



Happy Thanksgiving!

WESTFIELD LEADER

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ONE DOLLAR

Two Homes to Be Considered For Historic Designation

By KATIE MOEN
For The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — A Westfield home that has watched the community grow up around its eaves may be getting a second lease on life as the area's newest living history project. The pre-Revolutionary War home, located at 112 Ferris Place, is one of two local sites that were recently approved by the Westfield Historic Preservation Commission as worthy of local historic designation.

The Ferris Place site and another at 23 Stoneleigh Park were approved for designation by the commission during its regular meeting held on Monday.

The house at 112 Ferris Place has a fascinating history that spans several centuries, said Historic Preservation Architect Barton Ross.

The colonial-style building was first erected on East Broad Street in or around 1750. It then received some "modern updates" and a new Greek-revival-style makeover in 1857. It was eventually moved from its original location on East Broad Street to its current spot on Ferris Place around 1900.

"It has gone through a lot of changes over time, obviously, but the structural frame of the house is

actually still largely left over from the original construction. It even still has a lot of hand-hewn joists. Overall, it's in great shape and would definitely be worth preserving," said Mr. Ross.

The Ferris Place house was purchased by investor James Ward in 2020 as part of a larger development project.

"This property is very special," said Mr. Ward. "When I was taking apart some of the old sheetrock, I found some of the original beams from the 1700s. A lot of these beams are just plain hand-hewn trees. I just thought that was such an incredible thing to see. I realized then that I wanted to save the house and incorporate it into my new vision of what I want to put on that site."

Ultimately, Mr. Ward said, he plans to connect the house at 112 Ferris to a new, four-story apartment complex that he intends to build on the lot next door.

"When you walk around Manhattan or Chicago or Boston, you see these great old buildings sort of incorporated into more modern construction projects," said Mr. Ward. "That's what I'm envisioning here. I think this could be a really beautiful way to bring the past and the present

together."

Mr. Ward said he would like to restore the house at 112 Ferris to its "original 1750's design" in order to open it up to the general public as a sort of living museum.

"I think children and school groups in particular would find this fascinating," he said, noting that while the two buildings would be connected structurally, there would be no access route between them. "I'm very excited about this project, and I sincerely hope that other people will want to get on board once we get going," Mr. Ward stated.

Things continued in a positive direction for Mr. Ward on Tuesday when the governing body voted to adopt the Prospect and Ferris Redevelopment Plan.

The vote represents the first real step towards making Mr. Ward's vision come to life, said Mayor Shelley Brindle.

"I think this is going to be a beautiful project for Westfield," said Mayor Brindle, noting that Mr. Ward's consideration for the historic significance of the property was greatly appreciated.

Although not as old as the home on Ferris Place, the Stoneleigh Park

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Conceptual Rendering
SAVE FERRIS...On Tuesday night, the Westfield town council gave initial approval to James Ward's redevelopment plan for the intersection of Prospect Street and Ferris Place. As part of the plan, Mr. Ward is seeking historic designation for 112 Ferris Place, adjoining the proposed development.

Westfield PD to Upgrade Tech With Body Cams, Plate Scanners

By KATIE MOEN
For The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Police Department will soon have a few more eyes on the street thanks to recently-adopted town resolutions that aim to bring new body cameras and technology to the department.

"I am very appreciative to the mayor and council for accommodating this request," said Westfield Chief of Police Christopher Battiloro, speaking at Tuesday's regular meeting of the mayor and council. "This is the latest technology. There is a serious back-

log in the ability to deliver this equipment, so allowing us to contract now gets us in the queue to make sure that we will be able to start using these cameras sooner rather than later."

The council voted yes on two resolutions during Tuesday night's meeting in order to make the acquisition possible—one which allowed for the insertion of a special item of revenue in the municipal budget (the body-worn cameras) and another which awards the contract for the equipment to the department.

Under the terms of the adopted

resolutions, each Westfield officer will soon be outfitted with his or her own body camera as per a New Jersey state law that went into effect earlier this year. The department's fleet of police cruisers also will see significant upgrades to its mobile video recording (MVR) system, Chief Battiloro said, noting that the body cameras and the MVRs will work together to ensure safe and responsible traffic stops and other public interactions going forward.

Sixteen police vehicles also will be outfitted with automatic license-plate recognition capability.

"We will be using this technology to help find stolen cars, unregistered cars...basically any type of hits that might come out," said Chief Battiloro. The scanners will be running license plates and automatically cross checking that information against local, state and federal databases, including the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, New Jersey Wanted Person and the FBI's National Crime Information Center.

The new technology, Chief Battiloro said, will hopefully give his officers a better chance to locate and recover stolen vehicles and prevent other types of crime in the area.

The equipment is being purchased as part of a five-year agreement with manufacturers Axon Enterprises to the tune of \$658,216.88. The arrangement replaces an existing contract

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It's Beginning to Look A Bit Like Christmas in Westfield

By KATIE MOEN
For The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — After a long and prosperous summer season, the holidays have once again returned to downtown Westfield. This year's festivities will feature a variety of tried-and-true traditions along with a mix of new activities and events for the whole family.

"We're throwing a lot at the holidays this year," said Erin Ben-Hayon, promotions chair for the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC), during a regular meeting of the DWC held on November 17. "Last year was great, but now that things have started to open up again, we want to do even more."

The 2021 holiday season will see the return of the Downtown Westfield Welcome Center, relocated from last year's site to the North Avenue side of the Westfield Train Station. Volunteers will be on hand starting the day after Thanksgiving to provide visitors with maps, information and free gift wrapping for any locally-purchased gifts.

"The Welcome Center was a big hit last year, and we're looking forward to another great season," said DWC Executive Director Bob Zuckerman. "The only thing we ask is that people don't bring us gifts that they purchased somewhere else and ask us to wrap them. This is all about supporting our Westfield businesses."

The Welcome Center will open for the season on Friday, November 26 (Black Friday).

In addition, Ms. Ben-Hayon said, visitors to downtown Westfield will have the chance to check out the town's annual tree lighting this Sunday, November 28, at 5 p.m., and the lighting of the menorah on Monday, November 29, at 6:30 p.m.

Other planned activities for this year include live ice sculpture carving on Sunday, December 5; photos with Santa on Sunday, December 12, and other holiday surprises throughout the season. "Rumor has it that the Addams Fam-

ily might even be doing some caroling around town," Ms. Ben-Hayon said, "so make sure to keep an eye out for that."

Of particular note for this year, Mr. Zuckerman said, is the addition of the Yiftee Gift Card, a re-loadable card that can be used at more than 35 local shops, restaurants, salons, fitness centers and pop-up stores in the area.

"I'm thrilled that we were able to partner with [Yiftee]," said Mr. Zuckerman. "We have new businesses signing up every day. I think it will be a very positive promotion for our community."

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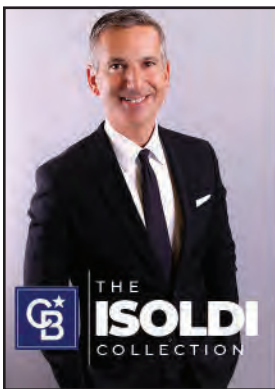
Katie Moen for the Westfield Leader
BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS...The Westfield Department of Public Works started removing concrete road barriers and pedestrian gates from Quimby Street and the rest of the downtown area on November 18. Normal parking and traffic flow will be restored this week in order to facilitate better access for snow removal equipment in the coming months, said Craig Gibson, supervisor of the Westfield Department of Public Works. "I think the pedestrian area was generally very well received," said Mr. Gibson, noting that the breakdown should provide better opportunities for holiday visitors to enjoy the downtown area. It is unknown as of yet whether or not the pedestrian areas will be reinstalled for next spring.



Susan M. Dougherty for The Westfield Leader
BEHIND THE SCENES...The show must go on! And it did at Westfield High School with its production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Pictured is the sound and lighting crew as they prepare for the opening of the show on November 18. Full story on page 14.

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TINSEL TOWN...Holiday decorations have started to appear in downtown Westfield in preparation for the 2021 season. Events and activities are ramping up for what promises to be an exciting holiday season.

Mountainside Memorializes Borough’s Oldest Resident

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL
For The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — At the start of Mountainside’s regular monthly council meeting Tuesday, members of the governing body memorialized Edward and Marian Verlangieri. It was said that Mr. Verlangieri had been the borough’s oldest resident when he passed away this past September 28 at the age of 107.

He had celebrated his 107th birthday this past January with multiple Mountainside groups bringing him gifts and honoring him at his house, while he sat social-distanced from his front yard.

According to records, Mr. Verlangieri was born in Orange, N.J., in 1914 and worked as a civil engineer. Records also indicate that Mrs. Verlangieri was born in 1912 in New York City and was a teller at First Federal Savings Bank and a longtime volunteer at Children’s Specialized Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Verlangieri moved to Mountainside in 1952 and were married for 69 years.

The couple was said to enjoy traveling and were both lifelong students, taking courses at Union County College in art, architecture and literature. Mrs. Verlangieri passed away in March of 2010.

Separately, a resolution was read honoring the borough’s 12U Baseball Team for winning the District 12 Champion Game and then the Northern New Jersey State Championship with a 5-to-0 score.

The 13-member team was coached by Andrew Adomato, Eric Cantagallo, Steve Filiaci and Mike Liloia.

In other business, Ordinance 1303-2021 was passed upon its second reading and public hearing at Tuesday’s meeting.

At the last council meeting in late October, Ordinance 1303-2021 was unanimously passed upon its first reading to impose a registration and fee process for owners of vacant properties.

The first year would amount to a \$500 registration fee, the second year would be a \$1,500 registration fee, and the third year would amount to

\$3,000. All subsequent years would amount to a \$5,000 registration fee.

It was said that the ordinance was crafted to deter owners from vacating and abandoning properties. It was further noted that, to date, there were four vacant properties within the borough, some for a very prolonged period of time.

In addition, Ordinance 1305-2021 was passed on its first reading. This ordinance will appropriate the sum of \$385,000 for the resurfacing of Constitution Plaza, Rolling Rock Road and a section of Birch Hill Road. It was noted that the borough would use a recently-awarded Department of Education (DOT) grant to fund the project.

Also passed upon first reading were Resolutions 130-2021 and 131-2021 that revise the borough’s personnel policies and procedures and revise Mountainside’s Employee manual.

In other business, the borough has approved awarding a contract with Dish Network to occupy a currently vacant spot on the borough’s cell tower.

It was noted that after the space went out for bid, the Dish Network offered \$3,000 a month, which will bring the borough an additional \$36,000 yearly in revenue.

It was noted that on Saturday, December 4, from 2 to 4 p.m., the Mountainside Restoration Committee will hold a Holiday Crafting Event on the lawn of the historic Deacon Andrew Hetfield House.

Additionally, Kyle Cravo will join the Junior Fireman’s Auxiliary program.

The next meeting of the Mountainside Council is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m., in Borough Hall.

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Historic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

house, built in 1905, is “just as worthy of recognition,” said Mr. Ross. “It’s an excellent example of the first period of colonial construction in Stoneleigh Park, which as everyone knows was designed as a planned residential community with park-like features,” he said. “This home is definitely one of the earliest in the district. It still retains its park-like setting; it’s still in excellent condition. The homeowners have obviously taken very good care of it.”

According to information found in the town’s historic preservation plan, “Stoneleigh Park (ca. 1904) is a fine example of a small, picturesque, upper middle class residential development of the early twentieth century. [The community] was designed to take advantage of the natural beauty of the site and to preserve a peaceful suburban setting for the homeowners, who were commuting New York executives and affluent Westfield businessmen and civic leaders.”

Stoneleigh Park was officially added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

“Since we already have that national designation, the local designation makes a lot of sense,” said Mr. Ross.

Robert and Anastasia Harrison purchased the home and its 0.4

acres of land from the previous owner in 2020. Since then, the couple said, they have been working with the commission to learn as much about the property as possible.

“The listing actually indicated that the house was built in 1899, so we would love to know if there is any way to nail down the actual date,” said Mrs. Harrison, speaking with the commission during Monday night’s meeting. “We’ll keep doing some digging.”

The two recommendations for designation will now be forwarded along to the Westfield Town Council for official approval.

The commission also heard from homeowners Timothy and Sadaf Morbelli during Monday night’s meeting in reference to another Revolutionary War-era home located at 1481 East Broad Street. In 2017, the Westfield Zoning Board denied an application to build a six-unit, multi-family development at the site. The Morbellis purchased the home in March of this year.

“We’re very happy that TJ (Timothy) and Sadaf have agreed to take on this property,” said Commission Chair Maria Boyes. “They’re really looking to preserve it, but would also like to add a few modern amenities like an attached garage.”

The house at 1481 East Broad Street, Mr. Ross said, is likely “one of, if not the most, historically-significant structures in the town of Westfield.”

The structure, built in or around 1757, served as a Revolutionary War homestead for three brothers — Daniel, David and William Pierson, each of whom played a role in the conflict itself.

“One of the most interesting stories involving the house itself has to do with a claim that Daniel Pierson filed after the war,” said Mr. Ross. “Evidently, British soldiers raided the property and stole 48 sterling pounds, which was really quite a lot of money.”

The Morbellis presented an artists rendering that included their preliminary plans for restoring the home to the best of their abilities.

“It does have some structural issues and things that will need to be addressed along the way,” said Mr. Morbelli, “but obviously, we want to preserve as much of the house and its history as possible.”

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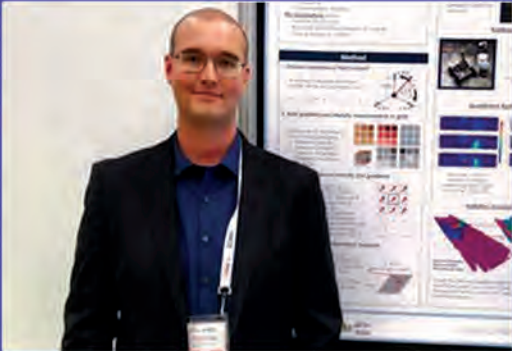
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F. W. Mascarich III Earns PhD and Helps Secure DARPA Challenge Win for University of Nevada Reno (UNR)

Frank William Mascarich, III, son of Gisele (Boucher) Mascarich and the late Frank W. Mascarich, II of Westfield, NJ received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree, PhD., in Computer Science and Engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) in June 2021. Before relocating from Westfield, NJ to Incline Village, Nevada, Frank attended Wilson Elementary School, Roosevelt Intermediate School, and earned his Eagle Scout rank from Boy Scout Troop 72 sponsored by the Presbyterian Church.

Frank was thrilled to be on UNR’s winning team, Team Cerberus, in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency’s (“DARPA”) Subterranean Challenge held on September 23-25, 2021, at the Louisville Mega Cavern, Louisville, Kentucky. Team Cerberus won first prize: \$2 million dollars for the team-participant schools. Frank was a Graduate Research Assistant at UNR’s Autonomous Robots Lab from 2016-2019 under Professor Kostas Alexis before becoming a member of Team Cerberus also led by Professor Alexis. Frank is now a Robotics Engineer working for Anduril Industries in Irvine, CA.





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Tech

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with the same company for equipment purchased in 2019.

The first year’s worth of payments, totaling \$101,067.38, has already been financed thanks to state grant funding awarded by the Office of the Attorney General specifically for this purpose.

“We’re also bringing \$48,000 in asset forfeiture monies to the table to help make this happen this year rather than waiting for our normal budget year,” Chief Battiloro said. “This allows us to get a head start on our budget for 2022 and gets us in line to receive this equipment sooner rather than later.”

The public-comment portion of the meeting reflected mounting tensions surrounding senior housing in Westfield, as Mayor Shelley Brindle and the town council struggle to reconcile roughly \$2.6 million in payment disputes against the lingering concerns of its senior population. “I can’t reiterate enough that there is no issue of uncertainty for the seniors that live in senior housing. The notion that they are in any jeopardy is categorically false,” Mayor Brindle said Tuesday night. “This is strictly a dispute between the board of trustees and the town that should never, ever, ever have involved the residents of that community. It has been incredibly unfortunate that the trustees chose to bring them in as pawns.”

As previously reported in *The Westfield Leader*, the town served a notice of default to Westfield Senior Citizens Housing Corporation (WSCHC) last month for non-payment of rent of the land. According to the documentation provided, the town is seeking back payments of \$2.23

million for 1129 Boynton and \$407,926 for 1133 Boynton.

Barbara Blanco, a member of the WSCHC, said Tuesday that the accusations of debt made by the town are “categorically untrue.”

“The town is making accusations against our board of trustees which allude to the mismanagement of funds,” said Ms. Blanco. “These intentionally misleading statements are being circulated and distributed as fact despite knowledge that they are untrue.”

Regardless of the outcome of the pending financial dispute between the two entities, Mayor Brindle said Tuesday that the board has thus far not handled the situation well in regards to its residents.

“We held a meeting here two weeks ago for many of the residents of senior housing so we could set the record straight,” Mayor Brindle said. “[The board] actually had someone show up here dressed in a Grinch costume in order to disrupt that meeting. It just showed that they are not taking these proceedings seriously.”

Mayor Brindle said the stunt showed “a blatant level of disrespect” for those seniors who chose to attend the meeting.

“I have been shocked and disappointed by the recent actions of Mayor Brindle and the town council,” Ms. Blanco said. “Rather than do right by the people of Westfield, including over 300 seniors who live in the buildings that Westfield Senior manages, the mayor and town council are seeking to use this information to politicize an issue that boils down to caring about people.”

Bus Driver Shortage Complicates Student Transport

By JENNIFER GLACKIN
For The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — At last Thursday’s meeting of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education, Business Administrator Christopher Jones said the national bus driver shortage has impacted the district. The district has multiple contingency plans to handle regular disruptions to transportation services, and the district has been able to cover the gaps thus far, although it has been difficult.

According to Mr. Jones, the district’s

contracted provider has declined to run routes on an almost daily basis, claiming they “just can’t do it.” On at least one occasion, the bus company has not called the district. Parents called when their child’s bus did not show, which Mr. Jones described as “heart-wrenching.” The district sent a substitute bus, but the students were late to school.

Mr. Jones also said the contracted emergency bus company “won’t honor the rates in their contract” for coverage and all other bus companies with which the district has a relationship have declined to pick up routes. All of these issues have made it “extremely difficult to manage the fleet,” he said. The district does have two substitute drivers on the custodial staff, one of who currently is filling in full time. The district has advertised for more drivers, but only one qualified candidate applied. Mr. Jones said the district has reached out to some of its retired bus drivers to see if they can come and cover some routes.

Currently, the district’s drivers run multiple routes back-to-back, which has caused some students to be late for school. Mr. Jones said the district is considering shifting school start times to accommodate this situation so students can attend their full school day.

The board approved a district-wide classroom capacity study by Potter Architects. The study will cost \$34,860, which will come out of the capital reserve account.

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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

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TOWN OF WESTFIELD

WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2229

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council have strived to provide leadership and guidance on emerging topics important to the people of the Town of Westfield (the "Town"); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council recognize the importance of supporting the use of alternative fuel vehicles in the interest of improving air quality and reducing noise, as well as to slow the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council anticipates a growing trend in the use of electric vehicles and the need for supporting electric vehicle supply/service equipment ("EVSE"); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council have previously created an EVSE framework that has improved the quality of life in the Town, attracted businesses to the Town, and encouraged the purchase of electric vehicles; and

WHEREAS, continuing to support the transition to electric vehicles contributes to the Town's commitment to sustainability and is in the best interest of public welfare; and

WHEREAS, installation of EVSE and Make-Ready parking spaces encourages electric vehicle adoption; and

WHEREAS, the Town encourages increased installation of EVSE and Make-Ready parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this ordinance supports the State of New Jersey's goals to reduce air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector as outlined and supported by various programs related to New Jersey's 2019 Energy Master Plan, Global Warming Response Act (P.L.2007, c.112 (C.26:2C-37, et al.)), and EV Law (P.L. 2019, c. 362); and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2021, c. 171, which Governor Murphy signed into law on July 9, 2021, requires EVSE and Make-Ready parking spaces be designated as a permitted accessory use in all zoning or use districts and establishes associated installation and parking requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

SECTION I. Article 24, "Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Regulations," of Chapter LUL, "Land Use Ordinance," of the Town Code shall be and is hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE 24

ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE CODE

Sec. 24.01. Establishment and Purpose

A. This Article shall be known hereinafter as, "the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Code."

B. The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Code is designed to encourage the transition to electric vehicle use and to expedite the establishment of a convenient, cost-effective electric vehicle infrastructure that such a transition necessitates.

Sec. 24.02. Alterations or Repairs

Alterations or repairs, other than increasing the height or area of a new structure, may be made to any structure to comply with this Article, provided that such alterations or repairs also comply with all other provisions to the Land Use Ordinance, the Exterior Property Maintenance Code, and all applicable building and construction codes.

Sec. 24.03. Word Usage Generally

A. Interchangeability. Words used in the present tense include the future; words in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural the singular.

B. Terms defined in other codes. Where terms are not defined in this article and are defined in the Uniform Construction Code, they shall have the same meanings ascribed to them as in the Uniform Construction Code.

C. Terms not defined. Undefined terms shall have their ordinarily accepted meanings.

D. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

Sec. 24.04. Terms Defined

As used in this Article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

A. AC: alternating current (electricity).

B. Battery: (pl. batteries) a cell or cells onboard an electric vehicle which is used for storing and furnishing electrical energy for the purpose of propelling the vehicle.

C. Battery Electric Vehicle ("BEV"): an electric vehicle with an onboard battery that operates exclusively from electrical energy from the battery, which battery is charged from an electrical power source (charging station) not onboard the vehicle.

D. Certificate of Occupancy: The certificate provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:23-2, indicating that the construction authorized by the construction permit has been completed in accordance with the construction permit, the act, and the regulations. *See* "State Uniform Construction Code Act," P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119, et seq.) and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

E. Charging Level: the standardized indicators of electrical force, or voltage at which an electric vehicle's battery is recharged. Typical electric vehicle charging levels and specifications are:

Level 1 – Slow battery charging (AC). Level 1 operates on a 15-20-amp breaker on a 120-volt AC circuit.

Level 2 – Medium battery charging (AC). Level 2 operates on a 40-100-amp breaker on a 208 or 240-volt AC circuit.

Level 3 – Fast battery charging (DC). Level 3 operates on a 60-amp or higher breaker on a 480-volt or higher three-phase circuit with special grounding equipment. Level 3 stations can also be referred to as DCFC or as rapid-charging stations that are typically characterized by industrial-grade electrical outlets that allow for faster recharging of electric vehicles .

F. Charging Station: equipment that has as its primary purpose the transfer of electric energy by conductive or inductive means to a battery or other energy storage device located onboard an electric vehicle. Various types of charging stations include:

1. Accessible EVSE: a charging station incorporated into or immediately adjacent to a handicapped parking space as "handicapped parking space" is defined by Sec. 13-21.3(a) of the Town Code.

2. Level 3 EVSE: (sometimes referred to as a DC Fast charging station) a charging station that provides any single-phase voltage or current rating higher than that of Level 2, or any three-phase supply voltage configuration.

3. Private EVSE: a charging station that is: (1) privately owned and restricted access (e.g., single-family home, executive parking, designated employee parking, etc.); or (2) publicly owned and restricted access (e.g., fleet parking with no access to the general public).

4. Public EVSE: a charging station that is: (1) publicly owned and publicly available (e.g., park & ride, public parking lots, on-street parking, etc.); or (2) privately owned and publicly available (e.g., shopping center parking, non-reserved parking in multi-family parking lots, etc.).

G. Charging Station Space: a dedicated, marked space that identifies the use thereof as exclusively for the charging of electric vehicles.

H. DC: direct current (electricity).

I. Electric Scooters and/or Motorcycles: a 2-wheel or 3-wheel electric vehicle that operates exclusively on electrical energy stored in the vehicle's batteries.

J. Electric Vehicle: a vehicle that operates, either partially or exclusively, on electrical energy from a charging station or other electrical energy source that is stored in the vehicle's battery for propulsion purposes. "Electric vehicle" includes: (1) a battery electric vehicle; (2) a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle; (3) a neighborhood electric vehicle; and (4) electric scooters or motorcycles. Electric vehicles are licensed and registered for operation on public and private highways, roads, and streets.

K. Electric Vehicle Supply/Service Equipment ("EVSE"): the equipment, including the cables, cords, conductors, connectors, couplers, enclosures, attachment plugs, power outlets, power electronics, transformer, switchgear, switches and controls, network interfaces, point of sale equipment, and associated apparatus designed and used for the purpose of transferring energy from the electric supply system to a plug-in electric vehicle. "EVSE" may deliver either alternating current or, consistent with fast charging equipment standards, direct current electricity. "EVSE" is synonymous with "electric vehicle charging station."

L. Make-Ready Parking Space: the pre-wiring of electrical infrastructure at a parking space, or set of parking spaces, to facilitate easy and cost-efficient future installation of Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment or Electric Vehicle Service Equipment, including, but not limited to, Level Two EVSE and direct current fast chargers. Make-Ready includes expenses related to service panels, junction boxes, conduit, wiring, and other components necessary to make a particular location able to accommodate Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment or Electric Vehicle Service Equipment on a "plug and play" basis. "Make-Ready" is synonymous with the term "charger ready," as used in P.L.2019, c.362 (C.48:25-1, et al.).

M. Neighborhood Electric Vehicle: an electric vehicle with four (4) wheels that conforms to federal regulations under C.F.R. § 571.500, which can attain a speed of 20 miles per hour (mph) from a stand-still within one (1) mile but cannot exceed a speed of more than 25 mph.

N. Non-Electric Vehicle: a vehicle that does not meet the definition of "electric vehicle" as provided herein.

O. Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle ("PHEV"): an electric vehicle that (1) contains an internal combustion engine and also allows power to be delivered to drive wheels by an electric motor, and; (2) charges its battery primarily by connecting to a charging station or other electrical source not on board the vehicle; (3) may additionally be able to sustain a battery charge using an on-board internal combustion-driven generator; and (4) has the ability to be propelled through the use of electricity.

P. Motor Vehicle: has the same meaning as provided in Section 39:1-1, *et seq.* of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Sec. 24.05. Approvals and Permits

A. An application for development submitted solely for the installation of EVSE or Make-Ready parking spaces shall be considered a permitted accessory use and permitted accessory structure in all zoning or use districts and shall not require a variance pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-70.

B. EVSE and Make-Ready Parking Spaces installed pursuant to Section 24.06 below in development applications that are subject to site plan approval are considered a permitted accessory use as described in 1. above.

C. All EVSE and Make-Ready parking spaces shall be subject to applicable local

Police Officer/PAL Coach Indicted On Child Endangerment Charges

ELIZABETH — A Union County grand jury has returned a 16-count indictment against a 30-year veteran of the East Orange Police Department charged with serious sexual crimes against four children, Union County Prosecutor William A. Daniel announced last week.

Edward Giles, 61, formerly of Roselle, is charged with two counts of first-degree aggravated sexual assault of a child, two counts of first-degree aggravated sexual assault of a child victim over whom the defendant had supervisory or disciplinary power, five counts of various second-degree sexual offenses against a child victim, four counts of second-degree endangering the welfare of a child by photographing or vid-

eotaping child in a prohibited sexual act, and three counts of third-degree invasion of privacy.

Giles, a 30-year veteran of the East Orange Police Department, served as a community resource officer and youth football director for the East Orange Police Athletic League (PAL).

In 2019, a seven-month investigation led by the Union County Prosecutor's Office's Special Victims Unit (SVU) was initiated following a referral by the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, who also assisted the investigation alongside the Prosecutor's Office's Cyber Crime Task Force and the Roselle Police Department. Investigators determined that several of the alleged

incidents occurred at Giles's home on the 300 block of West 4th Avenue in Roselle, according to SVU Director and Union County Assistant Prosecutor Caroline Lawlor, who is prosecuting the case.

The initial investigation revealed that the first victim, a student-athlete playing for the East Orange Wildcats youth football team, then coached by Giles, was allegedly assaulted on several occasions from 1998 into 2000, when he was between 11 and 13 years old, Lawlor said. The second victim, also a youth football player, was allegedly assaulted from 2002 into 2003, when he was between 12 and 13 years old.

Following the execution of a search warrant at Giles' home, forensic

analysis of recovered recorded materials resulted in the addition of several charges. The recordings were made between April 2018 and October 2019, when the victims were between the ages of 13 and 15 years old.

Anyone with additional information about Giles' activities is urged to contact Union County Prosecutor's Office Lieutenant Sofia Santos at (908) 577-4256.

Convictions on criminal charges of this nature are commonly punishable by 10 to 20 years in state prison.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE

ii. Signage. Installation of directional signs at appropriate decision points to effectively guide motorists to the charging station space(s) as described further herein.

iii. Location (Specific to On-Street Parking). Placement of a single charging station is preferred at the beginning or end stall on a block face.

Sec. Sec. 24.07. Charging Station Location(s)

Example Site Plan – “Rough-In” of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Accessible Charging Stations. It is strongly encouraged, but not required, that a minimum of one (1) accessible charging station be provided. Accessible charging stations should be in close proximity to the building or facility entrance and shall be connected to a barrier-free accessible route of travel to and from the building or facility. It is not necessary to designate the accessible charging station exclusively for the use of disabled persons. Below are two options for providing for accessible electric vehicle charging stations:

OFF-STREET ACCESSIBLE CHARGING STATION EXAMPLE - OPTION 1

Accessible EV Charging Station

- Includes charging equipment, signage, and barrier-free routes to charging equipment and the building.
- The barrier-free area adjacent to the Accessible EV Station shall be striped and be a minimum of 44" wide.

EV Charging Station

- Charging equipment and signage

Puget Sound area parking garage. Photo by ECOality North America.

OFF-STREET ACCESSIBLE CHARGING STATION EXAMPLE - OPTION 2

Accessible EV Charging Station

- Includes charging equipment, signage, and barrier-free routes to charging equipment and the building.
- The barrier-free area adjacent to the Designated Accessible Space shall be striped and be 60" or 90" wide.

EV Charging Station

- Charging equipment and signage

Fashion Island Shopping Mall, Newport Beach, CA. Photo by LightMoves.

Comment: The illustrations and photos above show two options for providing accessible charging stations. Option 1 is a likely scenario for installation in existing parking lots. By using an existing wider end parking stall or restriping, an accessible charging station may be more cost effectively installed. Where feasible, a wider clear area around the equipment (60") is preferable. Additionally, this location away from the near building prime parking has a better likelihood of being available for disabled persons, since the accessible charging station is not exclusively reserved for disabled persons. Option 2 provides a location that has a shorter travel distance for disabled persons and can be easily installed in a new parking lot. This option may allow the installer to provide a wider, more fully compliant aisle.

While other options, depending on the specific layout of the new or reconfigured parking area, are likely, at a minimum, an accessible charging station must be located within accessible reach of the barrier-free access aisle (minimum 44-inch width) and the electric vehicle and connect to a barrier-free route of travel. However, because the charging station facility is not a parking facility, the accessible charging station does not need to be located immediately adjacent to the building entrances or reserved exclusively for the use of disabled persons.

Sec. 24-08. Signage

A. Electric vehicle charging stations, other than in residential use, shall have posted signage, as identified in this section, allowing only charging electric vehicles to park in such spaces. For purposes of this subsection, "charging" means that an electric vehicle is parked at an electric vehicle charging station and is connected to the charging station equipment.

B. Each charging station space shall be posted with signage indicating the charging station space is only for use by electric vehicles for charging purposes. Days and hours of operations shall be included if time limits or tow away provisions are to be enforced.

C. All signage shall include: (1) information on the charging station to identify voltage and amperage levels and any time of use, fees, or safety information; (2) as appropriate, directional signs to effectively guide motorists to the charging station space(s); and (3) any additional optional signage may be posted to alert potential charging station users as to other expectations.

D. All such signage shall additionally be compliant with the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices ("MUTCD") as published by the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") and shall be made at the recommended sizes described therein.

Sec. 24-09. Electric Vehicle Charging Station Regulations

A. Charging stations, where provided for public use, are reserved for parking and charging electric vehicles only, except as otherwise provided by this Article.

B. Electric vehicles may park in any parking space otherwise designated for parking, subject to the restrictions that would apply to any other vehicle generally.

Sec. 24-10. Prohibitions

When a sign authorized under Sec. 24-08 provides notice of a designated charging station space, no person shall park or stand a non-electric vehicle therein. Any non-electric vehicle parked or standing in a charging station space is subject to fine and/or impoundment of the offending vehicle as described in Section 24-13.

Sec. 24-11. Notice of Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Upon adoption of an ordinance by the Town establishing a charging station(s) in on-street or municipally-owned Town parking lots, the Town Engineer shall cause appropriate signs and markings to be placed in and around the designated charging station space(s), indicating prominently thereon the parking regulations therefor. The signs shall define time limits and hours of operation, as applicable, and shall state that the parking space is reserved for the charging of electric vehicles only. Charging station space regulation violators are subject to fine and/or impoundment of the offending vehicle.

Sec. 24-12. Applicability of Construction and Land Use Regulations

Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted as a waiver, replacement, or substitute for any installation that requires a Construction Code or Land Use Approval under applicable provisions of any statute, ordinance, rule or regulation. Installation of charging stations to an existing parking space is exempt from any such site plan review.

Sec. 24-13. Violations and Penalties

A. The Police Department, through its officers, shall enforce this Article and shall make a record of any parking violation in public areas, including the state license or registration number of the vehicle, the date concerning the violation, and any other pertinent details. The police officer observing the violation shall attach to the vehicle or property a summons directing the owner or operator of the vehicle or property owner to appear before the Town of Westfield Municipal Court on a regular court night, or report to the violation clerk and pay the prescribed fine in accordance section 13-8(b) of the Town Code. All sums so paid shall be transmitted to the Town Treasurer. Any person receiving a summons for violating any of the provisions of this article may, in any event, be liable to any of the penalties imposed by this article upon conviction of such violation in the Municipal Court.

B. The Zoning Officer shall enforce all signage and installation requirements described in this Article pursuant to the provisions of Article 21 to this Chapter.

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

SECTION III. If any section, provision, or part of provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance, or any part thereof, other than the part so held unenforceable or invalid.

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

NOTICE

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

Tara Rowley, RMC, Town Clerk

Fee: \$738.99

1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader



TAKING IT DOWN TO THE BONE...Frank DeRosa, Sr. (left) and Frank DeRosa, Jr. (right) butcher a primal aged cut in the window of their new shop on Cumberland Street.



AGING WELL...Frank DeRosa Sr., a butcher with more than 50 years of experience, hand selects each cut of USDA prime dry aged meat before bringing it here to his new family-owned shop in Westfield. Visitors to the store are invited to tour the cooler for themselves to choose their own cuts.

Cranford Fire, Police Respond To Fatal Fire on Beech Street

CRANFORD – The Cranford Fire/EMS and Police Departments responded to a residential house fire at 26 Beech Street around 7:12 a.m. on Tuesday. Units arrived two minutes later to find heavy fire conditions within the single family dwelling, with an active rescue attempt in progress with the assistance of a neighbor. Two occupants were rescued from the structure and treated at the scene for smoke inhalation. Unfortunately, a third occupant, Grace Sinnott, 83 of Cranford, was pronounced deceased at the scene. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victim's family during this tragic time.

The incident escalated to three alarms, bringing in fire response and emergency medical services resources from surrounding communities via the County Mutual Aid Plan. Additional Mutual Aid resources were staged at Fire Headquarters to cover the Township during the incident.

The fire caused exterior damage to a neighboring home as well as a detached garage. In addition, two firefighters were treated at the scene with minor injuries.

The fire was brought under control around 8:10 a.m. with units operating on scene into the early afternoon hours. The fire is being investigated by a partnership of the Cranford FD Bureau of Fire Prevention, Cranford Police Department, and Union County Fire Investigation Task Force. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

The Fire Department reminds all residents that the most effective way to protect you and your family from fire is to have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms throughout your home, have an escape plan with two ways out, and regular fire drills with your family. Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms monthly and check on family, friends, and neighbors who may not be able to test their alarms.

SNAP Assistance Available To Union County Residents

COUNTY – Union County residents impacted by Tropical Storm Ida may be eligible for food assistance through New Jersey's Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or D-SNAP. The assistance is available to residents who are not currently enrolled in the SNAP program, and who meet income eligibility requirements.

Union County residents who live in Clark, Cranford, Elizabeth, Hillside, Linden, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Union Township or Westfield may be eligible for assistance, which will be in the form of a one-month Electronic Benefits Transfer card.

"Many of those impacted by Tropical Storm Ida have also been struggling with the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. The assistance through D-SNAP will provide some much needed relief, and our staff will work to ensure that eligible residents receive their benefits as quickly as possible," said Union County Commissioner Alexander Mirabella.

"Picking up the pieces after a disaster of the magnitude is a community effort that enlists every available resource. I would like to thank the New Jersey Department of Human Services for their diligence in getting approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to apply D-SNAP benefits, and staff of the Union County Department of Human Services staff who worked alongside them to make this happen for our residents," said Commissioner Sergio Granados, who is the Board's liaison to the Union County Human Services

Advisory Council.

To qualify for D-SNAP assistance, Union County residents in the impacted municipalities will need to show proof of identity, and proof of residency as of September 1, 2021 in the affected areas.

Applicants must also show that they paid for disaster related expenses during the month of September.

Eligibility for D-SNAP assistance also depends on household income. To determine their eligibility, households must add their net income for the month of September to liquid resources, such as bank accounts.

For example, if an individual's net income for the month of September was \$2,000 and they have \$2,000 in a savings account, their combined income and resources for the month is \$4,000.

The application period for D-SNAP assistance in Union County will run from Monday, November 15 to Friday, November 19.

Union County's Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services has organized intake offices that will be open to applicants during this period, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day.

The offices are located in the Union County Services building at 535 Laurel Avenue in Roselle Park, and the Division of Social Services at 342 Westminster Avenue in Elizabeth.

Applicants are reminded to bring their documentation with them. For additional assistance, contact the Division of Social Services by phone at (908) 965-2700.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Fourth Generation Butcher Shop Opens in Westfield

By KATIE MOEN
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

WESTFIELD — Frank DeRosa, Sr., an unassuming man in a white butcher's coat and a cheerful red bow tie, talks about meat the way other people might talk about a treasured work of art.

"Do you see this?" he asked, tapping hard on an aged side of beef in his new custom-built cooler. "This right here is a beautiful thing. You don't find meat like this. Not anywhere."

He paused, looking proudly around the new butcher shop he now owns with his son, Frank DeRosa, Jr., on Cumberland Street.

"Well," he said, grinning, "actually you do. You get it right here."

The shop, appropriately named F.A. DeRosa USDA Prime Dry Aged Beef, will host its official grand opening on Friday, November 26. The retail storefront, located in downtown Westfield, is prepped and ready to offer a wide selection of quality, handpicked, aged USDA prime cuts ranging from porterhouses and T-bones to bone-in sirloins and briskets.

"This has been a long time coming, but such good things are usually worth the wait," said Frank DeRosa, Jr., who stepped up to take his place in the family business when his grandfather, who also was named Frank, passed away approximately 10 years ago.

"This shop is the culmination of four generations' worth of knowledge," said Frank Jr., who started his professional life in the international business development and marketing sector. "When my grandfather passed away, it was like a wakeup call. I was standing at his visitation and I realized that my dad was the only one left. I couldn't just let this legacy get away from us without a fair fight."

The DeRosa family story started almost 100 years ago with Frank Jr.'s great-grandfather, an Italian immigrant also named Frank, who opened his first business, The Liberty Food Store, in Newark in 1929. Eventually, the family would go on to run J&M Market in Mountainside.

"J&M was an institution in its own right," Frank Jr. said. "It served this area well for many years, and we're hoping that a bit of that solid reputation will help us to create something even better going forward."

After convincing his father to come out of retirement to open the new store with him, Frank Jr. started the long process of trying to make it all come together.

"My great-grandfather's store was always in the back of my head when I was planning this out," Frank Jr. said. "It was a real main street type of place, and that's what we wanted to create here."

In that effort, it appears, F.A. DeRosa's has already more than succeeded. The shop is such a "main street type of place," in fact, that passersby will likely come to recognize one or possibly even both of the Franks carving up their latest cuts right in the front window.

"We have no secrets here," Frank Sr. said. "We're proud of what we're doing, so why not let everybody watch us do it?"

In that same vein, visitors to the store will be invited to step into the custom, atmosphere-controlled cooler to pick out their own cuts in much the same way that Frank Sr. selects them himself.

"I head into Manhattan once a week and personally choose every single piece of meat that's hanging in this cooler," the elder Frank said. "It's me and the guy from Peter Luger's standing there going over every inch. This isn't the type of business that you can learn about by reading about it. You just have to jump right in there and get your hands on it."

Each piece of primal beef that Frank Sr. picks out is marked with the shop's special brand to make sure that no mix-ups can happen during transport. "Yes, it takes more time to do it this way, but it's the right way to do it," Frank Sr. said. "We don't ever do boxed meat here. This is all transported fresh directly from the midwest, and it's the highest-quality meat available anywhere. I've been doing this a long time, and at this point, I know exactly what I'm looking for."

Once it arrives in Westfield, Frank Sr. said, each cut of beef will be aged in the shop for at least 28 days to reach an optimum flavor.

In addition to retail sales, Frank Jr. said, F.A. DeRosa's will be partnering with a number of local restaurants and steakhouses to bring their cuts to a wider audience.

"We're not doing poultry, and we're not doing prepared foods," Frank Jr. said. "We're doing one thing, and hopefully, we're doing it better than anyone."

Friday's grand opening will feature samples, giveaways and the chance to meet the family behind one of Westfield's newest additions.

Luckily, Frank Jr. said, proudly showing off a photo, the next Frank DeRosa (currently 6 years old) is already waiting in the wings to carry on the family legacy once his grandfather decides to retire for good.

"I think I'll let him finish elementary school first," Frank Jr. said, smiling, "but he already loves it. Only kid I know who prefers rare, dry-aged steak to a Happy Meal."

For more information, visit: facebook.com/pages/category/Butcher-Shop/FA-DeRosa.

Muñoz Plans to Launch Rep. Women's Caucus

TRENTON — Assemblywoman Nancy Muñoz will join the Assembly Republican leadership team as the sole deputy minority leader and plans to launch a Republican women's caucus at the start of the next legislative session.

Asw. Muñoz will work with incoming Assembly Republican Leader John DiMaio to coordinate Assembly floor activities, and build coalitions with Republicans at all levels of government and advocacy organizations in pursuit of the policy objectives of the Assembly Republican Caucus.

"My motivation for creating a Republican women's caucus is voters. One hundred years ago, the first women elected to serve in the state Assembly were both Republicans. It is time we have a caucus dedicated to those who have been pursuing common legislative objectives for the last century," Asw. Muñoz (R-Union) said. "We will honor the women that paved the way for us to serve in the Legislature, and amplify the concerns of the women who elected us to represent them. I am privileged to be leading the charge."

Voters elected seven female GOP newcomers to the Assembly — the most ever. There will be 14 Republican women in the state Assembly and Senate starting in January. That is the

highest number of Republican women in the N.J. Legislature since the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University started keeping track in 1975.

"Assemblywoman Muñoz has great leadership skills, and will bring diversity to the team, which will help build on the impressive gains we made this election," Asm. DiMaio (R-Warren) said. "The people want more female voices in the Legislature and we want to make sure that this is represented in our leadership. Women are being heard by Republicans, while the Democrats are leaving their female colleagues off the guest list. We are here to lift women up and give them the platform they deserve."

Assemblywoman Muñoz also is joining Assemblyman Ned Thomson, who will serve as conference leader, and Assemblyman Antwan McClellan, who is replacing Asm. Thomson as whip, on the new Assembly Republican leadership team.

Newly-elected women members include: Claire Swift (R-Atlantic), Beth Sawyer (R-Gloucester), Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Salem), Marilyn Piperno (R-Monmouth), Kimberly Eulner (R-Monmouth), Vicky Flynn (R-Monmouth) and Michele Matsikoudis (R-Union).

Additional Funding Added for Restaurant Recovery Program

TRENTON - New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy announced an additional \$10 million in funding to support the creation of a third phase of the Sustain & Serve NJ Program, bringing the total program funding to nearly \$45 million.

Launched by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) in December 2020, Sustain & Serve NJ has provided eligible entities with grants to support the purchase of meals from New Jersey-based restaurants that have been negatively impacted by Covid-19. The meals have then been distributed to families in need.

"Sustain & Serve offers a creative approach to supporting both restaurants impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic as well as those who struggle with food insecurity," said Governor Murphy. "This program is truly a win-win, offering aid to restaurants to keep their doors open and retain staff while helping to get much needed meals to individuals and families struggling to put food on the table."

Through the first two phases of the program, the NJEDA awarded more than \$34 million to 31 organizations across the state. Since February 2021, Sustain and Serve grantees have purchased two million meals from more than 400 participating restaurants across nearly 150 municipalities in all 21 counties. An additional 1.5 million meals are expected to be purchased between now and January 2022 using Phase 2 grants. Phase 3 funding is expected to support the purchase of an additional one million meals, bringing the total number of meals purchased and distributed to 4.5 million.

Phase 3 of Sustain & Serve NJ will make up to \$10 million in American Rescue Plan funding available to organizations in New Jersey. Eligible organizations will receive grants for bulk purchases of meals from New Jersey-based restaurants. The entities will then distribute the meals at no cost.

"Through Sustain & Serve NJ, we are fueling the economic recovery of our vital restaurant industry while helping to alleviate food insecurity within our state's communities, two top priorities for Governor Murphy as we

emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic," said NJEDA Chief Executive Officer Tim Sullivan. "The Governor has often called Sustain & Serve a 'grand slam.' I wholeheartedly agree. With today's announcement, we look forward to getting additional funding into the hands of organizations statewide to buy even more meals in the months ahead."

"Sustain and Serve has become an integral part of our battle against food insecurity and I'm pleased the governor is continuing to support this effort with another \$10 million funding boost," said Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin. "The partnership between our state, restaurants and soup kitchens like Soup Kitchen 411 is evidence of our ongoing commitment to help put hot meals on the plates of those struggling while supporting small, often family-owned businesses. Places like Tavern on George had to rewrite the rules during the pandemic to keep business going and I'm glad we've found a way to support them to mutual benefit."

Governor Murphy announced the expansion of the program during a visit to Tavern On George in New Brunswick, a participating restaurant working with Soup Kitchen 411. Soup Kitchen 411 has received grants totaling \$4 million through Phases 1 and 2 of the Program.

"Feedback from organizations and restaurant owners participating in Sustain & Serve NJ has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are incredibly grateful for Governor Murphy's support of a third phase of the program," said Tara Colton, NJEDA Executive Vice President for Economic Security. "The meals provided through Sustain and Serve NJ not only offer basic sustenance for families in need, but provide dignity and are responsive to the needs of New Jersey's diverse communities. We are thrilled to expand a program that embodies Governor Murphy's commitment to advancing a stronger and fairer state for all New Jerseyans."

A list of current Sustain and Serve NJ grantees can be found at: https://www.njeda.com/public_information/#Activity-reports.

State To Purchase Abandoned Rail Passage

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy, joined by state and local officials, announced the state's intention to purchase nearly nine miles of property stretching from Jersey City to Montclair, for the creation of New Jersey's first new state park since 2006. The announcement follows years of advocacy for the acquisition and transformation of the now abandoned former Boonton rail alignment as a multi-modal transit and recreational rail corridor that crosses above both the Passaic and Hackensack Rivers.

Connecting the communities of Montclair, Glen Ridge, Bloomfield, Belleville, Newark, Kearny, Secaucus, and Jersey City, the park will also provide a new pedestrian route and protect our environment by providing residents with a new and convenient method to reach their destinations without the use of a car. Projects such as the new park, which encourage car-free transportation, will help the Murphy Administration reach its goals of reducing overall emissions by 50 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050.

"This project has been years in the making, and I am proud to be the Governor to advance this dream to being a reality," said Governor Murphy. "This new park will be a crown jewel of our state park system, providing much-needed recreational space to New Jerseyans and out-of-state visitors, while revitalizing and protecting environmentally-sensitive areas."

"For far too long our families have had to deal with the negative impact of an abandoned rail line. From illegal dumping to being an inviting space for negative activities, the rail line has tainted homeownership, backyards, new developments, new el-

ementary schools and the first countywide park system in the country," said Senate President Pro Tempore Teresa Ruiz. "Today's announcement shows that New Jersey will fight for environmental justice."

"My colleagues and I at the Department of Environmental Protection are proud to support the funding, acquisition and development of this new Greenway for the Garden State," said Commissioner of Environmental Protection Shawn M. LaTourette. "This is a historic investment that will enrich communities in Essex and Hudson counties, the state and the region—serving as a hub for ecotourism and unlocking the potential for even greater transit and environmental infrastructure improvements. It is exactly the kind of transformative project that New Jersey residents deserve."

"The Essex-Hudson Greenway will not only create vital recreational opportunities for many of our communities, but also provide transportation alternatives that go beyond the car and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels," said Senator Bob Menendez.

The new park will pass through a diverse landscape of existing parks and wetlands, as well as urban, suburban, and industrial areas. The park will include walking paths, bike lanes, and other recreational uses, allowing visitors to take full advantage of a trail that exhibits the varied landscapes of our state including the scenery of the Meadowlands. Funding for the park will be provided through a collaborative effort by the Murphy Administration, including the support of the Department of Environmental Protection and NJ TRANSIT, the Legislature, and New Jersey's congressional delegation, utilizing American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding.

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THE GOOD NEWS

O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever. Chronicles 16:34

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. Philippians 4:6

The Gospel

Centennial Christian Ctra. Church



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Union County HAWK


Since 1959

formerly The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

The Student View

A collaboration with the
Westfield High School Journalism Program

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. Radeau – A raft
2. Davit – A boat hoist used for raising and lowering smaller boats
3. Tarve – To bend or turn
4. Abaddon – Angel of the bottomless pit

CTENIDIUM

1. Respiratory organ of a mollusk
2. A thousand of anything
3. A Roman mineral bath
4. A horsefly

ADMINICLE

1. To ridicule
2. To force or drive out; expel
3. Help; support
4. Enslave or imprison

CONCULCATE

1. To mix or jumble
2. To waver or sway
3. To chill or harden
4. To trample under foot

BANIAN

1. A Hindu trader or merchant
2. A heavy barge used for freight
3. A bold, boisterous girl; a tomboy
4. A cavern or large cave

Let Thanksgiving Be the Start of a Season of Giving, and Giving Back

Today we celebrate Thanksgiving, the day each year on which we pause to express our gratitude for the blessings bestowed upon us. Inspired by the first such celebration 400 years ago this year, in which Plymouth colonists and local Native Americans shared a harvest feast, we continue to give thanks for our family and friends, our homes and our livelihoods, the food on our tables, and so much more.

Yet for many people, Thanksgiving this year will be far from such iconic images as Norman Rockwell's "Freedom from Want," in which a matriarch presents a sumptuous roasted turkey to smiling family members gathered around the table. Those coping with homelessness, food insecurity, job, financial or health woes — often compounded over the past year by the ongoing pandemic — may feel they have scant blessings to count.

Thanksgiving traditionally is regarded as the start of the winter holiday season, and the festivities are coming up fast this year. Hanukkah begins this Sunday, while Christmas is a mere one month from today. With so many people still struggling just to make ends meet, we encourage everyone in our communities to make this Thanksgiving the kickoff to an entire "season of giving" and "giving back."

Myriad such opportunities continue to evolve throughout the holiday season, and beyond, right where we live. Local food pantries are always in need of donations. Emergency-responder units, civic organizations, charitable entities and houses of worship customarily collect food, toys, clothing and other necessities to benefit the disadvantaged. During this season of giving, we also remind our readers of the urgent need to give blood.

Sometimes the greatest gift we can give to one another — any time throughout the year — is our company and concern. We encourage our readers to check up on loved ones, friends and neighbors who are alone, and/or invite them to

share in holiday celebrations. Likewise, we urge people to reach out to those they know who may be going through difficult circumstances.

As we contemplate ways to give back this season, let us not forget our town merchants. Our downtowns — the backbone of our local economy — have been hit hard by the pandemic. While shoppers are out and about again this year, businesses continue to wrestle with a shortage of workers, not to mention competition that has existed for years now from chain stores and online op-

tions. Many have been fixtures in the community for generations; many retailers also live in the towns where they have their businesses. They need and deserve our support. Keep the holidays close to home in more ways than one this year — shop local!

We wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe Thanksgiving. May the holidays and the year ahead see us continue to emerge from the pandemic that has so long overshadowed us, enabling us to experience renewed peace and prosperity.

Gratitude for Simple Abundance

By PATRICIA STECKLER, Ph.D.
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

"I've made the unexpected but thrilling discovery that everything in my life is significant enough to be a continuous source of reflection, revelation, and reconnection: bad hair day, mood swings, carpools, excruciating deadlines, dirty floors, grocery shopping, exhaustion, unexpected company, even the final twenty-five pounds." Those curious but wise words by Sarah Breathnach, author of *Simple Abundance*, can guide us to value, even treasure, the everydayness of life.

Feeling glad for the daily litany of annoying things is not the author's meaning. To relish life *despite* its travails is the goal. To gain insight into what truly matters: pare down negative thinking, declutter over-piled stuff, and combat procrastination. If we simplify our lives, we can feel good *now*.

For example, rather than sulk over a bad haircut, remember how quickly hair re-grows, think of the lovely chat you and your stylist enjoyed, and how most cuts are nearly perfect in her skilled hands. When cranky moods hit hard and irritability crackles such that you want to blast the car horn at the slow-moving car in front of you, or lose it at the drum-playing neighborhood kids, pause and breathe deeply. Notice that the slow driver is that same kind lady who always gives out super-sized chocolate bars at Halloween. Remember that those noisy kids shoveled you out of last winter's major snowstorm. Everyone has a good side. Let yours shine through even on low mood days.

Rather than waiting for next summer's vacation, the new car, the perfect college admission, or the rain to end, try to weave these principles into your daily

life. Doing so "can produce a tapestry of contentment that wraps us in inner peace, well-being, happiness, and a sense of security," according to Breathnach.

Here are suggestions for how to practice simple abundance:

Gratitude: Keep a gratitude journal; At dinner, ask each family member to share what they're grateful for that day.

Simplicity and Order: Re-organize those clutter piles that threaten to overrun your house; Sort through overstuffed closets and give away rarely used clothes to people in need. If procrastination interferes with tidying tasks, follow this guideline: Set a timer for fifteen minutes. Spend only that quarter of an hour sifting through one pile of stuff. Stop when the timer goes off. You'll feel good.

Harmony: Step outside, breathe deeply, walk to the nearest tree, touch its bark, smell the woodiness, look up and see how the branches reach skyward, relish nature's bounty. Or tell your teens how much you love them or what you treasure about them. Be specific. Try this after school, especially when the kids behaved miserably that morning, barely making it to school on time.

Beauty and Joy: Explore your world with refreshed eyes. See that "certain Slant of light" celebrated by Emily Dickinson. There it is in seasonal changes, diurnal cycles, and the faces of our loved ones.

Share your examples of simple abundance in The Westfield Leader and The Hawk by writing Gratitude in the subject line and emailing: press@goleader.com or pattisteckler@gmail.com

Gratefully yours,
Patti

Internet Personalities and Their Influence on Children

By THOMAS CHEN
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

As we have moved into a digital age, the job of being a YouTuber or streamer has been popularized and has become a norm. Most commonly associated with its popularity amongst younger demographics, this trend has become apparent with the viral sensations of Fortnite and Among Us. These YouTubers and streamers are watched daily by kids ranging from elementary to middle school that are still young, naive and easily influenced, begging the question of whether these internet personalities serve as a positive or negative influence on the children of today's age.

YouTubers first started gaining traction with the popularity of gaming playthroughs and guides. Although at first, audiences were drawn in to watching these videos for the video game that was being played, viewers gradually developed interests in specific YouTubers for their personality or voice, becoming subscribers; viewers that opt to receive notifications on the most recent uploads of a YouTuber.

Over time YouTubers have gained stronger voices in social media outlets with stronger fan bases. Video content on video games has transitioned to more everyday activities such as virtual tours or blogs. Most viewers today are invested in the YouTuber or content creator rather than the content they are watching. YouTubers are more internet personalities and less content creators, becoming community figures and influencers for children.

Many YouTubers have taken advantage of their popularity to bring attention to and support charities. One such is the YouTuber Mr. Beast who was responsible for the fundraiser project #TeamTrees, which raised enough money to plant more than four million trees. He is currently raising money for another fundraising project called #TeamSeas with the goal of removing more than 20 million pounds of marine debris from the ocean.

The positive influence of internet personalities are not limited to just YouTubers and can be seen through streamers on popular platforms such as Twitch. Streamers unlike YouTubers are able to directly interact with their viewers through a chat feature.

This chatting system offers the usage of a variety of emotes that are used to convey certain emotions. For example, when something funny happens, people type in a laughing emoticon. With tens of thousands of viewers on the most popular streams on Twitch, viewers can express their feelings openly with emotes and feel supported when they see how other people feel the same way. This is especially beneficial for younger au-

diences that may consist of lonely children who may lack friends or confidence. Streamers interact and talk with their chat and with thousands of streamers available to choose from, it isn't difficult to find a supporting community or home.

The idea of internet personalities on video and streaming platforms is to create a space where viewers can connect with the streamer. Children who view popular trends can be influenced heavily in their decision making through their adoption of these trends in their behavior. However, many popular YouTubers and streamers act as positive role models and offer support to their audiences as friendly online personas. Not only offering entertainment, internet personalities consist of people conscious and willing to extend their influence positively to children of today.

Of course, we should be conscious of what children are following or watching, but we also need to be aware that this influence can be positive for some children.

Educator's Corner: Attitude of Gratitude

By JENNIFER GLACKIN
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

Happy Thanksgiving!! My family has been writing on a "Gratitude Pumpkin" since just before Halloween. It's a paper mache pumpkin I bought for \$3 that my three-year-old painted. (We do not have good luck with leaving real pumpkins in the house, as the stain on my entry table can attest to – but if you do, that works too!) Each night at dinner we each write down one thing we are thankful for at that moment. The kids get so excited to do it, they ask to write as soon as dinner hits the table!

It's nice to sit and think about the many things we have to be grateful for. We were impacted heavily by Hurricane Ida and were displaced from our home for three weeks. While much of our home is still a construction zone and the rest is filled with toys, coats, hats, gloves, backpacks, homework, holiday projects - (you get my drift, right? – it's a giant mess!) – some of our neighbors have not been able to move back home.

Practicing gratitude is not blindly ignoring the swirling mess around us. It's a moment to remember that despite the swirling mess, there are meaningful, important, and happy moments taking place at the same time.

What does gratitude have to do with education? Quite a lot, actually! Research has shown that students who regularly practice gratitude have a more positive outlook overall and

achieve higher grades than those who don't.

As we move into a veritable storm of decorating, shopping, cooking, baking, and holiday gatherings, it's important to keep gratitude at the forefront. Here are some ways to practice it, even after Thanksgiving is over:

Gratitude Journal – Older children and teenagers can use lined paper. Younger ones can draw a picture, then write a few words or tell a grown-up what they drew about.

Growing Gratitude – All you need for this is sticky notes and a pen. Write down something you are grateful for and stick it on the wall. Keep sticking in a straight line, make a roller coaster, create a giant Christmas tree or Menorah shape and watch your gratitude grow!

Send a Note – Think of one person a week to send a thank you note to. It could be as simple as "Thank you for being my friend." (Cue 80's sitcom music here...) Kids can get in on it, too! Create a Thankfulness Fairy that sneaks into rooms to leave messages of gratitude.

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

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

Letters to the Editor

The Holidays Are Here Consider Donating To Local Groups

Next Tuesday, November 30, is "Giving Tuesday," the largest global day of non-profit giving. Last year, donors from around the world gifted over \$2.5 billion dollars to non-profit groups providing services to individuals, communities and global organizations dedicated to helping those that are underserved. Today's reality for non-profits is that one in three is facing significant financial hardship or has shuttered its doors since the pandemic began. For the Westfield Community Center, that means fewer affordable programs for our community members. For other organizations, it means less counseling, less food in a pantry and a greater challenge in providing a safe place to live.

This Giving Tuesday, please con-

sider a donation. There are wonderful organizations in the greater Westfield area that need your help. Find an organization that you feel connected to and give. Any amount, no matter how small, can make a difference. If you're not able to offer a donation, consider volunteering or simply offering an act of kindness to help a friend, a neighbor or a stranger.

Donations to the Westfield Community Center can be made via: www.westfieldcommunitycenter.org or by mail to: Westfield Community Center, 558 East Broad Street, Westfield, NJ 07090.

With enormous gratitude and appreciation.

Andrew Davliouros, President,
Westfield Community Center
Velvet Roger, Executive Director,
Westfield Community Center

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

Deadlines

General News - Friday 4 p.m.

Weekend Sports - Monday 12 p.m.

Classifieds - Tuesday 12 p.m.

Ad Reservation - Friday 4 p.m.

Ad Submittal - Monday 12 p.m.

Letters to Editor Deadline

Monday 9 a.m.

Letters should be no more than 500 words. Due to the volume of letters we receive we are unable to respond to each letter. Not all letters will be published.

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

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

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

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]

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

Consumer Alert: Chains Do Not Always Offer Best Option

By LAUREN S. BARR
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

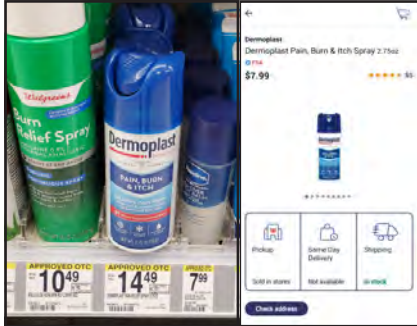
AREA — Did you know that running into Walgreens or CVS is going to cost you the same or more as running into a mom-and-pop pharmacy? If you're in need of first aid and Over The Counter (OTC) medicine, you're

CVS doesn't offer an in-store pickup option, but its online prices also were lower than its in-store prices. Neither of the chains will match the online prices in the store, so if you look online to see if your item is in stock, don't get sticker shock when you arrive.

It seems more than a little counter-intuitive with stores struggling to find staff why Walgreens would have its own staff do the shopping for less money. But also, why not encourage people to shop in the store with deals only available there? When their board of directors looks at profits and losses, and decides to close more stores, it will be because they over-competed with themselves.

Also, it should be noted that while a line of people formed down the aisle at Walgreens waiting for a pharmacist to arrive — Baron's and Tiffany's were fully staffed and at the ready to assist.

If you're just going to run in and



going to pay the same price as running into the chain stores, unless you order online.

Walgreens' and CVS' websites both come with the disclaimer: "Online and store prices may vary."

Vary is an understatement. And we found the Walgreens loophole.

You can get the online price, have the clerk do your shopping for you and then pick it up at the store in as little as 30 minutes.

An 18 count of Imodium is \$12.99 on the shelf, but order online or in the app and the same box will cost you \$8.99. Need some Dermoplast? \$7.99 if you order ahead, \$14.49 if you just run into the store. Items such as Advil had an in-store sale price that matched the regular lower cost of online. Every regular-priced OTC item we checked was cheaper if we had the store clerk shop for us than doing it ourselves.

Support Updating the Edison Field Project to Install Grass Turf

Would you prefer the fields behind Edison Middle School be replaced with ARTIFICIAL TURF or NATURAL GRASS TURF?

The Westfield, NJ Edison Field Project is poised to replace most of the grass behind the Edison Middle School with synthetic turf. The plan was developed without a comparison of the health, financial and environmental impact of high-quality grass fields versus synthetic fields.

Unless the board of education (BOE) hears from concerned residents, the plan will likely proceed in its current form because no town-wide vote is required to approve the \$9 million project.

For additional context, there are three common types of sports fields:

1. SCHOOL YARDS: minimal maintenance and overuse cause patchy grass cover and compacted surface, which lead to drainage issues, field closures and injuries (ma-

jority of Westfield sports fields).

2. ARTIFICIAL TURF: made of plastic grass and crumb rubber (ground up tires) that contains known carcinogens, toxins and heavy metals, more expensive to install than grass turf, requires costly replacement about every 10 years (planned for Edison, Memorial & Elm St.).

3. NATURAL GRASS TURF: professionally designed and constructed for proper drainage, well-maintained for safety and increased playtime, lifecycle costs less than artificial, coolest on hot days (to date, this option has not been seriously considered).

Please consider visiting change.org/EdisonFields to sign a petition in support of updating the Edison Field Project to install only grass turf.

Erin Skurdal
Westfield

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Uchawk.com/advertorial

Join the Rotary Club of Westfield



westfieldrotary.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The intent of this notice is to comply with publishing requirement of N.J.S.A. 5:30-11.9 (c) 6.

Whereas, on April 1, 2020, the County of Union did enter into and Agreement with Space Farms, Wantage, New Jersey, through the public bidding process (BA#9-2020/Resolution #2020-280) for the purpose of picking up and disposing of Deer Carcasses along county and municipal roadways in the County of Union for the period of April 1, 2020 to April 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$44,825.00.

Whereas, it was necessary to amend the Agreement with Space Farms to increase the contract amount by \$16,000.00 due to an extraordinary increase in carcass pickups due to Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease which has been occurring in New Jersey in recent months. The contract will provide continued picking up and removals for a total contract not to exceed \$60,825.00.

Said project represents a non-construction project.

James E. Pelletiere, RMC, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners
1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$26.52

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the PLANNING BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD, after public hearing on October 27, 2021 granted approval to Brian Clarke for setback, impervious coverage and fence height variances, for property at 165 Willoughby Road, Fanwood, being Block 28 and Lot 6.

Documents pertaining to this application are available for public inspection at Borough Hall during normal business hours.

Mr. Brian Clarke
165 Willoughby Road
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023
1 T - 11/25/21, UC Hawk Fee: \$15.81

Random Acts of Kindness



The Westfield Foundation

For good..for ever..for Westfield

Last week a young girl dropped her stuffed dog, and a kind person tied the stuffed animal to a telephone pole. The finder even returned to put the stuffed animal in a plastic bag to protect it from the rain. After posting

on social media, the stuffed animal was safely recovered.

Share random acts of kindness you witness by emailing editor@goleader.com

O Christmas Trees!

By SHANNON WALSH
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

A few frosts, Thanksgiving, and we're into the Christmas season. It's time to think about buying a Christmas tree. But have you ever wondered or worried about where your Christmas tree comes from? There is some good news and some bad news.

Of course, a live, potted tree that you plant outside after a week or so in your home is the greenest option. If you choose this route, make sure to buy a tree that will thrive in our Zone 7, and remember that new plants need a lot of water even if it's cold outside. Also, make sure the lights you use that first week aren't giving off too much heat.

A potted tree might not be an appealing option for a number of reasons, though, and so the good news is that a cut tree from a farm has a relatively small carbon footprint. Many of these farms are family-owned small businesses. And it may be surprising to learn that a cut tree is a better choice than an artificial tree. The chemicals used and wastes produced from manufacturing plastic trees are not a sustainable practices. But most Christmas tree farms plant more than they cut, and they plant on land that isn't hospitable to much else, so their carbon footprint is not that big. These farms actually add to the tree canopy and the trees they plant digest carbon.

The trade-off however, is that most tree farms use harmful pesticides that pollute our groundwater and threaten wildlife. Many of these farmers also use chlorpyrifos, a suspected neurotoxin. Because these chemicals are topi-

cally applied, sprayed on, it's important not to burn your tree in your fireplace or any place where the fumes could be breathed. Composting a tree is fine because these pesticides break down easily over time to a non-toxic level.

The best option for a cut tree is an organic one, but these farms can be hard to find. There are none (that I can locate) that are conveniently close to us, but if you're traveling out of state anyway, you might take a look at the offerings. The website https://naturalbabymama.com/organic-christmas-trees-farms-by-state/ has a list of organic farms by state.

There are, of course, alternatives to Christmas trees such as plywood, cardboard and other materials. Green experts like some of these, but remind us to be aware of manufacturing processes where the cons may outweigh the pros of this option. Some alternatives you can make yourself and this site has some creative ideas: https://www.apartmenttherapy.com/15-alternative-christmas-trees-181603. Though my children are grown, I can imagine a delightful Christmas tradition of making our own tree.

If you'd like to learn more about Christmas trees and other Christmas plants (such as Poinsettias and Christmas cactus) our local Rutgers extension office is teaching a special online class on Tuesday, November 30. I've taken many of the classes offered by the extension office and they're always terrific, friendly and informative. It's a Zoom-type set-up where you can ask direct questions as well. These classes are always free and you can sign up here: www.tinyurl.com/ruready4xmas.

Acting AG Settles Privacy Suit, Printing Companies To Pay

NEWARK — Acting Attorney General Andrew J. Bruck and the Division of Consumer Affairs today announced that two printing companies have agreed to pay \$130,000 in penalties and to implement new security policies to resolve allegations they violated the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act (CFA) and the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA") in their handling of protected medical and client information.

As businesses that provide mailing and printing services to a leading New Jersey-based managed healthcare organization, Command Marketing Innovations, LLC (CMI), and Strategic Content Imaging, LLC (SCI), allegedly failed to safeguard sensitive information and disclosed the personal and protected health information of approximately 55,715 New Jersey residents.

Specifically, CMI and SCI failed to detect a printing error that affected explanation of benefits statements mailed to New Jersey residents from October 31, 2016, through November 2, 2016, and caused improper disclosure of protected health information (PHI) such as claims numbers, dates of service, provider and facility names, and the descriptions of services provided relating to medical care received by these New Jersey residents.

"Companies that handle sensitive personal and health information have a duty to protect patient privacy," said Acting Attorney General Bruck. "Inadequate protective measures is unacceptable, and we will hold companies accountable if they bypass our laws, cut corners, and put privacy and security at risk."

"Our commitment is to ensure that anyone who handles protected information properly safeguards that information," said Division of Consumer Affairs Acting Director Sean P. Neafsey. "We are pleased CMI and SCI have agreed to implement new practices to protect consumers' information."

Business associates of health insurance providers that handle sensitive medical and client information such as CMI and SCI are required by state and federal law to implement and use appropriate safeguards to protect sensitive consumer information and spot potential threats.

The Division's investigation found the alleged CFA and HIPAA violations occurred when SCI changed its printing process in 2016, causing the back page of one member's statement to become associated with the front page of another member's statement. The quality assurance systems of both SCI and CMI failed to identify the error.

Specifically, the companies allegedly violated HIPAA by: failing to ensure the confidentiality of PHI; failing to protect against a reasonably anticipated unauthorized dis-

closure of PHI contained in explanation of benefits statements; and failing to review and modify security measures as necessary to ensure reasonable and appropriate protection of PHI.

Although CMI and SCI dispute the Division's allegations, they have agreed to a Consent Order — filed today — that requires both companies to change their business practices and implement new measures to better protect sensitive information and identify vulnerabilities and threats. The reforms include: implementing and maintaining a comprehensive security information program and event management tool to identify and track potential vulnerabilities and threats;

appointing one employee for each company as its Chief Information Security Officer with the background and expertise in information security appropriate to implement, maintain, and monitor the information security program; appointing one employee for each company as a Chief Privacy Officer with documentation of their background and expertise in HIPAA compliance; subscribing to a personalized security awareness and anti-phishing training program and using the program to train their employees; and obtaining approval from clients that keep or transmit health information before executing any material changes to their printing process.

Under the terms of the Order, \$65,000 will be suspended from the settlement amount provided the companies comply with the terms of the Consent Order.

Section Chief Kashif Chand, Deputy Attorneys General Thomas Huynh and Gina Pittore of the Data Privacy & Cybersecurity Section, and Deputy Attorney General Carla Pereira of the Government & Healthcare Fraud Section, represent the State in the matter. Investigator Aziza Salikhova of the Office of Consumer Protection within the Division of Consumer Affairs conducted the investigation

Submit Your Community Calendar Events



goleader.com/calendar

uchawk.com/calendar

Domestic Violence Training Bill Passes Committee

TRENTON — Recommendations stemming from a 2015 Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee on Domestic Violence, and sponsored by committee member Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz, were cleared by the Assembly Judiciary Committee Monday. The bills reform how New Jersey's justice system approaches domestic violence training.

The first piece of legislation (A1763/S386) establishes mandatory domestic violence awareness training for municipal prosecutors, while the other bill (A1964/S384) requires law enforcement officers, assistant county prosecutors, and judges to undergo training on the handling of domestic violence cases.

"Although these bills were first introduced five years ago, the lockdowns have underscored their importance. Domestic violence has been called the silent pandemic, but there are lawmakers and advocates who have been shouting from the rooftops — we need these reforms now," Asw. Munoz (R-Union) said. "Domestic violence victims should never be afraid to come forward and seek justice, but the power was tipped in favor of the perpetrators during the government-mandated lockdowns. Victims stayed home, lost work and were socially isolated from loved ones. They were more easily targeted by abusers."

According to the New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence, requests for domestic violence services jumped 20 percent in 2020. Many domestic violence programs reported that calls for help spiked 40 percent to 70 percent compared to the prior year. One program recorded a 188 percent

increase in the number of shelter nights provided to survivors and their children in the last quarter of 2020, and another had the highest number of hotline calls they had received in 10 years.

Asw. Munoz, who also served as a member of a legislative committee tasked with reviewing the Murphy administration's handling of sexual assault allegations, said that victims need to feel like they will be taken seriously in order to come forward.

"It is time we assure survivors that the state has standards to ensure they will be treated fairly by law enforcement and the court system. Additionally, we must equip our justice system with the tools on how to respond to domestic violence cases," Asw. Munoz said.

Current law authorizes, but does not require, the Attorney General in consultation with county and municipal prosecutors, to develop voluntary domestic violence awareness training programs for all municipal prosecutors. The first bill passed by the committee would require municipal prosecutors to participate in an initial training within 90 days of appointment or transfer and annual in-service training of at least four hours.

The second bill approved by the committee would require law enforcement, assistant county prosecutors, judges and judicial staff to attend in-person training on a variety of domestic violence-related topics including its impact on children and survivors, services for victims and discrimination.

Both bills unanimously passed the Senate in June. They now go to the Speaker for further consideration.

Mountainside Police Chase Ends With Three Arrests

MOUNTAINSIDE — On November 9 at approximately 7:09 a.m., a resident of Mountainside reported a white Lexus with NY registration driving slowly and appearing suspicious. The witness alerted Mountainside Police with the vehicle plate number, a computer check of the registration confirmed it-to be stolen from Closter, NJ (Bergen County) It was later determined that the actors had made attempts to steal vehicles at this time.

Police officers Kevin Pierre and Timothy Stasyshyn in a marked patrol car observed the vehicle traveling Route 22 East and attempted to stop the vehicle with their emergency lights and sirens at which time it fled from them. P.O. Pierre and Stasyshyn now assisted by Officer Eric Pastore pursued the fleeing vehicle Route 22 East to the Garden State Parkway North, onto Route 78 East, where it exited onto Route 21. At this time the fleeing stolen vehicle struck the Mountainside Police car causing injury to both police officers just prior to the four male occupants fleeing from the vehicle on foot. Police officers gave chase across the busy lanes of traffic of the major roadway.

One suspect was arrested by Officer Pierre who was injured while affecting the arrest and was assisted by an FBI agent in the area. A perimeter was established with assistance

from Port Authority Police and New Jersey State Police to contain the three suspects in a wooded area. Two additional suspects were taken into custody by State Police and Port Authority Police, one remains at large.

Follow up investigation lead to the recovery of a loaded handgun in the area where the two suspects were taken into custody. Nine key fobs were recovered inside the stolen vehicle and on the suspects. Six of which have been linked by detectives to be from vehicles reported as stolen. All three arrested are suspects in numerous violent crimes throughout the state of New Jersey.

Two adult males and one juvenile age 16 were taken into custody.

Khalyl Harley age 23 believed to be from Newark N.J.

Isaac Zackery-Barnes age 24 believed to be from Newark N.J.

A 16 year old male from East Orange N.J.

All three have been charged with multiple indictable offenses and were lodged in the Union County Jail or Juvenile Detention awaiting a detention hearing.

One police officer was treated and released at Overlook Hospital for his injury and is not yet medically cleared to return to duty. The second officer has been treated by a private physician.

Plainfield Man Charged In Connection With Fatal Stabbing

PLAINFIELD — Michael Gonzalez, 27, of Plainfield, has been arrested and charged in connection with a fatal stabbing that took place Sunday morning in Plainfield, Union County Prosecutor William Daniel and Plainfield Police Department Acting Director Captain David Guarino jointly announced Monday.

Gonzalez has been charged with first degree aggravated manslaughter, two related second degree weapons offenses, and fourth degree hindering an investigation.

Shortly before 4:40 a.m. on Sunday, members of the Plainfield Police Department responded to the 400 block of Liberty Street and found the victim, Osmond Franklin, 48, of Plainfield, at that location, having sustained serious injury, according to preliminary investigation.

Mr. Franklin was transported to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, where he was later pronounced dead.

A fast moving investigation by the Union County Homicide Task Force, Plainfield Police Department, and Union County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit resulted in Gonzalez being identified as the suspect. Gonzalez was taken into custody without incident on Sunday

evening and is lodged in the Union County Jail pending a first appearance and detention hearing to take place in Union County Superior Court.

Anyone with information about this matter is still urged to contact Prosecutor's Office Homicide Task Force Sergeant Christopher Scurzo at (908) 472-0492, Detective Nora Berrio at (908) 370-3016, or the Plainfield Police Department at (908) 753-3360.

Convictions on criminal charges of this nature are commonly punishable by terms of 10 to 30 years in state prison.

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

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Patrick J. Murray, Devoted to Family and Friends; Corvette Enthusiast

Patrick James Murray of Lavallette, New Jersey, born March 26, 1957, passed away at home on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, from sudden cardiac arrest after a difficult battle with heart disease over the last few years.

A native of Westfield, New Jersey, Patrick spent his time between Palm Beach County, Florida and the Jersey Shore. A lifelong fitness enthusiast, Patrick also loved dogs and cars, notably his Corvettes. Most important to him, however, was spending time with his large family.

Surviving Patrick are his loving parents, Charles, who he idolized, and Arlene, who he lovingly respected and adored. Also dear to him were his brothers, Daniel, Chuck and James, all of whom he was so proud of, including his sisters-in-law, Ancilla, Maria and Kristi. As an extension of his immediate family, Patrick held most dear his Aunt Jean Donzella, and cousins, Eddie Sawyer, Dee Dee Fischer and Scottie and Elle Sawyer, as well as all of their children, with whom many a memorable Christmas Eve was shared.



Patrick James Murray

For the past eight years, Patrick was a proud and active friend of Bill W., through whom he found a calling working at treatment facilities and offering countless new friends a line of support, understanding, compassion and encouragement. A part of each and every day for Patrick was reaching out to friends and family simply to check in on them, especially with his nine nieces and nephews, Ryan, Jessie, Owen, Michael, Alex, Nicky, Izzy, Hopper and Ophelia, all of whom he found delight in hearing about their most recent adventures and successes.

Also surviving Patrick are his much-loved and cared-for lifelong friends, Stephen (Shep) Sheppard, Kevin Sheppard and Chris Davis, as well as Patrick's many loving cousins, the McGraths, the Hawkins, the Ostrowskys, the Muccillis, Uncle Frankie, and so many more.

In lieu of flowers, please take a moment to reach out to someone who is struggling and offer them a line of support, compassion, and encouragement.

November 25, 2021

Carol Ann Stravach, Enjoyed Time Spent With Family and Friends

Carol Ann Stravach, 82, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, November 15, 2021, surrounded by her family, after a long battle with cancer. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, she lived in a number of places in New Jersey before settling in Westfield, where she lived for 35 years prior to moving to their shore home in Lavallette in 2012 upon retiring.

Carol was a graduate of Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair, N.J., and later received her Associates Degree from Union County College in Cranford, N.J. Primarily a stay-at-home caregiver (or "Housewife," as she would list as her official occupation), she worked in the family vending business as a Business Manager.

She loved their shore home, and having family and friends spend time there, especially her nine grandchildren. She loved puzzles, reading mystery novels, and watching "Judge Judy" and game shows. Her favorite "hobby" was playing the penny slot machines, where each vacation destination centered around a casino. She always had her bucket of quarters ready to go and her nails painted

whenever her husband suggested they go. As an old yearbook quote stated, she will be most remembered for her big brown eyes, congenial personality, easygoing spirit, never complaining, her Catholic faith, and her tinkling laughter.

She was predeceased by her husband, Richard (2020), and her son, Mark (2018). She is survived by her daughter, Carol Brown (Harry) of Westfield, N.J.; sons, Edward Stravach (Lauren) of Westfield, N.J., and David Stravach (Krista) of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; and her cherished grandchildren, Alexandra, Stephanie, Michael (Caroline), Gabrielle, Matthew, Samantha, Laura, Margot and Gillian.

Visitation was held at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue, Westfield, on Thursday, November 18. Her Funeral Mass took place at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield on Friday, November 19. Interment followed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover.

For additional information or to view the recorded service, visit www.dooleycolonialhome.com.

November 25, 2021

Temple Sholom to Host Chanukah Lego Night

SCOTCH PLAINS — Temple Sholom has announced that it will host its annual Chanukah Lego Night on Thursday, December 2, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. It will take place at Temple Sholom, located at 1925 Lake Avenue, Scotch Plains.

Back by popular demand, the event is free and open to the public. Masks are required to be worn inside the building by all. Participants are welcome to build as many Lego creations as they wish, while also enjoying dreidel games and Chanukah music. A to-go thank you will provide safe tastes of donuts and chocolate gelt.

In Hebrew, the word "Chanukah" means "dedication." The name is a reminder that this holiday commemorates the re-dedication of the holy

temple in Jerusalem following the Jewish victory over the Syrian Greeks who tried to destroy the Jewish population in 165 B.C.E. Also known as the Festival of Lights, the eight-day festival celebrates the triumph of light over darkness.

"While not one of the most important Jewish holidays, Chanukah is the most anticipated — and a time when friends, family and community come together to celebrate," said Rabbi Joel Abraham of Temple Sholom. "As Jews, we believe that it is our duty to build a better world. What better way than to start with Lego?"

Space is limited. Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by Monday, November 29, at sholomnj.org or (908) 889-4900.

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Obituaries

Maureen E. Wuelfing, Beloved Mother

Maureen Elizabeth (Magnier) Wuelfing, age 91, of Little Egg Harbor, beloved mother of six children, was called by her Lord into heaven to be once again with her husband Ray on Thursday, November 18, 2021, surrounded by her family in Little Egg Harbor, N.J.

Maureen found many ways to share her Franciscan spirit learned as she devoted herself to the works exemplified as a Secular Franciscan with St. Francis of Assisi Church on Long Beach Island. She particularly was fond of her efforts as a grief counselor. She also found fulfillment in diocesan involvement with the RENEW Group.

She was the daughter of the late Edward and Elizabeth (O'Brien) Magnier. She graduated from Holy Trinity High School in Westfield, N.J., in 1948 and continued her education by working towards several certifications including business administration and master seamstress. Always dedicated to supporting herself and her family, her many jobs included being an administrative assistant for Somerset County Human Resources, a sewing instructor, driving a school bus and as a home salesperson for Coppercraft Guild.

There was nothing more important to Maureen than her family. She was the mother of Ed (Susan) of Boise, Idaho, Liz Rossi (Doug Romaine) of Belvidere, N.J., Jim

Maureen E. Wuelfing

(Betty) of North Brookfield, Mass., Peter (Annie) of East Brookfield, Mass., David (Claudia) of Gahanna, Ohio, and Maureen (Scott) Hilsman of Effingham, N.H. She also leaves a devoted legacy of 46 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. She was predeceased by her brothers, Peter and Michael Magnier; her daughter-in-law, Peg (Holland) Wuelfing; granddaughter, Danielle Rossi; grandson, Darren Rossi, and second husband, William Teeling.

Mom, you taught us many lessons. Chief among these was to walk our path with grace, dignity, peace, strength and love. What a blessing you and Dad have been to us. We will continue living by the example you gave us.

A Memorial Gathering and Funeral Mass was held on Monday, November 22, 2021, at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 4700 Long Beach Boulevard, Brant Beach, N.J. In lieu of flowers, donations in Maureen's memory may be made to the Secular Franciscan Order of LBI, c/o St. Francis of Assisi Parish at the above address. Private inurnment was held at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Somerville, N.J. Arrangements are under the direction of Bubgee-Riggs Funeral Home, 1119 Long Beach Boulevard, Ship Bottom, N.J. 08008.

November 25, 2021

Dr. Thomas R. Beattie, Ph.D., Beloved Husband and Father

Dr. Thomas R. Beattie, age 81, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and passed away on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, in San Diego, Calif. After spending 27 years working in medicinal chemistry at the Merck Research Labs in Rahway, N.J., Tom relocated to San Diego to work in biotechnology at Amylin Pharmaceuticals.

In 1998, he pivoted to consulting for various biotech and big pharma both within and outside San Diego. This work, plus some teaching, advisory boards, ACS volunteer work, including overseeing the Mad Science program throughout San Diego schools, kept Tom busy. It was great to see the excitement Tom got from giving back and helping others. Tom received a scholarship to attend the University of Pennsylvania, where he

Dr. Thomas R. Beattie

earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. He earned a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from the University of Wisconsin, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the labs at M.I.T.

Tom is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Ann, along with his three children, Patricia Beattie of Kailua, Hawaii, Kathleen Porter of Fanwood, N.J., and Thomas Beattie of Old Bethpage, N.Y., together with their spouses and his six grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting any donations to be directed in his memory to the ACS Project SEED, <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/donate.html> <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/students/highschool/seed.html>.

A celebration of his life will be held at a future date in the Spring of 2022.

November 25, 2021

Wednesday Morning Club Previews December Events

CRANFORD — The Wednesday Morning Club will celebrate the holiday season with a luncheon at Sonny G's Restaurant, located at 2 South Avenue, Cranford, on Wednesday, December 8, at noon. The Madrigals, an a cappella singing group of students from Cranford High School, will provide entertainment.

The cost of the luncheon is \$30 and parking is available in the lot down the street from the restaurant. To make a reservation, contact Marie Mastorakis.

The Arts and Crafts Department is planning to see the Cranford Dramatic Club's presentation of *Frosted: A Frozen Fairytale Parody*. Described as a "delightful musical for the whole family," it is loosely based on Hans Christian Andersen's "The Snow Queen." The show will be performed on December 10, 11 and 12 at the Cranford Dramatic Club Theatre, located at 78 Winans Avenue, Cranford. Tickets are \$15. For more

information, call Joan Davis.

The Literature Department has selected "Anxious People" by Fredrick Bechman for the month of December. "Anxious People," as described in "goodreads," is a thought-provoking, heartwrenching, comical novel that leaves readers in wonderment. *USA Today* says Mr. Bechman "is a master of writing delightful, insightful, soulful, character-driven narratives."

Members of the Literature Department will discuss the book on Zoom. They will be contacted via email with the details of the meeting in late December.

The Public Affairs Department has suspended meetings until further notice.

Club members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the food pantry to group meetings.

For more information about the Wednesday Morning Club, contact Gail Opacity by email at gotadlyloyalty@yahoo.com.

HONORING NATIVE AMERICANS...Mayor Shelley Brindle recently signed a proclamation for the Westfield Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution recognizing the month of November as National Native American Heritage Month. Pictured, from left to right, are: Adah Levin, Drude Crane, Gayle Lechner, Fontaine Gatti, Mayor Brindle, Barbara Benko and Lorene Knierim.

John Alan Grosser In Loving Memory

John Alan Grosser, 75, a resident of Cape Coral, Fla., since May 2021, formerly of Westfield, N.J., passed away on Saturday, November 13, 2021, in Cape Coral. He was born June 6, 1946 in Cleveland, Ohio, to John and Sue Grosser, now deceased.

John grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, on the shores of Lake Erie, where he and his dad enjoyed pleasure boating, racing, and building sailboats. With his mom as mentor, John gained a lifetime of cooking talent by spending hours together in the kitchen preparing family and traditional holiday meals.

Upon graduating from Lutheran High School East, he attended Ohio University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts of Business Administration in 1968. John began a family of two wonderful children — Jonathon and Jennifer. He started what would become a long and successful career in technology sales at Sperry Univac (now Unisys) for the next 35 years.

In the 1980s, John relocated to New Jersey, residing initially in Princeton, N.J., where daughter Alexandra was born. In the 1990s, John and family chose to settle in Westfield, N.J., where they resided for over 20 years.

In 2003, John and his family visited Ganzhou, China with Spence-Chapin Family Services to welcome home 10-month-old Liana as the newest family member.

Throughout his life, John enjoyed many active outdoor hobbies, including boating, scuba diving, camping, flying small aircrafts, shooting and

golfing. He spent wonderful years with his family and friends boating and swimming in the crystal waters of Lake George, in the Adirondack Mountains of New York.

John also possessed a keen interest in fine food and culinary arts and was a member of Les Marmitons of Cranford, N.J.

As an avid traveler, John and his family joined friends on vacations throughout the Caribbean islands, Australia and Hawaii.

He is survived by his former wife, Rhona Grosser of Bokceila, Fla.; former wife, Cheryl Grosser of Florida; four children, Jonathon Grosser (Eileen) of

Twinsburg, Ohio, Jennifer Grosser of Florida, Alexandra Grosser of Morristown, N.J., and Liana Grosser of Cape Coral, Fla., and Rochester, N.Y.; his brother, Bob Grosser (Pat) of Parrish, Fla.; grandchildren, Nolan and Collin; nieces and nephews, Steven, Chris, Megan, Alexis, Cheyenne, Susan, Linda (Joe), Lauren (Sean) and Matt (Abigail).

John was preceded in death by his sister, Carol Thomas of Virginia. Memorial service plans are pending. Details will be announced via www.MullinsMemorial.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions in memory of John Alan Grosser be made to Hope Healthcare Hospice, 9470 Health Park Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908 (<https://hopehcs.org/donate/>).

Mullins Memorial Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Cape Coral, is entrusted with final care.

November 25, 2021

George J. Botwinick, 98, Raised Family In Westfield

George Joseph Botwinick passed away, at 98, on Sunday, November 21, 2021, of natural causes. Born on March 23, 1923, George grew up in Bayonne, N.J., where he played Varsity Basketball and was nicknamed "The Bayonne Bomber" because of his shooting prowess. After high school, he took a cross-country train, with a close friend, to attend the University of Wisconsin until World War II began. After Midshipman School, George became a lieutenant in the Navy and was stationed in the Pacific.

George returned to Madison, Wisconsin, after the war to finish his Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting. He brought with him a young woman named Doris Slavin, who became his wife for 53 years. They met when he was a lifeguard and she was a waitress at a resort in the Catskills and wed after a six-month courtship. After he graduated from college, they settled in Staten Island, N.Y., where they raised a son (Howard) and a daughter (Geri).

About 12 years later, the Botwinicks moved to Westfield, N.J., where they lived for more than 30 years. George

had his own accounting firm in New York City. When their older children were teenagers, they welcomed another son (Philip). George encouraged Doris' sculpting and painting business, and enjoyed summers in Beach Haven on Long Beach Island. For several years, before Doris died in 1998, they retired to Monroe, N.J. George later met Sandy Linzer and lived with her for 20 years, in Monroe and then in Santa Cruz, California. Most recently, George lived with his son Howard and his wife, Jutta, in Ithaca, N.Y. He is survived by his three children and their spouses, Geri, Howard (and Jutta) and Phil (and Lori), and five grandchildren, Jessica (and Ed) Ruff, Gillian McGrath, and Alex, Katya and Casey Botwinick, living in New Jersey, Holland, D.C., and California. He also has two great grandchildren in New Jersey, Gabbi and Amelia Ruff. George's family meant everything to him. He was a generous, caring father and a wonderful grandfather. He will be greatly missed. Donations in his memory can be made to the Community Food Bank of New Jersey.

November 25, 2021

THANKSGIVING WISHES...Youngsters display the Thanksgiving cards that they recently made, to be distributed to clients of Mobile Meals of Westfield. The cards were made as a Social Responsibility art project.

Y Children Create Cards For Mobile Meals Clients

WESTFIELD — Children in the Westfield Area YMCA's 4-year-old Butterfly Class recently joined fellow students at the Early Learning Center and Bauer Family Branch YMCAs in a Social Responsibility art project. The youngsters created cards wishing each recipient a "Happy Thanksgiving," which Mobile Meals of Westfield will distribute to its clients.

The Early Learning Center YMCA is located at 170 Elm Street, Westfield, and offers full-day child care education programs for children ages 6 months to 5 years. For information, contact Eileen Rooney at (908) 654-8460 or erooney@westfieldynj.org.

The Bauer Family Branch YMCA is located at 422 East Broad Street, Westfield, and offers preschool and full-day kindergarten programs. For information, contact Tracy McSweeney at (908) 301-9622, extension no. 423,

ortmcsweeney@westfieldynj.org.

The Y is committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Financial assistance is available for YMCA programs and memberships for those who qualify. To learn more about Westfield Area YMCA programs, visit westfieldynj.org.

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Westfield Library Announces Music Events In December

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library has announced that it will host two music programs in December: one virtual and one in person. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street and the web address is wmlnj.org.

On Wednesday, December 1, at 7 p.m., interested persons can watch award-winning trumpeter Curtis Taylor on Zoom. In this program, Mr. Taylor will intermix interactive lecture, where he shares stories and histories behind well-loved songs and musical genres, with videos of his performances.



Curtis Taylor

Mr. Taylor has performed and recorded with Patrice Rushen, Billy Childs, Gary Novak, Bob Sheppard and great gospel luminaries Karen Clark-Sheard, Kierra Sheard and The Singletons. His stint with jazz pianist Cyrus Chestnut included a notable concert performance at the Kennedy Center recorded for National Public Radio's Jazzset, an appearance at the Spoleto Jazz Festival, and a week-long engagement at Kizzy's Club in New York City.

Audience members must register for this virtual musical event on the library's website under the Events tab. A Zoom link will be emailed to registrants at least three days prior to the program.

On Saturday, December 11, at 2 p.m., Music from China will perform in the library Meeting Room. The group will perform a selection of classical and contemporary Chinese music, which evokes the vast human and physical landscape of China, from the bustling cities to the arid steppes to wave-washed shores. During the course of the performance, Music from China's musicians will talk about Chinese music, instruments, and their own musical journeys. Attendees must pre-register as seating is limited. Masks must be worn in the Meeting Room at all times.

To register for both the Zoom and in-person programs, visit the library's website.

Currently, library hours 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.

To learn more about library programs and services for children and adults, visit wmlnj.org and Facebook at facebook.com/wmlnj. Library programs also can be viewed 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.



CULTURAL CONNECTIONS...The Westfield Memorial Library will showcase the music of trumpeter Curtis Taylor in a Zoom program on Wednesday, December 1, at 7 p.m., and Music from China, pictured above, during an in-person performance on Saturday, December 11, at 2 p.m., at the library.

Library Posts 'Bagels & Books,' Balance Awareness Classes

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library has revealed the dates for two programs on its calendar for December.

"Bagels & Books" will be featured on Monday, December 6, at 10 a.m., on Zoom. Book lovers will have an opportunity to share what they have been reading or listening to in an informal setting while also

picking up suggestions for future reading. All readers are welcome. More details will be provided upon registration.

Additionally, the library will continue to offer Virtual Balance Awareness classes with Yasmin Ofek on select Fridays during December, at 10 a.m., via Zoom. Classes will take place on December 3, December 10 and December 17. There will be no classes on December 24 and 31.

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. To learn about the method Ms. Ofek uses in her classes, visit mindthebodybalance.com/about-the-method.

All individuals need to participate in these classes are a chair and sneakers. They also just need to register once to attend one or all of Ms. Ofek's classes. Participants will immediately receive an email with the Zoom link that can be used on all three class dates in December.

The registration forms for both "Bagels & Books" and Virtual Balance Awareness can be found on the library's website, scotlib.org. Individuals also can register by calling the library at (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204.

Holiday Photos Can Be Taken at Library

GARWOOD — The Garwood Public Library invites families to take their holiday picture at the library's do-it-yourself Holiday Photo Station, complete with a festive new backdrop and a cardboard Santa. Goodie bags for kids will be available while supplies last. This opportunity is being offered Wednesday, December 1, through Thursday, December 23.

The library is located at 411 Third Avenue, Garwood. It is open Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 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. The library will be closed on Friday and Saturday, December 24 and 25, for the Christmas holiday, and Friday, December 31, for New Year's Eve.



HONORING JASON HOBERMAN...Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains held a testimonial dinner October 24 honoring Immediate Past President Jason Hoberman. Approximately 90 congregants, family members and friends attended the event. Chaired by Illana Margolis, the testimonial dinner featured presentations by Rabbi Howard Tilman, current CBI President Aaron Kessler and Past President Stephen Wiener. Mr. Hoberman's son, Reid Hoberman, recited the opening blessing over challah, while his daughter, Ashley Hoberman, sang "Daddy's Little Girl" as a musical tribute to her father. Long-time friend and CBI member Gregg Kleinbaum presented gifts to Mr. Hoberman to thank him for his leadership and service. Pictured, from left to right, are: Aaron Kessler, Jason Hoberman and Rabbi Howard Tilman.

Holiday Crafting on Tap at Hetfield House December 4

MOUNTAINSIDE — In the spirit of the Gingerbread Open House events of the past, the Mountainside Restoration Committee will host a Holiday Crafting Event with cookies and hot cocoa on Saturday, December 4, from 2 to 4 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, December 5.

The program will take place on the grounds of the holiday-decorated, historic Deacon Andrew Hetfield House prior to the borough's tree lighting. Due to Covid concerns, the committee will not hold its Annual Gingerbread Open House this year but invites all to attend this festive holiday crafting event.

Crafts will include the ever-popular live boxwood holiday arrangements and special, one-of-a-kind, gingerbread-themed ornaments. Adults and children are welcome to participate. The cost is \$10, which includes one living boxwood arrangement craft, one gingerbread

ornament craft, plus cookies and hot cocoa. Additional cookies and hot cocoa will be for sale. Participants will complete the craft on-site and all materials and instructions for crafting are included. Participants are asked to stop by at any time between 2 and 3:30 p.m. to assure completion of the crafts before dark.

The Deacon Andrew Hetfield House is located on Constitution Plaza, adjacent to the Mountainside Public Library (off Birch Hill Road). Funds raised will benefit the Mountainside Restoration Committee, a 501(c)3 charity and a committee of volunteers whose purpose is to restore and maintain the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and the Levi Cory House and to collect and save historic information and items from destruction. For further information or to donate funds for historic restoration, call (908) 789-9420 or access mountainsidehistory.org.

Miller-Cory to Celebrate Gingerbread Sunday

WESTFIELD — The Miller-Cory House Museum invites families to Gingerbread Sunday on December 5, between 1:30 and 4 p.m., for a celebration of the spicy sweet treat that is a special part of the holiday season.

Children will make a decorative, non-edible gingerbread house and an orange pomander craft to take home, and will hear "gingery" stories. Members of the Cooking Committee also will demonstrate early-American recipes using ginger over the open hearth.

The suggested age for this program is 3 (with assistance for crafts) through elementary school. The fee is \$5 per child; accompanying adults may at-

tend for free. Reservations are required and must be made by noon on Wednesday, December 1.

To make reservations or for more information, call (908) 232-1776 or send an email to millercorymuseum@gmail.com. The Miller-Cory House Museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue, Westfield.

Since 1968, the 501(c)(3) non-profit Miller-Cory House Museum/Westfield Historical Society has worked to preserve, interpret and encourage interest in history, Westfield and its residents through educational efforts and community-outreach programs.



COURAGE WORTHY...Private 2nd Class Margot Motyczka, a member of the Westfield High School Class of 2021, recently graduated from 10 weeks of Army Basic Training at Fort Jackson, S.C. She is now training to become a culinary food specialist for the New Jersey Army National Guard before entering Stockton University in January.

PV2 Motyczka Graduates From Army Basic Training

WESTFIELD — Private 2nd Class Margot Motyczka (New Jersey Army National Guard) has completed and graduated from 10 weeks of Army Basic Training at Fort Jackson, S.C. She has passed all six components of the Army Combat Fitness Test, and the marksmanship and weapons qualifications. PV2 Motyczka completed the three, long, multi-day ruck march challenges: The Hammer, The Anvil and culminating in The Forge, upon which she earned her American Soldier patch and the Army black beret. She

was elevated to Private 2nd Class after graduation.

PV2 Motyczka has moved on to Fort Lee, Va., for eight weeks of Advanced Individualized Training (AIT) to become a culinary food specialist for the New Jersey Army National Guard. She will graduate in December and then prepare to enter her freshman year at Stockton University in January. She also will report to the Westfield Armory for her New Jersey Army National Guard commitment. PV2 Motyczka is a June 2021 graduate of Westfield High School.

FUMC Invites Community To Advent Bonfires

WESTFIELD — All are welcome to community bonfires to be held on the front lawn of the First United Methodist Church (FUMC) Westfield, 1 East Broad Street, for marshmallow roasting, hot chocolate and holiday music.

FUMC will kick off this Advent celebration this Sunday, November 28, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and offer it again the following three Friday nights, December 3, 10 and 17, also from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

These events are free. Visitors are welcome to stop by or stay a while, and the sanctuary will be open for quiet reflection and prayer. Attend-

ees are asked to bring their own chair or blanket. Donations of diapers and toys will be accepted for the food pantry at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield and for St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth.

On Friday, Christmas Eve, December 24, the church will hold services at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m., plus an online service at fumcwestfield.org/online-worship. FUMC offers 10 a.m. services every Sunday, which also can be found at that website. For updates on service announcements and activities, interested persons also can access visitchristmasinwestfield.com.



GOOD DEED...McKinley Cub Scouts recently did volunteer work for Mobile Meals of Westfield. The second graders made 75 placemats for clients served by Mobile Meals for their Thanksgiving Day meal.

F-SP Thrift Shop Reveals Start of Holiday Boutique

FANWOOD/SCOTCH PLAINS — The Fanwood/Scotch Plains Service League thrift shop will feature its Holiday Boutique starting on Tuesday, December 7. Store shelves will be stocked with brand-new merchandise appropriate for holiday gift giving. Members of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, an all-volunteer organization, have been setting aside new items donated to the shop all year just for this occasion.

The Holiday Boutique offers an opportunity to find presents for under the tree, to stuff in stockings, to mark Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, or even to re-donate to favorite charities. A wide assortment of new candles, lotions, frames, plates and holiday décor will be available, in addition to the regularly-replenished clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, linens, household goods, toys, games, books and DVDs consistently on shop shelves.

All store proceeds outside of operating expenses are provided to local non-profit organizations or used

for student scholarships.

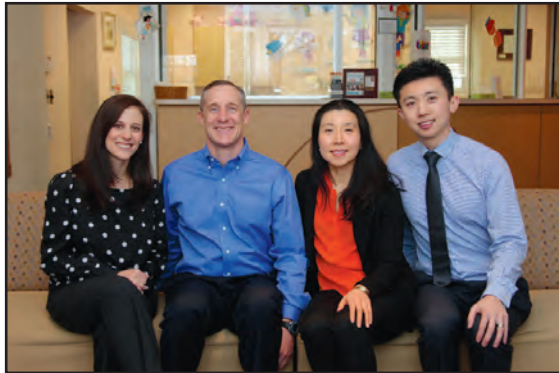
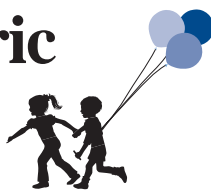
The shop is located at 1741 East Second Street, Scotch Plains. It is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. To protect volunteer staff and other store patrons, face masks are required of everyone entering the store. Children are welcome provided they are accompanied by an adult.

The shop will be closed for the holidays from Friday, December 24, through Monday, January 3, 2022. To learn more about the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League and types of donations accepted, call the shop during business hours at (908) 322-5420.

Shine a Spotlight on Your Business

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555 Westfield Avenue, Westfield
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Happy Thanksgiving!

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 9-12

How Sweet it Is! – Lady Blue Devils Are Group 4 Soccer Champions – No. 1 in State

MURRAY 2 TD, VAN DAM 2 TD; GALLAGHER 3 INT, TD

Cougars Rout Spartans, 45-21

For North 2, Group 3 Crown

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Union County HAWK

Spartans invaded Memorial Field in Cranford to vie for the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 crown against the top-seeded Cranford Cougars on November 19 and lived up to their courageous namesake for a while. But the Cougars dug their claws into

for running back Colin Murray, who also helped his own cause with his spectacular ability to break tackles. Murray would gobble up 226 yards on 19 carries, including a pair of touchdowns, in the first half, then add another 21 carries for 108 yards for a total of 334 yards.

“I got a lot of carries tonight for

score when he picked off quarterback Austen Frattura’s pass at the Cranford 40 and returned it to the Spartan 38. It would be the first of three interceptions for Gallagher. However it took eight plays to get to the Spartan 20 where Liam Godwin kicked a 30-yard field goal for a 3-0 lead with 7:57 left in the quarter.



more photos at [goleader.com](#)
Ballyhoo Sports

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

LOOKING FOR ANOTHER SPARTAN...Cougars “Big Guys” Matt Fries, No. 58, and Geoff Gretta, No. 57, look for another Spartan to block during the North 2, Section 3 Championship game on November 19. The Cougars won 45-21.

the turf, got a lot of fine blocking from their huge offensive line, while their defense recorded five interceptions, and emerged with a 45-21 triumph to seize the crown.

The huge offensive line, the “Big Guys” of Matt Fries, Kevin Shriner, Ryan Heesters, Geoff Gretta, Sam Derasmo and Kyle Fay wore down the 8-4 Spartans and opened the holes

sure. My coaches kind of rely on me, so I was just doing my thing,” commented Murray, who added, “It’s not just about me. The offensive line really stepped up tonight. I’m right in back of this team and I am going to do whatever it takes to play my hardest every time.”

Senior cornerback Will Gallagher actually set up the 11-0 Cougars’ first

The Spartans remained steadfast and answered with a five-play, 65-yard scoring drive when Frattura connected with wide receiver Brady Doyle for a 26-yard touchdown to take a 7-3 lead with 5:40 on the clock. Cougar Ryan Lynskey took the ensuing kickoff near the 30 and returned it to midfield. Murray broke tackles for a 23-yard gain then after a five-yard penalty, added another 27 yards to the Spartan five where he battered his way for the touchdown with 4:49 left in the quarter. Godwin kicked the first of his six points after for a 10-7 lead.

Godwin recovered a Spartan fumble at the Sparta 31 but the Cougars were unable to cash in. The Cranford defense then forced the Spartans to punt to the Cougar 17-yard line. Quarterback Shane Van Dam (4 of 15 passes, 75 yards, touchdown) mixed three running plays with three pass plays to cover 83 yards, ending with his 28-yard strike to Gallagher (3 receptions, 64 yards) with 38.9 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Spartans clearly announced that they were still in the game when they got the ball at their 20 and took 10 plays in just two minutes to score when running back Justin Smith slipped in from the four to narrow the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



more photos at [goleader.com](#)
Ballyhoo Sports

Dale Horton for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTION...Cougar receiver Will Gallagher, No. 23, snags a pass in the end zone for a 28-yard touchdown at Memorial Field on November 19.

FOX SCORES OFF CORNER, CADIGAN ADDS CAPPER

Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood

In Group 4 Soccer Semi, 2-0

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Union County HAWK

Twenty six seconds was all it took for a scoreless tie to transform into what would appear to be a secure victory for the No. 2 Westfield High School girls soccer team in its Group 4 semifinal game with No. 8 Ridgewood at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on November 17. With 11:09 remaining in the game, senior Elise Fox scored when she won a scramble in the box after a corner kick then with 10:43 remaining, sophomore midfielder Ella Cadigan drilled a shot into the upper left corner to earn the Blue Devils a 2-0 victory.

The 20-0-1 Blue Devils, who won their first sectional title since 2009, with a 2-0 win over Scotch Plains-Fanwood on November 12, would face No. 1-ranked 22-0-1 Freehold Township for the Group 4 crown at Kean University in Union on Novem-

ber 21. Freehold Township beat No. 3 Toms River North, 2-1, in the other semifinal.

In 2009, the Blue Devils defeated Ridge, 2-1, in overtime for the sectional title also on November 12 when Hannah Kronick buried a deflection off the goalkeeper after a shot from Sam Costello. Robin Knapp scored Westfield’s first goal in regulation. On November 21, the No. 3 Blue Devils lost 1-0 in overtime to No. 1 Lenape when Katie Rigby netted a header on a corner kick at The College of New Jersey in Ewing.

The Lady Blue Devils did have opportunities in the first half against the Ridgewood Maroon and the first real one came 10 minutes in when junior Gabby Gil sent a pass into co-captain Izzy Gauthier at the near post but Ridgewood keeper Paisley Tornatore made the stop. Gil and junior Cat Angel launched shots that were tipped over the crossbar. Just

before the buzzer to end the half, junior Alyssa Martinez ripped a vicious pointblank shot that Tornatore blocked.

“We are not used to leaving goals on the table. I think we left two goals in the first half. Gabby Gil had a good chance in the beginning. We felt we had the better of the play in the first half,” Blue Devil Head Coach Alex Schmidt said.

The most interesting play of the half came with 10 minutes on the clock when Tornatore was drawn way out of position and a shot took a high bounce just in front of the goal or possibly on it but no goal was recognized.

“Maybe that one is over the line. We will and look at stuff. People said it was over the line. They said it was in the goal then it wasn’t in the goal. Those are ones we usually put away. Those are ones we talked about at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



more photos at [goleader.com](#)
Ballyhoo Sports

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

CHECKING A PATRIOT...Blue Devil junior Alyssa Martinez, No. 2, sticks close to Patriot Hailey Santiago during the Group 4 Championship game at Kean University on November 21. Martinez scored the winning goal with 8 seconds left.

MARTINEZ NETS WINNER WITH 8 SECONDS REMAINING

Blue Devils Nip Freehold, 1-0,

For Group 4 Girls Soccer Title

By DAVID B. CORBIN
For The Westfield Leader and The Union County HAWK

Seventy nine minutes and 51 seconds of scoreless soccer ended abruptly one second later when Alyssa Martinez launched a difficult angled shot from the right side that tipped off the fingers of goalkeeper Ashley Moore and into the goal to earn the No. 2 ranked Westfield High School girls a 1-0 victory over the No. 1 ranked Freehold Township Patriots for the Group 4 crown at Kean University in Union on November 21. The triumph established the 21-0-1 Lady Blue Devils as the No. 1 girls soccer team in New Jersey.

“Number 1 in the state! I don’t even know the last time that ever happened, 33 years for us,” Blue Devil Head Coach Alex Schmidt guessed.

“For a while they have been the number one team. Going into this game we knew it was going to be a hard game. We were going to have to work our butts off if we wanted to win this. We did show well this season. We were undefeated. We won so many games. Coming off of last season, such a short season, we really proved ourselves and proved how much talent we had. I’m really happy right now,” Martinez said.

“It was a long time coming to the graduates, to the families, to the young kids in town, the coaching staff, to our families who put up with a long season. I am so proud of these girls. Undefeated! This doesn’t happen. We knew we had talent this year but to be able to get through the ups and downs of the season, I said it last time, Scotch Plains! Turning point. Down 2-0 and go on to win 3-2,” Coach Schmidt expressed.

The two teams did enter the showdown as the only two remaining un-

beaten teams (Blue Devils at 20-0-1 and the Freehold Township Patriots at 22-0-1) in the state and both teams proved to be worthy of their records. Each team was jockeying for control throughout the game. The Patriots owned the first three minutes of each half and held a strong five-minute edge at the end of the first half. The Blue Devils, however, had an offensive edge in the middle minutes of the first half and second half but their real dominance was in the final six minutes as the “Trio” of juniors, Gabby Gil, Chiara Cosanza and Martinez, presented a 1-2-3 punch.

During that period of time, Gil made a run to the goal that was turned back by the Patriot defenders. Martinez set up Gil for another shot that was stopped. Cosenza made a key steal on the left side then with one minute on the clock, sophomore midfielder Ella Cadigan

joined in and ripped a shot that forced Moore to make a leaping save. But in those final seconds, the “Trio” baffled the Patriots. The ball was crossed to Martinez and with eight seconds on the clock, the magic happened.

Martinez recalled, “I remember going to the end line and cutting back and then shooting it. I remember lofting it and trying to get it over the goalie and before, I kind of fell to the ground, I felt it didn’t go in. I thought the goalie hit it. I come back up and I see the goalie with the ball in her hands in the goal and I hear everyone cheering. I said, ‘My God! I just scored.’ I knew there was like nine, ten seconds left.”

“Coach Wertheimer and I said, ‘Know what! We haven’t done it all season. We put Chiara up top, Gabby up top, Alyssa up top. ‘Let’s just go for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

SETTLING THE BALL...Blue Devil junior Chiara Cosenza, No. 11, settles the ball in the championship game against Freehold Township on November 21



more photos at [goleader.com](#)
Ballyhoo Sports

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

GETTING A KICK OUT OF IT...Blue Devil junior Alyssa Martinez, No. 2, concentrates on the ball during the Group 4 semifinal game against the Ridgewood Maroon. The Blue Devils defeated Ridgewood, 2-0, at Kehler Stadium.

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

Gratitude

The holidays are a time to celebrate and reflect. The holidays are also a time of hope. There is so much for which to be grateful.

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY
600 North Avenue W,
Westfield, NJ



Westfield High School Letters of Intent Signed

Seventeen Westfield High School student-athletes signed Letters of Intent with colleges and universities, signifying recognition of the seniors' accomplishments both academically and athletically. The following student-athletes will continue to compete at the college level:

Matias Arbelaez – Franklin and Marshall College, Soccer

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustment of the Town of Westfield, New Jersey will meet on **December 13 2021** in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey at 7:30 p.m. to hear and consider the following appeals for bulk (c) and/or (d) variance relief from requirements of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance.

Daniel & Lisa Jemal, 16 Breeze Knoll Drive. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a detached single car garage contrary to the following sections of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance: Section 12.04.F.2 which allows building coverage permitted 20% not to exceed 3,600 Square feet; Proposed is 17.9% and 3,971 Square feet; Section 12.04.G where lot coverage permitted is 40% not to exceed 7,200 Square feet. Proposed is 46.3% and 10,279 Square feet; Section 13.02.D.5 where permitted is 6 feet solid fence and proposed February 22, 2022. is utilizing an existing 6 feet open style fence.

David Kaufman & Diana Chan, 827 Clark Street. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a two-story addition contrary to the following section of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance: Section 11.09 E.6 which allows a corner side yard setback of 20 feet and proposed is 15.5 feet.

Little Bear Builders, LLC, 1132 Prospect Street. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a single-family dwelling contrary to the following section of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance: Section 11.05 E.5 which allows a front yard setback of 60.1 feet. Proposed is 41.71 feet.

Ross Goldstein, 212 Benson Place. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a front porch addition and a larger master suite on the second floor as well as a side stoop addition and first floor remodel contrary to the following sections of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance: Section 11.09E.5 where minimum front yard setback permitted is 40 feet and 31 feet 2 inches is proposed; and Section 11.09E-6 where minimum side yard setback permitted is 10 feet and proposed is 9.69 feet.

Stan & Jessica Kopec, 119 South Scotch Plains Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a bedroom over the existing 1 story family room off the rear and finishing the balance of the attic with compliant dormers as well as attaching the garage to the existing dwelling and the mud room connector contrary to the following sections of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance: Section 12.04F where the building coverage permitted is 20% / 1,373.33 Square feet 3,600 maximum and proposed is 23.02% / 1,575.03 Square feet; and Section 11.09E-6 where minimum side yard setback/ right side permitted is 10 feet and proposed is 2.44 feet.

Variances, waivers or exceptions from certain site plan details or relief from requirements may be sought as appropriate. Plans and application are on file in the office of the Town Engineer, 59 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey and may be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Kristine Burd
Board Secretary
1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$68.34

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.2 via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on **12/09/21** downloaded, and publicly opened and read, in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Long-Life Pavement Markings Contract, North - 2020, Routes: 1 Truck, 15, 22, 23, 46, I-78, 181, 183, 185, 208, 278, 280, 284, 440, 495 Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union and Warren (Including & North of Route 57) Counties; Federal Project No: STBGP-FLEX-DD00S(501); DP No: 21453

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

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

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

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

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

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

200 Stierli Court
Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856
973-601-6690
3 T - 11/18/21, 11/25/21 and 12/02/21, The Leader Fee: \$217.26

One Executive Campus Rt 70 West
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
856-486-6623
3 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$217.26

Lauren Bloch – Gettysburg College, Lacrosse
Kalea Calugay – Drexel University, Softball
James Csorba – Monmouth University, Lacrosse
Adelaide Cummings – Wesleyan University, Lacrosse
Elise Fox – Gettysburg College, Soccer
Ryan Friedberg – Cornell University, Soccer
Isabelle "Izzy" Gauthier – Stetson University, Soccer
James Haley – Washington and Lee University, Lacrosse

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF WESTFIELD PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Monday, December 6, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., the Westfield Township Planning Board ("Board") will hold a public hearing on the application ("Application") of Westfield Park Partners, LLC ("Applicant") in the Township Council Chambers of the Westfield Township Municipal Building, located at 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.

The property that is the subject of the Application is located at 522-524 Springfield Avenue, and is designated as Block 1905, Lot 13 on the Westfield Township tax maps ("Property"). The Property, which is presently occupied by William's Nursery, is approximately 6.61 acres in area and is located in the RA-5A Multi-Family Residence District.

This Application seeks preliminary and final major site plan approval to permit the construction of a 162-unit inclusionary multifamily development in three buildings on the Property, along with associated site improvements, including, but not limited to, parking and landscaping ("Development"). Of the 162 units in the Development, 32 units will be reserved for low- and moderate-income households (with the remaining 130 units being market-rate units).

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

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that you may appear at the aforesaid hearing, either in person or by your attorney, and 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 materials related to the Application can be found through the following link: <https://www.westfieldnj.gov/DocumentCenter/Index/271>. Such Application materials are also on file at the Department of Planning and Zoning, 959 North Avenue West (Public Works Building), Westfield, New Jersey 07090, and available upon request for inspection Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m., holidays excepted. To receive copies of the Application materials, please contact the Township of Westfield at 908-789-4100.

Dated: November 18, 2021
By: Peter M. Flannery, Esq.
BIGAIER HOFF, LLC
25 Chestnut Street, Suite 3
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033
(856) 795-0150
Attorneys for the Applicant
1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$62.22

PUBLIC NOTICE

Avery Hoefft – University of California, Berkeley, Lacrosse
Luke Jacobs – University of Maryland, Wrestling
Grace Klag – Bucknell University, Basketball
Sean Logan – Davidson College, Basketball
Alivia Macaluso – Seton Hall University, Softball
Max Rokhsar – Stevens Institute of Technology, Soccer
Eric Webb – Providence College, Lacrosse
Natalie Zelechowski – Bates College, Tennis



Clark Youth Crusaders Football Dinner Big Success

On November 17, the Clark Crusader Youth Football Teams held their annual post-season awards banquet. President of CYF Gus Kalikas presided over the event as all athletes were honored for their contributions to Crusader Youth Football. All ath-

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the PLANNING BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD, after a public hearing on September 22, 2021, granted approval to Craig & Carla Allen for setback and lot size variances, for the property at 170 Herbert Avenue, Fanwood, being block 85 and Lot 9.

Documents pertaining to this application are available for public inspection at Borough Hall during normal business hours.

Craig & Carla Allen
170 Herbert Avenue
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023
1 T - 11/25/21, UC Hawk Fee: \$15.81

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2231 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE PROSPECT & FERRIS REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

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

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2020, the Westfield Town Council (the "Governing Body") adopted Resolution 225-2020, declaring that the entirety of the Town of Westfield (the "Town") met the statutory criteria for designation as an area in need of rehabilitation pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (the "Redevelopment Law"), and designating all parcels within the Town as areas in need of rehabilitation (the "Rehabilitation Area"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body determined that the use of the redevelopment powers granted to municipalities under the Redevelopment Law would be the most effective approach to revitalize the parcels contained in the Rehabilitation Area; and

WHEREAS, included within the Redevelopment Area are the properties at 201 Prospect Street (Block 2504, Lots 12 and 13) and 112 Ferris Place (Block 2504 Lot 14) as shown on the official tax maps of the Town (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Town retained the professional planning services of Topology which has prepared a redevelopment plan for the Property dated November 17, 2021, entitled the "Prospect & Ferris Redevelopment Plan," a copy of which is attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit A (the "Redevelopment Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Plan is part of an effort by the Town to promote the rehabilitation of underutilized and vacant properties in and around the Town's core and, to advance this objective, this Redevelopment Plan sets forth a vision and standards for the adaptive reuse of the Property; and

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

1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$98.43



Blue Devil 8th Graders Rap Old Bridge, 14-0, For Suburban Youth PAL Super Bowl Crown

The Westfield Blue Devils eighth grade tackle football team defeated Old Bridge, 14-0, in the Super Bowl for the New Jersey Suburban Youth Football League on November 13.

The Blue Devils were led by a dominating defense that shut out the previously undefeated Old Bridge Rebels. The defense held the Rebels to one first down, had five sacks from Connor Whelan, Joe DiMattina and Luke Sluberski and also forced two turnovers.

The first turnover came on an Old Bridge punt return that was jarred loose by Sluberski and recovered by Ben Seward. The Blue Devils capitalized on the turnover, opening the scoring with a 36-yard touchdown run by Luke Spaide at the end of the first quarter. Giuseppe DiPietro added the extra point to make the score 8-0 at the end of the first.

Westfield extended the lead to 14-0 at the end of the second quarter with a 20-yard touchdown pass from QB

Cole Weidler to Tiago Enright.

The defense continued their strong performance in the second half led by an Eli Mitchell interception at the Westfield 10-yard line to end the Rebel's only possession of the game in Blue Devil territory.

The offense behind the offensive line, anchored by Jake Grossman, and a strong running game featuring RB Brendan Laczynski controlled the ball for most of the second half.

The Blue Devils opened the play-offs with a 14-8 win over the Morristown Wildcats as the defense once again was dominant and the offense was led by Cooper Gleeson with a critical 30-yard fourth down catch and Ryan Moye with a 25-yard touchdown reception.

This was the 8th grade team's first Super Bowl championship victory and capped a 9-1 season for Westfield. Luke Spaide was named game MVP.

Devilfish Compete at FSPY First Frost Invitational

On November 13, 87 12 and under swimmers from the Westfield Area Y Devilfish swim team competed at The FSPY First Frost Invitational held at Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg.

6 GIRLS: Avery Roberto (1st 25 Free and 25 Breast and 2nd 25 Back)
7 GIRLS: Nora Dedman (6th 25 Fly); Charlotte Simms (4th 25 Free and 5th 25 Back)

7 BOYS: Hudson Edwards (5th 25 Back and 6th 25 Breast)

8 GIRLS: Gianna Lovato (5th 50 Back); Zoe Matera (2nd 25 Free, 3rd 25 Breast and 4th 25 Fly); Caroline Ritter (1st 25 Free and 3rd 25 Fly); Claire Seeder (4th 50 Back and 25 Free and 6th 25 Fly)

8 BOYS: Henry Lucas (5th 25 breast)
9-10 GIRLS: Olivia Babeu (5th 100 IM); Eliana Gall (2nd 200 Free); Gemma Giordano (1st 50 Breast, 2nd 50 Back and 3rd 50 Fly); Vera Grez (4th 200 Free); Eva Lubenow (2nd 50 Fly and 5th 50 Free); Leona Rogers (5th 100 Breast); Kelsey Roberto (6th 50 Free)

9-10 BOYS: Christopher Bloomer (3rd 50 Back); Ryan Dedman (2nd 100IM and 6th 100 Free); Charlie Grauch (5th 100IM); Grayson Heintz (2nd 50 Back); Jack Levitt (6th 50 Back); Lucas Moussouli (1st 50 Fly and 6th 50 Free and 200IM); Adham

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Please take notice that on December 15, 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: 221 Coriell Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 117 Lot 109, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by Ellen D. Berka.

The applicant requests first floor 1 story addition, and second floor 1 story addition over a first floor covered porch with uncovered deck which is in violation of:

Section 184-115 (E-5) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: side yard setback; Permitted: 8.0 feet; Present: 5.93 feet; Proposed: 5.93 feet.

Section 184-115 (E-9) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: maximum improvement coverage; Permitted: 35%; Present: 42.60% ; Proposed: 42.68%

Section 184-115 (E-4) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: front yard setback; Permitted: 30 feet; Present: 29.88 feet; Proposed: 29.88 feet.

Section 184-115 (E-9) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: maximum improvement coverage; Permitted: 35%; Present: 42.60% offered as pre-existing non-conforming condition; Proposed: 42.68%

Section 184-115 (E2) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: lot

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2224

A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF TOWN PROPERTY KNOWN AS 2011 BOYNTON AVENUE IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield is the owner of certain vacant, undeveloped real property formally known as Block 5707, Lot 17, also known as 2011 Boynton Avenue, Westfield; and

WHEREAS, the total real property consists of approximately 5,877.75 square feet, or 0.135 acres. The dimensions of the property are 41.09' wide on the south, 37.28 feet wide on the north, 150 feet deep on the west, and 150.06 feet deep on the east. A legal description is attached hereto for reference; and

WHEREAS, Keith Disko and Joanna Glinska, husband and wife, the owners of real property that is contiguous to this Town-owned real property, have petitioned the Town seeking to purchase the adjacent Town-owned property, in order to combine it with their property, for a total resulting property of approximately 10,877.75 square feet, or 0.2498 acres, and they have offered \$90,000.00 to purchase the Town-owned real property; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor of the Town of Westfield has determined that \$90,000 is a reasonable value for this undersized property of non-buildable land; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) authorizes the sale of municipally owned land to the owner of the real property contiguous to the real property being sold; provided that the property being sold is less than the minimum size required for development under the municipal zoning ordinance and is without any capital improvement thereon; and

WHEREAS, the lot was offered to all contiguous property owners, and Keith Disko and Joanna Glinska made the highest offer.

1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$98.43

PUBLIC NOTICE

width; Permitted: 75 feet; Present: 50 feet; Proposed: 50 feet.

Section 184-115 (E-1) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: minimum lot size; Permitted: 7,500 square feet; Present: 5,000 square feet; Proposed: 5,000 square feet.

Section 184-163 (E) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: driveway setback; Permitted: 3 feet; Present: 0.0 feet; Proposed 0.0 feet.

Section 184-134 (A1) of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: detached garage; Permitted: 3feet; Present 2.64 feet; Proposed 2.64 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:
Ellen D. Berka
221 Coriell Avenue
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023
1 T - 11/25/21, UC Hawk Fee: \$58.65

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

1. That the Town Council does hereby approve a sale of the real property designated as Block 5707, Lot 17 on the Westfield Tax Map, and known as 2011 Boynton Avenue to Keith Disko and Joanna Glinska, husband and wife, the owners of real property contiguous to the subject, municipally-owned real property, for \$90,000. The parties entered into a contract of sale on August 9, 2021.

2. The Mayor and Clerk of the Town of Westfield are hereby authorized to execute and deliver a deed transferring said real property to Keith Disko and Joanna Glinska, husband and wife, who were the highest-bidding contiguous property owners, in exchange for a payment of \$90,000, which has been determined to be a reasonable value for the property.

3. The Town Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to prepare such deed, the requisite contract, and such other, necessary documents, and to obtain such necessary signatures, in order to transfer title to Keith Disko and Joanna Glinska, HW, in exchange for consideration of \$90,000.

4. The deed shall provide that the property so transferred shall be merged into, and become a part of, the property already owned by the purchasers, and shall not be developed separately. The deed shall also contain a prohibition against any subdivision of the lot so created by the merger into lots other than conforming single-family lots.

5. If any section, part, or provision of this ordinance shall be declared to be unenforceable or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this ordinance, or any part hereof, other than the part so held to be unenforceable or invalid.

6. This ordinance shall take effect immediately following publication and, in the manner, provided by law.

NOTICE

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

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$95.88

Area stores that carry The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

7-11 Central Ave

800 Central Ave (Leader)

King's Supermarket

300 South Ave (Leader)

7-11 Garwood

309 North Ave (Leader/HAWK)

Krauszer's

727 Central Ave (Leader)

7-11 Mountainside

921 Mountain Ave (Leader)

Kwick Mart Food Store

190 South Ave (HAWK)

7-11 Westfield

1200 South Ave, W (Leader/HAWK)

Mountain Deli

2385 Mountain Ave (HAWK)

Baron's Drug Store

243 E. Broad St (Leader)

Shoprite Supermarket

563 North Ave (HAWK)

Fresh Mart

1928 Westfield Ave (Leader/HAWK)

Westfield Mini Mart

301 South Ave, W (Leader)

Cardsmart

170 Westfield Ave (HAWK)

Westfield Tobacco & News

108 Elm St (Leader)

Blue Devils Nip Freehold for Group 4 Soccer Title

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

it." Those girls are so skilled. We won that break in the middle. Gabby got the ball outside to Alyssa with one of her patented cuts over the line. That's an Alyssa Martinez goal. Number 31 on the season," Coach Schmidt pointed out. "All pressure, 100 percent!"



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

VYING FOR CONTROL...Blue Devil sophomore Ella Cadigan, No. 4, and Patriot Hailey Santiago, No. 17, try to gain possession of the ball.

But the Patriots also applied a lot of pressure on the Blue Devil defenders of senior co-captain Izzy Gauthier, who rejoined her defensive teammates Emily Weinstein, Ciara Dursee and Kate Giglio, with Audra Toth working her way in, and junior goalkeeper Sutton Factor, who recorded seven saves. The move was made to support the defense, who lost junior midfielder Emma Kelesoglu, who was injured in the Group 4, semifinal against Ridgewood.

"I give a lot of credit to our defense. Moving Izzy back. Emma (Kelesoglu), we had to move Izzy back. They (Patriots) have some firepower, so for us to stifle them. You saw at times, we got a little rattled but we had the wind in the second half. Slowly you save it build a little more, build a little more. At halftime, we said this is a championship game. Zero-zero! One goal is going to win it."

The firepower from the Patriots came off the foots of sophomores Cassidy Corcione and Ainsley Moy, and juniors Gabby Koluch and Kayla Wong. However, in addition to the "Trio" the Blue Devils added fire-

power from senior and Gettysburg commit Elise Fox, who launched a few booming shots from midfield and was right in the middle of the box on corner kicks, co-captains Kim DiFilippo and Kelly Sullivan, Cadigan and junior Cat Angel.

are a talented team. One verses two! Heavyweight bout! It was back and forth for most of the game," Coach Schmidt said. "Three quarters of the way through the second half it was going in our direction and they couldn't get out of their own end. Elise Fox! What an Amazing game! Last time we won, 89! 1989!"

Former boys & girls Head Coach George Kapner just happened to be present and added, "Last time anybody won, he (Schmidt) was the captain and I was the coach - 95! His team is going into the Westfield Hall of Fame tomorrow (November 22). How cool is that!"

"It's fantastic! It's an amazing feeling! We've won everything we possibly could have won. We are undefeated. Number one in the state! This hasn't happened in 40 years to be in this place. I couldn't have wished for a better season. It's my senior year. I couldn't have asked for any better way to go out," expressed Gauthier, who will play college ball for the Hatters at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla.

"Awesome! I'm so happy. We've worked so hard this season. I'm really happy that our talent was showcased," Martinez, who has committed to Rutgers along with Gil, said.

Westfield	0	1	0
Freehold Twp	0	0	1

Group 4 Championship Blast From the Past:



David B. Corbin (November 2009 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WINNING GOAL IN OT...Blue Devils Hannah Kronick (No. 13), Katie Esler (No. 22), Sam Costello (No. 23) and Julia Spiridigiozzi (No. 21) watch Katie Rigby's (No. 3) header slip inside the near post after a corner kick from Chelsea Cannon in OT to give Lenape a 1-0 victory and the Group 4 title (11-21-2009).

Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood in Group 4 Semi, 2-0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

halftime," Coach Schmidt commented.

The Maroon, however, resorted to a counterattack tactic and made a few dangerous runs. One attack was thwarted when Blue Devil keeper

an offside call negated the score. The negated call seemed to convince the Blue Devils to step it up another notch with more shots from junior Chiara Cosenza, Cadigan, Gauthier, Fox and Martinez then the two quick goals



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

A LITTLE TAP...Blue Devil junior Gabby Gil, No. 16, gives the ball a little tap as Ridgewood's Julia Heckel, No. 21, closes in at Kehler Stadium.

Sutton Factor tipped the shot over the crossbar. Near the end of the half, freshman defender Audra Toth turned back a left side run by Ridgewood's Julia Henkel.

"They broke through a couple of times. Their game play was counter-attack," Coach Schmidt explained.

The real eyebrow raiser came midway through the second half when Gil stole the ball from a Ridgewood attacker at midfield, took a few steps and quickly passed the ball downfield to Martinez, forcing Tornatore to charge forward. Martinez then drilled the ball into an open net for an apparent score with 19:30 on the clock. But

would follow. During that time, however, junior midfielder Emma Kelesoglu was injured.

"But 100 percent! Alyssa! If that's offside, that's offside but by a hair. To get two goals within, I don't know how long it was. I think it was coming. That second half was downhill. That second half was pressing and shots and defense but right now we are all concerned about Emma (Kelesoglu). Hopefully it's not a serious knee injury but any at this point in the year is bad. To lose Emma going into the state finals is particularly devastating," Coach Schmidt expressed.

"It's momentum. We knew we could

do it all game. It was a matter of getting it into the back of the net. Once we got it into the back of the net, it was just downhill momentum for us," Fox said.

The Blue Devils did finally get it in the back of the net and it began with Cosenza heading the ball that was tipped over the crossbar to set up a corner kick that was delivered by Martinez. Gauthier got a head on the ball and Tornatore also tipped it over the crossbar to set up a second corner. This time when the ball alit into a mob in the box, Fox won the scramble and rippled the net.

"We practice that play. It's a matter of that's my role is on the keeper if it bounces, is getting it in the back of the net and that's what I did," Fox answered.

"Elise Fox on corners. Phenomenal! I think all of her goals this year came off corner kicks," Coach Schmidt said.

Within 26 seconds, the score was 2-0 when Cadigan's shot plunged into the upper left corner.

"It was a great pass from Alyssa (Martinez). I didn't really think about it. I just looked up, took a shot, felt really good and it was a good finish," Cadigan described.

Coach Schmidt expressed, "Ella Cadigan. Nice and calm! Upper 90!"

After the game and celebration Cadigan added, "We wanted it more. We played our hearts out and we wanted to win. We wanted to go to the finals this weekend. One more game!"

The showdown between the two unbeaten teams for the Group 4 crown was set to begin at 3 p.m.

"One team is going to come out on top. We just have to make it us," Fox said.

Ridgewood	0	0	0
Westfield	0	2	2

Sectional Championship Blast From the Past:



David B. Corbin (November 2009 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

KEEPING TRACK OF A TOUGH PLAYER...Blue Devil Katie Ponce, right, keeps track of Red Devil star Rachel Davitt, No. 14, during the sectional title game that Westfield won, 2-1, in overtime (November 12, 2009).



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

NORTH 2, GROUP 3 CHAMPIONS...The Cougars cram together for a number of photo shots after overwhelming Sparta, 45-21, for the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 championship at Memorial Field in Cranford on November 19.

Cougars Rout Sparta for North 2 Group 3 Crown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Cougars' lead to 17-14.

"Coach said to us, 'no matter what, this will be the most physical game you play'. The first quarter was very physical. They wanted it and we wanted it too, so that's how it works," Van Dam said.

The Cougars' next possession was cut short when Spartan Chase Geer intercepted Van Dam's pass at the Sparta 20. Six Spartan plays later, Gallagher recorded his second interception. The Cougars had the ball at their own 20 then advanced to the 32. From there, Murray received good blocking, broke several tackles and sprinted down the left sideline 68 yards for his 30th touchdown of the season.

Leading 24-14, the Cougars received the opening kickoff of the third quarter and began their next march at the 35. They wore the Spartans out with 11 running plays and scored when Van Dam scooted in from the four to up their lead to 31-14 with 7:03 on the clock.

Senior Lucca Limeira cut the Spartans' next possession short with an interception at the Cranford 33. The Cougars eventually had to punt and the Spartans got the ball at their own 20 and advanced to the 43 on two plays. Frattura's next pass was tipped and Gallagher intercepted for his third time and returned the ball to the Spartan 32. On the fifth play, Van Dam crashed in from the two, upping the lead to 38-14 with 10:27 remaining in the game.

As to his two touchdowns, Van Dam commented, "We've always had it in our back pocket and we just had to go out there and get the most of it."

On the kickoff, Murray recovered a fumble at the Spartan 39. Two running plays placed the ball on the 34. Limeira received the handoff, fumbled but picked up the ball on one bounce and wiggled his way for a 34-yard

touchdown for a 45-14 lead.

"I think we are really a second-half team. People like to quit but we kind of accelerate. It's not our first time we had a little bit of a shaky start. It

overs. It really helped us. It was just fantastic for us," Van Dam expressed.

With less than two minutes remaining, a long Spartan bomb was picked off by Godwin at the Cranford 14.



Dale Horton for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

MAKING THE TACKLE...Cougar middle linebacker Shane Kanterman, No. 47, brings down Spartan running back Justin Smith, No. 21.

happens. I think it was a little bit of nerves tonight being state finals. We have this thing called 'gut 'em'! Once we get up, we want to keep pounding on them," Murray answered.

The Spartans got the kickoff at the 20 and managed to score their final touchdown on eight plays when Frattura connected with Doyle again, this time for 10 yards with 5:31 left in the game.

"They have an awesome offense. They have been good all year, so our defense really stepped up. Willy Gallagher, three interceptions! It was a good night for everyone," Murray said.

"We just created a bunch of turn-

Letter of Intent Signed



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and HAWK

LETTER OF INTENT...Cranford High School senior Will Gallagher, a multi-sport athlete, recently signed a Letter of Intent to play baseball at Rider University.

The Cougars took a knee twice to run out the clock. Fans stormed the field in celebration and Head Coach Erik Rosenmeier was doused, not once, but twice.

"I always wanted to get here. I never thought I really would be where we are now. We have been rolling all season. It feels amazing, especially doing it at home. It's something special," Murray said.

The last time the Cougars won the section title was in 2015 when they trounced Chatham, 50-23, at Kean University in Union on December 4. Quarterback Jack Schetelich passed for 235 yards, including four touchdowns (TDs) and ran for two TDs. Sean Leonard had two TD receptions, while Joe Norton and Ryan Bakie each had one TD reception. The Cougar defense featured Will Fries, Kevin Doran, Mike Bellorese, Dylan Grady, Niko Cappello, Brian McGovern and Paul Esposito.

"Ever since we were freshmen, we've had our eyes on this. It's amazing to finally get it," Van Dam said.

"I have been playing here since I was 10-years old. I got all my friends, my family, all my teachers here. To do it in front of them makes me really proud to be a Cougar," Murray concluded.

Sparta	7	7	0	7	21
Cranford	17	7	7	14	45

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PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUOTES
PLUMBER & ELECTRICIAN
2022

The Township of Scotch Plains is looking to solicit the services of a **PLUMBER and ELECTRICIAN**. If you are interested in submitting a quote please fill out the quote sheet available by requesting same from the Township Clerk via email at blacina@scotchplainsnj.com.
The successful low quote will be required to submit the appropriate paper work within one week after being notified in writing that you are the apparent low quote:
* Business Registration Certificate
* Certificate of Insurance naming the Township Insured and have the following
* General Liability, including products/ Completed Operations Limit \$1,000,000.00
CSL Authority be named as additional insured
* Auto Liability: Limit \$1,000,000.00
CSL
* Workers' Compensation Insurance- Statutory Limits
* Completed Risk Transfer Agreement with an embossed copy of your seal
All Quotes are to be e-mailed to blacina@scotchplainsnj.com by **December 16, 2021 at 10:00am**. It is incumbent on the contractor to insure that the Township has received the quote.
Any questions are to be e-mailed to blacina@scotchplainsnj.com by **December 10, 2021 at 1:00pm**
The Township is not responsible to insure that we have received the quote.
Please call 908-322-6700 Ext 211 to confirm.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD
NOTICE OF DECISION
On November 17, 2021, the Borough of Fanwood Planning Board adopted a Resolution granting preliminary and final site plan and variance approvals and waivers to the Applicant, Ganesh Builders LLC, for the property located at 34 South Martine Avenue, Block 64, Lot 10 on the Tax Maps of the Borough of Fanwood. The approvals will permit the construction of a two-story addition to the existing 1-story commercial building with the new upper floors providing a two-bedroom apartment on each floor. A copy of the Resolution is on file and available for public inspection in the Planning Board office at Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023, during that office's normal business hours. In the event that the Municipal Building is closed to the public due to COVID-19, contact the Board Secretary, Pat Hoynes, by email at phoynes@fanwoodnj.org or by telephone at 908-322-8236 x 121 to obtain a copy of the Resolution.
JOSEPH A. PAPARO, ESQ.
PORZIO, BROMBERG & NEWMAN
100 Southgate Parkway, PO Box 1997
Morristown, New Jersey 07962
(973) 889-4042
Attorneys for the Applicant
1 T - 11/25/21, UC Hawk Fee: \$30.09

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WESTFIELD
Sunday, November 14, Sergio Lopez, 41, of Plainfield was placed under arrest and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI), pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation in the area of the Traffic Circle. Lopez was later transported to Westfield Police Department headquarters, where he was processed and later released to a responsible, sober adult.

Tuesday, November 16, a resident of the 900 block of Prospect Street stated that she received a telephone call from an unknown suspect who pretended to be a representative from Amazon. The suspect advised the victim of a fraudulent transaction on her Amazon account and convinced her to allow him remote access to her computer. The suspect then made a large deposit to the victim's account and requested the victim purchase gift cards in order to be reimbursed for the accidental deposit. At this point, the victim became suspicious and froze her accounts with her financial institution. She later learned that the deposit was made using another account of hers. She suffered no monetary loss as a result of this incident.

Wednesday, November 17, a resident of the 200 block of Charles Street reported being the victim of identity theft and fraud. The resident stated that an unknown suspect opened a fraudulent credit card account using his identity. The resident contacted his banking institution and closed the account without suffering a monetary loss.

Wednesday, November 17, a resident reported suspicious activity in the area of the 1100 block of Boynton Avenue. Specifically, the resident stated that she observed a tall, White male wandering the parking lot. She observed him going over to a motor vehicle she knew did not belong to him and attempt to enter it using his keys. After making eye contact with the resident, the suspect left the area in an unknown direction.

Wednesday, November 17, a resident of the 300 block of West Broad Street reported being a victim of identity theft and fraud. The victim stated that she had been receiving numerous spam loan offers from Fast5k Loan company, and after reviewing her credit history, she discovered five fraudulent credit inquiries associated with her credit history. She is currently in the process of removing these fraudulent inquiries from her credit report and has suffered no monetary loss as a result of this incident.

Wednesday, November 17, a resident of Sherwood Parkway reported suspicious phone calls that she had received, including two phone calls from a blocked phone number at 2:17 p.m. and 2:19 p.m. These calls were described as someone using a "creepy voice" making concerning comments. A check of the premises was conducted, yielding negative results.

Thursday, November 18, an unknown suspect entered a business on the 0-100 block of Elm Street and stole two items from the store's display. The suspect placed the items in her sweatshirt and fled the store. The suspect is described as an adult Black female, wearing all black clothing. The total of the stolen proceeds is \$56.

Saturday, November 20, a resident of Clark reported a theft that occurred in the area of a business on the 300 block of East South Avenue. The victim left her purse at the business while paying for her purchases. She then left the business without her purse and left town. Upon realizing the purse was missing, she made notification to the business and responded there as well. The purse was found to have been removed from the business and was

unable to be located. The purse was described as a brown-colored, leather pocketbook. The approximate value of the purse and all of its contents was approximately \$950.

Saturday, November 20, a resident reported a theft that occurred between November 19, 2021, at approximately 3 p.m., and November 20, 2021, at approximately 11:05 p.m. Unknown suspect(s) removed a banner, valued at \$250, from the area of the Traffic Circle. The banner was secured to a fence that is adjacent to the sidewalk near the Traffic Circle. The banner is described as a "We Support Westfield Police" banner with images of the American Flag and a Westfield Police Department patch.

SCOTCH PLAINS
Wednesday, November 17, a business owner on East Second Street reported fraudulent checks had been cashed against their account. The matter is under investigation.

Thursday, November 18, a resident of Donamy Glen reported that someone had fraudulently opened a credit account in their name. The matter is under investigation.

Monday, November 22, a resident of Sterling Place reported that their motor vehicle was burglarized during the overnight hours. The matter is under investigation.

Monday, November 22, a resident of Allwood Road reported that their motor vehicle was burglarized during the overnight hours. The matter is under investigation.

FANWOOD
Thursday, November 18, a dispute regarding payment for services occurred at 2 South Avenue. Patrol officers responded and the involved party was not on scene. The incident was documented by patrol officers.

Saturday, November 20, unknown individual(s) were seen on Forest Road igniting a fire on two leaf piles in the roadway. The suspect vehicle appeared to be a light-colored pickup truck, of unknown make or model. Officers responded and the vehicle was gone upon arrival.

CRANFORD
Monday, September 6, police conducted a motor vehicle stop of a 2016 Ford Rental van that was stopped in the middle of Orange Avenue at Wadsworth Terrace. Subsequently, police charged the driver, later identified as Ashley Dennison, 33, of West Milford, with hindering apprehension. Dennison was charged on November 10 and provided with a municipal court appearance date. In addition, Dennison was issued motor vehicle summonses for delaying traffic and driving while suspended.

Monday, November 1, police units were dispatched to a business on the 400 block of South Avenue East on a report of individuals attempting to pass fraudulent checks. Subsequent to an investigation, police arrested Genesis Goris, 26, of Binghamton, N.Y., and Jayquan Singleton, 28, of Hinesville, Ga., and charged them with uttering bad checks. Goris and Singleton were processed and provided with a Superior Court appearance date.

Tuesday, November 9, a black 2015 Chrysler was stopped at North Avenue West and Eastman Street for not having its headlights on. Subsequent to an investigation, police arrested Jonathan Parisi, 32, of Scotch Plains on charges of possession of CDS (controlled dangerous substance)/heroin and CDS paraphernalia. Parisi was processed and provided with a Superior Court appearance date. In addition, Parisi was issued motor vehicle summonses for driving without headlights when required and possession of CDS in a motor vehicle.

Wednesday, November 10, a 2011 green Buick was located by police stopped on the curbing at the intersection of Centennial Avenue at Cayuga Road. Additionally, police dispatch received a 9-1-1 call reporting a disabled motor vehicle at this same intersection. Subsequent to an investigation on scene, police arrested the driver, Christopher Patterson, 42, of Irvington, on charges of DWI, obstruction of justice and resisting arrest. Patterson was processed and provided with a municipal court appearance date. In addition, Patterson was issued multiple motor vehicle summonses, including for refusal to submit to breath tests, careless driving, reckless driving, obstructing passage of vehicles, delaying traffic and unsafe lane change.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

CONTRACTOR: Axon Enterprise, P.O. Box 29661, Department 2018, Phoenix, Arizona 85038
NATURE OF SERVICES: Purchase of Body Worn Cameras under State Contract No. T0106, the Department of Purchase and Property's NJStart eProcurement Solution, Purchase Order 17-FLEET-00738, Category 14 for Police Body Camera Solution and 14A for installation, consulting services, hardware/software configuration, training and hourly repair services rates.
DURATION: 5 Years
AMOUNT: Total purchase amount \$658,216.88, of which \$101,067.38 shall be payable in Year 1 of same; which are to be charged to Account 1-01-55-900-250 in the amount of \$24,863.60, Account T-05-600-021 in the amount of \$48,316.59 and 1-01-130-214 in the amount of \$27,887.19, under purchase order #21-03750, prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-1.10.

THE RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT FOR SAME ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK.

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$27.54



FLYING HIGH...Pictured, left to right, are the 13-14 Girls 4000m Team Champions Grace Gloster, Ella Solorzano, Rachel Biondo, Julie Ronnen and Anna Youssef.

WF 'Y' Flyers Compete At NJ Jr. Olympic X-C

Eighteen Westfield Area YMCA Flyers Track Club athletes joined nearly 500 athletes at the USATF New Jersey Junior Olympic Cross Country Meet on November 7 at Central Park in Morris Plains. The Flyers brought home one team win and four top-10 finishes.

The girls 13-14 year old team came out on top in their 4000m race. Leading the team was Ella Solorzano and Julia Ronnen, with 2nd and 4th place finishes, respectively. Rachel Biondo, 9th place, Anna Youssef, 16th place, and Grace Gloster, 19th place all

played a vital role in their team win. This capped off an undefeated 4-0 season. Ronan Conolly also placed 6th in the 9-10 boys 3000 meter race.

The Westfield Area YMCA Flyers Track Club is a USATF-certified club led by USATF-certified coaches and serves hundreds of athletes ages 7-15 all year-round. The Winter Conditioning program starts December 1 and is registering now. For more information, visit www.yflyertrackclub.com or contact Michelle Almeida at malmey@westfieldnj.org or at 908-301-YMCA (9622) x279.



FALL BALL CHAMPS...The Iron Nine 14U baseball team won the USABL Central Northeast Fall League Championship. The fall season included key pitching performances by Josh Greenwood, Grant Como and Mike Zalinkanskas, strong hitting by Jake Alfano, Aaron Ives and Liam Garrett and key contributions by Colin Willard, Ryan Coon, Joey Theophilakos and Alec Chichelo. This led the way to an 8-2 record; which was highlighted by a convincing 10-5 win against West Milford in the championship game. The Iron Nine team consists of players from the Westfield, Cranford and Mountaintop area and is coached by Max Herrmann.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY
GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2230

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2154 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION," ARTICLE II, TOWN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, DIVISION 3, PERSONNEL POSITIONS AND SALARY SCHEDULE," SEC. 2-12.28, "SCHEDULE."

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of Westfield in the County of Union as follows:

SECTION I.
That the Code of the Town of Westfield be and is hereby amended by revising Section 2-12.28, "Schedule," in Chapter 2, "Administration" Article II, "Town Officers and Employees," Division 3, "Personnel Positions and Salary Schedule," so that the same shall read as follows:

JOB TITLE	SALARY RANGE
Municipal Defender	\$13,938 - \$16,974
Municipal Prosecutor	\$29,957 - \$35,665
Library Assistant I	\$33,217 - \$39,984
Custodian	\$39,959 - \$44,576
Senior Custodian	\$40,530 - \$50,142
Library Assistant II	\$41,345 - \$48,022
Office Manager	\$48,653 - \$57,840
Assistant Zoning Officer	\$48,947 - \$61,732
Staff Tax Assessor	\$52,987 - \$62,187
Municipal Magistrate	\$53,274 - \$64,420
Aquatics Supervisor	\$56,922 - \$68,307
Deputy Town Clerk	\$56,970 - \$68,761
Library Senior IT Specialist	\$58,432 - \$72,009
Administrative Secretary	\$60,576 - \$73,544
Engineering Inspector/Field Engineer	\$65,123 - \$76,480
Librarian	\$66,961 - \$91,124
Executive Assistant	\$67,053 - \$79,214
Payroll Benefits Manager	\$68,394 - \$85,197
Assistant Library Director	\$68,750 - \$79,412
Assistant Director of Recreation	\$69,274 - \$80,216
Parking Services Director	\$69,294 - \$84,031
Municipal Court Administrator	\$72,345 - \$85,924
Electrical Subcode Inspector	\$73,219 - \$89,719
Zoning Officer	\$73,521 - \$89,153
Tax Collector	\$74,522 - \$89,080
Supervisor Public Works	\$78,615 - \$91,566
Assistant Director of Public Works	\$83,514 - \$96,041
Tax Assessor	\$83,998 - \$101,149
Town Surveyor	\$85,721 - \$104,972
Recreation Director	\$90,949 - \$107,775
Town Clerk	\$91,749 - \$112,687
Library Director	\$96,722 - \$124,272
Town Planner	\$101,657 - \$122,063
Construction Official	\$104,674 - \$131,492
Director of Public Works	\$104,746 - \$123,562
Deputy Fire Chief	\$131,004 - \$147,782
Town Engineer	\$132,193 - \$153,601
Chief Financial Officer	\$133,935 - \$165,966
Fire Chief	\$143,441 - \$163,477
Police Chief	\$148,578 - \$168,608
Town Administrator	\$168,830 - \$201,782

SECTION II.
The Personnel and Position Salary Schedule set forth in Sec. 2-12.28 as hereby amended shall take place as of January 1, 2022.

SECTION III.
Any or all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict, or inconsistent, with any part of the terms of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are in such conflict or inconsistent.

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

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

NOTICE
The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Westfield held on November 23, 2021, and was read for the first time. This ordinance will be further considered for final passage by said Town Council at the Westfield Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 at a meeting beginning at 8:00 PM on December 7, 2021, or at any time and place to which such meeting may be adjourned. All persons interested will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning such ordinance. Copies of this ordinance are available at the Office of the Town Clerk, Westfield Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 11/25/21, The Leader Fee: \$142.80

Receive a **\$25 Amazon gift card** With a **FREE In-home Estimate****

\$99 Installation on a Complete LeafGuard System!

DOES NOT INCLUDE COST OF MATERIAL. EXPIRES 12/31/2021.

- 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.

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.
**Consumer Disclosure/Award Rules: All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form provided at presentation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Amazon and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. See www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=G7X0BAEYEHXZUMIA for gift card restrictions. Expires 12/31/21.
Tri State LeafGuard, 7300 N. Crescent Blvd Bldg 5, Pennsauken, NJ 08110. Office: (856) 831-1720; (856) 240-0104. LeafGuard operates as TriState LeafGuard in Pennsylvania
under HICPA license number PA126357, in New Jersey under NJDCA license number 13VH09010100, and in Delaware under license number LC8336

Westfield Recreation to Host 31st Annual Holiday Concert

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Recreation Department will host its 31st annual holiday concert featuring the Westfield Community Concert Band and the Edison Intermediate School Broadway Singers at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 9, at Edison Intermediate School, located at 800 Rahway Avenue, Westfield.

This free public concert culminates the band's 109th anniversary concert season. The band performed its first annual holiday concert at the Roosevelt Intermediate School in December 1990 with the Roosevelt "Sharps and Flats" chorus.

Highlighting a program of holiday favorites, the band will perform *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, the renowned poem by Clement Clark Moore, set to music by Randol Alan Bass. The band will feature Kerry Stubbs as narrator of the poem, with concert band accompaniment. Mr. Stubbs, a vocalist, actor and music

educator, has been a featured vocalist and narrator with the band for many years.

The band's program also includes, *The Eighth Candle*, a contemporary celebration of Hanukkah, by composer Steven Reisteter, *Sheep May Safely Graze*, by J.S. Bach, *The Many Moods of Christmas*, by Robert Shaw and Robert Russell Bennett, *March of the Toys (March of the Wooden Soldiers)*, by Victor Herbert, and *The Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, by Eddie Pola and George Wyle, made famous by vocalist Andy Williams. The band will also perform Leroy Anderson's popular holiday composition, *Sleigh Ride*, written in 1948 for the Boston Pops. This very well-known selection was actually written as a musical portrait of the winter season, but soon became associated with the holiday season.

The Broadway Singers will perform a variety of holiday music fea-

turing the choir's unique arrangements and choreography. The program will conclude with a combined performance of Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" with both band and choir, an annual tradition dating back more than twenty-five years.

The Westfield Community Concert Band is conducted by Dr. Thomas Connors, now in his 17th season with the band. Westfield music educators Kenneth Horn and Stephen Markowski, vocal specialists in the Westfield School District, co-direct the Edison Broadway Singers. Masks and social distancing will be observed.

As the band completes its milestone 109th concert season, the band continues to seek out experienced area musicians to perform a wide variety of concert band literature for its many area concert events. Interested musicians should contact Dr. Connors through the band's website, infor@westfieldcommunityband.com. The band rehearses each Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. in the community room located in the Westfield Municipal Building at 425 East Broad Street.

Made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

Frosted: A Frozen Fairytale Parody Coming To Cranford

CRANFORD — Ring in the holiday season with the hilarious, interactive and completely demented adventure for the whole family. *Frosted: A Frozen Fairytale Parody*. It has jokes for the kids and grownups, hyper-enthusiastic ice cream makers, snow machines, villains out to destroy the universe as you know it and so much more! Help us make fun at all things pop-culture, from snow-people and the princesses who love them to various Mouse adventures, 80s and 90's music, life in New Jersey and all things in between!

Written by Mike Burdick and Sean Lough, this original show is filled with fabulous fun for everyone. Director Ken Webb had this to say: "It has been a lot of fun to watch something original being developed. The show is a

parody with many familiar elements but the show itself is brand new. It's not often that you have a show where the characters are really cartoons come to life, so it lets the actors really work to make something unique. I think I can speak for everyone who has worked on the show so far when I say that if the audience has as much fun seeing it as we have been having creating it, everyone will have a wonderful time!"

Frosted: A Frozen Fairytale Parody will come to town on December 10, 11 and 12 and all tickets are \$15.

Visit cdtheatre.org for show times and tickets. Be sure to get yours soon! This new show is in part made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

WHS

or two of Botox. The two of them try to break off the scheduled wedding of the fair Hero and her betrothed Claudio.

Trickery takes over not only for evil but also for good. Two different groups plant information with Beatrice and Benedick who are always sniping at each other. They drop information that the other is secretly in love with them. Adorably funny antics by Benedick and Beatrice provide physical comedy. The misinformation changes the couple's attitudes right away. Beatrice espouses the passionate rights of women (she was delightfully ahead of her time) and doesn't need men. Yet she is amazed when she hears that the avowed life-long bachelor Benedick is crazy about her. He makes a turnaround in attitude when he realizes that the girl he's been sparring with intellectually is in love with him. His bravado turns to self-consciousness and is played with requisite awkwardness. Bravo to Zoe and Evan for the layered depth they brought to their characters.

Lucie Saint-Denise's as the sweet ingenue Hero could not have been better cast. Spot on casting is key in bringing out the best in actors and Mr. Daniel Devlin, a master director, shows his skill with it in this show. Casting Joey Gamba as Claudio gave the young man a chance to unpack a range of his acting skills: at times he was funny or sweet and when he was crestfallen in learning a lie about his betrothed, he was especially credible. Smaller roles that must be mentioned for their acting choices include Dogberry, played by Bella Jarecki, Ben Dickerson as Leonato, Ryan Williamson as Borachio, and Emily Triolo as Sister Francine.

An undertaking of this magnitude can never be broached without the assistance of the offstage production team. Under the direction of technical director Matthew DiFabio, student stage manager Ryan Karlin, and his team of assistant stage managers Alexa Mora, Emma Darrow, and Ashlynn Pepe brought the show to life. A parent crew for concessions, costumes, headshots, the playbill, publicity, tech lunch, lobby designs/decorations, and ticket sales proved invaluable for the production.

After all, theater is never produced in a vacuum. It takes a community of support.

PBS

been edited for PBS/Channel 13's time constraints. It airs on December 6. For the project, Mr. Rokosny called on friends from his graduating class at Westfield High School. "It's funny. I don't know how it is with other high school students in a town, but Westfield is a special place. People keep their friendships. The co-producer and I were friends since we were 12. I have kept in touch with many of these folks for all these years."

By "these folks," he means the Westfield High School friends who have been a part of the film's construction. The editor of it is Patty Schumann, a 1982 classmate. Co-producer David Sherwyn is from the same class. The illustrations are the talent of Brian Dursee from the WHS Class of '84 and Associate Producer Bryan Monzella is from the Class of '86.

The music in the film is perfectly crafted by Frank London, a well-known musician in the Jewish community. He composed all the music which Mr. Rokosny feels is "almost like another character in the film."

"They Survived Together" has won acclaim as nominee, semi-finalist, and finalist in dozens of film festivals in this country, Canada, and Europe. For example, at the Chicago Indie Film Awards, it garnered the "Best Documentary Award, at Euro Film Festival Geneva Mr. Rokosny won for Best Director, and it was an award winner at the SoCal Film Awards and Hollywood International Golden Age Festival.

"Each adult has their own perspective and childhood memories," Mr. Rokosny explained. This brings a depth and image of blurred recollection of events. Interspersed throughout the film is grainy, black and white archival footage that took an inordinate amount of time to get the rights to use. It is the director's hope that it will become a part of all Jewish history museums and be used for education throughout not only this country but the world. "Ultimately, that is my goal...to have their incredible story live on through the documentary."

Check your local TV listings for times.

SPFHS

blind casting saw some women playing the traditional parts of men. With this production, like all of Mr. Knight's well-developed shows, there were many opportunities for minor characters to find their moment in the spotlight. Nephew Fred's diction and delivery proved perfect, Mrs. Cratchit's sweetness rang true as she thanked the stagehands for moving the dining room table, and Graeme Daniskas' Bob Cratchit showed layering of character. Even Julie Mayer, the young lady struggling with the giant turkey had a special moment all her own. But foremost in the play was Gavin Lesnevich who, as Scrooge, portrayed a revolutionary change in body language, voice, and attitude with credible joy at redeeming himself. His little side click of the heels was an especially delightful addition.

With no less than 75 people involved in this presentation under producer Jan Allen's umbrella of responsibility, the show sent the audience on its way with "All I Want for Christmas" by Mariah Carey and more Christmas songs to hum. Whether or not a person celebrates the Christmas holiday, the universal message of the play is to be thankful for what one has, appreciate every opportunity to do better, and show kindness to others. That feel-good message of Dickens has lasted for 178 years and, judging by the thunderous applause of the Friday night audience, it's easy to forecast it will last for generations to come.

Hist. Society Holds Raffle To Ring Town Bell For '22

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Historical Society is holding its second annual raffle fundraiser, where the first-prize winner will ring the Town Bell 22 times to mark 2022 at midnight on New Year's Eve (plus receiving other prizes). The Town Bell is located at the Reeve House, located at 314 Mountain Avenue, Westfield.

The raffle details are as follows: First Prize: Winner rings the Westfield Town Bell (at the Reeve House) 22 times to ring in 2022 at midnight on New Year's Eve, plus being awarded a \$100 home dining experience credit from Wonder, a bottle of champagne, and a complimentary 2022 Family Membership to the Westfield Historical Society; Second Prize: a \$100 restaurant gift card; Third Prize: Celebrity-autographed cookbook courtesy of Wonder. Tickets are \$20 each and the drawing will take place at noon on Sunday, December 19, at the Reeve House. Winners need not be present at the time of the drawing.

To purchase tickets, call or email the Westfield Historical Society office at (908) 654-1794 or westfieldhistorical.society@gmail.com, or mail requests to: Westfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 613, Westfield, N.J. 07091. Tickets also can be requested via Venmo to @Westfield-HistoricalSociety. Those requesting tickets are asked to provide contact information so ticket/s can be mailed and for winner notification. Interested persons should request tickets prior to Tuesday, December 14, to be included in the December 19 drawing.

The Westfield Town Bell originally hung in the Prospect Street School from 1869 to 1921, where it also served as the town's fire

bell. The bell rang at armistice and at the end of World War I. From 1922 to 1985, it hung in the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Chapel's steeple and subsequently became property of The Presbyterian Church, which later donated it to the Westfield Historical Society. During 1993-1994, it was restored with funds raised by the Westfield Historical Society, with the help of Town Bellmaster Jack R. Panosh, Ralph H. Jones, town historian, and Richard Edge, of the Westfield Department of Public Works, for the Westfield Bicentennial in 1994. It was originally made by Vickers Sons & Co. Limited, Sheffield [England] in 1869, of cast steel.


For many years, the bell was displayed and rung during the Westfield Memorial Day Parade and stored by the Westfield Historical Society. In 2019, a stone monument was erected by Alexander McGrail for his Eagle Scout Award project. The monument currently displays the bell on the grounds of the Reeve House. Recently, a roof and column structure was built by the Society to protect the bell for future generations to enjoy.

For more information on the Westfield Historical Society and its events, visit westfieldhistoricalsociety.org, follow the organization on Instagram and like it on Facebook.



Community Calendar

Brought to you by Trinitas Regional Medical Center



A Cracked Christmas Carol Friday, November 26 – Sunday, November 28. Enjoy pre-recorded Zoom performances on demand by The Theater Project. For more information, please visit theaterproject.org.

Podcast: The Theater Project Thinks About... Holiday Movies You Haven't Memorized Yet Sunday, November 28. Listen to this podcast by The Theater Project at theaterproject.org/podcast.html.

GWACC Holiday Party Wednesday, December 1, 6 p.m. Join the GWACC at Shackamaxon Country Club for festive piano music, scrumptious food and dessert, and great networking in a beautifully appointed setting. If you would like to attend, please register at gwaccnj.com/events/holiday-party-at-shackamaxon-country-club-2021.

A Virtual Music Lecture With Musician Curtis Taylor Wednesday, December 1, 7 p.m. Learn all about various songs with award-winning trumpeter via Zoom with Curtis Taylor. T register or for more information, please visit events.wmlnj.org/event/8515084.

Memoir Writing Group Wednesdays, December 1 & 15, January 5 & 19, February 2, at 2 p.m. Join local teacher and writer Edie Scher for a series of classes on creating a memoir. You'll be guided through the process of writing, editing, and compiling your chapters in a supportive environment. Space is limited; priority will be given to Scotch Plains and Fanwood resident cardholders. To register, please visit scotlib.org/event/memoir-writing-group-9.

Hypertension Clinic Friday, December 3, 10 a.m. A public health nurse from the Union County Office of Health Management will be in the Adult Room at the Scotch Plains Public Library to take blood pressure readings and share educational materials. For more information, please visit scotlib.org.

Balance Awareness with Yasmin Ofek Fridays, December 3, 10 & 17 at 10 a.m. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library on Zoom for a different approach to exercise. Older adults are encouraged to take part in these classes that are designed to address the loss of balance and strength that can occur with age. To register, please visit scotlib.org.

It's A Wonderful Life, The Radio Play Friday, December 3 - Sunday, December 5, 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Enjoy live-

streamed Zoom performances by The Theater Project. For more information, please visit theaterproject.org.

Bagels & Books Monday, December 6, 10 a.m. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library via Zoom where book-lovers can share what they have been reading or listening to in an informal setting while also picking up suggestions for future reading. For more information, please visit scotlib.org.

31st Annual Holiday Concert Thursday, December 9, 7:30 p.m. The Westfield Community Concert Band presents its 31st Annual Holiday Concert at Edison Intermediate School Auditorium, 800 Rahway Avenue, Westfield.

Evening Book Club Monday, December 13, 7 p.m. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library online via Zoom to discuss "Of Women and Salt" by Gabriela Garcia. To register or for more information, please visit scotlib.org.

Beautiful Mountainside's Holiday House Decorating Contest Monday, December 13. To enter the contest, submit your name, address and phone number to kulldonn@mac.com. For more questions, please all/text Donna at (908) 377-5094.

GWACC Networking Breakfast Tuesday, December 14, 8 a.m. Join the GWACC at The Westfield Foundation for coffee and breakfast treats while meeting with business professionals and business owners from the area. All attendees will have the opportunity to introduce themselves to the group. Members are \$10 and prospective members are \$20. Don't forget your business cards.

Return of The Three Holiday Tenors Saturday, December 18, 7 p.m. Award-winning tenors, guests and choruses join New Jersey Festival Orchestra to celebrate the holiday season with a dazzling selection of renowned tenor and holiday fare. To purchase tickets or for more information, please visit njfestivalorchestra.org.

Ring in the New Year with NJFO Friday, December 31, 7 p.m. Join NJ Festival Orchestra's quintessential New Year's celebration at Westfield High School with a superb revue of Broadway showstoppers in glorious symphonic splendor. To purchase tickets or for more information, please visit njfestivalorchestra.org/njfo-special-events.

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Brought to you by

Susan Massa CRS

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www.NJhomeshowcase.com

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24 Homes Sold Nov 13 – Nov 20, 2021 in Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield									
TOWN	ADDRESS	STYLE	RMS	BRS	BTH	GAR	SALE PRICE		
Clark	21 Briarwood Path	FirstFlr	4	1	1.0	0	\$240,000		
Cranford	217 Prospect 14 Ave	OneFloor	5	1	1.0	0	\$220,000		
Cranford	19 Ramapo Rd	CapeCod	6	3	2.0	1	\$440,000		
Cranford	622 Springfield Ave	Colonial	7	3	1.0	1	\$450,000		
Cranford	430 Manor Ave	Ranch	7	3	2.0	2	\$650,000		
Cranford	142 Centennial Ave	Colonial	8	4	3.0	0	\$599,900		
Cranford	49 Lenhome Dr	SplitLev	7	3	2.1	2	\$740,000		
Cranford	26 Bloomingdale Ave	Duplex	12	5	3.2	1	\$788,000		
Fanwood	40 North Ave	Colonial	8	4	2.1	2	\$660,000		
Garwood	201 Myrtle Ave	SplitLev	9	3	1.1	1	\$450,000		
Garwood	529-531 Willow Ave	Colonial	7	3	2.1	2	\$565,000		
Scotch Plains	809 Donato Cir	TwintIntUn	6	2	2.1	1	\$385,000		
Scotch Plains	36 Yarmouth Vlg	TwintIntUn	8	2	2.1	1	\$438,000		
Scotch Plains	1967 Grenville Rd	CapeCod	7	4	1.1	1	\$417,000		
Scotch Plains	2026 Grand St	Colonial	6	3	1.0	1	\$515,000		
Scotch Plains	925 Raritan Rd	CapeCod	8	3	2.0	2	\$570,000		
Scotch Plains	4 Chiplou Ln	Ranch	10	4	3.0	2	\$679,000		
Scotch Plains	21 Pheasant Ln	Custom	19	7	6.1	4	\$2,250,000		
Westfield	260 Prospect St # 3	FirstFlr	5	2	2.0	2	\$420,000		
Westfield	137 Windsor Ave	SplitLev	8	3	1.1	1	\$520,000		
Westfield	52 Mohawk Trail	Ranch	6	3	2.0	1	\$727,000		
Westfield	509 Kimball Ave	Colonial	9	4	3.0	2	\$910,000		
Westfield	567 Colonial Ave	Colonial	9	5	2.3	2	\$915,000		
Westfield	248 Sylvania Pl	Colonial	10	5	3.2	2	\$1,299,000		

Wishing You and Your Family A Very Happy Thanksgiving
My Best to You

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Arts & Entertainment

Native Westfield Director/Producer’s Film to air on PBS in December

By SUSAN MYRILL DOUGHERTY
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

WESTFIELD — Some might call it a chance meeting. Some call it the universe intervening. After seeing the documentary by John Rokosny Westfield High School graduate of the class of 1982, I call it a miracle. It’s miraculous that the story of one of the only families to survive the holocaust together is captured so beautifully in his documentary “They Survived Together, One Family’s Story of Escape and Survival” which is scheduled to air on PBS on Monday, December 6 and repeated on Sunday, December 12 on WNET, WLIW, and PBS.

The initial meeting of Mr. Rokosny and Hanka Neiger was at a coffee shop on the lower East Side of New York in 2015. Chatting casually, Hanka learned he was a film director, and every time they met, she kept telling him, “You need to read my children’s book ‘The Red Hat.’”

Her persistence paid off. “When my partner in life and in the project Andriette Redmann, producer on the film, and I sat and read the story while we were in her apartment, I knew what I would be doing for the next few years of my life.”

That children’s book was the catalyst for the making of the documentary. A film director for 30 years, Mr. Rokosny has produced 100 episodes of a TV series called “Quiet Triumphs” for the Hallmark Network and has produced documentaries for ESPSN, Bravo Network, and countless pieces for charities. So, this seems to be his gift to the world in capturing the incredible, true story of the survival of the Neiger family parents and their four small children. When they were forced from their home and into the harsh life of the Krakow Ghetto, they made a vow to escape together and survive as a family, reportedly one of the only families to escape and survive

as an intact family.

The terrible childhood memories the Neiger adults have kept with them for over 60 years are shared in first-person interviews. “I remember the sound of those black boots on the street,” Hanka shares in the film. Her brother Ben talks about having a close encounter with the “Butcher of Krakow.” Narrator Tosia relates information that no child should ever have to see or hear.

The 74 -minute film, winner of multiple awards and accolades in America, Canada, and Europe, it has

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THEY SURVIVED...Former Westfield High School graduate of the Class of 1982 has directed and produced a documentary that will air on multiple channels in December. John Rokosny and half a dozen of his classmates from decades ago worked on the award-winning film. The photo is of the Neiger family who escaped Nazi concentration camps and their youngest daughter who was born after their liberation.

A Thanksgiving Tradition



Over the past 15 years The Ward Family of Westfield has had a family tradition of giving out turkeys to families who otherwise might not have one for Thanksgiving. What started out as 10 turkeys fifteen years ago has grown to several hundred turkeys this year.

James Ward stated that this year has been especially difficult for many families who are still working to recover from the Pandemic. It’s customary for the Ward family to take their children to distribute the turkeys to families in Elizabeth, Newark and Jersey City.

This year, many of the people who came out to collect the turkeys, spoke about the hardships they experienced and the passing of loved ones due to the Pandemic. But through it all, the overwhelming sentiment from the people was that of hope for a better life for their children and thankfulness for the blessings God has given them.



SPFHS Gets in the Christmas Spirit with Dickens of a Tale

By SUSAN MYRILL DOUGHERTY
For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

SCOTCH PLAINS -- It may have only been November 19, but Many S. Unger Auditorium in the Scotch Plains/Fanwood High School was alive with the joyful spirit of Christmas as the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) Theatre presented the Charles Dickens’ classic *A Christmas Carol*. While the fully masked audience filed into the auditorium, classic Christmas songs rang out tunes like Bing Crosby’s, “White Christmas, and the lively “Run, Run Reindeer” and other favorites followed. The stage was ablaze with no fewer than 15 green Christmas trees decked out with white lights, red ornaments, red bows topping each, and plenty of gaily wrapped packages under each one. Martha Stewart couldn’t have done a better job of setting a festive scene.

The audience was alive with an-

ticipation. Elementary school children huddled with parents, middle school students ventured to sit with friends and high school teens enjoyed a date night. Parents and grandparents tightly held bouquets of flowers as they awaited seeing their teen family members on stage for the first time in ever so long. There’s nothing better than the chatter of excited kids and teens before a show begins.

The house lights dimmed and slowly, costumed townspeople weaved their way through the trees while singing a lovely “O, Come All Ye Faithful.” That tranquil scene was interrupted by a scene in an office space with a screaming Scrooge (Gavin Lesnevich). The familiar Dickens tale might have been “old as time” for adults, but the youngsters had questions (“Why is that old man so grouchy?”) and their parents explained patiently, from time to time, who was who and

what was what. Great scene summaries in the program assisted them if they needed a refresher. Because the visual action kept flowing seamlessly, there was always something for even the youngest attendee to watch and find entertaining.

Scrooge’s cheery nephew Fred (Emmet Fynes), appears and tries to get his uncle to be agreeable for the upcoming Christmas holiday to no avail. Optimistic clerk Bob Cratchit (Graeme Daniskas) looks forward to a meager celebration with his family that includes the iconic figure of his crippled son, Tiny Tim (Noah Solomon). Charity workers ask Scrooge for money for the poor and he angrily retorts, “Where are the prisons? The workhouses?” That’s his answer for where the poor should be housed.

That night Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his late partner, Jacob Marley (Kaelan Mattos), and warns the curmudgeon that he’ll be visited by three ghosts – Christmas Past (Charlie Pollack), Christmas Present (Tucker Rose), and Christmas Yet to Come (Morgan Ritter). Through flashbacks of his unhappy childhood, his break up with lovely Belle (Olivia Gomez), and projections into the future – his miserable death with no one mourning him, the miserly old Scrooge turns his life around to save the day for Tiny Tim and the Cratchit family.

Great costumes/outfits (Joanne Sprague, Carter Brodsky, and Emma Noriega), especially of Marley’s ghost and the spirits, included “chains of sins” and a bony hand that was reminiscent of Edward Scissorhands claws. The little kids shrieked with shock and delight at both.

Throughout the show, the well-rehearsed singers appeared many times and capped it off with a lovely duet in “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” near the show’s end. Period choreography (Sue Braisted) lent an authentic Victorian air. Under the direction of Morgan Knight,

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Mixing With Zest

By HILLARY SHOPE

For The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

Fall Sweet Potato Fries

This is an easy recipe you can enjoy as a side or snack! These fries have all the flavors and comfort of the fall season. Enjoy!

- Ingredients:
- 2 large sweet potatoes
 - 3 tablespoons olive oil
 - 4 teaspoons light brown sugar
 - ¼ teaspoon salt
 - ¼ teaspoon black pepper
 - ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - ¼ teaspoon ground ginger
 - 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- Directions:
1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit
 2. Rinse your potatoes and dry.
 3. Cut potatoes in half and slice into fries. Add fries to a large bowl.
 4. Add olive oil, brown sugar and seasonings to the bowl. Mix well with tongs.
 5. Place onto a parchment-lined baking sheet to prevent sticking.
 6. Bake for ~1 hour, stirring the fries halfway through to ensure they bake evenly. The fries will be soft and crispy on the outside.



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MARTINEZ NETS WINNER WITH 8 SECONDS REMAINING – BLUE DEVILS ARE NUMBER 1 IN NJ

Blue Devils Nip Freehold, 1-0, for Group 4 Girls Soccer Title

By DAVID B. CORBIN

For The Westfield Leader and The
Union County HAWK

Seventy nine minutes and 51 seconds of scoreless soccer ended abruptly one second later when Alyssa Martinez launched a difficult angled shot from the right side that tipped off the fingers of goalkeeper Ashley Moore and into the goal to earn the No. 2 ranked Westfield High School girls a 1-0 victory over the No. 1 ranked Freehold Township Patriots for the Group 4 crown at Kean Uni-

versity in Union on November 21. The triumph established the 21-0-1 Lady Blue Devils as the No. 1 girls soccer team in New Jersey.

"Number 1 in the state! I don't even know the last time that ever happened, 33 years for us," Blue Devil Head Coach Alex Schmidt guessed.

"For a while they have been the number one team. Going into this game we knew it was going to be a hard game. We were going to have to work our butts off if we wanted to win this. We

did show well this season. We were undefeated. We won so many games. Coming off of last season, such a short season, we really proved ourselves and proved how much talent we had. I'm really happy right now," Martinez said.

"It was a long time coming to the graduates, to the families, to the young kids in town, the coaching staff, to our families who put up with a long season. I am so proud of these girls. Undefeated! This doesn't happen. We knew we had talent this year but to be able to get through the ups and downs of the season, I said it last time. Scotch Plains! Turning point. Down 2-0 and go on to win

3-2," Coach Schmidt expressed.

The two teams did enter the showdown as the only two remaining unbeaten teams (Blue Devils at 20-0-1 and the Freehold Township Patriots at 22-0-1) in the state and both teams

proved to be worthy of their records. Each team was jockeying for control throughout the game. The Patriots owned the first three minutes of each half and held a strong five-minute edge at the end of the first half. The Blue Devils, however, had an offensive edge in the middle minutes of the first half and second half but their real dominance was in the final six minutes as the "Trio" of juniors, Gabby Gil, Chiara Cosenza and Martinez, presented a 1-2-3 punch.

During that period of time, Gil made a run to the goal that was turned back by the Patriot defenders. Martinez set up Gil for another shot that was stopped. Cosenza made a key steal on the left side then with one minute on

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Blue Devils Nip Freehold Twp., 1-0, for Group 4 Girls Soccer Crown

the clock, sophomore midfielder Ella Cadigan joined in and ripped a shot that forced Moore to make a leaping save. But in those final seconds, the "Trio" baffled the Patriots. The ball was crossed to Martinez and with eight seconds on the clock, the magic happened.

Martinez recalled, "I remember going to the end line and cutting back and then shooting it. I remember lofting it and trying to get it over the goalie and before, I kind of fell to the ground, I felt it didn't go in. I thought the goalie hit it. I come back up and I see the goalie with the ball in her hands in the goal and I hear everyone cheering. I said, 'My God! I just scored.' I knew there was like nine, ten seconds left."

"Coach Wertheimer and I said, 'Know what! We haven't done it all season. We put Chiara up top, Gabby up top, Alyssa up top. Let's just go for it.' Those girls

are so skilled. We won that break in the middle. Gabby got the ball outside to Alyssa with one of her patented cuts over the line. That's an Alyssa Martinez goal. Number 31 on the season," Coach Schmidt pointed out. "All pressure, 100 percent!"

But the Patriots also applied a lot of pressure on the Blue Devil defenders of senior co-captain Izzy Gauthier, who rejoined her defensive teammates Emily Weinstein, Ciara Dursee and Kate Giglio, with Audra Toth working her way in, and junior goalkeeper Sutton Factor, who recorded seven saves. The move was made to support the defense, who lost junior midfielder Emma Kelesoglu, who was injured in the Group 4, semifinal against Ridgewood.

"I give a lot of credit to our defense. Moving Izzy back. Emma (Kelesoglu), we had to move Izzy back. They (Patriots) have some

firepower, so for us to stifle them. You saw at times, we got a little rattled but we had the wind in the second half. Slowly you save it build a little more, build a little more. At halftime, we said this is a championship game. Zero-zero! One goal is going to win it."

The firepower from the Patriots came off the foots of sophomores Cassidy Corcione and

Ainsley Moy, and juniors Gabby Koluch and Kayla Wong. However, in addition to the "Trio" the Blue Devils added firepower from senior and Gettysburg commit Elise Fox, who launched a few booming shots from midfield, co-captains Kim DiFilippo and Kelly Sullivan, Cadigan and junior Cat Angel.

"Cassidy Corcione, Ainsley Moy, Kayla Wong down the middle. Their holding number 10 (Gabby Koluch). We scouted them really well. They are a talented team. One verses two! Heavyweight bout! It was back and forth for most of the game," Coach Schmidt said. "Three quarters of the way through the second half it was going in our direction and they couldn't get out of their own end. Elise Fox! What an Amazing game! Last time we won, 89! 1989!"

Former boys & girls Head Coach George Kapner just happened to

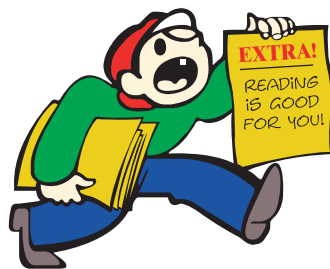
be present and added, "Last time anybody won he (Schmidt) was the captain and I was the coach - 95! His team is going into the Westfield Hall of Fame tomorrow (November 22). How cool is that!"

"It's fantastic! It's an amazing feeling! We've won everything we possibly could have won. We are undefeated. Number one in the state! This hasn't happened in 40 years to be in this place. I couldn't have wished for a better season. It's my senior year. I couldn't have asked for any better way to go out," expressed Gauthier, who will play college ball for the Hatters at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla.

"Awesome! I'm so happy. We've worked so hard this season. I'm really happy that our talent was showcased," Martinez, who has committed to Rutgers along with Gil, said.

Westfield	0	1	1
Freehold Twp	0	0	0

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Blue Devils Nip Freehold Twp., 1-0, for Group 4 Girls Soccer Crown





Blue Devils Nip Freehold Twp., 1-0, for Group 4 Girls Soccer Crown





Blue Devils Nip Freehold Twp., 1-0, for Group 4 Girls Soccer Crown



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Cougars Rout Spartans, 45-21, for North 2, Group 3, Grid Crown





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Cougars Rout Spartans, 45-21, for North 2, Group 3, Grid Crown





Cougars Rout Spartans, 45-21, for North 2, Group 3, Grid Crown





Cougars Rout Spartans, 45-21, for Grid Crown - *photos by Dale Horton*





Cougars Rout Spartans, 45-21, for Grid Crown - *photos by Dale Horton*





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Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood, 2-0, in Group 4 Girls Soccer Semifinal





Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood, 2-0, in Group 4 Girls Soccer Semifinal





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Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood, 2-0, in Group 4 Girls Soccer Semifinal





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Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood, 2-0, in Group 4 Girls Soccer Semifinal





Blue Devils Rock Ridgewood, 2-0, in Group 4 Girls Soccer Semifinal

