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(908) 232-4407
press@goleader.com

ONE DOLLAR

193 New Apartments Proposed for South Avenue Redevelopment Plan

By REBECCA MEHORTER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — At Tuesday’s meeting, the Westfield Town Council passed on first reading an ordinance to adopt a redevelopment plan for a section of South Avenue. The properties were collectively declared an area in need of redevelopment a year ago. The redevelopment plan calls for mixed-use development with ground-floor retail, open spaces and a total of 193 housing units.

Outside redevelopment consultant Topology gave a presentation on the plan. The properties include 421-429, 445-449, 448 and 418 South Avenue East and 338 Windsor Avenue. Currently, these properties are “old, beat-up sites” that have fallen into “disrepair,” Topology Project Director Chris Colley said at the council conference meeting. The area consists of 5.54 acres and is “principally unoccupied,” according to the redevelopment plan.

The area has an existing affordable-housing overlay in its zoning that allows for multi-family residences, retail sales and retail services on the ground floors, parking and parking facilities and other specifications. So the density of the buildings is already set through that overlay, Mr. Colley said, and the plan follows it. But the redevelopment plan gives the town more control over the product, like characteristics of the architecture and the site design, he said.

Mayor Shelley Brindle said during the public council meeting, “What I hear a lot is people complaining about the aesthetics of some of the buildings like 333 Central and others, where we didn’t have the redevelopment plan and

were not able to assert the level of implement and control that you have been able to dedicate here.

“One of the big reasons we did the redevelopment plan is in response to the residents’ complaints about the lack of cohesiveness and control that we’ve had over development projects,” Mayor Brindle said.

The property owner had previously made plans for the site following the affordable-housing overlays. The redevelopment plan uses the overlays as a “framework,” but makes some changes. For example, instead of having parking and garages facing South Avenue, the redevelopment plan puts garages in the back of the building and parking spots around the building in order to make South Avenue more pedestrian-friendly, Mr. Colley said.

The new redevelopment plan adds open space on the south side of South Avenue and a courtyard on the north side. It expands what types of businesses would be allowed in the storefronts, from just retail to retail, restaurants, personal services, educational services and childcare. It also mandates landscape and streetscape improvements. The redevelopment plan additionally includes details on building standards and architectural elements. Renderings of the north-side proposed building are available as well.

The vast majority of the discussion revolved around the proposed parking situation. The plan calls for 1.5 parking spaces per unit but would allow “on-street parking to count towards the overall parking requirement,” which includes retail parking. Council members expressed concern about congestion

and safety.

Councilman Michael Dardia asked if residents would be expected to park on the street and if there was an overflow plan, especially for inclement weather. Mr. Colley said the ground floor and side and rear parking would accommodate residents and the street parking would be supplemental for customers.

Topology founder Phil Abramson said the project is compliant with current parking standards. He said that the original proposal included a surface parking lot on the south side of South Avenue but that this plan proposes using it as an open space. He said that the 156 units proposed on the north-side site would have 264 parking spaces and that the south side of the street’s 37 units would have 49 parking spots.

Steve Mlenak, an attorney for The Redevelopment and Land Use and Real Estate Development departments at Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith and Davis LLP, also brought up the point that retail shoppers would visit the development while residents were at work and leave when residents came home.

Mr. Colley said there would be 17,000 square feet of retail space, which, under the redevelopment plan, would require 34 parking spaces and South Avenue would be overflow for the retail.

“I’m no expert, but clearly there’s not enough parking implemented in this design,” Councilman Mark LoGripio said. Mr. Mlenak asked the councilman to expand on why he felt that way, as “the ratio Chris (Colley) just gave is a pretty healthy one for projects like this.” Mr. LoGripio said he did not believe the street should be used for overflow at all.

Town Planner Don Sammet weighed in, saying, “A 1.5-parking-space per residential unit is pretty standard.” Any on-street parking and shared parking

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DWC Opposes Legislation, Discusses Redevelopment

By REBECCA MEHORTER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) met on February 17, where Executive Director Bob Zuckerman went through survey results from local business owners about their 2020 holiday seasons, updated the board on Streetworks Development discussions and alerted board members to New Jersey legislation that would impose prevailing wages on any public project that uses a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program.

While the DWC survey only got approximately 18 responses, Mr. Zuckerman said many of the respondents agreed that the DWC advertising and promotions positively impacted their businesses. Half said their businesses performed either better or much better than they expected over the holiday season. The board discussed ways to get more responses to surveys in the future, such as finding the best ways to contact people, canvassing and doing giveaways.

Mr. Zuckerman then discussed the town hall’s DWC has set up between major stakeholders in the downtown, such as business owners, property owners and commercial brokers, and the Streetworks Development team. Mayor Shelley Brindle encouraged board members to attend the meetings and to stay informed. She said Streetworks is meeting with approximately 30 different stakeholder groups over the next month or so to get input before moving forward with concepts for the downtown.

Mr. Zuckerman brought up Bill A1571, which passed the Assembly Labor Committee with bipartisan support. The bill would impose prevailing wages, or union wages, on public projects that use PILOT programs.



Ken Zierler for The Westfield Leader

HEART OF ICE...Last Saturday, the Township of Cranford hosted a Fire & Ice event near the Cranford Fire Station as ice carver James Neary created a beautiful heart in less than 90 minutes. Local residents were able to pop their heads through the center of the heart for a unique photo op.

Westfield to Expand In-Person Learning, Parents Voice Concerns

By JENNIFER GLACKIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — At Tuesday evening’s board of education meeting, Superintendent Margaret Dolan, Ed.D., announced students in kindergarten, first and second grades would be able to attend school on a half-day, in-person basis five days per week starting Monday, March 15. Third-through fifth-grade students will follow at a later date, although no timeline was given.

Plexiglass dividers will be installed

in smaller classrooms where six-foot social distancing is not feasible. The dividers will be individualized to the students and age levels of the students to ensure the safest possible environment, said Dr. Dolan.

The plexiglass dividers will not affect who will be considered a “close contact.” Anyone within six feet, Dr. Dolan said, will be quarantined if there is a positive case. She noted that other districts using plexiglass dividers are following the same procedure.

Each school will have its own arrival and dismissal procedures, and principals will be communicating those plans to parents.

The district’s medical professionals, pediatrician Dr. Susan Kaye, regional Health Officer Megan Avallone, and District Nursing Coordinator Carol Stavitski, advised the district to continue with a half-day schedule to avoid incorporating lunch, as eating with others is considered a high-risk activity for Covid-19 transmission, reported Dr. Dolan. In addition to the health officials’ advice, there are other concerns. Staffing each classroom during lunch time and providing spaces where teachers can eat safely are among the obstacles, noted board member Robert Garrison, who is on the restart committee.

The virtual meeting had nearly 600 community participants, many of whom expressed their disappointment in the district’s progress in returning students to the classrooms. Multiple parents stated that the district is “failing” the students with its current plan.

Many callers questioned the decision to continue with half-day learning, pointing to local private schools and public schools in New York and Connecticut that have been able to incorporate lunch. Parents suggested solutions such as sending students home for lunch, splitting classes into separate lunch and recess groups or setting up outdoor tents as the weather warms up.

Others said the district lacked transparency and details in its plan, particularly regarding the absence of return dates for third through fifth grade and no return plan announced for middle schools.

Westfield High School students returned to four-days-per-week learning two weeks ago, but parents voiced concern about the learning environment. Parent Vanessa Schwartz described the high-school classroom experience as “remote learning in school rather than face to face.”

The social and emotional toll on

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Fred T. Rossi for The Westfield Leader

SNOW MORE SNOW...A fresh blanket of snow covers the ground just before the Spring season is about to begin.



Fred T. Rossi for The Westfield Leader

A SIGN TO CHANGE...After 50 years as a mainstay in downtown Scotch Plains, the sign came down last week at the former Alfonso's Pizzeria, which is being converted to a new Italian-style eatery on Park Avenue.

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Yearly Audit Presentation Given For Cranford BOE

By JENNIFER GLACKIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The Cranford school district has \$2.6 million in its surplus fund balance, according to an audit presentation at Monday's board of education (BOE) meeting. This is a \$1.6-million increase from the previous year, said David Gannon of PKFO's Connor Davies. State statutes say that up to 2 percent of the operating budget (approximately \$1.7 million in Cranford) is considered "unrestricted."

The additional surplus, said Business Administrator Robert Carfagno, will be able to help cover any emergency costs, similar to a "rainy day fund." Over the past few years, Cranford has had less than 1 percent in surplus funds. This year the fund balance is slightly over 2 percent, which puts the district in good financial state, said Mr. Carfagno.

The remainder of the fund balance, Mr. Gannon reported, will be used to finish purchase orders that began prior to the audit but are yet to be completed (\$500,000), utilized as part of the 2021-22 budget (\$283,000) or already utilized as "a part of the 2021 budget" (\$167,000).

The capital projects fund has \$1.6 million, which is the same as the previous year.

No corrective actions need to be taken as a result of the audit, Mr. Gannon reported.

The district is expected to receive approximately \$492,000 in additional Covid-19 relief funds, according to Mr. Carfagno. The money is expected to arrive in mid-March and can be used for coronavirus-related expenses until 2023. Mr. Carfagno reported that all of the previously-acquired

relief funds have been spent.

Superintendent Scott Rubin, Ed.D., clarified some points from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's revised school-reopening guidance. The guidance was meant for schools that had not been able to reopen since the shutdown last March, said Dr. Rubin. Cranford is one of the few districts that opened in September and has mostly remained open since, he said, and Cranford has been one of an even smaller number of districts that has been able to offer elementary students in-person school five days a week.

As for moving the middle schools and high school to a similar schedule, Dr. Rubin said, it is a matter of numbers. The six-foot distancing rule is still in place, and the classrooms in the high school and middle schools are smaller. With 75 percent of the middle- and high-school student body choosing hybrid learning, there is not room for that many students in the classrooms each day. "Until that guidance changes, it makes it very difficult for us to expand those in-person offerings," he said.

Dr. Rubin is part of the statewide team planning for September openings, but there is no guidance as of yet. "Once we get that guidance from the state, we will update the community as soon as we can," said Dr. Rubin.

The board unanimously approved a one-week administrative leave for an unnamed employee. The leave was approved for February 16 to 23, with the employee able to return to work on February 24. No other details were given.

The next meeting of the Cranford BOE will be on Monday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Cranford Zoning Board Resumes Cell Tower Appeal

By MARTA ESQUIROZ
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The zoning board resumed its hearing Monday evening on application ZBA 19-010 from New York SMSA Limited Partnership for installation of a Verizon cell tower.

Since the last session on January 25, the applicant has requested preliminary final site-plan approval for its wireless communication facility's location on the grounds of Union County College, located at 1033 Springfield Avenue, and presented a new alternative for its installation.

Regarding site-plan approval, the applicant requested various variances for a wireless telecommunication facility, as well as a variance for height — 140 feet to the top of the tower and 148 feet to the top of the concealment branches — and for separation from the nearest residential unit — 229 feet and seven inches is proposed.

The second alternative is a 135-foot-tall monopole designed as a faux tree with branches extending to approximately 143 feet located within a 40-foot by 60-foot fenced compound, which will house the applicants' radio and emergency power equipment. For this alternative, the applicant asked for variances for using the E-1 Education Zone to permit the tower to have a height of approximately 135 feet and for separation from the nearest residential unit of 326 feet and 10 inches. It would be located on Block 121, Lot 2.01, which has access to Campus Road.

Robert F. Simon, a member of the board of directors of the Land Use Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association, testified against the project for almost one hour and a half.

He said he believes not only that the variances are against the Master Plan of Cranford, but that the project will have irreversible consequences for neighboring residential areas.

"The primary purposes of any height limitations are to make sure that there's quality open space for the benefit of the surrounding properties as well as to promote a desirable environment for them," he said.

He highlighted the impact these facilities would have on the way the area looks. "The monopole construction, if it gets approved, will forever destroy the character and appearance of the

neighborhood in this area of Cranford," Mr. Simon stated.

Mr. Simon added that the project does not have the community's support, referencing public comments made at the last session, in which Cranford residents expressed their opposition to the cell tower. They argued the infrastructure will pose multiple risks, among them health problems residents could potentially develop after exposure to radiofrequency radiation as well as the loss of value of their homes.

After his testimony, Mr. Simon appealed to the board to deny the application.

Due to the lack of time for the applicant to present its arguments and the board members' need to take longer to deliver and take action, Chairperson Christine Daly opted to continue the hearing on Monday, March 22 at 7 p.m.

Nepotism

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ordinance when we are facing the budget, the business recovering, a pandemic that still exists, and people are trying to get a vaccine," she said.

At the end of the meeting, Commissioner Hannen brought up the subject of the marijuana law that, in his words, prohibits law enforcement officials from notifying parents if their child has been found in possession or use of marijuana.

"I heard from law enforcement about how their hands are tied, trying to enforce a law that guarantees underage people would not be able to purchase or use marijuana if the parents don't get notified when their kids have been picked up," Mr. Hannen pointed out.

"I hope that the legislators rethink the parental-notification portion of this, so we can help to lead our children in the good direction," he said.

Commissioner O'Connor, joining Mr. Hannen again, expressed that she was "very disturbed" about sections of this law, especially in the notification part.

"I think we need to start looking at its impact on our municipality and on our children and how we are going to deal with it locally."

Ms. O'Connor requested the township committee discuss the marijuana law at its next meeting on Monday, March 8.



LITTLE ONES HAVE BIG HEARTS...Participants in the Westfield Area YMCA school-age child care program created cards and sent roses to local Meals on Wheels participants on Valentine's Day. The kids had a great time creating the cards and it brought smiles to the recipients.

Mountainside BOE Hears Presentations

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Board of Education met Tuesday evening to hear two presentations made regarding board ethics and the 2019-20 Audit Report.

Reporting on board ethics was Isabel Machado, Esq. who is the district's attorney.

Her presentation focused on the state-mandated State Ethics Act and summarized the Board of Education's role and expectations of each member.

First Ms. Machado emphasized that no members of the board can make individual decisions about any policy or other decision. She noted that the board makes decisions as a whole and can only work within the parameters of the Board of Education and must respect the chain of command. This, she noted, was true of all Board of Educations around the state.

She also stated that all complaints shall always be referred to the Superintendent of Schools and will be discussed in public meetings.

Ms. Machado stated that members need to vote to appoint only the best qualified person for a job position in the schools and that the Superintendent must make recommendations to support and protect personnel.

Finally, Ms. Machado spoke of social media and the use of good judgment when engaging in social media and keeping appropriate boundaries.

She stated that individual board members should not respond to social postings regarding board or school business and that residents should always be referred to the superintendent.

Another brief presentation was given by a representative of Hodulik and Morrison, P.A. a division of PKF O'Connor Davies, L.L.P., who did not identify himself.

The report was positive and stated that the district was in good financial shape. It was stated that there was \$377,000 in an un-restricted line, \$153,000 in the maintenance line,

DWC

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which was presented to the town finance committee the following evening. The 2021 budget will be introduced to the public in March and then adopted in April. Town Administrator Jim Gildea said. The next DWC meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m.

\$90,000 in the food service balance and a \$365,000 surplus.

It was reported that the only two recommendations made were that all quotes need to be readily attainable and that the activity fund be better documented.

In other business, Superintendent of Schools Janet Walling gave a brief report noting that the new semester would be starting soon and that, as of now, there were 22 more students that would be returning to the schools for in-person learning. She reported that this will bring in-person attendance for the borough's schools to 88 percent. Ms. Walling did note that there are some classes that have 100 percent in-school learning. She added that this did not affect the social distance protocols that have been set in place.

In addition, Ms. Walling did report that the district will be participating in the Read Across America Program for Thursday, February 25. It was also said that the Deerfield School was working on virtual play, which had 100 participants, for the spring and that the spring season for baseball and softball looked promising.

It was also reported that Maschio's Food Service will still be providing breakfasts and lunches for the district for the upcoming school year. It was reported that the food services contract was extended for another year because of the pandemic. The district's four-year contract with the food company was originally set to expire at the end of the school year but has been extended for a fifth year.

Finally, it was noted in a liaison report from Berkeley Heights that Berkeley Heights will be offering a full-day Kindergarten program.

The next Mountainside Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m.

In-Person

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students was another concern for parents. "We are robbing these children of their social and emotional health," said Shannon Llewellyn-Jones, a parent of two elementary students and a middle-school student. Students of all ages are crying out of frustration with remote school or learning alone in their rooms, she said, urging the district to move faster in returning children to the classrooms.

While most callers praised the teachers' efforts during this difficult year, one parent asked if the slow return was a result of pushback from the teachers' union. Kim Dickey, a counselor at Roosevelt Intermediate School, district parent and vice-president of the Westfield Education Association (WEA), called in saying that while the teachers initially had concerns about ventilation, masks and sanitation, those have been addressed by the district.

"There is no pushback by the teachers' association," said Ms. Dickey. "We want our students back, and we want them back safely." Board Vice President Brendan Galligan said the WEA has been cooperative, professional and collaborative throughout the process.

"There are a lot of factors being weighed here," said Board President Amy Root. Ms. Root noted that Dr. Dolan and the administrative staff do listen and consider various ideas prior to making decisions.

Dr. Dolan took note of parents' questions, concerns and ideas and said responses and clarifications would be posted on the website as soon as possible.

UCVTS Highlighted by County Commissioners

By MICHAEL P. CARVALHO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

COUNTY — The Union County Commissioners hosted a special presentation by the Union County Vocational Technical Schools (UCVTS) during its regular Thursday meeting last week. The UCVTS, encompasses several high schools and programs ranging from shared-time UCVTS to the full-time Magnet High School to the Academy for Performing Arts (APA).

During the business portion of the meeting, the commissioners endorsed and supported UCVTS' grant applications for the Peterson Farm Sustainable Science Academy Project for \$7,111,169 and the Global Logistics and Supply Chain project grant \$5,272,125.

At the top of the meeting, Board Chairman Alexander Mirabella introduced UCVTS Superintendent of Schools Gwendolyn Ryan.

Ms. Ryan started by thanking the board for, "taking the time to recognizing Career and Technical Education (CTE) month and Future Farmers of America (FFA) week."

"We have spent the month celebrating CTE month through a variety of activities — we've had guest speakers and panel exhibits, including alumni from all of the different programs that we have on campus. It's been truly exceptional."

"Our schools continue to be an exceptional place to learn and are among the top schools in the state and the nation," said Ms. Ryan.

Ms. Ryan went on to say that, "Our successes are a direct result of the support that we receive from the Union County Board of County Commissioners, and we are here tonight to celebrate CTE. It is also a way for us to say 'Thank you' to all of you for everything that you do for our students and to support our programs. We work hard to make you proud every single day."

Ms. Ryan then introduced and listed the accomplishments of 11 students that highlight the various programs and schools.

WF HPC Presents Summary Of 2020 Ordinance Changes

By REBECCA MEHORTER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) offered a virtual presentation Monday night to explain the changes to the town's historic preservation ordinance to builders, contractors, realtors and architects. "It's our job to sit here and try to explain it and answer it as best as possible," Commissioner Chair Maria Boyes said.

Ms. Boyes explained that the ordinance was changed in 2020 after being created in 1984 and receiving a few revisions in 2008. She said it was out of date, and also "in direct conflict" with municipal land-use law (MLUL). Being in line with MLUL is a requirement to become a certified local government, a title that gives towns access to more grants for local preservation activities.

The previous ordinance included a zoning-by-referendum procedure for creating historic districts, which is not allowed under New Jersey law. It also "contained inadequate wording regarding what kind of changes would trigger a minor versus a major submission for a certification of appropriateness," she said. For these reasons, the ordinance needed to be updated.

Ms. Boyes said the 2019 Master Plan Reexamination found residents cared about historic preservation, citing the survey that found 80 percent of survey respondents said historic preservation is a "worthwhile goal." The survey also found that many respondents were concerned about the number of old homes torn down and the

Redevelopment

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will be subject to approval by the planning board.

It also may be important to note that the plan says, "because South Avenue is a county road, if on-street parking is proposed, the redeveloper is responsible for securing the necessary approvals from the county for the creation of on-street parking prior to issuance of building permits."

The council and Topology members briefly spoke about concerns residents have voiced on overcrowding of schools in conjunction with more housing. Mayor Brindle said that, based on other, similar projects, "one- and two-bedroom apartments don't typically bring many school-age children." She said the school board confirmed only five new students have joined the school system from the 120 new housing units in town. She also mentioned that school enrollment is in decline.

With the ordinance passed on first reading, the plan will now go to the planning board for a consistency review with the Master Plan. "There are going to be several occasions" for the public to be heard on this matter, Mr. Mlenak said in response to a question from a resident. If found to be consistent with the Master Plan, the ordinance will be sent back to the council for its second reading and public hearing.

The redevelopment plan is available to read on the town website under the February 23 Council Meeting agenda. The conference and council meetings are both available for retroactive viewing via the town's Facebook page.

The students highlighted included Caleb Premepph from Elizabeth, an 11th grade student who is a participant in HOSA (formally known as Health Occupation Student Association) and attends the Academy for Allied Health Sciences.

Corey He from Fanwood is an 11th grade student and is also a participant in HOSA.

Jordan White from Hillside is a 10th grade student and is a member of the Academy of Information Technology (AIT).

Jamin Brako from Plainfield is a 12th grade student and a student at AIT. Olivia Ruhke from Westfield is an 11th grade student and is a student at APA.

Natalie Lee from Westfield is a 12th grade student and attends Magnet.

Alexis Staten from Roselle is a 12th grade student and attends the Union County Career and Technical Institute (UCCTI).

Ahmed Ismael from Cranford is a 12th grade student and is also a member of UCCTI.

Isabella Socha-Soares from Linden is a 12th grade student and attends the Union County Vocational Technical High School (UC Tech).

Lucia Mauriello from Berkeley Heights is a 12th grade student and is a member of the Sustainable Science Academy (SSA).

Ava La Lande from Plainfield is an 11th grade student and is also a member of SSA.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Mirabella said, "I marvel at the accomplishments of these students — young men and women — who are ready to take over world, and I just love to hear these stories and the success."

Commissioner Lourdes Leon also added that, "As a former educator I truly warms my heart to see all these students from all of the Vo-Tech schools, and how they are achieving great things in different educational areas."

"Follow your dreams and your passion — you are all bound for greatness. I am so proud of you," concluded Ms. Leon.

overdevelopment of lots.

She said historic preservation benefits local businesses and attracts "visitors, new residents and investors." Ms. Boyes also mentioned that a reported 97 percent of millennials "feel it's important to preserve and conserve buildings, architecture, neighborhoods and communities."

Town Attorney Tom Jardim outlined the major changes that came from 2020's overhaul of the ordinance. The town created special demolition procedures, an informal review of pre-1930 and identified homes, an informal review process for modifications to historic homes and an application review committee. The town also corrected the designation process that went against the MLUL and removed a clause related to economic hardships and historic property subdivisions.

The speakers also addressed points of confusion they had heard from the public. Mr. Jardim said one rumor he heard this past year was that there was a map of homes the town would be designating as historic. He said that the town did identify properties that could potentially qualify as historic in 2002 but that the list "simply identifies an inventory of properties that might qualify as historically-designatable."

Ms. Boyes said a rumor she was aware of was that the HPC would be telling homeowners what colors they could paint their houses, "which is completely incorrect." Based on resident feedback, the revisions took out a requirement for owners of historic homes to submit exterior paint colors to the HPC for approval. The HPC also removed fees associated with submitting applications for minor certification of appropriateness.

Residents are welcome to read the entire ordinance via the town website, Mr. Jardim said. The historic preservation ordinance is General Ordinance No. 2183. The Westfield Leader also carried a summary of the changes in September. The presentation and frequently-asked questions are available on the town website on the "I Want To..." tab under the heading "Find out more about Historic Preservation."

Commission member Greg Blasi then talked about materials and diversity of older neighborhoods, using the historic district of Stoneleigh Park as an example. He said there are still ways for builders to use historic materials even today.

The meeting was then opened to the public for comments and questions.

Builder Evan Topliow said that, while he understands the HPC's goal is to preserve old homes, "as a builder, it would be really nice to have an open discussion or a meeting," in which builders could hear ideas from the HPC "as to what you might want these houses to look like."

"You are always welcome, any builder in town is always welcome, to come to a meeting or seek out independently with questions you might have about ways to honor the historic nature of the architectural elements in town in building newer homes," Councilwoman Linda Habgood said.

The HPC also is coming out with design guidelines that outline materials and renovations and styles in historic neighborhoods. "Great architecture is great architecture," Mr. Blasi said. "I don't think we should always frame all of our conversations in 'historical' or 'traditional.' We should frame it (as) 'great architecture.'"

The HPC will next meet on Monday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Residents are encouraged to join via Zoom.

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Thomas F. Tansey, 86, Attorney; Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather

Thomas Francis Tansey, 86, of Westfield, N.J., passed away unexpectedly of natural causes at home on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, surrounded by family.

The youngest of four children, Tom was born on December 6, 1934, in the horseshoe section of Jersey City. He graduated from St. Michael's High School and St. Peter's University, both in Jersey City. Tom's academic excellence earned him a full scholarship to New York University School of Law.

In 1959, upon graduation from New York University School of Law with Honors, Tom served as Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey, where he specialized in the areas of education, weights and measures, and the environment.

In 1962, he joined Lamb, Blake, Hutchinson and Dunne in Jersey City as an associate and later became a partner.

In 1972, Tom was one of the founding members of the law firm Tansey, Fanning, Haggerty, Kelly, Convery and Tracy. He served as Managing Partner from 1986 until his retirement in 2005. Tom was a trial attorney who specialized in product liability defense work.

In addition to his love of the law, Tom truly enjoyed volunteering and

helping people. Tom was a longtime member of the Serra International Club for the Archdiocese of Newark, including President of the Hudson County chapter.

He served as a board member of St. Francis Hospital in Jersey City. Tom enjoyed being an active member of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, N.J.

In retirement, Tom enjoyed traveling the world with his wife, Barbara. Additionally, Tom volunteered for Catholic Charities' legal department, where he assisted immigrants seeking political asylum.

Tom loved spending time with family, especially his six grandchildren. He was an avid, optimistic New York Mets fan, a gifted storyteller and always had a song to sing for every occasion.

Tom is survived by his wife of 52 years, Barbara (née Moraghan); daughter, Susan Leegan (Brian) of Naperville, Illinois, and son, Thomas M. (Colleen) of Ridgewood, N.J., and loving grandchildren, Madison, Meghan, Brendan, Ryan, Maeve and Sean. He also is survived by his sister, Anna May Wolfe, and was predeceased by his siblings Francis X. Tansey and Eileen Rizzo.



Thomas F. Tansey

February 25, 2021

Thomas Briskey, 63, Kind, Affable, Always Quick to Lend a Hand

Thomas John Francis (Tommy) Briskey, 63, of Bridgewater passed away on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at CareOne in Bridgewater. Tommy was born in Elizabeth, N.J., to the late Thomas, Jr. and Audrey Briskey and was raised in Scotch Plains before calling Bridgewater home for the past 31 years.

Tommy is lovingly remembered by his friends and family as a kind, affable, inquisitive and incredibly easygoing problem-solver who was always quick to lend a hand. He was an endless tinkerer who loved his cars and his tools along with his large extended family and his dogs. Tommy was approachable and generous, well humored and famous for a positive spirit that met every challenge with a reassuring "No Problem." He will most be remembered for his kind soul, his generosity, his strong devotions to family, and the grace with which he faced life's trials.

Tommy is predeceased by his sister, Audrey, and brother-in-law, Ed Shive, as well as nephews Vincent

James Wahler, John David Spack and Matthew and Charlie Shive. He leaves behind to cherish his memory Donna (Wahler) Briskey, his loving wife of 33 years; sister Rose Marie (Briskey) Munch and her husband, Robert; sister Eileen (Briskey) Spack and her husband, Bill; brother-in-law, Jay Wahler; nephews, Matt, Eric and Tyler Wahler and Billy Spack, and nieces, Erinn and Emily Spack, as well as his great-nephew, Lucas, and great-nieces, Leah and Keira Shive.

Visiting hours are from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at the Bridgewater Funeral Home, 707 East Main Street, Bridgewater, N.J. 08807. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at the funeral home, followed by burial at Hillside Cemetery in Scotch Plains.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Gift of Life Family House of Philadelphia, <https://support.giftoflifefamilyhouse.org/give/196189/#/donation/checkout>.

February 25, 2021

Library Friends Plan Events On Liberty Hall, Livingston

MOUNTAINSIDE — "Legends of Liberty Hall" will be the topic of a virtual program from the Friends of the Mountainside Public Library on Monday, March 1, at 1 p.m.

Liberty Hall has 250 years of stories to tell, and some of its most famous stories have become leg-

ends. They include stories of ghosts, murder, love affairs and secret rendezvous. Participants will discover the elements of truth behind these stories, how they became legends in the first place, and if they even happened at all. Hannah Gaston of the Liberty Hall Museum will provide participants with the opportunity to experience Liberty Hall Museum in a whole new light by exploring the secrets of its colonial residents.

The following Monday, March 8, at 1 p.m., Ms. Gaston will present "William Livingston: General, Governor, Signer of the Constitution."

James Madison reportedly said, "William Livingston did not take an active part in the debates at the Constitutional Convention." This program will reveal what Livingston's role was at the Convention; how he shaped the ideas that make up the U.S. government, from the assumption of state debts to the creation of the Electoral College, and his ascension to the office of New Jersey's Governor.

Instructions and the link to these events will be sent to all registrants. Interested persons may register by email at info@mountainsidelibrary.org or by calling (908) 233-0115.

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— Obituaries —

Justin Edwin Pregenzer Westfield High School Class of 2001

Justin Edwin Pregenzer passed away on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, suddenly and quietly of cardiac arrest, at his home in Ashburn, Virginia.

He is survived by his wife of 16 years, Brandi (McIntyre) Pregenzer, and children, Zachary (12), Benjamin (10), and Caitlyn (4).

He was born on May 31, 1982 in Ridgewood, New Jersey, and leaves behind a large family consisting of his grandmother, Ann Colucio; parents, Dr. Gerard and Linda (Colucio) Pregenzer; older brother, Dr. Gerard Pregenzer, Jr. (wife Tania); younger sister, Laura (Pregenzer) Crouthamel (husband Andrew), and younger brother, Joseph Pregenzer, plus his niece, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins. He lived in Westfield, N.J., for the majority of his childhood. At Westfield High School, he was a member of the marching band, where he participated in all the marching band competitions. He was a parishioner of The Parish Community of Saint Helen, where he was active in the youth ministry. Justin developed his lifelong passion for Scouting in Tamaques School Cub Scout Pack 79 and later in Troop 79 at St. Helen's, where he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.



Justin E. Pregenzer

As his children entered Scouting, he shared his love of Scouting with them by being active in many leadership roles in both Cub Scouts and

Boy Scouts and by showing that he could always be counted on to do the right thing at all times.

Justin took the core value of service and joined the United States Air Force after 9/11, where he was stationed at Beale Air Force Base in California for four years before separating to continue the mission as a Department of Defense contractor. At the time of his passing, Justin was employed by The National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. He loved his work and the mission.

From The American Military University, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Space Studies (2015) and a Master of Science degree in Applied Business Analytics (2020).

Giving until the end, and even after, Justin was an organ donor for the Washington Regional Transplant Community. Justin will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery this summer followed by a celebration of his life.

The family wishes to thank the community at large for its overwhelming and kind expressions of sympathy.

February 25, 2021

Charlotte Coan Biren Longtime Westfield Resident

Charlotte Coan Biren passed away at home on Sunday, January 31, 2021. Born in 1937, Charlotte "Sherry" Lucille Coan was the daughter of Dr. Glenn L. and Elizabeth "Betty" Schroeder Coan. She grew up on Grosse Ile, Michigan, and was active

in a range of sports from golf to archery to swimming, which remained a lifelong activity. After attending Sweet Briar College in Virginia, Charlotte graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. After graduation, she went on a Europe tour, then moved to New York City, where her nursing career included positions as head nurse of the Woman's Hospital and head nurse of ob-gyn at Mount Sinai Hospital. It was also in New York City that a mutual friend introduced Charlotte to Joseph Biren. They were married at the Plaza Hotel in 1964 and began a family.

Charlotte and Joseph moved to Westfield in 1971, and Charlotte remained active in the Westfield community throughout her life, giving her time to numerous organizations including YMCA Newcomers, the Establishment — a Westfield gourmet group, the Grant School Show, Temple

Emanu-El ORT, her children's Scout groups, and serving as Treasurer of the YWCA. President of the Westfield Senior High School PTO, Altar Guild at the Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield, N.J., board member of the Genealogical Society, and poll worker for local, state and national elections. Charlotte got her realtor's license and was active in the Westfield market in the 1980s.

Charlotte had many interests including league bowling, gardening, reading, doing puzzles, needlework, crocheting, caring for the pets the family adopted, and swimming at Memorial Pool and at the YMCA.

Charlotte is survived by her husband, Joseph Biren; her children, Sarah Biren Ferrier and Glenn Biren, and her grandchildren, Zoe and Tristan Ferrier. She was predeceased by her brother, Peter G. Coan.

Arrangements are under the care of Dooley Colonial Home, <https://www.dooleycolonialfuneralhome.com/>. No services are being held at this time; the family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Plainfield Area Humane Society, <https://pahs.org/>, (908) 754-0300.

February 25, 2021



Charlotte Coan Biren

JFSCNJ Programs to Focus On Memory Loss, Covid

AREA — Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey (JFSCNJ) has announced two programs it will offer during March.

The free JFSCNJ Virtual Coffee House Program will begin on Monday, March 1. It will be held four days a week, Monday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to noon.

"The Coffee House at JFS is an innovative virtual program serving adults who have mild-to-moderate memory loss," said Program Director and Licensed Clinical Social Worker Alice Greenberg-Sheedy. "The program provides an opportunity to be active and socialize from the comfort of home."

This program is made possible by a grant from Merck, Inc., and JFSCNJ. For details, contact Ms. Greenberg-Sheedy at agreenberg-sheedy@jfscentralnj.org or (908) 352-8375.

Additionally on March 1, JFSCNJ will present a Covid-19 Long-Term Symptoms Virtual Support Group Information Session from 2 to 3 p.m. "A virtual support group for individuals who are still experiencing

long-term symptoms of Covid-19 will be launched by Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey based on interest," said Ms. Greenberg-Sheedy.

To register and/or for more information about the prospective group, contact Ms. Greenberg-Sheedy at agreenberg-sheedy@jfscentralnj.org or (908) 352-8375. Participants will receive a Zoom invitation the day of the information session.



Alice Greenberg-Sheedy

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Jean M. McDermott, Former Westfield Resident and Educator

Jean M. McDermott passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 20, 2021, surrounded with the comfort of her loving family.

Born June 7, 1928 in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, Jean was the daughter of Francis A. and Catherine Seagrave Monaghan.

A dedicated student, Jean received a Bachelor's of Music at Caldwell College (now University) and later a Master of Education in Administration from Seton Hall University. She had a vibrant career as a music educator, retiring as the Supervisor of Fine Arts for the Westfield Board of Education.

A loving wife to John P. (Jack) McDermott, the two wed at the Holy Trinity Church in Westfield on April 2, 1956. They resided and raised their family in Westfield, later moving to Basking Ridge.

A woman of incredible faith and a devout Catholic, Jean was a parish organist at the Church of Saint Anne in Garwood for over 30 years. She then served on the Parish Council of the Parish Community of Saint Helen and the Board of Education of Holy Trinity School. Later, she joined the congregation of St. Vincent De Paul in Stirling. She was an active member of the parish community, including the Rosary Society. She found much joy and peace at St. Vincent's, not to mention making many friends, especially Peggy and Fr. Richard.

February 25, 2021



Jean M. McDermott

Jean was a volunteer at Friends of the Children's Specialized Hospital for over 10 years. Fiercely independent, Jean loved to travel and play bridge with the St. James and Westfield crews and Rummikub with her friends at Arbor. She also enjoyed Paper Mill shows with a mix of Westfield and Basking Ridge friends.

Jean is survived by her children, John P. McDermott, Jr. and his wife, Dr. Sharon Burke, of Leland, North Carolina, Maura Shea of Upton, Massachusetts, and Monica McDermott Bergin of Westfield. Known to her grandchildren as GG, she was a

loving grandmother to Caitlin, Patrick, his wife, Lanice, and Caroline Shea, Catherine, Margaret (Maggie) and Nora Bergin, as well as her napping/guard grand-dog, Disney.

Jean is predeceased by her loving husband, Jack, and son-in-law, Kevin F. Shea.

Services will be held at St. Vincent De Paul Parish today, Thursday, February 25, 2021. Visitation begins at 10:15 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Saint Vincent De Paul Parish, 250 Bebout Avenue, Stirling, N.J. 07980, in Jean "GG's" memory.

A live stream of the Funeral Mass will be broadcast on <https://www.stvincentschurch.org/church-video>.

February 25, 2021

Pearl Lau Battschinger, 96, Former Executive Secretary With Westfield BOE

Pearl Lau Battschinger, 96, of Carolina Trace, Sanford, N.C., who was retired as an Executive Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent of Schools with the Westfield, N.J. Board of Education, died on Wednesday, February 17, at Woodland Terrace in Cary, N.C.

Mrs. Battschinger was a school secretary for eight years prior to her appointment as Executive Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent in the Westfield, N.J. Public School System, combining 31 years of service. She retired in 1989. Before entering the field of education, she was employed by the Township of Scotch Plains, N.J., as an Assistant Township Clerk.

She was a member of the Westfield Association of Educational Secretaries (serving as Secretary/Treasurer for two years and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee for six years), Union County Association of Educational Secretaries (holding the office of President for two years), New Jersey Association of Educational Office Personnel (serving on the 50th Anniversary Committee), the Union County Education Association and New Jersey Education Association. She was also active with the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council, serving as a Girl Scout Leader for two years. In 1999, she was elected

to serve on the Board of Directors for the South Landing Property Owners Association in Carolina Trace for a three-year period, at which time she served as Social Chairperson.

Born in Newark, N.J., Mrs. Battschinger lived in Scotch Plains for 51 years before moving to North Carolina.

She is survived by her daughter, Karen Ann, of Sanford, N.C. Mrs. Battschinger was predeceased by her husband, George; parents, Ethel and Edward Lau of Toms River, N.J., and her brothers, Elwood R. Lau of Florida and Arnold J. Lau of Chapel Hill, N.C. She is also survived by nieces and nephews in North Carolina, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts.

Mrs. Battschinger was previously a member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Berkeley Heights, N.J., where she served as Deacon, Usher, interim and substitute secretary, as well as serving on many committees.

Due to Covid-19, the remains of both George and Pearl will be interred later at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield, N.J.

Online condolences may be made at www.bolesfuneralhome.com.

Services are entrusted to Miller-Boles Funeral Home.

February 25, 2021

Garwood Library Highlights Programming For March

GARWOOD — The Garwood Public Library has announced its calendar of activities happening in March for youth and adults.

Virtual Red-Hot Robotics will take place on Thursday, March 4, at 3 p.m. Kids will explore the basic and complex technology used to design and build robots. Each participant will pick up a robot kit before the start of the program. This program is open to children in grades 2 to 6. Registration may be done on the library website events calendar, available at yousemore.com/garwood, or by calling the library at (908) 789-1670. Once registered, participants will receive a Zoom link. The class is limited to 20 youngsters.

Book Discussion Group via Zoom will be held on Monday, March 15, at 1 p.m., featuring a lively discussion of this month's book. Interested persons are advised to check with the library for its latest book selection. Once registered for the club, participants will receive a Zoom link via email.

Virtual Kid's Craft will be offered

on Tuesday, March 16, at 3 p.m. Participants may pick up craft supplies from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. that day and follow the Facebook tutorial at 3 p.m. Registration is required and is limited to 15 participants. Individuals may sign up on the library website events calendar or by calling the library.

Additionally on March 16, "Declutter with Jamie Novak" will be presented at 7 p.m. Bestselling author and organizing humorist Jamie Novak will lead a virtual program in which she reveals 10 organizing projects people can do while they are stuck at home. Registration may be done on the library website events calendar or by calling the library. Once registered, participants will receive a Zoom link prior to the start of the program.

Mission: Code is scheduled for consecutive Wednesdays, March 17, 24 and 31, at 3 p.m. Children in second through sixth grade are invited to learn essential coding skills while also engaging in active games and hands-on learning. Each of the eight coding sessions will provide kids with a fundamental skill set including algorithms, functions, relative directions and sequences. The program will run through May 12. There will be no class on April 7. Participation is limited to 15 youngsters. Registration may be done on the library website events calendar or by calling the library. Once registered, participants will receive a Zoom link prior to the start of the program.

Library Trustees Set Meeting on March 3

GARWOOD — A meeting of the Garwood Public Library Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will take place at the library and is open to the public. Masks and social distancing are required. The library is located at 411 Third Avenue, Garwood.

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Calendar

Events

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Westfield Rotary Club Seeks Applicants For Scholarships

WESTFIELD — The Rotary Club of Westfield invites all high-school seniors who reside in Westfield to apply for scholarships by Tuesday, April 6. The scholarships will be awarded in June and will be announced at the Westfield High School awards night.

All high-school seniors who reside in Westfield and who will be attending an accredited college or university are eligible for the scholarships. Some scholarships also can be awarded to students who reside in Westfield and who will be attending an accredited law school.

Each year, the Rotary Club of Westfield awards approximately \$90,000 to \$100,000 in scholarships. Individual awards are typically in the range of \$1,500 to \$15,000. Since 1967, the club has awarded over \$3 million in scholarships. Scholarships are awarded based on academic excellence, financial need, and the student's commitment to community service.

To download an application, visit westfieldrotary.com and click on Grants and Scholarships. The form will include instructions for submitting it and a list of materials which must accompany the form. These materials will include the ap-

plication form, an essay on involvement in community service, a FAFSA report, SAT or ACT Scores/Transcripts and full disclosure of any financial aid already received from college or other sources. All of these materials must be submitted by the deadline; later or incomplete applications cannot be considered. College acceptance letters and financial aid offers received after the deadline must be submitted promptly when received.

The Rotary Club of Westfield is a service organization of business men and women. It is part of an international organization of 1.2 million people in 200 countries around the world. For more information, visit rotary.org. Local projects include hunger insecurity, helping homeless veterans, planting trees, supporting youth service clubs in the schools, and scholarships.

Guests are always welcome to attend the Zoom meetings. For information, contact Club Secretary Dr. D. Michael Hart at drmhart@yahoo.com or visit westfieldrotary.com or follow the club on Facebook @WestfieldNJRotary.

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Local Residents Are Named To Northeastern Dean's List

BOSTON, Mass. — Northeastern University recognizes those students who distinguish themselves academically during the course of the school year. Twenty-eight local students were recently named to the university's Dean's List for the Fall semester, which ended in December 2020. They are grouped by their hometowns.

Cranford — Nelvia Clark, majoring in music/communication studies; Julia Lachenauer, majoring in computer science; Elizabeth Walter, majoring in computer science/mathematics.

Fanwood — Damon Artis, majoring in mechanical engineering; Drew Burfeindt, majoring in cybersecurity/criminal justice; Allison Fitzgerald, majoring in psychology; Rose Hensley, majoring in computer engineering; Julianna Lamagna, majoring in criminal justice/psychology; Kayla Reisberg, majoring in health science; Elena Wollman, majoring in behavioral neuroscience.

Mountainside — Ethan Fong, majoring in business administration; Adrian Monaghan, majoring in data science; Michael Shum, majoring in business administration.

Scotch Plains — Julianna Blanco, undeclared; Taryn Choi, majoring in psychology; Aleezah Madraswalla, undeclared.

Westfield — Erica Cheung, majoring in health science; Sofia Handzy, majoring in engineering; Lauren Ho, majoring in health science; Christopher Hogge, majoring in cell and molecular biology; Matthew Honig, majoring in business administration; Brian Kaplan, majoring in mechanical engineering; Andrew Li, majoring in computer science; Lillian Maz, majoring in criminal justice/psychology; Victoria Napolitano, majoring in mechanical engineering; Caroline Steiner, majoring in history/political science; Timothy Storms, majoring in biochemistry; Alexandra Sumas, majoring in journalism.

To achieve the Dean's List distinction, students must carry a full program of at least four courses, have a quality point average of 3.5 or greater out of a possible 4.0, and carry no single grade lower than a C- during the course of their college career. Each student receives a letter of commendation and congratulation from their college dean.

Colin Elliott Makes Bryant's Deans' and President's Lists

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Bryant University has announced that Colin Elliott of Westfield, Class of 2024, has been named to the Deans' List and the President's List for the Fall 2020 semester at the university.

Students are honored in this way in recognition of having demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement.

To earn a place on the Deans' List, students must have a GPA of 3.4 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work.

The President's List is an academic distinction reserved for

Bryant's highest achievers, who earn a GPA of 4.0 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work.

"The challenges of the last year have revealed the character and grit of our community of scholars," said Provost and Chief Academic Officer Glenn Sulmasy, JD, LL.M., reflecting on Bryant's successful Fall semester. "I am impressed and proud of their resilience, dedication, and innovative spirit."

Located in Smithfield, R.I., Bryant University delivers an integrated business and liberal arts education, enrolling approximately 3,800 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries. For more information, visit Bryant.edu.

Local Students On WPI Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) has announced its Fall 2020 Dean's List. The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from most other universities, as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

Two local residents are among the honorees. They include Alexandra Scariati of Scotch Plains, Class of 2022, majoring in civil engineering, and Sean Thal of Scotch Plains, Class of 2024, majoring in mechanical engineering.

Founded in 1865, WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. For more information about the university, visit wpi.edu.

Javon Reis-Wilson Earns Degree From UA

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Javon Reis-Wilson of Mountainside has received a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce and Business Administration from The University of Alabama. The university awarded some 2,257 degrees during its Fall commencement on December 12.

The University of Alabama, the state's oldest and largest public institution of higher education, offers its students more than 200 undergraduate, graduate and professional programs.

For more information about the university, visit ua.edu.

Harrison Wachtel On Fall Dean's List At York College

YORK, Pa. — Harrison Wachtel of Westfield, a junior undeclared major at York College of Pennsylvania, has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester.

To be eligible for this honor, a student must be registered for at least 12 academic credit hours and earn a semester GPA of 3.50 or higher.

A private college located in south central Pennsylvania, York College offers more than 50 baccalaureate majors in professional programs, the sciences and humanities to its 4,600 undergraduate students. The college also offers master's degree programs in business, education and nursing, and a doctorate in nursing practice.

For more information about York College of Pennsylvania, visit ycp.edu.



DRESS FOR SUCCESS...Camila Martinez of Scotch Plains is one of three Upper School students at the Wardlaw+Hartridge School in Edison who recently earned recognition in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition. Cami received a silver and an honorable mention award for The Last Pair and Reduce, Reuse, Recycle or Wear, Fashion, respectively. In the photo above, she shows off the dress she created.

Area Students Among Those On Bucknell Dean's List

LEWISBURG, Pa. — Bucknell University has released its Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the Fall semester of the 2020-2021 academic year. A student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive Dean's List recognition. The following local students have achieved Dean's List status:

Virtual Bagels-Books On Tap March 1

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library will host a virtual "Bagels and Books" with a New Book Preview on Monday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

The "Bagels and Books" program will be presented via Zoom, during which book lovers can share what they have been reading or listening to and can pick up suggestions for future reading.

During March, the group will be joined by Annie Mazes from Workman Publishing. She will spend about 20 minutes introducing new books the group might like, and will offer a sneak peek at some upcoming titles.

Registration is required. Registered participants will receive a Zoom link via email a day or two in advance of the meeting. The registration form, and information about the library's entire month of programming, can be found on the library's website, scotlib.org.

Buchanan Attains SUNY Dean's List

NEW PALTZ, N.Y. — SUNY New Paltz congratulates Wes Buchanan of Fanwood for being named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. Dean's List designation is reserved for students who excel academically and earn at least a 3.3 grade-point average in a semester with a full-time course load.

Located 90 minutes from metropolitan New York City, the State University of New York at New Paltz enrolls about 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students. New Paltz delivers majors in business, liberal arts and sciences, engineering, fine and performing arts and education. For more information, visit newpaltz.edu.

Mountainside — Joseph D'Angelo, Class of 2022, and Miles Madigan, Class of 2024.

Scotch Plains — Brent Mankin, Class of 2023, and Arren Puri, Class of 2021.

Westfield — Julia Buoscio, Class of 2022; Caroline Hendrix, Class of 2023; Madison Kurtz, Class of 2023; Max Martin, Class of 2021; Jackson O'Brien, Class of 2023; Natalie Patterson, Class of 2022; Kendall Robertson, Class of 2023, and Emma Wojcik, Class of 2024.

Bucknell University is a private, liberal arts university that offers majors in the arts, engineering, humanities, management, and social and natural sciences, along with broad opportunities outside of class, to its 3,600 undergraduates. Graduate programs are available in select disciplines.

Cranford Library Posts Kids' Events

CRANFORD — The Cranford Public Library, located at 224 Walnut Avenue, has announced program offerings for children that are coming up in March.

A new Grab and Go kit for children will be featured every Tuesday at 11 a.m. This month's projects include bookmarks, a handprint sloth, shamrock art and a faux bouquet.

Children ages 6 months to 2 years and a caregiver are invited to join the Cranford Public Library for Boogie Woogie Babies on Monday, March 22, at 9:30 a.m. The program consists of singing, dancing and working on fine motor skills. Class ends with a dance routine that includes babies and their "big person." To enroll online, visit cranfordlibrary.org/calendar/ or bit.ly/2Zp4TYK.

Devin Wendel Makes Bentley Dean's List

WALTHAM, Mass. — Devin Wendel of Westfield has been named to the Dean's List for Fall 2020 at Bentley University. A junior finance/economics major at Bentley, Devin is a member of the Class of 2022.

The Dean's List recognizes high academic achievement during a single semester, including those undergraduate students with at least a B+ average and no grade below C.

Father-Son Parent Event To Spotlight Addiction

WESTFIELD — The Municipal Alliance of Westfield, along with the Albert Anthony Kayal Foundation (AAKF) and the Matthew Thomas Toriello Memorial Fund (MTT Memorial Fund) invite the community to join them on Wednesday, March 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., for the virtual program "Not My Kid: A Father-Son Parent Program" with Stephen Hill of Speak Sobriety and his father, Kevin Hill.

Stephen worked with Westfield High School (WHS) students this past October in celebration of Red Ribbon Week and he is excited to return to Westfield to work with parents this spring.

"It was a powerful experience speaking to over 1,700 Westfield High School students virtually, and I am thankful to the Westfield High School administration and Westfield Municipal Alliance for allowing me to do so," Stephen remarked. "I truly appreciate all of the students that reached out to me personally and thanked me for speaking. I am hoping I can come speak in person next school year."

On the evening of October 28, Stephen spoke to WHS students virtually about his struggles with addiction and how he found wellness. He also did a question-and-answer session with the WHS Dream Team following his large group presentation. The feedback in the following days was overwhelmingly positive. Those who got to hear Stephen's story expressed gratitude for his honesty and transparency. The Municipal Alliance, AAKF and MTT Memorial Fund also received several parent emails from those who did not get to attend, asking if there would be another opportunity to hear Stephen's story.

Stephen's virtual program on March 10 is specifically designed for parents. As in October, he will share his own story; however, this time, the program also will include a 30-minute live question-and-answer session with Stephen and his father, Kevin Hill, to address any questions parents have after hearing Stephen's story.

Kristen Sonnek-Schmelz of the MTT Memorial Fund stresses how important these programs are to the community. "Michele and I both lost our brothers to opioid overdoses — Albert Kayal and Matthew Toriello," she said, referring to the experiences she and AAKF Executive Director Michele Kayal Eskow share.

"The gut-wrenching scream I let out the morning I received that phone call will forever live inside my head. It's our hope to save other families from similar pain by building awareness through addiction education and prevention programs, and letting families know it's okay to talk about addiction," she said. "People naturally want to help others, but they can only do so if they know how. By bringing programs such as Stephen's to Westfield, we hope to encourage an open conversation about substance abuse in our community."

To register to join this community conversation with Stephen Hill and Kevin Hill, click on the link at https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_WT_zQyGNSyqXP9CBO4MhOw.

Univ. of Wis.-Madison Posts Local Dean's List Honorees

MADISON, Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students who have been named to the Dean's List for the Fall semester of the 2020-2021 academic year.

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester.

Three Local Residents On RWU Dean's List

BRISTOL, R.I. — Select students have been named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

Casey Pender of Garwood, Jessica Schwartz of Cranford and Oliver Sherry of Fanwood are among those who achieved this distinction.

A private university with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I., Roger Williams University enrolls nearly 4,000 undergraduates, along with hundreds of law students, graduate students and adult learners. For more information, visit rwu.edu.

its in that semester.

Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction. Most call the honor "Dean's List," but some grant the "Dean's Honor List" and "Dean's High Honor List."

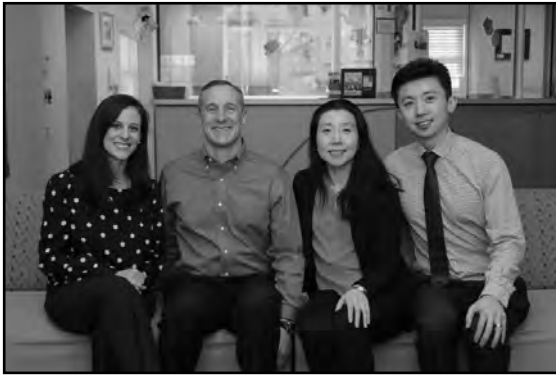
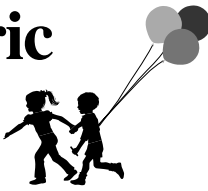
Nine local students were among those who earned Dean's List honors. They include the following:

Mountainside residents Jay Post, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List, and Drew Rittman, College of Engineering, Dean's Honor List.

Westfield residents Megan Bertsch, School of Business, Dean's List; Emma Escaldi, School of Business, Dean's List; Adam Holtzman, School of Business, Dean's List; Emma Jackler, College of Agricultural and Life Science, Dean's List; Luke Pardo, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List; Abby Riordan, School of Human Ecology, Dean's Honor List, and Jacob Rock, College of Engineering, Dean's Honor List.

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6 Homes Sold Feb 14 – Feb 21, 2021 in Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield

TOWN	ADDRESS	STYLE	RMS	BRS	BTH	GAR	SALE PRICE
Cranford	217 PROSPECT AVE 5-1A	OneFloor	5	2	1.0	0	\$329,000
Fanwood	309 MIDWAY AVE	CapeCod	6	4	2.0	1	\$405,000
Scotch Plains	370 JACKSON AVE	Bi-Level	9	4	2.0	1	\$579,000
Westfield	414 EDGAR RD	Splitlev	7	3	2.0	0	\$447,339
Westfield	788 CARLETON RD	Colonial	7	3	1.0	1	\$483,400
Westfield	184 HARROW RD	Colonial	10	4	4.1	2	\$1,250,000

*Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield, NJ data according to the Garden State MLS, as of 2/14/21 – 2/21/21. 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 or susanmassa2@gmail.com. www.NJHomeShowcase.com www.summitwestfieldhomes.com.

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Suzette F. Stalker
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Robert P. Connelly
BUSINESS OPERATIONS MANAGER

Lauren S. Barr
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What We Have Here Is a Failure to Vaccinate

For the past two months we have been trying to track the vaccine rollout in New Jersey and here is what we have learned — it's a mess.

The good news is that the problems don't *appear* to be a corruption scandal or even the cronyism we're so sadly accustomed to in N.J. We have heard from lots of well-connected people who are having trouble obtaining vaccine appointments for themselves and family members.

Since the beginning, New Jersey has received a little over 1.8 million doses, of which 1.6 million have gone into arms. It's important to note that 90 percent of the state's allocation has been administered, but only 72 percent of those allocated to long-term-care facilities through the federal pharmacy program have actually reached people. Walgreens and CVS, which are administering the program, are

clearly still failing our most vulnerable population.

The complete lack of a centralized scheduling process and system appears to be the true culprit here. Instead of having one sign up with multiple distribution sites, you have to register with no less than five different providers and then pray. Residents need to sign up with the state, RWJ Barnabas and Atlantic Health to get put on a list and wait for an email to come (which will likely go to spam), and you have five minutes to sign up before the slots are filled. Alternatively, you can stalk the CVS and Union County sign-up sites to wait for appointments to open, but don't call ShopRite or Summit Medical Group, because they said they're all filled up. No one cares how old you are, what line of work you are in or what your risk factors are — it's fastest clicker wins.

Our frontline workers — cashiers, mail carriers, delivery people, janitors and teachers — are working all day. They don't have time to sit around hitting refresh for appointments to open up, or hours to sit on hold with the state hotline. We keep hearing about the inequity among the vaccine recipients, but we would argue that the state created this inequity. Eighteen percent of the New Jersey population is Hispanic, but account for only 5 percent of vaccines given. Thirteen percent of the New Jersey population is Black, but only account for 4 percent of those receiving the vaccine. We'd like to say the system is broken, but it never worked in the first place.

Many kind individuals have volunteered to help our less computer-savvy population get a vaccine, and their willingness to help is commendable. The state's inability to put a fair and intelligent system in place is reprehensible.

Educator's Corner: Project Based Learning at Home

By JENNIFER GLACKIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader/Times

Caregivers juggle about a dozen "projects" at any given time. Work assignments. Feed children (about twice an hour if my children are the models). Laundry. Dishes. Volunteering. Tech support. Emotional support. Chauffeur. I hope I don't come across as unsympathetic when I suggest another "project."

Project-based learning approaches are not the kind that end with a giant poster board, PowerPoint presentation or FlipGrid. (But if that works for you, have at it!) Rather, it is a chance to explore a given topic in a variety of ways.

Research released last week on Edutopia suggests that students who partake in project-based learning (PBL) perform better than those who learn in a more traditional model. The studies found the same results in elementary classes and in high school Advanced Placement (AP) classes with students of varying socio-economic and achievement levels.

PBL, also called "the project approach," is not a new concept in education. The idea has been float-

ing around U.S. education since the 1960s and experienced a big push in preschool classrooms in the early 2000s. (My graduate classes were entrenched in the works of Reggio Emilia, a town in Italy where child-centered, project-based learning took hold in the mid-20th century.) The more agency students have in choosing the topic and hands-on questioning and learning, the higher the student engagement.

PBL provides opportunities for science-based inquiry with a ton of cross-curricular integration. It can work for large groups, small groups and individual instruction, so it is easily adaptable for home. Even if you and your child are feeling pandemic burnout or hybrid-learning stress, this could be a great way to connect with one another and reinvigorate a love for learning.

First, choose a topic. Try to narrow down the larger topics a bit to a small focus like airplanes vs. vehicles or bugs vs. animals.

Second, (and perhaps more important than choosing a topic) is creating questions that will guide the learning. How does a 90,000-pound plane fly in the air? Why are

there more bugs than dogs? Kids usually have great questions about their interests!

Next, observe. Don't just jump right into book or internet-based research. Have kids look at the real objects as much as possible. (If you can't get on a tarmac, watching videos is a good substitute.)

Time to reflect: Have you answered any of your questions? Do you have any more that can guide your learning further? It's also time to plan some of the concepts that naturally occur with the topic. Velocity, friction, parts of the body, etc.

Move beyond: Here is where the cross curricular comes in. Draw and label the parts. Read books on the subject. Find new vocabulary. Incorporate math through graphs or measurement (how far does a toy car travel), etc.

Ending the project is up to you! Kids can create their own airplanes incorporating what they learned or write an all about book about bugs. (Maybe start an ant farm... I'll leave that one up to you!) School and stress seem to be synonymous lately, but learning is something we should strive to do our whole lives, so let's dive in!

Letters to the Editor

Scotch Plains Workers in Full Force During February Storms

We all know February is the shortest month of the year, but it is really packing a wallop.

We welcomed the month with 17 inches of snow. Additional storms brought more snow and ice, which was plenty of fun for those sledding down the hill at Kramer Park. But there were plenty of challenges for our hard-working DPW staff. And with weather forecasts showing even more bad weather on the horizon, it may take until mid-March to clearly see our streets and sidewalks again.

There are plenty of accolades to go around as we navigate this difficult winter. I want to thank Department of Public Works Director Frank Dinizo, Deputy Director Todd Sharp, mechanic Tyler Ruane and all the men and women at DPW who worked overtime to clear our streets. I am also grateful that our emergency services, including our rescue squad and fire and police departments, maintained services throughout the storms.

Snow removal is not easy on many of our residential streets, especially cul de sacs or narrow streets with parked cars. So, please, when you hear of snow, take your parked cars and basketball hoops off the streets so the plows may do their job. We are reviewing our agreements with subcontractors to ensure we remain fully staffed with plow drivers as we look to prepare for the final blasts of winter. (Hopefully.)

In the meantime, our town's website has been updated so you can report any hazardous conditions at <https://www.scotchplainsnj.gov/departments/public-safety/snow/>. Please be mindful that commenting on Facebook, even in its centralized town pages, may not reach the attention of our town manager, DPW, etc. I recommend you go right to the source.

Stay safe, Scotch Plains.

Josh Losardo
Scotch Plains Mayor

Westfield's Budget –Carefully Considered Every Year

I was elected to the Town Council in 2017, and have had the privilege to serve as the Chair of the Finance Policy Committee (FPC) every year of my term. At present, I am working with Council members Parmelee, Boyes, and Contract on my fourth budget.

I am very happy to report that the financial health of our Town is excellent—despite curveballs the Pandemic continues to throw at us. Tax collections were greater than 99% in 2020, and we ended 2020 with \$9.6 million in total surplus.

Budget season, for those of us with a passion for spreadsheets, audits and capital plans, begins in December but intensifies toward the end of January when our auditor delivers results from the prior year. We then present these results to you in a (now annual!) public meeting to take questions, and seek feedback from residents on the current budget. Since that public meeting on January 28, the FPC, our Town Administrator, and our CFO have been spending upwards of 15 hours a week on the 2021 budget. Each year, we meet with every department, and in parallel, consider the questions and requests submitted to us by residents. On March 23, we will present this year's 2021 budget recommendations to you and the other Council members, leading up to a target budget ratification date of April 20, 2021.

Drastically reduced revenue in 2020 from court fees and parking (down \$761K from 2019) will continue to challenge us in 2021 as the pandemic continues, but tax collections continue to be outstanding, and we have been quite successful in grant wins (\$833K in 2020) and in reducing costs across the board. We are working hard to deliver a sound and prudent budget while still providing highest levels of service. Moreover, we are working on the longer-range plans for augmenting and diversifying the revenue of the Town via the increased rates that will result from redevelopment.

Each year the budget presents us with a new puzzle to manage, reflecting the changing needs of the Town and the unpredictable but non-discretionary cost items dictated to us by entities like the Rahway Valley Sewer Authority. This year we have also invested a lot of time in developing a three year capital budget so that we can plan over the medium term for the monies needed for new roads, new equipment, improvements to our parks and additional fields. Municipal finance sup-

plies plenty of rules and a limited number of tools, but we commit ourselves to balancing our use of surplus, debt and the smallest level of tax increase possible to first cover costs and then take steps to achieving our collective aspirations, as laid out in the Master Plan re-examination report and the Parks Master Plan.

We welcome your thoughts and participation always! Please send me a note via budget@westfieldnj.gov and take a look at the Public Budget Meeting presentation we gave on January 28, 2021 on www.westfieldnj.gov.

Linda Habgood
Council Member Ward 1,
Finance Policy Committee Chair

Educators Should Press For Shorter Hours

I am writing to acknowledge assistance I received from Sen. Tom Kean, assistance getting a hearing for certain ideas. Bear with me as I provide context.

Last year, federal funding for work sharing was passed with the support of a Republican Senate and a Republican Administration. At the same time, candidate Joe Biden expressed support for work sharing. For the first time in generations, there was bipartisan support for work-time reduction as a means to combat unemployment.

The fact that this auspicious development received no attention was unsurprising because, for 3/4 of a century, the American public has abandoned the long-held practice of reducing work time.

As a union activist, I argued that educators should address the abandonment of shorter hours. Specifically, if New Jersey educators could no longer attain increases in total pay (because of state policies), we could press for some incremental reduction in teaching load — not just for ourselves, but to remind all employees what unions could accomplish.

To gain credibility for this request, educators could offer to pay for parking. To see the connection between these apparently disparate ideas, consider the following:

Paying for parking on a daily basis creates a market for low-cost transit alternatives, from simple carpooling to a high-tech, flexible van service. (One bargaining unit paying for parking would not create a sufficient market; this would be an exercise in public education.) Convenient transit would allow parking lots to be used as sites for housing, thereby reducing housing prices for future buyers via the increase in supply. Over time, therefore, it's possible to reduce the two largest portions of the average household's budget. Lower household costs reduce necessary work time — and that brings together all the above ideas.

With regard to educators, I have visited teachers housing built on former parking lots at San Mateo Community College in California, and in Newark, New Jersey. The housing is upscale, but the resi-

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. Laager — To arrange or form in a defensive enclosure
2. Pratti — Cymbals
3. Uletic — Pertaining to the gums
4. Tussah — An undomesticated Asiatic silkworm

EUSTOMATOUS

1. Artistically suited for show or display
2. Awkward; clumsy
3. Having a well-developed mouth
4. Resounding; very loud

SMARAGDINE

1. Pertaining to the emerald
2. Resembling a pea in shape and size
3. Producing smoke or soot
4. Withered or emaciated

FLUCTISONOUS

1. Trembling; shaking
2. To be or become dim
3. Resembling the sound of waves
4. Putrid; foul-smelling

PETARD

1. A pustule or pimple
2. A kind of firecracker
3. A shoemaker
4. A scallop or large mollusk

Letters to the Editor

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

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State LD-21

Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R)
425 North Ave. E.
Westfield, N.J. 07090
(908) 232-3673

Asm. Jon Brannick (R)
251 North Ave. West
Westfield, N.J. 07090
(908) 232-2073

Asm. Nancy Munoz (R)
57 Union Place, Suite 310
Summit, N.J. 07901
(908) 918-0414

LD-21 includes Westfield, Mountainside, Garwood, Summit and Cranford.

State LD-22

Sen. Nicholas Scutari (D)
1514 E. Saint Georges Ave.
Linden, N.J. 07036
(908) 587-0404

Asm. Jim Kennedy (D)
34 E. Cherry St.
Rahway, N.J. 07065
(732) 943-2660

Asw. Linda Carter (D)
200 West 2nd St., Suite 102
Plainfield, N.J. 07060
(908) 561-5757

LD-22 includes Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Plainfield, Clark, Rahway and Linden.

7th Congressional District

Representative Tom Malinowski (D)
75-77 N. Bridge St., Somerville, N.J. 08876
(908) 547-3307
[Westfield, Mountainside, Garwood, Summit and Cranford are in the 7th Congressional District]

12th Congressional District

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D)
850 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 201, Ewing, N.J. 08628
(609) 883-0026
[Fanwood, Plainfield and most of Scotch Plains are in the 12th Congressional District]

senkean@njleg.org, senscutari@njleg.org,
asmbrannick@njleg.org, aswmunoz@njleg.org,
asmkennedy@njleg.org, aswcarter@njleg.org

Candidate Statements Welcome

Candidates for elected office are invited to submit op-ed columns each week. Columns should be between 250 and 500 words, and be issue based with no personal attacks on opponents.

Union County Commissioners

Elizabeth, New Jersey
(908) 527-4200
Ed Oatman, Mgr., eoatman@ucnj.org
Alex Mirabella
amirabella@ucnj.org
Sebastian D'Elia, Public Info.
(908) 527-4419
sdelia@ucnj.org

Dan Aronson
Westfield

The Student View

A collaboration with the
Westfield High School Journalism Program

An Introvert Living in An Extrovert’s World

By JULIA MCGANN
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

In the 1920s, psychiatrist Carl Jung popularized the terms “introversion” and “extroversion,” which refer to human nature. Essentially this personality theory revolves around how an individual gains energy. Introverts tend to “recharge” their batteries by leaving an over-stimulating environment and using quiet time for reflection while extroverts “recharge” their energy levels by being around people. Although these terms seem like harmless personality traits, there is a bias in modern society, especially in the education system, that favors individuals who categorize better with extroversion.

I have more introverted tendencies that have led to people’s unfair assumptions of me. Although I am outgoing around my family and close friends, I find it hard to make connections with people I am not familiar with. Around strangers I constantly get the question, “Why are you so quiet?” However, I never respond with, “Why are you so loud?” This social stigma that views quietness as a negative has been very difficult growing up because I feel as if there is something wrong with my personal behavior.

In school, when the environment is loud and chaotic, I become uncomfortable and anxious, which affects my productivity and ability to pay attention.

Susan Cain, the author of “Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can’t Stop Talking,” said, “In a way, education by its nature favors the extrovert because you are taking kids and putting them into a big classroom, which is automatically going to be a high-stimulation environment.”

A typical classroom environment does not allow every student to thrive, and more introverted individuals are left trying to assimilate to act more extroverted. According to Ms. Cain, the majority of teachers say their ideal students are extroverted but, statistically, introverts receive better grades. This speaks to the prevalence of the “extrovert ideal” in our culture that views introversion as inferior.

There are several misconceptions of introversion in society that prove to be damaging for the quiet community. Introversion is often associated with characteristics like awkwardness,

shyness and overall antisocial behavior. Although some introverts can possess these traits, these generalizations only further the misinterpretations of this community because introversion truly deals with how an individual reacts to stimulation. Introverts make up one-third to one-half of the American population; however according to [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com), 92 percent of people said it was better to be introverted.

In the education system, participation grades, frequent group work and on-the-spot answering all create an environment that favors extroverts. It can be very challenging for introverts to participate frequently in class, especially when extroverts dominate the discussions.

It is unjust to create a system in which students must fight against their natures to receive good grades. Most teachers will justify their decisions by saying it’s crucial to overcome shyness in class and for students express their ideas, but according to the website Quiet Revolution, “Shyness is the fear of negative judgment, and introversion is a preference for quiet, minimally stimulating environments.”

Introverts don’t feel the need to voice their ideas like extroverts do to contribute to the energy of the environment, and that is perfectly normal. When creating an environment that emphasizes group activities and collaboration, the education system is only allowing extroverted students to succeed. There needs to be a change in the school environment that doesn’t punish students who internalize instead of externalize.

For example, students who don’t outwardly speak in class should have the option to turn in a written document with their thoughts during class. This is an easy compromise that would allow all students to feel comfortable and appreciated. Also, I do not think teachers should be allowed to put students on the spot for a question. This is awkward for any student, but it can be an introvert’s worst nightmare.

I believe that school administrations and teachers need to recognize the bias against introverted students and make compromises to allow everyone the ability to thrive in school. Introversion is not a second-class personality trait, and it should not be treated that way in society.

Quijano Welcomes Comcast Back-Off of Rate Increase

TRENTON — In response to Comcast’s announcement to delay its decision to cap the amount of data available to customers and charge up to \$100 premiums for exceeding the data limits until 2022, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (D-Union) issued the following statement:

“Comcast was right to back away from its proposed rate increases on families and students during the pandemic. The proposed rate increase would have been devastating for our most vulnerable residents.

“As the prime sponsor to legislation that would have prohibited this price hike, I am glad that it wasn’t necessary to pass the bill to protect

consumers. Working in partnership with Senators Scutari and Singleton, we were able to elevate the concerns our constituents had about the rate increases and get Comcast to rethink the policy.

“The pandemic is changing our habits as a society, and I will continue to pay careful attention to consumer protection issues during and after the emergency has passed.”

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PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR VIRTUAL HEARING TOWNSHIP OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT. In compliance with the New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law, the General Ordinances of the Township of Westfield and the Rules and Regulations of the Township of Westfield Board of Adjustment, 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 **The Board of Adjustment of the Town of Westfield, New Jersey** will hold a virtual meeting on **March 8, 2021, at 7:30 pm** to hear and consider the following appeals for bulk (c) and/or (d) variance relief from requirements of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance.

Alyssa Stanek, 251 East Dudley Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to construct an inground swimming pool and a patio contrary to Section 12.04G of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum coverage by improvements of 20%. Proposed is 30.5%.

Jeffrey & Elaine Heintz, 564 Sherwood Parkway. Applicants are seeking approval to construct a garage, patio, and driveway contrary to Section 12.04G and 12.04F1 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum coverage by improvements of 50%. Proposed is 51.5%. Ordinance allows a maximum building coverage of 20%. Proposed is 22.6%.

Lawrence & Donna Darrow, 4 Carol Road. Applicants are seeking approval to install a generator contrary to Section 13.02113 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance does not allow generators to be located in the front or street side yard. Proposed is a generator located in the street side yard.

Adam & Jessica Weinstein, 417 Baker Avenue. Applicants are seeking approval to construct a covered front entry portico contrary to Section 12.04F1 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum building coverage of 20%. Proposed is 22.6%.

PUBLIC NOTICE

mum building coverage of 20%. Proposed is 21.84%.

Gilberto Arroyo, 230 Elizabeth Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to construct an addition to the rear, front and side of the home contrary to Section 12.04F1, 11.08E5, 11.08E6, 11.08E7, 12.04E, 11.08E13/2.11G, 11.08E14 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum building coverage of 20%. Proposed is 31.3%. Ordinance requires a front yard setback of 42 feet 6 inches. Proposed is 22 feet 4 inches. Ordinance allows a maximum floor area ratio of 37%. Proposed is 51%. Ordinance requires a minimum rear yard setback of 35 feet. Proposed is 26 feet 9 inches. Ordinance requires a minimum side yard setback of 10 feet. Proposed is 6.67 feet and 4.9 feet. Ordinance allow a maximum continuous wall length of 25 feet. Proposed is 38 feet and 39 feet. Ordinance requires an attached front facing garage to have a minimum offset of 2 feet behind the main facade. Proposed is 1 foot 6 inches.

The public can join the meeting and participate electronically or by phone by accessing the following link <http://bit.ly/WFBOAMeeting>. Meeting Dial-In Information Phone #: 470.381.2552 or 646.518.9805 Webinar ID: 602 589 976 and press # on your phone. Passcode: 788726. The application plans, and all documents submitted in relation to the application are on file in the office of the Town Engineer, 959 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey. A digital copy is available by contacting the Board Secretary Linda Jacus at ljacus@westfieldnj.gov, or by viewing the documents on the Town of Westfield website: <https://www.westfieldnj.gov/>. Members of the public who have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the remote meeting process, or who are unable to access the plans digitally, should contact the Board Secretary Linda Jacus at (908) 789-4100, extension 4602, or by email ljacus@westfieldnj.gov.

Linda Jacus
Board Secretary
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$87.72

WFPD Seeks Public Comment For Accreditation Process

WESTFIELD – A team of assessors from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) will visit the Westfield Police Department virtually on Monday, March 1 for a final, on-site assessment of all aspects of the department’s policies and procedures, management, operations and support services, Westfield Police Chief Christopher Battiloro has just announced.

“The Westfield Police Department is seeking law enforcement accreditation for the very first time,” stated Chief Battiloro. “This is an entirely voluntary process, and to be awarded law enforcement accreditation status is a very distinct and highly-regarded recognition for a law enforcement agency,” he added.

As part of this final, on-site assessment, employees and members of the general public are invited to address

and provide comments to the assessment team regarding the Westfield Police Department’s ability to comply with the NJSACOP’s law enforcement accreditation standards. The standards address five (5) general areas of law enforcement operations: the Administration Function, the Personnel Function, the Operations Function, the Investigative Function and the Arrestee/Detainee/Prisoner Handling Function.

Anyone wishing to comment may call (908) 543-4063 on Monday, March 1, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Telephone comments will be limited to five (5) minutes each and they must address the Westfield Police Department’s ability to comply with the NJSACOP’s law enforcement accreditation standards. Comments will also be accepted by e-mail at accreditation@wpdnj.org.

Westfield BOE Conducts Superintendent Search

WESTFIELD -- On February 4, 2021, the Westfield Board of Education held a special meeting to appoint a consulting firm to conduct the search for a new superintendent, following the January 19 announcement by Dr. Margaret Dolan that she will retire effective July 1, 2021. After meeting in private session for an hour and a half to review proposals, the board returned to public session, awarding the contract, not to exceed \$15,000, to the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA).

The board met in private session with NJSBA Search Consultant Gwen Thornton on February 16 to discuss a timeline and priorities for the national search to replace Dr. Dolan.

Surveys for the community and for district staff have been developed to gain input as to the educational characteristics, leadership style and values that are important for the position. Survey links are posted at

www.westfieldnj.org under “Superintendent Search” on the board tab. The NJSBA asks that all survey responses be completed by March 13, 2021.

“Input from all of our stakeholders is so important to the process,” says Board of Education President Amy Root, adding that virtual public meetings will be held in March as well. “Survey responses are anonymous, and NJSBA will use them to develop and shape interview questions and candidate review documents.”

Ms. Root says, while the job posting for a new superintendent will be distributed nationally, it is “highly likely that most applicants will be from New Jersey,” due to specific state certification requirements. She states that the process will remain confidential throughout the interview process in April to protect the privacy of the candidates.

The board hopes to be able to appoint a new superintendent by the end of April or early May.

Expanded Hearings Planned For Murphy’s Covid Response

TRENTON — Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean and Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick announced planned independent hearings on the Murphy Administration’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic would be expanded to include members of the Assembly Republican caucus.

“Senate Republicans have repeatedly highlighted the need for legislative oversight of the Murphy Administration’s flawed Covid-19 response,” said Senator Kean (R-Union). “Since the majority party has refused our many calls to act, we had no choice but to move forward with independent hearings. We’re glad to have our Assembly Republican colleagues join us in an expanded effort and remain hopeful that legislative Democrats will realize the importance of pursuing oversight in a bipartisan manner as we have requested.”

Republicans in both houses have called for a bipartisan investigation with subpoena power to understand the policy and management failures of the Murphy Administration that led to preventable deaths, destroyed businesses and jobs and left millions of New Jerseyans without access to important services and support.

The first virtual hearing on Friday, March 5 will focus on the impact of Murphy Administration policies that led to a massive loss of life in New Jersey nursing

homes, veterans homes and long-term care facilities.

Additional hearings will focus on executive orders and underfunded relief programs that hurt small businesses, along with the failures of the state’s unemployment system and Motor Vehicle Commission.

“The public has an absolute right to be heard,” said Assemblyman Bramnick (R-Union). “People get frustrated because there is no transparency and they want the legislature to examine the failures of the administration. People need the opportunity to be heard.”

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 8405, LOT 15 1115 HETFIELD AVENUE

TAKE NOTICE, that the Township of Scotch Plains shall conduct a public sale of land known as **BLOCK 8405, LOT 15-1115 HETFIELD AVENUE** on the Township Tax map, on the following terms and conditions:

1. The Township Council hereby authorizes the sale of **BLOCK 8405, LOT 15-1115 HETFIELD AVENUE** to the highest bidder among the contiguous property owners only; and

2. The minimum bid for the Property shall be set at \$33,750. A deposit equal to 10% of the minimum price, that is, \$3,375, shall be required. Immediately upon the close of bidding, the highest bidder shall submit cash or a certified or bank cashier’s check in the amount of \$3,375, payable to the Township of Scotch Plains. The balance of the purchase price, together with the costs set forth herein, shall be paid at closing of title, which shall take place within 45 days from the date of the Resolution of confirmation of sale.

3. The public sale by auction shall take place in Room 202 in the township Municipal Building at Scotch Plains, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, on the 17th day of March 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

4. As a condition of sale, the Township property known as **Block 8405, Lot 15** shall be merged with the contiguous property and shall be deed restricted from further subdivision.

5. Property shall be sold “as is” and subject to any and all easements, grants and restrictions of record including but not limited to rights and interests of utility companies and/or the public in and to the public right of way.

FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK.

BOZENA LACINA, RMC
Municipal Clerk
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$44.88

Houseplant Pests and What to Do: Fungus Gnats and Spider Mites

By SHARRY WALSH
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

When I was working in a garden center, a person once said to me, “I have an apartment in a brand new building, so I’m 100 percent certain that I won’t have bugs.” This statement could only be true if this person also never plants to come and go from that apartment, open a window or have any plants, including the ones they eat. Bugs on plants are inevitable.

Plant bugs come to us in all kinds of ways, and it’s helpful to think of them as part of the ecosystem rather than as a stain on the (impossible) perfection of growing plants. Insects and plants evolved together and continue to do so. Bugs are a natural part of caring for green things.

However, some are more harmful than others.

Fungus gnats aren’t harmful to plants in the home environment (as opposed to commercial growing), but they can be annoying in large numbers. They are completely harmless to humans. We bring them in on the plants we buy and our clothes, and they fly or float in through windows and doors. Fungus gnats proliferate in damp soil, so they are sometimes a sign of overwatering.

A few gnats here and there can be ignored. However, if you have a larger problem, there are solutions. Fungus gnats have developed a resistance to many insecticides, so avoid those. Biological controls are more effective.

First, use some sticky traps to capture adult gnats. Then you have a couple of choices. The best solution is to buy nematodes. These are basically bugs that eat fungus gnats, but you will never see them. Drench the plants with nematodes and let them take care of the problem. The draw-

back is that nematodes are expensive.

Another option is a spray called Bacillus thuringiensis or Bt. This is a bacteria that only feeds on certain types of bugs, including fungus gnats. It’s harmless to humans and pets and, in fact, is often used on commercially grown vegetables. Simply spray the plant thoroughly and let the bacteria do its work.

More harmful to plants are spider mites. These are common houseplant pests, especially on plants in the Maranta family, which are popular right now. Plants with thinner, more papery leaves seem to be the most prone to spider mite infestations.

A spider mite outbreak can become widespread before we see it, so it’s important to periodically look closely at your plants. Notice if the plant just doesn’t look as good: a little droopy, leaves a bit paler. Hold a leaf up to a light and see if it’s mottled or has some lighter spots. This could signal spider mites, as they feed on the sap in the leaves. The undersides of leaves may look dirty, and webbing in the crevices is a sign that the situation is advanced.

Controlling spider mites requires diligence. First, separate the affected plants from other plants, and remove the worst leaves. Then use an organic miticide, Neem oil or plant invigorator. These are each applied to the surfaces of the plants regularly (every couple of weeks) until signs of the mites are gone. You can even use dish detergent on your hands (sticky, not bubbly) to wipe down the leaves and stems.

Keep in mind that the best prevention from pests is a healthy plant. Maintaining your plants in good soil, properly watered and in the right light is the best way to make sure your plants can survive any kind of outbreak.

Elections 2021

Bramnick Awarded Somerset County Line

WESTFIELD – By unanimous decision, Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick was awarded the Somerset County Republican organizational line for the 21st district State Senate in the June 8 primary election.

“Thank you to the members of the Somerset County Republican county committee for their continued support,” said Mr. Bramnick (R-Union). “I look forward to serving the residents of the district in the State Senate with high-quality constituent services and will continue to stand up to Gov-

ernor Murphy’s extreme policies.”

Somerset County Republican Chairman Tim Howes lauded Mr. Bramnick, saying “Somerset County is fortunate to have Jon as a representative in the Assembly and will be served with unparalleled skill and care in the State Senate.”

The Somerset County portion of the 21st District includes Bernards Township, Far Hills, Warren and Watchung for a combined 30 percent of the registered Republicans in the district.

Messler, Pater Announce Re-Election for Council

MOUNTAINSIDE – Councilman Robert Messler and Councilwoman Rachel Pater announced their intentions to seek re-election for Mountainside Council.

“I am proud to serve as your councilman, and Rachel and I look forward to continuing our work for the residents of Mountainside,” said Mr. Messler. “As we continue to navigate through very challenging times, the Mountainside Council has maintained fiscal strength, continues to provide essential services to our residents while keeping municipal taxes low. It is with hard work and dedication that we will continue to put Mountainside first.” “Mountainside is a wonderful town full of dynamic people and families,” noted Ms. Pater. “I hope to continue to contribute to the town that is noted for being one of the best places to live in New Jersey.”

Ms. Pater continued, “In 2020, it was my honor to serve as one of the co-chairs for the 125th anniversary celebration. While the pandemic limited our plans, the community was able to come together for a final time capsule ceremony last October. I take great pride in serving as councilwoman, and have also been fortunate to serve with Bob, as he has been a mentor, friend and running mate.”

Mr. Messler has been a Mountainside resident since 1994.

Mr. Messler currently serves as the chairman of the Department of Public Works, Police Committee and the Administrative and Executive Committee. Additionally, he serves on the Media and Information Committee. Mr. Messler is the father of three children, all of whom attended Mountainside schools. One has graduated college, and the other two are enrolled now. Mr. Messler is also the senior vice president of V&S Galvanizing Group, with eight locations in the United States.

Ms. Pater has been a Mountainside resident since 2011. In her official capacity, Ms. Pater serves on the Fire, Media and Information, and the Administrative and Executive Committees. She is also the liaison to the Mountainside Restoration Committee and Senior Citizen Services. Ms. Pater has been married for 17 years to her husband, Matt, and they are the proud parents two sons, Zach and Alex. Ms. Pater has a bachelor’s degree from St. John Fisher College in New York. She was awarded a scholarship for the women’s basketball team and played in the NCAA Division III National Championship game in 1990. She has a master’s degree in Information Technology for Business from Johns Hopkins University. Her professional background includes public policy, public relations, marketing and information technology.

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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 7-10

Cougars Rip R.C. Lions, Fall To Summit in Girls Basketball

Three days after being beaten, 47-40, by the Roselle Catholic Lions, the Cranford High School girls basketball team got even with a 53-38 thrashing of the Lions in Cranford on February 15. Then on February 17, the Cougars hosted a very solid Summit Hilltopper squad and ended up on the short side of a 50-34 outcome.

In the victory over the Lions, senior Amanda Vath led the way for the Cougars with 15 points, seven rebounds, two assists and two steals. Olivia Merriam put in 14 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and pulled four rebounds. Sarah O'Donnell sank 11 points, including a 3-pointer, and added three assists and two rebounds. Senior Liz McCaffery scored seven points, including a 3-pointer, and led the team with six steals, while adding three rebounds and an assist. Kirsten Williams (3 steals), Katy Wheatley (3 assists) and Natalia Kruk (steal) each

had two points. Nia Clemons led the Lions with 17 points, including trip 3-pointers. Amaris Jenkins had 14 points with a pair of threes and added four steals.

On February 12 against the Lions, Jenkins poured in 26 points and Clemons had 11 points and 16 rebounds. Vath led the Cougars with 12 points, 10 rebounds and three assists. O'Donnell had eight points and four assists. Wheatley scored seven points and added six rebounds and an assist. McCaffery (3-pointer) had seven points, seven rebounds and three assists.

The match-up against the Hilltoppers was rough going from the start. The 6-1 Hilltoppers, whose only loss was to New Providence, jumped to a 14-7 lead in the first quarter then stretched their lead to 27-15 by halftime. A 16-11 run put the Hilltoppers up 43-26, entering the fourth quarter.

During that third quarter, McCaffery, who finished with 12 points, six rebounds, an assist and a steal, sank a pair of 3-pointers. Wheatley (4 rebounds) sank four of her six points and Williams (6 points, 2 assists, 2 steals, 2 rebounds) sank a free throw.

In the final quarter, Kruk (1 block) got underneath for a lay-up, Maddy DeLong (2 rebounds) hit a pair of two-pointers, the second on an assist from sophomore guard Cassee Marchese, then Williams converted a steal to a lay-up.

Olivia Lawlor led the Hilltoppers with 19 points, 11 rebounds, three blocks and three steals. Amanda Yorio sank 17 points, including trip 3-pointers, committed seven acts of theft, pulled six rebounds and added three blocks and two assists. Kiran McCormick had eight points, five assists and two rebounds. Jessica Palmer had four steals and nailed a 3-pointer.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
MAKING HIS MOVE...Blue Devil guard Pete Meixner, No. 3, makes his move toward the basket during the game against the North Brunswick Raiders on February 17. The Blue Devils won their fourth straight with a 61-46 victory.

LOGAN NETS 18, PULLS 12, FRIEDBERG 12 PT, HOWLAND 10 RB

Blue Devils' Late Run Downs North Brunswick B-Ballers, 61-46

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

Control of the boards by the trip towers, aggressive inside penetration by junior Ryan Friedberg and crafty setup efforts by a pair of sophomore guards, Pete Meixner and TJ Halloran (7 points, 3 assists, 3 steals), and junior guard Zander Barraza enabled the Westfield High School boys basketball team to make it four-in-a-row with a 61-46 victory over the North Brunswick Raiders in Westfield on February 17.

"This is the first time since Game 1 that we've had our full team. Having Friedberg back and TJ Halloran back really gave us depth at the guard spot," said Blue Devil Head Coach Jim McKeon who added, "We are a learning process with a lot of those guys. Two of them are sophomores - Pete and TJ. But they had some bright moments."

Junior Sean Logan, one third of the trip towers, had quite an afternoon on both ends of the court as he led the 4-2 Blue Devils with 18 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and dished out two assists, while also leading the

team with 12 rebounds and adding two blocks and a steal. Senior Jack Spellman put in 10 points and grabbed six rebounds, while adding two blocks and a steal. Junior Logan Howland pulled 10 boards and scored six points, while adding an assist and a steal.

According to Coach McKeon, "All three of them shoot double doubles every game in my mind. They know that. We talk about it. Those guys are battling each other every game. We worry about the other team but those guys are competing to get double doubles. That raises the bars with us as individuals. Spellman leads the team right now in most consecutive. Sean is creeping up and Howland is in it too. We rely on them big time. They are versatile. They can do a lot of different things and they are unselfish. They want each other to do great."

The Blue Devils with Meixner bringing the ball down court, took a slight 13-11 lead at the end of the first quarter. Six of their points came from the free throw line. Spellman assisted Howland on a lay-up. Logan, on

Meixner's assist, banged his first 3-pointer and Friedberg found a seam to roll in a lay-up.

North Brunswick actually seized a 20-16 lead midway through the second quarter but the Blue Devils answered with a 10-0 run to regain the lead 26-20 to prompt a timeout with 2:22 on the clock. Six straight Raider points tied the score but Friedberg found the inside lane again to put Westfield up 28-26 by halftime.

Meixner (2 blocks, 3 rebounds, assist) added more panache bringing the ball down court in the third quarter, which put the Raiders' defense to the test.

"He was a little lost in the first but in the second half, he really broke down the defense and made our offense that much better. He can break guys down and just be creative and that's when he really shines." Coach McKeon said.

The Blue Devils won the quarter 16-14 to make the score 44-40 and Friedberg (12 points, 2 assists, re-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
JUST OUT OF REACH...Cougar senior Kirsten Williams, No. 32, attempts to get her hand on the ball in the game against the Summit Hilltoppers at Cranford on February 17. The Hilltoppers won 50-34.

A Look Through the Rearview Mirror

From the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* - complete accounts at www.goleader.com - year - month - week.

February 7, 2020: Four days before the beginning of the section tournaments the Westfield wrestling team entertained the Fair Lawn Cutters on Senior Night in Westfield. The 14-2 Blue Devils, who received the top seed for the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 5 Tournament and despite resting a few of their starters, won nine of the 14 bouts to emerge with a 46-30 victory. Luke Scanlan (160-lbs) in 1:54, Jon Heard (285-lbs) in 2:37, Ethan Composto (106-lbs) in 21 seconds, Luke Jacobs (113-lbs) in 3:24 and Mike Price (152-lbs) in 1:07 recorded pins.

February 10, 2020: Senior Justin Alpaugh-McLean saw to it that the fourth seeded Cranford wrestling team was going to advance to the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament when he recorded a second-period pin in his 195-lb bout to give the Cougars an 11-point lead with only one bout remaining in Cranford. In the following bout at 220-lbs, Evan Kanterman stepped to the mat and received a



David B. Corbin (February 2020 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times
GOING AIRBORNE...Blue Devil Luke Jacobs goes airborne to escape the grasp of Fair Lawn's Guy Ben-Sadigh during his 113-lb bout. Jacobs pinned Ben-Sadigh in 3:24 and Westfield claimed a 46-30 victory on Senior Night (February 7, 2020).

forfeit to give the Cougars a 40-25 victory over the fifth-seeded Middletown South Eagles.

At 138-lbs, Luke DiGiovanni punished Kyle Smith but it took him only 1:08 to pin him with a power half nelson. Shane Kanterman (160-lbs) knotted the team score, 22-22, when he pinned Austin Carter with a front half nelson/head smother in 2:44. Max

Nock put the Cougars up 28-22 when he pinned Sean Fitzpatrick in 1:27 with a single grapevine/power half nelson at 170-lbs.

February 11, 2020: Teamwork came into play immediately in the second quarter for the hosting Cranford boys basketball team and continued for the remainder of the game, resulting in a 59-45 victory over the GL Highlanders. The 10-9 Cougars, who have now won five straight games, erased a 17-8 first quarter deficit to lead by one at the half and refused to relent the remainder of the way.

Juniors Joe Carrea, Dennis DeMarino and Arjun Petgrave, along with sophomores Liam Kwiatkowski and Zion Hammond, however, really stepped up their performances after that first quarter. Carrea finished with nine points (1 3-pointer), three steals and three rebounds and DeMarino bucketed 13 points, including trip 3-pointers, and added a team-leading five assists to go with seven rebounds.

Petgrave (2 3-pointers) led the team with 11 rebounds and tied Kwiatkowski with 14 points, while adding three assists and a timely slam dunk. Kwiatkowski was a banging machine from the outside with four 3-pointers. Hammond came through

Cougar Boys Felled by Farmers, Halted by Pioneers in Basketball

The hosting Cranford High School boys basketball team had a rough time in a 57-33 setback to the Union Farmers on February 17. On February 20, the 3-4 Cougars were halted 55-49 by the New Providence Pioneers.

The Cougars trailed by just five points at halftime against Union but situations only got worse as the game continued. Kyle Fay sank all four of his points in the first quarter and Arjun Petgrave, who finished with

eight points, including a 3-pointer, hit a free throw. In the second quarter, senior Dennis DeMarino (13 points, 1 3-pointer) bucketed four points, Petgrave scored five points and Liam Kwiatkowski (5 points) sank a 3-pointer.

Cougar senior Joe Carrea finished with two points and Leo Wisniewski sank a free throw. Livingston Cross led the Farmers with 20 points, including five 3-pointers. Jakin Edmond

had 17 points.

Although losing to the Pioneers, DeMarino had a banner evening with 19 points, which included five 3-pointers, while grabbing 10 rebounds. Carrea put in 11 points, including trip 3-pointers, and had six rebounds. Zion Hammond had eight points and three assists. Nick Biscaccia led the 5-4 Pioneers with 15 points and Carsten Schuman had 12 points and 12 rebounds.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
DRIVING TOWARD THE BASKET...Cougar junior Zion Hammond, No. 13, drives around a Union Farmer during the game at Cranford on February 17. The Farmers turned it on in the second half to dig up a 57-33 victory.

A Look Through the Rearview Mirror

with six rebounds, four assists and five points, including a 3-pointer. Sophomore Lukas Ruby contributed defense, an assist, a steal and a rebound.

February 6, 2019: Bonus points were considered what would be the deciding factor, according to Blue

Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz, in the outcome of the North 2, Group 5 semifinal match between second-seeded Westfield and third-seeded Piscataway in Westfield. Instead, a number of outstanding performances with bonus points and come-from-behind wins presented the 12-4 Blue

Devils with a 38-21 victory and a trip to face top-seeded Watchung Hills, 60-9, victors over Ridge.

The 182-lb bout was between two Roselle Park Tournament champs, Chief Nick Lodato and Tim Miller. Nothing seemed to be going right for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Courtesy of Bill Howard (February 2013 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times
EN ROUTE TO A PIN...Blue Devil Colin Barber, right, drives down Union's Brandon Paris in wrestling on February 13, 2013 at Union. Barber recorded a pin in the 160-pound class at 2:20 and Westfield won all but two matches en route a 61-6 victory and a 19-2 record.



Carol Tener

Sales Associate
908-400-3670 Cell
908-233-0065 Office
carol.tener@cbmoves.com



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David B. Corbin (February 2018 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
SURROUNDED BY COUGARS...Raider Stefanie DeVizio, left, tries to slip the ball past Cougars, Ellie Rokicki (# 15), Caroline McCaffery (# 33) and Olivia Speer, right. Cranford pushed past the Raiders to win 48-33 (February 8, 2018).



David B. Corbin (February 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
SCORING FROM ANYWHERE...Blue Devil Quinn Gimblette (113-lbs) made things unpleasant for Deon Pleasant. Gimblette recorded a 17-3, major decision and Westfield beat Picsataway, 38-21, in the section semis (February 6, 2019).



David B. Corbin (February 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
BANNER DAY...Blue Devil senior Sam Stravach, right, had a banner "Senior Day" with 16 rebounds, two blocks, three steals, six points and four assists as Westfield defeated the Cranford Cougars, 41-28, on February 9, 2019.

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

Miller, who lost a scramble to Lodato in the second period then after getting a nearfall he lost another scramble that cost him four more points. Trailing 6-4 very late in the third period, Miller reached down deep, got a reversal and put Lodato on his back for a nearfall to claim a 9-6 victory.

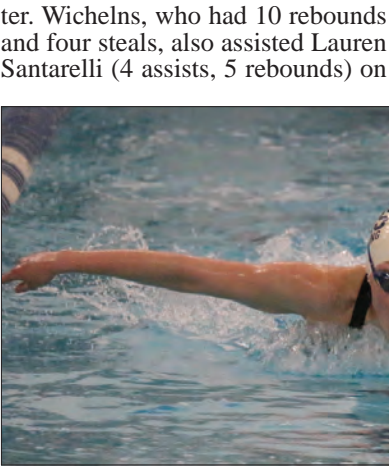
Sophomore Jon Heard jumped up to 285-lbs to face Chief Dave Greene, who got a quick takedown in the first period. Heard later managed to tie the bout in time to send it to overtime. Heard then recorded a takedown for a 7-5 victory. Quinn Gimblette used his snaky, score-from-anywhere ability to make matters unpleasant for Deon Pleasant in a 17-3, major decision at 113-lbs.

February 9, 2019: The SPF girls basketball team celebrated "Senior Day" in style with a 35-29 victory over Union at Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

Knights, 52-16, in the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament in Cranford.

Chris Hecht (126-lbs) bent over backwards to pin Knight Vince Zoppi in 2:59. Kyell Roper whipped Antonio Zaccaria to the mat with a short lateral throw and stuck him in 1:03 at 160-lbs. Senior 195-pounder Dylan Budnik pinned Carmen Cucozza in 3:40. Junior Rob Schork (220-lbs) ended his bout in 5:57 with Chris Maestoso using a devastating crotch-and-claw maneuver. Heavyweight Matt Savino used a double-leg tackle to back for a pin in 4:34 over Ricky Behar. Jimmy Gluck concluded the evening when he used a half nelson-and-wrist walkover to pin Jack Ruane in 1:50 at 106-lbs.

February 8, 2018: Momentum shifts midway through the first quarter and, especially, during the later



David B. Corbin (February 2019) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
WINNER IN THE 100-FLY...Blue Devil Abby McKinney won the 100-butterfly in 58.79, the 200IM and swam two of the 3 winning relays in the 136-34 triumph over Ridge in the North 2, Public A semifinals in Westfield (February 11, 2019).

her two 3-pointers. Charolette VanWhy (9 points, 4 rebounds) had three assists.

Senior captain Brianna O'Brien almost single handedly brought her team from a six-point deficit at half-time to a one-point lead by scoring the first seven points in a 9-2 run that gave the Raiders a 23-22 lead with 3:00 left in the third quarter. O'Brien finished with 11 points.

February 12, 2018: The fifth-ranked Westfield boys swim team defeated the Ridge Red Devils, 100-70, in the North Public A semifinal at Wallace Pool (Abraham Lincoln's birthday). The Blue Devil girls also won their semifinal with a 96-74 victory over North Hunterdon. The 12-2 Blue Devil boys won nine of the 11

events, including all three relays. The Blue Devil girls used their depth to tame the Lions and also won three individual events and two of the three relays.

The 200-medley relay, was won by Ryan Bebel, Steve Warren, Eric Bebel and Cooper Prieto in 1:38.67. Colin Daniel touched first in the 200-freestyle at 1:49.79 and Ryan Bebel took top honors in the 200-Individual Medley with a time of 2:00.87. Eric Bebel won the 50-free sprint in 22:48, Daniel won the 100-butterfly in 54:47 then Eric Bebel won the 100-free in 49.4.

For the girls, Abbie McKinney took first in the 100-butterfly at 1:00.11 and Muriel Maloney won the 100-free in 54.97. Keeley Thompson won the 50-free. McKinney, Thompson, Emma Conlon and Marcelina Krownska took first in the 200-free

relay at 1:41.29. Natalie Lee, Maloney, Conlon and Julia McGann won the 400-free relay in 3:44.11.

February 15, 2017: Nothing worked at all for the home team but on the other hand, everything worked for the visiting 10th-seeded Rahway Indians in a shocking 73-48 triumph over the seventh-seeded Blue Devils at Westfield. The 17-2 Indians, not only demonstrated their dexterity in creating turnovers, but also they were especially successful in penetrating the Blue Devils' defense for lay-ups.

Matt LaCorte led the Blue Devils with 14 points, including a 3-pointer. Phil Martini hit three of his team's four 3-pointers and finished with 11 points. Adam McDaniel scored 12 points and Jeff Gagum sank nine points.

February 15, 2017: The SPF boys basketball team rallied from a nine-point, second-quarter deficit to de-

event sending a strong message that they are ready claim yet another sectional title.

Ryan Daniel and Ryan Bebel were double winners against the Red Devils. Daniel took first in the 200 freestyle (1:50.46) and the 100 butterfly (55.47). Bebel claimed wins in the 200IM (2:02.99) and the 100 backstroke (57.35). Austin Kreusser took first place in the 50 freestyle, just a touch ahead of teammate Griff Morgan (22.71) to provide the Blue Devils with a 1-2 finish.

February 10, 2016: Bonus points were some things that the hosting top-seeded, 10th-ranked South Plainfield Tigers refused to yield, while picking up 11 bonus points of their own in a 35-18 victory over the Cranford Cougars.

Cougar Chris Scorese (132-lbs) claimed a 5-0 decision over Joe Sacco. Vince Concina (145-lbs) won 3-0.



David B. Corbin (February 2020 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
REACHING FOR THE BALL...Cougar Joe Carrea, No. 10, reaches in an attempt to knock the ball out of Highlander Connor Bigelow's grasp (February 11, 2020).

The game also served as a preliminary round match in the Union County Tournament, which got into full swing this week. Senior Stefanie DeVizio led all Raiders with 10 points. Fellow senior Hannah Lyman pulled down a game high 15 rebounds.

February 7, 2018: Expectations of a closely contested showdown began to fade away at the mid point then totally disappeared when the top-seeded Cranford wrestling team recorded pins in the final four bouts to rout the fourth-seeded West Essex

part of the fourth quarter, exclusively attributed to a series of fine assists, steered the Cranford girls basketball team to a 48-33 victory over the hosting SPF Raiders. The 10-8 Raiders had their spurts too but each time the 10-10 Cougars were able to answer.

Senior forward Camryn Wichelns became the primary beneficiary of those assists and led the Cougars with 19 points. Interestingly, none of her points came from 3-point range, however she was on the scoring end of three 3-point plays in the fourth quar-

2021 High School Sport Shorts:

Blue Devils Top Vikings In Girls Hoops, 39-27

The Westfield High School girls basketball team got back on the winning track with a 39-27 victory over the Union Catholic Vikings in Scotch Plains on February 17. Junior co-captain Chloe Kreusser led the way with 10 rebounds, eight points and three steals. Freshman Clare Logan also had eight points and added three rebounds and a steal.

Sutton Factor (3-pointer) had six points, eight rebounds and an assist. Annie Ryan (3-pointer) netted seven points and added five rebounds. Paige Gorczyca had five points, two rebounds and an assist. Co-captains Charlotte Dursee had two points and an assist, and JJ Milstein sank a 3-pointer and added three rebounds and an assist. Madison Johnson led the 2-5 Vikings with 13 points and 13 rebounds. Gianna Peralta had five steals.

Westfield	4	12	13	10	39
Union Catholic	9	4	7	7	27

Cougars Burn Comets In Boys Hoops, 50-49

Senior Dennis DeMarino sank 16 points, including three from downtown and senior Joe Carrea scored eight points, pulled eight rebounds and added four assists and two steals as the Cranford High School boys basketball team held off the 4-3 Hillside Comets, 50-49, on February 15.

Cougar Arjun Petgrave grabbed 10 boards, dished out five assists and added eight points and two steals. Kyle Fay sank 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. Liam Kwiatkowski scored five points and had four rebounds.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was passed on first reading by the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey on the 16th day of February 2021, and that said Ordinance will be considered for final adoption at a meeting of the said Township Council to be held virtually and by remote means, on the 16th day of March 2021 at 5:00 p.m., at which time and place a public hearing will be held prior to final passage of said Ordinance and all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. Copies of said Ordinances can be obtained from the Township Clerk's Office at any time prior to final adoption at no cost to any member of the general public who requests same.

ORDINANCE 2021-4
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7, ENTITLED "TRAFFIC", OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, §7-3.8, "MUNICIPAL PARKING LOTS".

BOZENA LACINA, RMC
Municipal Clerk
1 T - 02/25/21, The Times Fee: \$28.56

Lady Raiders Zoom By Minutemen, 37-26

Defense played an important role in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls basketball team's 37-26 triumph over the Elizabeth Lady Minutemen on February 17. The 7-2 Raiders' stubborn defense held the Minutemen scoreless in the first quarter then limited them to just 11 more points for the next two quarters.

Freshman Amanda Baylock led the Raiders with 13 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, while adding seven rebounds and an assist. Emily Friscia scored nine points (1 3-pointer) and added four assists, four steals and two rebounds. Maddy Starosa (3-pointer) had five points and two steals. Catie Wilson had two points, four rebounds and two steals. Ryann Wall netted four points. Jalynn Clark led Elizabeth with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Aliyah Bashir sank nine points, including a pair of 3-pointers.

Rahway Cagers Rout SPF Raider Boys, 64-48

Leading 32-18 at the half, the 7-1 Rahway High School boys basketball team went on a 24-5 third-quarter tear en route to a 64-48 rout of the 4-5 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders on February 17. Leon Lawson led the Indians with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Amari Thompson sank 17 points and added five assists and four steals. Ernest Carter netted 14 points and dished out seven assists.

Senior Hayden Widder led the Raiders with 16 points, including four 3-pointers, and added three rebounds. Jaden Carter scored 10 points, including a 3-pointer, and had seven rebounds. Matt Nervi had seven points (3-pointer) an assist and a steal. Matt Drubulis had three points and three rebounds. Dimitri Laylor had three points and Damon Schumann had four points, six rebounds and two assists.

Blue Devil Cagers Rap Linden Tigers, 50-47

The Westfield High School boys basketball team made it five in a row with a 50-47 victory over Linden on February 20. Junior Sean Logan added another double-double with 15 points and 15 rebounds, while adding five blocks. Logan Howland had nine points and five rebounds. Jack Spellman had seven points, seven rebounds and three blocks. Zander Barraza sank eight points, including a pair of 3-pointers. TJ Halleran had five points and three steals. Ryan Friedberg scored four points.

The Blue Devils also tamed the Tigers, 52-50, on February 15. Barraza netted 16 points, Logan scored 13 points, Howland pulled 10 rebounds and Spellman grabbed nine boards.



David B. Corbin (February 2019 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
WINNER IN THE 500-FREESTYLE...Blue Devil Matt Swenson won the 500-freestyle in 5:00.91 and also won the 200-free in the 114-56 victory over Ridge in the North 2, Public A semifinals in Westfield on February 11, 2019.

feat Plainfield, 47-41, in the second round of the Union County Tournament in Scotch Plains. Junior Tommy Drubulis scored 11 points for the sixth-seeded Raiders (19-4) against a better than advertised Cardinal team, which came in as the 11th seed.

February 16, 2017: The bird seemed in the hand for the No. 1 ranked Westfield boys swim team but a trick of fate in the final leg of the final event, the 400-freestyle medley, resulted in a disqualification for the Blue Devils, allowing the No. 4 Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers to pull out an 85.5-84.5 victory for the North Jersey, Section 2 Public A title at the Raritan Bay "Y".

February 17, 2017: Hitting on all cylinders from the start, the game between the third-seeded Westfield girls basketball team and the 11th-seeded Kent Place Lady Dragons was all but decided after the first quarter in the quarterfinal round of the Union County Tournament held at Rahway. With very keen eyes, the 16-4 Blue Devils banged four 3-pointers in the first quarter, while the defense put out

Andrew Tompkins earned a 3-2 decision over Ryan Marston at 182-lbs. Kevin Doran set up a pair of single-leg trip takedowns en route to a 6-0 victory over Julio Gonzales at 285-lbs. Anthony Capece had a score to settle with Jake Giordano at 113-lbs and did with a 7-5 victory. Tom DiGiovanni used a pair of single-leg lift, trip takedowns to defeat Ryan Duhamel, 6-0, at 120-lbs.

February 13, 2015: Friday the 13th in South Plainfield turned out to be one wrestling team's misfortune and another team's jubilation after a one point team deduction gave the top-seeded South Plainfield Tigers a 25-24 victory over the second-seeded Cranford Cougars for the Central Jersey, Group 3 title. Cougar Gavin Murray, ranked second in the state at 152-lbs, tied the team score, 22-22, after his 14-5, major decision over C.J. Maszczak at 160-lbs. But in a moment of frustration immediately after the bout ended, Murray hurled his headgear across the floor causing the officials to deduct one team point with two bouts remaining.



David B. Corbin (February 2017 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
SCRAMBLING FOR POSSESSION...Blue Devil senior Shannon Devitt, center, scrambles for possession of the ball with a pair of Dragons in the UCT quarterfinal game at Rahway on February 17, 2017. Westfield defeated Kent Place, 47-24.

the Dragons' offensive fire to seize a 15-4 lead en route to a 47-24 victory.

Senior Danielle Rinaldi blazed from the outside and sank three of her four 3-pointers and 11 of her game-leading 22 points during that quarter. Rinaldi finished the game with four assists, five steals and six rebounds. Junior Molly Ryan (8 points, including 2 3-pointers) had five steals and provided four assists. Other assists were provided by Lauren Sgro (2 points), Grace Elliott (3 points, 3 rebounds, 3 steals), Jenna Iorio and Lily Maz.

February 8, 2016: The Westfield boys' swimming team earned a spot in the North Jersey Section 2, Public A final with a dominating, 131-39 win over Hunterdon Central in the semifinals held at Westfield "Y" pool. The Blue Devils swept to victory in every

February 12 & 13, 2015: Just two days after crushing West Windsor Plainsboro South (WWPS), 103-67, in the semifinals, the 15th-ranked SPF boys swim team stunned 11th-ranked Morristown, 105-65, for the North Jersey, Section 2, Public B championship in Perth Amboy. The 14-0, No. 9 Raider girls, who defeated Mendham, 94-76, three days earlier in the semifinals in Scotch Plains, also doused Morristown, 100-70, for their respective title.

Alex Skoog won the 200-free at 1:45.19 and the 100-back at 53.24 against Morristown. For the girls, Sarah Davis broke an SPF record set in 1978 when she finished first in the 200-free in 1:53.26.

February 18, 2015: Westfield senior Lillian Scott scored 20 points

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Photo courtesy of James Finver
A 100-POINT CLUB MEMBER...Matt Rittendale celebrates after attaining his 100th career point in the Blue Devils' victory over Cranford (Mid February 2018).

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 600
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.2 via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on **03/04/2021** at which time the bid proposals submitted will be downloaded, and publicly opened and read, in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Re-Advertisement of ITS Maintenance Job Order Contract 21606
Federal Project No: NHP-D005(439); UPC NO: N/A; DP No: 21606

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Specifically, the contractor, sub recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, contractor must submit the Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue Business Registration of the contractor and any named subcontractors prior to contract award or authorization.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.51, contractors must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance at the time of bid.

The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252 U.S.C., 49 C.F.R., Parts 21 and 23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not discriminate against any bidder on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or handicap in the project award.

Plans, specifications, any addenda to the specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe, follow the instructions on the web site. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our various Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Steril Court Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856 973-601-6690	One Executive Campus Rt 70 West Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 856-486-6623
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3 T - 02/11/21, 02/18/21 and 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$208.08

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)

Blue Devil Icemen Chill Verona; Startle Gov. Liv., Highlanders

The Westfield Ice Hockey team rounded out regular season, conference and division play this week with big wins over the Verona Hillbillies and the formerly undefeated Governor Livingston Highlanders.

The Blue Devils posted a commanding win on February 16 over Verona (2-6), remaining undefeated in division play and finishing atop the McInnis Division in the regular season. Freshman Matteo Mancheno scored the game's first goal assisted by junior Matt Beke; but fittingly, the historic night was led by the upperclassmen. Senior Captain Dan McDonald scored the game's final two goals. The first, a gritty net-front goal, was assisted by fellow senior Co-Captain Brendan Kotiga. McDonald's second of the night was assisted by junior Spencer Brown and senior Matt Moran. Junior goalie Jake Watson stopped all 16 shots he faced for his first shutout between the pipes

in his career with the Blue Devils. Westfield's offense was relentless posting 42 shots on net.

The Blue Devils continued a historic run the following night, this time securing the best record in the NJIHL conference (8-0-1) with a 3-2 win over Governor Livingston. In contrast to the win over Verona, this night was led by underclassmen.

Freshman Alex Ebel started out the scoring in the first period on a quick-release shot set up by Mancheno. Mancheno continued his statement night, setting up Beke for the second goal putting Westfield ahead 2-0. The Highlanders kept it close, but Mancheno delivered the knockout punch netting the game winner in the third period on a scramble in front of the net with assists going to freshman Michael Wilson and junior Greg Oliveri.

Watson, under assault for most of the evening, had a startling 24 save



TAKING CONTROL...Blue Devil senior Matt Moran, No. 4, takes control of the puck during a game this past week. Westfield beat Verona and GL.

performance. Fans should circle the Blue Devils vs. Highlanders game on next season's calendar as a "can't miss game"; with Governor Livingston graduating five seniors and Westfield graduating seven, this match-up should provide entertainment for years to come.

The only disappointment of the last two games was that Blue Devil faithful fans could not be there to take in the performance of their team and that the 2021 Varsity Blue Devil historic run cannot travel through the usual New Jersey High School hockey tournament. Next up for the men in blue and white is the NJIHL Conference, McInnis Division. The Iceman have been given the first seed in the tournament and a bye to the second round in the semifinals.

Follow the WHS boys varsity ice hockey team on Twitter @westfieldpuck for an informative and entertaining take on the season's activities. Fans can also visit WHSpuck on Facebook and Instagram. See the website for up to date team schedules at www.westfieldhockey.com.

Raiders Top Summit In Basketball, 66-36

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys basketball team improved to 5-5 with a 66-36 triumph over the Summit Hilltoppers in February 20. Jaden Carter pumped in 15 points, Matt Nervi netted 11 points and Liam Mahr sank nine points for the Raiders. Christian Piesch had eight points, Damon Schumann had five points and Hayden Widdar sank six points. Charlie Schaeffer led Summit with 12 points and Brett Colon scored 11 points.



PASSING AGAINST A TOUGH DEFENSE...North Brunswick Raider Jabri Fitzpatrick, No. 5, passes the ball away from Blue Devil defenders Jack Spellman, left back, Logan Howland, No. 21, and Ryan Friedberg, No. 13, on February 17.

Blue Devils' Late Run Downs North Brunswick

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

bound) got inside again for six points. Logan also netted six points and Barraza (7 points) scored the other four points.

Coach McKeon pointed out, "It's nice to have Friedberg's athleticism to complement it. He's a team captain. He's a slasher, he's a guy who can finish at the rim, he's super athletic and he's a leader. It showed in crunch time, he's out there. When you look at the box score, it's not flashy but he does a lot of underlying things with his hands in passing lanes, deflections. He rebounds well. He's an all-around guy. We needed him. He makes us much better."

In the fourth quarter, after Raider

Jabri Fitzpatrick (13 points) sank a free throw with 4:35 remaining to get his team to within four points again, Coach McKeon called a timeout. Moments later Spellman pulled a key rebound to prevent a Raider second chance then passed to Friedberg who set up Logan for a 3-pointer to give the Blue Devils a 53-46 lead with 3:01 on the clock.

"We preach one-and-done. That's one of the things we pride ourselves on. If they are going to get a shot, that's going to be the only one for them. Because of the size and ability of all our players, we should be able to rebound at a high level," Coach McKeon explained.

Logan's 3-pointer ignited an 11-0 run, which included six straight free throws to end the game.

"We had a skittish start maybe in the second [quarter] but we pulled it out. We've been in tight games. This team's great that we played. We don't usually get to see teams like this so it's nice to play somebody different in a year when you never know who you are going to play," expressed Coach McKeon, who added, "Four in a row! One game at a time! Next opponent is Linden again. We know everything about that program and what they are, so we got to be ready to play."

No. Brunswick	11	15	14	6	46
Westfield	13	15	16	17	61

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

and grabbed six rebounds to power the Blue Devil girls basketball team past Cranford, 48-39, in regular season action in Cranford. Shannon Devitt finished with six points, 10 rebounds and two blocks, Jackie



DRIVING TO THE BASKET...Blue Devil senior Matt LaCorte drives to the basket in the UCT game against the Rahway Indians in Westfield on February 15, 2017. Rahway ran away with a stunning 73-48 victory.

Knapp netted eight points and Abby Demers had five points. Cerys MacLelland led Cranford with 16 points. Sarah Ross finished with seven points, while Lindsay Pace and Caroline McCaffrey each had five points.

February 21, 2015: Nine Cougars reached the finals and six emerged with individual titles to earn the Cranford wrestling team its second straight District 11 Championship in Westfield. Raider JT Beirne recorded pins over Kevin Harrison (Shabazz) and Blue Devil Nick Kalimtzis to reach the 138-lb title bout with Cougar Dave Busch, whom he pinned in 3:08 to receive the Outstanding Wrestler Award. Raider Brian Lapham won his second title at 145-lbs when he pinned Cougar Brian McGovern in

the 160-lb crown.

Cougar Anthony Capece won the 106-lb title with a 14-3, major decision over Sabri Murray (Elizabeth). Tom DiGiovanni (120-lbs) won his second district crown when he claimed a 9-0, major decision over Raider Jack Cannon. Chris Scorese (126-lbs) claimed his second title when he tallied a 9-0, major decision over Raider Jashmar Philippe. Vince Concina (132-lbs) topped Devin Jefferson (Rahway) 8-2, for the crown. Senior Gavin Murray (152-lbs) won his third district title when he stretched Majid Abdur-Rahman (Rahway) in 2:53 using a double front grapevine. Niko Cappello (182-lbs) claimed his third district title with a 9-3 decision over Raider Jaylen Bryant.

February 13, 2013: Synchronization was well in tact for the sixth-seeded Plainfield Cardinals boys basketball team, but it was virtually non-existent for the 14th-seeded Cranford Cougars in their 56-33 loss in the second round of the Union County Tournament at Rahway High School. Senior forward Stefan Fedorchak led the Cougars with 10 points, Tommy Trotter put up seven points and Reggie Green sank six points.

February 14, 2013: Senior Night featured the SPF wrestling team hosting the Piscataway Chiefs on Valentine's Day but it was senior Anthony Tufaro, who stole the hearts of the fans when he attained his 100th career varsity victory in the 72-9 Raider victory. Sophomore Alex Mirabella got things rocking when he pinned Osric Belle in 3:10 with a cradle at 195-lbs. Senior Dein Rice used his athletic ability and his knowledge of mechanical advantage to crank Chief Jay Domino to his back with an arm bar/half nelson in 1:48 at 145-lbs.

February 15, 2013: The No. 1-

ranked Westfield swim girls and No. 3-ranked boys easily took top honors in their respective North Jersey, Section 1, Public A Championships on February 15. The Blue Devil girls captured first in nine of the 11 events, including all three relays, in their 116-54 victory over Montclair, and the boys seized first in seven of the 11 events, including all three relays, in their 118-52 triumph over Millburn. Ellie Reinhardt, Sarah Cronin and Caroline Baldwin each placed first in two individual events and swam on two winning relays. Erika Daniel, Baldwin, Gwyn Devin and Courtney Han finished first in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:54.43. Courtney Day, Devin, Cronin and Reinhardt won the 200-free relay in 1:44.41.

Matt Daniel won two individual events and swam on two winning relays for the Blue Devil boys. He won the 50-free in 23.19 and the 100-free in 50.89 and teamed with Max Shin, Luke McGrory and Stephen Husch to win the 200-free relay in 1:33.03. McGrory, Nick Constantine, Daniel

and Connor Moore won the 400-free relay in 3:28.96. John Lindros took top honors in the 200-free at 1:51.36, and Tyler Lessner took first in the 100-breaststroke at 1:02.85.

McCoy netted 14 points, 10 rebounds and five steals. Morgan Miller had 15 points and 10 rebounds.

February 12, 2011: Two District 11 crowns, one Union County crown



LEAVING THE REST IN HIS WAKE...Raider Ryan Gajdzisz easily won the 500-freestyle, beating his nearest opponent by 24 seconds to touch first at 4:56.45 in the Public B semifinal win over Millburn. (February 14, 2012)

February 14, 2012: Changes were made midway through the meet with the Millburn boys swim team, which enabled the top-seeded SPF Raiders to secure a 92-78 victory in the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Public B championship in Scotch Plains on Valentine's Day. Senior Greg Baliko touched first in the 100-free with a time of 49.05 and the 50-free in 22.41. Henry Chang won the 100-breast in 1:09.34. Ryan Gajdzisz won the next event, the 500-free, beating his nearest opponent by 24 seconds to touch first at 4:56.45.

February 16, 2012: Each step towards advancing to the Union County Tournament championship game has gotten more difficult, but the second-seeded Cranford girls basketball team was up to the challenge and defeated the seventh-seeded Oak Knoll Royals, 42-31, in a quarterfinal game at Roselle Catholic. Junior forward Jess

and three full years of varsity wrestling already tucked in and with a fourth year quickly approaching tournament time, Westfield senior Christian Barber attained the 100th career win milestone when he seized an 11-3, majority decision over Alec Holderbaum in a match with Somerville during a quad match in Westfield on February 12, the 202nd birthday of Abraham Lincoln (16th President of the United States), known to be a bit of a wrestler himself.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 600
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.2 via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on 03/11/21, downloaded, and publicly opened and read, in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Traffic Signal Relamping, North Contract - 2021, Various Locations, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties; 100% State; DP No: 21429

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 (P.L. 1975, c. 127); N.J.A.C. 17:27.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.19, contractors must provide a Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution Form prior to contract award.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, contractor must submit the Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue Business Registration of the contractor and any named subcontractors prior to contract award or authorization.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.51, contractors must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance at the time of bid.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe, follow the instructions on the web site. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express. Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our Design Field Offices at the following locations:

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Mt. Arlington, New Jersey 07856
973-601-6690

One Executive Campus Rt 70 West
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002
856-486-6623

3 T - 02/18/21, 02/25/21 & 03/04/21, The Leader Fee: \$168.30

PUBLIC NOTICE

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DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 600
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

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Electrical Underground Structures, North Contract - 2021, Various Locations, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties; 100% State; DP No: 21427

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 (P.L. 1975, c. 127); N.J.A.C. 17:27.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.19, contractors must provide a Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution Form prior to contract award.

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Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002
856-486-6623

3 T - 02/11/21, 02/18/21 & 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$168.30

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Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, contractor must submit the Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue Business Registration of the contractor and any named subcontractors prior to contract award or authorization.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.51, contractors must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance at the time of bid.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe, follow the instructions on the web site. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express. Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Stierli Court
Mt. Arlington, New Jersey 07856
973-601-6690

One Executive Campus Rt 70 West
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002
856-486-6623

3 T - 02/11/21, 02/18/21 & 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$168.30

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 600
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.2 via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on 03/04/21, downloaded, and publicly opened and read, in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Electrical Underground Structures, North Contract - 2021, Various Locations, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties; 100% State; DP No: 21427

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 (P.L. 1975, c. 127); N.J.A.C. 17:27.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.19, contractors must provide a Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution Form prior to contract award.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, contractor must submit the Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue Business Registration of the contractor and any named subcontractors prior to contract award or authorization.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.51, contractors must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance at the time of bid.

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3 T - 02/11/21, 02/18/21 & 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$168.30

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One Executive Campus Rt 70 West
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002
856-486-6623

3 T - 02/11/21, 02/18/21 & 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$168.30

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinances were finally adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey, on the 16th of February 2021.

ORDINANCE 2021-1

ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING THEREVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, CHAPTER VII, ENTITLED TRAFFIC, SECTION 7A-8 STOP INTERSECTIONS FOR MONTAGUE AVENUE.

ORDINANCE 2021-2

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.

ORDINANCE 2021-3

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER II, ENTITLED ADMINISTRATION, SECTION 10 - OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS.

BOZENA LACINA, RMC
Municipal Clerk

1 T - 02/25/21, The Times Fee: \$30.60

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD
BOARD OF EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR E-RATE ELIGIBLE SERVICE

The Westfield School district is currently accepting proposals for the following E-Rate eligible services via the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) website.

* Lit Lease Fiber or Leased Dark Fiber
* Bids should provide a minimum of 10 Gbps of bandwidth between locations, using ad minimum of 2 strands of fiber
* The locations requiring service are as follows:
* 550 Dorian Road, Westfield, NJ (HUB)
* 302 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ
* 800 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ
* 301 Linden Avenue, Westfield, NJ
* 900 St. Marks Avenue, Westfield, NJ
* 728 Westfield Avenue, Westfield, NJ
* 641 Willow Grove Road, Westfield, NJ
* 700 Prospect Street, Westfield, NJ
* 1200 Boulevard, Westfield, NJ
* 600 First Street, Westfield, NJ
* 301 Clark Street, Westfield, NJ

Bidders should send any and all questions to markseltzer@trmgi.com
Questions are only being accepted via email. All bids must include the required contracts to be considered complete. Please review USAC's website for any questions regarding contracts.
All bids must specify any additional charges, fees or other costs that will apply to the cost of the fiber. The due date follows the Allowable Contract Date listed on the Form 470.
All bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et. seq., Affirmative Action Against Discrimination and N.J.A.C. 17:27 et. seq.
By order of the Town of Westfield Board of Education, Union County, New Jersey,
Dana Sullivan,
Business Administrator
Board Secretary

1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$41.82

CLASSIFIEDS

Place a Classified Ad online at www.goleader.com/form/classified

POLISH CLEANING LADY
“Great work, Free estimates”
References Available.
If you need a hardworking person with great experience to clean your house or apartment
Call Agnes (908) 787-3003

PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED
We are seeking freelance photojournalists for multiple assignments. Assignments include local events, nature photography, fire and police emergencies and sporting events. Please email resume and photos to:
editor@goleader.com

MISCELLANEOUS
GENERAC Standby Generators. The weather is increasingly unpredictable. Be prepared for power outages. FREE 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!) Schedule your FREE in-home assessment today. Call 1-844-228-1850 Special financing for qualified customers.

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

MISCELLANEOUS
Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-516-1257

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY
GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2206
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, CHAPTER 13 (STOP INTERSECTION AND HANDICAP PARKING SPACE)

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on February 23, 2021.
Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$17.85

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-20-005 to be located in Zone R-5, on the premises known as the Address: **12 Grove Street, Cranford, New Jersey, Block No. 487 Lot No. 13**, has been submitted by Applicant: Brian Luciani, 12 Grove 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: Relief from Z55-34 in that the permitted maximum impervious surface coverage is 45% wherein 46.75% is proposed and now existing. There are several pre-existing conditions that require relief such as:
a) Shed in the front yard (double front through lot) contrary to Z55-38A which governs accessory uses/structures.
b) Patios not permitted in the front yard (double front through lot) contrary to Z55-35D(4).
c) Patio setback of 5 feet required and 0 feet provided and existing contrary to Z55-35(4).
d) Existing hot tub in the front yard (double front through lot) contrary to Z55-38A which governs accessory uses/structures.
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, MARCH 8, 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/hwc-mdbv-zco or by phone at 1-406-905-1550 enter PIN 998063405.
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 Board'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'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
August N. Santore, Jr., PC
143 Summit Avenue
Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922
Telephone: (908) 665-8004
Email: Santore.law@gmail.com
Attorney for Applicant, Brian Luciani
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$75.48

GENERAC PWRcell
The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-877-252-8157

NEW SHOWER?
Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-877-896-5971 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/jersey

PUBLIC NOTICES
Keeping an eye on your governments? Manually search the site or register to receive email notifications and/or save your searches. It's a free public service provided by NJ Press Association at www.njpublicnotices.com

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.

AUTOS WANTED
DONATE YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. 844-256-6577

MULTI-ACTIVITY TRAIN TABLE
FOR SALE: This multi-activity table is a space-defining play area. The sturdy wooden play table is ideal for trains, dollhouses, arts & crafts, blocks, puzzles, games and more. Big enough for multiple kids to play at once and low enough for easy access. Two Pull-out drawers for storage. 50"Lx35"Wx18"H. Exc. cond. \$45. Call Jeff (908) 232-4407.

REPORTERS WANTED
We are seeking detail-oriented, self-starting, disciplined journalists with integrity; who have a passion for reporting the facts. An individual who takes ownership of their news stories/beat and can work collaboratively with other reporters and editors. Report, write, capture visual content, edit and produce stories for multiple platforms on deadline. Experience in using social media for news gathering and promotion a plus. Please email resume and clips to: press@goleader.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
BOARD OF EDUCATION
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
BID NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Westfield Board of Education will receive bids for:
HVAC Upgrades at Various Schools, together with all work incidental thereto, in accordance with the requirements of the drawings and specifications prepared by Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. (FVHD), Architects-Planners, **FVHD Project #5303A-H**.
BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED FOR: SINGLE OVERALL CONTRACT (C032 WITH C008/C009, C047)

Sealed bids are to be sent by mail or carrier with proof of delivery by **Thursday, March 25, 2021, 11:30 A.M.** to the Westfield Board of Education, Attn.: Ms. Dana Sullivan, Business Administrator, Room 101, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090. Any Bid received after that time shall be rejected.
A virtual bid opening will be held and read immediately thereafter via the following WebEx link:
<https://westfielddnjk12.webex.com/westfielddnjk12/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb46e8ac6fa1eb4e8d7be5f80cc78b7b5>
Bid Documents for the proposed Work are on file at the office of the Architect, FVHD, 1515 Lower Ferry Road, Trenton, New Jersey 08618, and may be obtained by prospective bidders electronically via direct download (pdf format), electronic file on disc, or printed paper set. Information about the Project can be found on our website: www.fvhdpcc.com under CONTRACTOR, BID LISTING. To obtain bid documents, please download and fill out the "Bidder Registration Form," available at <https://fvhdpcc.com/bids/bidlisting>, and fax or email the completed form to the Architect's Office. Downloadable Electronic Bid Documents are available without fee. Bid Documents by disk will be available for a non-refundable fee of \$25.00, or by paper set for a non-refundable fee of \$250.00 for each paper set. Checks for disks and paper sets are payable in advance to Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. If contractor requests shipping, a direct shipping account number must be provided to the Architect and for paper sets, a separate non-refundable handling fee of \$25 per set payable in advance. Bidders should only rely on original digital and paper versions of the bidding contract documents obtained directly from the Architect's office. Any bidder should contact the Architect's office at (609) 883-7101 to confirm availability of documents. To obtain bid documents, please download and fill out the "Bidder Registration Form," available at <https://fvhdpcc.com/bids/bidlisting>, and fax or email the completed form to the Architect's Office. Upon receipt of the form, electronic bid documents will be made available for download with an emailed link that will have an expiration date. If disk or paper sets are requested, mail the required payment by check, to the Architect's Office. Upon receipt of payment, disk or paper sets will be shipped, or made available for pick-up.

Driver Charged in Connection With Fatal Parkway Crash
COUNTY—An Essex County man is in custody and criminally charged with causing a fatal two-vehicle collision on the Garden State Parkway earlier this week and then trying to cover up his role in it, acting Union County Prosecutor Lyndsay V. Ruotolo announced February 17.
Ronaldo Godwin, 43, of Newark is charged with second-degree death by auto and second-degree witness tampering in connection with the death of 46-year-old Christopher Meikle of East Orange.
Shortly before 2:45 a.m. on Monday, February 15, members of the New Jersey State Police were dispatched to the area of mile marker 136 in the south-bound lanes of the Garden State Parkway in Clark, according to Union County Assistant Prosecutor Armando Suarez, who is prosecuting the case. At that location, the state troopers found Mr. Meikle's vehicle, a Lexus, engulfed in flames near the highway's center median, as well as Mr. Godwin's vehicle, a Range Rover, which had overturned on the shoulder.
Mr. Meikle was rushed to RWJ University Hospital in Rahway, where he was pronounced dead at approximately 3:35 a.m., while Mr. Godwin was transported to University Hospital in Newark for emergency treatment.
An investigation involving members of the State Police and the Union County Homicide Task Force revealed that Mr. Godwin had struck Mr. Meikle from behind at a high rate of speed, causing the collision, and when a good Samaritan motorist pulled over to offer assistance, Mr. Godwin requested that he be transported away from the scene, indicating that he was prepared to offer an unspecified reward in exchange.
Mr. Godwin has since been discharged from the hospital and lodged in the Union County Jail pending a first appearance and detention hearing scheduled to take place in Union County Superior Court.
“I would like to commend the hard work of our Homicide Task Force and our partners at the New Jersey State Police, under the leadership of Colonel Patrick J. Callahan, which allowed us to quickly bring charges in this terrible

incident,” acting Prosecutor Ruotolo said.
Anyone with information about this matter is urged to contact New Jersey State Police Detective Nagib Saad at (732) 441-4500, Ext. 3434 or Task Force Sgt. Danika Ramos at (908) 451-7739.
Convictions on charges of this nature can be punishable by up 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.
Impeachment Articles Filed Against Corrections Commiss.
TRENTON – Assemblywoman Jean Stanfield introduced articles of impeachment against Department of Corrections Commissioner Marcus Hicks today with the backing of prime sponsors Democratic Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri Huttie and Republican Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz.
“I’m heartened to be joined by these strong leaders, who I know will not stop advocating for the women at our correctional facilities until they are safe under new leadership and comprehensive reforms,” Stanfield said.
“Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttie and I may come from different parties, but we are aligned in our belief Commissioner Hicks must be held accountable. Valerie has been at the forefront of this and will not be silenced. This is a bipartisan issue, and by working together, we will make sure rape and abuse at the hands of prison guards ends at Edna Mahan,” she continued.
The articles of impeachment (AR220) state Commissioner Hicks failed to take reasonable measures to protect inmates from sexual abuse, considered cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and that he is responsible for violating the inmates’ civil rights and the public’s trust, among other offenses.
A U.S. Department of Justice report detailed years of sexual and physical assault by guards at the facility leading to criminal convictions. Since the report was released in April, the situation has only gotten worse. Thirty-one guards were suspended last month after an incident involving a woman getting handcuffed in a cell and severely beaten.
“As a former Burlington County Sheriff, I have always looked out for the most

POLICE BLOTTER

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WESTFIELD
Monday, February 15, an incident occurred on the 500 block of Elm Street in which a victim reported that one or more unknown suspects utilized their Social Security number to make an application for unemployment benefits through the state of New Jersey. The victim has suffered no monetary loss.
Monday, February 15, a business on the 1000 block of West South Avenue reported being a victim of a shoplifting. The suspect left the store with several items they had placed in a bag.

The unknown suspect then fled the area in a silver Cadillac.
Monday, February 15, a victim on the 0-100 block of Prospect Street reported that they submitted a deposit online for a summer rental. After the victim traveled to the property, they became aware that they were not dealing with the actual property owner and turned over the deposit money to unknown party.
Tuesday, February 16, a business owner on the 500 block of Westfield Avenue reported a burglary to his office. The suspect was observed on security cameras, approximately two hours earlier, entering through a side door and rummaging through the interior of the business. The business owner reported that two credit cards and \$914 in cash were taken.
Wednesday, February 17, a business on the 500 block of Westfield Avenue reported being a victim of burglary and theft between 5 p.m. on February 16 and 9 a.m. on February 17. One or more unknown suspects gained entry through an unlocked rear office window. Once inside, the individual or persons ransacked several rooms and stole \$350 in U.S. currency from a desk in the office.
SCOTCH PLAINS
Tuesday, February 16, a resident of Ditzel Farm Court reported receiving harassing emails stating that if a Bitcoin payment was not made, sensitive information would be released online. The matter is under investigation.
Wednesday, February 17, a resident of the 1400 block of Martine Avenue reported a package stolen from their front steps. The incident is under investigation.
Thursday, February 18, a business located on East Second Street reported the theft of a 2007 Ford F-350 with an attached plow during the overnight hours. The vehicle has been entered as stolen and the matter is under investigation.
Thursday, February 18, officers responded to the Ashbrook Care and Rehabilitation Center, located on Raritan Road, on a report of a motor vehicle fire. Upon arrival they located a Nissan Altima in the driveway with flames coming from under the hood. Officers were able to extinguish the fire. No injuries were reported.
Thursday, February 18, a resident of Maple Hill Road reported fraudulent activity on a bank account. The matter is under investigation.
Saturday, February 20, a resident of the 1200 block of Terrill Road reported a theft. The matter is under investigation.
Monday, February 22, a resident of the 500 block of Westfield Road reported a case of identity theft. The matter is under investigation.
Monday, February 22, a resident of Wilshire Run reported a burglary to their home. The matter is under investigation.

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

Impeachment Articles Filed Against Corrections Commiss.

vulnerable among us. By letting this situation go on for years and keeping Commissioner Hicks in his leadership role, our Governor has not. We can't wait for him to wake up on this issue. The legislature must act,” Stanfield said.
“Prisoners are still people. We as a State must take a leadership role in ensuring dignity and safety for everyone, including those who are incarcerated. We have called for the resignation of Commissioner Hicks and this resolution aims to bring accountability to the DOC. Regardless, reforms are still sorely needed to address the systemic abuse within our system,” Huttie said.
“Governor Murphy and Commissioner Hicks have been given ample opportunities to make the necessary reforms to protect the women at the prison. My colleagues and I will not tolerate one more transgression,” said Munoz. “The Legislature is proceeding with the impeachment of Commissioner Hicks, because we refuse to allow the women’s cries for help to fall on deaf ears any longer. We must remove the man at the top who has shunned his responsibilities far too long.”
The state constitution starts the impeachment process in the state Assembly, which has the sole power of impeachment by a majority vote of all members. The proceedings move to the Senate, which is to hold a trial overseen by the chief justice of the state Supreme Court. A two-thirds vote of all the members of the Senate is required to remove the commissioner from office.
The Department of Justice report on the atrocities at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility was released in April. Following the report, the state legislature held hearings, which Commissioner Hicks failed to show up for. During one of the hearings, a woman testified that a guard allegedly refused to give her toilet paper without an exchange of sex.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
INVITATION TO RE-BID
Sealed proposals will be received by the Town of Westfield in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, at 10:00 AM prevailing time on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, for the **“2021 MISCELLANEOUS ADA RAMP & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY”**.
The work under this Proposal includes the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment necessary to complete the work as shown on the Contract Drawings and described in the Contract Specifications, and Proposals shall be in accordance with such Drawings and Specifications and the terms proposed in the Contract. The major items of work under this contract include, but are not limited to, the following in estimated quantities:
1,800 square yards of 4 inch thick Concrete Walk
660 linear feet of 12 inch High Density Polyethylene Pipe
All bidders must submit with their bid a copy of their New Jersey Business Registration Certificate. Failure to submit proof of registration will disqualify the bid.
The Town of Westfield offices are currently closed to the public but remain operational. The Town of Westfield is practicing Social Distancing; therefore, bidders are encouraged to Mail in your bid responses in a timely manner via USPS, UPS and FedEx, etc. If they must be hand-delivered, potential bidders may contact the Office of the Town Engineer (908-789-4100, ext. 4606, or engineer@westfieldnj.gov) to arrange drop off at the Main Entrance of the Town's Public Works Complex at 959 North Avenue, West, Westfield, New Jersey 07090. As always, it is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that all bids are timely submitted in order to be received by the time and date as specified. Bids received after the designated time and date will be returned unopened.
Proposals shall be in writing on the forms furnished and must be delivered at the place and before the hour above mentioned, and must be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond payable to the Town of Westfield in an amount equal to at least ten percent (10%) of the base amount of the bid, but not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$20,000.00. (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-21) Each bid must also be accompanied by a Surety Company Certificate stating that said Surety company will provide the bidder with the required Performance bond in the full amount of the Contract (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-22), by a Non-Collusion Affidavit and a Contractor's Qualification Statement, Statement of Ownership, on the forms included in and explained in the contract documents.
Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27 and must pay women the prevailing wage rates promulgated by the New Jersey State Department of Labor and Industry for this project, copies of which are on file in the Office of the Town Engineer.
Plans and specifications may be seen or obtained from the office of the Town Engineer, Public Works Complex, 959 North Avenue, West, Westfield, New Jersey. The Mayor and Council reserve the right to reject any bid, and to waive any informality in any bid, if in the interest of the Town, it is deemed advisable to do so.
Shannon Rapant
Chief/Secretary to the Planning Board
1 T - 02/25/21, The Times Fee: \$54.06

PUBLIC NOTICE
BOROUGH OF FANWOOD
NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 21-07-R AND PUBLIC HEARING
An ordinance was introduced by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood on February 16, 2021. Copies of this ordinance can be obtained without cost in the Clerk's Office, at the Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey between the hours of 8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday.
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 86, SALARIES AND COMPENSATION, AND CHAPTER 67, POLICE DEPARTMENT, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD
This ordinance is scheduled for public hearing and adoption on March 15, 2021, at 7:00 P.M., via virtual conference and phone conference.
Kathleen Holmes
Borough Clerk
1 T - 02/25/21, The Times Fee: \$24.48
PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
PLANNING BOARD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens and consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., through standards promulgated by the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, and Executive Orders 103 and 107, the regular meeting of the Planning Board of the Township of Scotch Plains scheduled for Monday, March 8, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. will be held by **online/virtual means and telephonically only**. In addition to the regular business as outlined in the agenda, the following application will be heard:
Elite Properties at Scotch Plains LLC, who is seeking Preliminary and Final Site Plan approval for property located at 1770-1772 and 1774-1778 East Second Street, Block 1201, Lots 21 and 22, B-2 Zone. The applicant is proposing to consolidate the existing lots, demolish the existing building, and construct a three-story mixed use building, including retail business and personal service on the first floor, and 30 apartment units on the second and third floors with off-street parking.
The agenda for the meeting on March 8, 2021 will be posted on the Township of Scotch Plains Website. Members of the public who wish to monitor and/or participate in the public meeting may join from a computer or capable device at:
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82512352772?pwd=aldzSTJWU1lzS3V5d3VlaHBQeGVQT09>
Meeting ID: 825 1235 2772
Password: 315372
or join by telephone by dialing 1 646 558 8656 and entering the above noted Meeting ID when prompted.
The application(s) and supporting materials are on file and will be available for public inspection, free of charge, at least ten (10) days prior to the online/virtual hearing at:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14Czhlw-RTsYqSZR9qSBmX3fmLSO4Fy7>
Alternately, members of the public may contact the Clerk/Land Use Secretary by email at srapant@scotchplainsnj.com or by phone, during regular business hours, at (908) 322-6700 x 307 prior to the meeting in order to ask any questions if encountering any difficulty with the options described in this notice.
Dana Sullivan,
Business Administrator
Board Secretary
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$131.07

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
POLICE DEPARTMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT
ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT
TEAM FOR WESTFIELD POLICE
DEPARTMENT INVITES
PUBLIC COMMENT
The Westfield Police Department is seeking to achieve law enforcement accreditation status from New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP). As part of this process, a team of assessors from the NJSACOP will visit the Westfield Police Department virtually on Monday, March 1, 2021, for a final, on-site assessment of all aspects of the department's policies and procedures, management, operations and support services.
As part of this final, on-site assessment, employees and members of the general public are invited to address and provide comments to the assessment team regarding the Westfield Police Department's ability to comply with the NJSACOP's law enforcement accreditation standards. The standards address five (5) general areas of law enforcement operations:
- The Administration Function;
- The Personnel Function;
- The Operations Function;
- The Investigative Function;
- The Arrestee/Detainee/Prisoner Handling Function.
Anyone wishing to comment may call 908-543-4063 on Monday, March 1, 2021, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Telephone comments will be limited to five (5) minutes each and they must address the Westfield Police Department's ability to comply with the NJSACOP's law enforcement accreditation standards. Comments will also be accepted by e-mail at accreditation@wpdnj.org.
A copy of the NJSACOP's law enforcement accreditation standards are available for inspection at the Westfield Police Department, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090. Please contact Captain Frank Padovano, the department's Accreditation Manager, by telephone at (908) 789-6072 or by e-mail at fpadovano@wpdnj.org for further information.
Additionally, anyone wishing to offer written comments may e-mail the NJSACOP's Law Enforcement Accreditation Program Manager, Mr. Harry Delgado, at hdelgado@njsacop.org or write to the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police, Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, at 751 Route 73 North, Suite 12, Marlton, New Jersey 08053.
Christopher Battiloro
Chief of Police
425 East Broad Street
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
E-mail: cbattiloro@wpdnj.org
Telephone: 908-789-4000
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$58.65

Cranford Planning Bd. Reviews Housing Plan

By MARTA ESQUIROZ
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CRANFORD—The planning board reunited last Wednesday to review the Housing Plan Element and Fair Share Plan.

This plan decides on the land-use regulations and guarantees an appropriate variety and housing choice for all people who want to live in Cranford.

The board decided to go into a closed meeting to discuss matters related to this housing project and receive advisement from Board Attorney Jonathan Drill. Chairperson Kathleen Murray said that, “actions won’t be taken in this session.”

Before going into closed session, Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty announced that she is “appointing a task force” that will look at the marijuana-legalization process “in relationship with Cranford.

“It will have representations of both the zoning and planning board on that task force,” she continued. “I expect to do that at the next township committee meeting on March 8.”

Mayor Miller Prunty revealed that Jason Gareis, a member of the township committee and commissioner of public safety, will head up the team.

Mr. Gareis expressed that the goal of the task force is to have representation from “across sections of Cranford” and to “look at how the community feels

and thinks about how Cranford should handle this.”

Mr. Gareis remarked that the township committee “wants to have some cross-sections,” not only representing the different boards but also from among families, members of various departments and businesses to discuss the legalization issue.

“Hopefully, we are in a position to make recommendations to the township committee about how Cranford should move forward overall on the marijuana issue,” he said.

At the end of the meeting, the planning board came back into open session. Ms. Murray announced that, during the next meeting, on Wednesday, March 3, at 8 p.m., there will be a public hearing about the Housing Plan Element and Fair Share Plan.


Join the Rotary Club of Westfield



westfieldrotary.com

Community Calendar

Brought to you by Trinitas Regional Medical Center



Moving With Awareness for Better Balance and Fitness Fridays, through April, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The Scotch Plains Public Library is offering a series of gentle fitness classes live via Zoom, led by instructor, Yasmin Ofek. Register at scotlib.org/events.

TV Trivia Thursday, February 25, 7 p.m. This is a virtual event for adults via zoom hosted by the Scotch Plains Public Library. There will be four rounds of trivia, plus one lightning round. For more information or to register, visit scotlib.org, email library@scotlib.org, or call (908) 322-5007 ex. 204.

Increase Stress Resilience With Better Food and Lifestyle Habits Wednesday, March 3, 12 p.m. Join the GWACC networking meeting with Carola Becker via Zoom as she shares how you can identify the triggers and how you can support your body and brain before, during and after stress. Register in advance at us02web.zoom.us/j/8455599110 or call (908) 322-5007.

Drive-Thru Pierogi Dinner Friday, March 5, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Ukrainian American Youth Association located at 60 N Jefferson Road in Whippany. Preorders will be taken online at pdinner.com.

Cooking with Tony Bianchino Saturday, March 6, 10 a.m. Join the Union County board of commissioners and office for persons with disabilities and special needs as they present a virtual Saturday series. For more information or to sign up, please visit ucnj.org/opdsn-reg or call (908) 527-4781.

St. Patrick's Selfie Scavenger Hunt Friday, March 12 through Sunday, March 14. Join the CHS Project Graduation 2021 for a family friendly scavenger hunt with an interactive map. \$25 per family/team. Register by Monday, March 1 at signnupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA4A82BA6F4C70-stpatricks.

Magic with Simon Mandal Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m. Join the Union County board of commissioners and office for persons with disabilities and special needs as they present a virtual Saturday series. For more information or to sign up, please visit ucnj.org/opdsn-reg or call (908) 527-4781.

Submit events at www.goleader.com/calendar

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: That an application has been made by South Avenue Dental LLC, in connection with premises located at 104 South Avenue East, Cranford, New Jersey, 07106, Block 478, Lot 1.02 in the D-C Zone for preliminary and final site plan approval, conditional use variance and variance approval for a proposed dental office with associated wall signage. No expansion/addition to the existing building or other site improvements are proposed by this application. The Application No. is ZBA-20-007. As such, the variances, waivers and/or exceptions requested by the Applicant are as follows:
1) A dental office a conditionally permitted use in the D-C Zone. One of the conditions are that a medical office can only occupy first floor space if it is either less than 1000 square feet or does not contain storefront-type windows. The Applicant proposes to occupy 2,699 square feet of GFA and there are storefront-type windows. Also, if office space is proposed on the first floor off-street parking is required on the premises. The Applicant is proposing zero (0) off-street parking spaces. Therefore, a conditional use variance is required in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-7(d).
2) Applicant proposes 0 parking spaces where 0 parking spaces exist, and 18 parking spaces are required.
3) Such other waivers, exceptions, variances or relief from the Cranford Zone Code which may be required by the Cranford Zoning Board of Adjustment in connection with the application.
Due to the State of Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Executive Orders enacted by Governor Murphy, a VIRTUAL public hearing before the Township of Cranford Zoning Board of Adjustment for this application has been ordered for March 8, 2021 at 7:45 p.m. Residents and other members of the public 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/hwc-mdbv-zco or by phone at 1-406-905-1550 enter PIN 998063405.
The VIRTUAL public hearing regarding this application will be held by online/virtual means and telephonically only. During the virtual public hearing, any interested party will have an opportunity to listen to and, if participating online, view the hearing in its entirety, be heard (ask questions, provide comments or offer evidence). You may participate personally, by agent or by attorney. Participating via online/virtual means or telephonically is free of charge to the public. Please note that if you would like to comment and/or testify on the Application you can only do so by attending the meeting through a video/audio option.

PUBLIC NOTICE

While questions of the witnesses are permitted by telephone, in order to provide comments/testimony you must be available by video. While any person or persons affected by this application will have an opportunity to present any objections to the proposed development, the Board does have the right to exclude repetitious testimony.
Members of the public interested in participating in the VIRTUAL public hearing on the Application can speak with Kathy Lenahan, the Board Secretary, of their interest in participating in advance of the VIRTUAL public hearing. Ms. Lenahan can be reached at 908.709.7211 or K-Lenahan@cranfordnj.org.
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. If you wish to review the application or any of the materials submitted with the application, including the plans, reports and maps they will be posted to the Zoning Board Webpage 10 days prior to the hearing. The website is <https://www.cranfordnj.org/zoning-board-adjustment>. If you look to the left of the page you will see a list of current applications. If you select this application it will take you to a webpage with links to the application materials. If you have difficulty locating the application materials on the zoning Board's website, you can contact the Board Secretary or Applicant's attorney for assistance.
Anyone interested in reviewing the Application and supporting documents may inform the Applicant's attorney identified below (Phone- 201-587-0888 x6408; email- akohut@wellslaw.com) 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'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.
Finally, any additional exhibits which will be relied upon during the VIRTUAL public hearing will be available for inspection forty-eight (48) hours before the VIRTUAL public hearing in the same location you reviewed the other application materials on the Zoning Board website.
The public hearing may be continued without further notice on such additional or other dates as the Board may determine. This notice is given to you by order of the Township of Cranford Zoning Board of Adjustment.
AGAIN, THIS HEARING WILL BE A VIRTUAL HEARING VIA GOOGLE MEET
Wells, Jaworski & Liebman, LLP
12 Route 17 North, P.O. Box 1827
Paramus, New Jersey 07653-1827
By: Andrew S. Kohut, Esq.,
Attorney for the Applicant
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$121.38

Westfield Bd. OKs Five Appeals at Special Meeting

By REBECCA MEHORTER
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Board of Adjustment held a special meeting February 18 to cut down on backlogged applications. The board heard and approved all five applications on the agenda.

Applicant Daniel Jemal of 14 Breeze Knoll Drive went before the board seeking approval to install an in-ground pool and a six-foot open fence, which is contrary to the town's land-use ordinance, which requires a solid fence not less than six feet tall. The project also would go over the maximum improvement coverage by approximately 3,533 square feet. The property, Mr. Jemal said, is 25 percent smaller than the other lots on the street and presents a hardship to the applicant as it limits the improvement coverage. The open fence, he argued, still fits the spirit of the closed-fence ordinance because the number of trees planted close to the fence ensures the privacy of the neighbors. The fence also would be properly closed on the pool side of the yard, he said.

The board approved the application on the conditions that the landscape screening be maintained, the solid fence on the pool side of the yard be maintained, a dry well for drainage be maintained and that 15 feet of the rear driveway be removed to reduce the improvement coverage percentage.

The next applicant, Cate Tabatchnick of 1000 Wychwood Road, sought approval to install a generator on the street-side yard of her home. Due to the placement of the applicant's home on a corner property, a generator in the backyard would be disruptive to neighbors, she said. Also, the corner lot has two street-side yards. Proposed was the option to install the generator on the Woodland Avenue side of the house, hidden from street view. The application was approved as submitted.

Alex Mednick and Allison Stone of 621 Short Hills Court went before the board next. The two sought approval to install a six-foot fence in what is technically a front yard as this property is sandwiched between two streets. The applicants cited safety concerns and privacy as their motivations to install the fence, as they are expecting their first child and have found footprints left in the snow in their yard overnight this winter. The application was approved on the conditions that the new fence is installed where a current smaller, chain-link fence is located except in one corner that will be

slightly extended and that the proposed landscaping on the street side of the fence be maintained as planned.

The fourth applicant to come before the board was Pawel Kierzkowski of 171 Tudor Oval. The applicant sought to install a six-foot fence and an in-ground swimming pool in the front yard, which goes against the land-use ordinance that requires pools to be in the rear yard. Similarly to the previous application, this property is sandwiched between two streets, so its backyard is technically a front yard. Mr. Kierzkowski said he was previously approved by the board to install this fence but had opted to try a natural fence of trees instead. He said, “It didn't really work out.” He said he thought the roots in the ground caused the natural fence to fail. He said there are bushes there now that he would be willing to replant if uprooted. The pool would allow the applicant and his family to get more usage out of the property and is in the area the family considers the backyard.

The board approved the application on the conditions the applicant maintain landscaping outside the fence on Lance Avenue and obtain tree-removal permits from the Westfield Tree Preservation Commission as needed for the pool installation.

The last applicant of the evening was Thomas Sevchuk of 888 Winyah Avenue. Mr. Sevchuk sought approval to construct an addition requiring variances on the minimum side-yard setback and maximum building coverage. The applicant also sought to establish a one-car garage where the town calls for a two-car garage. Mr. Sevchuk said his family currently is not in the house, which they closed on in August 2020, because they hope to move in after doing work on the home. He said the plans would extend the house into the backyard and create a bigger family room and kitchen. The plans also call for a new mudroom created from the current two-car garage, which Mr. Sevchuk said is not actually large enough to fit two cars.

“The sheer amount of functionality they're getting for the minimal amount of change to the outside is phenomenal,” board member Matt Sontz said. The application was unanimously approved as submitted.

The Westfield Board of Adjustment will next meet on Monday, March 8. Residents are welcome to join via Zoom link, which will be posted on the town Facebook page.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2207

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING 417 PROSPECT STREET, SHOWN ON THE TOWN TAX MAPS AS BLOCK 1004, LOT 10 AS A HISTORIC LANDMARK AND MODIFYING THE ZONING MAP

WHEREAS, by application to the Westfield Historic Preservation Commission, Joyce Lee Goldstein requested to deem the property located at 417 Prospect Street a historic landmark, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions contained within the Historic Designation and Preservation Ordinance of the Town of Westfield, the Historic Preservation Commission gave full and complete consideration to the petition for historic designation of the property; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission held a duly-noticed public hearing on December 28, 2020, on the proposed historic designation of the property, where all those who desired to be heard were heard; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission adopted a resolution on that date setting forth its findings of fact and providing its rationale for its recommendation to the Town Council that the Council approve the application for historic preservation designation of 417 Prospect Street, shown on the Town Tax Map as Block 1004, Lot 10; and

WHEREAS, at a public meeting held on February 1, 2021, the Town Planning Board reviewed the proposed designation pursuant to the Historic Designation and Preservation Ordinance of the Town of Westfield and New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law Section 40:55D-26 and found that designation of 417 Prospect Street, shown on the Town Tax Map as Block 1004, Lot 10, would be consistent with the Historic Preservation Element of the Town Master Plan and the goals and objectives contained within the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Planning Board also recommends that the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Subsection 14 be amended to include the property at 417 Prospect Street, shown on the Town Tax Map as Block 1004, Lot 10, and the Zoning Map be amended to identify the property as a designated historic landmark.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield, in the County of Union and the State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION I. The Zoning Map shall be and is hereby amended and supplemented by identifying the following property as shown on the Official Tax Map of the Town of Westfield as a Historic Preservation Designated Landmark:

Block	Lot	Address
1004	10	417 Prospect Street

SECTION II. Appendix III of the Land Use Ordinance, titled an **Ordinance Establishing A Historic Preservation Commission and Providing for the Designation and Preservation of Historic Districts and Historic Landmarks in the Town of Westfield**, is hereby amended by adding a new Subsection 14.P., to read in its entirety as follows:

P. The private residence owned at the time of its designation by Joyce Lee Goldstein located at 417 Prospect Street, Westfield, New Jersey, known as Lot 10, Block 1004 on the Town of Westfield tax map, being originally built circa 1865.

The Historic Preservation Commission shall be permitted to place an appropriate notation and plaque on said property indicating its historic landmark status.

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

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

SECTION V. This ordinance shall take effect after passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on February 23, 2021.

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$97.92

State Senate Passes Early-Voting Bill

By REBECCA MEHORTER
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

TRENTON — The New Jersey State Senate met last Friday after rescheduling from the previous day due to a snowstorm.

Bill S-3203, which passed its second-reading in the Senate, would establish in-person, early-voting procedures for certain Primary and General elections. The Union County Board of Elections would be required to provide at least seven public locations for early voting as Union County has over 300,000 registered voters, according to the county clerk's office. The bill would take effect after being signed by the governor but would first apply to the 2021 General and the 2022 Primary elections. The bill had 17 abstentions, including Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr.

Animal rights was the topic of two bills that passed the Senate on Friday. Bill S-1726 would prohibit the sale of cosmetics developed using animal testing on or after January 1, 2021. According to the bill, “Current law prohibits performing animal tests on products in New Jersey when there is an appropriate validated alternative test method. This bill would strengthen this prohibition with respect to cosmetics products, barring the sale of all cosmetics that were tested on animals, even if those tests were performed outside the State. Animal tests for cosmetics are frequently painful and harmful to the animal.” Exceptions would be made for testing conducted on an ingredient or testing required by a federal or state regulatory authority. Also exempt would be animal tests conducted for non-cosmetic purposes as required by a regulatory authority. Offenses under the bill would be punishable by fines of up to \$1,000.

Bill S-2868, which is modeled after Connecticut's “Desmond's Law,” would authorize a court to appoint an advocate on behalf of the interests of and justice for animals in certain criminal cases like animal

cruelty and dog fighting. A list of attorneys and law students would volunteer to monitor, have access to relevant documents of and present information at such cases. The bill, sponsored by Senator Nicholas Scutari, passed the Senate.

The Senate also heard two pieces of legislation related to higher education. Bill A-1070 would require the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a program to assist institutions “in the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs.” The program would “develop guidance and strategies” to identify barriers underrepresented students face academically, socially and culturally. The bill has passed both houses and now goes to the governor's office.

Senator Kean, a primary sponsor of the bill, released a statement saying, “Underrepresented students experience all sorts of cultural and institutional barriers while they pursue a STEM field. By identifying these obstacles, and notifying institutions of higher education, we can help these students reach their goals.”

A resolution urging The State University of Rutgers to memorialize U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg by naming a building after her was sent to the Secretary of State. Justice Ginsburg was a faculty member at Rutgers Law School in Newark from 1963 to 1972. She died in September 2020 after 27 years serving on the Supreme Court. The resolution was filed with the Secretary of State.

The Senate will meet again on Thursday, March 18.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2209

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE SOUTH AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.A.C. 40A:12A-1, et seq., as amended and supplemented (the “**Redevelopment Law**”), provides a process for municipalities to participate in the redevelopment and improvement of areas designated by the municipality as being in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, on September 3, 2019, the Mayor and Council of the Town (the “**Governing Body**”) adopted Resolution Number 220-2019, requesting and authorizing the Town's Planning Board (“**Planning Board**”) to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine whether certain properties including:

Block	Lot	Street Address
3307	1	421-429 South Avenue East
3307	2	445-449 South Avenue East
4004	17	418 South Avenue East
4005	3	338 Windsor Avenue
4005	4	448 South Avenue East

as identified on the Official Tax Map of the Town (the “**Redevelopment Area**”) qualify as a “non-condemnation” area in need of redevelopment pursuant to the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2020, based upon a recommendation from the Planning Board following a public hearing on January 6, 2020, the Governing Body adopted Resolution No. 64-2020, designating the Redevelopment Area as a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment pursuant to the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined it to be in the best interests of the Town and the Redevelopment Area to adopt the Redevelopment Plan; and

WHEREAS, immediately following the introduction of this Ordinance, the Town Clerk was directed to refer this Ordinance and the Redevelopment Plan to the Planning Board for its review and recommen-

PUBLIC NOTICE

dations pursuant to the Redevelopment Law, which review shall take place within forty-five (45) days of the referral.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Westfield as follows:

1. The “**South Avenue Redevelopment Plan**,” dated February 18, 2021, (Second Revision, February 22, 2021), a copy of which is attached to this Ordinance as **Exhibit A**, is hereby adopted in its entirety.

2. If any provision or portion of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional, preempted by Federal or State law, or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of the ordinance shall not be invalidated and shall remain in full force and effect.

3. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as required by law.

4. All ordinances and parts of ordinances that are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

NOTICE

The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Westfield held on February 23, 2021 and was read for the first time. This ordinance will be further considered for final passage by said Town Council at a meeting beginning at 8:00 PM on March 9, 2021 or at any time and place to which such meeting may be adjourned. All persons interested will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning such ordinance.

Due to the pandemic and the current closure of the Westfield Municipal Building, the meeting on March 9, 2021 will be held virtually. The public may connect to the meeting and participate via Zoom webinar using the following link: <https://bit.ly/2021WestfieldTownCouncilMeeting>, or via telephone by calling 646-518-9805, Webinar ID 873 4615 6495 #, Passcode 233043.

In the event the Town Council meeting scheduled for March 9, 2021 can be held in person, the meeting location will be the Westfield Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.

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

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 02/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$105.06

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The Raw Confectionery Creates One-of-a-Kind Chocolate Bars

By HILLARY SHOPE
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

AREA — Brendee Solomon, Owner and Creator of The Raw Confectionery, makes small-batch custom chocolate bars when she’s not teaching math and science to her fifth-grade students at Dr. Albert Einstein Academy in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Ms. Solomon, a New Jersey native, started her business during the pandemic in March 2020.

“It’s a way for me to get my creative juices flowing,” Ms. Solomon told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*.

Ms. Solomon said she was so used to being all over her classroom and constantly on her feet, so when she started working from home, she felt a bit stagnant.

“I felt like I was losing a lot of creativity. I felt like I couldn’t do as much as I could in my classroom. I feel like I needed that outlet and creating this business gave me that opportunity,” Ms. Solomon said.

Ms. Solomon decided to order the molds and chocolate then started creating. She used her background in culinary arts — Ms. Solomon attended the Culinary Academy of Long Island after high school.

“I had that pastry background. I knew about tempering chocolate and I knew the science behind it. That’s the easy part,” said Ms. Solomon. “I was excited to get my raw ingredients, my dried fruits, and all the organic goodness and start making stuff.”

Ms. Solomon’s first batch went to

her next-door neighbors and since then, the business has taken off.

“People still have a sweet tooth whether they’re stuck at home or not,” said Ms. Solomon.

During her first few months in business, she did free delivery and her business spread through word of mouth and social media.

The Raw Confectionery has a wide variety of flavors that Ms. Solomon

brought up to a certain temperature and then lowered again in order for those cocoa butter fats to conjoin and make this viscous liquid,” Ms. Solomon explained to *The Leader/Times*.

Once the chocolate is ready to go, Ms. Solomon makes everything in small batches. She fills the molds and then adds the toppings.

“It’s really playing around with color and texture, which is the fun part,” she said.

She encourages customers to reach out with any special requests and can work with customers on making their ideal chocolate bar.

“If you’re someone who loves sour notes or bitter, I’d probably tell them to go with something dark,” said Ms. Solomon. “If they’re a person who really loves sweet, I would probably shift them in the direction of the white chocolate or milk chocolate. It’s really what the person wants.”

The Raw Confectionery got its name from Ms. Solomon’s passion for the quality ingredients she uses and an anti-inflammatory diet she did right before the pandemic started.

“I was cutting out salt — cutting out anything processed — so I was eating a lot of raw nuts and super dark chocolate,” said Ms. Solomon.

She felt so much better after the diet and started making bars using only dark chocolate, organic nuts, and dried fruits. Since then, she’s broadened her chocolate offerings, but her best-sellers are still the raw fruit and nut bars.

Ms. Solomon offered an eight-piece assorted box of chocolates for Valentine’s Day and will soon be selling chocolate Easter eggs.

Customers can place orders for pick-up by messaging @therawconfectionery on Instagram and Facebook.



continues to add to. The chocolate bars come in flavors, such as White Chocolate Raspberry, Caramel, Pecan & Sea Salt, Dark Strawberry and Pumpkin Seed, Caramel Biscoff, and many more.

Ms. Solomon uses a special mold to achieve a beautifully textured and visually appealing chocolate bar, with a lot of love and hard work going into each one.

“We start with couverture chocolate, which is chocolate that has to be tempered, so depending on if it’s white, milk, or dark, it has to be

Garden Club’s New Motto Is ‘Zoomin’ and Bloomin’

WESTFIELD — Despite the cold and icy conditions outdoors, and ongoing restrictions due to the pandemic, the Garden Club of Westfield has not been “nipped in the bud.” In fact, the club is living up to its new motto, coined by member Margaret Allen — “zoomin’ and bloomin’.”

When the weather allowed, club members met outdoors in Mindowaskin Park and backyards to exchange plans for the future and upcoming events. Like everyone else, the organization conducts Zoom meetings. Margaret Allen presented a program about Tamaques Park. She has lived most of her life adjacent to that park and has researched the Native Americans for whom it is named.

Nicole Ozturan presented a program about the history of the Garden Club. In 1915, when women were not allowed to participate in politics, a group of 12 women got

together every two weeks to discuss both flower and vegetable gardening. In 1922, they became an official group. That was the beginning of the Garden Club of Westfield.

The Garden Club of Westfield has a 100-year history of civic contributions, among them liberty gardens, scholarships, memorial gardens, conservation, preservation, tree plantings and general beautification of the town by maintaining the large planters downtown. Only the club’s 73-year custom of putting fresh flowers in the Westfield Memorial Library every single week to honor United States men and women in uniform has been interrupted.

Many people have presented educational programs on various topics, and members have shared their own knowledge with other groups. Among those who have given presentations to the Garden Club was a guest speaker from Liberty Hall Museum.

On February 8, the Reverend Dan Bottorff presented a Zoom slide show highlighting the gardens of the First United Methodist Church

in Westfield. While the “Universe Garden” surrounding the steps up from the sidewalk at the intersection of East Broad Street and North Avenue may be the most visible, Reverend Bottorff and his volunteers have created 12 gardens and grow fresh vegetables and herbs to send to local food pantries as well as creating beautiful spots for people to enjoy or just rest.

One year, Reverend Bottorff planted kale, producing 40 pounds to share. The gardens are open to the public. Visitors can walk around the paths and read the explanatory information available in the pamphlets.

Additionally, the Garden Club has decorated the municipal buildings, planted flowers in town, and enjoyed a Christmas cookie exchange (masked and distanced). Members have walked in local parks and kept up the Blue Star Memorial Garden.

New members are always welcome. The Garden Club of Westfield anticipates that, once the weather improves, members can meet in their gardens. For more information, call Rosemary Shire at (908) 232-8120.

Theater Project Presents *Dog Sees God*

AREA — The Theater Project (TheTheaterProject.org), a leading incubator for rising talent and a showcase for New Jersey artists, will present *Dog Sees God* streaming live on Zoom, March 5 through 7.

The 90-minute performance begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6, followed by a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 7.

A play by Bert V. Royal and directed by Dennis DaPrile *Dog Sees God* features performers from New Jersey as well as throughout the East Coast, Toronto, and California. It is the second in the Apprentice Production series designed to provide opportunities to young actors during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dog Sees God is a dark comedy involving drug use, eating disorders, bullying, rebellion, and sexual identity and is designed for ages 16 and up.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by visiting The Theater Project Presents: *Dog Sees God* - Events (onthestage.com). Purchasers will receive a link one hour before the performance.

For further information, email info@TheTheaterProject.org or phone the box office at (908) 809-8865.

Visual Arts Center of New Jersey Opens New Members Exhibitions

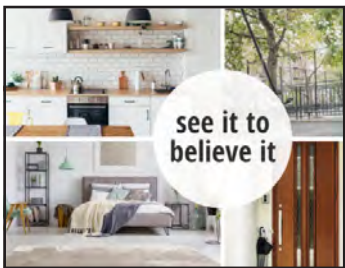
SUMMIT — The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey recently opened two new members exhibitions in the second-floor community galleries, “Barbara Beeman: Nature’s Mirror” and “Janice Patrigliani: Inspired Resilience.” Both shows will be on view through Sunday, April 4.

In “Barbara Beeman: Nature’s Mirror,” on view in the Marité and Joe Robinson Strolling Gallery II, the artist manipulates digital photos of reflective surfaces to create unexpected views that portray a sense of atmosphere and character.

On view in Ann’s Place Gallery in “Janice Patrigliani: Inspired Resilience,” Ms. Patrigliani takes inspiration from World War II Parcel Post parachutes, creating sculptures with a variety of media and techniques, including denim, canvas, parachute parts, shibori dyeing and ceramics. By juxtaposing contradictory materials and forgotten keepsakes for her work, the artist mixes media with metaphor, recycling the detritus of life to chronicle her story.

For more information on both these exhibitions, visit the community galleries page at www.artcenternj.org.

Are Exclusive House Listings a Good Idea?



Have you ever heard the term “exclusive” listing — it refers to a property that is not broadly marketed to the public, but instead offered by word of mouth or other very little marketing if any.

A seller may find this to be an option for a few reasons: 1. They think they won’t have to put up with the hassle of showing their home to a lot of people. Or they like the idea that they can enjoy privacy while their home is “quietly” almost invisibly marketed.

However, a biggest disadvantage is the lack of exposure to the full market.

Doesn’t it make sense that any home or condominium is more likely to sell, and at a better price and terms to the homeowner if the more people know about it?

The first step for broad exposure is getting a home into the Garden State Multiple Listing Service (GSMLS). There are thousands of New Jersey real estate agents in the area with buyer clients and the GSMLS is the portal to thousands of brokers and agents. Even to their Web sites and to National and Regional real estate search portals. More than 92 percent of today’s buyers across all price ranges start their home search on the internet, so why wouldn’t a seller want to be there?

Many decades ago, the real estate industry, brokerages and agents created the MLS for the express purpose of sharing information. It was created to broaden the marketplace for the sale and leasing of homes condominiums, and most remarkably, established the rules of the road for real estate firms to cooperate with each other while still competing with each other in the marketplace of listing and selling Real Estate. The GSMLS service assists in

the everyday business model and, most importantly, buyers and sellers alike have benefited from a form of marketplace that fosters the wide dissemination of information and the market-based transactions that flow from that.

Can there be situations where a seller needs to choose to go the “exclusive” route? Yes of course, but those situations are very few and far between. Every seller should know that no real estate firm has all the buyers, or even the majority of buyers. Anyone who says otherwise simply is wrong.

What’s important to note is actively marketing your home or condominium on the GSMLS will provide the marketing exposure to attract the best price and the best terms you are looking for. If it is not on the GSMLS most buyers will never know about your home that was on the market for sale and if being tagged as “exclusive” sellers missed out on all those buyers and buyers missed out on those homes.

SELLERS Think twice if you are a homeowner contemplating a “exclusive” listing agreement even if it’s for week or few days or 1 day. By marketing your home thru the GSMLS will provide Best Price and Terms maximum exposure with maximum results. #maximumexposurewithmaximumresults #exclusiveslimitbestoffer



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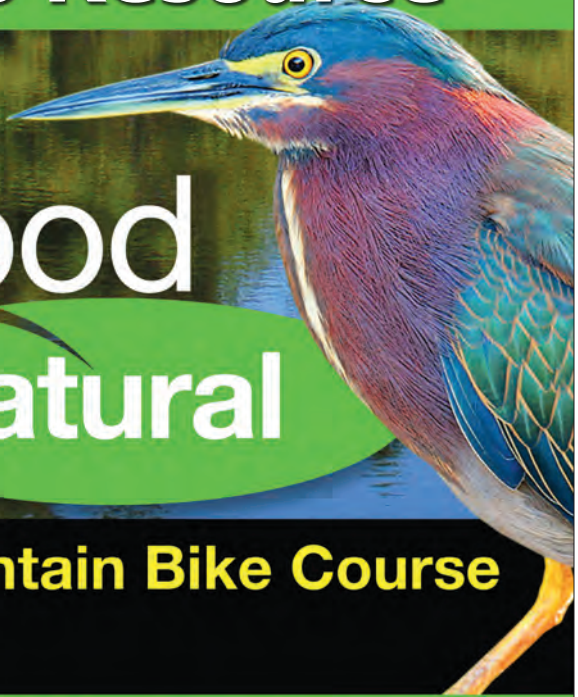


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David B. Corbin (February 2020 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

GOING AIRBORNE...Blue Devil Luke Jacobs goes airborne to escape the grasp of Fair Lawn's Guy Ben-Sadigh during his 113-lb bout. Jacobs pinned Ben-Sadigh in 3:24 and Westfield claimed a 46-30 victory on Senior Night (February 7, 2020).

David B. Corbin (February 2020 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

REACHING FOR THE BALL...Cougar junior Joe Carrea, No. 10, reaches in an attempt to knock the ball out of GL Highlander Connor Bigelow's grasp (February 11, 2020). The Cougars defeated Governor Livingston 59-45.

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 at www.goleader.com - year - month - week.

February 7, 2020: Four days before the beginning of the section tournaments the Westfield wrestling team entertained the Fair Lawn Cutters on Senior Night in Westfield. The 14-2 Blue Devils, who received the top seed for the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 5 Tournament and despite resting a few of their starters, won

nine of the 14 bouts to emerge with a 46-30 victory. Luke Scanlan (160-lbs) in 1:54, Jon Heard (285-lbs) 2:37, Ethan Composto (106-lbs) in 21 seconds, Luke Jacobs (113-lbs) in 3:24 and Mike Price (152-lbs) in 1:07 recorded pins.

February 10, 2020: Senior Justin Alpaugh-McLean saw to it that the fourth seeded Cranford wrestling team was going to advance to the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament when he recorded

a second-period pin in his 195-lb bout to give the Cougars an 11-point lead with only one bout remaining in Cranford. In the following bout at 220-lbs, Evan Kanterman stepped to the mat and received a forfeit to give the Cougars a 40-25 victory over the fifth-seeded Middletown South Eagles.

At 138-lbs, Luke DiGiovanni punished Kyle Smith but it took him only 1:08 to pin him with a power half nelson. Shane Kanterman (160-lbs) knotted the team score, 22-22, when he pinned Austin Carter with a front half nelson/head smother in 2:44. Max Nock put the Cougars up 28-22 when he pinned Sean Fitzpatrick in 1:27

with a single grapevine/power half nelson at 170-lbs.

February 11, 2020: Teamwork came into play immediately in the second quarter for the hosting Cranford boys basketball team and continued for the remainder of the game, resulting in a 59-45 victory over the GL Highlanders. The 10-9 Cougars, who have now won five straight games, erased a 17-8 first quarter deficit to lead by one at the half and refused to relent the remainder of the way.

Juniors Carrea, Dennis DeMarino and Arjun Petgrave, along with sophomores Liam Kwiatkowski and Zion Hammond, however, really stepped up their performances after that first quarter. Carrea finished with nine

points (1 3-pointer), three steals and three rebounds and DeMarino bucketed 13 points, including trip 3-pointers, and added a team-leading five assists to go with seven rebounds.

Petgrave (2 3-pointers) led the team with 11 rebounds and tied Kwiatkowski with 14 points, while adding three assists and a timely slam dunk. Kwiatkowski was a banging machine from the outside with four 3-pointers. Hammond came through with six rebounds, four assists and five points, including a 3-pointer. Sophomore Lukas Ruby contributed defense, an assist, a steal and a rebound.

February 6, 2019: Bonus points were considered what
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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

BANNER DAY...Blue Devil senior Sam Stravach, right, had a banner "Senior Day" with 16 rebounds, two blocks, three steals, six points and four assists as Westfield defeated the Cranford Cougars, 41-28, on February 9, 2019.

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

SCORING FROM ANYWHERE...Blue Devil Quinn Gimblette (113-lbs) made things unpleasant for Deon Pleasant. Gimblette recorded a 17-3, major decision and Westfield beat Piscataway, 38-21, in the section semis (February 6, 2019).

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A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

would be the deciding factor, according to Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz, in the outcome of the North 2, Group 5 semifinal match between second-seeded Westfield and third-seeded Piscataway in Westfield. Instead, a number of outstanding performances with bonus points and come-from-behind wins presented the 12-4 Blue Devils with a 38-21 victory and a trip to face top-seeded Watchung Hills, 60-9, victors over Ridge.

The 182-lb bout was between two Roselle Park Tournament champs, Chief Nick Lodato and Tim Miller. Nothing seemed to be going right for Miller, who lost a scramble to Lodato in the second period then after getting a nearfall he lost another scramble that cost him four more points. Trailing 6-4 very late in the third period, Miller reached down deep, got a reversal and put Lodato on his back for a nearfall to claim a 9-6 victory.

Sophomore Jon Heard jumped

up to 285-lbs to face Chief Dave Greene, who got a quick takedown in the first period. Heard later managed to tie the bout in time to send it to overtime. Heard then recorded a takedown for a 7-5 victory. Quinn Gimblette used his snaky, score-from-anywhere ability to make matters unpleasant for Deon Pleasant in a 17-3, major decision at 113-lbs.

February 7, 2019: What may have appeared to be a New Provi-

dence rout turned into a battle for survival in a boys basketball game against the hosting Cranford Cougars. The Pioneers owned a healthy 13-point, 39-26, lead at the half only to watch it dissolve into a 67-67 tie at the end of regulation. But good fortune was with the Pioneers, who endured to pull out a 77-74 victory. Cougar sophomore Arjun Petgrave pulled 15 rebounds and sank 11 points. Seniors Jeremy Ruka netted 15 points and added

five assists. Senior Hunter Goff put in 20 points.

February 9, 2019: The SPJ girls basketball team celebrated "Senior Day" in style with a 35-29 victory over Union at Scotch Plains-Fanwood. The game also served as a preliminary round match in the Union County Tournament, which got into full swing this week. Senior Stefanie DeVizio led all Raiders with 10 points. Fellow senior Hannah Lyman

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

WINNER IN THE 100-FLY...Blue Devil Abby McKinney won the 100-butterfly in 58.79, the 200IM and swam two of the 3 winning relays in the 136-34 triumph over Ridge in the North 2, Public A semifinals in Westfield (February 11, 2019).

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

WINNER IN THE 500-FREESTYLE...Blue Devil Matt Swenson won the 500-freestyle in 5:00.91 and also won the 200-free in the 114-56 victory over Ridge in the North 2, Public A semifinals in Westfield on February 11, 2019.

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A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

pulled down a game high 15 rebounds.

February 9, 2019: Senior Sam Stravach presented the fans with a memorable performance on "Senior Day" as the Westfield girls basketball team controlled the boards and added a stifling defense to defeat the Cranford Cougars, 41-28, in Westfield. Stravach pulled an amazing 16 rebounds, which included 10 of-fensive grabs, and added a pair of blocks and three steals defen-

sively. Blue Devil freshman Grace Klag had 10 rebounds, 10 points and a pair of steals. Cougar KC Pringle pulled eight rebounds, while adding a pair of steals.

February 11, 2019: A brand new broom could not have done a better job as the second-seeded, No. 7 Westfield girls swim team swept six events and placed 1-2 in two of the relays, while allowing the Ridge Red Devils just one second place in a 136-34 swamping in the semifinal

round of the North 2, Public A Tournament in Westfield.

Keeley Thompson, Ellie Cestero, Abby McKinney and Vivian Jeckell led a 1-2 punch in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:51.73, followed by Natalie Lee, Marcelina Krowinska, Jenna Daniel and Erin McKinney at 1:57.17. Julia McGann at 2:01.1 led a sweep in the 200-free, followed by Erin McAndrew at 2:01.69 and Sarah Kennedy at 2:05.63. McGann at 5:30.9,

Emma Heinze at 5:21.08 and Fiona Strout 5:52.81 swept the 500-free.

Jeckell at 25.31, Thompson at 25.69 and Erin McKinney at 26.06 swept the 50-free. Abby McKinney at 58.79, Lee at 1:00.95 and Olivia Terry at 1:05.95 swept the 100-fly. McAndrew at 55.53, Krowinska at 56.87 and Erin McKinney at 57.1 swept the 100-free. Thompson at 1:02.13, Lee at 1:02.47 and Kennedy at 1:05.78

swept the 100-back. Abby McKinney at 2:13.47, Daniel at 2:20.83 and Krowinska at 2:24.09 finished 1-2-4 in the 200-IM. Daniel at 1:12.69, Cestero at 1:12.84 and Maddy Sullivan at 1:15.02 finished 1-2-4 in the 100-breast.

February 7, 2018: Expectations of a closely contended showdown began to fade away at the mid point then totally disappeared when the top-seeded

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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

SURROUNDED BY COUGARS...Raider Stefanie DeVizio, left, tries to slip the ball past Cougars, Ellie Rokicki (# 15), Caroline McCaffery (# 33) and Olivia Speer, right. Cranford pushed past the Raiders to win 48-33 (February 8, 2018).



Photo courtesy of James Finver

A 100-POINT CLUB MEMBER...Matt Rittendale celebrates after attaining his 100th career point in the Blue Devils' victory over the Cranford Cougars (Mid February 2018).

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A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

Cranford wrestling team recorded pins in the final four bouts to rout the fourth-seeded West Essex Knights, 52-16, in the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament in Cranford.

Chris Hecht (126-lbs) bent over backwards to pin Knight Vince Zoppi in 2:59. Kyell Roper whipped Antonio Zaccaria to the mat with a short lateral throw and stuck him in 1:03 at 160-lbs. Senior 195-pounder Dylan Budnik pinned Carmen Cucozza

in 3:40. Junior Rob Schork (220-lbs) ended his bout in 5:57 with Chris Maestoso using a devastating crotch-and-claw maneuver. Heavyweight Matt Savino used a double-leg tackle to back for a pin in 4:34 over Ricky Behar. Jimmy Gluck concluded the evening when he used a half nelson-and-wrist walkover to pin Jack Ruane in 1:50 at 106-lbs.

February 8, 2018: Momentum shifts midway through the first quarter and, especially, during the later part of the fourth

quarter, exclusively attributed to a series of fine assists, steered the Cranford girls basketball team to a 48-33 victory over the hosting SPF Raiders. The 10-8 Raiders had their spurts too but each time the 10-10 Cougars were able to answer.

Senior forward Camryn Wichelns became the primary beneficiary of those assists and led the Cougars with 19 points. Interestingly, none of her points came from 3-point range, however she was on the scoring end of three 3-point plays

in the fourth quarter. Wichelns, who had 10 rebounds and four steals, also assisted Lauren Santarelli (4 assists, 5 rebounds) on her two 3-pointers. Charolette VanWhy (9 points, 4 rebounds) had three assists.

Senior captain Brianna O'Brien almost single handedly brought her team from a six-point deficit at halftime to a one-point lead by scoring the first seven points in a 9-2 run that gave the Raiders a 23-22 lead with 3:00 left in the third quarter. O'Brien finished

with 11 points.

February 10, 2018: Making a statement is what the Westfield basketball girls wanted to do when they hosted the Oak Knoll Royals in a regular season game. Westfield had received the third seed for the upcoming Union County Tournament, while the Royals received the fourth seed and the Blue Devils wanted to let them know that the seeding was correct and did with a 33-31 victory.

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

DRIVING TO THE BASKET...Blue Devil senior Matt LaCorte drives to the basket in the UCT game against the Rahway Indians in Westfield on February 15, 2017. Rahway ran away with a stunning 73-48 victory.

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

SCRAMBLING FOR POSSESSION...Blue Devil senior Shannon Devitt, center, scrambles for possession of the ball with a pair of Dragons in the UCT quarterfinal game at Rahway on February 17, 2017. Westfield defeated Kent Place, 47-24.

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A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

Sam Stravach (5 rebounds, 3 steals) scored 10 of her team-leading 14 points in the second half and Faith Dobosiewicz (5 points) led the team with eight rebounds. Senior Molly Ryan (5 rebounds, 3 steals) sank five of her seven points in the half and Lily Maz (4 points) added two key assists in the half. Lauren Sgro (6 rebounds, 2 steals) finished with three points and Grace Elliott contributed three steals, three rebounds and an assist.

February 12, 2018: The fifth-ranked Westfield boys swim team defeated the Ridge Red Devils, 100-70, in the North Public A semifinal at Wallace Pool (Abraham Lincoln's birthday). The Blue Devil girls also won their semifinal with a 96-74 victory over North Hunterdon. The 12-2 Blue Devil boys won nine of the 11 events, including all three relays. The Blue Devil girls used their depth to tame the Lions and also won three individual events

and two of the three relays.

The 200-medley relay, was won by Ryan Bebel, Steve Warren, Eric Bebel and Cooper Prieto in 1:38.67. Colin Daniel touched first in the 200-freestyle at 1:49.79 and Ryan Bebel took top honors in the 200-Individual Medley with a time of 2:00.87. Eric Bebel won the 50-free sprint in 22:48, Daniel won the 100-butterfly in 54:47 then Eric Bebel won the 100-free in 49.4.

For the girls, Abbie McKinney

took first in the 100-butterfly at 1:00.11 and Muriel Maloney won the 100-free in 54.97. Keeley Thompson won the 50-free. McKinney, Thompson, Emma Conlon and Marcelina Krowinska took first in the 200-free relay at 1:41.29. Natalie Lee, Maloney, Conlon and Julia McGann won the 400-free relay in 3:44.11.

February 15, 2017: Nothing worked at all for the home team but on the other hand, everything worked for the visiting 10th-

seeded Rahway Indians in a shocking 73-48 triumph over the seventh-seeded Blue Devils at Westfield. The 17-2 Indians, not only demonstrated their dexterity in creating turnovers, but also they were especially successful in penetrating the Blue Devils' defense for lay-ups.

Matt LaCorte led the Blue Devils with 14 points, including a 3-pointer. Phil Martini hit three of his team's four 3-pointers and

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

SWIMMING TO VICTORY...Blue Devil Ryan Daniel swam to victory in the 200-freestyle with a time of 1:50.46 in the Public A semifinal meet against Hunterdon Central (February 8, 2016)

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

TRYING TO PULL A SWITCH...Cougar Vince Concina, front, pulls a switch on South Plainfield Tiger Jeff Plungis in his 145-lb bout. Concina claimed a 3-0 decision but the Tigers won the match in South Plainfield on February 10, 2016.

A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

finished with 11 points. Adam McDaniel scored 12 points and Jeff Gagum sank nine points.

February 15, 2017: The SPF boys basketball team rallied from a nine-point, second-quarter deficit to defeat Plainfield, 47-41, in the second round of the Union County Tournament in Scotch Plains. Junior Tommy Drubulis scored 11 points for the sixth-seeded Raiders (19-4) against a better than advertised Cardinal team, which came in as the 11th seed.

February 16, 2017: The bird seemed in the hand for the No. 1 ranked Westfield boys swim team but a trick of fate in the final leg of the final event, the 400-freestyle medley, resulted in a disqualification for the Blue Devils, allowing the No. 4

Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers to pull out an 85.5-84.5 victory for the North Jersey, Section 2 Public A title at the Raritan Bay "Y".

February 17, 2017: Hitting on all cylinders from the start, the game between the third-seeded Westfield girls basketball team and the 11th-seeded Kent Place Lady Dragons was all but decided after the first quarter in the quarterfinal round of the Union County Tournament held at Rahway. With very keen eyes, the 16-4 Blue Devils banged four 3-pointers in the first quarter, while the defense put out the Dragons' offensive fire to seize a 15-4 lead en route to a 47-24 victory.

Senior Danielle Rinaldi blazed from the outside and sank three of her four 3-pointers and 11 of her game-leading 22 points during that quarter. Rinaldi finished the game with four assists, five steals and six rebounds. Junior Molly Ryan (8 points, including 2 3-pointers) had five steals and provided four assists. Other assists were provided by Lauren Sgro (2 points), Grace Elliott (3 points, 3 rebounds, 3 steals), Jenna Iorio and Lily Maz.

February 8, 2016: The Westfield boys' swimming team earned a spot in the North Jersey Section 2, Public A final with a dominating, 131-39 win over Hunterdon Central in the semifinals held at Westfield "Y" pool. The Blue Devils swept to victory in every event sending a strong message that they are ready claim yet another sectional title.

Ryan Daniel and Ryan Bebel were double winners against the Red Devils. Daniel took first in the 200 freestyle (1:50.46) and the 100 butterfly (55.47). Bebel claimed wins in the 200IM (2:02.99) and the 100 backstroke (57.35). Austin Kreusser took first place in the 50 freestyle, just a touch ahead of teammate Griff Morgan (22.71) to provide the Blue Devils with a 1-2 finish.

February 8, 2016: The Westfield girls' swimming team earned a spot in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group A Final with a convincing, 105-65 victory over Ridge in their semifinal round at the Westfield "Y" pool. Westfield won all but two events in their convincing performance. Gwyn Devin and Emma Conlon were multiple winners for the Blue Devils.

Devin took first place in the

100 butterfly (1:00.51) and again in the 100 breaststroke 1:11.11). Conlon notched wins in the 50 freestyle (26.22) and the 100 freestyle (56.34). Emily McGann took the top spot in the 500 freestyle with a winning time of 5:23.88.

February 10, 2016: Bonus points were some things that the hosting top-seeded, 10th-ranked South Plainfield Tigers refused to yield, while picking up 11 bonus points of their own in a 35-18 victory over the Cranford Cougars.

Cougar Chris Scorese (132-lbs) claimed a 5-0 decision over Joe Sacco. Vince Concina (145-lbs) won 3-0. Andrew Tompkins earned a 3-2 decision over Ryan Marston at 182-lbs. Kevin Doran

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

PLAYING TIGHT DEFENSE...Blue Devil Nick Mele, No. 23, plays tight defense against a Roselle Ram. The Blue Devils defeated the Rams, 71-44, in the first round of the Union County Tournament in Westfield on February 13, 2015.

David B. Corbin (February 2013 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

MAGIC NUMBER 100...Raider heavyweight Anthony Tufaro received his 100th varsity career win on Senior Night during the Piscataway match in Scotch Plains on Valentine's Day, 2013. Pictured with Tufaro is Raider Head Coach TJ Gavor.

A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

set up a pair of single-leg trip takedowns en route to a 6-0 victory over Julio Gonzales at 285-lbs. Anthony Capece had a score to settle with Jake Giordano at 113-lbs and did with a 7-5 victory. Tom DiGiovanni used a pair of single-leg lift, trip takedowns to defeat Ryan Duhamel, 6-0, at 120-lbs.

February 12, 2016: Lauren Barlow scored 23 points to lead the Bishop Ahr girls' basketball team past Westfield, 47-39, at Bishop Ahr in Edison. Amilia Montes led Westfield with 14 points. Shannon Devitt scored 11 points and had 10 rebounds and five blocked shots.

February 13, 2015: Friday the 13th in South Plainfield turned out to be one wrestling team's misfortune and another team's

jubilation after a one point team deduction gave the top-seeded South Plainfield Tigers a 25-24 victory over the second-seeded Cranford Cougars for the Central Jersey, Group 3 title. Cougar Gavin Murray, ranked second in the state at 152-lbs, tied the team score, 22-22, after his 14-5, major decision over C.J. Maszczak at 160-lbs. But in a moment of frustration immediately after the bout ended, Murray hurled his headgear across the floor causing the officials to deduct one team point with two bouts remaining.

February 13, 2015: Cold weather outside did not ice the hands of the Westfield boys basketball team in its 71-44 triumph over the Roselle Rams in the first round of the Union County Tour-

namment in Westfield. Unlike in their ice cold shooting display in a 44-41 win over Rahway on February 7, the 11-8 Blue Devils lit the scoreboard with 11 3-pointers against the Rams.

Point guard Danny Mitchell (4 assists, 2 steals), usually the man who sets up the plays, got his opportunities and bucketed three of those 3-pointers. Sophomore Matt LaCorte led the Blue Devils against the Rams with 12 points, which included a pair of 3-pointers and two free throws for the first eight points of the game. Pat McCormack sank 10 points, including two 3-pointers. Parker Hess netted seven points, including a 3-pointer, and had a pair of steals.

February 12 & 13, 2015: Just two days after crushing West

Windsor Plainsboro South (WWPS), 103-67, in the semifinals, the 15th-ranked SPF boys swim team stunned 11th-ranked Morristown, 105-65, for the North Jersey, Section 2, Public B championship in Perth Amboy. The 14-0, No. 9 Raider girls, who defeated Mendham, 94-76, three days earlier in the semifinals in Scotch Plains, also doused Morristown, 100-70, for their respective title.

Alex Skoog won the 200-free at 1:45.19 and the 100-back at 53.24 against Morristown. For the girls, Sarah Davis broke an SPF record set in 1978 when she finished first in the 200-free in 1:53.26.

February 18, 2015: Westfield senior Lillian Scott scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds to power the Blue Devil girls bas-

ketball team past Cranford, 48-39, in regular season action in Cranford. Shannon Devitt finished with six points, 10 rebounds and two blocks, Jackie Knapp netted eight points and Abby Demers had five points. Cerys MacLelland led Cranford with 16 points. Sarah Ross finished with seven points, while Lindsay Pace and Caroline McCaffrey each had five points.

February 21, 2015: Nine Cougars reached the finals and six emerged with individual titles to earn the Cranford wrestling team its second straight District 11 Championship in Westfield. Raider JT Beirne recorded pins over Kevin Harrison (Shabazz) and Blue Devil Nick Kalimtzis to reach the 138-lb title bout with

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David B. Corbin (February 2013 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

GOOD GAME ACROSS THE BOARD...Raider senior Matt Greenberg, surrounded by Hawks, had an across the board fine showing offensively with eight points and two assists, and especially defensively with three steals and seven rebounds (February 15, 2013).

Courtesy of Bill Howard (February 2013 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

EN ROUTE TO A PIN...Blue Devil Colin Barber, right, drives down Union's Brandon Paris in wrestling on February 13, 2013 at Union. Barber recorded a pin in the 160-pound class at 2:20 and Westfield won all but two matches en route a 61-6 victory and a 19-2 record.

A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

Cougar Dave Busch, whom he pinned in 3:08 to receive the Outstanding Wrestler Award. Raider Brian Lapham won his second title at 145-lbs when he pinned Cougar Brian McGovern in 5:26. In his semifinal bout, Lapham broke the Raiders' all-time record for wins (125) when he pinned Jatece Wright (Linden) in 3:44 with a headlock. Blue Devil Jarek Gozdieski beat Cougar Andrew Tompkins, 7-0, for the 160-lb crown.

Cougar Anthony Capece won the 106-lb title with a 14-3, major decision over Sabri Murray (Elizabeth). Tom DiGiovanni (120-lbs) won his second district crown when he claimed a 9-0, major decision over Raider Jack Cannon. Chris Scorese (126-lbs) claimed his second title when he

tallied a 9-0, major decision over Raider Jashmar Philippe. Vince Concina (132-lbs) topped Devin Jefferson (Rahway) 8-2, for the crown. Senior Gavin Murray (152-lbs) won his third district title when he stretched Majid Abdur-Rahman (Rahway) in 2:53 using a double front grapevine. Niko Cappello (182-lbs) claimed his third district title with a 9-3 decision over Raider Jaylen Bryant.

February 13, 2013: Synchronization was well in tact for the sixth-seeded Plainfield Cardinals boys basketball team, but it was virtually non-existent for the 14th-seeded Cranford Cougars in their 56-33 loss in the second round of the Union County Tournament at Rahway High School. senior forward Stefan Fedorchak led the Cougars with 10 points, Tommy

Trotter put up seven points and Reggie Green sank six points.

February 14, 2013: Senior Night featured the SPF wrestling team hosting the Piscataway Chiefs on Valentine's Day but it was senior Anthony Tufaro, who

stole the hearts of the fans when he attained his 100th career varsity victory in the 72-9 Raider victory. Sophomore Alex Mirabella got things rocking when he pinned Osric Belle in 3:10 with a cradle at 195-lbs. Senior Dein Rice used his athletic ability and his knowledge of mechanical advantage to crank Chief Jay Domino to his back with an arm bar/half nelson in 1:48 at 145-lbs.

February 15, 2013: The No. 1-ranked Westfield swim girls and No. 3-ranked boys easily took top honors in their respective North Jersey, Section 1, Public A Championships on February 15. The Blue Devil girls captured first in nine of the 11 events, including all three relays, in their 116-54 victory over Montclair, and the boys seized first in seven of

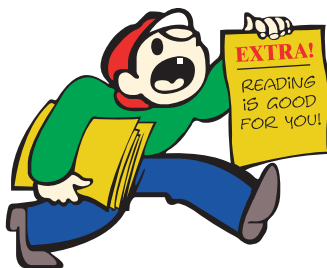
the 11 events, including all three relays, in their 118-52 triumph over Millburn.

Ellie Reinhardt, Sarah Cronin and Caroline Baldwin each placed first in two individual events and swam on two winning relays. Erika Daniel, Baldwin, Gwyn Devin and Courtney Han finished first in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:54.43. Courtney Day, Devin, Cronin and Reinhardt won the 200-free relay in 1:44.41.

Matt Daniel won two individual events and swam on two winning relays for the Blue Devil boys. He won the 50-free in 23.19 and the 100-free in 50.89 and teamed with Max Shin, Luke McGrory and Stephen Husch to win the 200-free relay in 1:33.03. McGrory, Nick Constantine, Daniel and

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

LEAVING THE REST IN HIS WAKE...Raider Ryan Gajdzisz easily won the 500-freestyle, beating his nearest opponent by 24 seconds to touch first at 4:56.45 in the Public B semifinal win over Millburn. (February 14, 2012)

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

PLACING THIRD IN THE 200-IM...Raider freshman Alex Skoog finished third in the 200-individual medley with a time of 2:13.09. The Raiders defeated the Millburn Millers, 92-78 (February 14, 2012).

A Special Look Through the Rearview Mirror at Local Sports

Connor Moore won the 400-free relay in 3:28.96. John Lindros took top honors in the 200-free at 1:51.36, and Tyler Lessner took first in the 100-breaststroke at 1:02.85.

February 14, 2012: Changes were made midway through the meet with the Millburn boys swim team, which enabled the top-seeded SPF Raiders to secure a 92-78 victory in the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Public B championship in Scotch Plains on Valentine's Day. Senior Greg Baliko touched first in the 100-free with a time of 49.05 and the 50-free in 22.41. Henry Chang won the 100-breast in 1:09.34. Ryan Gajdzisz won the next event, the 500-free, beating his nearest opponent by 24 seconds to touch first at

4:56.45.

February 16, 2012: Each step towards advancing to the Union County Tournament championship game has gotten more difficult, but the second-seeded Cranford girls basketball team was up to the challenge and defeated the seventh-seeded Oak Knoll Royals, 42-31, in a quarterfinal game at Roselle Catholic. Junior forward Jess McCoy netted 14 points, 10 rebounds and five steals. Morgan Miller had 15 points and 10 rebounds.

February 17/18 2012: Upsets highlighted the District 11 Wrestling Tournament but no individual upset could overshadow the team performance of the Linden Tigers, who clinched their first ever district title in the final bout at

Westfield. Heavyweight Sumir Burns pinned Blue Devil Kyle Kania in 1:09 in the final bout to give the Tigers 133 team points to pass the Brearley Bears (B) at 131 and Westfield (W) at 129.

Blue Devils Mike Kalimtzis (120-lbs), 2-0, winner over Cougar Gavin Murray and Ellis Opoku (138-lbs) won crowns. Raiders Sean Cannon (152-lbs) beat Cougar Corey Markovitch, 5-1, and Andrew Jacobs (220-lbs), and Cougar Ian Henry (126-lbs) won titles.

February 12, 2011: Two District 11 crowns, one Union County crown and three full years of varsity wrestling already tucked in and with a fourth year quickly approaching tournament time, Westfield senior Christian Barber attained the 100th career

win milestone when he seized an 11-3, majority decision over Alec Holderbaum in a match with Somerville during a quad match in Westfield on February 12, the 202nd birthday of Abraham Lincoln (16th President of the United States), known to be a bit of a wrestler himself.

February 18, 2011: "Man" defense seemed to be the fare for the "Play for Pink" high school girls basketball game between the Raiders and Cranford in Scotch Plains. The 18-4 Lady Cougars had their man defense working a little more in a 46-32 victory over the 14-9 Raiders. Cougars Jess McCoy and Mairead McKeary each netted 14 points. Raider Evie Klotz sank 12 points and Aysia Peterson pulled 15 rebounds.

February 19, 2011: Seven Cranford Cougars stepped onto the mat in the championship round and five stepped off with titles, which gave them just enough points to tie the Brearley Bears (B) for the team championship with 194 points at the District 11 Tournament in Westfield. Cougar Matt DiGiovanni took Dan Ries (B) to the mat to grab a 4-2 victory and the 145-lb title. His win also earned him the Outstanding Wrestler Award.

Blue Devil senior Christian Barber (152-lbs) edged Devin Geoghegan (B), 3-1, and Mike Kalimtzis (103-lbs) won titles. Cougars Joe Giaccio (119-lbs), Kyle Markovitch (130-lbs), Mike Helmstetter (112-lbs) and JP Christiano (160-lbs) won crowns.



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Blue Devils' Late Run Downs North Brunswick B-ballers, 61-46





Blue Devils' Late Run Downs North Brunswick B-ballers, 61-46





Blue Devils' Late Run Downs North Brunswick B-ballers, 61-46





Lady Cougars Fall to Summit Hilltoppers, 50-34, in Basketball





Lady Cougars Fall to Summit Hilltoppers, 50-34, in Basketball





Cougars Felled by Union Farmers in Basketball Clash, 57-33





Cougars Felled by Union Farmers in Basketball Clash, 57-33





Cougars Felled by Union Farmers in Basketball Clash, 57-33

