westfield Board of Health

## Our Choices Can Have A Butterfly Effect

I was thrilled (yes, really) to see two pieces in the last issue of *The Leader*: "Earth Matters," which will be a column focusing on environmental issues and the article "Planting for Pollinators: Natives and Invasives." I think it's wonderful that our local newspaper is now including coverage of these important subjects. Issues such as climate change, conservation and extinction are becoming more prevalent in the media and in political discourse, but they are often covered in an abstract way, as if none of these issues really affect us here in New Jersey. But they do, and our choices can have a huge impact.

Not only do we live in the most densely populated state, we have over 1,700 miles of shoreline, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association. Our rivers literally lead to the ocean, and our storm drains lead directly to those waterways — the words "No dumping, drains to waterways" are actually engraved on them. Throughout the pandemic, so many of us found joy and solace in nature.

As Earth Day approaches, let's not forget that. We can each make a difference in our own patches of earth. We can choose not to use poisons and carcinogens on our lawns or synthetic fertilizers that leach into waterways. We can avoid planting invasive species to protect our limited wild spaces, such as Watchung. And we can definitely plant more native flowers to help our state insect, the honeybee, and include swamp milkweed or butterfly weed as food for Monarch caterpillars (it's estimated that the Monarch population in the U.S. has declined more than 80 percent since the mid-1990s). It's easier than you think: Swamp milkweed and other native flowers like joe-pye weed and rose mallow grow readily and vigorously from seed. You just need

lots of sun and water until well-established. Seeing various pollinators and growing caterpillars are a wonderful way to introduce children to the wonders of nature and for us to rediscover it. Remember to look up onto the early fall skies and notice Monarchs fluttering by heading south on their legendary migration to Mexico. It is awe-inspiring, and who knows? The small changes we make might grow in force to create a true butterfly effect. Wouldn't that be lovely?

Salome Ward  
Westfield

## Crime Victim Blaming and Shaming Is Alive and Well in Westfield

Sadly, crime victim blaming and shaming is alive and well in Westfield.

Like me, I am sure that you have received dozens of Nixle alerts from the town advising of yet another stolen car, but quickly adding that it was "unlocked" or that the "key fob was left inside." I understand and agree that residents should take reasonable precautions to safeguard their property. But is it too much to ask our local elected officials to provide us with a safe community, free from an ever-present risk of theft? That, after all, is there job, not ours.

Shouldn't we expect to be able to leave our cars unlocked in our driveways or in front of our homes for a few hours without fear of them being stolen? If we leave our homes unlocked while we walk the dog around the block, is it our fault if someone enters and robs it? Must we (and out-of-town shoppers and other visitors to Westfield) be greeted by large electronic message signs at the border scolding us to "Lock Your Car" and

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. Limaceous — Like a snail or slug
2. Phare — A lighthouse
3. Spodogenous — Having the character of waste matter
4. Latigo — Spanish strap with which a saddle girth is adjusted

PLAGA

1. In zoology, a colored band or streak
2. Small number; insufficiency
3. The barbed iron head of a dart or arrow
4. An infection causing pernicious clotting of blood

PANDY

1. Range of vision or sight
2. To punish by striking the hand with a cane
3. To please, charm or delight
4. A nickname

GEORDIE

1. A miner or a miner's safety lamp
2. A battle ax or mace
3. Private road or lane
4. A scallop or large mollusk

DACOTT

1. A member of a gang of robbers in India or Burma
2. Nomadic; roving
3. A laborer; member of the working class
4. Given to debate or dispute

## Policy on Political Endorsements

We publish letters to the editor in the printed newspaper on issues of importance to our readers at the discretion of the editors.

Those who would like their political endorsements published in the printed newspaper can do so by using the paid service at [www.goleader.com/advertorial](http://www.goleader.com/advertorial).

Candidates for elected office are invited to submit op-ed columns for the printed newspaper each week at no charge. Columns should be between 250 and 500 words, and be issue based with no personal attacks on opponents. Columns should be emailed to [editor@goleader.com](mailto:editor@goleader.com) by Monday at 9 a.m. for print in Thursday's newspaper.

Letters to the Editor

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

## All The News

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## Linda Habgood Announces First Ward Re-Election Bid

I am excited to announce my decision to run for re-election to Westfield's Town Council.

My work on the Council over the last three-plus years has enabled me to play many impactful roles, and I look forward to continuing my work to make Westfield a better place—for everyone.

I ask for your support, and I share below just some of the work I have done and will continue to do as your Ward 1 Councilmember and Deputy Mayor.

I am the four-year Chair of the Finance Policy Committee and help craft the municipal budget alongside the Town Administrator and CFO. My unwavering pledge is to make your tax dollars work hard for you, not sitting idle in excess surplus amounts and earning low interest rates. Under my leadership, we have unlocked hundreds of thousands of dollars sitting idle in trust accounts, tapped close to \$3 million in grant monies, doubled the interest rate paid on our savings, kept the average tax increase to 1.1 percent over four years, and initiated an annual public meeting to review how we performed against the budgets we passed.

As a fierce advocate for cost savings and shared services, I constantly question the status quo. This financial decision-making philosophy has allowed us to save money through partnerships with Elizabethtown Gas, contracting with a specialized company to provide school crossing guard services, leasing police vehicles and advocating for shared services in the Court and elsewhere.

When the pandemic hit, I was one of five leaders tapped by the Mayor to execute on the We Love Local strategy to help support our local businesses. I was integrally involved in raising close to \$300K in eight weeks, and rapidly disbursing those funds in a fair and transparent way to more than 175 Westfield businesses.

I am Council Liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission. Over the past four years we have designated 6 properties (in the years 2010-2017 there were none), saving one home built in the 1700s from demolition by working with the owner to craft an outside-the-box solution. I helped draft changes to Westfield's historic preservation ordinance to make it easier for owners of historic homes to comply, and to enable Westfield's eligibility

for greater grant dollars in the future. In addition, homeowners of designated homes can now receive tax abatements on the capital improvements to their properties.

I am the Co-Founder of the Westfield Mental Health Council. I sit on the Council and actively lead the sub-committee focused on driving Westfield's commitment to being stigma-free. C.A.K.E., a phrase I coined, stands for Compassion, Acceptance, Kindness and Empathy, the behaviors encouraged as we shine a light on the importance of mental health awareness, and equality for all in our community.

I am a four-year and vocal voting member of the Planning Board and a member of the Site Plan Review Committee ensuring that wise and future-minded decisions are made about subdivisions and new construction.

I am the Founder of the Investment Advisory Council, a nine-person volunteer group, including three Westfield High School students, which assists the town in doing analysis and establishing smart long-term capital plans that impact budget decisions at every level.

I am a passionate member of the Stakeholder Committee for Redevelopment. For the past 32 years, my work in finance has been centered on financing smart and effective public/private partnerships. Every day I translate my professional expertise into my work in Westfield where we are using our stellar bond rating to proactively drive redevelopment and to diversify our sources of municipal revenue.

My commitment to making Westfield better is even stronger today than it was 4 years ago. When I ran for office in 2017, I knocked on every Ward 1 resident's door because I believe that every voice matters; Finding common ground between people, while respecting their differences is a passion of mine. I am excited to further my work with the Brindle Administration, and, moreover, to be accountable to you. Today, I re-commit my promise to use my passion and skills to achieve our collective goals of smart fiscal management, environmentally sensitive preservation, and sound and effective redevelopment.

**Linda S. Habgood**  
Ward 1 Councilmember

## Michael Dardia To Run For Re-Election for Town Council Ward 2

Over these four years, I have had the privilege of realizing the tremendous satisfaction that comes with serving my community. I am grateful for the opportunity to help transform our local government and contribute to the growth and improvement of our amazing town. Personally, I have learned a tremendous amount about collaboration, innovation and how to actualize creative ideas into concrete change. I've learned a tremendous amount by listening to my creative, innovative neighbors and then finding solutions to the issues that are important to them. I've been privileged to be in a position to engage and collaborate with various agencies and organizations to solve complex and consequential problems. I enjoy knowing that solving one neighbor's problem usually helps the entire community. Every small issue we resolve improves the town as a whole.

In spite of the sorrow and challenges we have endured during Covid-19, I am proud of how much we were still able to accomplish. I remain inspired by the resilience and spirit our community demonstrated as we managed through this unprecedented time.

I remain committed to building on our past achievements as we look to the next four years. With the public's input, we have spent the last few years establishing a long-term strategic plan for Westfield, focusing on the transformation of our downtown. It is now time to put those plans into action by realizing this vision that will enable and encourage more visitors to our downtown stores and restaurants. I see this as the inception of a robust, prosperous Westfield that will be a model for other towns rebuilding from this pandemic, and I'm excited to offer my contribution to these efforts.

Personally, I am committed to continuing my efforts to ensure the safety of our residents. That includes continuing my work with our police department to support their community policing efforts, prioritizing enforcement of speeding policies and traffic

violations and advocating for adequate fire department resources, including the planning and funding for a much-needed new firehouse that meets modern safety standards.

I also plan to move ahead with improvements in our town infrastructure, notably updating our street lights and lighting in public areas and enhancing pedestrian safety with new traffic lights.

The pandemic has certainly challenged us in many ways, but many of our challenges can also be reframed as opportunities. The ingenuity of our leadership and town staff has better positioned us for a comeback than many other towns, both fiscally and economically. Creative initiatives like the "We Love Local" front porch concert raised money for our downtown businesses and boosted a sense of community during an extraordinarily anxious time. When I watched the coverage on various news channels, I couldn't help but think that Westfield would be the place where I would want to live if I was a young parent in the city considering a move.

While we have a lot of work ahead of us, we are well-poised for a significant post-pandemic economic recovery. I'm excited at the prospect of confronting these challenges; today's challenges are tomorrow's achievements.

**Mike Dardia**  
Ward 2 Councilman

## Contract Applies for Re-Election For Ward 3 Councilman

I am thrilled to announce my re-election bid for Ward 3 Town Council. It's been my honor to represent Ward 3 for the past three plus years, and I hope to have the opportunity to continue to do so for the next four.

I'm running to ensure Westfield continues to move forward. When I ran for council in 2017, I promised to bring "Fresh Ideas and Proactive Leadership" to the council, and this is exactly what I've done — leading to tremendous progress in many areas that I committed to focusing on:

**Pave More Roads** — Under my leadership as chair of the Public Works Committee, the town has tripled the number of roads paved from 201821 versus the prior four years of 201417. This adds up to paving nearly half of Westfield's roads (47 miles to be exact).

**Create robust two-way communications** with Ward 3 residents — I have worked tirelessly to send out regular email updates to constituents to keep you informed. In fact, since joining the council, I've sent out over 500 emails and countless social media posts, including updates after every council meeting and near daily updates since Covid-19 started.

**Strong fiscal management and low taxes** — As both vice chair and a member of the Finance Committee, I directly contributed to the development of town budgets that have cut municipal tax increases by 44 percent on average during the past four years versus the prior four years. And I've also ensured the town maintained its AAA bond rating and a robust surplus while significantly increasing investments to ensure the town operates

more effectively and efficiently, including holding public events, strengthening communication, purchasing needed equipment, increasing use of mobile and digital technology and improving parking in our downtown.

I look forward to serving another four years to maintaining this momentum (along with Mayor Brindle and my fellow council members from Westfield Together) so we can continue to move Westfield forward including:

investing further in our town's infrastructure,

implementing the Master Plan Re-examination findings to ensure the long-term economic vitality of our downtown,

implementing the Parks Master Plan recommendations to enhance sports and recreational offerings in town,

increasing our community's focus on sustainability,

improving pedestrian safety and continue maintaining the town's strong financial position.

Please visit [westfieldtogether.com/david\\_contract](http://westfieldtogether.com/david_contract) to learn more about my accomplishments over the past four years and my goals for the next four. And feel free to contact me at any time to discuss what's on your mind by emailing me at [david@dcontractforwestfield.com](mailto:david@dcontractforwestfield.com), calling/texting at (917) 589-1197 or sending me a DM on Facebook to @councilmancontract.

Thank you, and I look forward to earning your vote on November 2.

**David Contract**  
Ward 3 Councilman

## Mackey Looks Forward, Hoping For Re-election To Ward 4

I was inspired to run four years ago to be a strong voice for Ward 4, and I am excited to announce my candidacy for re-election. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your councilwoman, and I look forward to continue working on your behalf.

During my first campaign, I heard a consistent concern about the condition of our roads. My research indicated that Westfield did not have a process to properly assess road conditions or a plan for efficient repaving. I delivered on my promise to prioritize our paving. Learning that we had no safeguards in place to protect a newly paved road from utility or contractor work, as chairwoman of the Town Property and Code Review Committee, I introduced and passed a protective road ordinance mandating a full, proper repaving of any moratorium road disrupted within seven years. This resulted in a partnership with utilities whereby they now strategically plan their maintenance and absorb repavings costs. These initiatives will have yielded 47 miles of roads repaved by the end of this year, compared to about 16 miles in the prior four years.

As the liaison to the Downtown Westfield Corporation, I spent my first term interacting with business owners and residents community building, creating and developing an environment that is welcoming and engaging for young families as well as established residents featuring activities such as Yoga on Quimby, Dog Days of Summer, Holidays in July and, most recently, the seawsaw.

When Mayor Brindle proposed

celebrating local icon Charles Addams, I spearheaded a plan that turned into what we now know as AddamsFest. Cultivating the relationship to achieve permission from the Tee and Charles Addams Foundation, the festival comprises more than 20 annual events over several weeks. Engaging more than 300 talented and passionate volunteers, students and local artists, Addamsfest has attracted visitors from more than 80 towns and benefits the local economy.

As the liaison to the newly formed Westfield Public Arts Commission, I have led the efforts that brought the "Art Takes Flight" butterfly sculptures, the murals in the underpass and a new outdoor photography exhibit. These are some of the exciting works executed and paid for by the WPAC to elevate the arts as a core value of the town, bringing joy and visitors to our downtown district.

I will continue to proactively initiate ordinance changes that allow our business district to be more competitive and easier to navigate as I have with the craft brewery, rooftop dining, doggie daycare and maker space ordinances. In my experience, it is critical to anticipate trends and advocate for changes to help attract new sustainable businesses.

I look forward to earning your vote on November 2 so I can continue to be your voice to advocate for the needs of our community and to work to bring tangible improvements to Westfield.

**Dawn Mackey**  
Ward 4 Councilwoman

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# The Student View

A collaboration with the  
Westfield High School Journalism Program

## Racism Runs Rampant in European Soccer

By WILL MCGLYNN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Over the past few weeks, there have been multiple incidents of racial injustice in big-time European football clubs, and, unfortunately, this is not a new trend. Manchester United, one of the world's most prolific professional football clubs, led all English clubs in arrests of fans having to do with racism with 27 incidents from 2014 to 2018, according to [irishtimes.com](http://irishtimes.com). Unfortunately, the racism hasn't stopped in the past few years.

According to [abcnews.com](http://abcnews.com), an incident occurred during a heated match between premier-league title contenders Tottenham and Chelsea. Chelsea defender Antonio Rudiger, who is Black, began to complain to the referee that Tottenham fans had been calling him a monkey. Obviously, Mr. Rudiger was disturbed and upset, and the referee was forced to stop play for the time being.

This incident, like many others, never amounted to any real change. The fans were never identified nor brought to any justice, and Mr. Rudiger was forced to continue playing in a hostile environment.

More recently, racism against footballers has taken to social media. A Black Tottenham defender, Davinson Sanchez, received a lot of racial harassment on social media following a draw against Newcastle. Tottenham fans took to social media posting monkey emojis and writing the words

"Nothing changes." While Tottenham has been involved in many incidents, racism has grown beyond one man or one club; it has become a systemic problem, especially amongst fans.

Mr. Sanchez is one of many to experience racist comments this season. Fellow premier league players such as Manchester United attacker Marcus Rashford, Chelsea's defender Reece James and many more have also been attacked on the premise of their race on social media.

European soccer games have always been known to have rather rowdy fan sections constantly jumping, shouting and cheering for their teams for the full 90 minutes. These rowdy fan sections, though, can turn to unruly behavior that prompts fans to make some horrible comments about players. These comments go beyond the football pitch and really degrade the players as people.

Unfortunately, no effective action has been taken to stop racism toward players who belong to a minority group. The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) has developed a campaign to stop racism by encouraging clubs to make a conscious effort to educate their fans. Referees are also encouraged by UEFA to combat racism to the best of their abilities by ceasing play in order to settle the crowds and regain order.

According to [uefa.com](http://uefa.com), the official is to stop the game upon the hearing of racist behavior. If the behavior persists after the first restart, the official is to take a long pause and send the players back to the dressing rooms. After five or so minutes, the players will return to the field and begin to play once again. If all else fails, the referee can abandon the match and let UEFA authorities handle the situation.

But what does this accomplish? Now that racism has expanded beyond the field into social media, what does ending the match do besides delay the problem? Comments follow people beyond the pitch and into their homes. So what does ending the match truly accomplish? It may stop the problem for the moment, but it doesn't truly protect these players. This is a systemic issue that needs to be changed by educating the fans. Fans being too excited and too passionate isn't an excuse to tear down another person, and UEFA needs to make a more conscious effort to condemn these fans for their actions because, in many cases, there have been no consequences for their actions.

Truthfully, I'm not sure what the solution is for these players. In the 21st century, you'd think that players could be treated with respect by their passionate fans. Maybe not even respected as players, but, at the very least, respected as men.

## Garwood Republicans Announce Nominees

As the Chairman of the Garwood Republican Committee, it is my great pleasure to announce that Kimberly Salmon and Heather Loffredo will be our official Republican council candidates.

Both Kimberly and Heather are mothers of young children and are active in many community programs. Both are extremely dedicated to and extremely passionate about our wonderful town.

Kimberly and Heather are looking forward to getting out and meeting as many residents as possible and sharing their conservative platforms.

**Steve Blauffer**  
Chairman  
Garwood Republican Committee

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# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section  
Pages 7-10

**SENIORS - HOBSON, PIETREWICZ, STOGNER, FERNANDEZ**

## Blue Devils Return Six Starters From Very Strong 2019 Squad

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

Despite missing out on an entire season in 2020, the Westfield High School softball team still returns six starters, along with a few additional experienced players, from the 2019 season when the Blue Devils finished with a very fine 21-3 record, which included winning the Union County Conference Watchung Division title with a 9-0 record.



David B. Corbin (2019 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**SLIDING INTO THIRD...Blue Devil Molly Stogner, No. 15, slides into third base during a game against the Summit Hilltoppers in 2019. Stogner is expected to play either second base or shortstop this season.**

Though they were the top seed for the Union County Tournament and the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament the Blue Devils fell short of acquiring both goals; however, with the return of super seniors Michaela Hobson, Emma Pietrewicz, Molly Stogner and Allie Fernandez, and super juniors Kalea Calugay and Alivia Macaluso, their chances to pick up where they left off looks very good.

Hobson was the mound ace then and is now. In 115.1 innings, she allowed 103 hits and 39 walks with 10 hit batters, while recording 122 strikeouts to finish with a 21-2 record.

Hobson tosses with lightning and even at the plate, she can create plenty of sparks with her thunder stick. Hobson went 15-for-52 (.288 batting average BA) with one home run and a double, 10 RBI, 11 runs scored and seven walks.

Pietrewicz will play right field and at the plate in 2019, she had a super .447 BA going 34-for-76 with three home runs, five triples and six doubles to go with her 28 runs scored, 23 RBI

pitched 18.1 innings, yielding 24 hits and four walks, while hitting four batters and striking out 15 to finish with an 0-1 record. Offensively, Calugay finished with a .397 BA going 31-for-78 with four home runs, four triples, six doubles and a team-leading 19 walks. She also led the team in stolen bases with eight, scored 31 runs and added 21 RBI.

Defensively Macaluso will play third base and offensively she provides a lot of clout with a .375 BA (33-for-88) with eight doubles, three home runs, three triples and six free passes. She also had 16 RBI and scored 30 runs.

"We have a nice mix of returning varsity experience combined with some talented newcomers. So far, the energy is really positive and we're looking to be very competitive this season," Blue Devil Head Coach Caitlin Cheddar said.

Defensively the first base position is up for grabs but Casey Laguna, Cat Heflin, Sam Hoffman and Ali Vergara are likely candidates. Hoffman could also get time behind the plate and Heflin could be at third base, while Verga and Laguna could roam the outfield. Aden Brooks could assume the catcher's position. Grace Loder will cover leftfield. Sydnee Goulet could see time as a pitcher or in the outfield. Gabby Scipioni could pitch and play second base.

At this point in the season, the batting order could be Stogner, Macaluso, Calugay, Pietrewicz, Hobson, Loder, Fernandez, Brooks and Gordon.

The Blue Devils are expected to begin their regular season at Linden on Monday, April 19. Their first home game will be against Union Catholic on Wednesday, April 21.

and three walks. Molly Stogner, who played second base, had a .386 BA (27-for-70) with six doubles and two triples to go with 19 RBI, 19 runs scored and five walks. Stogner will play either shortstop or second base. As a flex player, Allie Fernandez covered first base but did get some plate appearances going 3-for-11 with three runs scored and an RBI. Presently she is vying for the centerfield position with Emily Gordon.

Calugay, who may play either shortstop or second base this season, spent some time on the mound in 2019, while not covering centerfield, and

room the outfield. Aden Brooks could assume the catcher's position. Grace Loder will cover leftfield. Sydnee Goulet could see time as a pitcher or in the outfield. Gabby Scipioni could pitch and play second base.

At this point in the season, the batting order could be Stogner, Macaluso, Calugay, Pietrewicz, Hobson, Loder, Fernandez, Brooks and Gordon.

The Blue Devils are expected to begin their regular season at Linden on Monday, April 19. Their first home game will be against Union Catholic on Wednesday, April 21.

**WF'S MANGIAMELE 15 KILLS, SPF'S BERISHA 19 KILLS**

## Blue Devils Overcome Raiders For UCT Girls Volleyball Crown

Union County Tournament girls volleyball Championship games this century almost always consisted of the Westfield Blue Devils battling with the Union Catholic Vikings for the crown. But this time another Scotch Plains team known as the Raiders put the top-seeded Blue Devils to the test, winning the first game, 25-22, but ended up on the short end as Westfield won the next two games, 25-17, 25-13, to claim the title at Roselle Catholic High School on April 9.

Coming in as the third seed, the Raiders nipped Union in three games, 26-24, 18-25, 25-15, in the quarterfinals then stunned the sec-

ond-seeded Kent Place Dragons, 25-23, 25-21, to reach the finals. After doing away with New Providence in the quarterfinals, the Blue Devils jarred the fourth-seeded Vikings, in three games, 22-25, 25-12, 25-18.

In the final showdown, Adelina Berisha demonstrated her "killer" instinct to lead the Raiders in Game 1 but the combined efforts of Gianna Mangiamele, Emma Hanley, Rebekkah Dayon, Kerry Donovan and company set the Blue Devils up to dominate Games 2 and 3.

Against Union, Berisha notched 13 kills, Kerry Donovan (4 kills, 4 digs, 2 assists) recorded 12 service points with three aces. Chloe Kreusser (4 kills, 3 blocks, 3 digs, assist) recorded seven service points. Dayon recorded 10 digs and two service points. Anna Tichenor had 16 assists, a dig and five service points. Victoria Toal had eight assists and three digs. Olivia Bryan had four digs and Chelsea Duan had two blocks and two digs.

Against Union, Berisha notched

20 kills, while adding 13 digs and nine service points with three aces. Chung amassed 30 assists and 12 digs while adding 11 service points with five aces. Kinard had six kills and five blocks. Acampora had four kills, two blocks and two digs. Bartley scooped 10 digs and added five assists and five service points. Cirillo had three digs and five service points with two aces.

In the semifinal, Berisha slew the Dragons with 16 kills and added three digs and two service points with an ace. Bartley had eight digs and five service points with four aces. Warren had four service points with three aces. Yessman notched eight kills, Kinard notched five kills and Acampora notched six kills. Chloe Schunke had three digs and four service points with two aces.

Iman Handy recorded five kills, two blocks, two digs and five service points for the 8-3 Dragons. Margeaux Marial recorded eight assists, a kill, three digs and seven service points. Lauren Osuala had two kills, two blocks, three digs and six service points.

Mangiamele and Handley each notched 12 kills against Union Catholic on April 8. Mangiamele also had 14 digs and five service points with two aces and Handley had nine digs, an assist and seven service points with two aces. Tichenor recorded 10 assists, six digs and two service points. Kreusser recorded six kills, a block, three digs and eight service points with two aces. Dayon had 10 digs, three assists and eight service points with two aces. Toal recorded six assists and three digs. Donovan had five kills, two digs and five service points with an ace. Taylor Addis had two blocks, a kill and three digs. Duan had five digs, a kill and an assist.

Brianna Lamberty recorded four kills, six digs and 12 service points with two aces for the Vikings. Emma Pratti had eight assists, four digs and 11 service points. Adrienne Caceda had 12 digs and 10 service points with three aces.

block, assist, 3 service points, 2 aces) notched 13 kills. Kerry Donovan (4 kills, 4 digs, 2 assists) recorded 12 service points with three aces. Chloe Kreusser (4 kills, 3 blocks, 3 digs, assist) recorded seven service points. Dayon recorded 10 digs and two service points. Anna Tichenor had 16 assists, a dig and five service points. Victoria Toal had eight assists and three digs. Olivia Bryan had four digs and Chelsea Duan had two blocks and two digs.

Against Union, Berisha notched



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**SERVICE THREAT AND KILL EXPERT...Blue Devil co-captain Gianna Mangiamele has an effective serve and is very dangerous at the net.**

ond-seeded Kent Place Dragons, 25-23, 25-21, to reach the finals. After doing away with New Providence in the quarterfinals, the Blue Devils jarred the fourth-seeded Vikings, in three games, 22-25, 25-12, 25-18.

In the final showdown, Adelina Berisha demonstrated her "killer" instinct to lead the Raiders in Game 1 but the combined efforts of Gianna Mangiamele, Emma Hanley, Rebekkah Dayon, Kerry Donovan and company set the Blue Devils up to dominate Games 2 and 3.



more photos at  
goleader.com  
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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**SETTING THE PIN...Cougar Brendan Reilly, top, prepares to crank Panther Alex Dos Santos to his back using a half nelson/wrist combination in his 126-lb bout. Reilly recorded the pin in 1:59 and Cranford beat Bridgewater-Raritan 39-36.**

**McDONALD RECORDS PIN IN FINAL BOUT FOR WINNER**

## Cougars Nudge BrH2O Panther Wrestlers, 39-36, in Final Bout

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

Last minute changes turned the Cougars' cancelled match with Westfield into a showdown with the Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers in Cranford on April 8. By agreement, each team's coaches decided to rest a few of their top wrestlers for the upcoming Super Region 3-4 Tournament that will be held in Union on April 17-18.

"Coach [Mike] Denver and I have a good relationship, so when his match got cancelled, he reached out to me and we both agreed that where we are out in the season it's smarter to leave the guys who could be in the region kind of isolated. Then we talked about just getting our guys matches, so I moved my guy up from 182 to give their 195 guy a match," Cougar Head Coach Pat Gorman explained.

The result of the adjusted match between the Cougars and the Panthers came down to the final bout at 220-lbs. With the Cougars trailing 36-33, Dylan McDonald converted a reversal into a half nelson/body press to pin Josh Guasco in 3:47 to earn Cranford a 39-36 victory. Prior to the fall, McDonald was leading Guasco, 4-2, after recording a reversal and a two-point nearfall.

The match began at the 285-lb class where Panther Owen Simanjuntak received a forfeit. Cougars Joey Tona received a forfeit at 106-lbs then Mike Tona recorded a defensive spin takedown, received a penalty point, followed with a reversal and added cross-face reversal to claim a 7-2 decision over Mike Marsigliano at 113-lbs.

The Panthers grabbed a 12-9 team lead when Casey Spina cranked Mike

Ramirez in 1:28 with a corkscrew/half nelson at 120-lbs. But the Cougars quickly answered when Brendan Reilly turned Alex Dos Santos to his back in 1:59 with a wrist/half nelson at 126-lbs. The Cougars' lead jumped to 21-12 when Ryan Kilbashian used an arm bar/half nelson to silence Gabe Herrera in 41 seconds at 132-lbs.

Misfortune struck Cougar Quentin Connolly at 138-lbs after leading 9-8 early in the third period when Justin Ziss caught him in a headlock to record a pin in 4:33. Cougar Conor Hoeffling got the six team points back when he settled Kade Burns in 1:00 with a wrist/half nelson maneuver at 145-lbs. At 152-lbs, Lucas Esposito recorded a pair of short barrel roll takedowns and a reversal to defeat Nick Markovitch, 6-2. Harrison Gilmartin upped the Cougars' lead to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**CHRIS SMITH RETURNING STARTER, LORENZETTI AT SS**

## SPF Baseball Raiders Return One Starter from 2019 UCT Title Team

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

Two years ago the senior-heavy Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School baseball team had a very slow start with a 2-6 record but turned it into an amazing 18-9 season, which included the Raiders' fifth Union County Tournament championship. Only one starter plus one with limited experience return from that 2019 squad, so a lot of yet to be tested faces will step to the plate and fill the defensive position this season.

The one returning starter is senior catcher Chris Smith, who recorded a .318 batting average (14-for-44) with three doubles, six RBI, six runs scored and six free passes due to walks of being hit by a pitch. The limited-time returner is senior Dallas Lorenzetti, who had six hits (1 double) in 27 at-bats, scored four runs and had three RBI.

As of April 10, "We still haven't finalized varsity and JV roster," commented Raider Head Coach Joe Higgins.

Lorenzetti is expected to play at the shortstop position, seniors Stefon Johnson and Sean Kennedy will play second base and junior Ryan Beauregard will cover third base. A trio of candidates could play first base with seniors Lucas Mackey and Kyle Wester, and junior Zach Stagaard, who could also be the designated hitter. Chris Smith will be

behind the plate but Beauregard is also a fine catcher and senior Max Niessen is a capable backup.

Senior football standout Shawn Martin will roam centerfield, while senior Ryan Jones will cover leftfield and senior Joey DiQuollo will cover right field. Other outfielders in the mix are Kennedy and junior Brendan Karyczak, who may alternate between varsity and JV to acquire adequate

ticular order) are seniors Alex Smith, Matt Drubulis, Alex Fazzino and DiQuollo. Others in the mix are junior Max Sponheimer, sophomore Parker Raham, senior Jon Shults and Mackey.

The Raiders' regular-season schedule consists mainly of Union County opponents but they have managed to set dates with out-of-county opponents Ramapo, Bridgewater-Raritan,



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**RAPPING AN RBISINGLE TO LEFT...Raider Zach Stagaard raps an RBI single to leftfield and alertly speeds to second base during a scrimmage game against East Side on April 10.**

playing time. A fine utility player will be Jason Trivisonno who can play anywhere on the field including catcher. He too could fluctuate between varsity and JV.

The top-four pitchers (in no par-

Somerville, Livingston, Hudson Catholic and Roxbury. The Raiders open at Jonathan Dayton on Monday, April 19, and their first home game will be against David Brearley on Tuesday, April 20.

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David B. Corbin (April 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**SCRAMBLING FOR THE LOOSE BALL...**Blue Devils Liz Healy, No. 14, and Carley Farella, No. 17, attempt to scoop the ball away from a Laker at Kehler Stadium on April 3, 2019. Mountain Lakes rallied in the second half to win 9-6.



David B. Corbin (April 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**FINISHING THE PICKOFF...**Blue Devil shortstop Jack Bowman puts the tag on Pioneer Joe Brong, who got caught heading to second on a pickoff attempt. Somerville scored four runs in the ninth to top Westfield, 8-4 on April 6, 2019.



David B. Corbin (April 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**UP FOR GRABS...**As the ball pops loose, Raiders Kate Jackman, No. 4, and Hailey Kinard, No. 16, look to grab it before Cranford's Sylvie Fernandez, No. 26, can get to it. The Raiders nipped the Cougars, 10-9, in Cranford on April 3, 2019.

# \*\* A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at High School Sports Activities \*\*

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

**April 3, 2019:** Jayna Mallon whacked a home run, scored twice and added three RBI, and Ava Manfra homered and scored twice to lead the 2-0 Cranford High School softball team to a 13-1, five-inning victory over the hosting Governor Livingston Highlanders on April 3. Elizabeth McCaffery also doubled, singled, scored three times and had two RBI.

**April 3, 2019:** Mountain Lakes awakened to defeat the Westfield High School girls lacrosse team, 9-6, on April 3 at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield. The Blue Devils squandered a 5-3 halftime advantage and were outscored 6-1 in the second half by the Lakers. Kate Carolanza scored five goals for the victors. Paige Radice led Westfield with three goals.

Goalkeeper Mia Fleming stopped 11 shots for Westfield. Liz Healy scored one goal and one assist. Nicole Scheuermann and Mikaela Buosico each scored a goal as well. Maggie Aslanian dished out three assists. Olivia Shields and Carley Farella each notched an assist.

**April 6, 2019:** The Westfield boys track and field team placed fourth with a team total of 67.5, while the Blue Devil girls placed sixth with a total of 53.5 at the Rebel Relays in Howell on April 6. The Blue Devil boys took top honors in the 4x800 and the 4x1,600, while the girls won the 4x400 and 4x1,600 events. James McCutcheon, Will McGlynn, Jack Maranz and Will Loggia crossed first in the 4x800 with a time of 8:15.19. Zach Spergel, Ronnie Melao, McGlynn and Loggia finished first in the 4x1,600 with a time of 18:45.01.

Katie Hamilton, Caroline Collins, Grace Morgan and Grace Endy placed first in the 4x1,600 with a time of 21:54.66. Sophia Papalardo, Marie Koglin, Jaime DeDea and Julia Csorba captured first in the 4x400 with a time of 4:06.48. Sam Stravach (meet's best 110-5), Katie McHugh and Julia Rickert took third in the team discuss.

**April 6, 2019:** The Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls track & field team placed second with a total of 36 behind Randolph with 40 and the Raider boys placed fourth with a total of 44 at the Summit Relays held at Tatlock Field in Summit on April 6. Raiders Anina Dashiell, Che Dashiell, Nicole Agwu and Kayla Paprocki finished second in the shuttle hurdles at 1:08.06. Julia Jackson, Corinne Lyght, Agwu and Cheyenne Way-Hawkins finished second in the Sprint Medley Relay at 1:53.74.

The Raider boys won two events beginning with Myles Singletary, Kyle Estivene, Noah Samms and Jacob Leigh crossing first in the 4x100 at 43.98. Singletary, Justin Williams, Melvin Williams and Estivene took first in the 4x110-hurdles at 1:09.1. Leigh also had the best clearance in the high jump with a height of 6-4.

**April 13, 2018:** Shifts in momentum did occur but the final shift went in favor of the New Providence Pioneers in a 14-10 victory over the Cranford High School girls lacrosse team at Memorial Field in Cranford. The game featured runs of five goals, three goals and a finale of three goals by the Pioneers, while the Cougars had a three-goal run and three sets of two-goal runs. Seniors Maggie Roman and Abby Ganley and sophomores Grace Power and Alyssa Gesslein accounted for all of the 2-3 Cougars' goals. Ellie Rokicki contributed an assist.

**April 14, 2018:** Scotch Plains-Fanwood pitcher Jake Friedman threw six innings of shutout ball to lead the Raiders to an 8-0 victory over cross-town rival Union Catholic in a baseball game played on April 14 at SPF High School. Anthony DiNizo had a pair of hits and scored a run to lead the Raider offense. The Raiders improved their season mark to 5-3 and more importantly, showed that they have solid pitching depth behind Dan Wilkinson, who recently struck out 20 batters in a win over Union.

**April 14, 2018:** Hitting came alive for the Cranford High School baseball team but what was even more lively was the pitching performance of junior Jake Van Dam in the Cougars' 13-1, four and one-half inning victory over the Memorial Tigers of West New York at Memorial Field in Cranford on April 14. The victory marked Cougar

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

PUBLIC NOTICE				PUBLIC NOTICE				PUBLIC NOTICE				PUBLIC NOTICE			
BOARD OF EDUCATION MOUNTAINSIDE, NEW JERSEY															
Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of the Mountainside school district, in the County of Union, of the State of New Jersey, that a Public Hearing will be held in the Deerfield School Media Center of the Mountainside Board of Education, 302 Central Avenue, Mountainside, New Jersey, on April 27th beginning at 6:30pm with the executive session, followed by the public portion at approximately 7:30pm, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the following budget for the 2021-2022 school year.															
In-person participation will be limited due to gathering guidelines. The Board of Education estimates approximately 10 members of the public will be able to participate in-person. In-person participants will be admitted on a first-come basis until capacity is met. To encourage public participation, the meeting can also be attended via the Zoom platform or by calling in. The link and call in instructions can be found below and will be provided on our website. In-person participants will be asked to answer a COVID-19 questionnaire, wear a face-covering, and maintain social distancing at all times throughout the meeting.															
Join via Zoom Platform https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83348442019?pwd=SUTwcmdeZG9xU1hWdFJkOekJXRGlqQT09 Webinar ID: 833 4844 2019 Passcode: rzG4E9															
Call in via Phone Dial in phone number (carrier rates may apply): 1-646-876-9923															
Follow the audio prompts to enter the Meeting ID and Password Meeting ID: 833 4844 2019 Passcode: (telephone only) 880233															
The complete budget will be on file and open to examination at the district website (https://www.mountainsideschools.org/) under the Budget Information tab which is located under the Quick Links section of the district homepage. The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.															
Raymond Slamb, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary															
SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET STATEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022															
UNION - MOUNTAINSIDE BORO															
ADVERTISED ENROLLMENTS															
ENROLLMENT CATEGORIES				October 15, 2019 Actual		October 15, 2020 Actual		October 15, 2021 Estimated							
Pupils On Roll Regular Full-Time				665		647		648							
Pupils On Roll - Special Full-Time				81		74		74							
Subtotal - Pupils On Roll				746		721		722							
Private School Placements				8		9		10							
Pupils Sent to Other Districts - Reg Prog				242		236		236							
Pupils Sent to Other Distis - Spec Ed Prog				42		44		44							
Pupils Received				17		12		12							
UNION - MOUNTAINSIDE BORO															
ADVERTISED REVENUES															
Budget Category				Account		2019-20 Actual		2020-21 Revised		2021-22 Proposed					
Operating Budget:															
Revenues from Local Sources:															
Local Tax Levy				10-1210		16,353,419		16,778,899		17,261,649					
Total Tuition				10-1300		119,180		172,500		49,000					
Transportation Fees from Individuals				10-1410		34,650		54,000		30,875					
Unrestricted Miscellaneous Revenues				10-1XXX		85,922		51,000		53,000					
Interest Earned on Maintenance Reserve				10-1XXX		0		1,000		1,000					
Interest Earned on Capital Reserve Funds				10-1XXX		0		1,000		1,000					
Other Restricted Miscellaneous Revenues / Paycheck Protection Program (Appssds Only)				10-1XXX		18,119		0		0					
Total Revenues from Local Sources						16,611,290		17,058,399		17,396,524					
Revenues from State Sources:															
Categorical Transportation Aid				10-3121		307,722		307,722		307,722					
Extraordinary Aid				10-3131		149,736		120,000		127,276					
Categorical Special Education Aid				10-3132		513,853		553,696		745,884					
Categorical Security Aid				10-3177		19,731		19,731		19,731					
Total Revenues from State Sources						991,042		1,001,149		1,200,613					
Budgeted Fund Balance-Operating Budget															
Withdrawal from Capital Reserve for Local Share				10-307		370,000		0		0					
Withdrawal from Capital Reserve for Excess Cost and Other Capital Projects				10-309		0		50,000		60,000					
Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve				10-310		75,000		0		0					
Withdrawal from Tuition Reserve for Tuition Adjustments				10-311		140,000		105,000		155,000					
Adjustment for Prior Year Encumbrances						0		50,000		0					
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures						-148,485		0		0					
Total Operating Budget						18,038,847		18,792,885		19,187,137					
Grants and Entitlements:															
Other Revenue from Local Sources				20-1XXX		77,260		0		0					
Total Revenues from Local Sources				20-1XXX		77,260		0		0					
Revenues from Federal Sources:															
Title I				20-4411-4416		74,955		63,712		64,059					
Title II				20-4451-4455		16,647		14,150		12,931					
Title IV				20-4471-4474		10,000		8,500		8,500					
I.D.E.A. Part B (Handicapped)				20-4420-4429		149,970		127,474		137,523					
Total Revenues from Federal Sources						251,572		213,836		223,013					
Total Grants and Entitlements						328,832		213,836		223,013					
Repayment of Debt:															
Revenues from Local Sources:															
Local Tax Levy				40-1210		1,233,439		1,215,916		1,192,928					
Total Revenues from Local Sources						1,233,439		1,215,916		1,192,928					
Revenues from State Sources:															
Debt Service Aid Type II				40-3160		453,376		451,812		450,043					
Total Local Repayment of Debt						1,686,815		1,667,728		1,642,971					
Total Repayment of Debt						1,686,815		1,667,728		1,642,971					
Total Revenues/Sources						20,054,494		20,674,449		21,053,121					
Total Revenues/Sources Net of Transfers						20,054,494		20,674,449		21,053,121					
UNION - MOUNTAINSIDE BORO															
ADVERTISED APPROPRIATIONS															
Budget Category				Account		2019-20 Actual		2020-21 Revised		2021-22 Proposed					
General Current Expense:															
Instruction:															
Regular Programs-Instruction				11-1XX-100-XXX		3,708,801		3,897,796		4,016,937					
Special Education-Instruction				11-2XX-100-XXX		1,083,024		1,094,701		1,211,655					
Basic Skills/Remedial-Instruction				11-230-100-XXX		361,591		379,635		309,014					
School-Sponsored Cocurricular or Extracurricular Activities-Instruction				11-401-100-XXX		47,333		69,000		62,000					
Capital Projects															
Description/Activity				Project Number		Dollar Amount		Eligible for Grant		Request to Exceed Referendum		Funding Source for Request to Exceed Referendum			
LED and HVAC Upgrade				39-3470-030-21-1000		\$60,000		N		N					
Explanation of Project Purpose and Need: Mountainside School District is in the process of preparing to upgrade district HVAC economizers and district lights to LEDs. This project would allow for more energy efficient heating/cooling of district buildings and more energy efficient lighting which would result in future budget savings. The project is slated to take place during the summer of 2021 and will be funded exclusively through State direct install rebates and capital reserve withdrawal.															
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader															
Fee: \$599,700															





REGION 19 CHAMPIONS...Union County College women's basketball team at the Region 19 Championship game.

## UCC Women Cagers Named NJCAA Region Champions

CRANFORD – Union County College's women's basketball team won the title of National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 19 Champions for a fourth consecutive year. For the title, the Lady Owls defeated Lackawanna College, 73-42 on April 3.

For a second year, sophomore Brianna Mills was named the Tournament MVP. Head coach Marbely Montas, a Union alumna from the class of 2007, was named Region 19 Coach of the Year for a fourth time. With this win, the Lady Owls now advance to compete against Region 20 champion Potomac State College of Keyser, WV in the East A District Championship. This game was to be played on April 10 at Raritan Valley Community College. The winner of this game advances to the NJCAA National Championship held from April 20-24.

"We are very proud of the Lady Owls for once again winning the title of NJCAA Region 19 Champions," stated Union President Dr. Margaret M. McMenamin. "This past year has been particularly difficult for our stu-

dent-athletes due to delays and restrictions from COVID-19. These young women have worked hard to remain focused on their athletic and academic goals and their efforts have paid off. We wish them luck in their next game."

For more information on the athletics programs at Union, visit [www.unionowls.com](http://www.unionowls.com). For more information about the College, visit [www.ucc.edu](http://www.ucc.edu).

### Raider Gymnasts Top Cougars, 105.6-100.7

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School gymnastic team defeated the Cranford Cougars, 105.6-100.7, on April 8. The 7-1 Raiders swept the top spots in the uneven bars and the floor exercises.

**VAULT:** 1. Ava Fazio (S) 9.05, 2. Gianna Mavilla (S) & Teagan Waters (C) 8.85, 4. Maddie Wilhelm (C) 8.65  
**UNEVEN BARS:** 1. Mavilla 8.8, 2. TT Singletary 8.5, 3. Jessica Gallagher 8.4  
**BALANCE BEAM:** 1. Jordana Reisberg (S) 9.0, 2. Ella Burgio (S) 8.75, 3. Hannah Wimm (C) 8.55  
**FLOOR EXERCISE:** 1. Singletary 9.2, 2. Erin Kennedy 9.1

## WF National League 5th & 6th Opening Day Softball Results:

UCLA and Virginia played a six-inning thriller with UCLA edging Virginia, 6-5, on the final at-bat. Powered by the strong pitching of Ashley Tso and solid hitting of Mia Esposito, Virginia held a 2-1 lead through most of the game and added three runs in the 5th. Outstanding pitching by Olivia Perez and timely hits by Maddie Diaz, Kara Benacchio and Amelia Donnelly got UCLA the win in a game marked by excellent play by both teams.

Across the field on Memorial 3, stellar defense by Minnesota's Sydney Elmquist at third base and the strong pitching of Mia Zbranak and Talia kept the hot bats of Bulldogs Paige Everett, Sair Korr and Megan Reilly off the board most of the afternoon leading to a victory. Chipping in defensively for the Golden Gophers and helping turn two double plays were Phoebe Lyons, Alexandra Paul, and

Morgan Eckenthal. Ultimately the Minnesota Gophers' on-base skills led the way to victory in their home opener.

Finally, the Oregon Ducks defeated a shorthanded Texas Longhorns team in an 11-10 nail-biter. Adley Grantz and Andrea Licini led The Ducks with strong pitching performances. The Ducks also had a stellar defensive play by Sadie Soriero who tracked down a base hit to left center and cut down the runner with a great throw to Sydney Man at second for the tag play.

The Ducks overcame a valiant pitching performance by Teagan Greeley, as well as some timely hitting by Caitlin "MB" Brouder who led her team with three hits. The Longhorns are looking forward to returning to the diamond to face the Ducks later in the season for redemption.



AWAITING THE PITCH...First baseman Etta Schaefer (Bulldogs) and Talia Esposito (Gophers) await the pitch during a National League 5th/6th grade game.



GRABBING THE ANKLE...Cougar Harrison Gilmartin, top, grabs Panther Vic Nikitorov's ankle during his 160-lb bout and goes on to record a 4-0 decision. The Cougars defeated the Panthers 39-36 on April 8 in Cranford.

## Cougars Nudge BrH2O, 39-36

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

33-18 with a 4-0 decision over Vic Nikitorov at 160-lbs.

The Panthers' comeback began at 170-lbs when Trey Spina recorded five takedowns before pinning Miles Home in 3:41. Panther Shane Perry received a forfeit at 182-lbs then Zach Davis used a single grapevine and a front arm bar to pin Jake Lies in 1:27 at 195-lbs to set the stage for McDonald's bout with Guasco.

As to the upcoming Super Region Tournament, Coach Gorman said, "I actually have six kids that I submitted in. I don't know if they all will have enough criteria to make a bracket. The top-16 get seeded. But those kids are there incase someone gets sick."

To finish off their regular season, the Cougars would face River Dell, New Providence and Governor Livingston.

"The rest of the season, Saturday, Tuesday and Wednesday is just getting more mat experience because a lot of kids got forfeits throughout the season and there just wasn't enough competition and dual meets. It's just about getting these kids as many matches as they can," Coach Gorman concluded.

**BOUT SEQUENCE:**  
285: — Owen Simanjuntak B won forfeit  
106: — Joe Tona C won forfeit  
113: — Mike Tona C d Marsigliano 7-2  
120: — Spina B p Ramirez 1:28  
126: — Reilly C p Dos Santos 1:59  
132: — Kilbashian C p Herrera :41  
138: — Ziss B p Connolly 4:33  
145: — Hoefling C p Burns 1:00  
152: — Esposito C d Nikovitch 6-2  
160: — Gilmartin C d Nikitorov 4-0  
170: — Spina B p Home 3:41  
182: — Shane Perry B won forfeit  
195: — Davis B p Lies 1:27  
220: — McDonald C p Guasco 3:47

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY \$9,700,000 GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (Book-Entry Only) (Bank-Qualified) (Callable) (Parity Bid) NOTICE OF SALE**  
**dated May 1, 2021**

The Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey (the "Township"), hereby invites ELECTRONIC BIDS VIA PARITY AND SEALED PROPOSALS for the purchase of its \$9,700,000 General Improvement Bonds, dated May 1, 2021 (the "Bonds").

ELECTRONIC BIDS VIA PARITY AND SEALED PROPOSALS will be received and publicly opened and announced by the Chief Financial Officer in the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, on May 4, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock A.M. (local time).

The Bonds comprise an issue of bonds payable on November 1 in each year as follows:

\$600,000 in each of the years 2021 and 2022,  
\$650,000 in the year 2023,  
\$700,000 in the year 2024,  
\$750,000 in the year 2025,  
\$800,000 in each of the years 2026 to 2028, inclusive, and  
\$1,000,000 in each of the years 2029 to 2032, inclusive.

To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in PARITY conflict with this Notice of Sale, the terms of this Notice of Sale shall control. For further information about PARITY, potential bidders may contact Ipreo at 1359 Broadway, 2nd Floor, New York, New York 10018, telephone (212) 849-5021.

The Bonds shall be issued in registered form by means of a book-entry system with no physical distribution of bond certificates made to the public. One bond certificate for each maturity will be issued to The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC") and immobilized in its custody. The book-entry system will evidence ownership of the Bonds in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, with transfers of ownership effected on the records of DTC and its participants pursuant to rules and procedures established by DTC and its participants. The successful bidder, as a condition to delivery of the Bonds, shall be required to deposit the bond certificates with DTC, registered in the name of Cede & Co., its nominee. Interest on the Bonds will be payable on each May 1 and November 1, commencing November 1, 2021 (each, an "Interest Payment Date"), in each year until maturity or prior redemption, and principal of the Bonds will be payable, at maturity, by payment of immediately available funds by the Bond Registrar/Paying Agent to DTC or its nominee as registered owner of the Bonds. Transfer of principal and interest to participants of DTC will be the responsibility of DTC. Transfer of principal and interest to beneficial owners will be the responsibility of the DTC participants and other nominees of the beneficial owners. The Township will not be responsible or liable for such transfers of payments or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by DTC, its participants or persons acting through such participants.

In the event (a) DTC determines not to continue to act as securities depository for the Bonds or (b) the Township determines that continuation of the book-entry system of evidence and transfer of ownership of the Bonds would adversely affect the interests of the beneficial owners of the Bonds, the Township will discontinue the book-entry system with DTC. If the Township fails to identify another qualified securities depository to replace DTC, the Township will deliver replacement bonds in the form of fully registered certificates.

The Bonds maturing on or before November 1, 2028 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds maturing on or after November 1, 2029 are subject to redemption at the option of the Township prior to maturity, in whole on any date or in part on any Interest Payment Date, on or after November 1, 2028, upon notice as hereinafter set forth at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount being redeemed, plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

If the Township determines to optionally redeem a portion of the Bonds prior to maturity, such Bonds so redeemed shall be in such maturities as determined by the Township, and within any maturity, by lot, *provided, however*, that the portion of any Bond to be redeemed shall be in the principal amount of \$5,000 or some multiple thereof and that, in selecting Bonds for redemption, the Bond Registrar/Paying Agent shall treat each Bond as representing that number of Bonds that is obtained by dividing the principal amount of such Bond by \$5,000.

Notice of redemption shall be given by first class mail in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid to the registered owners of the Bonds at their respective addresses as they last appear on the registration books kept for that purpose by the Bond Registrar/Paying Agent at least thirty (30) but not more than sixty (60) days before the date fixed for redemption. Such mailing is not a condition precedent to redemption, and the failure to mail or to receive any redemption notice will not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings. If any Bond subject to redemption is a part of a greater principal amount of the Bonds not to be redeemed, such entire amount shall be surrendered to the Bond Registrar/Paying Agent and, for that portion of the Bond not to be redeemed, a new Bond shall be issued in the name of the registered owner in an amount equal to the principal amount of the Bond surrendered less the amount to be redeemed.

The Bonds are general obligations of the Township and are secured by a pledge of the full faith and credit of the Township for the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The Bonds are payable, if not paid from other sources, from **ad valorem** taxes to be levied upon all the real property taxable within the Township without limitation as to rate or amount.

Each proposal submitted must name the rate or rates of interest per annum to be borne by the Bonds bid for, and the rate or rates named must be a multiple of 1/8th or 1/20th of one percentum (1%). The interest payable with respect to each Bond on any one date will be evidenced by a single rate of interest. Not more than one rate may be named for Bonds of the same maturity. There is no limitation on the number of rates that may be named. If more than one rate of interest is named, no interest rate named for any maturity may be less than the interest rate named for any prior maturity. Each proposal submitted must be for all of the Bonds offered and the purchase price specified must not be less than \$9,700,000 nor more than \$9,797,000. The Bonds will be awarded to the bidder on whose bid the total loan may be made at the lowest net interest cost, such net interest cost shall be computed, as to each bid, by adding to the total principal amount of Bonds bid for (which shall be all of the Bonds offered) the total interest cost to maturity in accordance with such bid and by deducting therefrom the amount of premium, if any, bid, which premium shall not exceed \$97,000 (1% of par). No proposal shall be considered which offers to pay an amount less than the principal amount of Bonds offered for sale or under which the total loan is made at an interest cost higher than the lowest net interest cost to the Township under any legally acceptable proposal. The Township reserves its right to reject all bids, and any bid not complying with the material terms of this notice will be rejected. The Township reserves the right to waive defects it deems non-material, in its sole discretion.

The successful bidder must pay accrued interest from the date of the Bonds to the date of delivery. No interest will be paid upon the deposit made by the successful bidder. The Bonds will be authenticated by the Chief Financial Officer, acting as Bond Registrar/Paying Agent for the Bonds.

Sealed proposals should be addressed to the undersigned Chief Financial Officer, and enclosed in a sealed envelope marked on the outside "Proposal for Bonds". A good faith deposit (the "Deposit") in the form of a cash wire or a certified, treasurer's or cashier's check drawn upon a bank or trust company in the amount of \$194,000, payable to the order of the TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, is required for each bid to be considered. If a cash wire is used, the wire must be received by the Township no later than 11:00 A.M. on May 4, 2021. If a cash wire is utilized, each bidder must notify the Township of its intent to use such cash wire prior to 11:00 A.M. on May 4, 2021, and must provide proof of

### PUBLIC NOTICE

electronic transfer of such cash wire prior to 11:00 A.M. on May 4, 2021 (with return wiring instructions). Wire instructions for the Township can be obtained by contacting the Township's Bond Counsel (Steven Rogut or Thomas Bace (908) 931-1150). If a check is used, it must accompany the bid or be received by the undersigned Chief Financial Officer prior to the opening of bids. Each bidder accepts responsibility for delivering such cash wire or check on time and the Township is not responsible for any cash wire or check that is not received on time. Checks or wires of unsuccessful bidders will be returned upon the award of the Bonds. No interest on the Deposit will accrue to the successful bidder. The Deposit will be applied in part payment for the Bonds or to partially secure the Township from any loss resulting from the failure of the successful bidder to comply with the terms of its bid.

Award of the Bonds to the successful bidder or rejection of all bids is expected to be made within two hours after opening of the bids, but such successful bidder may not withdraw its proposal until after 3:00 p.m. (local time) of the day of such bid-opening and then only if such award has not been made prior to the withdrawal.

It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on the Bonds, but neither the failure to print such number on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the successful bidder thereof to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds in accordance with its contractual obligations arising from the acceptance of its proposal for the purchase of the Bonds. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP numbers on the Bonds shall be paid for by the Township; provided, however, that the CUSIP Service Bureau charge for the assignment of said numbers shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the successful bidder. CUSIP numbers must be communicated to Bond Counsel within 24 hours of the award of the Bonds in order to have the CUSIP numbers printed on the Bonds.

The Bonds shall be delivered on or about May 13, 2021 at the office of Rogut McCarthy LLC, Cranford, New Jersey ("Bond Counsel"), or at such other place as may be determined by the successful bidder and the Township. **PAYMENT FOR THE BONDS AT THE TIME OF ORIGINAL ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY SHALL BE IN IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FUNDS.**

A preliminary Official Statement has been prepared and is available at [www.i-DealProspectus.com](http://www.i-DealProspectus.com) or may be obtained from the undersigned, Chief Financial Officer, Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, Telephone No. (908) 709-7250. The preliminary Official Statement is deemed to be a "final official statement", as of its date, within the meaning of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Rule 15c2-12"), but is subject to (a) completion with certain pricing and other information to be made available by the successful bidder for the Bonds and (b) amendment. The preliminary Official Statement, as so revised, will constitute the "final official statement". By the submission of a bid for the Bonds, the successful bidder contracts for the receipt of a reasonable number of copies of the final Official Statement within seven business days of the award of the Bonds. In order to complete the final Official Statement, the successful bidder must furnish on behalf of the underwriters of the Bonds the following information to Bond Counsel and the Township by facsimile transmission or overnight delivery received by Bond Counsel and the Township within 24 hours after the award of the Bonds: (a) initial offering prices or yields (expressed as percentages), (b) selling compensation (aggregate total anticipated compensation to the underwriters expressed in dollars), (c) the identity of the underwriters if the successful bidder is part of a group or syndicate and (d) any other material information necessary for the final Official Statement, but not known to the Township (such as the bidder's purchase of credit enhancement). It shall also be the obligation of the successful bidder to furnish to DTC an underwriter's questionnaire and the denominations of the Bonds not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the delivery of the Bonds.

Concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds, the officials of the Township who will have executed the final Official Statement will deliver to the purchaser of the Bonds a certificate stating that, to the best of their knowledge, the preliminary Official Statement did not as of its date and as of the sale date, and the final Official Statement did not as of its date and does not as of the date of delivery of the Bonds, contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be included therein for the purpose for which the preliminary Official Statement or the final Official Statement is to be used or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, provided such certificate shall not include consideration of information supplied by, or which should have been supplied by, the successful bidder for the Bonds.

The Township has agreed in its bond resolution adopted on March 30, 2021 to provide or cause to be provided, in accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12, (i) not later than seven months after the end of the Township's fiscal year (presently December 31) certain annual financial information and operating data, including audited financial statements for the preceding fiscal year (commencing with the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020), (ii) timely notice of the occurrence of certain material events with respect to the Bonds and financial obligations of the Township and (iii) timely notice of a failure by the Township to provide the required annual financial information on or before the date specified in (i) above.

The successful bidder's obligation to purchase the Bonds shall be conditioned upon its receiving, at or prior to the delivery of the Bonds, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the successful bidder, evidence that the Township has made the continuing disclosure undertaking set forth above in a written agreement or contract for the benefit of the Bondholders and the beneficial owners of the Bonds.

The approving legal opinion of Bond Counsel will be furnished without cost to the purchaser. The preliminary Official Statement contains a discussion of the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), with respect to the exclusion from gross income for Federal income tax purposes of the interest on the Bonds and a description of the opinion of Bond Counsel with respect thereto. The Township has covenanted, to the extent permitted by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Jersey, to comply with the provisions of the Code required to preserve the exclusion from gross income of interest on the Bonds for Federal income tax purposes. There will also be furnished the usual closing papers.

The Township has designated the Bonds "qualified tax-exempt obligations" within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code and will represent that it reasonably expects that neither it nor its subordinate entities will issue more than \$10,000,000 of new money tax-exempt obligations in the current calendar year.

If the Bonds qualify for issuance of any policy of municipal bond insurance or commitment therefor at the option of a bidder, any purchase of such insurance or commitment therefor shall be at the sole option and expense of the bidder and any increased costs of issuance of the Bonds resulting by reason of such insurance, unless otherwise paid, shall also be paid by such bidder. Any failure of the Bonds to be so insured or of any such policy of insurance to be issued, shall not in any way relieve the purchaser of its contractual obligations arising from the acceptance of its proposal for the purchase of the Bonds.

### ISSUE PRICE DETERMINATION UNDER INTERNAL REVENUE CODE

**If the "competitive sale requirements" are not satisfied, the winning bidder shall have the option to designate whether the "10% test" or the "hold-the-offering-price rule" shall apply to all the Bonds.**

The following paragraphs contain the terms for the determination of issue price.

(a) The winning bidder shall assist the Township in establishing the issue price of the Bonds and shall execute and deliver to the Township at closing an "issue price" or similar certificate setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the public or the sales price or prices of the Bonds, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications. A form of issue price certificate is available upon request to Steven L. Rogut, Bond Counsel, (908) 931-1150 or [slr@rogutmccarthy.com](mailto:slr@rogutmccarthy.com).

(b) The Township intends that the provisions of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Bonds) will apply to the initial sale of the Bonds (the "competitive sale requirements") because:

- (1) the Township shall disseminate this Notice of Sale to potential underwriters in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential underwriters;
- (2) all bidders shall have an equal opportunity to bid;

### PUBLIC NOTICE

(3) the Township may receive bids from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds; and

(4) the Township anticipates awarding the sale of the Bonds to the bidder who submits a firm offer to purchase the Bonds at the highest price (or lowest interest cost), as set forth in this Notice of Sale.

Any bid submitted pursuant to this Notice of Sale shall be considered a firm offer for the purchase of the Bonds, as specified in the bid. Bids will **NOT** be subject to cancellation in the event that the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied. Unless the bidder intends to hold the Bonds for its own account with no intention to offer the Bonds to the public, the bidder, by submitting a bid, represents to the Township that the bidder has an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds.

(c) In the event that the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, the Township shall so advise the winning bidder. In that case, the winning bidder shall have the option to designate (by 5:00 P.M. Prevailing Time on the sale date) whether the issue price will be calculated upon either (a) the first price at which 10% of each maturity of the Bonds (the "10% test") is sold to the public as the issue price of that maturity, applied on a maturity-by-maturity basis, or (b) a commitment to neither offer nor sell any of the Bonds of any maturity to any person at a price that is higher than the initial offering price to the public as of the sale date (the "initial offering price") during the holding period (as defined herein).

(d) If the 10% test is selected, the winning bidder shall advise the Township if any maturity of the Bonds satisfies the 10% test as of the date and time of the award of the Bonds, and bidders should prepare their bids on the assumption that all of the maturities of the Bonds will be subject to the 10% test in order to establish the issue price of the Bonds. If the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied and the 10% test is selected, then until the 10% test has been satisfied as to each maturity of the Bonds, the winning bidder agrees to promptly report to the Township the prices at which the unsold Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public. That reporting obligation shall continue, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred, until either (i) all Bonds of that maturity have been sold or (ii) the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity, provided that, the winning bidder's reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the Township or Bond Counsel.

(e) In the event the "hold-the-offering-price" method is selected, for each maturity of the Bonds the winning bidder shall (a) neither offer nor sell any of the Bonds of such maturity to any person at a price that is higher than the initial offering price for such maturity during the holding period for such maturity (the "hold-the-offering-price rule"), and (b) verify that any selling group agreement shall contain the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and any third-party distribution agreement shall contain the agreement of each broker-dealer who is a party to the third-party distribution agreement, to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule. Pursuant to such agreement, no underwriter (as defined below) shall offer or sell any maturity of the Bonds at a price that is higher than the respective initial offering price for that maturity of the Bonds during the holding period.

(f) By submitting a bid, each bidder confirms that: (i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each third-party distribution agreement (to which the bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement, as applicable, (A) to either comply with the hold-the-offering-price limitations stated herein or to report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allocated to it, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred, until either all Bonds of that maturity allocated to it have been sold or it is notified by the winning bidder that the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity, provided that, the reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the winning bidder or such underwriter, depending upon whether the hold-the-offering-price method or the 10% test is selected by the winning bidder.

(g) Sales of any Bonds to any person that is a related party to an underwriter participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (each such term being used as defined below) shall not constitute sales to the public for purposes of this Notice of Sale. Further, for purposes of this Notice of Sale:

(i) "public" means any person other than an underwriter or a related party, or otherwise with the Township (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public and (B) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (A) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public).

(iii) a purchaser of any of the Bonds is a "related party" to an underwriter if the underwriter and the purchaser are subject, directly or indirectly, to (A) more than 50% common ownership of the voting power or the total value of their stock, if both entities are corporations (including direct ownership by one corporation of another), (B) more than 50% common ownership of their capital interests or profits interests, if both entities are partnerships (including direct ownership by one partnership of another), or (C) more than 50% common ownership of the value of the outstanding stock of the corporation or the capital interests or profits interests of the partnership, as applicable, if one entity is a corporation and the other entity is a partnership (including direct ownership of the applicable stock or interests by one entity of the other).

(iv) "sale date" means the date that the Bonds are awarded by the Township to the winning bidder.

(v) "holding period" means, for each maturity of the Bonds, the period starting on the sale date and ending on the earlier of (i) the close of the fifth business day after the sale date, or (ii) the date on which the Underwriter has sold at least 10% of each maturity to the Public at prices that are no higher than the Initial Offering Price for such maturity, and

(vi) "maturity" means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate maturities.

By order of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, New Jersey,  
Dated: April 15, 2021

Lavona Patterson  
Chief Financial Officer  
Township of Cranford  
County of Union, New Jersey  
Fee: \$567.63





David B. Corbin (April 2018 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**SLIDING HOME SAFELY...**Cougar Tyler Szczech, No. 35, slides home safely in the second inning against Memorial of West New York as catcher Ricardo Turro attempts to make a tag at Memorial Field in Cranford on April 14, 2018.



David B. Corbin (April 2016 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**LEADING IN THE 800 METERS...**Blue Devil Julia Myers leads in the 800 meters and eventually takes first with a personal record time of 2:24.4 in the tri-meet with Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Linden in Westfield on April 13, 2016.



David B. Corbin (April 2016 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**TOSSING A SHUTOUT...**Blue Devil sophomore Corey Hiltz scattered seven hits and walked none in a 6-0 shutout over the Governor Livingston Highlanders in Westfield (April 15, 2016).

## \*\* A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at High School Sports Activities \*\*

Head Coach Dennis McCaffery’s 399th career victory at the helm.

Van Dam had a no-hit, two-walk shutout going for the first four innings, while recording five strikeouts, until Tiger Justin Esposito tagged him with a solo home run over the right field fence in the top of the fifth inning. He later allowed a two-out single to Gabi Abreu before recording the final out. Tyler Szczech, Pat Connolly, Jamie Shriner, Jake DeClerico and Mike Murphy provided the fire power.

Several hours later, the Cougars would defeat the Linden Tigers, 5-3, this time at Memorial Field in Linden to award Coach McCaffery with his 400th career victory. Connolly went 3-for-3 and Aidan Plick had a hit and two RBI.

**April 13, 2017:** The early season had not been kind to the Cranford baseball team. After stumbling out of the gates to a 1-3 start, the Cougars got to take out their frustrations on Linden by mauling the visitors, 19-2, in on April 13 at Orange Avenue School in Cranford. Brian Oblachinski had a perfect day at the plate for Cranford going 3-for-3 with a triple and three RBI. Patrick Connelly and Ryan Bakie each added two hits and two RBI.

**April 13, 2017:** Magic may have been the only explanation for the sudden shift of momentum in the final 47 seconds of the game between the Westfield girls lacrosse team and the West Morris Mendham Lady Minute-men at Gary Kehler Stadium in

Westfield on April 13. The Blue Devils converted three straight draw controls into three goals within that span to overcome a 9-6 deficit to force a sudden victory overtime period then co-captain Hannah Liddy slammed home the winner within 29 seconds to give Westfield a 10-9 triumph.

After Westfield won the draw, Liddy quickly assisted senior Haley Farella on the first goal that made the score, 9-7, with 47 seconds on the clock. With :26 remaining, Liddy made the score 9-8 then co-captain Natalie Bond scooped the ball on the next draw and found the mark with 14 seconds left, eventually forcing the overtime.

**April 13, 2016:** Governor Livingston pushed across the go ahead

run in the bottom of the sixth inning then relied on starter Cole Schneider and reliever Nick Cocchia to close the door on the Cranford Cougars baseball team, while earning a tight 3-2 victory in a game played on April 13 in Berkeley Heights.

Schneider held the Cougars hitless through five innings before Cranford with some help, rallied to tie the game with two runs in the sixth. Schneider threw wide of first base on a routine tapper back to the mound. Then Ryan Bakie was called safe on another grounder when first baseman Cocchia dropped the throw from shortstop after trying to transfer the ball from his glove. The delayed call by the umpire sent Highlander Head Coach Chris

Roof onto the field to protest.

Michael Smith came through with the Cougars’ first hit, lining a double off of the leftfield fence that scored both runners and tied the game at 2-2.

Schneider helped his own cause in the GL sixth by drilling a double into left-center field. Cranford pitcher Librera walked Jace Tweeten then loaded the bases with two outs when he plunked Josh Katz. Dan Baroff patiently worked a full count then calmly took a close pitch just off the outside corner for ball four that plated the go-ahead run that held up.

**April 14, 2016:** The Westfield High School softball team defeated Cranford, 6-2, on April 14 at Adams Field in Cranford. The Blue Devils

were able to notch their first win of the season behind the strong pitching of sophomore Bridget Hyland, who pitched a complete game and allowed five hits while striking out three. Hyland was the beneficiary of solid defensive play throughout the game.

Blue Devil Lauren Fernandez singled, stole second and scored on Danielle Rinaldi’s RBI single. Ally Gulla delivered a two-run single scoring Erica Lawrence (single, RBI double), and Hailey Reilly. Natalie Patterson rapped a two-run single. Cougar Erin Schwerdtfeger launched a titanic solo home run well over the centerfield fence. Julia Palozzola doubled and scored on Schwerdtfeger’s groundout.

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
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## BOARD OF EDUCATION CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY 07016

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of the Cranford Township School District, in the County of Union, of the State of New Jersey, that a Public Hearing will be held in the Gymnasium at Lincoln School of the Cranford Board of Education, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, and via ZOOM videoconference with a link to be available in the District website, on Monday April 26, 2021 at 7:00 P.M., for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the following budget for the 2021-2022 school year.

The complete budget will be on file and open to examination at the office of the Business Administrator, at Lincoln School, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, Union County New Jersey between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

Robert J. Carfagno, CPA, RMA, PSA  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

## SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET STATEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022

UNION - CRANFORD TWP ADVERTISED ENROLLMENTS				
ENROLLMENT CATEGORIES	October 15, 2019 Actual	October 15, 2020 Actual	October 15, 2021 Estimated	
Pupils On Roll Regular Full-Time	3,166	3,136	3,058	
Pupils On Roll Regular Shared-Time	56	45	53	
Pupils On Roll - Special Full-Time	573	553	574	
Pupils On Roll - Special Shared-Time	24	17	12	
Subtotal - Pupils On Roll	3,819	3,751	3,697	
Private School Placements	40	35	31	
Pupils Sent to Other Districts - Reg Prog	1	0	0	
Pupils Sent to Other Distis - Spec Ed Prog	12	12	10	
Pupils Received	95	96	88	
UNION - CRANFORD TWP ADVERTISED REVENUES				
Budget Category	Account	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Revised	2021-22 Proposed
Operating Budget:				
Revenues from Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy	10-1210	58,844,363	60,021,250	61,221,675
Total Tuition	10-1300	3,646,805	3,735,629	3,561,162
Unrestricted Miscellaneous Revenues	10-1XXX	216,767	192,307	514,693
Total Revenues from Local Sources		62,707,935	63,949,186	65,297,530
Revenues from State Sources:				
Categorical Transportation Aid	10-3121	354,868	354,868	354,868
Extraordinary Aid	10-3131	861,714	439,433	439,433
Categorical Special Education Aid	10-3132	2,304,623	2,411,376	2,886,485
Equalization Aid	10-3176	88,682	88,682	88,682
Categorical Security Aid	10-3177	92,830	92,830	92,830
Other State Aids	10-3XXX	2,585	0	0
Total Revenues from State Sources		3,705,302	3,387,189	3,862,298
Revenues from Federal Sources:				
Medicaid Reimbursement	10-4200	10,853	25,701	27,011
Total Revenues from Federal Sources		10,853	25,701	27,011
Budgeted Fund Balance-Operating Budget	10-303	0	588,837	500,838
Adjustment for Prior Year Encumbrances		0	498,584	0
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures		-1,638,119	0	0
Total Operating Budget		64,785,971	68,449,497	69,687,677
Grants and Entitlements:				
Other Revenue from Local Sources	20-1XXX	114,990	75,333	0
Total Revenues from Local Sources	20-1XXX	114,990	75,333	0
Revenues from State Sources:				
Other Restricted Entitlements	20-32XX	128,628	168,835	143,510
State Grants Through Intermediate Sources	20-3700	0	7,126	0
Total Revenues from State Sources		128,628	175,961	143,510
Revenues from Federal Sources:				
Title I	20-4411-4416	90,681	1,613	0
Title II	20-4451-4455	57,040	52,581	50,406
I.D.E.A. Part B (Handicapped)	20-4420-4429	861,027	911,931	911,931
Cares Act Education Stabilization Fund	20-4530	32,158	46,101	0
Cares-Digital Divide Grant	20-4531	0	9,831	0
Coronavirus Relief Fund (Crf)	20-4532	0	101,733	0
Other	20-4XXX	0	186,950	0
Total Revenues from Federal Sources		1,040,906	1,310,740	962,337
Total Grants and Entitlements		1,284,524	1,562,034	1,105,847
Repayment of Debt:				
Revenues from Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy	40-1210	859,233	863,908	876,782
Total Revenues from Local Sources		859,233	863,908	876,782
Budgeted Fund Balance	40-303	0	2	3
Total Local Repayment of Debt		859,233	863,910	876,785
Total Repayment of Debt		859,233	863,910	876,785
Total Revenues/Sources		66,929,728	70,875,441	71,670,309
Total Revenues/Sources Net of Transfers		66,929,728	70,875,441	71,670,309
UNION - CRANFORD TWP ADVERTISED APPROPRIATIONS				
Budget Category	Account	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Revised	2021-22 Proposed
General Current Expense:				
Instruction:				
Regular Programs-Instruction	11-1XX-100-XXX	19,249,416	20,468,652	21,247,197
Special Education-Instruction	11-2XX-100-XXX	7,417,525	7,650,644	7,940,678
Basic Skills/Remedial-Instruction	11-230-100-XXX	613,453	717,651	756,865
Bilingual Education-Instruction	11-240-100-XXX	67,310	68,872	70,924
School-Sponsored Cocurricular or Extracurricular Activities-Instruction	11-401-100-XXX	365,372	401,450	407,642
School-Sponsored Athletics-Instruction	11-402-100-XXX	720,501	820,008	830,980
Summer School	11-422-XXX-XXX	122,673	139,881	142,478
Community Services Programs/Operations	11-800-330-XXX	22,547	29,725	29,725
Support Services:				
Undistributed Expenditures-Instruction (Tuition)	11-000-100-XXX	3,870,849	4,036,213	3,779,751
Undistributed Expenditures-Attendance and Social Work	11-000-211-XXX	0	5,600	5,600
Undistributed Expenditures-Health Services	11-000-213-XXX	651,453	716,246	753,598

Budget Category	11-000-216-XXX	983,727	1,269,718	1,121,713
Undistributed Expenditures-Speech, OT, PT and Related Services	11-000-217-XXX	1,401,698	1,603,401	1,591,798
Undistributed Expenditures-Other Support Services, Students-Extraordinary Services	11-000-218-XXX	1,066,194	1,151,827	1,186,050
Undistributed Expenditures-Guidance	11-000-219-XXX	1,434,099	1,574,363	1,814,275
Undistributed Expenditures-Child Study Teams				
Undistributed Expenditures-Improvement of Instruction Services	11-000-221-XXX	1,289,047	1,360,557	1,365,360
Undistributed Expenditures-Education Media Services/Library	11-000-222-XXX	411,283	444,790	455,449
Undistributed Expenditures-Instructional Staff Training Services	11-000-223-XXX	50,357	89,225	90,588
Undistributed Expenditures-Support Services -General Administration	11-000-230-XXX	894,729	904,653	897,142
Undistributed Expenditures-Support Services -School Administration	11-000-240-XXX	3,052,701	3,163,501	3,134,870
Undistributed Expenditures-Central Services	11-000-251-XXX	893,507	958,019	951,901
Undistributed Expenditures-Administrative Information Technology	11-000-252-XXX	359,506	386,843	360,470
Undistributed Expenditures-Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services	11-000-26X-XXX	5,189,190	5,620,821	5,541,922
Undistributed Expenditures-Student Transportation Services	11-000-270-XXX	1,849,244	2,216,480	2,370,349
Personal Services-Employee Benefits	11-XXX-XXX-2XX	12,732,888	12,565,909	12,826,668
Undistributed Expenditures-Food Services	11-000-310-930	38,439	50,000	0
Total Undistributed Expenditures		36,168,911	38,118,166	38,247,504
Total General Current Expense		64,747,708	68,415,049	69,673,993
Capital Expenditures:				
Equipment	12-XXX-XXX-730	24,579	20,764	0
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services	12-000-400-XXX	13,684	13,684	13,684
Total Capital Outlay		38,263	34,448	13,684
General Fund Grand Total		64,785,971	68,449,497	69,687,677
Special Grants and Entitlements:				
Local Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	114,990	75,333	0
Other State Projects:				
Nonpublic Textbooks	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	10,400	13,806	11,735
Nonpublic Auxiliary Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	35,010	62,721	53,313
Nonpublic Handicapped Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	21,652	29,706	25,250
Nonpublic Nursing Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	17,824	23,052	19,594
Nonpublic Technology Initiative	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	2,811	0	0
Nonpublic Security Aid	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	30,900	39,550	33,618
Other	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	10,031	7,126	0
Total Other State Projects		128,628	175,961	143,510
Total State Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	128,628	175,961	143,510
Federal Projects:				
Title I	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	90,681	1,613	0
Title II	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	57,040	52,581	50,406
I.D.E.A. Part B (Handicapped)	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	861,027	911,931	911,931
Cares Act Education Stabilization Fund	20-477-XXX-XXX	32,158	46,101	0
Other	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	0	186,950	0
Bridging the Digital Divide Program	20-478-XXX-XXX	0	9,831	0
Coronavirus Relief Fund (Crf) Grant Program	20-479-XXX-XXX	0	101,733	0
Total Federal Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	1,040,906	1,310,740	962,337
Total Special Revenue Funds		1,284,524	1,562,034	1,105,847
Repayment of Debt:				
Total Regular Debt Service	40-701-510-XXX	859,233	863,910	876,785
Total Debt Service Funds		859,233	863,910	876,785
Total Expenditures/Appropriations		66,929,728	70,875,441	71,670,309
Total Expenditures Net of Transfers		66,929,728	70,875,441	71,670,309

UNION - CRANFORD TWP ADVERTISED RECAPITULATION OF BALANCES					
Budget Category	Audited Balance 6/30/2019	Audited Balance 6/30/2020	Estimated Balance 6/30/2021	Estimated Balance 6/30/2022	
Unrestricted:					
—General Operating Budget	896,700	1,886,373	1,560,391	1,342,948	
—Repayment of Debt	5	5	3	0	
Restricted for Specific Purposes - General Operating Budget:					
—Capital Reserve	1	1	1	1	
—Adult Education Programs	0	0	0	0	
—Maintenance Reserve	0	0	0	0	
—Legal Reserve	0	283,395	283,395	0	
—Tuition Reserve	0	0	0	0	
—Current Expense Emergency Reserve	0	0	0	0	
—Impact Aid Reserve for General Expenses (Sections 8002 and 8003)	0	0	0	0	
—Impact Aid Reserve for Capital Expenses (Sections 8007 and 8008)	0	0	0	0	
Repayment of Debt:					
—Restricted for Repayment of Debt	0	0	0	0	
UNION - CRANFORD TWP ADVERTISED PER PUPIL COST CALCULATIONS					
Per Pupil Cost Calculations	2018-19 Actual Costs	2019-20 Actual Costs	2020-21 Original Budget	2020-21 Revised Budget	2021-22 Proposed Budget
Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost	\$15,381	\$15,534	\$16,132	\$16,710	\$17,335
Total Classroom Instruction	\$9,306	\$9,392	\$9,681	\$9,962	\$10,489
Classroom-Salaries and Benefits	\$8,965	\$9,045	\$9,238	\$9,437	\$10,039
Classroom-General Supplies and Textbooks	\$205	\$207	\$310	\$348	\$280
Classroom-Purchased Services	\$136	\$139	\$133	\$177	\$170
Total Support Services	\$2,478	\$2,441	\$2,662	\$2,765	\$2,863
Support Services-Salaries and Benefits	\$2,191	\$2,186	\$2,400	\$2,433	\$2,552
Total Administrative Costs	\$1,673	\$1,733	\$1,744	\$1,807	\$1,807
Administration Salaries and Benefits	\$1,475	\$1,525	\$1,529	\$1,543	\$1,547
Total Operations and Maintenance of Plant	\$1,543	\$1,588	\$1,640	\$1,746	\$1,749
Operations and Maintenance-Salaries and Benefits	\$950	\$931	\$1,007	\$1,030	\$1,049
Board Contribution to Food Services	\$0	\$10	\$0	\$13	\$0
Total Extracurricular Costs	\$364	\$354	\$386	\$397	\$409
Total Equipment Costs	\$30	\$6	\$0	\$6	\$0
Legal Costs	\$56	\$50	\$49	\$50	\$52
Employee Benefits as a percentage of salaries*	33.34%	31.43%	29.59%	29.59%	29.05%
*Does not include pension and social security paid by the State on-behalf of the district. **Federal and State funds in the blended resource school-based budgets.					
The information presented in columns 1 through 3 as well as the related descriptions of the per pupil cost calculations are contained in the Taxpayers Guide to Education Spending and can be found on the Department of Education website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/education/guide/">http://www.state.nj.us/education/guide/</a> . This publication is also available in the board office and public libraries. The same calculations were performed using the 2020-21 revised appropriations and the 2021-22 budgeted appropriations presented in this advertised budget. Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost is defined as current expense exclusive of tuition expenditures, transportation, residential costs, and judgments against the school district. For all years it also includes the restricted entitlement aids. With the exception of Total Equipment Cost, each of the other per pupil cost calculations presented is a component of the total comparative per pupil cost, although all components are not shown.					
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader					Fee: \$599.76



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

7-11 Central Ave  
800 Central Ave. (Leader)

7-11 Garwood  
309 North Ave. (Leader)

7-11 Mountainside  
921 Mountain Ave. (Leader)

7-11 Westfield  
1200 South Ave., W. (Leader/Times)

Baron's Drug Store  
243 E. Broad St. (Leader)

King's Supermarket  
300 South Ave. (Leader)

Krauszer's  
727 Central Ave. (Leader)

Kwick Mart Food Store  
190 South Ave. (Times)

Mountain Deli  
2385 Mountain Ave. (Times)

Shoprite Supermarket  
563 North Ave. (Leader)

Wallis Stationery  
441 Park Ave. (Leader/Times)

Westfield Mini Mart  
301 South Ave., W. (Leader)

Westfield Tobacco & News  
108 Elm St. (Leader)

CLASSIFIEDS

Place a Classified Ad online at [www.goleader.com/form/classified](http://www.goleader.com/form/classified)

**PATROLMAN**

**CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The Cranford Police Department is seeking candidates for the position of patrolman. The position offers a competitive salary and full benefits. Applications must be picked up at Cranford Police Headquarters, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016 or downloaded from [www.cranfordnj.org/police-department](http://www.cranfordnj.org/police-department). Return completed application with a \$25.00 non-refundable certified or cashier's check made payable to the Cranford Police Department. No cash or personal checks will be accepted. Deadline for the return of all applications is May 12, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. All prior candidates MUST submit a new application.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS:** Do you want to reach nearly a million readers? Place your 25-word classified ad in over 90 newspapers throughout NJ for \$560. Contact Peggy Arbitell 609-359-7381 or visit [www.njpa.org](http://www.njpa.org)

**SHAPE UP FOR SUMMER!**

**FITNESSEQUIPMENTFORSALE:** Body By Jake FIRM FLEX Total Body Trainer. Complete Workout Exercise Machine. Padded Bench. Adjustable Height And Resistance. \$30. Call Jeff (908) 232-4407

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Deliver your message to nearly a million readers! Place a 2x2 Display Ad in NJ weekly newspapers. Call Peggy Arbitell at 609-406-0600 ext. 14 for more information.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

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Summer Job Alert: The Walter Ulrich Memorial Pool Is Hiring

COUNTY – Union County residents who are looking for a summer job can apply now for lifeguard positions at Union County's public swimming pool, the Walter Ulrich Memorial Pool, which is located at Rahway River Park in Rahway. "The Ulrich pool provides our residents with a rewarding work environment and valuable experience such as management, emergency response and interpersonal skills every year," said Board of Commissioners Chairman Alexander Mirabella.

Lifeguard positions are available to Union County residents ages 16 and up. Training is available for

applicants who are not certified. To apply for a lifeguard position, please call or text (908) 868-2725. Please keep in mind that these positions are seasonal (Memorial Day to Labor Day). For more information about Ulrich Pool, Rahway River Park and all Union County recreation facilities visit online at [ucnj.org/parks](http://ucnj.org/parks).

Thank You for Your Continued Support of Local Journalism  
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Summit Police Arrest Suspect For Attempted Abduction

SUMMIT — Swift action on the part of police officers in Summit resulted in the thwarting of an attempted abduction over the weekend, acting Union County Prosecutor Lyndsay V. Ruotolo and Summit Police Chief Andrew Bartolotti jointly announced April 11.

Shervon James, 33, of the Vauxhall section of Union Township has been charged with first-degree kidnapping. The incident occurred shortly after 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, when the 19-year-old victim, a resident of Summit, was walking on Fernwood Road near Whittredge Road. She was approached by an individual (later identified as James) driving a white, four-door sedan, according to the preliminary investigation.

James was kept under surveillance until arrest warrants were issued, and he was taken into custody without incident, after which he was transported to the Union County Jail, where he awaits a first appearance and detention hearing to take place in Union County Superior Court. The victim was unharmed.

"An immediate and thorough response by police officers and detectives ensured the swift apprehension of the suspect," Chief Bartolotti said.

Hillside Homicide Linked to Death in Union Township

AREA — The deaths of two women in Hillside are believed to be connected to a death investigation in Union Township, acting Union County Prosecutor Lyndsay V. Ruotolo announced April 7.

In the early morning hours of April 5, officers from Union Township Police Department noticed a vehicle parked in the rear lot of an Enterprise Rent-A-Car facility located on the 1700 block of Morris Avenue in Union.

After approaching the vehicle, officers discovered the body of 45-year-old Akanni A. Martin, of Hillside, inside with a gunshot wound to the head. A weapon was recovered near his body. Investigators do not believe foul play was involved.

In working to notify Mr. Martin's next of kin, detectives from Union Township visited Mr. Martin's home on the 1500 block of Summit Avenue in Hillside. After further investigation, detectives determined two individuals close to Mr. Martin were missing.

On April 6, detectives visited K & K Jamaican Restaurant on the 1500 block of Summit Avenue in Hillside, a restaurant co-owned by Mr. Martin. At this location, detectives discovered the bodies of 39-year-old Karen A. Lemaitre, the mother of Mr. Martin's children, and her sister, 41-year-old Wanita A. Joffer.

An autopsy conducted April 7 by the Union County Medical Examiner's Office on Ms. Lemaitre

"Evidence indicates that this was an isolated incident and there was no danger to other members of the community."

Prosecutor Ruotolo and Chief Bartolotti also wish to extend their gratitude to the Union Police Department, under the leadership of Director Daniel Zieser, for its assistance.

Authorities are now asking property owners on Fernwood Road between Whittredge Road and Hillcrest Avenue, and on Woodmere Drive between Hillcrest and Summit avenues, to check their home security systems for video surveillance footage recorded on Saturday, April 10 between 3:45 and 4:10 p.m., showing the aforementioned white sedan, which also had black rims. Please contact detectives at (908) 277-9400 (press option one then option six for the Detective Bureau) with any recorded footage.

Convictions on criminal charges of this nature are commonly punishable by terms of 10 to 20 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.

and Ms. Joffer ruled their manners of death to be homicides.

This matter remains under active investigation, led by the Union County Homicide Task Force with assistance from members of the Union Township Police Department, Hillside Police Department and Union County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit.

Anyone with information about this matter is being urged to contact Prosecutor's Office Lieutenant Johnny Ho at (908) 403-8271 or Detective Lamar Hartsfield at (908) 451-1873. At this time, there is no known further threat to the community.

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**WESTFIELD**

Monday, April 5, a resident of the 100 block of Myrtle Avenue reported an incident of fraud. The victim stated that in January of 2021 she was contacted on Instagram by an unknown suspect who offered her high return rates on her investment if she invested with his company. Over the course of three months, the victim made several money transfers into various accounts provided by the suspects pretending to be employees of the investment company. The victim later realized she had been scammed, leading her to report the incident to the police. She suffered a financial loss of \$435,000 before realizing she was a victim.

Tuesday, April 6, a resident of the 600 block of Roosevelt Street reported being a victim of fraud. The victim stated that in September of 2020 an unknown suspect who pretended to be a representative of Best Buy's Geek Squad Support Services requested payments for computer repairs. After gaining remote access to the victim's computer, the suspect accessed the victim's bank account and transferred \$2,000. Additionally, the victim provided the suspect with her credit card information and \$5,100 was charged to her credit cards. The victim ultimately suffered a financial loss of \$7,100 as a result of this scam.

Wednesday, April 7, a resident reported that she found a child's-size bicycle on the front lawn, located on the 0 to 100 block of Mohawk Trail. She surrendered the found bicycle to the Westfield Police Department and it was secured for safekeeping. The Westfield Police Department is attempting to locate the owner of this found property.

Thursday, April 8, a resident of the 200 block of Seneca Place reported that he learned from his employer that his identity had been stolen and used to make a fraudulent unemployment claim with the New Jersey Department of Labor. The victim stated that he currently is employed and did not make any requests for unemployment benefits. The employee suffered no monetary loss as a result of this fraudulent claim.

Saturday, April 10, a resident of the 100 block of Harrison Avenue re-

ported that one or more unknown suspects entered their unlocked motor vehicles while the vehicles were parked in their driveway. The resident stated that they observed one vehicle had the door left ajar and the other vehicle had the contents of the center console strewn about the front passenger area of the vehicle. Nothing was stolen from either vehicle.

Saturday, April 10, a resident of the 100 block of Harrison Avenue reported that one or more unknown suspects entered their unlocked motor vehicle while it was parked in their driveway. The resident stated that the vehicle had the contents of the center console strewn about the front passenger area of the vehicle. Nothing was stolen from the vehicle.

Sunday, April 11, a resident reported that posters were removed and stolen from a fence in the area of the 800 block of Rahway Avenue. The resident reported that each poster cost approximately \$30. The total cost of the theft was \$150. There are no suspects at this time. The theft occurred between the afternoon of April 10 and 8:57 p.m. on April 11.

**SCOTCH PLAINS**

Tuesday, April 6, Pena-Polo F. Wellington, 45, of Piscataway was arrested on an active warrant out of Plainfield during a motor vehicle stop. Wellington was transported to police headquarters and processed.

Wednesday, April 7, a resident of Seneca Road reported the theft of license plates. The matter is under investigation.

Friday, April 9, a resident of Allwood Road reported that someone fraudulently filed for unemployment benefits in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Friday, April 9, a resident of Wood Road reported an incident of identity theft. The matter is under investigation.

Monday, April 12, a resident of Mountainview Avenue reported fraudulent activity on a credit account. The matter is under investigation.

\*\*\*

*Charges are merely an accusation and defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.*

Garwood Announces Launch of Small Business Advisory Board

GARWOOD — The Borough of Garwood announced the launch of a new Small Business Advisory Board, a group tasked with fostering a healthy and vibrant business community by ensuring that small businesses with fewer than 35 employees have access to the tools and resources they need to thrive.

"The small businesses that call Garwood home are important to our community and are invested in our future," said Garwood Mayor Sara Todisco. "By creating the Small Business Advisory Board, Garwood's diverse and innovative small business(es) will have a new source of support. When our small businesses are strong, Garwood is strong."

Many of the small businesses in Garwood are owned by and employ residents who live in the borough. The

Small Business Advisory Board will create boroughwide strategies that promote Garwood's small businesses' interests and provide programmatic support, such as consulting to help small businesses remain competitive and grow.

The Small Business Advisory Board will be composed of borough leaders and business owners from across sectors and industries appointed by Mayor Todisco. The Small Business Advisory Board plans to convene quarterly, with additional meetings as necessary.

Local business owner Joshua Rosenberg said, "We are very excited about the possibility of being able to share our experience, expertise and knowledge with those in the community who need it. I'm thankful for the mayor and council to support."

Local small-business owners interested in becoming members of the board can submit their contact information and resumes to [smallbusiness@garwood.org](mailto:smallbusiness@garwood.org).

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

PLEASE BE ADVISED that at the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting held on April 8, 2021, the Board memorialized the following Resolutions:

**Nicholas Rundella**, 1080 Cooper Road, Block 14602, Lot 15, was **approved** to construct a 400 sq. ft. pool house at the aforementioned address.

**David Belford**, 356 Henry Street, Block 3602, Lot 17, was **approved** to convert a portion of the existing garage at this address to accommodate a future second bathroom/laundry area.

Copies of said Resolutions have been filed in the office of the Board and/or the office of the Municipal Clerk and are available for public inspection during regular business hours.

Shannon Rapant  
Secretary to the Zoning Board  
1 T - 04/15/21, The Times Fee: \$21.93

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the ordinances of the Township of Cranford and the statutes of the State of New Jersey, and in order to comply with the Executive Orders signed by Governor Murphy and in an effort to follow best practices recommended by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that an application for development, Application No. ZBA-20-008 to be located in Zone R-1, on the premises known as **27 Carolina Street**, Cranford, New Jersey, Block No. 455 Lot No. 04, has been submitted by Thomas & Jenny Ramos, 27 Carolina Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016.

The development involves and requires the granting of relief from zoning requirements and any such other variances/waivers as may be required in order to allow: Applicant is seeking two (2) c(2) variances related to the proposed construction of a new front porch and entryway to an existing single-family structure. The property has an existing nonconforming front yard setback where 35 feet is required and 30.3 feet exists. The proposed improvement reduces the existing nonconforming setback by -4 feet to 26.3 feet. The applicant is seeking a variance from the front yard requirements for this condition. Additionally, roofs with unenclosed sides over an entrance platform which projects into a required or existing nonconforming front yard is limited 25 square feet in size. The proposed unenclosed front porch is 140 square feet in size which is entirely in the required front yard. Applicant is seeking relief for this proposed condition.

In addition, applicant requests any other variances, waivers or relief that the Board may require.

The Zoning Board will conduct a **VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING** on this matter on **MONDAY, April 26, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.** Residents who wish to participate in the virtual meeting for purposes of making a public comment or to participate in the scheduled public hearing can join with Google Meet at: meet.google.com/sja-nffj-ncx and 1-216-930-7619 enter PIN 179596488.

Any person or persons affected by this application will have an opportunity to present any objections to the proposed development. The Board does, however, have the right to exclude repetitious testimony.

All documents relating to this application are on file in the Zoning/Planning Office, Cranford Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 but are not available for public inspection at the building due to the Covid-19 emergency. **All documents will be posted to the Zoning Board Webpage 10 days prior to the hearing.** Anyone interested in reviewing the Application and supporting documents may inform the Applicant (or the applicant's attorney) identified below or the Board secretary (Kathy Lenahan: Phone - 908.709.7211; email - k-lenahan@cranfordnj.org -that they wish to receive copies of same and the Applicant (or applicant's attorney) shall then be required to deliver to the member(s) of the public the Application and supporting documents either electronically or by delivery of hard copies to the person requesting the materials.

AGAIN, THIS HEARING WILL BE A VIRTUAL HEARING VIA GOOGLE MEET  
Thomas & Jenny Ramos  
27 Carolina Street  
Cranford, New Jersey 07016  
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader Fee: \$73.95

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# This Earth Day, Help Keep the Spotted Lanternfly Out of Union County

COUNTY – A different kind of Earth Day project is available in April to all Union County residents and visitors this spring: Help destroy the spotted lanternfly and its eggs, too. It is important to act now because the eggs of the spotted lanternfly typically hatch from late April to early May.

Earth Day 2021 will take place on Thursday, April 22.

“The spotted lanternfly is a new pest that threatens our efforts to preserve native habitat in our public parks. We all have a stake in ensuring that the spotted lanternfly does not take hold in Union County, so please keep an eye out for the adults and eggs in your backyard and in parks and other public places,” said Union County Board of Commissioners Chairman Al Mirabella.

Both juvenile and adult spotted lanternflies are eye-catching. The juveniles will appear by May, after the

eggs hatch. They are small, crawling insects about the size of the dime. They have shiny black coats with bright white spots or red coats with white spots and black stripes. Their legs are black with white spots.



The adult is about the size of a typical moth, or slightly larger. Their upper wings are a papery whitish hue with black speckles. The upper wings open to reveal bright red and black lower wings underneath.

When startled, the adult can quickly hop and glide away like a grasshopper, so stealth is advised when approaching one. Both adults and juveniles should be immediately crushed underfoot or by any other means.

The eggs are more difficult to distinguish because they are laid in flat, grayish patches that can blend into their surroundings. However, there are telltale signs. A freshly laid egg patch resembles a small dab of wet mud, about 1 inch long. Over time, it develops cracks that can resemble miniature tire treads. The appearance of seed-like rows means the eggs are ready to hatch.

Lanternflies prefer to lay their eggs

on flat surfaces. The egg patches mainly appear on trees about 10 feet off the ground. They can also appear on rocks and vehicles and other manufactured surfaces.

Egg patches should be destroyed by using a plastic card or other sturdy object to crush them where they are, then scraping them off the surface.

The spotted lanternfly is an invasive species and a serious threat to New Jersey's agriculture industry and wildlife habitats. It can damage or kill native trees like the black walnut, red maple, silver maple and river birch. It can also carve a destructive path through valuable crops and other plants.

To help fight the spotted lanternfly in New Jersey, report sightings to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture by using the online reporting tool. For other questions about the spotted lanternfly, contact the Department of Agriculture at 1-866-BAD-BUGZ or email SLF-plantindustry@ag.nj.gov.

For more information, including photos of the lanternfly and its eggs at various stages, visit [nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/spottedlanternfly](http://nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/spottedlanternfly).

Information on Earth Day activities at Union County's Trailside Nature and Science Center will be available soon at [ucnj.org/trailside](http://ucnj.org/trailside). The Trailside Center is located in the Watchung Reservation, at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside.

For quick links to all Union County environmental programs and activities visit The Green Connection, [ucnj.org/green-connection](http://ucnj.org/green-connection).

## Westfield Green Team Announces Earth Day Events

WESTFIELD — The Town of Westfield will hold its largest Earth Day celebration ever, including the third annual Free Market and Earth Day Fair, on Saturday, April 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the South Avenue train station lot.

These events, coordinated by the Westfield Green Team, are part of the Town's Earth Month celebration, the aim of which is to assist residents in adopting more sustainable practices and taking steps to address climate change.

“We hope to engage, educate, inform and entertain with all of our Earth Month activities,” said Ward 3 Councilman David Contract, who serves as the Council Liaison to the Green Team and helped plan the Free Market. “In particular, we hope the Earth Day Fair and Free Market shows residents specific ways they can live more sustainably like recycling unneeded household goods at the Free Market.”

The Earth Day Fair will feature more than a dozen exhibits and vendors showcasing ways residents can live more “green” — including through solar energy, EV cars, home energy efficiency improvements, composting, rain barrels and so much more. Making their first appearance will also be Karma, Westfield's first EV car dealer who will have one of their sporty EV cars on display.

As in past years, the Free Market is like a giant yard sale except everything is free. Westfield residents can bring gently used household items such as clothing, housewares, sporting goods, books/movies, kitchenware, small furniture and more, leave them for others to take, and take anything that's left by others. Anything remaining at the end of the Free Market will be picked up by Green Drop for distribution to deserving families in the area. Attendees may browse for goods at any time, although dropping off items requires advance registration for a time slot at <https://bit.ly/FreeMarket2021>.

Social distancing and mask wearing

are required at the event.

Other events during Earth Month include:

- Tree Planting With Mayor Brindle: Thursday, April 22 at 12 p.m. at the Memorial Pool parking lot.
- Markers/Crayons/Pens/Glue Sticks & More Recycling: Writing instruments, glue sticks, watercolor dispensers, paint sets and flexible packaging can be recycled from Monday, April 12 through Friday, April 23 at Edison Intermediate School and select other Westfield public schools. There will be two collection boxes at Edison in front of the main doors facing Rahway — one for writing instruments and a second for crayons (please keep the labels on if possible).
- Green Olympiad: This program invites students in Pre-K through 8th grade to be more sustainable and go for the “gold” by earning points for each activity. There will be more information at the Earth Day Fair, including sign-ups.

For more information about the Westfield Green Team, please visit [www.westfieldnj.org/green](http://www.westfieldnj.org/green).

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION  
NISSAN ALTIMA 2018**

Take notice, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:10A-8 et seq., application has been made to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission to receive title papers authorizing the sale of 2018 Nissan Altima VIN: 1N4AL3AP0JC212928 on April 15, 2021, 8a - 4p by means of public/private sale. This described motor vehicle which came into possession of Northeast Collision through abandonment or failure of owners to claim it may be examined at 1128 North Avenue, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062. Objections to this sale, if any, should be made immediately in writing to the following address: State of New Jersey, Motor Vehicle Commission, Special Titles Unit, 225 East State Street, P.O. Box 017, Trenton, New Jersey 08666.  
2 T - 04/15/21 & 04/22/21, The Times Fee: \$40.80

## Garwood Joins Statewide Pedestrian Safety Campaign

GARWOOD — Mayor Sara Todisco announced that in April and May, Garwood will be conducting a Street Smart NJ pedestrian safety education campaign aimed at changing unsafe behaviors and reducing pedestrian-motor vehicle crashes at the intersection of South Avenue and Center Street. Mayor Todisco said, “Garwood takes pedestrian safety seriously, and this campaign will be part of an effort to make our community safer.”

Street Smart NJ, initiated and managed by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) in 2013, is a statewide, collaborative effort between public, private and nonprofit organizations. The campaign reminds people that everyone has a role to play in making our streets safer. Drivers must obey speed limits and stop for people crossing, people walking or biking must use crosswalks (marked and unmarked) and cross with the signals and everyone must avoid distractions. Street Smart NJ is one of many initiatives working to reach zero pedestrian fatalities.

EZ Ride, the Transportation Management Association that serves Union County, will be managing the local campaign and will work with the borough, schools and community partners to educate and distribute safety information. Large educational signs will be displayed at the intersection and all around Garwood, and local police will be enforcing pedestrian laws as part of the campaign.

The borough kicked off the campaign on Wednesday April 14 at 2 p.m.

Pedestrian safety is a concern nationwide, but it is particularly important in New Jersey, which the federal government has designated as a pedestrian-safety focus state for its high rate of fatalities and injuries. On average, one pedestrian is killed every two days in New Jersey and 12 are injured daily. New Jersey ranked 18th in the nation in pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 people in 2018, and pedestrians comprised 32 percent (176 people) of

the 558 people killed in vehicle crashes in New Jersey in 2019, nearly double the national average of 17 percent, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

There were 13 motor vehicle crashes involving pedestrians and seven crashes involving bicycles in Garwood from 2015-19. None of those crashes were fatal, but two senior citizens were hit and killed by cars while crossing the street in 2020.

“Garwood has committed to making pedestrian safety a priority, and this campaign will help raise awareness about the common sense steps we can all take to make our roads safer for everyone,” Union County Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski said. “Drivers must avoid distractions, stop for people crossing and slow down for safety. Pedestrians should use crosswalks or cross at intersections and wait for the walk signal or green light before stepping into the road.”

Anyone interested in helping to promote the Street Smart NJ message in Garwood, should contact Lisa Lee, at (201) 939-4242 ext. 123, or [LLee@ezride.org](mailto:LLee@ezride.org). Learn more at [beststreetsmartnj.org](http://beststreetsmartnj.org). The campaign is also on Facebook and Twitter (@njstreetsmart).

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

**TAKE NOTICE** that on the 12th of April the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union took the following action:

1. **Application ZBA 20-005:** Adopted a Resolution of Memorialization approving Brian Luciani and Elizabeth Grisafi for a c(1) hardship variance for post-approval for a newly paved driveway on Block 487 Lot 13 as designated on the Township Tax Map also known as 12 Grove Street in the R-5 Zone. Maximum impervious lot coverage permitted is 45 percent where 46.75 percent exists/proposed (\$255-34 Attachment 1, Schedule 1); as well as several existing nonconforming conditions including a nonconforming location for an existing shed, elevated patio and hot tub. (\$255-38).

2. **Application ZBA 19-002:** Adopted a Resolution of Memorialization denying NATC Donuts, Inc. preliminary and final site plan approval, a d(1) use variance, numerous “c” variances as well as design waivers/exceptions for a drive-thru restaurant, designated on the Township Tax Map also known as 49 South Avenue West, Block 473 Lot 1 in the ORC zone.

Kathy Lenahan  
Board Administrator  
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader Fee: \$30.09

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWN OF WESTFIELD  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07090  
INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

The Westfield Board of Education hereby advertises for competitive bid pricing in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21(a) (b).

**BID NO. 2021-01  
TITLE OF BID  
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES  
FR 10, ALPS, UCV30, TRANSK, TES13, RIS21**

All necessary bid specifications will be secured via email. Please contact Deborah Valencia, Transportation Secretary at [valencia@westfieldnj12.org](mailto:valencia@westfieldnj12.org) for bid specifications.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Westfield Board of Education, bearing name and address, including contact name and email address, and clearly marked “BID” with the contract title and/or bid number on the outside of the envelope. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and delivered to the Office of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary of Westfield Board of Education on or before Thursday, April 29th at 2:00pm.

Sealed Bids are to be sent by mail or carrier with proof of delivery by Thursday, April 29th at 2:00pm. Bids can also be hand delivered to the Westfield Board of Education; 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.

**No bids shall be received after the time designated in the advertisement.** (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21(b)).

The Board of Education does not accept electronic (e-mail) submission of bids.

“Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.”

Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond, cashier's check or certified check made payable to the Westfield Board of Education, for ten percent (10%) of the amount of the total bid, however, not to exceed \$50,000.

Statement of Ownership Requirement: Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2, Bidders shall submit a statement setting forth the names and addresses of all persons and entities that own ten percent or more of its stock or interest of any type at all levels of ownership.

A Non-Confession Affidavit and a Contractor Questionnaire/Certification also must be submitted with the bid. The bid package will also include other documents that must be completed and returned with the bid. Failure to comply with Instructions to Bidders and to complete and submit all required forms, may be cause for disqualification and rejection of the bid.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(s), (t), (x), (y), 18A:18A-4(a), 18A:18A-22, and to waive any informalities

Dana Sullivan  
School Business Administrator  
Board Secretary  
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader Fee: \$64.26

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that upon the application of Danny Brito (the “Applicant”), the Board of Adjustment of the Borough of Mountainside will conduct a virtual hearing on April 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time to consider an application for coverage amounts of floor area ratio at the existing dwelling having an address of 561 Woodland Avenue. Such premises are also designated as Block 21, Lot 12 (the “Property”). The Property is located in the R-2 Zoning District. The applicant seeks variance relief for floor area ratio of 28.6%, where as 22.5% is allowed for the installation of a 174 square foot extension on the second floor. The applicant will also seek such other variances, exceptions and/or design waivers as may be required upon an analysis of the plans and the testimony at the public hearing.

IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE EXECUTIVE ORDERS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND IN AN EFFORT TO FOLLOW BEST PRACTICES RECOMMENDED BY THE CDC, THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY FOR ALL BOARD MEMBERS, BOARD PROFESSIONALS, THE APPLICANT, THE APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONALS, INTERESTED PARTIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

TO VIRTUALLY ATTEND THIS MEETING, FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81174138574?pwd=UnJUUjhKVWp1QWVJZjN1bktZcWNDdz09>

Meeting ID: 811 7413 8574  
Passcode: 742265  
Dial In: +1 929 205 6099

Copies of the application, including any supporting plans and other documents are public records and may be downloaded from the Borough's website at [www.mountain-side-nj.com](http://www.mountain-side-nj.com), by emailing Theresa Snyder, Board Clerk, at [tsnyder@mountain-side-nj.com](mailto:tsnyder@mountain-side-nj.com), or in person at Borough Hall by appointment only. At the public hearing, members of the public may appear in person, or through an attorney, and ask questions, give evidence or make a statement concerning the granting of this application.

Danny Brito  
561 Woodland Avenue  
Mountainside, New Jersey 07092  
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader Fee: \$49.47

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the ordinances of the Township of Cranford and the statutes of the State of New Jersey, and in order to comply with the Executive Orders signed by Governor Murphy and in an effort to follow best practices recommended by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that an application for development, Application No. ZBA-21-001 to be located in Zone R-3, on the premises known as 25 Dartmouth Road, Cranford, New Jersey, Block No. 130 Lot No. 31, has been submitted by Richard and Antonia Cleaveland, 25 Dartmouth Road, Cranford, New Jersey 07016.

The development involves and requires the granting of relief from zoning requirements and any such other variances/waivers as may be required in order to allow: Applicant is seeking a C(2) variance requesting relief from \$255-34: Area, Yard and Building Requirements; Maximum Building Coverage for the construction of a Deck.

In addition, applicant requests any other variances, waivers or relief that the Board may require.

The Zoning Board will conduct a VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING on this matter on the following date: Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:45 p.m. Residents who wish to participate in the virtual meeting for purposes of making a public comment or to participate in the scheduled public hearing can join with Google Meet at: meet.google.com/sja-nffj-ncx and 1-216-930-7619 enter PIN 179596488.

Any person or persons affected by this application will have an opportunity to present any objections to the proposed development. The Board does, however, have the right to exclude repetitious testimony.

All documents relating to this application are on file in the Zoning/Planning Office, Cranford Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 but are not available for public inspection at the building due to the Covid-19 emergency. All documents will be posted to the Zoning Board Webpage 10 days prior to the hearing. Anyone interested in reviewing the Application and supporting documents may inform the Applicant (or the applicant's attorney) identified below or the Board secretary (Kathy Lenahan: Phone - 908.709.7211; email - k-lenahan@cranfordnj.org -that they wish to receive copies of same and the Applicant (or applicant's attorney) shall then be required to deliver to the member(s) of the public the Application and supporting documents either electronically or by delivery of hard copies to the person requesting the materials.

AGAIN, THIS HEARING WILL BE A VIRTUAL HEARING VIA GOOGLE MEET.

Applicant  
Richard and Antonia Cleaveland  
25 Dartmouth Road  
Cranford, New Jersey 07016  
1 T - 04/15/21, The Leader Fee: \$63.24

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\*Using U.S. and imported parts.



## Community Calendar

Brought to you by Trinitas Regional Medical Center



**The Strange Science of Smell** Thursday, April 22, 7 p.m. Dr. Robert Pellegrino of the Monell Chemical Senses Center will join participants via Zoom to talk about what we know and we're learning about smell. He'll share the ways our lives can be improved through ongoing research, including the development of a rapid COVID-19 diagnostic test based on smell.

**Bagels and Books** Monday, May 3, 10 a.m. Use this Zoom meeting to share what you have been reading or listening to and pick up suggestions for future reading. This month, the group will also discuss their dream literary dinner parties. To register, please visit [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org).

**Zumba Gold** Thursdays, April 15 to May 20, 11 a.m. This is perfect for active, older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class that recreates the original moves you love at a lower-intensity. This class will run for 4 sessions and will be held at the picnic pavilion in Tamaques Park. Pre-registration is required, \$40. To register, please visit [bit.ly/WRDSeniors](http://bit.ly/WRDSeniors). For additional information, please contact Lauren at [lharmer@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:lharmer@westfieldnj.gov) or (908) 789-4080 ext 4088.

**Senior Fitness** Thursdays, April 15 to May 20, 12 p.m. A combination of seated and standing cardiovascular work, strength training and balance work suitable for the older adult. This class will run for 6 sessions and will be held at the picnic pavilion in Tamaques Park. Pre-registration is required, \$30. To register, please visit [bit.ly/WRDSeniors](http://bit.ly/WRDSeniors). For additional information, please contact Lauren at [lharmer@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:lharmer@westfieldnj.gov) or (908) 789-4080 ext 4088.

**April Cookbook Club** Thursday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. Celebrate the arrival of spring by focusing on vegetables. Prepare the recipe at home and we'll meet on Zoom to discuss the results. To register,

please visit [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org) or call (908) 322-5007.

**Basket Bingo** Friday, April 16. Join us for Basket Bingo where there will be different baskets that you can win such as dinner for two, gardening supplies, spring cleaning supplies, and more at the picnic pavilion at Tamaques Park. Pre-registration is required, \$5. To register, please visit [bit.ly/WRDSeniors](http://bit.ly/WRDSeniors). For additional information, please contact Lauren at [lharmer@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:lharmer@westfieldnj.gov) or (908) 789-4080 ext 4088.

**Songs of the Suffragists** Monday, April 19, 7 p.m. Join the virtual presentation of "Songs of the Suffragists: Lyrics of American Feminism from 1850 to 2020," by Susan Ferris. To register, please visit [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org) or call (908) 322-5007.

**Afternoon Book Club** Tuesday, April 20, 1 p.m. Join a Zoom discussion about "All the Single Ladies: Unmarried Women and the Rise of an Independent Nation" by Rebecca Traister. To register, please visit [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org).

**Kids Create: Chocolate Whipped Cream** Thursday, April 22, 4 p.m. Students in Kindergarten to 5th grade can learn to make their own Chocolate Whipped Cream. For this activity participants will need: powdered sugar, unsweetened cocoa powder, and heavy whipping cream. To register, visit [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org).

**Scripting Your Success: Becoming Your Own Best Advocate & Empowering Yourself Toward Your Goals** Tuesday, April 27, 7 p.m. Dr. Colleen Georges will discuss methods for speaking to yourself with compassion and empowerment in order to achieve your personal and professional goals and manage struggles and stressors with hope and resilience. To register, visit [wmlnj.org](http://wmlnj.org).

Submit events at [www.goleader.com/calendar](http://www.goleader.com/calendar)

## Nancy Ori and Linda LaStella Host a Free Art Conference

BERKELEY HEIGHTS — Nancy Ori, well-known local photographer and instructor, and Linda Vonderschmidt-LaStella, a professional ceramic artist, have joined forces to support each other and are now opening the door for other artists to join in the conversation. The two artists have collaborated and written articles for each other's newsletters on the topic of the maturing artist. The articles required a look-back at two incredible careers: where did they start? How did their art progress? What are the key elements that were learned along the way including this past year?

Once they realized how powerful the two journeys have been, they decided that it would be worth sharing this information with other artists as well as hearing from others on the same topic.

On Sunday, April 18 at 3 p.m., Nancy and Linda will host a free Zoom meeting with an opportunity for other artists to share their thoughts about their own journeys, give helpful tips for younger artists and plan for the future.

Nancy and Linda will host the free conference on Zoom. Anyone interested in joining the discussion will need to contact Nancy Ori to get the Zoom link. Attendance is open to any artist of any age using any medium. Along with important information about how to build an art business from experienced mentors, a major part of the conference discussion with attendees will be about what has been learned during this past year. "What has evolved from our working together to create a series of articles on the Maturing Artist and what we drew from each other was so eye-opening to me about my own work, the roots of my own art, that it has been quite a mind-blowing experience to have with someone who works in a totally different medium from me," said Linda.

Linda Vonderschmidt-LaStella, a widely exhibited ceramist, established Earthsongs Ceramic Studio in 1993 in Metuchen. She has

taught ceramics in formal settings at every level from pre-K to college and given workshops in the more informal settings of studios and community gatherings. Her ceramic murals are permanently installed in public, commercial and residential spaces in the tri-state area and Ireland. Currently her focus is on creating original work both for commissions and her own creative designs.

Nancy Ori, owner of New Jersey Media Center in Berkeley Heights, is respected internationally as a corporate photographer and has been a photography instructor for many years. She teaches workshops both locally and internationally and was affiliated for many years with the Ansel Adams Workshop in California. She currently teaches privately and is on the faculty of numerous museums and art centers throughout the state.

Nancy says, "I came up with this idea of collaboration with other artists and invited Linda to be the first one. I would like to continue these conversations with other artists throughout the year and share our thoughts through our newsletters on a variety of topics. It will be a great networking opportunity for everyone. The idea of the Zoom conference is a great way for experienced artists to share their inspirations and realizations to help other artists. The conference will be void of discussions on anything political or negative. I would like the attendees to walk away with some positive energy and tips for how to plan for what to do after the quarantine. How will they redefine their normal?"

For more information on the Maturing Artist Conference, please contact Nancy Ori at (908) 790-8820 or [nancyori@comcast.net](mailto:nancyori@comcast.net). You will need to contact Nancy to receive the Zoom link. You can visit both artists' websites at [nancyoriworkshops.com](http://nancyoriworkshops.com) and [www.claysongs.com](http://www.claysongs.com). To read the articles that inspired the conference, go to: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/my-drive>

## Union County Announces Emergency Food Distributions

COUNTY -- The Union County Board of County Commissioners will hold three emergency food distribution events for Union County residents in April to aid those affected by Covid-19.

Saturday, April 17, 8 a.m. – Union County Vocational Technical School in Scotch Plains - Drive-up only.

Tuesday, April 27, 10 a.m. – Gerald B. Green Plaza in Plainfield - Walk-up only.

The food distributions are open to all Union County residents. Food will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and no registration is required. The events will take place rain or shine.

The food distributions are being coordinated by the County of Union with support from Village Super Market and Gargiulo Produce.

"Food distributions have become a lifeline for our residents during the Covid-19 pandemic," said Commissioner Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "We are proud to be able to continue providing this valuable resource to our residents in the coming months."

"During this time, residents continue to mitigate effects of unemployment, housing issues and food insecurity and we are working hard to help everyone put food on their tables," said Commissioner Sergio Granados who also serves as Liaison to the Human Services Advisory Board. "We thank Village Super Market and Gargiulo Produce

for their partnership in this ongoing effort."

Residents wishing to pick up food at the drive-up distribution events at Union County Vocational Technical School must arrive in a vehicle. Walk-ups will not be accommodated in Scotch Plains.

Residents picking up food at the walk-up events in Elizabeth and Plainfield must wear masks at all times and maintain social distance. Walk-up recipients should bring a cart or be able to carry several food bags at the walk-up area.

All drive-up recipients at Union County Vocational Technical School must remain in their cars with windows rolled up at all times, otherwise masks are required. Food boxes will be placed in the trunk or truck bed of the vehicle by volunteers.

Upon arrival, proof of New Jersey residency and indication of how many people reside in their household will have to be provided. Recipients will receive an emergency box of produce, dairy and shelf stable food, with enough to sustain a family for several days. Please note that only one box of food will be provided per recipient at each event.

This event will run in compliance with state Covid-19 orders, regarding social distancing and other protocols.

For questions and more information, residents may call the UCDHS Director's Action Line at (888) 845-3434 or (908) 558-2288.

## Goods & Services Directory

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188 Elm Street, Westfield NJ 07090  
908-233-8502 x455



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## 16 Homes Sold Apr 4 – Apr 11, 2021 in Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield

TOWN	ADDRESS	STYLE	RMS	BRS	BTH	GAR	SALE PRICE
Cranford	128 BURNSIDE AVE	CapeCod	6	3	2.0	0	\$401,000
Cranford	507 ORCHARD ST	Colonial	9	4	2.0	1	\$580,000
Cranford	24 BROOKDALE RD	SplitLev	9	4	2.1	2	\$690,000
Fanwood	26 KEMPSHALL TER	Ranch	4	4	2.1	1	\$653,000
Garwood	329 PINE AVE	RanchExp	6	3	1.1	1	\$415,000
Mountainside	259 CENTRAL AVE	CapeCod	6	3	1.0	1	\$480,000
Mountainside	1459 DUNN PKWY	Ranch	8	3	2.1	2	\$650,000
Scotch Plains	6 NICOLE CT	Colonial	8	4	2.1	2	\$746,000
Scotch Plains	1111 DONAMY GLN	Colonial	14	6	5.1	2	\$1,100,000
Scotch Plains	11 HIDDEN MEADOW DR	Colonial	9	5	3.1	2	\$1,020,000
Westfield	1 DORIS PKY	CapeCod	7	3	2.0	1	\$549,000
Westfield	601 LEIGH DR	SplitLev	7	3	1.2	1	\$700,000
Westfield	626 4th AVE	Colonial	10	5	3.1	1	\$1,120,000
Westfield	547 SAINT MARKS AVE	Colonial	10	5	3.2	2	\$1,200,000
Westfield	2 BELL DR	Colonial	15	5	5.1	2	\$1,200,000
Westfield	542 TREMONT AVE	Colonial	11	6	3.1	2	\$1,350,000

\*Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield, NJ data according to the Garden State MLS, as of 4/4/21 – 4/11/21. Featured properties may not have been listed or sold by the office/agent presenting this data. Information deemed RELIABLE. A home is one of the most important and significant purchases or sales you will make in your lifetime. If you are thinking about a move, now is the time to prepare. I will provide you with a market evaluation and mortgage update, create a thorough marketing plan and let you know my suggestions in staging. For more information on these or other real estate matters, contact Susan Massa Broker CRS SRES ABR at 908-400-0778, [susan@susanmassa.com](mailto:susan@susanmassa.com) or [susanmassa2@gmail.com](mailto:susanmassa2@gmail.com). [www.NJHomeShowcase.com](http://www.NJHomeShowcase.com) [www.summitwestfieldhomes.com](http://www.summitwestfieldhomes.com).

Covid 19 is dramatically changing the way we are conducting Real Estate. New procedures have been implemented in keeping all those involved safe. Every precaution is being made. Limited number of people may view public open house with masks and gloves.

## Save The Date – Thursday April 22 Spring Cleaning

WESTFIELD — Back by popular demand, Jefferson School will be having a clothing, toy, stroller and bike drive to benefit the 5th grade class from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Clover Street near Jefferson in Westfield.

Drop-off will only be Thursday, April 22. Not before.

Help the 5th grade class with its fundraising efforts while you clean out your closet with those summer outfits your children will not wear again or those outfits you have been meaning to throw out for years! It is for a great cause!

Please keep toys, clothing and stuffed animals completely separate — this helps with the donation and sorting process. (We will have marked areas for dropoff.)

Bagged clothing (all ages), toys,

bikes and strollers can be dropped off at the end of the Jefferson field on Clover Street from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Books are not accepted, but we will have a collection of those at a later date, so start stocking up!

For more information on the clothing drive, please go to [www.aeclothing.net](http://www.aeclothing.net)



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

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

- Head of Household must be 62 years of age, or older.
- Applicant's maximum annual income:  
\$ 55,950 Individual  
\$ 63,950 Couple

Applications will be available weekdays from April 21, 2021, through May 4, 2021 (10:00 AM to 4:00 PM) at the address listed below, or may be obtained by mail, by calling (908) 233-5898, ext 119, or by e-mail by contacting [mary.weber@westfieldseniorhousing.com](mailto:mary.weber@westfieldseniorhousing.com).

Westfield Senior Citizens Housing Corporation  
1133 Boynton Avenue  
Westfield, New Jersey 07090  
(908) 233-5898

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

If you have a disability and need assistance with the application process, please contact Jessica Tresidder at 908-233-5898, ext. 114.

Applications must be received by  
4:00 PM, Thursday, May 14, 2021.



SMOKE FREE BUILDING







# Doors of Fanwood Fundraiser To Benefit Rescue Squad

FANWOOD — The unique and colorful front doors of Fanwood homes form the basis of an art project benefitting the Fanwood Rescue Squad in a fundraiser by local real estate agents.

A poster called “The Doors of Fanwood,” showing the front doors of 20 Fanwood homes, is being sold

by Coldwell Banker Realty, Westfield West Office, for \$20 each. One-hundred percent of the money raised will go to the rescue squad.

George Kraus, Westfield West Branch vice president, had the idea of producing the limited-edition poster to be sold as a fundraiser after he and his agents were inspired by

the dedication of volunteer first-responders during the Covid-19 pandemic. A committee of sales agents who live in or are from Fanwood volunteered to identify a collection of residential doors that were representative of Fanwood’s architecturally diverse neighborhoods as well as those that had unique characteristics or historical significance. With the help of Diana Chaves, Pat Plante and Jill Skibinsky, the doors were identified, and those homeowners were contacted to discuss the project. We are deeply grateful for the many homeowners who graciously agreed to be included.

A donation of \$20 will buy one of the 18” x 24” color posters, suitable for framing. To order, please call the Coldwell Banker Westfield West office at (908) 233-0065 or stop by the office located at 600 North Avenue West in Westfield, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Acceptable forms of payment are cash, check and Venmo.

Other posters available are Cranford, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield, with 100 percent of those net proceeds supporting their respective rescue squads.

# Dragons in the Crease Returns to Theater Project

UNION -- *Dragons in the Crease*, a play that premiered in the prestigious New York Theater Festival’s Summerfest, is returning to The Theater Project for three livestream presentations, Thursday, April 29 through Saturday, May 1.

Each of the streaming performances by The Theater Project — a leading incubator for rising talent and a showcase for New Jersey artists — begins at 7:30 p.m. A live discussion with playwright Joseph Vitale will follow the Saturday, May 1 performance.

Based on a real event, the play concerns a college student with a severe stutter who has been asked by his professor not to speak in class but instead write his questions down. Because of the media coverage that ensues, the incident becomes a national news story, changing both their lives forever.

*Dragons in the Crease* playwright Mr. Vitale is one of The Theater Project’s most prominent playwrights and founder and executive producer of the company’s THINK FAST one-

act play fest, a program he developed to expand opportunities for other playwrights. He recently received one of only 12 New Jersey Individual Artist Fellowships for 2021.

A member of The Theater Project’s playwrights’ workshop and a semifinalist for the 2012 Eugene O’Neill Theater/National Playwrights Conference, Mr. Vitale is the author of a dozen full-length plays, including, *Murrow*, a one-man show about the life of Edward R. Murrow, which premiered at The Theater Project and was later performed off-off Broadway in 2016 at The Phoenix Theatre Ensemble. His one-act play *The Monster Under the Bed* was voted “Best Play” at both the 2018 St. Paul Theater Festival and the 2019 One-Act Jamboree at the Rhino Theater, Pompton Lakes.

“We are thrilled to have Joseph Vitale’s thought-provoking *Dragons in the Crease* back,” said Mark Spina, The Theater Project’s artist director. “Ten years ago he joined our workshop, and everyone has benefited from his guidance and experience. It’s a pleasure and privilege to watch his work develop. We couldn’t be prouder of his accomplishments and look forward to another run of unforgettable performances of *Dragons*.”

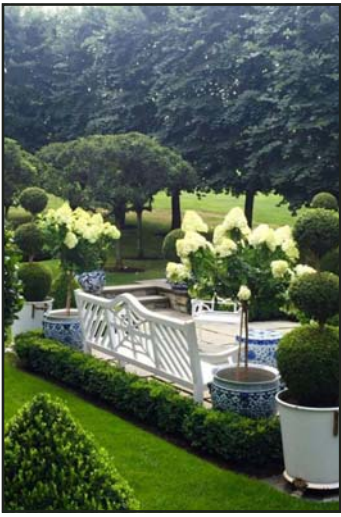
Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by visiting The Theater Project Presents: DRAGONS IN THE CREASE. Purchasers will receive a link one hour before the performance.

For further information, visit TheTheaterProject.org or phone the Union Township box office, (908) 809- 8865.

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# Landscaping: It’s the First Impression Your Home Makes and Can Help Sell Your Home



Here are a few tips to add value and curb appeal with attractive plantings and well-maintained landscape

Potential home buyers form their first impression of your home from its curb appeal. Yet the home’s outdoor landscaping is overlooked, or underdone, when preparing your home to sell.

Ideally the time to get started cleaning up your yard is weather permitting and about a month before you plan on showing your house. That should give you enough time to get everything looking just right and not leave the impression that you simply waited until the last minute to put things in order. Here are a few tips for sprucing up your yard to help your home sell quickly.

Spruce up the outdoors with container pots they are portable and create attractive design on the lawn or patio or deck. Container plants, especially large palm plant, adds considerable interest to patios and doorways where potential buyers enter and exit the house. Color is also a way to provide interest Use Flowering plants that are in season to take you thru the spring summer season. If it’s Autumn you can never go wrong with Mums

Montauk Daisies Sun Flowers. Such displays also demonstrate the endless possibilities for designing with container plants.

Touch up the mulch. This is a must your gardens especially around the foundation of the home add drama. The vibrant t flowers or shrubs against the back drop of rich black mulch. It’s a classic look and is inexpensive but provides that WOW factor.

Seasonal color makes the landscape pop as well, and flats of annuals are also relatively inexpensive. Go for a splash of several colors or a more monochromatic scheme, whatever fits in with the look of your home.

Do you have a water fountain or a water feature that can sit next to a garden patio, so the sounds of the water can be heard while relaxing in the sun? Add some beautiful stone even a small elevated stone wall with lush green plants making it pleasant for the eyes, as well.

Regular Maintenance goes without saying Shape unsightly or overgrown trees and shrubs. Regardless of the season, it’s a good idea to tackle any overlooked pruning chores because nothing says neglect like a bunch of dead branches. The idea is to give the impression you have maintained the home inside and out. It’s okay to prune deciduous trees and shrubs any time of the year.

Perennial beds. Are the jewels. Tidy up your annuals and your perennials if they don’t look good trim prune or pull out and replace

Take care of any irrigation issues, you are lucky if you have one.

If there are any problems with an irrigation system, fix them. Irrigation system repairs can be expensive, and you don’t want to lay the cost of those repairs on the buyer. Provide information about your irrigation schedule, especially if you have an automatic system. Include instructions as to how the system operates and rec-

ommend the same watering schedule that’s worked for you.

Repair faucet leaks. A leaking faucet suggests that there may be other problems elsewhere in the plumbing, and that can be an instant turn-off to buyers.

Consider labeling as many plants as possible especially if it’s an herb garden and or vegetable garden. That way the buyer will at least know the name of each plant and can then research their growing needs. Also consider creating a complete plant inventory in scrapbook form and leaving it out on a table for prospective buyers to browse through as they tour your home. This relatively simple step can have a powerful effect on buyers, whether they’re gardeners or not.

Power-wash dirty surfaces. Consider buying or renting a power washer to clean paved surfaces. With very little time or effort, you can make grungy, grimy surfaces look brand-spanking new. Power washers also do a great job of cleaning fences, as well as brick and vinyl siding.

The outside needs to be as pristine and beautiful as your interior and you will appreciate the effort and so will you buyer.



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# Cranford Native to Screen Comedy Short at Hometown Festival

By JENNIFER GLACKIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CRANFORD -- Peter Collier found his passion as a comedy writer. The Cranford native’s short film, *Santa Force* will be featured as a part of the inaugural year of the Cranford Film Festival.

Encouraged to begin acting by his elementary music teacher Tom Pedas, Peter began acting in school musicals at a young age. His first role was as an orphan in Hillside Avenue School’s production of *Oliver!* “That’s how I got into it and I’ve never looked back,” he told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*. Peter continued to act, sing, and dance his way through life at summer camps, local productions, and eventually musicals at Cranford High School. Then he entered West Chester University in Pennsylvania as a theater major where his skills took a more dramatic turn in plays.

It was a twist of fate that brought him back to New York after college, when he met the Labyrinth Theater Company and began studying with Maggie Flanigan. “It’s a really wonderful company with some really wonderful people,” he said of the off-Broadway group, whose thirty-year history includes members such as Philip Seymour Hoffman, Daphne Rubin-Vega, and Ron Cephas Jones. There he continued acting in dramatic plays, but after seven years those more serious roles began to take their toll.

“I was tired of crying all the time,”

he joked, adding that he started writing comedy sketches and jokes as a way to make himself laugh while performing those dramatic roles. Peter sent his comedy scripts to his younger sister Molly, also an actor with Labyrinth, and she suggested he turn a Halloween sketch into a short film. They produced it together and had fun doing it, he said. “I got bit by the bug and wanted to do it again.”

Peter kept writing various sketches and taking classes to hone his skills, “plugging away at a number of scripts.” Eventually a “silly” thought about an army of Santas led to the script for *Santa Force*. Shot in one day in the basement of his apartment building, the five minute and twenty-five second film stars Peter and fellow Labyrinth Theater Company members Aaron Weiner and David Zayas and directed by Peter’s close friend, David Zayas, Jr. “I wrote it with those specific actors in mind and they all agreed,” he said. “I was very fortunate.” The eight-hour shoot also included friends who stepped in

as craft services making eggs, burritos, and coffee to keep the actors and crew fueled.

“I wanted to show my family and friends because I was proud of it,” Peter said, so he posted it on YouTube. After some encouragement from friends, he began researching film festivals that would accept submissions that had already been made public. The Cranford Film Festival seemed like the perfect fit. “It’s the town that I know and love - and grew up in!”

The Cranford Film Festival will run virtually this year due to Covid restrictions. While Peter is disappointed he won’t be able to see his film on the big screen, he is still incredibly proud that his work will be shown in his hometown festival.

The Cranford Film Festival will run from Saturday, April 17 through Sunday, April 25. For more information or tickets, visit [www.cranfordfilmfestival.org](http://www.cranfordfilmfestival.org). To check out more of Peter’s work, follow him on Instagram or Twitter @petercollierjr.

# Sister Act As Presented by Kean University Theatre

AREA – Get ready to raise your voice and make a joyful noise! The Kean University Theatre Conservatory is happy to present the high-energy musical *Sister Act* by Alan Menken, Glenn Slater and Cheri and Bill Steinkellner. *Sister Act* is based on the Touchstone Pictures motion picture *Sister Act* by Joseph Howard. This special concert edition of *Sister Act* will be streamed April 1618 on Showtix4U.

Welcome to Philadelphia in 1971. Deloris Van Cartier, an aspiring disco club singer, is forced to take shelter in the convent of the Queen of Angels Church after she unwittingly witnesses a brutal crime. Surrounded by a hilarious collection of nuns, Deloris is intent on making the best of her situation. Deloris lends her greatest talent – her voice – to the nuns, teaching them how to “raise their voices” and bring more attention to the failing church. Deloris is stuck between her lifelong dream and her new-found family, all while a great threat looms overhead.

*Sister Act* is directed by Holly Logue, the chair of the Theatre Conservatory. The production features 22 current Kean performance students. The creative team of *Sister Act* is a mix of Kean students and industry professionals, including music direction by Mark Baron, choreography by Christopher George Patterson and lighting design by Leesy Mastro with sound design by Nathan Leigh and scenic and costume design by David M. Barber and Agape DeLeon (respectively).

The production is stage managed by sophomore BFA theatre design and technology major Maddie Young.

Join us for this fabulous musical that will have you rejoicing in your seat! *Sister Act* will be streaming April 16 at 7:30 p.m., April 17 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and April 18 at 2 p.m. Audiences are also invited to attend a post-show discussion following each performance. Because of this new adventure into streaming, all tickets are free. Donations are accepted and graciously welcomed. To reserve your ticket, visit [www.kean.edu/sister-act](http://www.kean.edu/sister-act).

# Arts + Cars Returns To Summit This Fall

SUMMIT — The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in partnership with Summit Downtown, Inc. and Summit PAL, will co-host the return of Arts + Cars, the Summit Downtown Art Festival on Sunday, September 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This outdoor event will feature art for sale by local artists, hundreds of classic cars on display, live music, children’s activities, a beer garden and the regularly scheduled Summit Farmers Market. Artists interested in showing and selling their work can visit [bit.ly/ArtsCars21](http://bit.ly/ArtsCars21) to download an application. The early bird date for applications is Tuesday, June 15, with a final deadline of September 5. Please contact Executive Director Melanie Cohn at [mcohn@artcenternj.org](mailto:mcohn@artcenternj.org) with any questions.

# Free Drive-Up Screening of The Croods – A New Age

COUNTY — There will be a free drive-up screening of *The Croods – A New Age* at the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools Campus, located at 1776 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains on Friday, April 23. Parking begins at 7 p.m., and the movie will begin at dusk. The rain date for this event is scheduled for Saturday, April 24.

Due to space limitations, advanced reservations are required. To register, go to [ucnj.org/reserve](http://ucnj.org/reserve) beginning at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 16. Only one registration is required per vehicle.

The following rules and guidelines apply to residents wishing to attend.

The event will run in compliance with state Covid-19 orders regarding social distancing and other protocols.

The event is open to Union County residents only.

The event is free to attend, but pre-registration is required.

Due to space limitations, reservations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To help promote social distancing, no walk-ups, bikes or chairs are permitted.

Attendees must bring their own snacks and drinks. There will not be any food or drink available for purchase. Alcohol is not permitted.

Vehicles will be arranged at least 6 feet apart with adequate social distancing.

Attendees must stay in their vehicles (unless they need to use the port-o-johns)

Port-o-johns will be available. Masks are required when using the port-o-johns.

Further details will be available to residents upon registration.

For more information and updates on all Union County services during the Covid-19 outbreak, including the drive-thru test center at Kean University, the mobile test unit walk-up sites, vaccination information, emergency food distribution and other support services, visit [ucnj.org/covid19](http://ucnj.org/covid19). General information about Covid-19 is available through the New Jersey Department of Health at [nj.gov/health](http://nj.gov/health).

For all Union County programs and services visit [ucnj.org](http://ucnj.org), call the Public Info Line, (877) 424-1234, email [info@ucnj.org](mailto:info@ucnj.org), or use the online contact form.

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Mixing With Zest

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

# Oatmeal ‘Breakfast’ Cookies

These cookies include everything delicious that you would normally put in a bowl of oatmeal, but you can take these on the go or eat them for breakfast and feel like you’re starting with dessert! Feel free to add chocolate chips if you want the cookies a bit sweeter. This recipe makes about 10 cookies, depending on how large you make them. Store leftovers in an airtight container. Feel free to heat them up in the microwave for a few seconds or eat at room temperature. Enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 3 cups oatmeal
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 2 egg
- 1/4 cup honey

- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. In a medium bowl mix together your oatmeal, pecans, raisins and flour.
3. Add the remaining ingredients, mixing well between each ingredient.
4. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and form your cookies. I form them into small circles on the baking sheet and then push the dough down to flatten slightly. The dough won’t bind together as much as traditional cookies, but they will solidify in the oven, so don’t worry!
5. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes until the edges start to become golden brown. Remove and place on a cooling rack to fully cool (or enjoy a nice warm cookie!)







David B. Corbin (April 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**FINISHING THE PICKOFF...**Blue Devil shortstop Jack Bowman puts the tag on Pioneer Joe Brong, who got caught heading to second on a pickoff attempt in the sixth inning. Somerville scored four runs in the ninth inning to top Westfield, 8-4 on April 6, 2019.



David B. Corbin (April 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**SCRAMBLING FOR THE LOOSE BALL...**Blue Devils Liz Healy, No. 14, and Carley Farella, No. 17, attempt to scoop the ball away from a Laker at Kehler Stadium on April 3, 2019. Mountain Lakes rallied in the second half to win 9-6.

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

From the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* - complete accounts found at [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com) - year - month - week.  
**April 3, 2019:** Jayna Mallon whacked a homerun, scored twice and added three RBI, and Ava Manfra homered and scored twice to lead the 2-0 Cranford High School softball team to a 13-1, five-inning victory over the hosting Governor Livingston Highlanders on April 3. Elizabeth McCaffery

also doubled, singled, scored three times and had two RBI.  
**April 3, 2019:** Mountain Lakes awakened to defeat the Westfield High School girls lacrosse team, 9-6, on April 3 at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield. The Blue Devils squandered a 5-3 half-time advantage and were outscored 6-1 in the second half by the Lakers. Kate Carolanza scored five goals for the victors. Paige Radice led Westfield with three goals. Goalkeeper Mia Fleming

stopped 11 shots for Westfield. Liz Healy scored one goal and one assist. Nicole Scheuermann and Mikaela Buoscio each scored a goal as well. Maggie Aslanian dished out three assists. Olivia Shields and Carley Farella each notched an assist.  
**April 6, 2019:** The Westfield boys track and field team placed fourth with a team total of 67.5, while the Blue Devil girls placed sixth with a total of 53.5 at the Rebel Relays in Howell on April 6. The Blue Devil boys took top honors in the 4x800 and the 4x1,600, while the girls won the 4x400 and 4x1,600 events. James McCutcheon, Will McGlynn,

Jack Maranz and Will Loggia crossed first in the 4x800 with a time of 8:15.19. Zach Spergel, Ronnie Melao, McGlynn and Loggia finished first in the 4x1,600 with a time of 18:45.01.  
Katie Hamilton, Caroline Collins, Grace Morgan and Grace Endy placed first in the 4x1,600 with a time of 21:54.66. Sophia Papalardo, Marie Koglin, Jaime DeDea and Julia Csorba captured first in the 4x400 with a time of 4:06.48. Sam Stravach (meet's best 110-5), Katie McHugh and Julia Rickert took third in the team discus.  
**April 6, 2019:** The Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls track & field team placed second with a total of 36 behind Randolph with 40 and the Raider boys placed fourth

with a total of 44 at the Summit Relays held at Tatlock Field in Summit on April 6. Raiders Anina Dashiell, Che Dashiell, Nicole Agwu and Kayla Paprocki finished second in the shuttle hurdles at 1:08.06. Julia Jackson, Corinne Lyght, Agwu and Cheyenne Way-Hawkins finished second in the Sprint Medley Relay at 1:53.74.  
The Raider boys won two events beginning with Myles Singletary, Kyle Estivene, Noah Samms and Jacob Leigh crossing first in the 4x100 at 43.98. Singletary, Justin Williams, Melvin Williams and Estivene took first in the 4x110-hurdles at 1:09.1. Leigh also had the best clearance in the high jump with a height of 6-4.

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David B. Corbin (April 2018 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**SLIDING HOME SAFELY...**Cougar Tyler Szczech, No. 35, slides home safely in the second inning against Memorial of West New York as catcher Ricardo Turro attempts to make a tag at Memorial Field in Cranford on April 14, 2018.



David B. Corbin (April 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**UP FOR GRABS...**As the ball pops loose, Raiders Kate Jackman, No. 4, and Hailey Kinard, No. 16, look to grab it before Cranford's Sylvie Fernandez, No. 26, can get to it. The Raiders nipped the Cougars, 10-9, in Cranford on April 3, 2019.

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

**April 13, 2018:** Shifts in momentum did occur but the final shift went in favor of the New Providence Pioneers in a 14-10 victory over the Cranford High School girls lacrosse team at Memorial Field in Cranford. The game featured runs of five goals, three goals and a finale of three goals by the Pioneers, while the Cougars had a three-goal run and three sets of two-goal runs. Seniors Maggie Roman and Abby Ganley and sophomores Grace Power and Alyssa Gesslein accounted for all of the 2-3 Cougars' goals. Ellie Rokicki contributed an assist.

**April 14, 2018:** Scotch Plains-Fanwood pitcher Jake Friedman threw six innings of shutout ball to lead the Raiders to an 8-0 victory over crosstown rival Union Catholic in a baseball game played on April 14 at SPF High School. Anthony DiNizo had a pair of hits and scored a run to lead the Raider offense. The Raiders improved their season mark to 5-3 and more importantly, showed that they have solid pitching depth behind Dan Wilkinson, who recently struck out 20 batters in a win over Union.

**April 14, 2018:** Hitting came alive for the Cranford High School baseball team but what was even more lively was the pitching performance of junior Jake Van Dam in the Cougars' 13-1, four and one-half inning victory over the Memorial Tigers of West New York at Memorial Field in Cranford on April 14. The victory marked Cougar Head Coach Dennis McCaffery's 399th career victory at the helm.

Van Dam had a no-hit, two-walk shutout going for the first four innings, while recording five strikeouts, until Tiger Justin Esposito tagged him with a solo home run over the right field fence in the top of the fifth inning. He later allowed a two-out single to Gabi Abreu before recording the final out. Tyler Szczech, Pat Connolly, Jamie Shriner, Jake DeClerico and Mike Murphy provided the fire power.

Several hours later, the Cougars would defeat the Linden Tigers, 5-3, this time at Memorial Field in Linden to award Coach McCaffery with his 400th career victory. Connolly went 3-for-3 and Aidan Plick had a hit and two RBI.

**April 13, 2017:** The early season

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE





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

**BLANKING A COUGAR...**Blue Devil Damien Ruparel shut out his Cranford Cougar opponent, 6-0, 6-0, at first singles as the Westfield boys tennis team blanked the Cougars, 5-0, on April 11, 2018 at Tamaques Park in Westfield.



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

**ELUDING A DEFENDER...**Blue Devil attacker Matt Rittendale, No. 8, eludes a West Morris defender at Kehler Stadium on April 14, 2018. The Blue Devils defeated West Morris, 10-3. Rittendale and Jake Engelke each netted three goals and two assists and Nicky Bond had a goal and four assists.

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

son had not been kind to the Cranford baseball team. After stumbling out of the gates to a 1-3 start, the Cougars got to take out their frustrations on Linden by mauling the visitors, 19-2, in on April 13 at Orange Avenue School in Cranford. Brian Oblachinski had a perfect day at the plate for Cranford going 3-for-3 with a triple and three RBI. Patrick Connelly and Ryan Bakie each added two hits and two RBI.

**April 13, 2017:** Magic may

have been the only explanation for the sudden shift of momentum in the final 47 seconds of the game between the Westfield girls lacrosse team and the West Morris Mendham Lady Minutemen at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on April 13. The Blue Devils converted three straight draw controls into three goals within that span to overcome a 9-6 deficit to force a sudden victory overtime period then co-captain Hannah Liddy slammed home the winner

within 29 seconds to give Westfield a 10-9 triumph.

After Westfield won the draw, Liddy quickly assisted senior Haley Farella on the first goal that made the score, 9-7, with 47 seconds on the clock. With :26 remaining, Liddy made the score 9-8 then co-captain Natalie Bond scooped the ball on the next draw and found the mark with 14 seconds left, eventually forcing the overtime.

**April 13, 2016:** Governor

Livingston pushed across the go ahead run in the bottom of the sixth inning then relied on starter Cole Schneider and reliever Nick Cocchia to close the door on the Cranford Cougars baseball team, while earning a tight 3-2 victory in a game played on April 13 in Berkeley Heights.

Schneider held the Cougars hitless through five innings before Cranford with some help, rallied to tie the game with two runs in the sixth. Schneider threw

wide of first base on a routine tapper back to the mound. Then Ryan Bakie was called safe on another grounder when first baseman Cocchia dropped the throw from shortstop after trying to transfer the ball from his glove. The delayed call by the umpire sent Highlander Head Coach Chris Roof onto the field to protest.

Michael Smith came through with the Cougars' first hit, lining a double off of the leftfield fence

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David B. Corbin (April 2017 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**SLAMMING HOME THE WINNER...**Blue Devil Hannah Liddy, left, slammed home the winner within 29 seconds in overtime to give Westfield a 10-9 triumph over the Mendham Lady Minutemen on April 13, 2017.



David B. Corbin (April 2017 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**GUNNED DOWN AT SECOND...**Blue Devil Genevieve Howell, No. 19, gets tagged out by Hilltopper shortstop Taylor Thompson while attempting to steal second base in the third inning in Westfield on April 12, 2017. Westfield held off the Hilltoppers, 4-3.

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

that scored both runners and tied the game at 2-2. Schneider helped his own cause in the GL sixth by drilling a double into left-center field. Cranford pitcher Librera walked Jace Tweeten then loaded the bases with two outs when he plunked Josh Katz. Dan Baroff patiently worked a full count then calmly took a close pitch just off the outside corner for ball four that plated the go-ahead run that held up.

**April 14, 2016:** The Westfield High School softball team defeated Cranford, 6-2, on April 14 at Adams Field in Cranford. The Blue Devils were able to notch their first win of the season behind the strong pitching of sophomore Bridget Hyland, who pitched a complete game and allowed five hits while striking out three. Hyland was the beneficiary of solid defensive play throughout the game. Blue Devil Lauren Fernandez

singled, stole second and scored on Danielle Rinaldi's RBI single. Ally Gulla delivered a two-run single scoring Erica Lawrence (single, RBI double), and Hailey Reilly. Natalie Patterson rapped a two-run single. Cougar Erin Schwerdtfeger launched a titanic solo home run well over the centerfield fence. Julia Palozzola doubled and scored on Schwerdtfeger's groundout. **April 14, 2016:** Tied after the first quarter, up by one at the

half and clinging to a one goal lead after three, the No. 2 Summit Hilltoppers made sure they stayed in front with two unanswered goals in the fourth quarter to register an 8-5 win over the Blue Devil boys lacrosse team at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on April 14. The hungry Hilltoppers waited nearly a year to get even with the Blue Devils after a 4-3, triple overtime loss to them in the Union County Tournament title game

last May. Senior/co-captain defenseman Owen Colwell led the Blue Devils with five ground balls and was able to add several key deflections. Senior/co-captain goalkeeper Toby Burgdorf was really put to the test with the Hilltoppers' onslaught and came up with 14 saves. Nicky Bond scored a pair of goals, James Bohlinger had a goal and an assist, and Devon McLane had two

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE





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

**TOSSING A SHUTOUT...**Blue Devil sophomore Corey Hiltz scattered seven hits and walked none in a 6-0 shutout over the Governor Livingston Highlanders in Westfield (April 15, 2016).



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

**DEFENDING THE GOAL...**Blue Devil defenders Kyle Dombrowski, No. 11, and Matt McIlroy, No. 35, and goalkeeper Toby Burgdorf defend the goal against a Summit intruder at Gary Kehler Stadium (April 14, 2016). Summit won 8-5.

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

assists. Brandon Leuthold and Matt Rittendale each scored once and Blake Taylor had an assist.

**April 15, 2016:** Sophomore pitcher Corey Hiltz, in his first varsity appearance on the mound, passed with flying colors when he tossed a seven-inning shutout and his team backed him up with a 11-hit performance to lead the Westfield baseball team to a 6-0 victory over the Governor Livingston Highlanders at Bob Brewster, Sr. Field in Westfield on April 15. Hiltz certainly did not overpower the Highlanders and recorded only one strikeout but he walked no one and managed to scatter seven hits, allowing no more than two in one given inning.

Every batter in the Blue Devils' lineup contributed, at least one hit. JD Marner, who was

actually the first person to cross home plate, rapped a pair of singles and added an RBI. Designated hitter Jake Vall-Llobera also singled twice scored once and had an RBI. Steve Barmakian (run), Devin Anderson (run), J

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Mack Rembisz and Jacob Kurstedt each singled and added an RBI. Chris Rinaldi and Victor Cruz each singled and scored once and Bobby Abbott singled and walked once.

**April 7, 2015:** Chris Gibbons led the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School baseball team to an impressive win 8-3 win over Cranford at Memorial Field in Cranford. The senior lefty tossed a complete game, allowing three runs on 10 hits, while striking out nine batters. Gibbons helped his own cause at the plate by driving in two runs, including a solo homer over the right field fence in the top half of the fifth inning to give the Raiders a 5-3 lead. Albert Gargiulo went 3-for-3 for Cranford, while Joe Norton finished 2-for-4 and Liam

Duffy went 2-for-3 with an RBI and run scored.

**April 8, 2015:** Senior midfielder Pat Aslanian fired in five goals and added a pair of assists and James Brucia netted three goals to lead the Westfield High School boys lacrosse team to a 14-7 victory over Chatham in Chatham. Goalkeeper Toby Burgdorf made six saves for the Blue Devils.

**April 8, 2015:** Senior midfielder Mark Christiano found the mark six times and added an assist to lead the Cranford High School Cougars boys lacrosse team to a 14-2 humbling of the Columbia Cougars at Memorial Field in Cranford. The impressive triumph after a shaky 13-9 win over Lakeland on April 6, elevated the Cranford Cougars'

record to 7-0. Another very valuable asset was his twin brother Luke's ability to win all but two of the face-offs. Attacker Richie Hurley scored four goals.

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

**April 17, 2013:** Bats were

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE





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

**LEADING IN THE 800 METERS...**Blue Devil Julia Myers leads in the 800 meters and eventually takes first with a personal record time of 2:24.4 in the tri-meet with Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Linden in Westfield on April 13, 2016.



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

**SETTING UP A PHOTO FINISH...**Blue Devil Cameron McLaughlin, right, put on a huge kick in the final 100 meters to just nip Kyle McIntyre, center, at the line in the 800 meters during a tri-meet with the Raiders and Linden. McLaughlin finished at 2:05.3 and McIntyre finished at 2:05.40 (April 13, 2016).

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

banging early, but they happened to be the bats of the North Hunterdon High School Lions baseball team that cruised to a five-inning, 13-3 victory over the Blue Devils at Bob Brewster Sr. Field in Westfield on April 17. Blue Devil Matt Storcks had an RBI single and walked once. Chris Arena and Anthony Perconte both singled and scored once. Tyler Bowman and Mike Androconis supplied the other two RBI. Jake Greenberg doubled and Mike Ionta singled.

**April 12, 2012:** First baseman Audrey Peterson packed thunder in her bat, and pitcher Elena Scarano struck out 11 batters, while allowing just three hits and a walk to lead the 6-1 Westfield High School softball team to a 7-1 victory over the Union Farmers

in Union. Peterson (2-for-3, run scored, walk), who bats fifth in the lineup, belted a two-run triple to deep right field in the first inning and added an RBI triple to deep center in the seventh inning.

**April 13, 2012:** Missed opportunities and a few untimely errors early on put the No. 15 Cranford High School baseball team in a hole that it did manage to climb out of, but in the end, Keith Skinner's slashing double to leftfield in the bottom of the ninth inning allowed Billy Worswick to score from first to give the No. 7 Governor Livingston Highlanders a 7-6 victory in Berkeley Heights. Cougar second baseman Eric Gargiulo had a strong evening at the plate going 3-for-5 with a double and

three runs scored, in addition to reaching safely on an error. Sean Feeney also had a pair of singles and a double, and scored once. Feeney also had two stolen bases. Chris Folinusz had a two-run single and a double, while scoring once and stealing a base.

**April 13, 2012:** Junior Julie Siragusa has been mostly known for her solid performances on the mound; however, her performances at the plate have been striking, especially in the Cranford Cougars' 12-1, five-inning victory over the visiting Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School softball team. Siragusa doubled twice, walked and launched a towering homerun, unlike any seen in a high school softball game, and scored on all four plate appearances. On the

mound, she improved her team's record and her record to 6-1, scattering four hits and hitting one batter.

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

**April 14, 2012:** The Cranford High School girls track & field team captured first and the Cougar boys placed second in a field of nine teams at the Cougar Relays at Memorial Field in Cranford. Bryanna Grant and Regine Hunter had the best jumps to win the triple jump event with a distance of 73-4. Ashley McGuire, Hunter, Grant and Jenna Ellenbacher

crossed first in the 4x100 with a time of 50.91. Rebecca Shimonov, Hunter, Grant and Ellenbacher finished first in the 4x100 hurdles at 1:06.2.

Adham McGuire (top distance of 42-6) and Reggie Green won the triple jump with a distance of 82.7.5. McGuire (top throw of 158-3) and Rob Kessler won the javelin with a distance of 305-9. Kessler and Rob O'Shaughnessy won the discus with a distance of 217-3.5. Pat Lynch and Mike Helmstetter took top honors in the pole vault with a height of 24-0.

**April 14, 2012:** The Westfield High School boys 4x800 relay team qualified for the Penn Relays to be held at Franklin Field in Philadelphia on April 26-28 by crossing first at the Old Bridge

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David B. Corbin (April 2008 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**WINNING THE MAJORITY OF THE FACE-OFFS...**Blue Devil senior midfielder Sean Mack, No. 10, won 12 of 19 face-offs against the Pingry Big Blue. The Big Blue beat the Blue Devils, 10-6, on April 9, 2008.



David B. Corbin (April 2015 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**ON THE PROWL...**Cougar Connor Fitch, No. 8, looks for a clear opportunity to make his move on a Columbia Cougar defender. Fitch netted two goals and had an assist in the 14-2 triumph at Memorial Field on April 8, 2015.

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

Invitational. Dan Luzzi (2:00.3), Matt Luppino (1:58.8), Jack Leahy (1:59.6) and Kevin Ingram (1:57.6) finished in 7:57.13.

**April 15, 2011:** Emma Crossland whacked a two-run homerun and added an RBI single to lead the Westfield High School softball team to a 4-2 victory over host Cranford on April 15. Pitcher Shannon Schaefer walked two and allowed six hits for the 2-6 Blue Devils. Olivia Salinardo scored both of the Cougars' runs.

**April 15, 2011:** Two Blue Devil errors in the first inning and a bases-loaded walk in the sixth paved the way for the seventh-ranked Governor Livingston High School baseball team to snatch a 6-4 victory over Westfield in Berkeley Heights on April 15. The 6-2 Blue Devils out-hit the 5-1 Highlanders, 8-7, but GL pitcher Joey Graziano, who recorded eight strikeouts, while walking two and hitting a batter, managed to wiggle his way out of some dangerous situations.

Blue Devil Tim Younger, who scored twice, tapped Graziano with a solo home run. AJ Murray hit Graziano twice with singles, but Graziano managed to hit Murray once with a fastball in the back. Blue Devil Will Riggs had a double and a single, Steve Forgash added a pair of singles and scored once, and James O'Rourke singled and scored once. Danny Kerr and Matt Varakian each had an RBI.

**April 9, 2010:** The Westfield High School boys lacrosse team found success penetrating the Morristown inner defense with sudden strikes, while succeeding with a stingy defense to earn a 14-10 victory at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield. Junior attacker Allison Rose led the 4-2 Blue Devils with four goals and senior middle Val Hoffman (two assists) and freshman Courtney Weisse (two assists) each flicked in three goals.

**PEEKING WAY BACK:** **April 9, 2008:** "Raiderland" proved to be quite a hostile environment for the visiting Plainfield Cardinal softball team. Capitalizing on 12 hits, highlighted by a colossal two-run homerun by Stephanie Goines, and triples by Rachel Parker and Saxony Nielson, the 3-1 Raiders made it all look too easy with an 11-0 victory in just five innings. Senior pitcher Brienne Mahoney, backed up by a strong infield, retired all 15 straight batters, recorded six strikeouts and walked none.

**April 12, 2008:** Westfield High School senior Brandon Heroux and sophomore Pat Gray put together a combined distance of 346'9" to break the meet record in the javelin at the Colt's Neck Relays. Heroux, with a toss of 196'8", broke the Union County "new javelin" record of 196'5" set by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raider Eric Ledder in 1986. Gray's toss was 150'1". The county record with the "older" style of javelin was 236'2" set by Raider John Towle in 1983.

Raider Mike Alleman, with a shove of 60'10", and Jason Boff combined to win the shot put with a distance of 100'11". Blue Devil Adam Bergo at 45 feet and Malcolm Allen at 40'10" took first in the triple jump with a distance of 85'10".

**April 11, 2007:** Junior pitcher Brienne Mahoney permitted only one of four singles to make it to

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



David B. Corbin (April 2008 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**READY FOR THE SCRUM...**The Junior Mudturtles, right, prepare for the scrum with the Long Island Colts at Unami Park on April 13, 2008.



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

**SAFE AT HOME...Raider leadoff hitter Danielle Scheu, No. 14, slides home safely in the first inning against Jonathan Dayton in Scotch Plains on April 9, 2015. The Bulldogs scored all of their runs in the second half of the game to win 8-5.**



David B. Corbin (April 2006 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**AWAITING THE THROW TO SECOND...**Blue Devil shortstop Josh Gerckens awaits the throw from catcher Justin Olsen as Linden base runner Joe Wiewiorski face dives into second. The Blue Devils beat the Tigers, 13-5, on April 12, 2006.





David B. Corbin (April 2006 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**MANEUVERING AROUND AN OBSTACLE...**Blue Devil middle Chris Mattes, No. 11, maneuvers around a Peddie defender. Mattes scored 3 goals as did middle Mike Bialick and attacker Harry Bernstein. Westfield won 14-6 (April 12, 2006).



David B. Corbin (April 2008 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*  
**TOUGHER THAN FULL-CONTACT CROQUET...**Westfield's Ryan Scanlon, front, of the Union County U19 boys rugby team prepares to mix it up with the Long Island team at Unami Park in Garwood (April 13, 2008).

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

the outfield, while striking out four and allowing just one walk, to guide the Raider softball team to a 9-1 victory over A.L. Johnson in Scotch Plains. Although the Crusaders scored first, the 3-1 Raiders immediately set the course of the game with a six-run cruise in the bottom of the first inning.

Sophomore catcher Nikki Mineo ripped a three-run triple and scored a run in the first inning. Stephanie Goines rapped two singles and scored three times and first baseman Jillian Lusk lashed a pair of RBI singles and scored a run.

**April 14, 2007:** Seniors Ryan Yarusi and Joey Simone, junior Harry Bernstein and freshman Tim Werner led a furious offensive assault, while a stubborn defensive crew held tight in a 12-

3 Westfield High School boys lacrosse team victory over West Essex at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield. Yarusi notched four goals and Simone had two goals and four assists. Bernstein had two goals and three assists. Chris Mattes won 12 of 15 face-offs and scooped nine of the Blue Devils' 40 ground balls.

**April 10, 2006:** Back-to-back doubles in the bottom of the fourth inning gave the Blue Devil softball team a 2-1 victory over Union Catholic in Westfield. Senior shortstop Kristina Fietkiewicz lashed a double to left then streaked across the plate when catcher Jillian Olsen ripped a double to center.

**April 10, 2006:** Blue Devil senior Jimmy Arbes and Ramapo's Morgan Hoffman tied in regulation, each with a 4-un-

der-par 43 to force a playoff at the Blue Devil Invitational at Echo Lake Country Club. After four attempts at the par-3 playoff hole, Hoffman, who won the NJSIAA Tournament of Champions (TOC) last year, two-putted for a three, while Arbes, who placed third at the TOC last year, three-putted.

**April 12, 2006:** Sophomore pitcher Evan Shapiro was called up from the JV's and tossed a three-inning no-hitter, retiring nine of 10 batters as the Blue Devil baseball team rolled to a 13-5 victory over Linden in Westfield.

**April 11, 2005:** Senior right-hander Billy Hearon tossed a five-hitter, recorded five strikeouts and yielded only two walks to lead the Blue Devil baseball team to an 8-2 victory over the Raid-

ers in Westfield. Blue Devils Mike Diaz and Alex Zierler (2-for-3, 3 RBI, 1 run scored) provided the offensive clout with a solo blast and a two-run home run, respectively, off starting pitcher Chris D'Annunzio.

**April 11, 2005:** A breakout inning was what it took for the 5-1 Blue Devil softball team to jolt the hosting Raiders, 10-1. Blue Devil Kristina Fietkiewicz blasted a two-run homer in the first inning and a two-run triple to highlight a five-run fourth inning.

**April 13, 2005:** Long fingernails were at a minimum in the top of the seventh inning when the visiting Cranford softball team, down 2-0, scored a run, had the bases loaded with two outs and No. 5 batter Lisa Levonas ripped a liner to centerfield. Fortunately, for the home team,

centerfielder Kelli Kaskiw darted to her left and snagged the liner to earn the Raiders a 2-1 victory. Raiders Melissa Sette and Taylor Cianciotta each went 2-for-3 and scored a run. Catcher Lauren Mains, a sophomore, had an RBI single and a stolen base.

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# Cougar Matmen Nudge Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers, 39-36







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