THE WESTFIELD LEADER

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Rappa Beats Hannen in Cranford DEM Primary

By MARTA ESQUÍROZ
For The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — Newcomer Kathleen Rappa defeated incumbent Thomas H. Hannen, Jr. in Tuesday's Primary Election for the Democratic nomination for township committee. The Cranford Democratic Committee chose Ms. Rappa as its nominee over Mr. Hannen, current commissioner of public works and engineering.

According to unofficial vote tallies, Ms. Rappa obtained 1,166 votes against the 921 votes for Mr. Hannen.

"Overall, I think the number I am more excited about is the people that we got out to vote in a Primary. It's outstanding," Ms. Rappa said.

Being a newcomer to politics, Ms. Rappa said that she "never took anything for granted in this entire race." She pointed out that the key to her campaign was "to know how to use my network...to meet with so many people," and to "stay focused about the future.

"The thing that I am most proud of about our campaign is that we were very positive and focused on what was our vision for Cranford. But we also kept in mind what we wanted to achieve if I were to be elected," Ms. Rappa stated.

Asked about her success in the Primary, Ms. Rappa said she believes that it was due to her sharing "a lot of concerns and goals" with the people of Cranford.

She added that the issues she discussed with many residents were related to "street safety and more accessibility in the township," such as speed-control measures and biking, the environment and "the development projects."

Facing the new stage of the campaign, the Democratic candidate expressed her excitement as she thanked the voters who "expressed their support" for her.

"Thank you to every person who opened the door when I knocked and for sharing their opinions and vision for the town," Ms. Rappa remarked.

On the other side of the election, Commissioner Hannen extended his "congratulations to Ms. Rappa," and announced his retirement from politics at the end of his term this year. He described this election as "an uphill battle that was difficult to run off the line.

"I did the best I could, and I think we raised some issues," Mr. Hannen said, adding that he felt he "ran a campaign to be proud of.

"I have had the honor of serving the citizens of Cranford for eight and a half incredible years. For that, I am extremely grateful," said Mr. Hannen.

The commissioner underscored that "the citizens have spoken and made their choice," and that he will "continue to look out for their interest" to keep the "balance of the year the way I started."

"For the citizens that had spoken out, hopefully, they still do it and make their voices and opinions heard because local government is a pure form of government," Mr. Hannen said.

With her Primary victory, Ms. Rappa will now face the Republican candidate, Regina Gina Black, in the November General Election.

In other Primary news, Governor Phil Murphy will face Republican Jack Ciattarelli in the November election. According to unofficial results from the *Associated Press*, Mr. Ciattarelli (153,076) bested Phil Rizzo (81,559), Hirsh Singh (66,643) and Brian Levine (9,901) to obtain the Republican nomination.

Ruth E. Maloney for *The Westfield Leader*

PRIDE...Over 200 people attend the raising of the Pride Flag at town hall and march to the rainbow crosswalk at Elm and Quimby Streets last week in celebration of Pride Month.

Paul Lachenauer for *The Westfield Leader*

POPPING UP IN WESTFIELD...The Westfield Neighborhood Council featured a pop-up shop this past Sunday, where visitors could find a variety of products and refreshments available to purchase while meeting their neighbors.

Westfield Plan Bd. Green Lights Circulation/Land Use Element

By JESSE WINTER
For The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The future development of Westfield is fast becoming a reality after the planning board passed a Circulation and Land Use Element, amending the town's master plan. The measure passed during the board's Monday meeting.

The finalized plan, according to a presentation given by consultants hired by the town, H2M Architects and Engineers, and the firm WSP, aims to "enable a process where land use and transportation professionals are encouraged to work collaboratively.

"The result is to project a community form that will allow not just the governing (body) but property owners to make investments that reflect the desire of the town to create and enhance the build environment that meets residents' social and economic needs," it was stated in the presentation.

The plan, which provides a framework for future development and improvements, but does not legally mandate specific development, touched upon major issues such as transportation within town.

One area identified as needing attention within the finalized Circulation and Land Use Plan were the intersections of Central Avenue (CR 613) and South Avenue (CR 610), and Central Avenue and North Avenue (NJ 28). The plan recommends safety improvements be made to these intersections.

Additionally, traffic-related improvements such as new traffic signals were recommended for Prospect and East Broad Streets; Chestnut Street and East Broad Street. A Euclid Avenue extension also was called for in the plan – along with the plan calling for further examination of the Westfield circle in regards to traffic improvements.

The consultants for the town in regards to circulation, transportation and pedestrian movements throughout Westfield advocated a holistic approach to improving the town, which includes making the town conducive to both walking and biking. The plan suggests prioritizing a sidewalk plan, implementing town-wide crossing improvements and recommended what is called bicycle network plans.

According to the presentation circulation recommendations hinged on focusing on "maximizing people's ability to take advantage of different transportation modes." These modes include Bikeshares and E-scooters, along with jitney and car-share services.

In more planning news, the board adopted an amendment to its 2018 Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. The amendment deals directly with the Handler building on North Avenue and the Williams Nursery site, located on Springfield Avenue. Both sites are within affordable-housing-zoned districts included in the town's Fair Share Housing Plan. The town's Fair Share Housing Plan aims to meet the town's court-mandated obligation to provide affordable-housing opportunities for eli-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Westfield Rec. Announces Successful Pool Opening

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL
For the Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD – Opening day at Westfield's Memorial Pool was reported as being successful at the start of the Westfield Recreation Commission meeting held Monday evening.

Westfield Recreation Director Don Bogardus and his staff members gave a brief overview on the successful pool weekend. It was stated that the weekend of June 5 and 6 had many members in attendance, including many new families and many new staff as well. The heat wave during those two days contributed to the high volume of pool members, it was revealed.

According to Recreation Events Specialist Lauren Harmer, all new employees received five-day, in-service training before starting their employment at the pool.

Mr. Bogardus stated that the pool is currently still looking to hire lifeguards, maintenance and landscape employees, and that these jobs are posted on the recreation website.

Also mentioned at the top of the meeting was the discussion and approval of a new kiosk at Brightwood Park.

It was said that the Friends of Brightwood Park would fund the new kiosk while the Department of Public Works would maintain the kiosk and the recreation department would help govern the materials that are placed there.

Members of the recreation commission unanimously approved the new signage for the park, noting its aesthetic and useful addition to the park.

In other business, members discussed and approved a trail maintenance program for Tamaques Park and approved inviting members of the Scouts, the Cycling Club and the Cross-Country team as they are all frequent users of the trails.

Separately, Ms. Harmer reported that Senior Transportation was opening back up this week and that the program will utilize a new transit van.

It also was reported that senior chair yoga and senior fitness classes are open.

Recreation Program Director Linda Johnson reported summer camp registrations were at 212 participants, with a total camp capacity of 348 campers.

Ms. Johnson also reported that this summer there are sports camps available including volleyball, flag football and Ultimate Frisbee Camp. She also stated that there would be a magic camp as well as a Lego camp and a Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) camp featuring robots and videography.

Additionally, Ms. Johnson noted that there are ongoing Yoga and Pilates classes taking place outdoors for adults and that an outdoor Kick Boxing class is in the works as well.

The next Westfield Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 12, at 7:30 p.m. The meetings remain virtual at this time and directions for logging onto the meetings are on the recreation website. There will be no meeting in August.

Photo courtesy of Catherine Cafiero

WHS PROM 2021...Students from Westfield High School get ready for their prom on June 5 at the Bachman residence.

Health Board Continues Vaccination Campaign

By JESSE WINTER
For The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Westfield and its board of health are continuing the battle against Covid-19 with a concerted effort to continue vaccinating residents and employees in town even with infection rates dropping throughout New Jersey.

According to Megan Avallone, director of the Westfield Regional Health Department and board of health secretary, 58 percent of the town's population is fully vaccinated, with 79 percent of those 18 and older at full vaccinated status — and the senior population, 65 and older, at 88 percent fully vaccinated, with two shots when necessary.

"We are slowly but surely getting back to normal, at least for the summer," remarked Ms. Avallone, speaking at the Westfield Board of Health's monthly meeting on Monday. "We did see a significant drop-off last spring, and last summer.

"Covid has some real seasonality to it, just like flu does. We certainly expect to see less activity in the summer months," said Ms. Avallone.

During her comments, Ms. Avallone discussed the board of health's efforts to continue aggressively targeting vulnerable individuals, like Westfield's senior population, with at-home vaccinations and pop-up clinics throughout the town. The board of health has been active in long-term care facilities, offering vaccinations to both senior populations and staff members.

But the board's vaccination strategy goes beyond any one demographic.

"To give you some idea, the general overview is we are continuing with our plan to really meet people where they are and vaccinate individuals to make it as easy as possible for them," said Ms. Avallone. "I'm so proud of the work we're doing on this front."

Part of the strategy, according to Ms. Avallone, is to seek out individuals who are open to being vaccinated, but might not be very motivated to receive their shots.

Ms. Avallone also confirmed that vaccination supply is no longer an issue, with the board able to meet the town's vaccination demands. Currently, the board of health is licensed to only vaccinate individuals 18 years of age or older with the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

The board's next targeted location,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Paul Lachenauer for *The Westfield Leader*

CENTENNIAL VILLAGE VELOCITY 5K...Residents participate in Cranford's Centennial Village Velocity 5K race on June 6 to help support the efforts for improvement to the Centennial Village District.

PAGE INDEX

Regional	2-3	Education	7
Editorial	4-5, 13	Sports	9-12
Police	3	Home Sales	2
Community	6-7, 13	Classifieds	12
		A&E	14

SP Ends Agreement With Downtown Redevelopers

By FRED T. ROSSI
For The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — The township council on Monday evening voted to sever the township's exclusive relationship with its designated downtown redevelopers but still plans to introduce a redevelopment plan next month.

After a 45-minute executive session following its regular business meeting, the governing body reconvened publicly and then voted, without comment, to approve a resolution authorizing termination of the township's contract with Bedminster-based Advance Realty Investors and its partner, PS&S Engineering, that gave those firms exclusivity on negotiations over a redevelopment plan.

Neither Mayor Joshua Losardo nor any of the three council members present provided any explanation for the move. Township redevelopment coordinator Thomas Strowe told *The Westfield Leader* that the decision would be discussed in more detail at the township redevelopment committee's monthly meeting on Wednesday night, after this week's edition of *The Leader* had gone to press. A press release issued by the municipal government late Tuesday said the two sides "were not able to come to agreement on key issues concerning design."

Ending the exclusivity agreement will allow redevelopment officials to "focus on adopting a downtown redevelopment plan that is in the best interests of our community and then engage with the development community to find the best partner(s) to implement a plan," the release stated. The plan will need to include certain non-negotiable criteria such as ample open space and public plazas, adequate public parking and architectural and building design standards appropriate for a suburban downtown area, the township's statement said.

In September 2019, the council had executed an agreement conditionally naming Advance Realty and PS&S as the redevelopers of four public properties in the central business district: the township-owned properties where the municipal building, the firehouse and the library are located as well as the parking lots adjacent to the municipal building and the library, the large lot behind the stores that front Park Avenue and the parking lot behind the row of businesses on East Second Street adjacent to the CVS pharmacy.

Redevelopment of these properties marks the first of several phases that will eventually encompass parts of East Second Street, Terrill Road and Park Avenue to the north and south of the central business district. The first phase was expected to result in about 48,000 square feet of new retail and office space, more than 1,400 new parking spots and 177 new housing units, 35 of which were to be set aside as affordable-housing units.

Ruth E. Maloney for *The Westfield Leader*

CELEBRATING EAGLE SCOUTS...A Boy Scout of America Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony was held this past Sunday at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield to celebrate Aidan Borges, Matt Lampert and George Kircher, pictured, from Troop 72 for reaching the highest level of Scouting.

Cranford Planning Bd. OKs Improvements Ordinance

By MARTA ESQUÍROZ
For The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The planning board met the evening of June 2 to review an ordinance that authorizes the expenditure of $5,525,000 to make various public improvements and acquire new, additional and replacement equipment and machinery.

Board Planner Nicholas Dickerson, who performed the review explained that there are 10 different items in this ordinance "largely related to roadway improvements," such as "major improvements in South Avenue" and road reconstruction.

Mr. Dickerson added that the "capital expenditures" also will be used to replace and update the equipment for the police department and fire department, along with several improvements in the firehouse and a new pickup truck for the Department of Public Works.

"I would offer that they all are consistent with the Master Plan," Mr. Dickerson told the board, which voted in favor of passing the ordinance.

Later in the meeting and before the board moved into a closed session for a discussion of the Affordable Housing Plan, Township Attorney Ryan J. Cooper decided to make some comments about the status of these projects to avoid "confusion."

"On April 12, we had our day in court. We had a hearing on the housing element fair share plan that this board adopted and (was) passed by the township committee in March. The court determined that there's a couple of items that we need to complete among the projects," Mr. Cooper stated.

The township attorney said there are three large projects "to satisfy our affordable-housing obligations," which include 750 Walnut Avenue, South Avenue and Chestnut, and North Avenue.

"We have one year by court (order) to adopt a redevelopment plan in each of these three areas," in order to maintain the court approved fair share agreement Mr. Cooper remarked.

Furthermore, Mr. Cooper said township officials are "making progress on these projects" and added that these project have been the subject of conversation at the township committee level during the last several months.

The next planning board meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Twp. Hopes Weekly Pickup of Recyclables Will Improve Service

By FRED T. ROSSI
For The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS – The township will move to weekly recycling pick-ups later this month in a bid to improve collection efforts that have been delayed at times since a new company started providing the service in March.

At the township council's business meeting on Monday, Mayor Joshua Losardo said that "the entire council shares in the frustration of this town that recycling hasn't been as seamless as it ought to be." Last week, the normal two-day pick-up — Monday for the south side of town and Tuesday for the north side — stretched into Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively, leading a number of residents to complain on social media and to township officials. A similar situation occurred in the spring, soon after the council had approved a two-year recycling contract with Recycle Track System LLC (RTS).

"We have an abundance of recycling," Mayor Losardo said, pointing to the quarantine-related practice among many residents of shopping from home, which has resulted in an excessive amount of cardboard boxes being put out for pickup. He said RTS claimed the volume of boxes put out for pickup every two weeks is "more than they're able to collect in one day." However, he added that in recent telephone conversations with RTS officials, he and other township leaders made it clear that "the current level of service must improve."

Moving to a weekly pickup schedule — south-side pickups every Monday and north-side pickups every Tuesday, both starting the week of June 14 — is expected to ease the volume of what RTS collects. The mayor also noted that the doubling of the pickup schedule is being done at no extra charge to the township.

Mr. Losardo asked residents to be patient "while we get this right." Speaking on behalf of her council colleagues, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Stamler said that "we all live here, too, and we share your frustrations."

In other business, Councilwoman Ellen Zimmerman read a proclamation designating June as Pride Month. Councilman Matthew Adams thanked everyone who organized the Memorial Day celebration on May 31 and expressed his gratitude that "members of the Greatest Generation" were present at the Memorial Day ceremonies as honorary grand marshals. The council also passed a resolution formally authorizing a fireworks display at Scotch Hills Country Club on Saturday, July 3, with a rain date of Monday, July 5.

The township council's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15.

Land Use

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gible families and individuals.

Westfield Town Planner Donald Sammet explained the amendment's purpose.

"In other words, we're really shifting the affordable-housing obligations from one site to another," said Mr. Sammet. "It's important that I emphasize the town's affordable-housing obligations do not increase with this amendment; it's just shifting where the affordable-housing units are going to be built, from point A., the Handler Building site, to point B., the Williams Nursery site.

"This amendment allows for the adoption of a redevelopment plan for the Handler Building site, so commercial development could occur there, in lieu of 100-percent residential development as is allowed for in our existing zoning," remarked Mr. Sammet.

With the Handler Building no longer planned to accommodate residential units, including affordable-housing units agreed upon in the town's 2018 agreement with Fair Share Housing — a non-profit that advocates for each municipality in the state to provide "its fair share of affordable housing" — the agreed-upon six affordable units are being transferred to the Williams Nursery site.

Consequently, the Handler Building site is now eligible for commercial development and is not slated to host affordable-housing units under the town's current zoning laws.

The amendment increases the density restrictions at the Williams Nursery site, which calls for any future residential development on the site to account for 32 units of affordable housing, up from 26 units mandated in the old agreement before the Handler Building's obligations were transferred.

No members of the public commented prior to the amendments yes-vote.

The planning board also reviewed and found the town's decision to opt out of recreational cannabis to be in line with Westfield's master plan. The review and finding came after an ordinance banning recreational cannabis facilities for the foreseeable future was passed on introduction by the Westfield Town Council on May 11, and sent to be reviewed by the planning board.

Mr. Sammet echoed the Cannabis Commission's findings that the governing body of the town opt out at this time, and not allow cannabis-related businesses in Westfield, due to an incomplete picture of what recreational cannabis would look like in town.

"The state is only beginning to develop regulations on licensing, local approval processes and health and safety issues," remarked Mr. Sammet.

Mr. Sammet, as town planner, gave his account to the planning board that the ordinance's prohibition of recreational cannabis is not inconsistent with the planning board, citing the master plan's guidance of "maintaining and enhancing the viability" of businesses throughout the town.

Without knowing the full picture, Mr. Sammet argued, "it's difficult to know if the recreational cannabis would be in-line with meeting the town's retail and service needs."

The ordinance, reviewed and approved by the planning board, will be back to the council for adoption at its Tuesday, June 15 meeting. Moreover, opting out now does not preclude the possibility of the town opting in to recreational cannabis at a future date, the planner noted during the meeting.

Zoning Bd. to Resume Assisted-Living Hearing

By FRED T. ROSSI
For The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS – The zoning board of adjustment will resume its hearing next month on an application to build an assisted-living facility on Raritan Road.

Capital Seniors Housing Development LLC is seeking to build a three-story, 86-unit, assisted-living facility at 1814, 1820 and 1830 Raritan Road, which is situated across from its intersection with Black Birch Road and east of the county vocational-technical school campus. The hearing was put off until the board's Thursday, July 8 meeting to give board professionals more time to review Capital Seniors' application. It is likely that the hearing will stretch into the fall months since a Black Birch Road resident has hired an attorney to challenge the application.

At its meeting last Thursday, the zoning board also agreed to carry until next month's meeting an application seeking variances for a swimming pool and pavilion. Adam and Megan Rauch wish to install a 14-foot by 36-foot, in-ground swimming pool in the rear yard of their home at 1949 Grenville Road, along with what was described as a "small four-post structure" that Mr. Rauch said also would include an outdoor kitchen with a barbecue, sink and refrigerator. Some lighting also was planned around the pool area.

Board members were dissatisfied with the plans submitted, saying they were too vague and lacked such details as whether the barbecue would be gas- or propane-powered, what the lighting plans were and where the pool equipment would be situated. "There are too many moving parts," Board Vice-Chairman Craig Peskin said of the non-swimming-pool aspect of the plans. He said the board had no firm idea of how the barbecue would be powered and what the lighting would entail. Without a final plan, it would be "extremely difficult for us to approve" the application, he said.

Several variances were being requested, including rear- and side-yard setbacks, building coverage and lot coverage. Board Chairman Ken Anderson noted that the Rauchs were seeking to expand lot coverage from 31.8 percent to nearly 46 percent; 40 percent is the maximum allowed. The 46-percent figure represented "a pretty considerable area being covered," Mr. Anderson said.

When board member Talib Morgan raised a concern about excess water drainage onto neighboring properties, Mr. Rauch said that issue was a "top priority" for him. "I don't want to create water problems for any of my neighbors," he stated.

After Mr. Anderson told the Rauchs their options were either to move forward with a vote on their application — one that, if denied, would require them to submit a new application "substantially different" from the first one if they chose to pursue the swimming-pool option — or return to the board with a more detailed and final plan. The Rauchs chose the latter option, meaning they will likely return at the board's July 8 meeting.

The board approved an application by Adam Bendik to install an eight-foot-high fence along 185 feet of his rear property at 30 Allenby Lane. Mr. Bendik explained that his property abuts the Coles Elementary School property and that many students play in an area adjacent to his property, which includes a swimming pool. He said the high fence would afford his family privacy and also further protect the pool from anyone seeking to enter the property from the school grounds.

Vaccination

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

noted Ms. Avallone, will include immunization of day-care employees in town.

On the financial front, the town and the board of health announced that Ms. Avallone will receive $100,000 worth of state aid in the form of a grant. "The funding will be used to offer Covid-19 immunizations and costs associated with a vaccination program," explained the director, responding to an inquiry from *The Westfield Leader*.

The board of health is also receiving an extension, for year two, of a vulnerable population grant, with the services of an additional nurse being covered by the funding, noted Ms. Avallone.

The board of health also took time during the meeting to comment on Governor Phil Murphy's recent Covid-19 announcement, which gives local school administrators the discretion to exempt mask wearing for staff and students due to excessive heat.

The issue, raised by Westfield resident Christine Binder, was addressed by the board of health. Dr. Lawrence Budnick emphasized that school policy is left to the board of education, not the board of health.

Ms. Avallone offered further clarification, explaining that Governor Murphy's actions, which were in the form of an executive order, function essentially as law. Neither the board of health nor the board of education has the power to affect the decision of the governor.

Ms. Avallone explained the difference between general guidance from the state level and mandated executive orders.

"An executive order, once signed by the governor, is essentially legislation. This is a state law," noted Ms. Avallone. "The board of education, the school district, can't change the law, and certainly the local health department can't change the state law."

The health board secretary responded to the substance of the executive order by saying that "excessive heat" was not clearly defined. Ms. Avallone said the Westfield school district is examining its plans and is "looking to adjust its plans accordingly," in response to Governor Murphy's executive order that relaxes mask mandates in the state's schools.

Area Food Drive Planned for June 11

AREA -- A food drive is planned to benefit Rahway Food for Friends food pantry on Friday, June 11. Donations of all non-perishable food items, along with adult and childrens diapers, formula and socks are sought. Diabetic friendly foods are also in need.

Multiple, convenient drop-off locations will be located in Westfield, Mountainside, Garwood, Clark and Fanwood.

Drop points from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. will be:

Westfield - 1 Manchester Drive.

Mountainside - Liquid Church - 1180 Spruce Drive, Mountainside.

Garwood/Cranford - Crossroads - 78 North Avenue, Garwood.

Drop points from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be:

Clark - Bubbakoo's Burrito - 301 Central Avenue.

Scotch Plains / Fanwood - The Goddard School - 324 South Avenue, Fanwood.

Rahway Food for Friends' mission is to feed hungry people via food distributions programs on a monthly and emergency basis. To operate a weekly soup kitchen, to feed the hungry, homeless, and needy families and to provide educational information on nutrition and social services, public assistance, etc. through literature and referrals.

Monetary donations may be made at rahwayfoodforfriends.org.

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27 Homes Sold May 30 – Jun 6, 2021 in Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield

TOWN	ADDRESS	STYLE	RMS	BRS	BTH	GAR	SALE PRICE
Cranford	5 Carpenter Pl	Colonial	7	3	1.2	0	$515,000
Cranford	20 Macarthur Ave	CapeCod	8	3	2.0	0	$555,000
Cranford	597 Brookside Pl	Colonial	9	3	1.1	1	$625,000
Fanwood	174 Russell Rd	CapeCod	6	3	2.0	1	$525,000
Mountainside	1088 Saddlebrook Rd	SplitLev	8	3	2.1	2	$710,000
Mountainside	9 Mountainview Dr	Colonial	10	3	2.1	2	$930,000
Scotch Plains	1915 Church Ave	CapeCod	7	4	1.0	1	$386,000
Scotch Plains	320 Jackson Ave	Ranch	8	4	2.0	0	$532,000
Scotch Plains	1826 Chapel Rd	Ranch	9	3	1.1	1	$625,000
Scotch Plains	1446 Lamberts Mill Rd	RanchExp	8	4	2.0	2	$756,000
Scotch Plains	2296 Morse Ave	Colonial	12	5	3.0	2	$887,000
Scotch Plains	425 Montague Ave	Colonial	10	4	2.2	2	$870,000
Scotch Plains	575 Westfield Rd	Colonial	15	5	4.1	2	$1,155,000
Westfield	744 Central Ave	HalfDupl	6	3	1.1	1	$347,000
Westfield	626 Roosevelt St	CapeCod	9	4	2.0	0	$690,000
Westfield	224 Seneca Pl	Colonial	11	4	2.2	1	$775,224
Westfield	415 Highland Ave	Colonial	9	5	2.1	2	$720,500
Westfield	1049 Coolidge St	CapeCod	9	4	2.0	1	$775,000
Westfield	676 Boulevard	Colonial	9	4	2.1	2	$805,000
Westfield	43 Carol Rd	Bi-Level	9	4	3.0	1	$901,000
Westfield	630 Maple St	Colonial	8	5	2.1	1	$975,000
Westfield	205 Benson Pl	Colonial	9	4	3.2	2	$975,000
Westfield	261 Clark St	TwnEndUn	9	4	4.1	1	$960,000
Westfield	616 Maye St	Colonial	11	6	4.2	1	$1,310,000
Westfield	215 Brightwood Ave	Contemp	9	6	4.1	1	$1,530,000
Westfield	853 Ramapo Way	Colonial	9	5	4.1	2	$1,550,000
Westfield	950 Minisink Way	Colonial	14	5	6.1	3	$1,787,500

*Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield, NJ data according to the Garden State MLS, as of 5/30/21 – 6/6/21. 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.**

Nominating Petitions for BOE Election Due by July 26

WESTFIELD -- The deadline for Westfield residents interested in considering a term on the Board of Education is Monday, July 26 by 4 p.m. Nominating petitions should be filed with the Office of the Union County Clerk at 2 Broad Street, Room 113, Elizabeth, NJ 07201. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the County Clerk's Office at (908) 527-4996 for more information or email lbobish@ucnj.org.

Information on the board election process, including the New Jersey School Boards Association's Candidate Kit, also is posted at www.westfieldnjk12.org under "Board Election" on the Board tab.

The Westfield Board of Education will have three open seats in November. The three board members whose terms expire on December 31, 2021 are Robert Garrison, Gretchan Ohlig, and Tara Oporto.

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Sen. Kean Measure Would Allow Nonprofits Bingo, Raffle Flexibility

TRENTON -- A constitutional amendment sponsored by Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean that would allow more organizations to use the proceeds from conducting games of chance to support their organizations cleared the Senate. (Pixabay)

"Many non-profits and charities have seen their primary revenue sources severely reduced because of the pandemic," said Kean (R-21). "This resolution gives organizations that host bingo or raffles additional financial flexibility in how the proceeds may be used. This commonsense measure will take the same benefits given to veterans and senior citizens groups, and afford them to other nonprofit organizations."

Several types of organizations are allowed to conduct games of chance, such as bingo or raffles. This includes veterans, charitable, educational, religious, and senior citizen organizations as well as volunteer fire companies, and first aid squads.

Under current law, the proceeds from the games may be used for educational, charitable, or religious uses. Only veterans and senior citizen groups may actually use the proceeds to support their organizations.

Kean's resolution, SCR-91, seeks to amend the New Jersey Constitution and allow all groups to use the proceeds to support their organizations.

"During these difficult times, we need to do all we can to ensure that vital nonprofits do not close their doors," Kean added. "This legislation will provide additional means for nonprofit organizations to raise the funds they need so they can continue to be an essential part of our community."

Free Mobile Document Shredding Event Planned

COUNTY – The Union County Board of County Commissioners reminds residents that the next mobile paper shredding event of 2021 will be held in Cranford on Saturday, June 12 for free, secure shredding of personal and confidential documents.

"Union County's free mobile document shredding service helps residents fight identity theft by providing a convenient way to shred confidential documents," said Board of Commissioners Chairman Al Mirabella "It also promotes our County recycling efforts and ties in with other green initiatives in Union County."

At Union County's paper shredding events, documents are put into 96-gallon containers provided by the shredding company, lifted into the truck and shredded on site. The shredded documents are then taken to a licensed recycling facility.

The June 12 shredding event will take place at Union County College, located at 1033 Springfield Avenue in Cranford. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. rain or shine. The event will close prior to 1 p.m. if the trucks reach capacity.

For everyone's safety, residents must wear face coverings, keep their windows closed and remain in their vehicles at all times. Materials should be placed in trunk, cargo area or truck bed, easily accessible to staff, for safe no-contact removal from vehicle.

All Union County residents are eligible to use the free paper-shredding service. In an effort to accommodate everyone, there is a limit of four, 10-pound bags or boxes per vehicle. Preferably, documents should be brought in paper bags.

Documents should be removed from any bindings. Plastic or metal clips and other non-paper items should also be removed.

Participants are reminded that pre-shredded paper will not be accepted. Wet or damp paper is also not accepted.

Union County's free shedding events are intended for personal, sensitive documents only. Residents should recycle magazines, junk mail and other waste paper with their municipal recycling program.

For more information on recycling programs hosted by Union County, visit ucnj.org/recycle or call the Union County Recycling Hotline at (908) 654-9889.

For the latest news and updates on all municipal and countywide recycling programs in Union County, download the free Recycle Coach app. More information is available at ucnj.org/recycling/recycle-coach-app.

Quick links to all Union County environmental programs and activities are available at ucnj.org/green-connection.

Photo courtesy of Catherine Cafiero

FRIENDS FOREVER...Former Washington School students celebrate before the Westfield High School Senior Prom at the Bachman residence on June 5.

County Senior Art Exhibit Now Accepting Entries

COUNTY – The Union County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to invite residents of Union County, age 60 or older, to enter the Union County 2021 Senior Citizens Virtual Art Exhibit. Amateurs, non-professionals and working professional artists alike may enter one original artwork completed within the past three years.

The deadline to enter is Monday, August 23. Artists must enter online at ucnj.org/senior-art and submit a digital image of their artwork by the deadline. The virtual exhibit opens on Thursday, September 30.

"The Commissioner Board is very proud to provide this opportunity for senior artists to connect with the Union County community and share their creativity and vision of the world," said Board of Commissioners Chairman Alexander Mirabella.

The media categories for entries are: acrylic painting, craft, digital art, mixed media, oil painting, pastel, printmaking, photography, sculpture, watercolor painting, and works on paper (drawing).

The Senior Art Exhibit is an annual program presented and coordinated by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs. All artworks entered will be judged by an independent panel of professional artists. Separate awards are given to professionals and non-professionals in each media category.

First-place entries will go on to the state level, in the New Jersey Senior Citizens Art Show, also being held online this fall.

For complete information and instructions for submitting work, and to register, please visit the Union County website at ucnj.org/senior-art.

To receive instructions by email or U.S. Postal Service, call (908) 558-2550, email msturm@ucnj.org, or write to:

Martha Sturm, Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202

Seniors who do not have Internet access can have a relative or friend with an email address assist and register them.

Staff at the Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs is also available to provide assistance to seniors without email access. For assistance, call (908) 527-2550 or visit ucnj.org/parks-recreation/cultural-heritage-affairs.

The Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs is a division of the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation. For information on all Parks and Recreation programs and events, visit ucnj.org/parks-recreation or call (908) 527-4900.

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CRANFORD

Saturday, April 17, a Quine Street business reported that one or more unknown individuals had stolen $600 worth of wooden pallets from the business parking lot. Following an investigation, police identified the individuals as Donald Trunslow, Jr., 52, of Lakewood and Anthony Dixon, Jr., 37, of Manchester. Both men were charged with theft and given Superior Court appearance dates.

Monday, April 19, Alex Diaz, 19, of New Brunswick was arrested and charged with eluding. Police attempted to stop a black Honda on Springfield Avenue when the vehicle was seen being driven without any lights on. When a police officer activated his lights and siren, the vehicle accelerated away from him at a high rate of speed. Following an investigation, police identified the driver, Diaz, and charged him with eluding. Diaz was remanded to the Union County jail pending a detention hearing.

Thursday, April 22, Terrence Hayes, 57, of Newark was arrested and charged with shoplifting. Police units responded to a South Avenue West business for a reported shoplifting. Following an investigation, police arrested Hayes for shoplifting items from the business. He was processed and provided with a municipal court appearance date. Hayes also had an active arrest warrant out of Roselle.

Friday, May 21, Brianne Robinson, 41, of Winfield Park was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled dangerous substance and possession of paraphernalia. A 2011 Hyundai was stopped on North Avenue East for an improper turn. Following an investigation, police arrested the driver, Robinson, for crack cocaine found inside the motor vehicle. Robinson was processed and provided with a Superior Court appearance date.

Sunday, June 6, Michael Blaze, 20, of Port Monmouth was arrested on charges of possession of prescription legend drugs and possession of paraphernalia. A 2018 Chevy was stopped on Centennial Avenue for a seatbelt violation. Following an investigation, police arrested the driver, Blaze, for possession of Prozac found in his possession. Blaze was processed and provided with a Superior Court appearance date. In addition, he was issued motor vehicle summonses for a seatbelt violation and possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle.

SCOTCH PLAINS

Monday, May 24, a construction company working in the area of Route 22 reported that one of its vehicles had been damaged. The matter is under investigation.

Wednesday, May 26, Bryant L. Jacobs, 32, of Plainfield was arrested on an active warrant out of Mountainside during a motor vehicle stop. Jacobs was transported to police headquarters and processed.

Wednesday, May 26, a resident of Farley Avenue reported that someone fraudulently applied for unemployment benefits in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Thursday, May 27, a resident of Forepaugh Avenue reported that someone fraudulently applied for unemployment benefits in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Sunday, May 30, a resident of the 400 block of Farley Avenue reported that their motor vehicle was burglarized during the overnight hours. The matter is under investigation.

Monday, May 31, Bradley W. Dessin, 22, of Union was arrested on an active warrant out of Union during a motor vehicle accident investigation. Dessin was transported to police headquarters and processed.

Monday, May 31, Darnell A. Hunter-Perello, 20, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle pursuit. Police located the 2010 Hyundai Sonata Hunter-Perello was operating, which was reported stolen out of Linden. The vehicle was pursued into Plainfield, at which time the pursuit was terminated. A short time later, it was involved in a motor vehicle accident, and Hunter-Perello was arrested by members of the Plainfield Police Department. He was charged with second degree eluding, third degree receiving stolen property, fourth degree resisting arrest and fourth degree criminal mischief. Hunter-Perello was processed and transported to the Union County jail.

Tuesday, June 1, a resident of Shirewood Drive reported that a bank account was fraudulently opened in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Wednesday, June 2, a resident of North Avenue reported that someone had fraudulently filed for unemployment benefits in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Thursday, June 3, the management of a Route 22 gas station reported an armed robbery. At approximately 8 p.m., a male dressed in all black and wearing an orange ski mask entered the store armed with a handgun and demanded money. The suspect fled the scene on foot with cash as well as a cash register drawer. The Union County Sheriff's K-9 unit responded and was able to track the suspect for several blocks but lost the scent. Patrol units checked the surrounding area but were not able to locate the suspect. No injuries were reported. This incident is under active investigation.

Friday, June 4, a resident of Union Avenue reported that someone had fraudulently applied for unemployment benefits in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Saturday, June 5, a resident of Lincoln Avenue reported fraudulent activity on a bank account. The matter is under investigation.

Monday, June 7, Kevin Kennedy, 31, of Scotch Plains was arrested during a motor vehicle accident investigation and charged with driving under the influence. Kennedy was transported to police headquarters and processed.

***

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

Fanwood Govt., Facilities Reopen to the Public

FANWOOD -- Mayor Colleen Mahr announces the reopening of Fanwood's public facilities closed more than 14 months ago due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I'm pleased we are able to welcome our citizens back to Borough Hall, our recreation buildings and library," she remarked. "It's timely since the state of New Jersey's health emergency has been declared over."

Since last spring, most government business has been conducted by phone, email and ZOOM. The recreation buildings at Forest Road Park and LaGrande Park were closed to avoid the spread of Covid. Fanwood Memorial Library loaned books at curbside and later offered limited browsing by appointment only.

Beginning in the fall of 2020, Borough Hall underwent an interior redesign that better uses space, creates offices for staff and reconfigures the spaces where the public may conduct business. A new service window has been established in the entry hall as a first stop for people with business or inquiries. There is also a window to pay tax and sewer bills. The construction office has its own wing. Computer/IT infrastructure has been updated as has a portion of the adjoining Police Department.

"The building was long in need of an upgrade to accommodate the traffic that's increased over the decades," said Mayor Mahr. "While we're glad it's been reopened, we still urge citizens to check our website first for the information they are seeking, fanwoodnj.org. Masks will still be required to enter the building and our staff will also mask when interacting with the public."

Recreation buildings may again be booked for events. Complete rules and availability are available at https://fanwoodrecreation.org/rental-policy. Those renting the Forest Road Park building will be surrounded by new landscaping and paving, along with upgraded walkways, bike racks, basketball court and new pickleball court.

The library and its many programs for people of all ages are back to pre-pandemic schedules. Visitors may once again browse the stacks. There will be a 30-minute limit on computer time. Library hours will be:

Mondays from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Tuesdays from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

"For the time being, Borough Council meetings will continue to be held via Zoom and Facebook streaming," said Mayor Mahr. "We are hoping to reopen the meetings for limited public attendance over the summer."

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Lyndsay V. Ruotolo Named Dir. of Div. of Criminal Justice

TRENTON—Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal announced Thursday that he has appointed Acting Union County Prosecutor Lyndsay V. Ruotolo as the next Director of the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ), effective Monday, July 12. The announcement comes in light of Governor Phil Murphy's notice of intent to nominate current DCJ Director Veronica Allende to a Superior Court judgeship.

Ms. Ruotolo has served as Acting Union County Prosecutor since 2019, when she was appointed to the position by Attorney General Grewal. During her tenure, the Union County Prosecutor's Office launched an innovative new program – known as the "Intelligence-Drive Prosecution Unit" – that uses the latest technology to identify violent criminal organizations, including street gangs and hate groups. In addition, under Acting Prosecutor Ruotolo's leadership, Union County launched a first-in-the-state county-wide program to use police body-worn camera footage as a training tool to improve officer performance.

Before she was appointed to her current position, Ms. Ruotolo served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey and as an Assistant Prosecutor in the Union County Prosecutor's Office, where she prosecuted violent crimes, gang violence, carjackings, and sex crimes.

"Lyndsay is the perfect person to direct our Division of Criminal Justice," said Attorney General Grewal. "She's a tough, experienced prosecutor who isn't afraid to hold wrongdoers accountable for their misconduct. But she also recognizes that, as prosecutors, our ultimate responsibility is not to obtain the greatest number of convictions or seek the longest possible sentences, but to ensure that justice is done in each and every case. I know that she will bring the same energy and sense of mission to the Division that she brought to the Union County Prosecutor's Office."

"I am so grateful to the General, and honored to have this incredible opportunity to serve the residents of our state in this role," said Ms. Ruotolo. "I look forward to working not only with the dedicated public servants within the Division of Criminal Justice, but also my colleagues in the County Prosecutor's Offices and law enforcement agencies across the state, to further General Grewal's vision for a safe and just New Jersey."

Since becoming DCJ Director in April 2018, Director Allende has overseen a number of significant prosecutions, including Operation Open House, Operation Zombie, and Operation West End. During her tenure, DCJ played a leading role in a number of Attorney General Grewal's priorities, including the creation of a statewide officer resiliency program and the launch of a clergy abuse task force.

Director Allende will continue in her current position until July 12, 2021 or her confirmation by the state senate, whichever comes first. In the interim, Director Allende will recuse from all criminal matters handled by DCJ and will delegate decision-making responsibility on such matters to Deputy Director Annmarie Taggart.

Students Can Plant a Pizza Garden With 4-H Program

COUNTY – This summer, the Union County 4-H program is offering students the opportunity to grow their very own "Pizza Garden" and improve their gardening abilities, too.

"By combining hands-on learning with remote instruction, this gardening project provides Union County students with an enriching experience all summer long, said Board of Commissioners Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "We are very proud to support the 4-H program here in our community."

The Union County 4-H program is part of a national initiative aimed at providing youth with opportunities to learn, lead, and share their knowledge. Union County 4-H is run through the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County, with support from the Commissioner Board.

Each participant in the Pizza Garden project will receive a starter kit consisting of a container stocked with oregano and basil seedlings to plant at home, along with a marigold seedling for decoration.

The program also includes a series of free, optional biweekly virtual meetings. Participants will learn how to care for their seedlings, hone their hone their gardening skills, improve their presentation skills, and complete community service.

The series of meetings will begin on June 18 and conclude in August with a harvest contest among the participants.

Students in grades kindergaretn to three will meet for one hour on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Students in grades four and up will meet for one hour on the first Monday and third Friday of each month, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

A limited number of pizza garden starter kits are available free of charge. To request a pizza garden, contact Union County 4-H Agent James Nichnadowicz at jnichnadowicz@ucnj.org.

Union County students who are interested in joining 4-H can choose from a wide variety of clubs, from archery, Lego robotics, and anime to cooking, coding, and gardening. Students can also explore a topic of their own choosing.

During the school year, 4-H clubs meet approximately once each month from October to June. To find out more, visit the 4-H at Home program, nj4h.rutgers.edu/4h-from-home.

The Union County 4-H offices are located at the Cooperative Extension of Union County, in the Colleen Frasier Building at the Union County Complex, at 300 North Avenue East in Westfield. For more information on how to join Union County 4-H, contact Union County 4-H Agent James Nichnadowicz at (908) 654-9854 or jnichnadowicz@ucnj.org.

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VIRTUAL SCOPING MEETING
June 23 & 24
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm | 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in cooperation with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate potential benefits and impacts of PANYNJ's proposal to construct a Replacement Bus Terminal and associated infrastructure. PANYNJ has identified the Locally Preferred Alternative (i.e., its proposal), which includes:
- State-of-the-art replacement terminal and infrastructure;
- New integrated bus storage/staging & intercity terminal;
- New ramp configuration / structure;
- Private development to assist in funding the Project; and
- New community green space.

For more information on the Proposed Project, please visit the Project website at: PABTreplacement.com.
To participate in the virtual public scoping meeting, please register online at: .PABTreplacement.com or call (929) 502-7304
This meeting will be recorded for record-keeping purposes.
FTA AND PANYNJ ARE HOSTING A PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING WITH A 45-DAY COMMENT PERIOD.
FTA will accept comments on the NEPA Scoping Information Packet for 45 days from the date of the publication of the Notice of Intent. Comments can be provided **during the virtual public scoping meeting**, via email at PABTreplacementNEPA@panynj.gov, voicemail at **(929) 502-7304**, submitted on the Project website: www.PABTreplacement.com, or submitted by letter addressed to: **The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 25th Floor, New York, NY 10007; Attn: Elizabeth Rogak, Esq.**
The public may send comments through the mail; however, due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, we recommend using the other communication methods to provide any scoping comments.
What if I need assistance?
- All meeting materials will be made accessible to persons with disabilities. Language translation services for Spanish & American Sign Language will be provided.
- For additional language or special needs assistance, please contact us by June 17, 2021, via phone: **(929) 502-7304** or email: PABTreplacementNEPA@panynj.gov.

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PILOTs: The Good, The Bad and What We Should Use Them For

So the Town of Westfield has negotiated a PILOT agreement with Westfield Crossing for the development on South Avenue and Windsor.

PILOT equals Payments In Lieu Of Taxes. The long and short of it is, a town declares an area in need of redevelopment, then it can enter into a negotiation with the developer where the latter does not pay property taxes on the improvements they are about to build; the town pockets 95 percent of that negotiated figure, the county gets 5 percent, and the schools get nothing.

One must understand that this PILOT payment is solely on the improvements, not on the land itself. So we took a look at the five properties The Crossing is going to build on. According to the tax records, those properties currently pay approximately $87,000 a year in property taxes. Those taxes are divided up among the schools, the town, the county, the library and the county open space fund. So first, we have to strip away the current improvement values on the properties, so that only the land value is taxed, which leaves us with about $60,000. So right out of the gate, you lose $27,000.

Crossings developer, Elite Properties, themselves said they anticipate 24 new students. That would mean the Westfield public schools would need about $295,000, (the cost of 24 students at $13,803 to educate each student in Westfield, less the school's share of the land tax of $36,000). However, the data the town has gathered shows that of the 120 apartment units built in the past few years has generated five school-age children. So we can extrapolate that data to say that 193 units will likely generate 10. So perhaps realistically, the Westfield public schools will need to come up with about $102,000. Where does the money come from? So glad you asked.

Tax dollars are raised from the total of ratable properties, meaning that the total taxably assessed value of the town is divided up as needed. So if there is an increase in the total ratables for the town, the tax rate can actually go down; and if there are fewer ratables, the tax rate goes up. The board of education, the county and the town present their budgets (with a 2-percent cap allowance), then the pot of money is divided up accordingly. Here's the catch — the town is responsible for collecting and paying the money, so the board of education and the county get their part of the pot regardless of whether the town collects it or not. If a property owner is successful in his or her tax appeal, the town refunds the money but schools and counties remain whole.

In the Westfield Crossing 30-year agreement, the PILOTs begin at 10 percent, moving up incrementally to 13 percent. So we'll use year five's payment for this illustration. The total PILOT of $527,297, less the land credit of $60,082 (which remains unchanged over the 30 years), gives the town $443,215. This is, of course, assuming that the apartments are fully occupied. We have no reason to believe they won't be right now, as we hear 333 Central has a waiting list. If it had been taxed at the regular rate, the town would have gotten $149,238 and the schools would have gotten $554,780. So a win for the town. Which is a good thing, given that the increased population and traffic is certainly going to mean roads will need repaving.

PILOTs are not necessarily a bad thing. If you look at the Jersey Gardens Mall as an example — they took a landfill and built a mall. No housing. The City of Elizabeth got their PILOT payments for land that was basically useless and no kids were added to the schools. And not New Jersey, but PILOTs, were the driving force behind bringing developers to Times Square many years ago.

Does an area in need of redevelopment and a PILOT agreement give the town more control over the project? Absolutely. In this deal, Westfield will get a new public park, $380,000 to be earmarked for the town's Park Improvement Fund, and over the 30 years the town will see roughly $20 million.

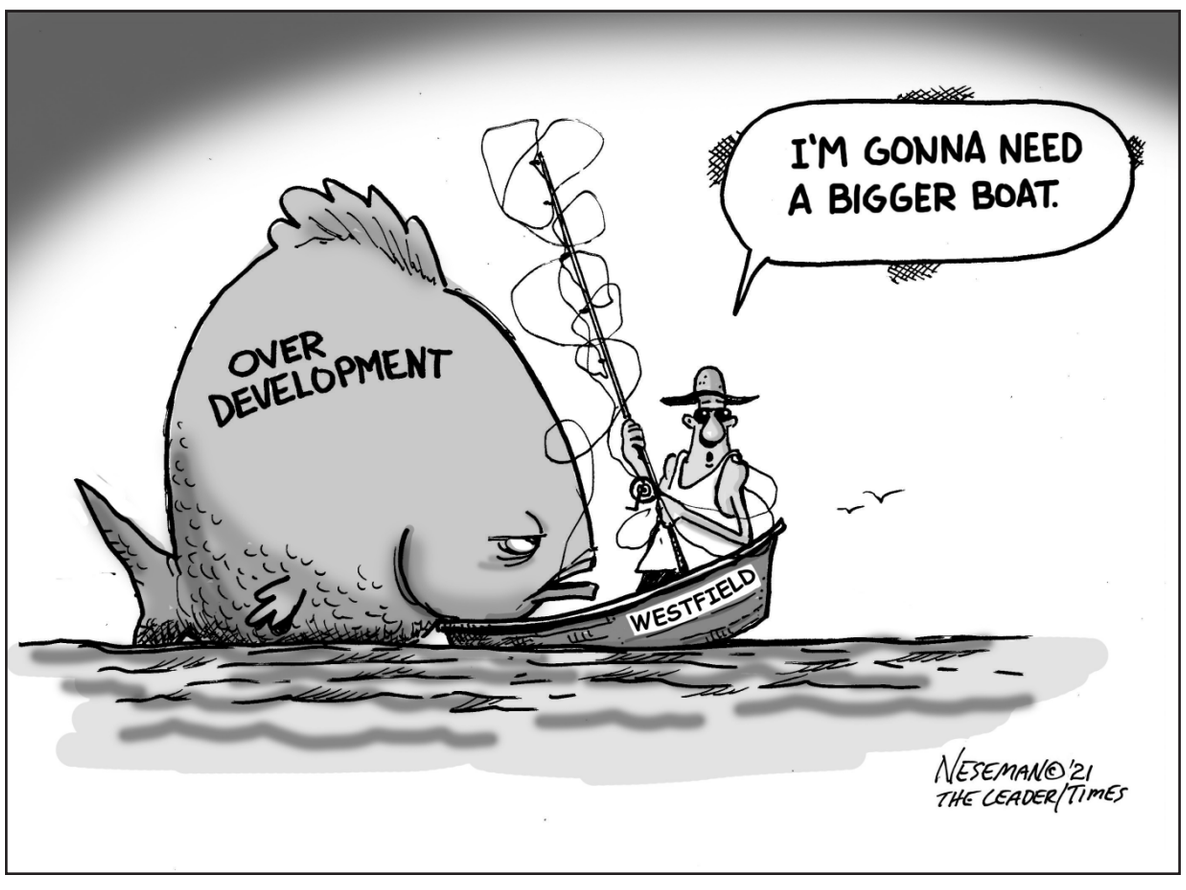
The town has not yet offered specifics on how the money will be spent, but we think that PILOT revenue should ***never*** be used to offset an operating budget, as it disappears in 30 years, at which time the property enters the regular tax rolls, increasing the ratable pot and instantaneously disappearing from the town coffers.

Plans like these require long-term strategic thinking and planning — and the town must be looked at as a whole, not in terms of instant gratification. Which is why we can't help but wonder what is coming next. Streetworks is about to come forward with a proposal for the Lord & Taylor lots and the North and South Avenue train station parking lots. Will there be PILOTs there, too? Currently, all the income generated from parking goes to the town, and it's town property, so no taxes go to the school. But Lord & Taylor currently pays more than $500,000 a year in property taxes. Without the building improvements, that would be cut to approximately $130,000 — this represents a significant loss to the ratable pot.

The occupants of several North Avenue properties on the 500 block, including Wheat's and Sir Speedy, were told that they need to vacate as the buildings are being torn down — properties currently slated for affordable-housing inclusion. What will the owners propose? Do they want a PILOT, too?

Whatever is coming, the board of education deserves a seat at the negotiating table. Even if the board of education got the same 5 percent of the PILOT the county does, the town would still be able to get more money than it would have from property taxes. That money would enable the board to not have to bond for school additions to house things like full-day kindergarten or new fields.

Alternatively, the town should commit to using the PILOT revenues for additional capital projects in town to benefit the entire community — like a community center, a senior center, or a new town hall that includes all of that.



Educator's Corner: 'Tis the (Assessment) Season

By JENNIFER GLACKIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

The last few weeks of school are filled with anticipation, joy, nerves, and assessments. There are AP exams, finals, placement tests in every subject…the list goes on. (As does the grading…but I digress.)

Some students seem to breeze through tests, while others really struggle with test-taking. With everything that has happened in the past year, tension feels like it is bubbling right under the surface, which for testing and assessment season could mean added anxiety for some kids. Here are some of my teacher tips for taking a test.

Give Perspective - When we prepared to take a test of any kind, I would remind my students that a test was simply a chance to "show what you know." Whether it was a spelling quiz, math unit test, or one on one reading assessment, this phrase helped put the exam into perspective for my students. A test is just one moment in a larger educational journey.

Tangible Take-Away – A beloved photo, a lucky keychain, or an encouraging note can help ease the jitters. (This can also be helpful to ease the transition back to school in the fall.)

Eat – This is definitely not a new idea. It's been around for a while, but it's true. On the other hand, if your child is the nervous type that doesn't eat, send something with them in their backpack. That way they can snack when they feel ready.

Study in a Variety of Ways – Some tests cannot be prepared for, but for those that can be, try studying in different ways. Flashcards, making up songs or rhymes, or highlighting notes are all good ways, but the more ways our brains can process the information, the better chance we have to remember it. Try recording your voice or a video of the information. Get as multisensory as you can.

Build Confidence - Confidence is important to tackling any task. Separate the known skills and facts, from the ones that need more attention. Then learners can pick the best time to concentrate on the hardest concepts.

Prepare for the Inevitable – It's a rare instance where we know absolutely everything on a test, but it's important that those questions we don't know don't shake our confidence. Be frank about the fact that your child might not know everything on the test. There are two choices: mark it and come back later or take your best guess and move on. This works for multiple choice, short answer, or essay.

Plan Something Fun – My daughter loves nothing more than getting ice cream. She would eat it every day if we let her. If there is a big test on the horizon, plan a surprise to help your child relax after the exam is over.

Remind students that whatever happens, one test – no matter what test it is – will not define them.

Plants to Attract Hummingbirds

By SHANNON WALSH
The Westfield Leader and The Times

Who doesn't want to see hummingbirds buzzing about their yards in summer? It's amazing that something so tiny can fly thousands of miles each year, and some of us are lucky enough to see them on their spectacular journey. But is it all luck? No, there are some plants and gardening practices that make your yard a sure bet for hummingbird sightings. And if their cuteness isn't enough, these little birds also eat mosquitoes and insects that are harmful to plants.

First, they do like feeders and will often come to them. These feeders need regular cleaning and replenishing, however, and sometimes ants, wasps and other insects can become a nuisance. Worse, these insects can contaminate the food for the birds. Don't use red dye as it's harmful to all creatures, including humans. If hummingbirds aren't coming to your feeders, then plant some flowers they love to attract them. Although hummingbirds are drawn to reds, they have superior vision and will move toward richly colored-flowers of any hue, because deep color often signals good nectar.

Annual salvias in sunny locations are a sure thing, in my experience. The flowers have the tubular shape hummingbirds need for their beaks and long tongues, and Salvias are prolific bloomers until frost, especially if you deadhead them regularly (remove spent blooms). Some annual salvias can get quite large, such as the variety "Black and Bloom," (three to four feet) but others, such as the bedding varieties, stay fairly small (twelve inches high). Perennial salvias should also work, but they may not bloom as often. Deadheading them will also extend their bloom time.

Honeysuckle vines (Lonicera) are another hummingbird favorite. Like all vines, honeysuckle will need some time to establish, but once it does, it can take off. Make sure it has a sunny location and something to grow up (such as a trellis) or along (such as a fence). Two more sun-loving perennials that they love are Bee Balm (Monarda) and Cardinal Flower (Lobelia cardinalis). There are many varieties of Bee Balm, but the tallest ones reach about three to four feet and need good circulation because they're prone to powdery mildew. Cardinal flower is also a tall perennial, and may need to be staked during storms or high winds.

If you have mostly shade you can still attract hummingbirds. I noticed that the shady plants in the garden center seemed to be the most visited by hummingbirds, in fact. Plants such as Wishbone Flowers (Torenia fournieri) and many varieties of Fuschia are some of their favorites. Wishbone Flowers are trailing plants, and you can often find them sold as hanging baskets in garden centers. Fuschias can be upright and potted, or in hanging baskets.

One practice that seems to work is placing your hummingbird-attracting plants in the same place each year. Hummingbirds tend to remember where they fed regularly the previous year, so placing the same plants in the same spots increases your odds of hummingbird visits. Perhaps surprisingly given their small size, hummingbirds are quite brave so you can place plants closer to where you sit or watch them. I've seen them get within two feet of my dogs, who aren't particularly interested in them. And once you have hummingbird regulars, pay attention when you turn on your sprinklers. They love to buzz into the spray during the heat of summer. They're delightful to watch so consider planting some hummingbird favorites, and you'll enjoy one of the small wonders of summer.

Grateful for Silence

By PATRICIA STECKLER, Ph.D.
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

Summer camp in Maine in the 1960s: Sleeping outdoors under starlit skies, we campers looked up for shooting stars. We laid in total silence to prevent our youthful chatter from irritating the stars into stillness. I remember that resounding quiet and the celestial sky. Our silence did re*sound; a* sensation rarely experienced now. It imbued us with a glorious peace. How I miss that enveloping tranquility!

Curious about the impact that our current day noisy world has on us, I read a quirky, miniature book, *Silence* by John Biguenet. I learned that "at around 50 decibels (dB), people begin to get annoyed. At around 55 dB, people become extremely annoyed." (A 10-decibel increase represents a doubling of the sound level.) A study reported in the *European Heart Journal* shows that participants' heart rates increased after exposure to just 35 dB. Noise pollution has become a global problem.

Did you know that the EPA tracks and measures decibel levels in cities, suburbs, and urban areas? It turns out that the typical noise level for towns likes ours is 50 dB—the annoyance level. Cities are over 60 dB, and in urban areas, the decibel levels hover around 40.

Our leafy towns may be comparatively quiet; nonetheless, we suffer from the stress of noise pollution. And we underrecognize it unless it's from the blaring of outside leaf blowers and weed whackers (94 to 96 dB) or kids' pounding on drums or blasting their ear-shattering music systems in the house (100-150 dB). But even if those loud noises are not continuous, silence rarely reigns.

No wonder that on top of the stress of the pandemic with most family members at home most of the time, we feel extra annoyed and stressed from noise. What can we do?

Here are five suggestions tailored to our lives that we can all try:

1) Venture out into nature for quiet time. Trees, wide-open spaces, and fresh air calm and comfort us. 2) Slow your body by limiting to-do lists and saying "no" to optional tasks, 3) Turn off background noise,

4) Shush your devices, and set a device-free time zone for your family.

5) Meditate or pray or do both.

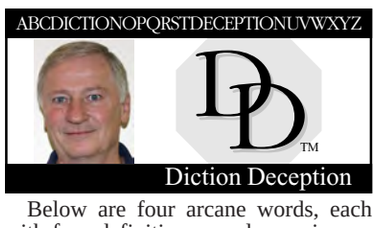
Noise-induced stress is not a new problem. The framers of the constitution inside Independence Hall in Philadelphia struggled to concentrate while distracted by outside carriage and people noises. And *this* noisy problem occurred over two centuries ago and one hundred years before the invention of cars. Workers piled dirt in front of Independence Hall to mute the horse-drawn carriage racket.

But piles of dirt won't help us today. And, short of paying thousands of dollars per night for in-vogue silent retreats, we can introduce no-cost periods of silence into our daily lives. Go to Mindowaskin, Brookside, or Tamaques Parks for a stroll. Hike through the Watchung Reservation. Sit in Summit's Reeves Reed Arboretum. When you go: pause, breathe deeply, and quiet your mind by inviting your senses to come alive.

Share your quiet stories to *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* by writing "Gratitude" in the subject line and emailing: editor@goleader.com or pattisteckler@gmail.com

Gratefully yours,
Patti

ABCDICTIONOPQRSTDECEPTIONUVWXYZ



Diction Deception

Below are four arcane words, each with four definitions – only one is correct. The others are made up. Are you sharp enough to discern this deception of diction?

If you can guess one correctly – good guess. If you get two – well-read individual. If you get three – word expert. If you get all four – You must have a lot of free time!

All words and correct definitions come from the board game Diction Deception.

Answers to last week's arcane words.

1. Cachinnate – To laugh loudly or too much
2. Scorper – A jeweler's gouging tool used for engraving metal
3. Vogie – Cheerful; merry
4. Vitric – Having the nature of glass

SCORIA

1. An outer covering of a plant
2. A film or slippery substance on the surface of wet rocks, as moss
3. The slag or refuse left after the metal has been smelted from the ore
4. A mild form of smallpox

OLECRANON

1. The upper part of the hind leg of a horse
2. The part of the ulna projecting beyond the elbow joint
3. The gland in a frog that enables it to croak
4. The governor of a province in the Turkish empire

CIERGE

1. A large pole used to motivate a raft down a stream
2. The siphon-like part which allows a mosquito to draw blood from its prey
3. A wax candle
4. Pain in the bladder

BOREGAT

1. The rock trout of California
2. A land crab
3. A war horse
4. Harsh in taste, acrid

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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More Letters to the Editor on Page 13

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

State LD-21
Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R)
425 North Ave. E.
Westfield, N.J. 07090
(908) 232-3673
Asm. Jon Bramnick (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

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

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]

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

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

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

Letters to the Editor

Cranford Deputy Mayor Was Wrong to Label Residents Sexist

As everyone is aware, there is an upcoming primary in Cranford between two Democratic candidates and that primary has become very contentious. We are just three of the many Craford residents who voiced their concerns on social media about one of these candidates.

On May 29th, at 1:50 a.m., Cranford's Deputy Mayor, Brian Andrews, answered our concerns with a post on his official Facebook page. In summary, he said citizens like us who question this candidate are sexist and went as far as to insert screenshots of our comments, including our names, in the post. We feel that his derogatory and disparaging remarks about us and our comments were intended to slander us with the goal of intimidating those Cranford residents who don't support his choice for candidate.

The post remained on his official Facebook page until the next day. He then redacted our names and posted an update saying that he wished he'd handled the situation differently but still accused us of being sexist for questioning his candidate of choice. He has since removed our comments entirely from his Facebook post, but the damage has been done.

We reached out to the Township Committee requesting that action be taken against Deputy Mayor Brian Andrews. After 48 hours and a follow-up email, the Township Administrator responded "Thank you for your email. As you've stated that you have filed an ethics complaint, we will await the outcome of the process and respond, if at all, at that time".

Did you just hit the brakes too? "..if at all, at that time?"

The bottom line here is that a sitting Deputy Mayor used his official Facebook page to falsely label constituents as sexist in an effort to stop residents from questioning his candidate and used his position to intimidate voters.

The whole issue could have been resolved if Deputy Mayor Andrews had issued an apology to the residents he singled out. The mayor and the township committee should have acknowledged our complaint and reprimanded Deputy Mayor Andrews for his social media postings and voter intimidation. That they have not, speaks volumes.

Cranford residents use your voice to say "Enough!". Pressure the mayor and the township committee to hold elected officials accountable for their actions. Tell them you are dissatisfied with their inaction and to stop protecting their own.

Cranford residents use your vote to say "Enough!". Come election day, choose the candidate who truly has Cranford's best interest at heart. Let's win Cranford for ALL it's residents.

Dawn Beresford,
Chrissy Bradley and
Cindy Capodice
Cranford

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Ruotolo Leaves Behind a Legacy of Lawsuits at Taxpayers Expense

I heard some good news, that Union County Prosecutor Lyndsay Ruotolo is leaving Union County government. For over a year I had been railing about her deleterious impact in the prosecutor's department. It started right from when she was appointed prosecutor, that her biography was shallow and her leadership was lacking. This was reinforced when back in February 6, 2020, many employees of the prosecutor's department personally showed up at the freeholder meeting to complain about her leadership, playing favoritism over employees with experience, giving out special unwarranted raises to her friends, noting morale was low. And then within one year of her one-and-a-half year tenure the lawsuits started coming in 2020, three of them naming her and union county as defendants, with the freeholders allocating tens of thousands of dollars of our taxpayer monies toward them. *The Westfield Leader* had a front-page expose on the lawsuits in their December 17, 2020 edition. A hat tip to you, *Leader*!

For over a year I pleaded with the freeholders, now called commissioners, at their meetings to help remove prosecutor Lyndsay Ruotolo and replace her with someone that has a depth of experience, even suggesting to keep her in the department until she obtains experience. They instead supported her, probably because the monies they were allocating toward the lawsuits was not their money.

Finally, I publicly noted in a commissioner meeting, that this ongoing fiasco would be a perfect excuse how to get out of jury duty when called. One month later she is being removed.

The irony is that the press release notes she is being promoted by Attorney General Grewel to NJ state Division Director of Criminal Justice. The saying rings true that you rise to your level of incompetence. The article sugarcoats but says nothing of her costly failed leadership at the county.

So how did she get all these appointments with big salaries and perks when she is not even 40 years old? It's the old NJ patronage pit syndrome. She is the daughter of ex-Union County Prosecutor Andrew Ruotolo (d.1995). And, in addition her mother had been a Union County freeholder. So, sadly, it's all in the name which by NJ and Union County government standards, takes priority over integrity, leadership, experience. But at least she is gone from further damage to our county, but leaving behind her legacy of the myriad lawsuits that we taxpayers still have to fund.

Bruce Paterson
Garwood

Extending Gov. Murphy's Emergency Powers Continues Authoritarian State

I feel as if I'm living in an episode of the "Twilight Zone," where the protagonist wakes up one day in a Constitutional Republic and the next day in an Authoritarian State. That transition happened here in New Jersey 15 months ago on 9 March 2020, when Governor Murphy assumed "Emergency Powers," effectively minimizing the NJ Constitution's Provision for Co-Equal branches of Government. Instead, we, the citizens of New Jersey have witnessed the Declarations of a single man, a Sovereign by Self Appointment- Governor Murphy- issue "Executive Orders" to control and micro manage the lives of some 8.8 Million people.

That Governor Murphy has been allowed to intentionally neglect, disparage and disregard the NJ Constitution and the United States Constitution repeatedly over the course of these past 15 months is a violation of the social contract between those elected to Govern (Governor and NJ State Assembly) and the Governed (the citizens of NJ). This cannot stand. There is a deficit of Political Leadership and Courage in Trenton, NJ (and local communities across this State), and culpable party is the Democratic Party of New Jersey, the Party of Majority in the NJ Assembly and Courts.

Senator Sweeney and House Leader Coughlin joined forces over the past 15 months to minimize any word of criticism, dissent, and more importantly, action that would have curbed the excessive and Unconstitutional powers of the Governor's Office. New Jersey Republican lawmakers, including those of Legislative District 21, Assemblyman Bramnick, Assemblywoman Munoz and Senator Kean, had repeatedly offered or supported legislation that limited Murphy's intrusions into the daily lives of citizens. Each and every time, such efforts were doomed by the Democratic Majority in the Trenton Statehouse.

The consequences of the Governor's excesses have been profound: over 1/3 of New Jersey Small Businesses permanently closed; gone forever. $4 BILLION borrowed without the consent of New Jersey Taxpayers (taxes shall skyrocket once again). Unemployment at least 7.5%, the 7th highest in the Country, according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics. Behavioral mandates as to what you do with your own body or person or that of your children.

It is abundantly clear that we, the citizens of New Jersey, do not have capable or honest Leadership in the Democratic Party in Trenton. A recent deceptive Democratic effort at redress took place in the past week - A5820. There was no committee hearing or discussion. No public comment. The bill was introduced, voted on and passed on the same day and extended Governor Murphy's powers through January 2022.

In preferencing Authoritarianism over Constitutional separation of powers, New Jersey has devolved into a Democratic Party junta with a coterie of "yes" men and women in Trenton. New Jersey Patriots of years past would call it for what it is: Tyrannical Government. Or shall the Governor pat you on the head and offer you a Donut, a Beer and a Parks Pass?

Gregory Carey
Cranford

Policy on Political Endorsements

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

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

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

The Student View

A collaboration with the Westfield High School Journalism Program

School Shootings: Students Living in Constant Fear

By VIVIAN JECKELL
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

From March to June of the 2019-2020 school year, Westfield High School (WHS) students joined millions across the nation in learning virtually from their homes. While hybrid learning is presently implemented statewide, Governor Murphy has announced that this model will no longer be an option for the coming school year. While I am very excited to have a "normal" senior year, there is one reservation that is always in the back of my mind.

I am now fully vaccinated and my fears of getting the coronavirus have been soothed. However, other fears that come with being physically in school have returned.

While fears of failing a math test or making mistakes during a presentation have been ubiquitous among students for hundreds of years, modern students have to consider something no other generation has had to: school shootings.

Every student currently in the K to 12 education system across the country was born into a post-Columbine world. Current high school students were the same age as the victims were when the Sandy Hook shooter killed 20 elementary schoolers. We walked out of school after Parkland, mourned the fallen, and were promised things would change. We were told that this would be the last time we would have to cry for victims the same age as we were, knowing very little stopped us from being in their situation.

These promises fell through. The Parkland shooting happened on Valentine's Day in 2018; for the rest of that year, there was more than one school shooting a week in the United States. The New England Journal of Medicine found that gun violence was the second leading cause of death of young Americans that year.

The year 2020 found students online, and that March was the first March since 2002 with no school shootings. I was free to be concerned about my math tests and presentations without that constant underlying thought that I could be struck down by a bullet at any moment.

Gun violence in the United States is a real threat. However, the coronavirus became a bigger one, and discussions of how to resolve firearm issues were pushed off.

As the pandemic has eased in recent months, the amount of gun violence has increased greatly. NPR found that there were an unprecedented 194 mass shootings: San Jose, Boulder, Atlanta and many more, all in only the first 18 weeks of the year.

I get the news notification, feel my heart sink, and prepare for nothing to change yet again. It seems that even the empty "thoughts and prayers" are no longer extended to victims; people just move on.

In just the past month, New Jersey has had four mass shootings. Is it the topic of conversation at your dinner table? Does it constantly weigh on your mind like it will on the victims' families for the rest of their lives? I beg you to consider how these victims are any different from you.

That is how your children feel. It is inevitable that this violence will return to our schools for the next school year; your children will bring their rekindled fear along with their new notebooks and freshly sharpened pencils. We know nothing makes us different from the victims we see on television. We know it could be us.

Everyone has been begging for a return to normalcy after the tumultuous time that the pandemic has forced upon us. For students, however, that return to normalcy entails worries adults might not even consider.

ARE YOU DIVORCING? DIVORCED?
HAS THE CORONAVIRUS CAUSED A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN YOUR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES?

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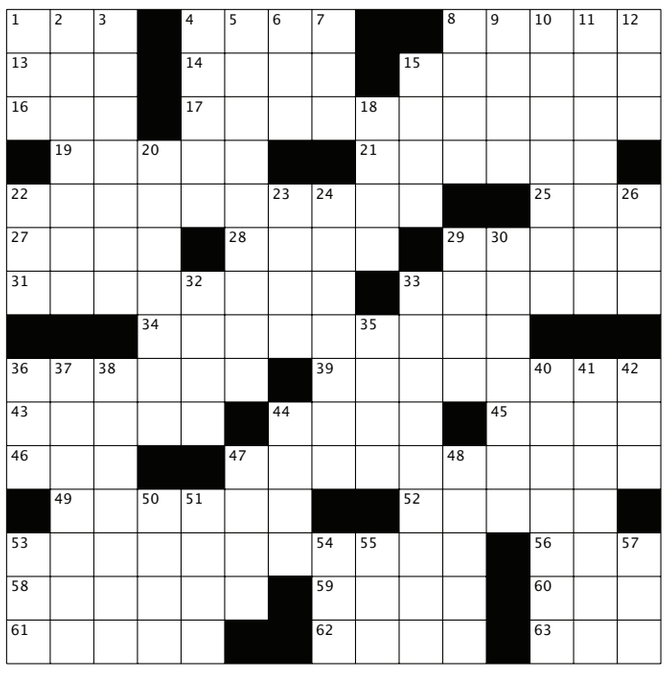
The Leader/Times Monthly Crossword Puzzle
By Ruth B. Margolin

This Puzzle is Nice to Mice



© 6/3/2021

ACROSS
1. "Pulp Fiction" actress Thurman
4. Bay Area campus (Abbr.)
8. Euphoria
13. Start of the Bay Area city in 4-Across
14. Actor LaBeouf, or a branch of Islam
15. Basic, one-sided camping shelter
16. Time zone inits. for NJ in January
17. What would you call a nomadic caveman?
19. Cable channel for Capitol Hill
21. Possible answer to "Where's that last piece of pie?"
22. What would you call a bit of glam for a battle-ready knight?
25. Tampa Bay footballer nickname
27. Region
28. Spiders spin them
29. "And she'll have fun, fun, fun till her daddy takes the ___ away": Beach Boys
31. Popular feature of the East Village
33. Yacht owner
34. What would you call an infamously bad driver?
36. Scrub again
39. Aircraft carrier in the Hudson River
43. "If I don't create, I don't ___": Ingmar Bergman
44. Blowgun ammunition
45. Way to order coffee at Penn Station
46. Co-___ (condo relatives)
47. What would you call a rescue hotline for someone trapped underground?
49. Word following Little, Major, or Ivy
52. ___ Park, Edison's hometown
53. What would you call a woman dealing with kids who never stop fighting?
56. Capote's nickname
58. Primps, as a bird fixing feathers
59. Emotional state
60. "___ the ramparts we watched..."
61. Middle Eastern decorative dye
62. Hauls, as a trailer
63. Initials on a designer handbag

DOWN
1. "What's the ___?" (pessimist's cry)
2. Eyelash enhancer
3. More fidgety
4. Election night graphic, for short
5. Kristin who originated the role of Glinda in "Wicked"
6. One-named Australian pop singer
7. Ceiling fixture with blades
8. Ernie's "Sesame Street" roommate
9. Tardy
10. Suppress
11. Level of importance
12. Do, re, mi, fa, ___
15. Jacob's wife before Rachel
18. Talk trash about
20. Some flat panel TVs
22. Shakespearean fairy queen
23. Late-night host Jay
24. Europe's ___ Peninsula
26. Naval off.
29. Sightseeing trip
30. Foundation of the decimal number system
32. Price-tag info
33. Where 61-, 62-, and 63-Across are located
35. Regarding, in a memo
36. ___ Speed Wagon (old vehicle)
37. Look around
38. Nativity-scene characters
40. Noodle or beach ball
41. Gives the cold shoulder to
42. Bambi's mom, for one
44. God, to De Gaulle
47. Big coffee cups
48. Requires
50. Yemen's main port
51. "Baywatch" actress ___ Lee Nolin
53. Speedometer abbr.
54. Paramedic initials
55. Pal of Pooh and Piglet
57. Internet address: abbr.

Correction

Our monthly crossword puzzle is being re-printed as some of the clues were inadvertently cut off in last week's edition. The answers will be published next week.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE
JUNE 29, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Township of Scotch Plains has scheduled a **Township Council Meeting** for **Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.**

The purpose of the Meeting is the Public Hearing and Final Adoptions of Bond Ordinance 2021-12: $300,000 bonding for the Southside Synthetic Turf Field; and any other formal action that may be required at the time. Formal action will be taken at the meeting.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at the Township Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. The Township of Scotch Plains does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Those individuals requiring auxiliary aids and services must notify the ADA Coordinator of the Township of Scotch Plains as soon as possible in advance of the meeting.

BOZENA LACINA,
Municipal Clerk
1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $24.99

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

PLEASE BE ADVISED that at the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting held on June 3, 2021, the Board memorialized the following Resolutions:

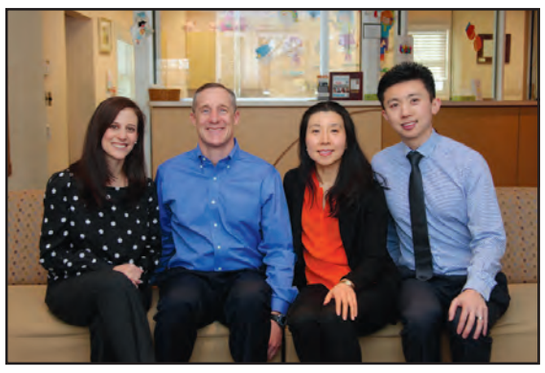
Plainfield Gas Realty, LLC, 2246 North Avenue, Block 8201, Lot 1, R-3 Zone, was **denied** approval for the addition of a drive-thru window to the existing convenience store with internal Dunkin', along with associated site improvements.

Jewish Community Center of Central New Jersey (JCC), 1391 Martine Avenue, Block 10401, Lot 1.0101, R-2 Zone, was **approved** for a Temporary Operating Permit for one (1) year to allow the continued use of nine (9) tents as well as nine (9) additional tents to accommodate social distancing in order to comply with COVID-19 guidelines during the summer camp program at this location.

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

Shannon Rapant
Secretary to the Zoning Board
1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $27.54

Westfield Pediatric Dental Group



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- Laser Dentistry
- In Office General Anesthesia

Timothy P. McCabe, D.M.D.
Board Certified

Julie Jong, D.M.D.
Board Certified

Kelly Walk, D.D.S.
Board Certified

John Chang, D.D.S.
Board Certified

908-232-1231
555 Westfield Avenue, Westfield
www.kidsandsmiles.com

Juneteenth Events Theme To Be 'Roots and Wings'

SCOTCH PLAINS — Social Justice Matters, Inc. (SJM), with the municipalities of Scotch Plains and Fanwood, is marking Juneteenth 2021 with a multidimensional celebration entitled "Roots and Wings: The Art and Tradition of Storytelling and the Black Experience."

The series of events on Saturday, June 19, with sponsorship from PSEG and other community enterprises, will feature multiple programs in Scotch Plains for people of all ages. These programs include:

Entertainment, including a one-act play by Dream House Theater Company, Emerson Theatre Group; a Poetry & Flow Experience — Raymon Royal Productions; music by Amani, and the PG-13 movie *Harriet*.

A reading by author Robert Constant and story stroll.

Mini golf and putting instruction for children.

Tours of Shady Rest at Scotch Hills Country Club, the nation's first Black-owned country club and home to John Shippen, the first American-born golf pro.

The events will run during various times from 2:30 to 10:35 p.m. Most activities will take place at Shady Rest/Scotch Hills Country Club, located at 820 Jerusalem Road, Scotch Plains, and a few will be held at Jerseyland Park, 2373 Richmond Street, Scotch Plains. In addition, a virtual workshop for high-school students and adults will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m., called "Creating Oral Histories: Learn How to Create Recordings that Preserve Memories, Stories and Voices."

Registration is required for each event unless otherwise stated. Attendees may bring their own chair or blanket if they wish to sit. For the schedule, locations and registration information, go to https://spfjuneteenth.com or https://socialjusticematters.org.

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally-celebrated commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States. It commemorates the day in 1865 when Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free — two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation. This will be the first year Juneteenth will be celebrated as a state holiday in New Jersey, the third Friday in June.

OUR BELOVED BETTY...The Westfield Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) met May 26 at the Revolutionary Cemetery by The Presbyterian Church in Westfield to lay a wreath on the grave of "Aunt Betty" Frazee. Legend has it that after the Battle of Short Hills, General Charles Cornwallis and his troops demanded a loaf of bread from her oven. It is said that Betty replied, "Sir, I give you this bread through fear, not in love." Impressed by her courage, Cornwallis is said to have stated, "Not a man in my command shall touch a single loaf." Pictured, from left to right, are: Barbara Benko, chapter regent; Gwyn Nielsen, Pat Colbert, Lisa Kane, chapter registrar; Kate Massa and Julie Diddell.

Mary Claire Givelber Named Caring Contact Executive Dir.

WESTFIELD — Caring Contact, the Westfield-based crisis hotline and listening community, has named Mary Claire Givelber as executive director, taking over from Janet Sarkos. Ms. Givelber had been Caring Contact's director of community engagement since 2017 and a trained listener on the crisis line for the past three years. Her previous professional experience includes work as a project manager for a real estate developer and with a managed-care consulting firm in New York City. She currently serves as a trustee of Imagine, a tutor at the Westfield Neighborhood Council, and a prep cook with Valerie's Soup Kitchen in Plainfield.

Mary Claire Givelber

"The board of Caring Contact is delighted to have Mary Claire accept the role of executive director," said Robert Evans, the board president. "We believe Mary Claire brings a wonderful passion for the mission of Caring Contact as well as an insightful background of experience for the continued development of the business side of this endeavor. The board looks forward to supporting Mary Claire as the organization addresses the constantly changing landscape for delivering our services."

"Covid created many challenges for Caring Contact this past year," said Ms. Givelber. "As the numbers of individuals in need of emotional support grew, we pivoted from the way we had traditionally taken calls in our call center to enabling remote listening – using new technology to allow our volunteers to take calls from home.

"In addition to keeping our listeners safe, this allowed us to take over 15,000 calls in 2020, more than ever. I look forward to improving this program as our organization prepares for the change from the 10-digit Lifeline number to a three-digit number similar to 911 in July 2022," she stated.

For more information on volunteer opportunities and trainings, call (908) 301-1899 or visit caringcontact.org. Anyone who is in crisis, or knows someone who is, is urged to call (800) 273-8255.

Temple Plans Open House For Prospective Members

SCOTCH PLAINS – Congregation Beth Israel will hold an open house for prospective members this Sunday, June 13, from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Prospective congregants will have the opportunity to tour the synagogue and its religious school and to meet Congregation Beth Israel's clergy, professional staff, lay leaders and teachers.

The open house will take place during the religious school's end-of-year celebration, which will feature inflatable games and a video game truck for children of all ages. The event, which will be held outdoors, is free and open to the community.

"After an amazing school year, we are excited to gather together to celebrate everything that we as a religious school and greater community accomplished," said Aviva Tilles, Congregation Beth Israel's director of Congregational Learning. "It's an opportunity for us to take a deep collective breath and just enjoy spending some time with each other. We're also excited to welcome potential new members and to introduce them to the students, families, teachers and volunteers that make up our close-knit synagogue community."

Congregation Beth Israel has been recognized as an ABLE Awarded Congregation by the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ for its commitment to inclusion and accommodation for all its members and guests.

"We are committed to inclusion at CBI. If you or your child have a challenge that makes religious school and/or synagogue participation difficult, please contact us so that we can work with you to make the necessary accommodations," said Ms. Tilles.

Registration for the 2021-2022 religious school year is now open. Congregation Beth Israel educates students from pre-K through 12th grade through experiential grade-specific programs that encompass the family in its curriculum. Classes for children from pre-K through second grade meet on Sundays. Religious school for grades 3 to 7 meets two days per week, on Sundays and a weekday. The post-religious school program, Darcone, for grades 8 to 12, meets one weeknight per month.

Congregation Beth Israel does not require synagogue membership for children to attend its religious school for programs through second grade. However, families with children below third grade have the option of joining the synagogue at a reduced rate and enjoying full benefits of synagogue membership, including High Holiday tickets.

Congregation Beth Israel is an egalitarian Conservative synagogue, serving the religious, cultural, educational and social needs of congregants from Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Westfield and surrounding towns. It has an active Sisterhood, Men's Club and youth group, plus a wide array of programs, ranging from adult education courses to social action opportunities.

Registration is required to attend the Open House. Interested persons are asked to RSVP on the synagogue's website at cbinj.org/event/endcelebration. Face masks are required.

For more information, contact the synagogue office at (908) 889-1830 or office@cbisp.org. Congregation Beth Israel is located at 18 Shalom Way, Scotch Plains, at the corner of Martine Avenue.

Update on Times For Mindowaskin Tours, Reeve Lawn Party

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Historical Society has updated the times for its "Tour Mindowaskin and Party on the Reeve Lawn" events set for Saturday, June 19.

The family event will begin at the Reeve House property, located at 314 Mountain Avenue, between 3 and 5 p.m. Families will first tour the Reeve House gardens and search for hidden Fairy Houses. Guided tours of Mindowaskin Park and Pond will follow. Refreshments will be served.

The event for adults (age 21 and over) also begins at the Reeve House, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tours of Mindowaskin Park will be followed by a gathering on the Reeve House front lawn. The Westfield-based band Save Mary will entertain guests. Grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, beer, wine and soft drinks will be available.

Registration is required for both events. For complete details, visit westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/.

Garwood Library Reveals Upcoming June Activities

GARWOOD — The Garwood Public Library, located at 411 Third Avenue, has announced its calendar of activities for the remainder of the month of June.

Registration for Summer Reading will begin on Monday, June 21. Additionally on June 21, the Book Discussion Group invites members of the community to participate via Zoom in a lively discussion of this month's book, "The Marriage of Opposites" by Alice Hoffman. Once registered for the club, participants will receive a Zoom link by email.

"Rescript the Story You Are Telling Yourself" is planned for Thursday, June 24, at 7 p.m. Participants are invited to join Colleen George, life/career coach, TEDx speaker and author of the eight-time award-winning book "RESCRIPT the Story You Are Telling Yourself," as she discusses ways to achieve one's goals and manage stresses. Registration is required. Once registered, participants will be provided with a Zoom link.

The library's Summer Reading Opening Event will be held on Friday, June 25, at 2 p.m., in the library parking lot. Giveaways and ice cream from the Scream Truck will be available for all who are registered for summer reading. Registration is required for this event and participation is limited to 40.

Virtual Kid's Craft will take place on Tuesday, June 29, at 3 p.m. Participants can pick up craft supplies that day and follow the Facebook tutorial at 3 p.m. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants. To sign up, access the events calendar on the library website, youseemore.com/garwood, or call the library at (908) 789-1670.

On Wednesday, June 30, at 1:30 p.m., families are invited to an interactive Safari Magic Show at the library starring Jenny the Giraffe and Muscle Man Mike. Registration is required and attendance is limited to 20. This program is for children in third grade and younger.

The library is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ten people are permitted in the library at a time for one hour; no appointments are necessary. One-hour computer use is permitted. Staff is available to copy and fax for the public. Curbside service also is available.

Virtual Tricky Tray To Benefit ECF

AREA — The Emmanuel Cancer Foundation (ECF) will hold a Virtual Tricky Tray Fundraiser on Saturday, June 19. It will take place at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2230, located at 33 S. 21st Street, Kenilworth, and will go live at 5:30 p.m. on Facebook Live.

Many prizes, goods, gift certificates and services will be raffled off. Guests can purchase tickets on site. There is no admission fee. All proceeds raised during this event will benefit ECF's "Kids with Cancer" and their families. For further details, call Barbara at (908) 209-2116.

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Scotch Plains Library Posts Program Dates and Topics

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library has revealed the dates and topics for three programs taking place during June.

Andrei Dobrescu, MD, and Maqsood Amjad, MD, both medical oncologists and hematologists at Astera Cancer Care, will present "All You Need to Know about Lung Cancer" on Tuesday, June 15, at noon. Topics will include lung cancer screening and prevention; different types of lung cancer; the role of surgery and radiation, and advancements in the treatment of lung cancer like immunotherapy and targeted treatments.

This program is part of a series of online presentations addressing some of the most pertinent areas in cancer treatments and advancements. Participants are welcome to submit general questions for the doctors in the registration form. They are advised, however, that the doctors presenting will not be able to offer personal medical advice to attendees during this program. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link to this program. The registration form, and information about the library's entire month of programming, can be found on the library's website, scotlib.org.

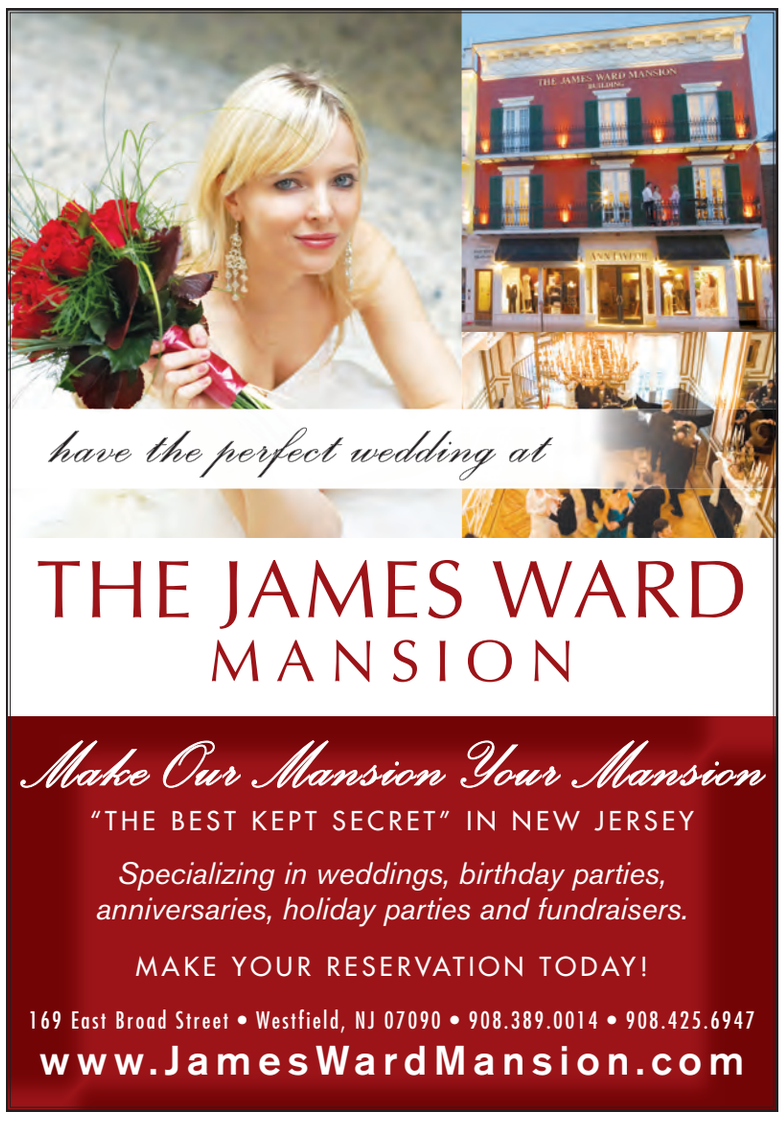
On Thursday, June 17, at 7 p.m., the library will host an in-person Cookbook Club meeting outside of the library building, located at 1927 Bartle Avenue. The theme for this month is "Mediterranean Cooking." Participants are asked to select a Mediterranean cooking recipe from a cookbook in the library's collection or from any other source of their choosing, then prepare the dish at home and bring it along to the meeting with an appropriate serving utensil. The group will discuss the recipes and participants may take home samples of other people's dishes, if they choose. Pre-registration is required. The registration form is available at scotlib.org.

The library is hosting "Balance Awareness with Yasmin Ofek" on Fridays during June, at 10 a.m., via Zoom. Classes will take place on June 11 and 18; there will be no class on June 25. Older adults in particular are encouraged to join these classes, which are designed to address the loss of balance and strength that can occur with age. Ms. Ofek's instruction integrates principles from the Feldenkrais Method, which emphasizes moving with awareness to allow the nervous system to discover easier, more efficient movement patterns. All participants need are a chair and sneakers.

Individuals only need to register once to attend any or all classes in June. They will immediately receive an email with the Zoom link that is being used for all of the June classes. The registration form is available at scotlib.org or participants can register by calling the library at (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204. To learn more about the method used by Ms. Ofek in her classes, visit mindthebodybalance.com/about-the-method.

Photo courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

PERECT SCORES...Westfield High School (WHS) students who earned perfect scores of 36 on ACT subject areas during the 2020-2021 school year are congratulated on their achievement. Pictured, from left to right, are: First row, Justin Anderson, Carsen Sharkey, Evan Tompkins and WHS Principal Mary Asfendis; second row, Vivian Jeckell, Jacob Root and Mateo Beltran, and third row, Emma Jepsen, Sean Hazard and Patrick Gallagher. Not pictured are Katherine Miles and Kaiyang Zhu.



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WHS 11 Earn Perfect Scores On ACT Subject Areas

WESTFIELD — Eleven Westfield High School (WHS) students earned perfect scores of 36 on ACT subject areas in the 2020-2021 school year.

"I would like to commend you for this outstanding achievement," said WHS Principal Mary Asfendis to the students. "It speaks volumes about your abilities and commitment to your education."

The students who were recognized are as follows:

September 2020: Emma Jepsen, 12th grade – English; Carsen Sharkey, 11th grade – Reading.

October 2020: Sean Hazard, 12th grade – Math; Carsen Sharkey, 11th grade – Science, STEM, English, Reading.

December 2020: Justin Anderson, 11th grade – Math, Science, STEM; Kaiyang Zhu, 11th grade – Science, STEM, English.

February 2021: Vivian Jeckell, 11th grade – Reading.

April 2021: Mateo Beltran, 11th grade – Science and English; Patrick Gallagher, 11th grade – Reading; Katherine Miles, 11th grade – Reading; Jacob Root, 11th grade – Science, STEM, English, Reading; Evan Tompkins, 11th grade – Math, English.

Harrison Wachtel on YCP Dean's List

YORK, Pa. — Harrison Wachtel of Westfield, a junior Middle Level/Special Education major, was named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester at York College of Pennsylvania.

Established in 1787, York College of Pennsylvania is a private, four-year college located in the city of York, a hub of arts and industry between Baltimore and Philadelphia. Housed on 190 acres, the college serves over 4,000 undergraduate and more than 300 graduate students in over 70 baccalaureate majors, along with more than 20 graduate and professional programs.

The college's recreation and athletics program is home to 23 NCAA III Division sports teams and more than 30 intramural sports. For more information about the college, visit ycp.edu.

Westfield Library Expands Services With Reopening

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library has recently reopened to the public and continues to expand the services visitors may now use. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

To keep the public and the staff safe, the following rules are in place:

Visitors must still wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth, including children ages 2 and up. This is per the Town of Westfield.

All children ages 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Restrooms and water fountains can be used. Visitors can browse throughout the library and check out materials during a one-hour visit. Computers can be used for a one-hour session.

Select tables and chairs are available, and some newspapers and magazines are on the display racks. Curbside service continues and the ability to reserve materials (place holds) 24/7 continues as well.

Library materials can be returned in the inside book bin or in the outside book drops. Outside book drops are open for returns 24/7.

The hours for in-person visits and curbside pickup are Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

The library continues to offer online programs to children and adults on its website, wmlnj.org, and on Facebook at facebook.com/wmlnj. There are additional programs on the library's YouTube channel, which can be found at youtube.com/user/westfieldmemoriallib or by clicking on the YouTube icon on the library's website.

Norton Recognized As LVC Student-Athlete

ANNVILLE, Pa. — Leah Norton of Westfield competed for the Flying Dutchmen during the Spring 2021 sports season at Lebanon Valley College (LVC). Ms. Norton, a graduate of Westfield High School, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Education at The Valley.

She was a member of the women's outdoor track and field team. The team earned four medals at the 2021 MAC Outdoor Championships and placed sixth.

A member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III, American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA), Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) and Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC), Lebanon Valley College offers 26 sports.

More information about LVC Athletics is available at godutchmen.com.

PRESERVED FOR POSTERITY...Elizabeth Giustiniani, a sixth grader at Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield, places a thermometer in a time capsule on May 7 as part of a social studies project.

Roosevelt Students Learn Lessons From Time Capsules

WESTFIELD — Latex gloves, a mask, a roll of toilet paper, a photograph of a virtual class meeting, a thermometer and rulers were among items recently placed in several time capsules at Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield as part of a sixth-grade social studies project on the use of primary and secondary sources.

"We think that including rulers in this time capsule is important because it symbolizes the six-feet social-distancing rule," said student Amelia Ing during an outdoor ceremony on May 7. "What we have learned from this item during the pandemic is it is important to remain social distanced so we don't spread Covid. We should remember this aspect of the pandemic because this helped us and others stay safe."

Roosevelt social studies teacher Jim Lane said the sixth graders began working on the project in December, researching primary and secondary sources, proposing and donating the items to go into the time capsules, and working in online breakout rooms to draft and edit the speeches for the time capsule ceremonies.

"Teaching the difference between primary and secondary sources and the importance of when to use them and how to properly analyze them is part of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Social Studies," said Mr. Lane. "The social studies department introduces primary and secondary sources to students early in Westfield, with students gradually increasing the sophistication of applying these source types while also expanding the scope and range of types of these two main categories of sources."

"A primary source includes images and other materials that have specific evidence towards an important historical topic," noted students Mia O'Reilly and Declan Vedder, as the time capsule ceremony began. "Primary sources are important because people in the future can relate back to the past and learn about the history of historical human events that happened. A time capsule is a primary source because the items going in it are evidence from specific historical events."

Mr. Lane said that plans for a future time capsule opening are being discussed. Additionally, he pointed to the collaborative, cooperative effort involving students, parents, fellow sixth-grade social studies teacher Jeffrey Knight, in-class support teacher Julia Mirfield, media specialist Megan Lynn, who live streamed the event for remote students; support staff and administrators.

"I think it is most important to emphasize the idea that amazing things can happen for our kids' learning when no one cares who gets the credit," said Mr. Lane. "Roosevelt Intermediate School is an amazing place in that regard."

Also included in the time capsule is a printed calendar page with the circled date of March 13, 2020.

"We included this item so that we can remember the exact date that our worlds turned upside down," said Whitney Crooks about the day the school district announced that all students and staff would move to remote learning. "We should remember this item so that we can always know the start to a crazy year."

Photo courtesy of Westfield Public Schools

HONORED FOR EXCELLENCE...Four teachers have been honored by the Westfield High School (WHS) community with awards of excellence. Pictured, from left to right, are: WHS Principal Mary Asfendis, Marie Trzepla, Andrew Buckner, Molly Dennis and Nicole Scimone.

Westfield High School Honors Quartet Of Award-Winning Educators

WESTFIELD — The Westfield High School (WHS) community recently honored four teachers with awards of excellence. WHS Principal Mary Asfendis announced the award winners, who were nominated by students, during a virtual faculty meeting on May 12 and morning announcements on May 13.

Special-education teacher Marie Trzepla is the recipient of the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award, established to annually recognize a teacher who, through both excellence in teaching and a demonstrated commitment to intellectual pursuits beyond the classroom, serves as a model and inspiration to the high-school community. Students who nominated Ms. Trzepla say she "is always willing to help me out and talk to me when I miss something or don't understand something in class. She is very patient and always willing to meet when anyone needs help."

The Above and Beyond Award recognizes a teacher or counselor who has made a difference in the life of a student either socially, emotionally or academically. This year's recipient is English teacher Nicole Scimone, lauded as an educator who "provides the perfect, comfortable environment to learn." One fully-remote student nominator wrote that Ms. Scimone made "the biggest effort to connect to all of her students, learn their interests, and learn about how they work.

"Overall, she's always going the extra mile to check up on everyone and make sure they're okay," this student said.

Science teacher Molly Dennis received the Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Teacher of the Year Award, which annually recognizes a teacher who is encouraging and motivating, is a good role model, and shows respect for co-workers, students and parents.

Ms. Dennis has been applauded for being "always optimistic and happy during classes, even those that are very early in the morning." One student nominator noted that Ms. Dennis hosts review sessions before tests and "once drove to the house of every student [in her AP Biology class] to give them hot chocolate."

For helping students work towards their goals, school counselor Andrew Buckner was honored with the Robert and Linda Foose Memorial Award, named for a former principal and teacher. "Mr. Buckner has made an amazing contribution to my high-school education by helping make my dream of an independent study in herpetology a reality," said a student nominator.

"We are grateful for all of the nominations that recognize our amazing teachers and staff for all they do to promote a positive learning environment. The four teachers were selected for the impact they make in students' lives, both in and outside the classroom," said Principal Asfendis. "I am proud to work with these phenomenal educators who are passionate, dedicated and inspiring to their students. They are all well-deserving of their respective awards."

The awardees were honored by the Westfield Board of Education at a virtual public meeting on June 1.

Ruppel, Tines Make ESU Dean's List

EAST STROUDSBURG, Pa. — A total of 1,466 students have been named to the Dean's List at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania for the Spring 2021 semester of the 2020-2021 academic year, according to Joanne Bruno, J.D., provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Olivia Ruppel and Heaven Tines, both residents of Cranford, were among those students named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester.

East Stroudsburg University (ESU), one of the 14 institutions in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, opened in 1893 as East Stroudsburg Normal School. Today, ESU is a comprehensive university in northeastern Pennsylvania offering 58 undergraduate programs, 21 master's programs and two doctoral programs.

More than 6,000 students are enrolled at ESU and nearly 30,000 ESU alumni live in Pennsylvania. For further information about the university, visit esu.edu.

Westfield Education Assoc. Awards Scholarships

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Education Association (WEA) has announced that Dilany Santamaria and Xenia Kobari are the recipients of the Westfield Education Association scholarship award.

In the fall, Dilany will attend Brigham Young University, while Xenia will attend the University of Toronto. This scholarship is based on academic achievement, school activities and community service.

The Barry Judd Memorial Scholarship is given in the memory of Barry Judd, who was a well-respected World Language teacher at Westfield High School from 1974 to 1992. Mr. Judd's teaching career embodied a love for learning and a devotion to helping others.

The award is granted to a WEA member's son or daughter who will attend college in the fall. This year's recipient is Daniel Klimko, a senior at Cranford High School who will attend the University of Cincinnati. Daniel's mother, Jodi Klimko, is a Learning Disabilities teacher consultant at Westfield High School.

The awards were presented to the students on May 26 at Westfield High School. Funds for these scholarships come directly from the Westfield Education Association.

Nine Local Residents Among Students on SNHU President's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates those students who have been named to the Winter 2021 President's List. The Winter term runs from January to May.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in the Fall or Spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 and EW2, EW3 and EW4, or EW5 and EW6.

Nine local residents are among those who earned President's List recognition. They include Laura Ducran of Scotch Plains, Jacqueline Harvey of Fanwood, Margaret Iacovano of Cranford, Angelina Iosso of Cranford, Rachel Painter of Westfield, Alfreddy Pimentel of Westfield, Inderpreet Sethi of Mountainside, Jeffrey Sirdashney of Scotch Plains and Katie Vaughn of Scotch Plains.

SNHU is a private, nonprofit institution with an 88-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 150,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, N.H. More information is available at snhu.edu.

Jordan Wolman Earns Leadership Award At Lehigh University

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — Jordan Wolman of Scotch Plains is among the recipients of Lehigh University's James J. Duane III Student Life Leadership Award in Spring 2021. The award is given to seniors in recognition of extraordinary performance as a student leader at Lehigh University.

The following areas are used as a basis for evaluating outstanding performance: overall impact on Lehigh students, program development and implementation, bridging cultural differences, and student governance by taking a role to improve student, faculty and staff interactions.

For more than 150 years, Lehigh University has combined academic and learning opportunities with leadership in fostering innovative research. The private research university includes five colleges — College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, College of Education, College of Health, and the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science — which provide educational opportunities to more than 7,000 students. For more information about the university, visit lehigh.edu.

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Westfield Memorial Library

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- All visitors *must* wear a mask that covers nose and mouth, including children 2+yrs
- All kids 10 years & under must be with an adult
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The Week in Sports

Sports Section Pages 9-12

HEFLIN 3 RBI, MACALUSO 2 RBI; FERNANDEZ 2 HITS, 2 RUNS

Blue Devils Blank Raiders, 12-0, In Section Softball First Round

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

Six was a popular number when the third-seeded Westfield High School softball team plated six runs in the bottom of the first inning and another six runs in the third inning en route to a 12-0, four-and-a-half-inning victory over the 14th-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders in the first round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament in Westfield on June 1.

Senior pitcher Michaela Hobson allowed only six Raiders to reach base, while recording 11 strikeouts. Raiders Abby Conklin, Sophia Lerner and Zoe Kekelis tapped singles, while Sairah Llano walked twice and Angie Diaco walked once. Hobson's pitching performances have been consistently good throughout the season.

"Whenever I pitch, I take a deep breath and relax. I try not to overthrow. I feel relaxed out there all the time. I don't really have any stress. That's pretty much all I think about but I think everything has been pretty decent recently and we've all been doing pretty good," Hobson explained.

In the meantime, the 19-3 Blue Devils tapped Raider starting pitcher Maeve Kohura for nine hits, which included three triples and a pair of doubles, to go with two walks. Llano relieved Kohura with two outs in the third inning and allowed one triple and two walks, while striking out two.

Cat Heflin had a big afternoon for the Blue Devils, going 2-for-2 with three RBI, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Kalea Calugay had an RBI single, a triple and scored twice.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

DIVING HOME FOR THE SCORE...Blue Devil Alivia Macaluso dives home to score after a wild pitch in the third inning as Raider catcher Sophia Lerner attempts to make a tag during the first round sectional game in Westfield on June 1.

KENNEDY SACS IN MARTIN, LORENZETTI KEY DEFENSE

Raider Sac Fly Nips Minutemen In North Section 1st Round, 5-4

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

Tied 4-4 with the bases loaded and no one out in the bottom of the seventh inning, Sean Kennedy stepped to the plate and launched a long fly ball to centerfield that allowed Shawn Martin to tag up from third base and score the winning run for the sixth-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School baseball team in its North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 first round victory over 11th-seeded Elizabeth in Scotch Plains on June 2.

Martin scored three of the 12-9 Raiders' runs and finished 2-for-3 with a double, a walk and a stolen base. Chris Smith tapped an RBI single, lofted an RBI sacrifice fly and was-hit-by-a-pitch. Lucas Mackey went 2-for-2, walked once and had an RBI. Stefon Johnson doubled and scored once, and Ryan Beauregard singled and scored once.

But the outstanding performance of shortstop Dallas Lorenzetti was also key to the Raiders' victory. He grabbed a short popup on a hit-and-run play and fired to first to double up the runner in the second inning. In the third inning, Lorenzetti made an amazing diving catch in foul territory along the third base line. In the fifth inning, he was the central figure in a 4-6-3 double play. Then in the sixth, he made an unbelievable diving snag of a very low liner. Additionally he showed his range to snare difficult fly balls in the outfield.

"My fielding is something I take a lot of pride in. I work on it all season. It's just a grind. The popups are pretty easy. I just track and go after them. I love to make plays. The double play, it's just a little acrobatic play. I do that a lot in practice. Coaches get mad at me but I'm sure they weren't mad at me on that one," Lorenzetti explained.

Alex Smith went the distance on the mound for the Raiders, allowing six hits, hitting a batter and walking three, while striking out five. The Minutemen went with a host of pitchers beginning with Devin Rojas, who was relieved by Jacob Duran with one out in the fourth inning after yielding three runs on five hits and two walks, while striking out two. Duran was relieved by Yoidan Fernandez with one out in the sixth then Nick Cassandra stepped on the mound after Martin drew a leadoff walk in the seventh inning.

Alex Smith struck out two of the four batters he faced in the first then Martin looped a one-out double over third base in the bottom of the inning. Martin dashed to third when Lorenzetti reached safely on an error then Chris Smith lofted an RBI sac fly to center to bring Martin home.

"He threw me an outside low pitch and I knew I had to make contact. I saw the third baseman huffing after it. I kept going just in case he dropped it but he didn't get to it and I got into second," Martin described.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

VERY CLOSE CALL...Raider shortstop Dallas Lorenzetti covers third in an attempt to get the tag on Minuteman Jacob Duran in the seventh inning during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 first round game. The Raiders won 5-4.

Blue Devils Top JP Stevens for Section Boys Tennis Crown

The No. 12 Westfield High School boys tennis team finally got its full lineup in order to overwhelm No. 5 JP Stevens, 4-1, for the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 crown on June 1. Sebastian Wroe won, 6-3, 6-2, at first singles. Tristan Wroe won, 6-1, 7-6, at third singles. Jackson Jordan and Jordan Cafiero won, 6-4, 6-2, at first doubles and Aidan Morrison and Alex Ainge won, 6-4, 6-2, at second doubles.

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

ENJOYING THE MAGIC...The Blue Devils swarm all over Matt Melao after he brought home Jake Watson with the winning run in the bottom of the eighth to sting the Bayonne Bees, 5-4, in Westfield on June 5.

MELAO SINGLES IN WATSON WITH GAME-WINNING RUN

Blue Devils Swat Bees in Eighth; Win Sectional Quarterfinal, 5-4

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

Something had to give after only one run was scored in the past five-and-one-half innings during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 showdown between the fifth-seeded Bayonne Bees and the fourth-seeded Westfield Blue Devils at Bob Brewster, Sr. Field in Westfield on June 5. Jake Watson was standing on second base with a double and Enzo Mizerek was on first after being hit-by-a-pitch with two outs then Matt Melao stepped to the plate and scorched an RBI single down the first baseline to earn the Blue Devils an eight-inning, 5-4 victory.

A celebration began and after Melao survived the pile after being mauled by his teammates, he said, "It was two outs, so I knew I was in a big spot. I hit a hard ball, got it down and hit the run in. That's all that was on my mind."

As to the anxiousness of being on second and hoping that someone would bring him home, Watson added, "It's hard to put it into words. I was a little bit anxious but I had all the confidence in the world when Matt Melao came up. When he hit that single down the line, I knew it was over."

Watson's double was to deep centerfield. "I was late all day. I got to give credit to my coach, coach Torres. He was telling me just to get the bat head out. I got a fastball where I wanted it, got a little bit lucky and shot it out there," Watson explained.

What could not be overlooked was the outstanding performance of se-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

HALEY NETS 5 GOALS, McLANE 4 GOALS, CANO 3 GOALS

Blue Devils Level Hillsborough In Boys Lacrosse Quarters, 19-3

Prepared By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

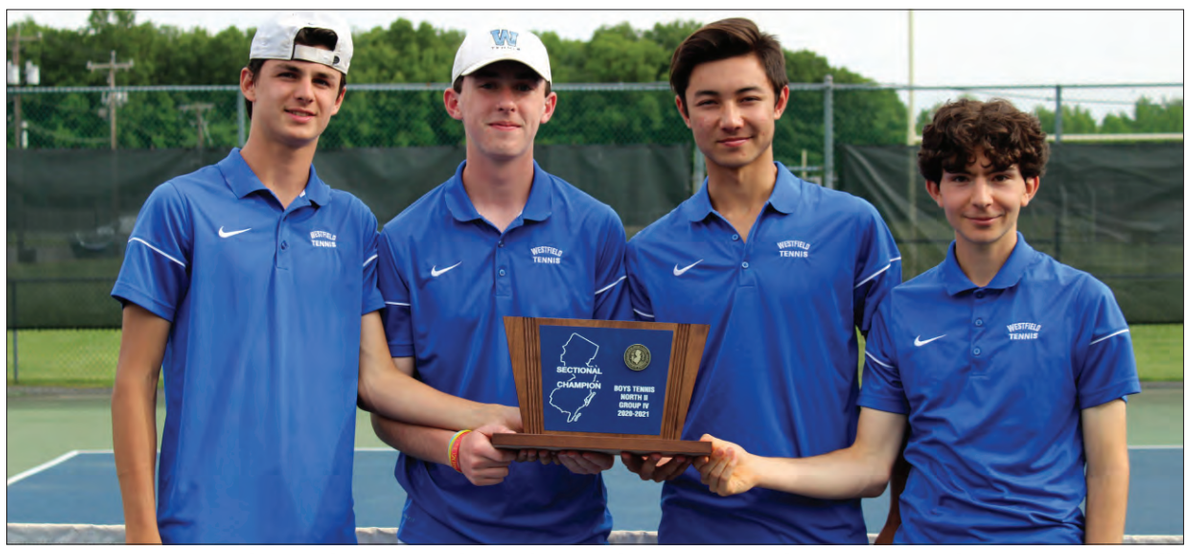
Breezing its way to victory came easy after the first 10 minutes of the top-seeded, No. 6 Westfield High School boys lacrosse team's North Jersey, Group 4 Tournament quarterfinal game with ninth-seeded Hillsborough at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on June 3. After leading 3-2, the 11-4 Blue Devils closed out the first quarter with a goal from senior midfielder Mack Prybylski then scored all six goals of the second quarter en route to a 19-3 triumph.

With sophomores Danny Hazard and Mike Murphy sharing face-off duties, the Blue Devils won all seven face-offs of the first quarter and the first two of the second quarter before

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

DELIVERING QUITE A CHECK...Blue Devil Sebastian Birse, No. 2, delivers an impressive check just as a Hillsborough attacker gets off a shot during the North Jersey Group 4 quarterfinal game in Westfield on June 3.



SECTION CHAMPS...Blue Devil seniors Jordan Jackson, Aidan Morrison, Sebastian Wroe and Ben Garceau proudly display the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 plaque after overwhelming JP Stevens, 4-1, for the title.

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David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

SWIPING THIRD BASE...Blue Devil Enzo Mizerek, No. 9, steals third base in the first inning as Bayonne third baseman Santiago Jimenez goes for the throw during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 quarterfinal game in Westfield. The Blue Devils scored once in the bottom of the eighth inning to sting the Bees, 5-4.

Blue Devils Swat Bees in 8th; Win Quarters, 5-4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

nior Holden Grantz, who relieved starter Enzo Mizerek and pitched six scoreless innings, yielding five hits and hitting a batter, while striking out five Bees.

Mizerek ceded a leadoff single to Isaiah Phillips in the first inning but shortstop Jake Bencivenga initiated a 6-4-3 double play, which really meant a lot when Rob Geisler (3-for-4) followed with a double to leftfield. Then right fielder Chris Ho made a great chest-diving grab to get the third out. The Blue Devils answered with a run in the bottom of the inning. Mizerek walked, Melao slapped a single to left then a double steal followed. Mizerek then scored on a wild pitch.

But the Bees strung Mizerek harshly with four runs in the second inning. Chris Valencia plopped a short single, Tyler Johnson was hit-by-a-pitch and TJ Wolf walked to load the bases. Quincy Mitchell (3-for-4) hopped an RBI single past first, Santiago Jimenez hacked a two-run single to right and Geisler lined an RBI single to left.

The Blue Devils did some swatting in the second also with two runs. Bencivenga lined a leadoff single to center and swiped second. Watson lashed an RBI triple down the right field line and Mike McKenna followed with an RBI groundout to short.

"I was down two strikes. I took two big swings early in the count. I swung through both of them, so I was just really thinking get the bat head on the ball. I got a little bit lucky. The right fielder had a bit of a misplay on it and I got to third," Watson humbly described.

Grantz retired nine of the next 10 Bees then Westfield knotted the score 4-4 in the bottom of the fifth. Ho (2-for-4) sizzled a two-out single over second and stole a base. Jadon Edwards walked and Leo Mangiamele hooked an RBI double to left.

Grantz ran into some difficulty in the sixth with an infield single and a bunt single but he escaped the inning after a batter interference call. The Bees also had runners on first and second with one out in the seventh but Grantz got a batter to fly out to right then struck out the final batter. In the eighth, Mitchell tagged Grantz for a double but failed to score.

The Westfield eighth began with a strikeout then Watson bashed his double to center. After McKenna popped up to second, Mizerek absorbed a fastball then Melao drilled his game winner.

In the upper bracket of the tournament, top-seeded Union dropped a 3-0 decision to eighth-seeded Franklin, so the Blue Devils would be the host team for the semifinal round on June 8.

"I am so happy. I am so happy we are home. I love playing here. Nothing like playing at home. It's the best. The energy is always so high," Melao expressed.

Westfield is the two-time defending section champion and ran the table as the eighth-seed to beat Ridge for the title in 2019. In 2018, the Blue Devils defeated Millburn for the crown, also 4-2, so their steak of tournament victories has extended to 10.

"I actually just heard that today. My coaches were telling me that before the game. That was a little bit of motivation that we got to defend that title. We want to defend the title for the seniors who graduated last year and hopefully we can do a little bit more than that," Watson said.

Melao agreed, "Yes! We need that (champion)ship again. There's nothing better!"

Third-seeded Watchung Hills nipped sixth-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 5-4, and 10th-seeded Ridge knocked off second-seeded Bridgewater-Raritan, 5-4. With a Westfield win and a Ridge win in the semis, the two foes could square off for the title in Westfield tomorrow, June 11.

Bayonne	040	000	00	4
Westfield	120	010	01	5

Cougar Nine Crush West Morris, 10-0

Rob Salvatore tossed four innings of no-hit ball, while walking one and striking out four then reliever Joe Carrea yielded only a walk in the fifth inning to earn the second-seeded Cranford Cougars a 10-0, five-inning victory over seventh-seeded West Morris on June 5. Tony Silva went 2-for-2 with a pair of doubles, two runs scored and an RBI.

Will Gallagher also went-2-for-2 with three RBI and two runs scored. Ryan Jaros doubled, singled, walked once, scored twice, stole three bases and had an RBI. Shea Grady singled and had two RBI. Jake Carter singled, walked, stole a base and scored once. Shane Van Dam singled, walked, had an RBI and scored once. Lucca Limeira walked twice, scored once and had an RBI. Marcus Johnson had an RBI and Matt Chapman scored once.

Warriors Nip Raiders In Section Ball, 5-4

Martin Howell drove in Lorenzo Meola in the bottom of the seventh inning to give the third-seeded 15-8 Watchung Hills Warriors a 5-4 victory over the sixth-seeded, 12-10 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders in the quarterfinals of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Tournament in Warren on June 5. Howell also rapped a two-run double.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

STUDENT GROWTH ASSESSMENT TOOLS AND REPORTING PLATFORM

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board') is requesting from interested and qualified individuals or firms proposals for STUDENT GROWTH ASSESSMENT TOOLS AND REPORTING PLATFORM for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The understanding of the parties with respect to the services to be rendered and the various fee arrangements are required to be set forth in a formal agreement. The Board Offices are located at 512 Cedar Street, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.

A copy of the RFP may be inspected or picked up at the Board offices between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except Saturday, Sundays and holidays. Further information may be obtained by calling Deborah S. Saridaki, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary at (908) 232-6161 ext. 41301 or email dsaridaki@spfk12.org.

All firms/individuals submitting proposals must use and complete all forms and include all information required in the RFP. All vendors are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127, "Law Against Discrimination" and the Affirmative Action statutes and regulations, N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1 et seq.

Proposals must be submitted to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education no later than Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 12:00 PM. If sent by mail, it should be clearly marked as "RFP for Mental Health Services" The proposals should be addressed to:

Deborah S. Saridaki
School Business Administrator
/Board Secretary
Scotch Plains-Fanwood
Board of Education
512 Cedar Street
Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(s), (t), (x), (y), N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4(a-c), and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-22, and to waive minor informalities or non-material exceptions in the process if it is in the best interests of the Board. No proposal may be deemed accepted until the adoption of a formal resolution by the Board.

By order of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education in the County of Union, New Jersey.

Deborah S. Saridaki
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $58.65

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board') is requesting from interested and qualified individuals or firms proposals for SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION SERVICES for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The understanding of the parties with respect to the services to be rendered and the various fee arrangements are required to be set forth in a formal agreement. The Board Offices are located at 512 Cedar Street, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.

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Board of Education
512 Cedar Street
Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.

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By order of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education in the County of Union, New Jersey.

Deborah S. Saridaki
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $58.65

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

WEB BASED EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE FOR MATHEMATICS

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board') is requesting from interested and qualified individuals or firms proposals for WEB BASED EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE FOR MATHEMATICS for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The understanding of the parties with respect to the services to be rendered and the various fee arrangements are required to be set forth in a formal agreement. The Board Offices are located at 512 Cedar Street, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.

A copy of the RFP may be inspected or picked up at the Board offices between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except Saturday, Sundays and holidays. Further information may be obtained by calling Deborah S. Saridaki, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary at (908) 232-6161 ext. 41301 or email dsaridaki@spfk12.org.

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By order of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education in the County of Union, New Jersey.

Deborah S. Saridaki
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $58.14

HAMILTON WINS 800, 1600; STRYKER DISCUS, SP; JACKSON 400, AGWU 110H

Raider Girls 2nd, Westfield Boys 3rd At North Section 2, Group 4 Track

Blue Devil seniors Katie Hamilton and Braden Stryker each won two individual events and Raider Julia Jackson won an individual event and placed second in the 200 and third in the 100, while Blue Devils Matt Shinners, Maggie McCauley and Max Owens, along with Raider Kenny Agwu each won an individual event at the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Track & Field Championships at Ridge High School this past weekend.

Courtesy of Dale Horton for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

FIRST IN THE 800...Blue Devil Katie Hamilton crossed first in the 800 with a time of 2:09.8 at the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 Championships at Ridge H.S..

The Ridge Red Devils won both team titles with the girls totaling 114.5 and the boys totaling 104. The Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls placed second with a total of 85.5 and the Blue Devil girls placed fourth at 57.5. The Westfield boys placed third with a total of 70, while the Raider boys took seventh at 34.

Katie Hamilton crossed first in the 800 with a time of 2:09.8, which was the best of all the sections, and teammate Isabel Boufarah finished fourth at 2:18.36. Hamilton also won the 1,600 with a time of 5:06.16, while Boufarah crossed fourth at 2:16.71. Blue Devil Sam Salz took third in the 3,200 at 11:23.38, Raider Gabby Crona finished fifth at 11:57.01, followed by Blue Devil Grace Endy at 11:58.26.

Jackson crossed first in the 400 at 56.46, while Raiders Grace Kennedy at 57.14 and Jenai Berry at 57.73 finished 2-4. Kennedy, Corinne Lyght, Berry and Danielle Most won the 4x400 at 3:58.63. In an extremely close race, the Union Farmers just edged out Kennedy, Lyght, Ashley DeFrancesco and Jackson, 48.72-48.74 in the 4x100. Jackson finished second in the 200 at 25.29 and third in the 100 at 12.44, while Lyght finished fifth at 12.67.

Blue Devils Hamilton, Boufarah, Lina Wright and Caroline Collins finished second in the 4x800 at 9:48.72. Raiders Emily Sicoli, Julia Zambrio, Anna Sicoli and Crona took fifth at 10:16.08. DeFrancesco placed fourth in the high jump with a clearance of 4-10 and Raider Kayla Paprocki took fifth at 4-6. Paprocki took fourth in the 100-hurdles at 16.52 and Most finished sixth in the 400-hurdles at 1:08.57.

Blue Devil Maggie McCauley won the shot put with a shove of 37-8. Lyght at 17-6, Kennedy at 17-1.5 and DeFrancesco at 16-6.5 placed 3-4-5 in the long jump. Blue Devil Katherine Palmer at 96-0 and Bekah Dayon at 82-7 placed 4-7 in the javelin. Raider Ananda Daniel took sixth in the triple jump at 32-9.5.

For the boys, Stryker heaved the discus 164-9 and Raider Rob Lerner was second at 147-4, while Blue Devil Andrew Miller took fourth at 129-5. Stryker also won the shot put with a shove of 51-1.5. Miller at 45-11, Raider Mike Banic at 45-3.75 and Lerner at 43-11.75 placed 3-5-6. Matt Shinner took top honors in the javelin with a toss of 163-8 and Blue Devil Mason Marino took sixth at 135-10. Owens won the pole vault with a height of 12-9.

Agwu crossed first in the 110-hurdles at 15.08 and Raider Anthony McDonald finished sixth at 15.81. Agwu at 58.16, McDonald at 58.71 and Blue Devil Rob McIntyre at 59.73 placed 4-5-7 in the 400-hurdles. Dimitri Laylor, Tom Rodriguez, Kyle Robinson and Agwu finished fourth in the 4x100 at 44.63. Robinson placed fourth in the triple jump with a distance of 40-11.5.

Blue Devils Will McGlynn at 9:25.76 and Conor Daly at 9:27.59 finished 3-4 in the 3,200. Daly finished sixth in the 1,600 at 4:31.64. In another extremely close race, Blue Devil Charlie Stock at 1:54.93 was just edged out by Ridge's Luke Roberts (1:54.6) for first in the 800. Stock, McGlynn, Liam Maurillo and Jim Gildea finished third in the 4x800 at 8:13.89. Stock, Justin Colby, McIntyre and Charles Garretson finished fourth in the 4x400 at 3:25.61.

In the North 2, Group 3 meet at Middletown, Cranford Cougar Zoe Hamilton placed second in the triple jump at 37-1.5, followed by Cielo Tumbokon at 35-7. Tumbokon took third in the long jump at 17-5.5. Amanda Newport took third in the discus at 98-3. Breona Pizzuta placed sixth in the high jump at 4-6 and Rose Deeb was sixth in the pole vault at 7-0.

For the Cougar boys, Owen Usinowicz took fifth in the pole vault at 9-0. Matt Maggio was seventh in the 100 at 12.21 and Griffin Dowd took seventh in the 400 at 51.43.

Blue Devils Blank Raiders in Section Softball, 12-0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Allie Fernandez doubled, singled and scored twice. Alivia Macaluso whacked a two-run triple and scored once. Aden Brooks and Grace Loder both ripped an RBI triple, walked once and scored twice. Emma Pietrewicz punched an RBI double and scored once.

Recently Fernandez, who bats left-handed, has been quite effective with her slapping style and her speed down the line to beat the throw.

"Being a leadoff batter for my team, I just try to get on base as much as I can. Try to move on runners. I kind of look at my field and try to hit it where the fielders are not. Slapping is not really a home run hitting kind of thing. I'm just going to make a single and get on base," Fernandez explained.

However she did fool the fielders with her double.

"I like to keep everything in my arsenal wherever the fielders are at," she commented.

Hobson yielded a looping single to Conklin in the first inning but struck out the next two batters and got Kady Rettino to ground out to first. Fernandez then got Westfield started with a leadoff double into leftfield. Calugay sliced an RBI single to right-center. Pietrewicz plopped an RBI double down the right field line. Brooks slashed an RBI triple to deep right. Loder walked and stole second then Heflin lined a two-run single to right. Heflin stole second and advanced to third on a wild pitch. Emily Gordon walked and drew an errant throw when she stole second, allowing Heflin to skip home with the sixth run.

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

STEALING SECOND BASE...Blue Devil Cat Heflin, No. 10, steals second base in the first inning as Raider shortstop Abby Conklin attempts to make a tag.

In the Westfield third inning, Brooks walked and Loder launched her RBI triple down the right field line. Heflin ricocheted an RBI single off the pitcher's glove. Fernandez slapped an infield single and Macaluso hammered her two-run triple to right field. Llano replaced Kahora. Macaluso scored on a wild pitch. Calugay tripled and scored on Hobson's groundout to second.

Hobson's only threat came in the fourth inning. Lerner led off with a wiggling infield single near second base. Kekelis looped a two-out single over first and Llano loaded the bases with a free pass. Hobson, however, struck out Brianna Davey.

Only four Blue Devils stepped to the plate in the fourth and only four Raiders stepped to the plate in the fifth.

As the top seed for the Union County Tournament, the Blue Devils were reeling after being stunned, 2-1, by the Brearley Bears in the quarterfinal round but they have definitely been on the right path of regrouping.

"That's why single elimination tournaments are so fun. It's win and move on, lose and go home. Unfortunately that was not our best day and give Brearley credit. They came out here and beat us. They had no fear. They came out ready to do the job and they did the job. Now moving forward all the credit goes to this team that is now back on the horse and ready to go," Blue Devil Head Coach Caitlin Chedder said.

"We've been trying to do more bonding stuff. We've been playing really hard teams to get back into things. We've been trying to ignore it and learn from it," Fernandez answered.

The Blue Devils have certainly got back on the horse with three very competitive games. On May 25, the Blue Devils were edged, 3-0, by 24-4 Mahwah and on May 27, eighth-ranked Livingston nipped them, 4-2. But on May 28, the Blue Devils toppled No. 3, 21-3 Immaculate Heart Academy, 6-5.

"We have been playing some pretty good competition from last week. We played Livingston, IHA (Immaculate Heart Academy) and Mahwah. They were all pretty close games. We lost to Mahwah by three and Livingston by two but we beat IHA by one and they were the number 2 or 3 team in the state. I think we prepared ourselves pretty well. After the loss, we mentally prepared ourselves. It's working well so far," Hobson added.

Next, the Blue Devils would host a quarterfinal game with sixth-seeded Phillipsburg, 9-3, winners over Ridge.

Coach Cheddar added, "We added a couple of games on our schedule because we had some open dates and added some games that were tough. They feel and I feel like we are prepped. We are ready to compete. Anything can happen on any day but we absolutely are counting ourselves in this tournament."

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Westfield	606	0x		12

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Please take notice that on June 23, 2021 at 7:30 PM the Planning Board will hold a virtual hearing on the application of the undersigned. The property in question is located at: 3 Shasta Pass, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 71 Lot 34, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by Nikhil Gupta & Akanksha Gaur.

The applicant requests Addition of a master bedroom, family room and extending the kitchen towards the backyard which is in violation of:

Section Article 184-115(E4) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Front Yard Setback (towards Midway Avenue) - 30 feet required; Permitted: 30 feet; Present: 22.7 feet; Proposed: Expands the front yard setback offered at 22.7 feet.

Section Article 184-115(E5) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Side Yard Setback - 10 feet required; Permitted: 10 feet; Present: The principal dwelling existing at 7.5 feet; Proposed: Expands the front yard setback offered at 7.5 feet.

The applicant will also seek such other relief as may be determined necessary at the public hearing based upon review of the application or amendment(s) to the application.

The file pertaining to this application is available for public inspection 10 days prior to the hearing at https://www.fanwoodnj.org/departments/planning-board/.

Any interested party at said hearing may participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Fanwood Planning Board.

Instructions for virtual participation can be found at https://www.fanwoodnj.org/departments/planning-board/.

Applicant:
Nikhil Gupta & Akanksha Gaur
3 Shasta Pass
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023

1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $41.31

PUBLIC NOTICE

WESTFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING NOTIFICATION

TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Westfield Memorial Library will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is regarding Personnel. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM via Zoom. Zoom links are available on the library's calendar of events found on the library's website and will be posted on the library's Facebook page the week of the meeting.

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $14.28

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Raider Sac Fly Nips Minutemen in Sectional, 5-4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

In the Raider third inning, Martin pulled off a perfect one-out, bunt single, stole second base and scored on Chris Smith's single to leftfield.

"This was something I was planning on doing myself. If Ryan Jones (previous batter) got on base or if he didn't, I was going to bunt either way," Martin revealed.

Alex Smith ran into some difficulty in the top of the fourth, beginning with a leadoff single to Jon Rosado. Fernandez was hit-by-a-pitch and AJ Davis walked to load the bases with no one out. Rojas lined a two-run single to left, knotting the score at 2-2. Smith struck out the next batter and Trivisonno scored.

Rosado started the Elizabeth sixth inning with a double down the third base line then tied the scored once again when Davis singled to left. But Johnson put the Raiders back on top, 4-3, when he doubled to center and scored on Mackey's single to center.

The Minutemen were not done and began the seventh inning with a leadoff walk to Duran. Lunar laid down a sacrifice bunt that drew in the third baseman. Duran rounded second and headed for third as Lorenzetti scooted to cover the bag. After a very close play, Duran was ruled safe. Angel Deoza then lined out to left as Duran then catcher Beauregard gunned down Davis attempting to steal third. Arian Lunar grounded out to Lorenzetti for the third out.

The Raiders regained the lead 3-2 in the bottom of the inning. Beauregard slashed a single past first and his courtesy runner Jason Trivisonno stole second base then advanced to third on a wild pitch. Mackey walked and when he pulled off a delayed steal, the catcher's throw sailed into centerfield scored the tying run.

Martin led off the Raider seventh with a free pass then skipped to second on a balk call. Lorenzetti walked and Chris Smith was hit-by-a-pitch, loading the bases to set the exciting finale when Kennedy got a hold of the ball well enough to send it to deep center. Martin tagged up and sped home.

"My heart was racing. The whole moment my heart was racing. My mind was all over the place. I knew I had to get in. There was zero outs and he had the clutch hit," Martin expressed.

"There were no outs, so I was feeling a little less pressure than earlier in the game. The infield was in. I was just trying to get something that I could get into the outfield. First pitch was off-speed hanging right over the middle. I knew I could put it out into the outfield. I knew Shawn was at third, so as soon as I saw that ball go to the outfield, I knew he was going to score," Kennedy added.

Two years ago the Raiders were the sixth seed for the Union County Tournament and went on to win the crown with a 4-0 win over AL Johnson. As the sixth seed in the sectional, the Raiders have something to prove.

Looking ahead, Lorenzetti said, "The way we have been playing these past few games, I like where we are at. I think that we are really coming together compared to earlier in the year. The pitching has been great, the defense has been great. We are hitting the ball hard, so hopefully we can keep this up."

"We definitely improved a lot during the season. We are hitting the ball hard," Martin added.

"This team really doesn't quit. A lot of times during the season we came back from large deposits, especially towards the end of the games. Our team keeps fighting until the end. I think we can make a run," Kennedy concluded.

Elizabeth	000	201	1	4
Sc Pl-Fanwood	101	101	1	5

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

CAUGHT STEALING...Raider third baseman Sean Kennedy gets the throw from catcher Ryan Beauregard and puts the tag on Minuteman AJ Davis in the fourth inning during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 first round game.

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

DELIVERING ANOTHER IMPRESSIVE CHECK...Blue Devil midfielder James Scorba, No. 14, delivers an impressive check on a Hillsborough attacker during the North Jersey Group 4 quarterfinal game in Westfield on June 3.

Blue Devils Level Hillsborough in Boys Lax, 19-3

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

yielding one. In the end, Hazard was credited with winning eight of nine face-offs and Murphy won eight of 10 face-offs.

Prybylski (2 goals, assist) put a vertical line on the scoreboard 1:02 into the first quarter with a sidearm fling. Within 13 seconds, senior attacker Aidan McLane (4 goals, assist) made the score 2-0. The Blue Devils won the face-off but the Hillsborough goalkeeper Joey Schwarz (12 saves) made a great save which would lead to their first goal when Drew Ryan scored with 9:18 on the clock. Schwarz made another save but Blue Devil defender Trey Brown pulled off a slick intercept and brought the ball downfield where midfielder Dan Cano (3 goals) made the score 3-1.

Schwarz made another key stop and this time Loukas Ganas fired in a shot with 2:09 left of the quarter to tighten the score at 3-2. Within 25 seconds, Prybylski notched his second goal. Then in the final seconds, Schwarz made another save on Prybylski's shot.

From that point onward, the game would result in a heavy shelling by the Blue Devils, who won the second quarter 6-0 to make the score 10-2 at the half. Cano scored his second goal 47 seconds into the quarter. Blue Devil goalkeeper Matt Gruters (5 saves) got into the act with a great save that would eventually lead to McLane assisting James Haley on the first of his five goals. With 7:51 on the clock, McLane nailed his second goal.

One minute later Cano made the score 8-2 then with 5:47 remaining in the quarter, Haley scored unassisted. Within the next three minutes, Gruters would add a pair of nice saves and add a great intercept on the right corner that would lead to sophomore Ryan Waldman (goal, 2 assists) assisting McLane on his third goal. With the Blue Devils leading 10-2 with 40 seconds remaining, Gruters would pull off another intercept, this time on the left corner.

Sophomore Quinn Wojcik (4 saves) went in goal for the Blue Devils, who would win the third quarter 4-1 and go on to win the final quarter 5-0. Haley would net three more goals and McLane would score his fourth. Waldman, Murphy, Dylan Wragg, Paul Tilyou and Luke Mokrycki would all score once.

The Blue Devils' next opponent would be in the semifinal round on June 5 against fourth-seeded Hunterdon Central, 8-5 winners over fifth-seeded Bridgewater-Raritan.

Hillsborough	2	0	1	0	3
Westfield	4	6	4	5	19

Raider Lax Girls Halt Morris Knolls, 14-8

Elle Priesing netted four goals and Trish Gillen put in three goals and added a pair of assists to lead the fifth-seeded, 14-2 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls lacrosse team to a 14-8 victory over 12th-seeded Morris Knolls in Scotch Plains on June 1. Kathryn Power had two goals and an assist. Hailey Kinard and Carly Walker both netted a pair of goals. Isabella DiLollo had a goal and an assist. Goalkeeper Alyssa Barbossa made four saves.

Baseball Raiders Rock Roxbury Nine, 10-8

Ryan Jones tripled, doubled and scored twice as the 11-9 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School baseball team defeated 11-14 Roxbury, 10-8, on June 1. Lucas Mackey went 2-for-2 with a double and a stolen base. Shawn Martin singled, walked, scored twice, had an RBI and swiped a base.

Chris Smith singled twice and had an RBI. Dallas Lorenzetti singled, scored twice, had two RBI and was hit-by-a-pitch. Ryan Beauregard doubled and had two RBI. Stefon Johnson singled and scored once. Kyle Wester walked and scored once. Sean Kennedy singled, had two RBI and scored once. Brendan Karyczak went 1-for-1 and swiped a base. Jason Trivisonno scored once. John Shults pitched four innings and picked up the win.

Randolph Tops Cougars In Boys Lax Section

The hosting fourth-seeded Randolph High School boys lacrosse team defeated the 13th-seeded Cranford Cougars, 8-4, on June 1. Jake Icklan and Nate Caldwell each scored a goal and added an assist for the 8-7 Cougars. Andrew Curran and Drew Goldfeder each scored once.

Cougars Swat Millers In Section Softball, 10-0

Sophia DeMarco thumped a home run and had four RBI, while Morrigan Gardiner tossed a no-hitter, walked two and struck out eight as the sixth-seeded Cranford High School softball team shut out the 11th-seeded Millburn Millers, 10-0, in Cranford on June 1.

Liz McCaffery went 2-for-3 with an RBI, two runs scored and a stolen base. Giulia Olear went 2-for-3 with two RBI and two runs scored. Gardiner singled twice. Emma Ingraham singled, scored once and had an RBI. Maddy DeLong singled and scored once. Mia Markase had an RBI. Erin Zarzecki stole a base and scored.

Blue Devils Swamp Hunt Cent Lax Ladies

Addie Cummings poured it on about as much as Mother Nature did prior to the North Jersey, Group 4 Tournament quarterfinal game between second-seeded Westfield and seventh-seeded Hunterdon Central at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on June 4. Cummings rippled the net seven times to lead the 12-6, No. 14 Blue Devils to a 13-6 triumph over the visiting, 13-6 Red Devils.

Avery Hoeft scored a pair of goals and contributed three assists. Sofia Della Rocco netted two goals and Maggie Aslanian had a goal and an assist. LJ Kehler scored once and Ellie Kate Brown had a pair of assists. Goalkeeper Mia Fleming made nine saves. Abby Lazntos scored two goals and had an assist for Hunterdon Central and Jordan Sponzo scored twice.

Hunterdon Central	0	6	6
Westfield	6	7	13

More Shorts next page

High School Sport Shorts:

Cougars Oust Colonia In Softball Section, 10-4

Senior Liz McCaffery became a wrecking machine with a pair of home runs, a single, five RBI, three runs scored, a walk and a stolen base as the sixth-seeded Cranford High School softball team ousted third-seeded Colonia from the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament with an 10-4 victory in the quarterfinal round in Colonia on June 4. Winning pitcher Morrigan Gardiner allowed four hits, walked eight and struck out 12 Patriots.

Sophia DeMarco tripled, singled, scored once and had an RBI. Ava Manfra singled twice, scored once and stole a base. Gardiner had a pair of singles, doubled and added an RBI. Mia Markase singled, scored once and had an RBI. Ellie Grace Pachkowski walked three times, scored twice and swiped a base. Maddy DeLong singled and scored once. Erin Zarzecki scored once.

Cranford	033	210	1	10
Colonia	000	000	4	4

Hunt. Central Shocks Blue Devil Laxers, 13-11

Fourth-seeded Hunterdon Central scored five times in the fourth quarter to pull off a shocking, 13-11, victory over top-seeded Westfield in the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Group 4 Tournament on June 5.

Aidan McLane scored seven goals for the 11-5 Blue Devils and Mack Prybylski scored twice and had a assist. Ryan Waldman and James Haley each scored once. Will Fitzpatrick scored four goals and added an assist for the 13-4 Red Devils, while Dylan Johnson had three goals and an assist, and Harrison Burd netted three goals.

Hunterdon Cent	3	3	2	5	13
Westfield	2	4	3	2	11

Blue Devils Fall to Mahwah, Livingston; Defeat No. 3 IHA in Softball Clashes

The Westfield High School softball team had a very busy and very competitive last week of May that began with a 3-0 setback to 24-4 Mahwah on May 25. Two days later, the No. 8, 14-4 Livingston Lancers held off the Blue Devils, 4-2, but on May 28, Westfield, trailing 4-1, scored five runs in the top of the seventh inning to nip No. 3, 21-3 Immaculate Heart Academy (IHA), 6-5.

Ally Fernandez got the only hit against Mahwah. Westfield pitcher Michaela Hobson allowed four hits and three walks, while striking out eight. Mahwah yielded no walks. Against the Lancers, Kalea Calugay had two singles and an RBI. Cat Heflin, Grace Loder and Aden Brooks each singled. Fernandez and Alivia Macaluso each scored once. Hobson walked seven, allowed six hits and struck out three.

In the victory over IHA, Emily Gordon whacked a three-run triple and scored once. Loder doubled, singled and scored once. Macaluso singled and had an RBI. Emma Pietrewicz walked twice and scored once. Brooks and Heflin both singled and scored once. Fernandez scored once.

Raiders Top Princeton In Lax Section, 17-10

Mikey Kloepfer fired in four goals and added a pair of assists, while Jake Monroy netted four goals to lead the third-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys lacrosse team to a 17-10 victory over sixth-seeded Princeton in the quarterfinal round of the North Jersey, Group 3 Tournament at Scotch Plains on June 3.

Sandro Frias netted two goals and three assists for the 15-4 Raiders. Chase Alber had two goals and an assist. Matt Power had a goal and an assist. Tim Paprocki, Joe Kowalczyk, Ben Root and Brian Roessle each scored once. Connor Jablonski had an assist. Ethan Filler won 21 of 28 face-offs. Pat Kenah led 9-4 Princeton with four goals and three assists.

Princeton	2	2	3	3	10
Sc Pl-Fanwood	8	4	3	2	17

Chatham Stops Raiders In Boys Lax Semi, 9-7

The second-seeded Chatham Cougars defeated the third-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood boys lacrosse team 9-7 in the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Group 3 Tournament in Chatham on June 5. Jake Monroy scored twice and had an assist for the 15-5 Raiders, while Joe Kowalczyk scored twice and Chase Alber scored once and added an assist. Alex Werkheiser and Matt Power each scored once. Kenny Yeager and Sandro Frias each had an assist.

PUBLIC NOTICE **PUBLIC NOTICE**

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION PUBLICATON NO. 680-020

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 12, 1970, SECTION 3685, TITLE 39, UNITED STATES CODE, SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF THE WESTFIELD LEADER AS OF MAY 13, 2021.

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The known corporation holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:

Gale Force Media, LLC T/A The Westfield Leader/The Times, P.O. Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

Lauren S. Barr, PO Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

Jon-Henry Barr, PO Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

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B. Paid Circulation		
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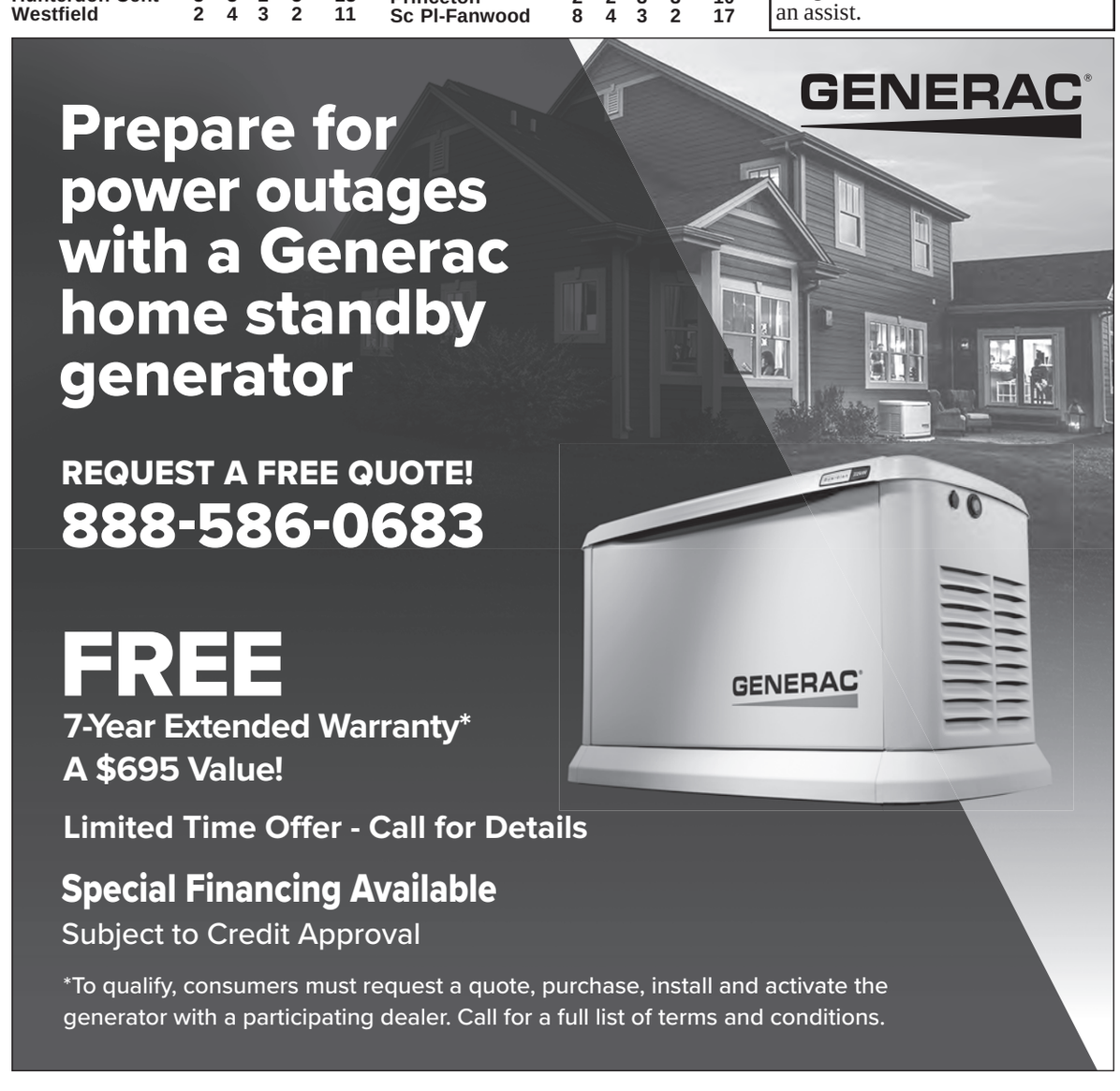
3. Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors and counter sales	201	216
C. Total paid circulation	2,917	2,789
D. Free distribution by mail		
1. Copies mailed	256	9,864
3. Outside of mail	15	15
E. Total Free Distribution	271	9,884
F. Total Distributin (C+E)	3,188	12,673
G. Copies not distributed	438	327
H. TOTAL (F+G)	3,626	13,000
16A. Paid Electronic Copies	80	70

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Lauren S. Barr
Publisher

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader



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Courtesy of Blossom Gao

WINNING A PLAYOFF GAME...Team Astros of the Westfield Baseball League 7-10th grade division won their first round playoff game, 12-0, at Tamaques Park on June 1. Team Astros had a successful regular season and all players are improving their baseball skills. Every game is a total team effort and all the Astros players and coaches are enjoying the season.

Union County Senior 60+ Softball League Standings:

60+ A DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Renda Roads	10	0
Linwood II	9	1
Liberty Lighting Group	6	4
Linwood TapHouse 2	4	6
Cranford VFW	1	9

60+ B DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Awnings Galore	7	3
Kenilworth VFW	7	3
Yogi's Boys	4	6
NJ Governmental Services	2	8
DeBellis Associates	0	10

Liberty 17, Cranford VFW2 9

LLG's Rick Regenthal and Willie Jackson each went 3-for-3. Andre Thomas and John Garced replicated the 3-for-3 then added a HR and 3 RBI each. Kevin Carroll led the Cranford VFW offense going 3-for-3 with a HR and scoring twice. Dave Rothenberg helped Cranford's run production with a 3-run HR and scoring twice. Brian McDermott went 3-for-3 with a double and 3 RBI. Marty Joyce and Gerard McDermott had two hits and combined for 3 runs.

Linwood II 20, Awnings Galore 7

For Awnings, substitute pitcher Angie Melillo held his own to contain Linwood's bats. Frank Green contributed 2 hits including a triple. Johnnie Jordan and John Campanella also had two hits.

Linwood's Bill Buteau was moved up in the lineup this game and showed that maybe he should stay there by belting 3 HRs in his first 3 at-bats. Also contributing to the cause were John Amato 4-for-4 and Al Genova with 3 hits. A solid team defense kept Awnings in check.

Kenilworth VFW 17, NJ Gov. 2

Behind Ron Kulik's 3 hits and 2 each from Bob D'Meo, Bill Vanderstreet (4RBI), Keith Durrett, Tom Beninato, Jose Jimenez, Howie Busch (3RBI,) and a game ending HR by Chris Kaminski, VFW defeated NJ Govt. Services 17-2 at Tremley Field. George Brokaw pitched a fine game and added 3 RBI. Each player for VFW had at least one hit.

Union County Senior 50+ Softball League Standings:

50+ A DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Deegan Roofing	7	2
Douglas VW	6	3
Jun's Pro Services	6	4
Phenomenal Boyz	7	5

50+ B DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
All Pipes Plumbing	10	3
Linwood Tap House	8	2
Contact Lens & Vision	7	4
Rocky's Bar & Grill	5	5
Cranford VFW	5	6
Sonia's BCE	3	6
FutonWorld	1	11

50+ C DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Suspenders	6	5
Linda's Driftwood Bar & Grill	4	6
Garwood Metal	4	7
AJ Jersey	2	10

Sonia's BCE 15, FutonWorld 14

Down 6 runs in the top of the 7th and with 2 outs, Sonia plated 7 runs to take the game. Al Colon (2 HR) hit the home run to take the lead. Ken Zeidner had a home run, while Jose Cortes doubled and tripled for Sonia's. For the Futon Boys, John Tropeano went 4-4 (HR), Pete Corvelli had 2 hits (HR) and Tom Rena contributed with 3 hits and 2 great catches in the outfield.

All Pipes 22, Linda's Driftwood 2 7

The superb pitching of Mario Fastiggi was the highlight in this contest. Brian Clark and Al Dente (4RBI) both had 3 hits, while Joe Han (HR, 2RBI,) Chris Morrison (3RBI), Matt Hoynowski (2RBI), John McClung (3RBI), Chris Jones and Dennis Maluchnik (2RBI) each contributed 2 hits to the Plumbers offense.

Phenomenal Boyz 24, Jun's 13

Despite an early 12-5 Jun's lead, the Boyz came back to tie the game in the 6th inning and went on to record the victory. Walt Patrylo and Jose Lora continued their torrid hitting for Jun's.

Linwood Tap 18, Garwood Metal 3

Strong pitching by Bill Sharkey, and solid hitting including 6 runs in the first inning, led the Tap House to victory. Ronnie Patterson (2 HR), Dave Dudas, Brian Latham and Slope Rzewuski had three hits each. Adding 2 hits apiece were Steve D'Amato (HR), Tim Mulhall, Shawn Smith and Paul Cassidy. Garwood Metal was led by Ron Kulik, Bill McCormack and Paul Falzarano with 2 hits apiece.

AJ Jersey 5, Suspenders 4

It was a pitchers' duel that came down to the last out. Great defensive plays by Gary Roman, Steve Hobson and Greg Hobson, along with a stellar pitching performance by Mike Blancato, secured the win for AJ. Mike Rosenberg was 2/2 with 3 RBI and Gary Roman had an extra base hit. Suspenders received great pitching from Carl Brennan and played good defense.

Cranford VFW 16, Sonia's 11

Tom Klein led the way for Cranford, going 4-4 including a long HR that landed in the middle of Wood Ave. Juan Moreno and Dan Ravetier each had three hits. Chris Kaminski, John Fiore, Carl Gamba and Bob Ghiretti chipped in with two hits each for the VFW.

Phenomenal Boyz 15, Linwood 6

In a rain shortened game, Ronnie Patterson led the way for Linwood with 2 hits (HR centerfield out of park). Mark Grossman (HR), Kevin Robinson, Brian Latham and Steve D'Amato added 2 hits each for the Tap Men.

All Pipes 13, Futon World 8

In a shortened 6 inning game, the Plumbers hitting attack was led by Vinnie Rappa (3H, HR, 3RBI), Alan Dente (4H), Matt Hoynowski (3H), Chris Jones (3H), Chris Morrison (2H, HR, 3RBI), Mario Fastiggi (2H, RBI) and Brian Clark (2H, RBI). Once again a good pitching effort from Fastiggi, and 2 excellent plays in right field by Matt Hoynowski. For Futon, John Tropeano went 3-for-3, and Tom Rena, Pat Peterpaul and Dave Wayman each contributed 2 hits.

Raider Laxers Crunch Mt. Olive in Sections

The third-seeded, 14-4 Scotch Plains-Fanwood boys lacrosse team crunched 14th-seeded Mt. Olive in the first round of the North Jersey, Group 3 Tournament in Scotch Plains on June 1. Jake Monroy and Mikey Kloepfer each netted three goals. Chase Alber scored twice. Matt Power and Joe Kowalczyk each had a goal and an assist. Joey Larmore scored once and Sandro Frias had a pair of assists.

More H.S. Sport Shorts

Blue Devils Shut out East Brunswick, 17-0

The second-seeded, 11-6 Westfield High School girls lacrosse team rolled over 15th-seeded East Brunswick, 17-0, in the first round of the North Jersey, Group 4 Tournament in Westfield on June 1. Addie Cummings flicked in four goals and added four assists, while Ellie Kate Brown scored four goals and Avery Hoeft had two goals and two assists.

Maddie Butler scored twice. LJ Kehler, Maggie Aslanian and Lucy Mineo each had a goal and an assist. Mia Fleming and Paige Gorczyca each scored once. Goalkeeper Jessica Zdep made three saves.

Blue Devils Defeat Newark East Side, 5-3

Winning pitcher Chris Ho recorded 10 strikeouts, while allowing four hits and three walks until he was relieved by Enzo Mizerek with two outs in the sixth inning to lead the fourth-seeded Westfield High School baseball team to a 5-3 victory over 13th-seeded Newark East Side in Westfield on June 2. Matt Melao went 2-for-3 with an RBI, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Jake Watson doubled and scored once. Ho singled and had two RBI. Mike McKenna singled, scored once and had an RBI. Mizerek walked, stole a base and scored once.

Nwk East Side	201	000	0	3
Westfield	230	000	x	5

HAPPY GOPHERS...Pictured, left to right, are: Lyla Bird, Mia Zbranak, Talia Esposito, Lexi Paul, Emma Borden, Nicki Del Re and Morgan Eckenthal of the Gophers celebrating with Ice Cream Truck goodies after the game.

GSLW Gophers Hold Bruins in Check

The Minnesota Gophers, thanks to some slick fielding in the infield by Talia Esposito, Lyla Bird and catcher Lexi Paul (throwing out a runner stealing at 3rd) held the Bruins in check most of the evening on May 27 at Memorial Field M1.

Chipping in at bat were Mia Zbranak, Ellie Braun and Phoebe Klag all with hits and RBI. The big blow came in a five-run inning when Morgan Eckenthal laced a three-run double to break open the game early.

Danica Lai responded with her own RBI double crushed to the outfield and pitcher Olivia Perez came in to shut down the Gophers over the last few innings, but the early damage was done as the Gophers stranded the game-tying run on third with two outs in the top of the sixth to secure the win over the Bruins. Amelia Donnelly and Kara Benacchio chipped in with clutch hits as well for the Bruins.

Mia Zbranak pitched three solid innings giving up two runs while Talia Esposito had a rocky fourth inning but was able to get that final out to save the victory.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD
PLANNING/ZONING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CASE #PB21-02

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., the Borough of Garwood Planning Board ("Planning Board") will hold a virtual/electronic public hearing (there will be no in-person meeting) on the application ("Application") of Garwood Paperboard Urban Renewal Associates, LLC ("Applicant").

The property ("Property"), which is the subject of the Application, is located at 75 North Avenue and designated as Block 211, Lot 6 on the Borough of Garwood tax maps. The Property is located in the Garwood Paperboard Redevelopment Area and is subject to the Garwood Paperboard Redevelopment Plan ("Redevelopment Plan").

This Application seeks preliminary and final major site plan, minor subdivision, and variance approvals to permit the development of a four-story, 124-unit inclusionary multifamily building and associated site improvements on the Property.

The Applicant requires the following variances from Section 3.1.C (Table 3) of the Redevelopment Plan: (1) a variance to permit a gross floor area of approximately 109,239 square feet where a maximum gross floor area of 101,000 square feet is otherwise required; and (2) a variance to permit a building footprint of approximately 28,861 square feet where a maximum building footprint of 28,000 square feet is otherwise required.

The Applicant does not believe that any other approvals, variances, deviations, exceptions, design waivers, or permits are required for the Application. However, the Applicant intends to request at the hearing any other approvals, variances, deviations, permits, exceptions, design waivers and/or permits as are required to utilize the Property in the manner indicated in the application materials.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in response to the COVID-19 emergency, pursuant to Governor Murphy's 2020 New Jersey Executive Orders Nos. 103, 107, et seq. and per the corresponding guidelines issued by the N.J.D.C.A. Division of Local Government Services, the public hearing will be conducted virtually, via RingCentral, and the hearing will be accessible to the public at the below login: Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/6432970558

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

You may participate at said public hearing to present any and all objections, or support, you may have, and any other general comments, relative to the Application, so that all interested parties may be heard.

All application documents, plans, filed materials exhibits and related information will be accessible online at www.garwood.org. All filings will be submitted / available within the applicable statutory deadlines. If a member of the public lacks the technology capability to view materials online, log-in and/or dial-in to the proceeding(s), it is recommended that the Board Secretary be contacted to determine how to obtain/review physical documents, whether at the Borough of Garwood Municipal Building (403 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey) at some other location designated by the municipality or by mailing, at the municipality's determination. Contact alewis@garwood.org Adele C. Lewis Board Secretary- Garwood Planning/Zoning Board.

Dated: June 4, 2021

By: Peter M. Flannery, Esq.
BISGAIER HOFF, LLC
25 Chestnut Street, Suite 3
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033
(856) 795-0150
Attorneys for the Applicant

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $83.13

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION
PUBLICATION NO. 485-200

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 12, 1970, SECTION 3685, TITLE 39, UNITED STATES CODE, SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF THE TIMES AS OF MAY 13, 2021.

Frequency of issues: Weekly.

Location of office of publication: 425 North Avenue, East, Westfield, Union County, New Jersey 07090.

Legal publication: $0.51 per agate.

The name and address of the publisher and editor are:

Lauren S. Barr, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief, PO Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

The known corporation holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:

Gale Force Media, LLC T/A The Westfield Leader/The Times, P.O. Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

Lauren S. Barr, PO Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

Jon-Henry Barr, PO Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091.

	Avg. No. Copies each issue during preceding 12 months	Actual No. Copies of single issue published nearest to filing date
A. Total No. of Copies printed (Net press run)	1,181	1,000
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Paid subscriptions mailed (B1+B2)	706	657
3. Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors and counter sales	48	46
C. Total paid circulation	754	703
D. Free distribution by mail		
1. Nonrequested copies mailed	207	8
3. Nonreqested outside of mail	5	5
E. Total Free Distribution	212	13
F. Total Distributin (C+E)	966	716
G. Copies not distributed	136	284
H. TOTAL (F+G)	1,102	1,000
16A. Paid Electronic Copies	80	70

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

LAUREN S. BARR
Publisher

1 T - 06/10/21, The Times

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD

INVITATION TO 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, June 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., for the "2021 IMPROVEMENT OF WILLOW GROVE ROAD (between Rahway Avenue & Lamberts Mill Road), 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:

1,825 tons of 2 inch thick Superpave Hot Mix Asphalt Surface Course
14,500 square yards of Milling, Variable thickness
40 square yards Concrete Sidewalk, 4 inches thick

Due to its proximity and impact to Westfield schools, work on this street must be completed no later than August 27, 2021.

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.

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 workmen 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.

This project is being funded by a Transportation Trust Fund Grant administered by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Arrangements to obtain the plans and specifications for this project must be made by contacting the office of the Town Engineer at 908-789-4100, ext. 4606, or engineer@westfieldnj.gov. 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.

Kris J. McAloon
Town Engineer

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $67.83

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD

INVITATION TO 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, June 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., for the "2021 IMPROVEMENT OF PROSPECT STREET (between Dudley Avenue & Brightwood Avenue), 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:

1,600 tons of 2 inch thick Superpave Hot Mix Asphalt Surface Course
12,500 square yards of Milling, Variable thickness
125 square yards Concrete Sidewalk, 4 inches thick

Due to its proximity and impact to Westfield schools, work on this street must be completed no later than August 27, 2021.

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.

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 workmen 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.

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Arrangements to obtain the plans and specifications for this project must be made by contacting the office of the Town Engineer at 908-789-4100, ext. 4606, or engineer@westfieldnj.gov. 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.

Kris J. McAloon
Town Engineer

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $68.73

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-007657-20
FILE NO. 20-00326

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: HEIRS, DEVISEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND HIS, HER, THEIR OR ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS IN RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST OF ROBERTO CORREA; MRS. CORREA, WIFE OF DECEASED MORTGAGOR ROBERTO CORREA; ET ALS.

YOU ARE HEREBY summoned and required to serve upon **LEOPOLD & ASSOCIATES, PLLC,** Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is **80 BUSINESS PARK DRIVE, SUITE 110, ARMONK, NEW YORK 10504**, an answer to the Complaint and Amendment to Complaint filed in a civil action in which **ROBERTO CORREA, HIS HEIRS, DEVISEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND HIS, HER, THEIR OR ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS IN RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST; MRS. CORREA, WIFE OF DECEASED MORTGAGOR ROBERTO CORREA; OLINDA RODRIGUEZ; MRS. CORREA, WIFE OF ROBERTO CORREA; MR. RODRIGUEZ, HUSBAND OF OLINDA RODRIGUEZ; PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCS LLC; STATE OF NEW JERSEY; DISCOVER BANK; HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER; MIDLAND FUNDING LLC; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,** are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing **DOCKET NUMBER F-007657-20**, within 35 days after **06/10/2021**, exclusive of such date or if published after **06/10/2021**, 35 days after the actual date of publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint and Amendment to Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, together with your check in the sum of $175.00 representing the filing fee in accordance with the rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated **07/19/2006**, made by **ROBERTO CORREA and OLINDA RODRIGUEZ** as mortgagors, to **MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR COUNTRYWIDE BANK, N.A.** recorded on **07/28/2006** in **UNION** County in **BOOK 11789** page **747**, and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as **111 FLORAL STREET, ROSELLE, NEW JERSEY 07203**, Lot **5**, Block **6103**.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey Bar Association by calling **732-249-5000**. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling **201-488-0044.** If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling **201-488-0032.**

YOU, **HEIRS, DEVISEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND HIS, HER, THEIR OR ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS IN RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST OF ROBERTO CORREA** are made a defendant because you are the heir of **ROBERTO CORREA** the original obligor, mortgagor and record owner of the mortgaged premises, who passed away, and because you may have an ownership interest in the mortgaged premises and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in to or against the mortgaged premises.

YOU, **MRS. CORREA, WIFE OF DECEASED MORTGAGOR ROBERTO CORREA** are made a defendant because you are the heir of **ROBERTO CORREA** the original obligor, mortgagor and record owner of the mortgaged premises, who passed away, and because you may have an ownership interest in the mortgaged premises and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in to or against the mortgaged premises.

DATED: June 4, 2021

MICHELLE M. SMITH, CLERK
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

This is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

LEOPOLD & ASSOCIATES, PLLC
80 Business Park Drive, Suite 110
Armonk, New York 10504
(914) 219-5787

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $96.39

Elections 2021

Garrett Vows to Bring Back Bulk Pick-Up if Elected

As I write this piece in 90-degree weather, I am reminded of the first summer my husband, Bill, and I had in our first Westfield home 16 years ago. We had moved into a home in need of much love, spending every dollar we had to become suburban homeowners. At the time, we had no air conditioning or cable - nor the budget to install them -- so our first summer was spent with open windows and no Entourage or Sex and the City.

I vividly remember lying in bed on a hot June night in 2005 listening to the surprising rustling of people going through my neighbor's bulk items that were set curbside for pick up. Before Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace, the bulk pickup was the place to be for great finds. However, I did not enjoy the idea of people driving around town in search of curbside treasures. Though trouble never surfaced and my neighbors welcomed this annual event enthusiastically, I did in fact eventually embrace it. I too even lucked out with a few repurposed pieces for our new home.

As the years continued, this early summer tradition remained a constant. Bill and I now had three kids, all of whom came with a lot of stuff. Yes, the internet provided us with more opportunities than in years' past to upcycle, donate or make a sale for cents on the dollar, yet we still had items that served their time and were ready to go. We would chip in with neighbors for the cost of the permit and by June my garage would be functional again for another year.

Sadly, Westfielders are in our second straight year of no bulk pickup. Westfield's last Bulk Pick up was in 2019 with a cost of $185 for a permit. However, you will notice this weekend your neighbors in Garwood are hosting their annual Town Wide Yard Sale. Garwood has been hosting this for many years and it is quickly followed-up with the town's annual bulk pick up and this year it is at a cost of s $105 per permit (750lb limit) that can be shared amongst neighbors.

Am I wrong to ask if Garwood can pull this off, why can't Westfield?

If you ask our current administration if there is a need for Bulk Pick Up, they will explain that participation was declining and that the Green Team's "Free Market" at the Westfield Train Station is a successful alternative. The "Free Market" event is free for all who partake and the town's hard-working Department of Public Works employees along with volunteers work tirelessly on a Saturday to make it a success. After this year's event, it became noticeably clear that our town's residents have quickly picked up on the fact that this can also be a permit free way to get rid of their undesirable items. Green Drop will send a small truck at the end of the event for no cost, yet the town is left holding the bag and its employees work into the night disposing of the waste the Green Drop did not deem suitable for donation and therefore was left behind. We should all ask ourselves whether this is a proper and efficient use of our towns tax dollars as well as an efficient use of the time of our hard-working town employees? The Reclamation Center does offer an option to dispose of bulk waste for $30 per carload, yet many do not have the vehicles or the physical assistance necessary to make this a viable option. As I talk with neighbors and residents, the same question is being asked: Why can't the days of easy to dispose of permit curbside pickup return?

If elected, I will advocate for the return of Bulk Pick-Up because I believe it is a service our town residents want and need. It is clear that many residents want a bit of Spring Cleaning to tidy up the homes they take so much pride in. The ease of walking down their driveways and moving on with their day is efficient and attractive.

As my 14-year-old enthusiastically exclaims as we wait for the return of Bulk Pick-Up, "until next year garage, until next year"!

Denise Garrett
Ward 2 Council Candidate
Westfield

Public Safety is Crucial to Quality of Life in a Community

Public safety is a crucial component of quality of life in a community. I've heard from a number of my neighbors about concerns they've had over the years related to street safety and listened to their suggestions about how to better protect themselves and their families while getting around Town. As the Chair of the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee (PSTP), I'd like to share some of the steps we've taken to improve street safety for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

From 2018 -2020, the PSTP Committee approved 17 road striping projects that were completed throughout Westfield. Road striping narrows the roads, encourages drivers to slow down and adhere to the speed limit, leading to fewer accidents.

Specific to Ward 2, which I represent as councilman, there were several accidents and reported near misses at the intersection of St. Marks Avenue and South Euclid Avenue prior to 2019. After hearing the concerns of neighbors, we agreed to install temporary center islands and this intersection has since been accident-free.

After hearing many residents ask for heightened speed enforcement, I advocated for 15 speed box studies which were conducted by the Westfield Police Department from 2018-2020. Seven of these studies resulted in targeted speeding enforcement on Lawrence Avenue, Rahway Avenue and East Broad Street, which has directly contributed to a substantial reduction in automobile accidents.

In response to concerns about various dangerous intersections in town, we added five stop signs at problematic intersections, as well as at intersections around school drop off and pick up zones.

In addition to addressing public safety issues, the PSTP Committee also strives to improve various quality of life concerns. To support our struggling businesses the past two years, the Committee agreed to increase the hours of free parking at certain municipal parking lots and added several "15-minute free parking" pick up spots strategically placed throughout the downtown area.

We also heard from our downtown business owners that young bikers on busy sidewalks were a concern for their customers and staff considering the expanded uses of sidewalks during the pandemic. As a result, we added new signage and increased enforcement of the existing ordinance. In that same vein, my committee worked with the Westfield Police Department to reward residents "caught" wearing their bike helmets with gift cards to businesses in town and gave free helmets to kids riding without them.

We also helped commuters by adding a NJ Transit bus stop along both North and South Avenues, and supported residents by eliminating the unfair residential parking permit for those who lived on a street near the train station.

I've led initiatives to enhance traffic flow and improve pedestrian safety by adding signage to limit parking in several key areas. For example, we amended the Snowstorm Ordinance that deals specifically with alternate side of the street parking. We also restricted parking on one side of the street leading to and along parks to ensure ease of passage for emergency vehicles.

While the PSTP Committee may not be the most visible to the public, it has a significant impact on the safety and well-being of our residents. We work hard to keep our residents safe while ensuring traffic flow and improving your quality of life. We have many more ambitious projects in the works, including amplifying lighting throughout town and implementing the traffic light recommendations from the Bike/ Walk Study completed last year. As always, we welcome your input and thoughts on how to help make Westfield as safe and welcoming as possible.

Mike Dardia
Ward 2 Councilman
Chair, Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee
Westfield

Community Calendar

Brought to you by Trinitas Regional Medical Center

Wine & Cheese Networking Evening Thursday, June 10, 6 p.m. at Echo Lake Country Club, 515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield. Join the GWACC for a summer evening networking with business colleagues and acquaintances. Contact Gene Jannotti at gene@gwaccnj.com or (908) 233-3021.

Balance Awareness Class Fridays, June 11 and June 18, 10 a.m. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library via Zoom for a different approach to exercise. Older adults in particular are encouraged to join these classes, which are designed to address the loss of balance and strength that can occur with age. To register, please visit scotlib.org.

Virtual Wine Tasting Friday, June 11, 7:30 p.m. Join the Center for Hope to help support their mission of providing terminally ill patients with the natural, humane care known as hospice and their families or loved ones with physical, emotional, and spiritual support during their time of need. To register, visit cfhh.org, text WINE to 80888, or call (908) 889-7780.

A Doll's House, Part 2 Friday, June 11 through Sunday, June 13. Live theatre returns to the Crandford Dramatic Club theatre located at 78 Winans Avenue. To purchase tickets, please visit cdctheatre.org.

Astera Cancer Classes: All You Need to Know About Cancer Tuesday, June 15, 12 p.m. Become empowered with reliable, up-to-date information on health topics, without leaving your home or office. Taught by Astera Cancer Care specialists and other local medical expert. To register or for more information, please visit scotlib.org.

Afternoon Book Club Tuesday, June 15, 1:15 p.m. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library via Zoom to discuss The Dutch House by Ann Patchett. This is a richly moving story that explores the indelible bond between two siblings, the house of their childhood, and a past that will not let them go. To register, please visit scotlib.org/event/afternoon-book-club-42.

June Cookbook Club Thursday, June 17, 7 p.m. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library during an in-person meeting outside the library building. Select a Mediterranean cooking recipe from a cookbook in the library's collection or from any other source of your choosing. To register or for more information, please visit scotlib.org.

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow Monday, June 28, 7 p.m. The Scotch Plains Public Library will host the New-York Historical Society for a virtual presentation. Learn about both Southern and Northern roles in this dark chapter of our history as well as Black New Yorkers' organizing and community-building in the face of discrimination. To register, please visit scotlib.org/event/black-citizenship-in-the-age-of-jim-crow.

109th Season Summer Concert by Westfield Community Concert Band Thursday, July 1,7:30 p.m. Admission is free and located at Mindowaskin Park, East Broad Street, Westfield.

Cyber Security - Understanding and Protecting Against Ransomware Wednesday, July 7, 10 a.m. What is ransomware, how does it get in, and how can small businesses protect against it? To register, please visit score.tfaforms.net/17?EventID=a105a000006v1pU.

***

Submit events at www.goleader.com/calendar

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD
BOARD OF EDUCATION

A "virtual" Special Meeting of the Garwood Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

AGENDA

Executive Session ONLY to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation.
NO Formal Action to be taken.

Dr. Dennis R. Frohnapfel
Board Secretary
1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $13.77

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
PLANNING BOARD

MEETING NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, State of New Jersey, the public is hereby notified of the following schedule of regular meetings of the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, for the remainder of the year for 2021. Meetings will be conducted in-person with the workshop portion of the meeting held at 7:30 p.m. in Room 108, and the public meeting commencing at 8:00 p.m. in Council Chambers (Room 107). All foreseeable meetings, including workshop sessions, are designated as meetings at which formal action may be taken.

June	16	October	6 20
July	7 21	November	3
August	4 18	December	1 15
September	1 22		

Kathleen Murray, Chair
1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $26.52

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD
PLANNING BOARD

Please take notice that on June 23, 2021 at 7:30 PM the Planning Board will hold a virtual hearing on the application of the undersigned. The property in question is located at: 254 Midway Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 12 Lot 2, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by Francis & Moira Confer.

The applicant requests site plan with variances for a patio which is in violation of:

Section 184-114E(3) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Minimum Frontage; Permitted: 30 feet; Present: 23.2 feet; Proposed: 23.2 feet.

Section 184-115E(9) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Maximum Lot Coverage; Permitted: 35%; Present: 56.4%; Proposed: 47.6%.

Section 184-163C(2) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Maximum Driveway Width; Permitted: 18 feet; Present: 28.4 feet; Proposed: 28.4 feet.

Section 184-163E of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Minimum Driveway Setback; Permitted: 3 feet; Present: 0 feet; Proposed: 0 feet.

Section 184-115E(5) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Minimum Side Yard - Accessory - Patio; Permitted: 10 feet; Present: .2 feet (over); Proposed: 8 feet.

The applicant will also seek such other relief as may be determined necessary at the public hearing based upon review of the application or amendment(s) to the application.

The file pertaining to this application is available for public inspection 10 days prior to the hearing at https://www.fanwoodnj.org/departments/planning-board/.

Any interested party at said hearing may participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Fanwood Planning Board.

Instructions for virtual participation can be found at https://www.fanwoodnj.org/departments/planning-board/.

Applicant:
Francis & Moira Confer
254 Midway Avenue
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023
Attorney for Applicant:
John Wiley Jr.
216 Amboy Avenue
Metuchen, New Jersey 08840
1 T - 06/10/21, The Times Fee: $49.47

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD, BOARD OF EDUCATION
302 ELM STREET, WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD

The Westfield Board of Education has awarded contracts without competitive bidding as a professional service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 a (1). The contracts and the resolutions authorizing them are on file and available for public inspection in the office of Westfield Board Of Education.

Whereas, there exists a need for professional services in the specific area(s) mentioned below for the 2021-2022 school year for the following professional services and whereas, funds are available for this purpose, and whereas, the Public School Contracts Law (NJSA 18A:18A-1 et seq.) permits the award of contracts without competitive bids for Professional Services that require licensing and are regulated by law, and Whereas, the Public School Contracts Law requires that the Board of Education adopt a resolution awarding such contracts at a public meeting.

Dana Sullivan
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Richard Kaplow, P.A. Westfield, NJ NOT TO EXCEED $150,000.00	Attorney	Retainer $17,500.00 Per Hr. $180.00 Per page print fee for retainer matters'$0.05
Adams Stern Gutierrez& Lattiboudere,LLC Newark, NJ NOT TO EXCEED $150,000.00	Attorney Paralegal	Per Hr. $185.00 Per Hr. $105.00
McManimon,Scotland&Baumann, LLC Roseland, NJ	Attorney/ Bond Counsel	Basic Serv/Bond Prep $5,000.00 Basic Serv/Bond Sale $3,500.00 $1.00 per thousand dollars of bonds issued for the first $15,000.00 $0.75 per thousand dollars of bonds in excess of $15,000.00 Base fee temporary financing issue $0.50 per thousand dollars of notes for the first $15,000.00 notes $0.40 per thousand dollars of notes issued in excess of $15,000.00 Minimum fee $ 1,000.00 for temporary notes. Attorney Hr Rate $215.00 Legal Assist Hr Rate $135.00
Fraytak Veisz Hopkins, Duthie, P.C. Trenton, NJ	Architects/Planners Principal Associate Project Architect Site planner Spec. Writer Interior Des. Senior Drafter Construction Junior Drafter Support Pers.	 $175.00/hr $150.00/hr $120.00/hr $120.00/hr $105.00/hr $105.00/hr $110.00/hr $ 95.00/hr $ 85.00/hr $ 70.00/hr
Hodulik & Morrison, P.A. Highland Park, NJ	Auditing Service	$ 39,000.00 for the 2021-2022 school year audit
Brown & Brown Public Risk Advisor of NJ Roseland, NJ	Insce. Agent of Record	Fee Paid by Ins. Carrier
Brown & Brown Metro Florham Park, NJ	Health Benefits Broker	$63,500.00
Overlook Family Practice Associates, Susan T. Kaye MD Summit, NJ	Medical Service	Retainer $ 34,609.00
Siemens Industry, Inc. Florham Park, NJ	Proprietary Service Remote Digital Services and Analysis Program Software Maintenance and Repairs	 $40,260.00 $39,860.00

1 T - 06/10/21, The Leader Fee: $116.28

- Seamless, one-piece system, keeps out leaves, debris & more.
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters.
- Durable, all-weather tested system.

85% Off Labor
Does not include cost of material. Expires 6/30/21.

BONUS OFFER
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Arts & Entertainment

Westfield Community Concert Band Announces 109th Season

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Community Concert Band, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Connors, celebrates its 109th season with a Summer Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 1 in Mindowaskin Park, East Broad Street, Westfield. The band will be performing after having suspended its rehearsals and performances for almost 18 months due to the Covid pandemic. The concert is free to the public.

The band concert will feature selections of popular American music, including George Gershwin's *Strike up the Band*, Leonard Bernstein's *Danzon*, Samuel Ward's *America the Beautiful*, and John Philip Sousa's *The Stars and Stripes Forever.*

The band's membership includes musicians from ages 18 to 80, including many active and retired music educators. Under the baton of conductor Connors, director of Instrumental Music Studies and an assistant professor of music education at Kean University, the band continues to perform a wide variety of concert band literature, including many contemporary compositions. Experienced area musicians who are interested in a position with the band should contact band manager Barry Rosenberg at (908) 337-9073 or info@westfieldcommunityband.com.

The band's Summer Concert is sponsored in part by the Westfield Recreation Department, Don Bogardus, Director. This concert is also made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. Chairs and blankets are recommended. In the event of rain, the concert will take place on Thursday, July 15.

SUMMER CONCERTS RETURN...The Westfield Community Concert Band presents its Summer Concert in Mindowaskin Park in Westfield on Thursday, July 1, at 7:30 p.m. The rain date is Thursday, July 15.

MLK Association to Hold Juneteenth Trolley Tours

WESTFIELD — The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Westfield plans to celebrate Juneteenth with a special African-American history trolley ride through Westfield on Saturday, June 19. Juneteenth, the 19th day in June, marks the date in 1865 when word finally reached the enslaved people of Texas that slavery had ended — two years after the Emancipation Proclamation.

The trolley ride, with live narration, will stop at sites that anchor the 300 years of African-American history in the town. The tour is the highlight of research, writing and planning, begun by the African American History Committee, which was part of the Westfield 300 celebration in 2020.

The trolley tour will include, among other sites, the Burial Grounds of The Presbyterian Church; Fairview Cemetery; Westfield's Black professional zone; Brightwood Park and sites where Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes and Paul Robeson once lived.

Participants will board the trolley at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, located at 140 Mountain Avenue, which has generously offered its parking lot for the event. Spaces for the tour are limited and registration is required. There is a $10 registration fee. Proceeds will be used to further the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Association's work, specifically its African American History Project. Three tour time slots are available, at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. The tour is expected to take 90 minutes or a bit more and will be conducted rain or shine.

Interested persons may register at MLKWestfield.org. For further questions, email mlkwestfield@gmail.com.

SpongeBob SquarePants Musical Teaches Lessons for All Ages

SUSAN MYRILL DOUGHERTY
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

SCOTCH PLAINS -- Who doesn't love a hero, even if he's been told he is "(Just a) Simple Sponge? The Scotch Plains/Fanwood High School Repertory Theatre, under the direction of producer and music director Jan Allen, director Morgan Knight, assistant Courtney Nemec, and choreographer Kara Drake gave the talented teens the opportunity to teach the community audiences that catastrophe can bring people together. What better lesson is there to present than the one *SpongeBob SquarePants, the Musical* gives us in this post-pandemic era?

Neither hail nor rainstorm nor heat could stop the show from going on. Originally, the production was set to live stream on Friday, June 4. But with hail-producing thunderstorms just hours before the show was scheduled to start, part of the sound equipment was damaged. Crossfire Sound, in Brooklyn hastily sent out replacement equipment and the show was postponed until 9 p.m. That same "can do," optimistic spirit that the cast and crew displayed is the theme of the TV series and musical about the little yellow sponge and his indomitable spirit.

Gender-neutral SpongeBob (played adorably and amazingly by Maya Handler) and the company introduced us to their little neck of the woods (er, seashore) called Bikini Bottom. SpongeBob and his best friend Patrick Star (Graeme Daniskas) pledge their friendship forever in a cute "BFF" song and dance. But calamity has stricken the community with earthquakes signaling that their volcano Mt. Humongous is about to blow and destroy them all. Two opposing forces plan to attack the problem. The squirrel Sandy Cheeks (Justynna Fortna), who is into science, clear-thinking, and rational planning, proposes she and SpongeBob should throw a device she has made into the volcano and turn the destructive lava into bubbles. The owner of the Chum Bucket evil Sheldon J. Plankton (Owen Donahue) with the help of his equally evil computer wife Karen (Ally Vlkovic) plan to hypnotize the town and put them in an escape pod. Meanwhile, Plankton's rival, the Krusty Krabs' owner Eugene Krabs (Mac Ferrone) makes a hasty profit from the scared crowd by telling them it might be their last meal, so buy "one more Krabby patty." In the song, "Daddy Knows Best," Mr. Krabs espouses the theory "Money matters most" while his daughter Pearl (Meagan Lavin) out belts him in a show-stopping moment. Then Pearl comes up with the idea of having the celebrities The Electric Skates, her favorite rock group, put on a concert to raise money to help save the town.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON...The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Repertory Theatre performs *SpongeBob SquarePants, the Musical* on June 4 just hours after a hail storm rolled through town. The production was put together under the direction of producer and music director Jan Allen, director Morgan Knight, assistant Courtney Nemec and choreographer Kara Drake.

Along the way out of this mess, Squidward Q. Tentacles (Gavin Lesnevich) longs to be onstage opening for the rock group, and Patchy the Pirate (Tucker Rose) and a host of townspeople led by Mayor of Bikini Bottom (Kaelan Mattos) dot the stage helping one side or the other. And boy, those townsfolks get a workout running onstage, downstage in front of the raised bandshell, or off to the side at standing microphones. Choreography on grass is never an easy feat, but these hoofers did Ms. Drake's inventive choreography proud. It even featured flag squad in one number.

Magical moments of the show included the hilarious Squidward's "I'm not a Loser" song where he was backed up with a chorus line of sea anemone tap[SHD1] dancers. The inspirational "Hero is my Middle Name" (written by Cyndi Lauper and Rob Hyman) with SpongeBob, Patrick, and Sandy gave a rousing pep talk to each other. A sympathetic Patchy the Pirate and his cronies from "The Dive Bar" had the audience in stitches with his "Poor Pirates," a protest of prejudice against pirates. A recurring bit between the security men and Patchy was especially fun. This delightful production was just that: fun for all.

Beautiful moments – almost too numerous to mention all – were especially poignant between Patrick and SpongeBob in "(I Guess I) Miss You." Their lovely voices melted together like chocolate sauce over vanilla ice cream. And "Tomorrow Is" so very soulful when a golden-voiced Sandy tells SpongeBob "You can't give up now," the perfect way to end Act I. One of the most ambitious songs of the show, "Chop to the Top" displayed Sandy's amazing vocal chops and karate chops spotlighting the physical dexterity of the two actors.

One of the ingenious additions to the hardcopy program booklet was the posting of a one-page listing of what was happening in each act. For people who were not familiar with the cartoon series, the scorecard was a welcome who's who and what's happening and why.

The music, at first listen, seemed like the pit band was behind the staging area. But upon further research, it was revealed that the band (under the artful direction of Trey Shore) did two previous nights of recording and then the audio experts (headed by Gary Fink) meshed the best of both nights for the soundtrack to which the performers sang live. The pit orchestra composed of teens was first-rate as usual, doing a professional job.

Costume design (Joanne Sprague) was a visual smorgasbord – a sumptuous feast for the eyes with details in color, texture, and fabric that helped the actors to become creatures of the sea. Likewise, the stationary set pieces by scenic designer and crew director Jeffrey Allen sparkled and registered with splashes of neon and vivid tropical colors. The jellyfish world of pink umbrellas with free-floating streamers was an especially clever touch.

There were no small parts in this production. From the velvet-voiced French Narrator (Evan Libby) and Gary, the snail (Ari White) to the media announcer Perch Perkins (Emmet Fynes) to the featured dancers and the ensemble, each actor knew their backstory, their purpose in the scene in the town, and in the fabric of the scene. The show taught the audience that instead of finding scapegoats, blaming the media, the government, or others in our lives for misfortune, we should learn to be more like SpongeBob and embrace inclusion, acceptance, and optimism to work together with others for the good of all.

Kudos to the adult leadership team who cast the show brilliantly, allowing the talented actors/singers/dancers to use their talents to build on their own take of the character. And another bouquet to the student directors and student heads of committees who learned the best way possible - by doing.

Historically Living

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY CARES

When COVID-19 shutdowns began in Spring 2020, we all watched in earnest and with the utmost concern as first responders worked around the clock at great personal risk. Coldwell Banker Westfield West Agents began to brainstorm ideas to show their appreciation and provide meaningful support for our local first responders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Branch Vice President George Kraus had the idea of producing a limited-edition Town Doors poster that could be sold to the public with 100% of the proceeds going to support each town's Rescue Squad. A committee of sales agents identified a collection of residential doors that were representative of each town's architecturally diverse neighborhoods. We are deeply grateful for the many homeowners who graciously agreed to be included.

For those who would like to make a financial contribution to the Rescue Squads and receive a keepsake in return, Coldwell Banker Westfield West now has beautiful 18" x 24" color posters, suitable for framing, that are available for purchase at $20.00. Posters available are Cranford, Fanwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield. To order, please call us at 908-233-0065 or stop by our office located at 600 North Avenue West in Westfield. Pickup is Monday-Friday between 9AM and 5 PM. Acceptable forms of payment are cash, check (made out to CB Cares) and Venmo.

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Mixing With Zest

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

Tomatillo and Avocado Salsa

Tomatillos are in their prime in the early summer to late fall, so it's the perfect time to make an easy homemade salsa with them! I love tomatillos for their tart and almost citrusy flavor. You can whip this salsa up in about 15 minutes. Leftovers store well in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

Ingredients:
- 13 tomatillos
- Juice of 1 lime
- ½ fresh jalapeno (seeds removed)
- ½ shallot
- 1 large garlic clove
- ½ small avocado
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon salt or to taste

Directions:

1. Peel the exterior skin off the tomatillo to reveal the shiny smooth skin that's underneath. Rinse under cold water. I recommend using a wet paper towel to gently wash each tomatillo after peeling as they're slightly sticky and might have dirt stuck to them.
2. Place rinsed tomatillos into a large saucepan and cover with water.
3. Place the saucepan over high heat and bring to a boil. Once it's boiling, set a timer for 5-7 minutes, or until the tomatillo skins start to break.
4. While your tomatillos are boiling, juice your lime and dice your jalapeno, shallot and garlic.
5. Remove the tomatillos from the pot using a slotted spoon and place into a blender.
6. Add the remaining ingredients including: lime juice, jalapeno, shallot, garlic, avocado, pepper and salt. Blend until desired consistency.

MELAO SINGLES IN WATSON WITH GAME-WINNING RUN; GRANTZ TOSSES FINAL 6 INNINGS

Blue Devils Swat Bees in 8th; Win Section Quarterfinal, 5-4

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

Something had to give after only one run was scored in the past five-and-one-half innings during the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 showdown between the fifth-seeded Bayonne Bees and the fourth-seeded Westfield Blue Devils at Bob Brewster, Sr. Field in Westfield on June 5. Jake Watson was standing on second base with a double and Enzo Mizerek was on first after being hit-by-a-pitch with two outs then Matt Melao stepped to the plate and scorched an RBI single down the first baseline to earn the Blue Devils an eight-inning, 5-4 victory.

A celebration began and after Melao survived the pile after being mauled by his teammates, he said, "It was two outs, so I knew I was in a big spot. I hit a hard ball, got it down and hit the run in. That's all that was on my mind."

As to the anxiousness of being on second and hoping that someone would bring him home, Watson added, "It's hard to put it into words. I was a little bit anxious but I had all the confidence in the world when Matt Melao came up. When he hit that single down the line, I knew it was over."

Watson's double was to deep centerfield. "I was late all day. I got to give credit to my coach, coach Torres. He was telling me just to get the bat head out. I got a fastball where I wanted it, got a little bit lucky and shot it out there," Watson explained.

What could not be overlooked was the outstanding performance of senior Holden Grantz, who relieved starter Enzo Mizerek and pitched six scoreless innings, yielding five hits and hitting a batter, while striking out five Bees.

Mizerek ceded a leadoff single to Isaiah Phillips in the first inning but shortstop Jake Bencivenga initiated a 6-4-3 double play, which really meant a lot when Rob Geisler (3-for-4) followed with a double to leftfield. Then right fielder Chris Ho made a great chest-diving grab to get the third out. The Blue Devils answered with a run in the bottom of the inning. Mizerek walked, Melao slapped a single to left then a double steal followed. Mizerek then scored on a wild pitch.

But the Bees strung Mizerek harshly with four runs in the second inning. Chris Valencia plopped a short single, Tyler Johnson was hit-by-a-pitch and TJ Wolf walked to load the bases.

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Blue Devils Swat Bees in 8th; Win North, Section 2 Quarterfinal, 5-4

Quincy Mitchell (3-for-4) hopped an RBI single past first, Santiago Jimenez hacked a two-run single to right and Geisler lined an RBI single to left.

The Blue Devils did some swatting in the second also with two runs. Bencivenga lined a leadoff single to center and swiped second. Watson lashed an RBI triple down the right field line and Mike McKenna followed with an RBI groundout to short.

"I was down two strikes. I took two big swings early in the count. I swung through both of them, so I was just really thinking get the bat head on the ball. I got a little bit lucky. The right fielder had a bit of a misplay on it and I got to third," Watson humbly described.

Grantz retired nine of the next 10 Bees then Westfield knotted the score 4-4 in the bottom of the fifth. Ho (2-for-4) sizzled a two-out single over second and stole a base. Jadon Edwards walked and Leo Mangiamele hooked an RBI double to left.

Grantz ran into some difficulty in the sixth with an infield single and a bunt single but he escaped the inning after a batter interference call. The Bees also had runners on first and second with one out in the seventh but Grantz got a batter to fly out to right then struck out the final batter. In the eighth, Mitchell tagged Grantz for a double but failed to score.

The Westfield eighth began with a strikeout then Watson bashed his double to center. After McKenna popped up to second, Mizerek absorbed a fastball then Melao drilled his game winner.

In the upper bracket of the tournament, top-seeded Union dropped a 3-0 decision to eighth-seeded Franklin, so the Blue Devils would be the host team for the semifinal round on June 8.

"I am so happy. I am so happy we are home. I love playing here. Nothing like playing at home. It's the best. The energy is always so high," Melao expressed.

Westfield is the two-time defending section champion and ran the table as the eighth-seed to beat Ridge for the title in 2019. In 2018, the Blue Devils defeated Millburn for the crown, also 4-2, so their steak of tournament victories has extended to 10.

"I actually just heard that today. My coaches were telling me that before the game. That was a little bit of motivation that we got to defend that title. We want to defend the title for the seniors who graduated last year and hopefully we can do a little bit more than that," Watson said.

Melao agreed, "Yes! We need that (champion)ship again. There's nothing better!"

Third-seeded Watchung Hills nipped sixth-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 5-4, and 10th-seeded Ridge knocked off second-seeded Bridgewater-Raritan, 5-4. With a Westfield win and a Ridge win in the semis, the two foes could square off for the title in Westfield tomorrow, June 11.

Bayonne	**040 000 00**	**4**
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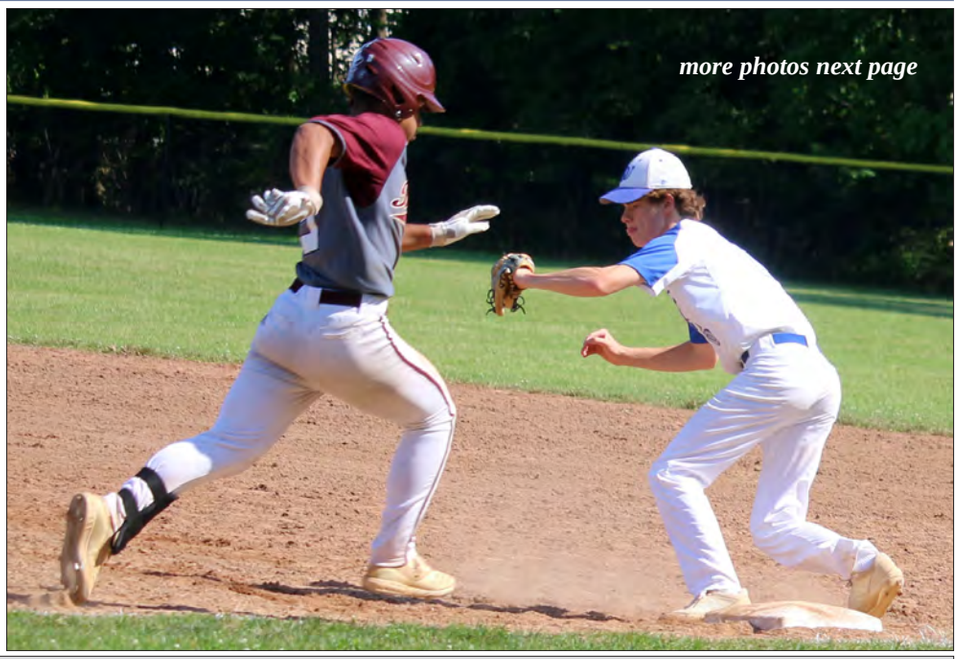
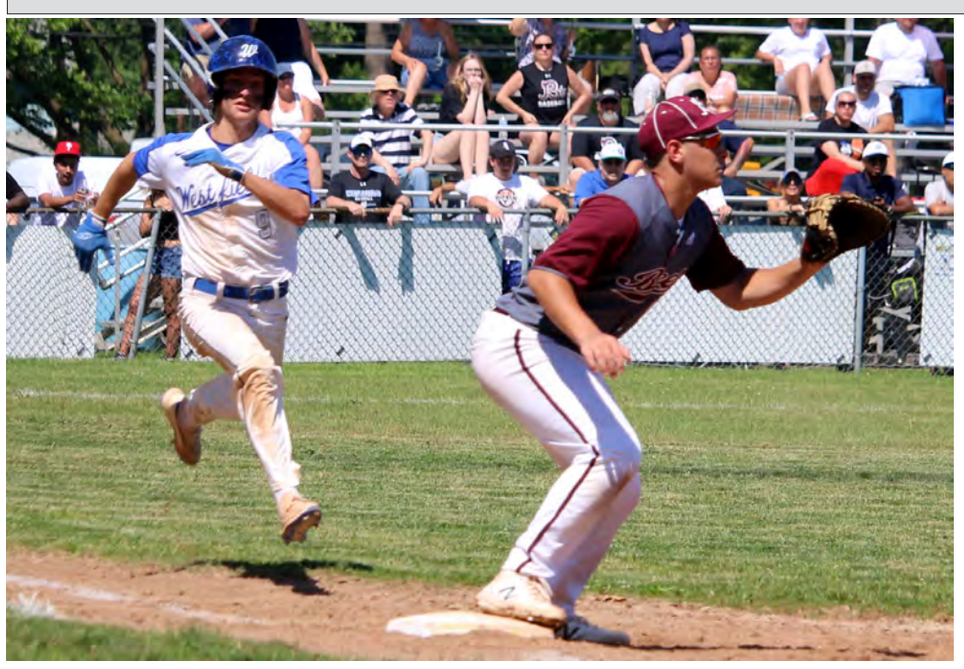
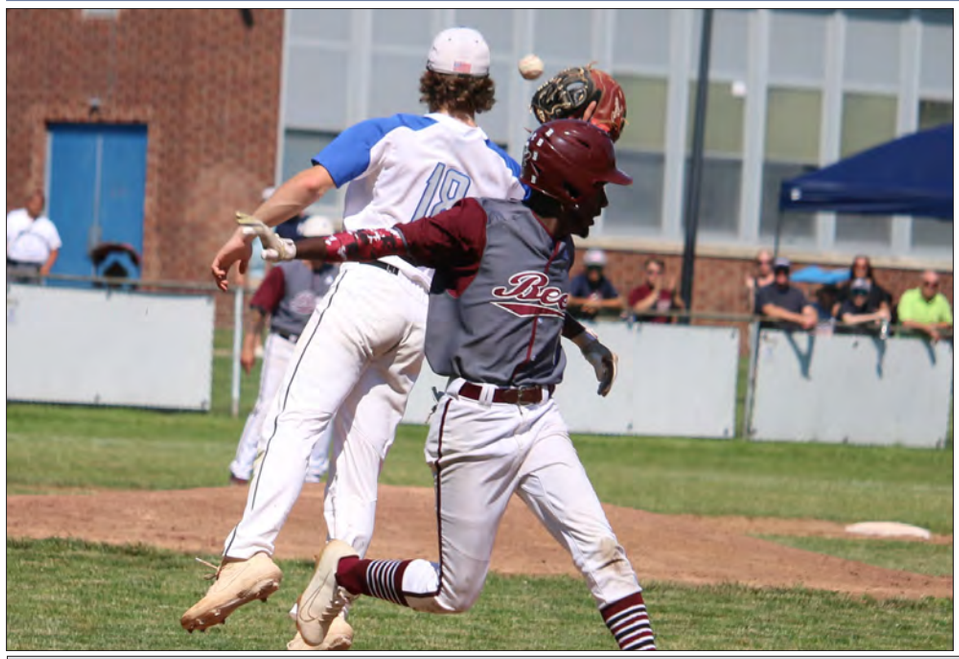


Blue Devils Swat Bees in 8th; Win North, Section 2 Quarterfinal, 5-4





Blue Devils Swat Bees in 8th; Win North, Section 2 Quarterfinal, 5-4

Raider Sac Fly Nips Minutemen in North Section First Round, 5-4

Raider Sac Fly Nips Minutemen in North Section First Round, 5-4

Raider Sac Fly Nips Minutemen in North Section First Round, 5-4

Story on page 9 of The Westfield Leader

more photos next page

Blue Devils Blank Raiders, 12-0, in Section Softball First Round

Blue Devils Blank Raiders, 12-0, in Section Softball First Round

Blue Devils Blank Raiders, 12-0, in Section Softball First Round

Blue Devils Level Hillsborough in Boys Lacrosse Quarterfinal, 19-3

Blue Devils Level Hillsborough in Boys Lacrosse Quarterfinal, 19-3

Blue Devils Level Hillsborough in Boys Lacrosse Quarterfinal, 19-3