



TALKING GOVERNMENT...Assemblyman Jon Bramnick visited Tamaques School last week to talk to students about his role as an Assemblyman. He also sought their input on what bills they would propose if they were in the State Legislature.

Testing for Odor at Beechwood School Expected to Continue on November 22

By BETSEY BURGDOFF
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Although Beechwood School in Mountainside is odor-free, testing will continue on Monday, November 22. The Westfield Leader toured the school in attempt to smell firsthand the odor that has been plaguing the building since last May. Brightly lit, colorful hallways lead to the four classrooms serviced by the HVAC system RTU No. 2 (roof top unit). The unit believed to be causing the musty smell was covered in children's artwork and appeared brand new. Everything about the school looked new, clean and smelled odor-free.



ODOR IS GONE...The musty smell in four classrooms at Beechwood School in Mountainside is no longer evident. Wet insulation, thought to be the cause of the odor, has been removed from the air duct. Environmental testing will continue though to complete the work.

On November 11, Aerodyne-Redmond Contractors removed all the wet insulation on the bottom of the ductwork connected to RTU No. 2. Sean Reilly of Home Health Science associated the odor of the removed insulation with the odor inside the four classrooms. Home Health Science, an environmental testing company in Sparta, is testing the insulation for mold and other bacteria. On November 18, the Mountainside Board of Education met with building contractors Paul Otto and Tom Edgley, John Krupka from the Musial Group, Carrier salesman Sergio Dos-Sanots, Carrier Serviceman Bill Joseph and John Mehl from Aerodyne-Redmond to discuss what actions

should be taken. All present observed the four classrooms and hallway. The Carrier representatives made a visual inspection of RTU No. 2, which included the air stream, coils, heat exchanger, fan housing and the air filters. Nothing out of the ordinary was detected. All the ductwork and insulation on RTU No. 2 has recently been replaced, as well as the exterior wrap. The odor was first detected in classrooms 110, 111, 116 and 117 this past spring when the heat was turned off. The heat is now back on and although the smell is no longer apparent, the school board has accepted the proposal of LEW Corporation in the amount of \$10,500 to continue with

collect samples of suspect materials for biological testing including both fungi and bacteria in the testing. The project may require the removal of drywall and other finishes inside walls, ceiling cavities and in the new bump-out in the four classrooms. The major focus will be on dismantling RTU No. 2 and inspecting the fiberglass linings that are present in the unit and associated ductwork. According to the board, an industrial hygienist certified by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene will conduct the inspection. Technicians and a mechanical contractor will assist. The results of the testing should be available seven to 10 day after the samples are taken. When the investigation is complete, LEW Corporation will provide recommendations for mitigation. The reconstruction of the school is not included in the proposal, and the district will replace all tested areas after the inspection is complete.

FAR Study Continues; While Westfield Officials Eye Town-Wide Study

By LAUREN S. PASS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Nearly 90 percent of the homes that are being torn down and rebuilt are all within conformance of current land use restrictions. The construction of the new homes are not being heard before either the planning or zoning boards, so neighbors have no input on what is being built around them. Only when new construction exceeds the allowable lot coverage does it need to appear before the board of adjustment, and subdivisions must be heard before the planning board. While many residents are concerned with the aesthetics of their neighborhoods changing, a larger issue of the change in Westfield's housing stock looms. Many of the teardowns are taking place in neighborhoods where smaller, "starter homes" exist. The dramatic changes taking place with new development not only changes the houses but also changes the income diversity of the town. There are currently seven categories of residential zones in Westfield. Properties range from 6,000 square feet to 40,000 square feet. Each of the zones has it's own restrictions regarding how much of the lot can be covered and what the setbacks are. However, all of the zones in town have a maximum floor area ration of 20 to 35 percent of lot coverage and can be as tall as 38-feet. In certain sections of town, mainly the RS-6 zones where the majority of homes are smaller ranches, newer homes, being built within the zoning restric-

Ordinance Ready to Be Finalized To Make Way for Ward Project

By LAUREN S. PASS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

The Westfield Town Council held their weekly conference meeting on Tuesday night after press time. The council was set to discuss a resolution to combine general improvement bonds in the amount of \$5,135,000. The same process was done two years ago to bond un-funded debt. Bonds will be sold on all outstanding capital debt, so that the town sees no tax impact in 2005. "This process is much more fiscally responsible," Town Administrator James Gildea told The Westfield Leader. The debt includes funds for various road improvements, park improvements, police improvements and building improvements. Not included in this bond sale is \$700,000 that was used to fund the studies for the parking decks. Mr. Gildea told The Leader that, at the time the council was looking to sell the bonds, the referendum had not happened yet. Potentially that money would have been included in the bond for the parking deck, if the town had approved the construction. Mr. Gildea said that that money would be financed in a separate way in the future. Two ordinances were also to be discussed at the meeting. The first ordinance would prohibit the operation of mechanical equipment that creates loud and disturbing noises during certain hours. There are currently several ordinances on the books regarding noise. This new ordinance makes it "crystal clear" as to what hours things such as lawnmowers can be used, according to Mr. Gildea. The second ordinance is related to the James Ward project proposed for Prospect Street. Mr. Ward is proposing to tear down the building that once housed Statistical Research and an adjacent house in order to build age-restricted condominiums. The ordinance creates an overlay for that zone to allow for age-restricted, multi unit housing. The zone currently does not allow for housing

on the ground floor. The planning board looked at Master Plan and agreed to change it to allow this project. Working with the Town Planner, Blaise Brancheau, the planning board has made suggestions for the ordinance and it is now up to the council to finalize and approve it. Both ordinances could potentially be introduced on Tuesday, November 30, and passed after a public hearing

on Tuesday, December 14. Fourth Ward Councilman Lawrence Goldman told The Leader that he intended to bring up the issue of rolling back parking fees. According to Councilman Goldman, the fees were increased twice in order to fund construction of a parking deck, and without that prospect on the horizon, at least one of the fee increases should be rolled back.



HITTING THE BIG TIME...Westfield PAL (Police Athletic League) D Football Team, which includes 10 and 11-year-olds, will get to play at Giants Stadium during half time of the Giants/Eagles game on Sunday, November 28.

Airport Security Delays WF Resident

By LAUREN S. PASS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Westfield resident Robert Jackson was surprised and confused when he was pulled out of line at Newark Airport and told his name was on the watch list. When he arrived home he called the Westfield Police Department, who directed him to the FBI and was then directed to the Ombudzman Office in Washington, D.C. He is now being sent a form to clear his name. Anne Davis from TSA (Transportation Security Administration) told The Westfield Leader that airlines "will not issue a boarding pass if someone is on the no-fly list." TSA was formed after September 11, 2001 to administer all airport security. The no-fly list, which the TSA ad-

ministrators, is acquired from the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, singles out those who are believed to be a threat to aviation. According to Ms. Davis the Ombudzman Office is a liaison between passengers and TSA. The office works with passengers to fill out paperwork, which will allow them to fly without delays. Ms. Davis explained to The Leader that there are currently 72 airlines who use different software to cross reference names on the no-fly list, and sometimes innocent people are flagged because of name similarities. She said that people are often stopped at the security check and must verify their identity to security and law enforcement officials before being given a boarding pass.



SPECIAL TRIP...Cub Scouts from Pack No. 172 at Franklin Elementary School in Westfield traveled to West Point, N.Y. on November 20. The scouts and their families were given a personal tour by two West Point Cadets who were past Eagle Scouts, and then attended the Army/UAB football game. Although it rained and Army lost the game, all agreed that it was a great scouting experience.



Westfield BOE Schedules Meeting on Mon., Dec. 6

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Board of Education will meet on Monday, December 6, in a departure from the normal Tuesday night schedule, at 8 p.m. in Room No. 105 at 302 Elm Street in Westfield. The board's agenda will include a presentation by Westfield High School Student Assistance Counselor Maureen Mazzarese. She will discuss the new-student transition program at the school. The board will further discuss the upcoming bond referendum scheduled for Tuesday, December 14. A complete agenda will be avail-

able on Friday, December 3, in the office of Board Secretary and Business Administrator Robert Berman at 302 Elm Street. All meetings of the Westfield Board of Education are taped and may be seen on Channel 36 on Tuesdays at 8 p.m., 3 p.m. and 11 p.m. and Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Happy Thanksgiving!



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Financial Aid Night Set At Westfield High School

WESTFIELD — The Westfield High School (WHS) Guidance Department will present its 19th Annual Financial Aid Information Program on Tuesday, November 30, at 7:30 p.m. in Cafeteria B.

A guest presenter from the Financial Aid Services for the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESSA) will explain the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The details and resources for fi-

nancing a college education will be reviewed.

WHS Guidance Department representatives will discuss college academic scholarships as well as local scholarships. There will be ample time for questions.

Parents of seniors who will be applying for financial aid for college are encouraged to attend the program, as well as parents of juniors and sophomores who may want to start planning now.

Check Cashing Business Dissuaded in Fanwood

By DEBORAH MADISON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

FANWOOD -- A concept hearing was presented to the Fanwood Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments by the President of the Terrill Exxon service station, Gary Strassberg, at the board's agenda meeting on November 15.

The attorney for the owner, George Schunwald of Parsippany, presented schematics and photographs of the station and asked the board to give its opinion on the owner's proposal to add a check cashing business to the existing building.

Comparing the accessory use to adding an ATM machine, Mr. Schunwald told the board that the check cashing business would be operated from a cashier's window, already contained inside the waiting room area. The existing plate glass window would be replaced with bulletproof glass and security cameras would be added as is required by state law for this type of usage.

Board Chairman Gregory Cummings voiced his concerns that a check cashing business would be a safety risk and suggested that the police department be queried for its recommendations. He also expressed concerns over traffic and pedestrian safety.

Because the Terrill Road Exxon was already granted approval to operate a truck and car rental business and a convenience store, in addition to the gas and service station, several board members said that they were disinclined to approve any additional uses. These multiple uses were not intended for the light industrial zone in which the business resides, stated Jack Molenaar, council representative to the board.

The Fanwood Borough Council, in fact, recently proposed an ordinance that would limit principal uses in the light industrial zone.

Vice Chairman of the Planning Board, John Celardo, questioned the need for this type of business, doubting whether many Fanwoodians would utilize a check cashing service. Other board members agreed that most local customers do their banking at banks and suggested that Mr. Strassberg wouldn't have enough customers for this type of service.

Mr. Strassberg implored the board to reconsider their positions, stating that he was not trying to get rich but just attempting to make ends meet in these tough economic times.

He suggested that a liquor store is just as likely to be held up, without the added features of bulletproof glass or security cameras.

Mr. Strassberg added that it was not the board's concern whether he would have enough customers and said he'd be willing to take that risk.

After the majority of board members expressed their lack of comfort with this type of business, Mr. Cummings told the applicant, "You now have a sense of how the board feels."

In other business, it was announced that the Master Plan Committee will meet to discuss revisions to the Borough's Master Plan. Those changes will be discussed at the December agenda meeting, which will be held on Monday, December 6.

The next regular meeting of the board will be Wednesday, December 15, when the Woodcliff application, proposing a six-house subdivision, on the border of Scotch Plains, will be presented by attorney for the applicant, Robert Kraus of Kraus, Lieb, Grispin and Roth of Scotch Plains.

The subdivision proposes to raze one existing house and erect six new houses with no variances.

Several months ago, a petition, with signatures of both Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, was presented to the Planning Board and to the Borough Council, objecting to the subdivision. Residents, in the petition, expressed their concerns that constructing additional impervious area and removing trees would worsen their existing flooding and standing water problems.

According to Mr. Kraus, the development will have to adhere to a storm-water management plan, approved by the Borough Engineer, as well as a tree-replacement plan. Strict guidelines require that these plans insure that no problems are worsened in the area, Mr. Kraus told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

Both the agenda and the regular meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m.



NATIVE-AMERICAN TRADITION...Kindergartners at Holy Trinity Interparochial Mountside campus began their Thanksgiving celebration with a Native-American Pow Wow.

Surrogate Cautions Seniors On Estate Planning Scam

AREA — Union County Surrogate James LaCorte is cautioning senior citizens to beware of telephone solicitors offering unnecessary living trust and estate plans at greatly inflated prices.

"People should be very careful that they do not pay exorbitant and excessive fees for drawing up a last will and testament," Surrogate LaCorte said. "The entire process should cost between \$150 and \$300, not thousands of dollars."

An unsolicited sales pitch to a county woman, recently brought to the surrogate's attention, highlighted the misrepresentation some times used to sell unnecessary estate plans at high prices.

Using a contested will as an example, a salesman called the senior citizen and suggested she set up a living trust to avoid "costly probate" he said could cost as much as \$25,000.

The \$25,000 figure is presented as the normal price of admitting a will into probate. The salesman suggested

that the cost could be avoided by setting up a living trust through his company for about \$2,000.

While it is true that a contested will concerning an estate worth \$250,000 could produce \$25,000 in legal fees; it is the exception rather than the rule.

"Of all the wills my office handles, 99 percent are never contested," Surrogate LaCorte said.

He suggested people exercise caution when offered a deal on an unsolicited living trust.

"Some companies are misrepresenting the value of a living trust," Surrogate LaCorte said. "The real cost of a will and probate is \$150 to \$300."

The surrogate recommends shopping for a lawyer to have a last will and testament properly drawn up to avoid any complications when entering a will into probate.

For more information please call the Union County Surrogate's office at (908) 527-4280 or visit www.ucnj.org/surrogate/index.



WESTFIELD POLICE BLOTTER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

A Radley Road resident reported that she gave approximately \$1,900 to a Clark resident to perform home repairs and the individual had not done the work.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

James Lehmkuhl, 24, of Westfield was arrested in the 300 block of Belmar Place and charged with driving while intoxicated and refusal to submit to a breathalyzer test. He was released to a responsible party.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Craig Katzenellenbogen, 39, of

Westfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Elmer Street and charged with possession of suspected heroin and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was processed and turned over to the Fanwood Police Department on an active traffic warrant.

A Coleman Street resident reported that his scarecrow lawn decoration was set on fire.

A South Avenue, West resident reported that the window was shattered on the driver's side sliding door of her van while the vehicle was parked behind her home.

Sinnenberg Participates In Leaders Conference

WESTFIELD — Lauren Sinnenberg of Westfield participated in the National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC) in Washington, D.C. from November 16 to 21.

Lauren was one of 400 outstanding scholars from around the country to attend the conference.

NYLC is a leadership development program for high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit. The theme of NYLC was "The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today."

Throughout the six days, Lauren interacted with a variety of personnel who operate within the three branches of government, the news media and the international community.

"We often hear from members of Congress, political appointees and members of Washington's press corps that it is a privilege to meet and interact with students like Lauren Sinnenberg because they are the face of our

country's future," said Mike Lasday, Executive Director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the organization that sponsors the conference.

"What these students learn at the NYLC will enable them to build coalitions with one another and exercise their own leadership skills within communities around the country," concluded Mr. Lasday.

FAR Study

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

FAR. FAR could be revised to cover the total volume and not just livable space.

"We need to study the new construction a little bit more and from a volume perspective. Then make the same comparisons in the same zones in other parts of town. The same zones in different parts of town may be very different," he cautioned.

According to Councilman Caruana, the committee is almost convinced that the study needs to be done in the entire town. But he added that he's "not sure we understand all of the dynamics we need to. We may be looking at an anomaly."

Councilman Caruana told *The Leader* that the committee must look at, "What aspect of new development may be negatively impacting the congruity of neighborhoods and blocks, and what mechanisms and factors we need to be considering to offset that."

Several factors related to new construction in town still remain up in the air, such as what will be required in affordable housing when the new COAH (Council On Affordable Housing) regulations are passed in New Jersey.

Zoning Bd. Members Look to Decrease New Parking Spaces at Y

By FRED ROSSI
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS -- Homeowners living in the area of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA on Martine Avenue will have an opportunity at next week's Scotch Plains Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting to ask questions and comment on the YMCA's proposed expansion of its facilities and parking lot.

Last Wednesday, the board held its second hearing on the YMCA's application, which is technically to seek approval for an expansion of its parking lot from 125 parking spaces to about 280 when the multi-phase project is completed several years down the road.

A local ordinance requires membership organizations such as the YMCA to provide one on-site parking space for every four adult members. If the YMCA, with its membership of several thousand adults, teenagers and children, had to comply with that requirement, it would need a parking lot with more than 1,000 spaces.

A variance permits the YMCA to have the lower capacity parking lot than the ordinance calls for, one that "essentially meets the requirements of the Y," as YMCA attorney Robert Kraus said at the first board hearing in October.

At last week's nearly three-hour hearing, YMCA Executive Director Karin Dreixler summarized for the board her October presentation on the YMCA's plans to expand its facilities over a period of several years while expanding the parking lot.

Engineer James Watson reviewed certain aspects of storm water drainage in the expanded parking lot, buffering strategies and proposed new ingress and egress in the expanded lot.

Professional Planner Elizabeth McKenzie provided an overview of the YMCA property and the proposed expansions, concentrating on the reasons she felt the project would not be detrimental to surrounding homes and neighborhoods.

Initial comments and questions from board members after last week's presentations centered on buffering issues and the size of the expanded parking lot.

There were some concerns raised about whether homes located directly across Martine Avenue from the YMCA would be negatively affected, particularly at night, by the headlights of cars exiting the YMCA.

Mr. Watson said that his plans include a number of plantings along Martine Avenue between the street itself and the parking lot, adding that the plantings would be located atop a berm that would further shield

Martine Avenue from car headlights in the parking lot.

He also displayed a photograph depicting the exit lane onto Martine Avenue that, he said, showed the property across the street being blocked by several trees and thick shrubbery.

Several board members expressed concern that the size of the new parking lot would make it a bit of an eyesore in the midst of the neighborhood, but Ms. McKenzie noted that the lot would be "considerably set back" from the street.

Board member Tim Livolsi suggested additional plantings and buffering "so we don't know there's a parking lot back there."

Board member Ken Anderson suggested that several parking lot islands be placed within the lot in order to "break up a large asphalt area in the middle of a residential area."

Initial plans do not include any islands in the expanded lot, but Mr. Kraus said the YMCA would be open to including them if the board insisted.

Mr. Anderson also wondered why parking capacity needed to be doubled when YMCA officials have said the current level is usually adequate for the facility's needs. The YMCA does expect that in the coming several years, membership will increase about 25 percent, but Mr. Kraus last week left open the possibility of fewer spaces in the final plans.

Board engineer Thomas Quinn said that after reviewing the plans, he had a sense that the proposed 280 parking spaces might be "overkill," adding that he, too, favored the inclusion of islands to "break the lot up."

The 280 spaces, he said, are a "little more than they need for a 25 percent increase" in membership, although he admitted that it was hard to know at this point what the YMCA's program needs might be several years in the future.

The board's next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2, with the hearing on the YMCA's application expected to start at 8:30 p.m.

At the start of the meeting, the board agreed to put off a hearing on an application by Mark Lustbader, who is seeking approval to build a home on a portion of non-township-owned land on the island in the center of Cooper Road. A group of about 30 neighborhood residents attended last week's meeting and demanded a postponement so they could have time to hire an attorney to represent their interests and gather expert witnesses. The board agreed, with Chairman James Fawcett saying that he wanted "a fair and equitable hearing" for the residents. The board will consider the application at its January 6, 2005 meeting.



HONORED PRINCIPAL...Dorothy Szot, Principal of Holy Trinity Interparochial School, was honored by the students of the Mountside campus on Principal's Day, which was sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark. Mrs. Szot was presented with flowers and a handcrafted book of students' artwork in appreciation of her 36 years of academic excellence. Pictured, left to right, are: Brendan McCabe, Kelsey Eelman, Mrs. Szot, Kelly Farmar and Thomas Miner.

‘Knitting, Crocheting’ Class To Begin at NJWA on Jan. 8

WESTFIELD — The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA) has added a new course in the arts and crafts department.

"Knitting and Crocheting" will be offered in the winter semester for eight Saturdays, beginning on January 8. A class for students ages 10 and older will begin at 1 p.m. and a class for adults will start at 2 p.m.

The course will be taught at the NJWA Annex, located at 361 South Avenue, East in Westfield.

Instructor Janet Hrido is an arts and crafts department chairperson at the Westfield Summer Workshop, where she teaches needlework, jewelry making and origami.

The tuition fee of \$80 includes a pair of knitting needles, a crocheting hook and yarn for instruction and simple projects. Patterns will also be included.

Students who wish to create additional items may provide their own yarn or different sized needles.

Registration is presently being accepted for this course. Prospective

students can call NJWA office at (908) 789-9696 for further information or to request a registration form.

Forms are also available at the NJWA office, located at 150-152 East Broad Street in Westfield.

WF Middle School Students Named

To Pingry's Roster

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP — Headmaster John Neiswender and Middle School Director Phillip Cox of The Pingry School has announced the names of Westfield students appointed to the Middle School's first semester Academic Honor Roll for the 2004-2005 school year.

The roster recognizes those students who have achieved a "B+" average or better with no individual grade lower than a "C-".

Seventh graders Alexander Daifotis, Aaron Davis, Samuel Fisher, Meghan Hager and Paul Zoidis joined eighth grader William Weldon in being named to the list.

Time to Deck...

**Boughs of Holly
Hand Trimmed
Wreaths, Fresh
Evergreen Garlands
Bright Red Velvet Bows**

...The Halls!

Quick, Lets get all of the decorating done before the holiday snows approach. (Our on staff weatherman says its going to be a cold snowy December...but hey its weather...and you never know).

Arriving this week are truckloads of fresh wreaths, roping, and all the cut greens that you need to fill the pots around your house. Our Designers are hand decorating many of the wreaths to hang up for instant door & window gratification.

We have all the trimmings that you need to get the house "decked" and ready for the holidays.

Oh, don't forget to start your paperwhite bulbs if you want to get them to bloom for Christmas. You need to do this NOW!

**7 days 9am-6pm
Closed Thanksgiving
Later Hours begin 12/01**

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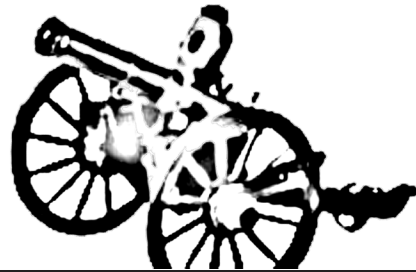
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SIXTY CENTS



Fred K. Lacombe for The Times
DEVOTED FANS...Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School students went wild Friday night for the boys' soccer team during the State Finals at The College of New Jersey in Ewing. Despite fan support, the team lost to Wall High School 4-1. See story in Sports Section.

SP Zoning Board Members Look To Decrease New Y Parking Spaces

By FRED ROSSI
Specially Written for The Times

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SP Township Council Expected to Discuss South Side Deer Census

By FRED ROSSI
Specially Written for The Times

The Union County Department of Parks and Recreation conducted a deer census in and around the Ashbrook Reservation in Scotch Plains on Sunday evening.

At its conference meeting on Tuesday, held after this issue of *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* had gone to press, the Township Council was expected to discuss the census and, possibly, talk about the prospect of a deer reduction program sometime early next year.

The deer problem on the south side of Scotch Plains has worsened in recent years as the growing deer population, seeking food and shelter in a more-crowded reservation, has moved into residential areas and, in the process, crossed busy local roads. Council members and southside residents have told of seeing groups of deer in their backyards and there have been a number of incidents where cars have hit and killed deer that were crossing area streets.



SP Residents to Query Developer On Cushing, Terrill Subdivision

By FRED ROSSI
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Planning Board will continue a hearing next month on a major subdivision application on Cushing Road.

Helltemp LLC is seeking board approval to subdivide four adjoining lots, two facing Terrill Road and two facing Cushing, into seven lots. Single-family homes are presently situated on the four lots; Helltemp proposes to retain the two Terrill Road homes, raze the two homes on Cushing Road, create a cul-de-sac south of Cushing Road and create five new lots around that cul-de-sac where five homes would be built.

During the three-hour hearing at the board's meeting on Monday evening, board members raised concerns about drainage issues on the L-shaped series of lots.

There are already issues regarding rainwater runoff across Cushing Road, which is a border between Scotch Plains and Plainfield. There are now two wetlands situated on the Cushing Road lots that serve as natural detention basins, although Helltemp representatives maintained that their plans to install detention basins would actually reduce the water runoff into Plainfield.

Monday's hearing centered mostly around a detailed presentation by engineer Edward Dec about drainage issues, soil erosion control, the environmental impact of the proposed development, the number of trees to be removed to make room for the new

homes and the potential for increased traffic, especially along Cushing Road.

Mr. Dec said there would be no adverse impact to the surrounding area from the development. He also addressed several concerns raised in a letter to the Planning Board from the Township Environmental Commission.

There were also concerns raised about the ability of township emergency vehicles to safely maneuver on the cul-de-sac, which will have a 13- to 14-foot elevation from its intersection with Cushing Road to its turnaround circle inside the new development.

Board member Michael Michalisin

said he felt the application was "incomplete." He raised concern with a lack of specifics about certain aspects of the drainage issue, the fact that the township fire department had not submitted a report on the application and the uncertainty about the extent of the developer's plan to widen a portion of Cushing Road in front of the developed lots.

It is expected the board will resume the hearing at its Monday, December 13 meeting, which will begin at 7 p.m., and that members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and offer comments about the application.



Benjamin B. Corbin for The Times
TURKEY!...A Scotch Plains resident on Westfield Avenue got into the holiday spirit by displaying an inflatable turkey on the lawn. Wild turkeys have often been seen in the area, but are not as cute or as large as the one outside this house.

Fanwood Planning Bd. Dissuades Check Cashing Business in Boro.

By DEBORAH MADISON
Specially Written for The Times

During its November 15 agenda meeting, the Fanwood Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments held a concept hearing concerning a proposal by Gary Strassberg, President of the Terrill Exxon service station, to add a check cashing service at his business.

The attorney for the owner, George Schunwald of Parsippany, presented schematics and photographs of the station and asked the board to give its opinion on the owner's proposal to add the new business to the existing building.

Comparing the accessory use to adding an ATM machine, Mr. Schunwald told the board that the check cashing business would be op-

erated from a cashier's window, already contained inside the waiting room area. The existing plate glass window would be replaced with bulletproof glass and security cameras would be added as is required by state law for this type of usage.

Board Chairman Gregory Cummings voiced his concerns that a check cashing business would be a safety risk and suggested that the police department be queried for its recommendations. He also expressed concerns over traffic and pedestrian safety.

Because the Terrill Road Exxon was already granted approval to operate a truck and car rental business and a convenience store, in addition to the gas and service station, several board members said that they were disinclined to approve any additional uses. These multiple uses were not intended for the light industrial zone in which the business resides, stated Jack Molenaar, council representative to the board.

The Fanwood Borough Council, in fact, recently proposed an ordinance that would limit principal uses in the light industrial zone.

Vice Chairman of the Planning Board, John Celardo, questioned the need for this type of business, doubting whether many Fanwoodians would utilize a check cashing service. Other board members agreed that most local customers do their banking at banks and suggested that Mr. Strassberg wouldn't have enough customers for this type of service.

Mr. Strassberg implored the board

to reconsider its positions, stating that he was not trying to get rich but just attempting to make ends meet in these tough economic times.

He suggested that a liquor store is just as likely to be held up, without the added features of bulletproof glass or security cameras.

Mr. Strassberg added that it was not the board's concern whether he would have enough customers and said he'd be willing to take that risk.

After the majority of board members expressed their lack of comfort with this type of business, Mr. Cummings told the applicant, "You now have a sense of how the board feels."

In other business, it was announced that the Master Plan Committee will meet to discuss revisions to the borough's Master Plan. Those changes will be discussed at the December agenda meeting, which will be held on Monday, December 6.

The next regular meeting of the board will be Wednesday, December 15, when the Woodcliff application, proposing a six-house subdivision, on the border of Scotch Plains, will be presented by the attorney for the applicant, Robert Kraus of Kraus, Lieb, Grispin and Roth of Scotch Plains.

The subdivision proposes to raze one existing house and erect six new houses with no variances.

Several months ago, a petition, with signatures of both Fanwood and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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Benjamin B. Corbin for The Times
TAKING THE HELM...Butch Belanger, a 14-year veteran of the United States Postal Service and a former Navy Seal Team Leader, was recently named as the new Postmaster of Scotch Plains.

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Happy Thanksgiving!



MEET AND GREET...Native American Catie Currie and pilgrim Jake Friedman greet each other during the Thanksgiving Gathering at Brunner Elementary School in Scotch Plains.

Jumpstart Students Gather For Thanksgiving Traditions

SCOTCH PLAINS — Children in the Jumpstart classes taught by Celeste Gomes and Bernadette Hoyer participated in a Thanksgiving Gathering at Brunner Elementary School in Scotch Plains on November 16.

Students from Evergreen Elementary School in Scotch Plains attended the gathering as pilgrims, while the Brunner pupils attended as Native Americans.

The teachers and students prepared for the event by learning about how the pilgrims and Native Americans

lived a long time ago. Each group crafted items to wear that emulated what the pilgrims and Native Americans may have worn to the first Thanksgiving celebration.

The Native Americans made corn muffins and popcorn to share, while the pilgrims prepared hais — a tasty Colonial treat made from nuts.

Both groups sang songs and recited poems about the group they represented. All of the children worked on a Colonial-type wreath to take home to their families for Thanksgiving.



LEAPING INTO LEARNING...The new full-time Pre-Kindergarten at St. Bartholomew Interparochial School in Scotch Plains has recently introduced the Leap Frog Learning SchoolHouse System technology as a tool for developing pre-reading and mathematics skills. The Leap Frog System permits students to use a hands-on, multi-sensory approach to learning. Students utilize an array of technology-based learning tools to listen, learn, and respond to activities in language arts, science, math, social studies, and fine arts. A comprehensive set of books, posters, and songs coordinate with the technology-based learning activities. Pictured, above, Mary Schoendorf, Head Pre-Kindergarten teacher, guides a student through a developmental activity on the Leap Pad.

Time to Deck...

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Board Seeks to Decrease New Parking Spaces at Y

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Board member Ken Anderson suggested that several parking lot islands be placed within the lot in order to "break up a large asphalt area in the middle of a residential area."

Initial plans do not include any islands in the expanded lot, but Mr. Kraus said the YMCA would be open to including them if the board insisted.

Mr. Anderson also wondered why parking capacity needed to be doubled when YMCA officials have said the current level is usually adequate for the facility's needs. The YMCA does expect that in the coming several years, membership will increase about 25 percent, but Mr. Kraus last week left open the possibility of fewer spaces in the final plans.

Board engineer Thomas Quinn said that after reviewing the plans, he had a sense that the proposed 280 parking spaces might be "overkill," adding that he, too, favored the inclusion of islands to "break the lot up."

The 280 spaces, he said, are a "little more than they need for a 25 percent increase" in membership, although he admitted that it was hard to know at this point what the YMCA's program needs might be several years in the future.

The board's next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2, with the hearing on the YMCA's application expected to start at 8:30 p.m.

At the start of the meeting, the board agreed to put off a hearing on an application by Mark Lustbader, who is seeking approval to build a home on a portion of non-township-owned land on the island in the center of Cooper Road. A group of about 30 neighborhood residents attended last week's meeting and demanded a postponement so they could have time to hire an attorney to represent their interests and gather expert witnesses. The board agreed, with Chairman James Fawcett saying that he wanted "a fair and equitable hearing" for the residents. The board will consider the application at its January 6, 2005 meeting.

Council Expected to Discuss South Side Deer Census

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in Atlantic City, which was attended by all council members and several township officials, the council held its conference and regular meeting on Tuesday evening.

In other business, Township Manager Thomas Atkins informed the council that more than 400 residents registered for the 240 flu vaccines presently available. The majority, 366, were individuals 65 years of age and older. Sixty one residents under 65 years old with health problems and the required note from their physician also registered for a chance to receive the vaccine, which was administered on Tuesday.

Mr. Atkins expects another 225 doses soon and hopes they can be administered early in December.

At its regular meeting, the council was expected to hold a public hearing on an ordinance that will formalize left hand turn-only lanes at Hetfield Avenue and North Avenue and Crestwood Road and North Avenue. The turn lanes were placed at that intersection to ease the flow of traffic, and the ordinance will formalize those lanes and allow the police to enforce their use.

It was also likely that the council would introduce an ordinance to increase the township fee for a certificate of occupancy inspection from the present \$25. Other area towns, by contrast, charge considerably more for such inspections, with the fee in Mountainside and Summit being \$100, Westfield, \$35 and Cranford, \$70.

Testing for Odor at MS School Will Continue On November 22

By BETSEY BURGDOFF
Specially Written for The Times

MOUNTAINSIDE --- Although Beechwood School in Mountainside is odor-free, testing will continue on Monday, November 22.

The Westfield Leader toured the school in attempt to smell firsthand the odor that has been plaguing the building since last May.

Brightly lit, colorful hallways lead to the four classrooms serviced by the HVAC system RTU No. 2 (roof top unit). The unit believed to be causing the musty smell was covered in children's artwork and appeared brand new.

Everything about the school looked new, clean and smelled odor-free.

On November 11, Aerodyne-Redmond Contractors removed all the wet insulation on the bottom of the ductwork connected to RTU No. 2.

Sean Reilly of Home Health Science associated the odor of the removed insulation with the odor inside the four classrooms.

Home Health Science, an environmental testing company in Sparta, is testing the insulation for mold and other bacteria.

On November 18, the Mountainside Board of Education met with building contractors Paul Otto and Tom Edgley, John Krupka from the Musial Group, Carrier salesman Sergio Dos-Sanots, Carrier Serviceman Bill Joseph and John Mehl from Aerodyne-Redmond to discuss what actions should be taken. All present observed the four classrooms and hallway.

The Carrier representatives made a visual inspection of RTU No. 2, which included the air stream, coils, heat exchanger, fan housing and the air filters. Nothing out of the ordinary was detected. All the ductwork and insulation on RTU No. 2 has recently been replaced, as well as the exterior wrap.

The odor was first detected in classrooms 110, 111, 116 and 117 this past spring when the heat was turned off.

The heat is now back on and although the smell is no longer apparent, the school board has accepted the proposal of LEW Corporation in the amount of \$10,500 to continue with the testing of drywall and other finishes.

The project is set to begin on Saturday, December 4, and should be completed by the time the school reopens the following Monday.

The school board received proposals from three environmental companies, including PMK, LEW Corporation and Environmental Testing Consultants.

"Based on the scope of work, they (LEW Corporation) will be able to identify the scope more clearly," Board Administrator Paul Vizzuso said when explaining why the board chose LEW Corporation.

The scope of the project will include inspecting the four affected classrooms and assessing the biological conditions. LEW Corporation will collect samples of suspect materials for biological testing including both fungi and bacteria in the testing.

The project may require the removal of drywall and other finishes inside walls, ceiling cavities and in the new bump-out in the four classrooms. The major focus will be on dismantling RTU No. 2 and inspecting the fiberglass linings that are present in the unit and associated ductwork.

According to the board, an industrial hygienist certified by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene will conduct the inspection. Technicians and a mechanical contractor will assist. The results of the testing should be available seven to 10 day after the samples are taken. When the investigation is complete, LEW Corporation will provide recommendations for mitigation.

The reconstruction of the school is not included in the proposal, and the district will replace all tested areas after the inspection is complete.



GIVING THANKS...Students at Evergreen Elementary School in Scotch Plains posted the things that they are thankful for in the main hallway of the school.

Surrogate Cautions Seniors On Estate Planning Scam

AREA — Union County Surrogate James LaCorte is cautioning senior citizens to beware of telephone solicitors offering unnecessary living trust and estate plans at greatly inflated prices.

"People should be very careful that they do not pay exorbitant and excessive fees for drawing up a last will and testament," Surrogate LaCorte said. "The entire process should cost between \$150 and \$300, not thousands of dollars."

An unsolicited sales pitch to a county woman, recently brought to the surrogate's attention, highlighted the misrepresentation some times used to sell unnecessary estate plans at high prices.

Using a contested will as an example, a salesman called the senior citizen and suggested she set up a living trust to avoid "costly probate" he said could cost as much as \$25,000.

The \$25,000 figure is presented as the normal price of admitting a will into probate. The salesman suggested

that the cost could be avoided by setting up a living trust through his company for about \$2,000.

While it is true that a contested will concerning an estate worth \$250,000 could produce \$25,000 in legal fees; it is the exception rather than the rule.

"Of all the wills my office handles, 99 percent are never contested," Surrogate LaCorte said.

He suggested people exercise caution when offered a deal on an unsolicited living trust.

"Some companies are misrepresenting the value of a living trust," Surrogate LaCorte said. "The real cost of a will and probate is \$150 to \$300."

The surrogate recommends shopping for a lawyer to have a last will and testament properly drawn up to avoid any complications when entering a will into probate.

For more information please call the Union County Surrogate's office at (908) 527-4280 or visit www.ucnj.org/surrogate/index.

Check-Cashing Business In Borough Discouraged

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Scotch Plains residents, was presented to the Planning Board and to the Borough Council, objecting to the subdivision. Residents, in the petition, expressed their concerns that

constructing additional impervious area and removing trees would worsen their existing flooding and standing water problems.

According to Mr. Kraus, the development will have to adhere to a storm-water management plan, approved by the Borough Engineer, as well as a tree-replacement plan. Strict guidelines require that these plans insure that no problems are worsened in the area, Mr. Kraus told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

Both the agenda and the regular meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m.

Erratum

In the November 18 issue of *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* it was reported that Scotch Plains Mayor Martin Marks' term is three years. Mayor Marks was in fact reelected to a four-year term. We regret the error.

FAR Study Continues; While Westfield Officials Eye Town-Wide Study

By LAUREN S. PASS
Specially Written for The Times

WESTFIELD -- Nearly 90 percent of the homes that are being torn down and rebuilt are all within conformance of current land use restrictions. The construction of the new homes are not being heard before either the planning or zoning boards, so neighbors have no input on what is being built around them.

Only when new construction exceeds the allowable lot coverage does it need to appear before the board of adjustment, and subdivisions must be heard before the planning board.

While many residents are concerned with the aesthetics of their neighborhoods changing, a larger issue of the change is Westfield's housing stock looms. Many of the teardowns are taking place in neighborhoods where smaller, "starter homes" were built. The dramatic changes taking place with new development not only changes the houses but also changes the income diversity of the town.

There are currently seven categories of residential zones in Westfield. Properties range from 6,000 square feet to 40,000 square feet. Each of the zones has its own restrictions regarding how much of the lot can be covered and what the setbacks are. However, all of the zones in town have a maximum floor area ratio of 20 to 35 percent of lot coverage and can be as tall as 38-feet. In certain sections of town, mainly the RS-6 zones where the majority of homes are smaller ranches, newer homes, being built within the zoning restrictions tower above.

The Town of Westfield has asked Town Planner Blaise Brancheau to conduct a pilot study of Floor Area Ratios (FAR) in select RS6 and RS8 zones on the South side of town where the majority of the new construction has taken place.

First Ward Councilman Sal Caruana, who chairs the Code Review and Town Property Committee, which is working with Mr. Brancheau, said, "We're trying to

understand the current dynamics."

While the town already knows the current lot coverage, the study involves going house-to-house and estimating current FAR.

"We're trying to compare what's there to what's being built and measure the differences. Newer construction is creating issues of density, we should consider other changes and needs we have as a result," Councilman Caruana told *The Westfield Leader*.

The preliminary results of the study show "that most of what's on the ground is very much in conformity, some of the newer homes are also conforming. So the question is, do we want to then change FAR requirements in what we're finding out is another part of the problem is volume," Councilman Caruana said.

While FAR provides calculation of livable space, things like cathedral ceilings are dead space and not included by FAR. FAR could be revised to cover the total volume and not just livable space.

"We need to study the new construction a little bit more and from a volume perspective. Then make the same comparisons in the same zones in other parts of town. The same zones in different parts of town may be very different," he cautioned.

According to Councilman Caruana, the committee is almost convinced that the study needs to be done in the entire town. But he added that he's "not sure we understand all of the dynamics we need to. We may be looking at an anomaly."

Councilman Caruana told *The Leader* that the committee must look at, "What aspect of new development may be negatively impacting the congruity of neighborhoods and blocks, and what mechanisms and factors we need to be considering to offset that."

Several factors related to new construction in town still remain up in the air, such as what will be required in affordable housing when the new COAH (Council On Affordable Housing) regulations are passed in New Jersey.



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Congressman Ferguson Backs Special Edu. Reforms

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Mike Ferguson (R-N.J.) joined a bipartisan majority as the House approved sweeping reforms to the law governing 6.7 million special education students, including streamlining rules that allow schools to more quickly identify children for extra help to ensure every student with disabilities receives a quality education.

The legislation, which reauthorizes the 1975-era Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, won House approval 397-3. The Senate is next expected to give the legislation final congressional approval.

Rep. Ferguson said the measure rightly emphasizes early identification of students with special needs.

“By improving the early identification of children with special

needs while also reducing the number of students who are improperly labeled as disabled, these reforms will ensure every student receives the education they deserve,” Rep. Ferguson said after the vote.

A former teacher, Rep. Ferguson said the measure reaffirms Congress’ pledge to pay for 40 percent of the costs of educating special-needs students, which can be significantly higher than the education costs for other students. The balance is paid by state and local governments.

Currently, Washington covers 19 percent of special education costs. The bill calls for Congress to reach the 40 percent federal share by 2011. Federal spending on special education has increased from \$2.1 billion in 1994 to \$10.1 billion in 2004.

The bill broadens the ways for schools to identify special education pupils, allowing schools to reach children in earlier grades and reduce the percentage of minority children who are tracked toward special education. It makes it easier for schools to remove disruptive students whose misbehavior is not caused by their disability. The House-approved bill also requires that special education teachers be certified as “highly qualified” by the end of the 2005-06 school year.

Rep. Ferguson has long been a strong advocate of strengthening special education and increasing special education funding. Earlier this year, Rep. Ferguson backed legislation to increase federal funding for New Jersey special education programs by more than \$108 million, and the first bill Rep. Ferguson introduced in as a congressman in 2001 would strengthen education by increasing special education funding.



Photo Courtesy of The Westfield Y's Men Club

BRAVING THE STORM...Westfielders braved the weekend snow storm to pick up their Christmas trees at the Y's Men sale on Elm Street. The family pictured above walked their tree home on a toboggan.

‘Y’s Men to Begin Tree Sale At Elm Street Lot Nov. 26

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Area “Y’s” Men’s Club will hold its annual Christmas tree sale at the Elm Street playing field starting Friday, November 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The tree lot, located across the street from Stop & Shop, will be open for business on weekdays from 11 a.m. through 9 p.m., and weekends from 9 a.m. through 9 p.m. until Christmas.

A variety of trees will be featured,

including Douglas Fir, Frasier Fir, Balsam Fir, and Blue Spruce. At the tree sale, the club provides a full service, including pruning, cutting and grooming the base of the tree.

Tree stands are available, as well as wreaths, roping and boughs. Club members and volunteers will bale customers’ trees and load them into or onto their vehicles. This year, the club is adding festive holiday music and upgraded lighting for the event.

The Y’s Men, in addition to being a social club, acts as a service organization for the YMCA and area youth. Last year, the all-volunteer club contributed to numerous organizations including Children’s Specialized Hospital, CONTACT We Care, the Westfield High School Band, the Black Achievers Club and the Aquaducks Synchronized Swim Team, among many others.

The club is also seeking new members. For details, please visit www.westfieldnj.com/ysmen or call Tom Baker at (908) 516-9566.

WF Rotary Club Presents Vocational Service Awards

WESTFIELD – Vocational Service is the banner by which Rotarians “recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations” and demonstrate a commitment to “high ethical standards in all businesses and professions.” Each Rotarian makes a valuable contribution to a better society through their daily activities in a business or profession. The Vocational Service Award is the ideal opportunity to recognize community leaders who act with integrity and social responsibility in their professional and volunteer activities.

The Westfield Rotary Vocational Service Awards recognize the dignity of employment and volunteer involvement by honoring the exemplary service of outstanding individuals in their vocations, professions, businesses and volunteer commitment in the community.

The Emerson Thomas Award is presented to an individual who is a member of the club who works in Westfield. This year the recipient is Ted Schlosberg, founder and Executive Director of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, Inc. Mr. Schlosberg has been involved with music education since 1960 and continues to bring music into our lives

through the programs of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts located in Westfield since 1972.

The Jim Coventry Award is presented to an individual who lives or works in Westfield. This year the recipient is Joe Spector, owner of the Leader Store in Westfield. Mr. Spector has been involved with the family retail business, established over 50 years ago, and also in numerous local community organizations that promote the downtown business district.

The Volunteer Award is presented to an individual who lives or works in Westfield and demonstrates an outstanding volunteer commitment to the community. This year the recipient is Gregory Ryan, Jr. A Westfield High School senior responsible for the construction of a playground at the Memorial Pool field designed to be accessible to all children especially the handicapped.

The Rotary Club of Westfield meets every Tuesday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Westfield, YMCA. The public is invited to the \$12 weekly luncheon and hear interesting weekly programs while enjoying the comradeship of Rotary membership.

Greek Mythology Relevance To Be Topic at WF Historic

WESTFIELD – Greek Mythology and its continued relevance and influence in our daily lives will be the topic of Anita Hogaboom at the First Wednesday Luncheon of the Westfield Historical Society at noon on Wednesday, December 1 at B.G. Fields Restaurant, 560 South Avenue, Westfield.

Mrs. Hogaboom has been interested in mythology in general and Greek mythology in particular for 36 years. Over the years she has become convinced that its relevance and application are unending. Every level discovered leads to another to be explored. At the luncheon she will speak on the influence of the Greeks in astrology and will discuss the vast field of Greek influences in our daily lives.

Mrs. Hogaboom is a Freshman English teacher at Arthur L. Johnson in Clark. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Education from West Virginia and a Master’s Degree in the Humanities from Drew University and began her teaching career at Governor Livingston Regional High School in 1968. Her husband, Peter Hogaboom, is the Commander of The American Legion Martin Wallberg Post No. 3 in Westfield. They have three sons: Joseph, James and Thomas.

Regular attendees of the luncheon will be contacted by a phone commit-

tee of the Society to verify their reservations. Space permitting, others may attend the luncheon by calling (908) 233-2930 by noon, Monday, November 29.

Tickets Available For Mayor’s Gala

SCOTCH PLAINS – Enjoy an evening of dining, dancing and socializing for the entire community. The Mayor’s Gala is being held at Snuffy’s Pantagais Renaissance from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The event will begin with a cocktail hour from 7 to 8 p.m. followed by a recognition ceremony, dinner and dancing.

The gala will honor a female, male and organization of the year. Congratulations to Carol Parks Clancy, Joseph McCourt and the Student Movement Against Cancer (SMAC).

Proceeds from this year’s charity gala will go to the Scotch Plains Municipal Alliance Committee and the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation.

Donations for the silent auction are being sought.

Tickets are \$55 and raffle books are \$20; they are available in the Recreation Office in room 113 in the Municipal Building. Please call (908) 322-6700 ext. 221 for details.

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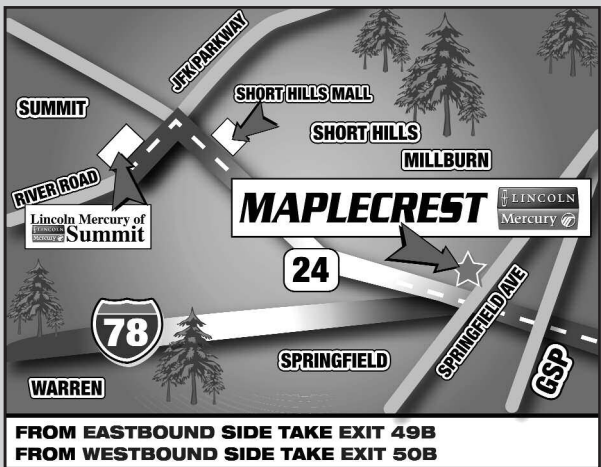
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9/11 Victim See Wong Shum Remembered By NYMTC

NEW YORK, NY – The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) held a Grand Opening ceremony to mark its return to lower Manhattan. During the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new offices located on the 22nd floor of 199 Water Street, NYMTC also announced the creation of the September 11 Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning in memory of Charles Lesperance, Ignatius Adanga and See Wong Shum of Westfield, employees who died in the World Trade Center disaster.

The Memorial Program will set aside funding for publicly solicited transportation planning projects throughout the region, as well as assist students in transportation planning and information technology studies. The memorial program is being developed with the assistance of the University Transportation Research Center, a consortium of ten academic institutions in the region.

“This is a most significant day for NYMTC,” said Joseph Boardman, Commissioner, New York State Department of Transportation. “NYMTC was displaced since the destruction of its offices on the 82nd floor of the World Trade Center. It now has a permanent home again amidst the re-birth of the lower Manhattan area.”

Commissioner Boardman congratulated the NYMTC staff, most of whom participated in the planning for and relocation to the new offices, from selecting furniture to paint colors to the office decor.

A special feature of the Grand Opening ceremony was the unveiling of commemorative plaques to the three lost employees by their spouses. A three-sectioned conference space will bear the names of each one.

Globetrotting was just one of See Wong Shum’s interests. Born in Hong Kong, he migrated to the United States in the late 80’s, leaving behind his years teaching high school biology – his college major – and being a corrections officer. Between earning an Masters in Business Administration at the State University of New York, Albany, in management information systems, and his work in the New York State departments of health and the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, he traveled to Europe, South America, Mexico, India and other destinations. His wife Rebecca, whom he wed in 1992, remarked that it would have been nice if he’d waited to take her along on some

of those trips.

When Mr. Shum wasn’t on the road, he read voraciously, books of all kinds: finance, science, politics, religion, mysteries. On September 11, 2001, he was busy at yet another passion: his computer and his information systems job at NYMTC. Technology bonded him with Rebecca, herself a programmer.

Mr. Shum called Rebecca “the glue that held his family together.” Their two children, Leon now nine and Chanel now six, were the highlights of their lives.

“His stories centered on them,” a colleague recalled. “He worried about their health when they became ill.” And with good reason. Mr. Shum was acquainted with tragedy. He’d lost two siblings in accidents and was the only remaining son in his close-knit family.

Since 9/11, Rebecca hasn’t had much time to pursue Mr. Shum’s other interests: movies and working out at health clubs. She’s quit her job and is devoting her time to raising Leon and Chanel.

New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a council of governments and transportation providers that serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the New York metropolitan region consisting of New York City and the counties of Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester. NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues from a regional perspective and plans and makes decisions on the use of federal transportation funds.

For more information about NYMTC, please visit www.nymtc.org.

Donations Sought For Toys For Tots

AREA – Rahway Elks Lodge 1075 is supporting the United States Marine Corp annual “Toys for Tots” toy collection program this holiday season. The Elks are seeking donations to help the Marines achieve their goal.

The program asks for new, safe toys for children of any age to be collected. All toys collected must be unwrapped. The drop off time will be from now until Tuesday, December 7. Toys can be brought to Rahway Elks and placed in the toy collection box.

Any monetary donations would be appreciated. Make checks payable to “Marine Toys for Tots Foundation” and bring it to Rahway Elks.

For more information, please call the Rahway Elks at (732) 388-1075.



See Wong Shum



PUNK ROCK CHARITY...The First Baptist Church of Westfield hosted a battle of the bands event on October 30 to benefit charities including Union County ARC. Among the performers was the punk rock band “Yet Another Day”. Pictured above, from left to right, are band members: Westfield High School students Jeffrey Thomashow, Brian Debbie and Brandon Cuba.

Y’s Men Donate Funds To Westfield Rescue Squad

WESTFIELD – Recently, the Westfield Y’s Men’s Club donated \$500 to the Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad in recognition and support of the squad’s professional emergency medical service to the town.

The Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad, now in its 53rd year, responds to over 2,000 emergency calls annually from their headquarters on Watterson Street.

Volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) are available 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The squad is always looking for new members to train as EMT’s or phone dispatchers.

If interested in joining their ranks, stop by the building at 335 Watterson Street or call (908) 233-2500.

The Westfield Y’s Men’s Club is a group of men who raise money for charitable causes and socialize together. As an example, the Y’s Men’s Club provided labor, skills, administrative support, as well as funding, for the September 11 Memorial Park project in the town of Westfield. The proceeds of their annual Christmas Tree sale benefit many other causes as well. If interested in adding your time and talent to the Y’s Men’s Club, please call the Westfield Y at (908) 233-2700, ext. no. 228.

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Mark B. Boyd



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Boosters Commit \$25,000 To Kehler Improvements

WESTFIELD – On November 11, the Westfield School Boosters Association (WSBA) listened to a presentation of the benefits of refurbishing the field and track at Kehler Stadium. The WSBA then voted to commit \$25,000 to the project by paying \$5,000 per year for five years toward the debt service.

The cost of the Kehler Stadium field and track improvement will be \$1.38 million. The voting public must approve the bond for the expenditure. A special referendum by the Westfield Board of Education will be held December 14 asking voters to decide on the bond. Polls will be open from 2 to 9 p.m.

Westfield Public School Superintendent Dr. William Foley and former chairman of the Westfield Recreation Commission Keith Hertell made the presentation to the WSBA. According to Dr. Foley and Mr. Hertell, the debt service for the bond equates to \$18 per year property tax increase for the average Westfield homeowner.

Dr. Foley and Mr. Hertell asked the WSBA to donate money for the project and to promote voter approval of the bond in the upcoming referendum.

According to Dr. Foley and Mr. Hertell, the basis for requesting the improvements was that field use in Westfield had expanded over the last 20 years, almost doubling according to statistics they referenced. They noted that in 1983, there were 670 Westfield High School (WHS) athletes participating in WHS sports compared to 1,226 in 2003.

Another item discussed was that Kehler field’s natural grass has limited use. They said the field is not used in the spring because it must be rehabilitated

for fall sports. They said that the artificial turf installation for the field would open the stadium for spring use – making it available for the entire year and for longer periods during the days.

Also discussed was that fact that the artificial turf was durable, safe, suffers less from inclement weather, doesn’t require grass cutting and is low maintenance (surface is brushed once per month).

The Westfield School Boosters Association is a group of 50 men that raises funds to support school athletics.

Marks Elected To League Executive Bd.

SCOTCH PLAINS – On November 19 New Jersey’s mayors elected Martin Marks, Mayor of Scotch Plains Township, to serve on the Executive Board of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

As a member of the League’s Executive Board, Mayor Marks will help lead the Association of New Jersey’s 566 municipal governments. Mayor Marks will represent the interests and needs of New Jersey’s local elected officials to county, state and federal governments.

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities is a voluntary association created to help communities do a better job of self-governing. Over 560 mayors and 13,000 elected and appointed officials of member municipalities are entitled to all the services and privileges of the league.

For more information, please contact William Dressel, Jr., Executive Director at (609) 915-9072.

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Thanksgiving Super Wine Sale!



Argyle Pinot Noir 2003

\$16.99 On Sale

Black cherry, marion berry, and spice aromas are concentrated around a tight mineral/earth/tar center. The flavors are sweet, big fruited, and built up with ripe, gripping tannin structure. The finish is what we all look for in Pinot Noir, long sweet with fruit and floral hints.



Hirsch Gruner Veltliner #1

\$10.99 On Sale

“A grapefruit tanginess resonates through this fresh, focused white. It’s elegant and balanced, perfect as an aperitif. Drink now.” 86pts. Wine Spectator



Selbach Riesling Kabinett Fish Label

\$9.99 On Sale

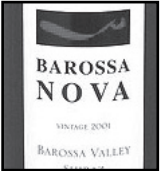
Firmly structured, this is on the drier side of Kabinett, with spice, peach and mineral notes. Moderate length on the finish.



Meredith Chardonnay 2002

\$9.99 On Sale

This delightful 100% Chardonnay is lush yet clean on the palate. Beautiful sunshine-like hue with a easy and savory finish. If you’re searching for a wine that has consistent quality and an everyday exceptional price...look no further!



Barossa Nova Shiraz 2001

\$10.99 On Sale

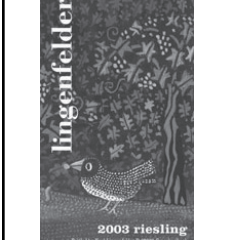
From younger and older vines, this lively red is made with a fruit first palate with lovely ripe berry and spice/pepper characters with minimal oak.



Vinas Zamorans Tresantos 2002

\$9.99 On Sale

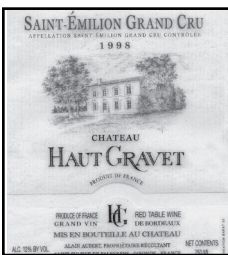
The 2002 Tresantos is 100% Tinta de Toro (50-year old vines) aged in both French and American oak for four months. It possesses good density, a chunky, robust personality, medium body, and excellent earthy black cherry and black currant fruit. Enjoy it over the next 2-3 years. This is an excellent value.



Lingenfelder Bird Label Riesling 2003

\$8.99 On Sale

A modern, aromatic, off-dry Riesling dripping with limes, lychees, blossom and spice, balanced by a clean crispness.



Chateau Haut Gravet 2000

92 pts. Robert Parker

\$22.99 On Sale

“The saturated purple-colored 2000 Haut Gravet offers a sweet nose of blackberry, cherry, and cassis fruit intermixed with smoke and pain grille. Full-bodied, opulent, rich, and concentrated, with superb purity as well as melted tannin, it will be at its best between 2006-2020. A sleeper of the vintage.”

TOWN & COUNTRY offers a wide variety of Gourmet Foods, Imported Cheeses and Gift Baskets!



Castle Rock Pinot Noir 2003

\$9.99 On Sale

This elegant, medium bodied wine offers ripe complex layers of cinnamon, spice, black cherry, sweet vanilla oak and floral notes, with a long velvety finish.



Paitin Barbaresco Sori Paitin 2000

90pts. Robert Parker

\$35.99 On Sale

“The 2000 Barbaresco Sori Paitin, with smoky kirsch fruit, mineral notes, and tar on the nose, is warm and intense on the palate with black cherry, tar, and anisette flavors and a full finish.”

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This Thanksgiving Remember Those In Need and Take Time to be Thankful

Thanksgiving always seems like the kickoff to New Years. The rest of the year flies by with Chanukah, Christmas and the next thing you know you're voiding your checks because you keep writing the wrong year.

Thanksgiving is solely an American holiday, originating with the early settlers. While they were struggling to find food, they got some help from the Native Americans on how to farm, and the strangers broke bread together.

Each year, families and friends gather for dinner, but there are so many who are alone for the holiday. Food pantries and local organizations do their best to take care of those who do not have enough money or food for the holiday, but there are many who are not needy that have no family. They may be your neighbor, coworker or friend. In the true spirit of Thanksgiving, invite them to your table, and when they offer, let them bring something.

Many people begin to suffer the winter doldrums this time of year. Each of us should find at least one thing to be thankful for, whether you thought this year was good or bad. Even if it is the worst year of your life, you can at least be thankful that you made it this far.

For those of you with many things to be thankful for, remember to take a moment to bask in that. So often we are busy on the holidays, running around, trying to get dinner on the table. Stop for just a moment and take it all in, your family, your friends and a great meal.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

The Idea to Bag Leaves Should Reexamined, Good Pickup Plan May Be Solution in WF

Autumn is beautiful with the leaves changing colors. Then the leaves all fall and someone has to rake them. Most residents put them in the street, and the town picks them up. Before that, leaves were actually burned. Many can still remember the pleasant smell. But, burning leaves wasn't environmentally friendly or safe so that practice was outlawed.

When the Town of Westfield put out their mailer on this year's leaf pickup schedule, they included a small note that residents will have to bag their leaves next year. This note sent ripples of disbelief throughout the town.

According to the Town of Westfield, they have little choice but to mandate this. The town blames the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The NJDEP has advised municipalities that they intend to enforce new federal stormwater regulations. These regulations charge the towns with coming up with a program to disallow yard waste to remain in the street for more than seven days; if it's longer, the waste has to be containerized.

The Westfield Department of Public Works (WDPW) says they are looking for a loophole, but until otherwise they interpret the regulation to mean residents must bag their leaves. We think the WDPW should 'bag their interpretation' and devise a fix, not look for a loophole.

A few years back, a comprehensive plan was in

place each year for leaf pickup in Westfield. The town was sectorized off and the DPW crews came in and did their job. Communication and cooperation with the residents were good. The DPW committed to a program and followed through. A leaf map with the schedule was published in the newspaper. Maybe it didn't happen such that leaves were not in streets for more than seven days. But, at least there was zeal and a real working program. That's all gone now. It seems to us that there is no zeal left at the WDPW.

Some landscapers estimate that it will cost each household in Westfield at least \$500 more per year for their services to bag the leaves. Many residents are saying they just won't do it and a few are threatening to cut their trees down.

If each household in Westfield requires 100 bags a year for leaves, that's a million bags! And we're only talking about Westfield, not the entire state. If it's enforced throughout the state, the number involves hundreds of millions of bags. Just what kind of enforcement success would there be in Camden, which was recently named the country's most dangerous city?

Texas and other states have tried 'Bag Your Leaves' regulations. Now Texas has introduced 'Don't Bag Your Leaves' programs. Things aren't working out. Are New Jersey and Westfield about to jump into a 'Bag of Worms'?

Resident Questions Congressman On Reasons for New Leaf Removal Rules

Editor's note: This letter was originally sent to Congressman Mike Ferguson.

I was astounded to learn that effective 2005, Federal Stormwater Management Regulations will prohibit placement of non-bagged leaves in the street for municipal collection. I have enclosed a copy of a mailing received from the Town of Westfield regarding this year's leaf collection program, wherein this information is presented, albeit not a very prominent way.

I have heard nothing in the news, local or national, regarding this radical change in the way of life for millions of suburb dwellers. When I finally noticed it yesterday, I was shocked.


I am not blaming you or any particular legislator; however, I would like you to provide some rationale for these regulations as well as the how, why and when they were adopted. Also, do the regulations in fact prohibit that which the town says they do?

I believe that when the impact of these regulations become known to the general public, there will be a considerable outcry. I have mentioned the change to several people and thus far no one has had any knowledge of it.

Leaves have been put in the streets for generations – first for burning, and more recently for collection. What compelling reason(s) suddenly make(s) the temporary inconvenience of leaf piles and countervailing convenience of leaf management for the homeowner, so intolerable and deleterious to the public or the storm water management?

Your answers to the above inquiries will be greatly appreciated.

Richard Greenstein
Westfield



The Governor's Desk

The Values And Philosophy That Will Guide Me in the Governor's Office

By Richard J. Codey
Acting Governor of New Jersey

Elected officials often are asked why we chose to enter public service. It's a good question. After all, who in their right mind would voluntarily turn over their personal life and freedom to the public and the media?

Indeed, there have been times when each of us have gone home after a particularly bad day and asked, "Why in the world am I doing this?" But then something happens — a neighbor asks for help or a parent glows about her child's teacher or a new park in town — and we remember why we do this. It's for the ability to make a difference. Public service is where you can make a difference for those who have been left behind or forgotten by society. That's the philosophy I bring to the Governor's Office.

My personal experiences, the values of my late mom and dad, have not only shaped the man I am, they define me as a public servant.

The years I spent working in my father's funeral home – seeing the dignity he showed to grieving families instilled in me a sense of respect and compassion for our fellow citizens. I saw how hard it was to run a small business, how important it was to be a man of your word and to treat others with respect – regardless of their status in life.

Watching my wife battle depression while raising a family taught me about class and courage in the face of very real struggles. Even in her deepest, darkest moments, Mary Jo saw beyond herself and put the needs of others first. She emerged stronger, and so did our family.

These experiences form the basis of my public service and the motivation for the issues I care about.

It's amazing how many people have advice for you once you become governor. Most people start out with "Why would anyone want to be governor at this time in our history?" I tell them I didn't run for the job and I wasn't elected to it, but I won't run away from it.

So when people say we have tough problems, I ask "Which one?" Is it the more than \$4 billion deficit? The property tax crisis? The aura of scan-

dal that hangs over the New Jersey political landscape?

Let me tell you what tough is – watching your wife as she lies in a coma and having your children ask you whether their mom is going to die. That's tough.

If you want to talk about real problems, go to Greystone Psychiatric Hospital and try to answer the patient who asks when will I get out? Or ask the father making minimum wage about how hard it is to raise a family or the single mom who can't help her kids with her homework because she has to work a second shift.

These are real problems being experienced by real people, and these are the problems that we in government must face.

I don't want to downplay a multi-billion dollar budget deficit, but we can't lose sight that there is a difference between the problems of government and the problems of real people. Those problems – the ones faced by the people who don't have time to read the newspaper because they're too busy taking care of their family – are the problems government must focus on.

I do not know how long I will be governor, but I am not going to change who I am or the values I hold. I want to serve my time with dignity and provide stability to our state government. I want to start the process of restoring the public's trust in the institutions of government.

I want to be an advocate for people who are in need but without the resources to hire a lobbyist or make a political contribution. I want to reach out and help the families and individuals who struggle everyday with mental health.

I want to make our schools a safer place for our children. I want to make sure that the potential of stem cell research is realized right here in New Jersey. And I want to build bipartisan consensus and solutions.

These are the values that I am going to bring to the governor's office – the same ones that have served me my entire life. We have some great challenges ahead of us; I need and ask for all of your help.



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. Atazir – The influence of a star upon another, or upon man
2. Perdition – Complete and irreparable loss; ruin
3. Jennet – A female donkey or small Spanish horse
4. Pterope – A fruit bat

JETTON

1. A small metal counter used in some card games
2. A spruce fellow; one who struts or swaggers
3. A play on words; a pun
4. The wattle of a fowl

PUCELAGE


1. Poise; dignity
2. Feminine beauty; charm
3. Virginity
4. Excessive boldness or confidence

FACUNDITY

1. Directness; honesty
2. Strong; powerful
3. Abundance in holdings, supplies, etc.
4. Eloquence; readiness of speech

EXTERNAT

1. The outer or visible part
2. A freed slave
3. A day school
4. A wanderer; nomad



Letters to the Editor

See more letters Page 5

Reader Is Surprised by Magnitude of Deck Defeat in Westfield

I have been watching the *Letters to the Editor* closely for the past few weeks expecting a flood of letters in reaction to the resounding defeat of the parking deck proposal. But, surprisingly there have been precious few.

It wasn't so much the defeat itself that surprised me, but the magnitude of the vote; better than three to one against.

I had the privilege of serving on the Mayor's Downtown Parking Committee. After collecting and digesting volumes of data, we recommended not one, not two, but three parking decks in town. The mayor and council in their infinite wisdom, eliminated the deck behind the Rialto and proceeded to recommend the other two to the citizens of Westfield.

The train station deck was subsequently dropped and the remaining deck between Elm and Prospect was put to a non-binding referendum. By now, we all know the result. Alas, the voters of Westfield have spoken. There will be no garage in Westfield for the foreseeable future.

Perhaps, some time in the distant future, there may be a modest deck, sans apartments and retail. Only time will tell. I hope the good folks of Westfield have not been short-sighted.

Maybe the original recommendations of the committee were overkill, but there is still no doubt in my mind that Westfield would benefit greatly from a deck. Are our sister communities of Ridgewood, Montclair, Summit and Princeton all wrong? I think not.

I still believe it is possible to construct a deck at an affordable price. I too believe the cost of the proposed deck was outrageous.

Let us hope that the mall stores that attract business downtown and create traffic for the mom and pop stores continue to feel Westfield is a good investment, even without a garage. I would hate to see the downtown look like it did 10 years ago.

Bruce Long
Westfield

South Avenue Traffic Circle Modifications Called Dangerous

Life in a small town can sometimes be just chock-full of poorly conceived ideas, ranging from unnecessary rip-out-your-car-bottom speed bumps to the voter-repudiated parking deck (and, by the way, Mr. Mayor, I haven't received my parking fee refund yet).

Some developmental follies, however, progress well beyond the realm of silliness and fiscal mismanagement to the point of clear, present and acute peril to life and limb. As anyone who has recently driven east on South Avenue is fully aware, the newly constructed vehicular slalom course at the downtown traffic circle is an example of supremely incompetent planning at its very worst.

Until this "improvement" project began, the eastbound flow of traffic along this perfectly straight street, as any rational person would imagine, was - not surprisingly - straight. Now, for arcane reasons known only to the builders of this atrocity, a sidewalk appendage has been inane constructed to jut out directly into the flow of oncoming traffic. This causes eastbound vehicles to veer sharply to the left and then to enter the circle, not at a safe and sane tangent, but almost at a right angle to the circle itself, thereby creating an extremely dangerous intersection. Snow, sleet and ice will exponentially increase the danger to both drivers and pedestrians.

To add further insult to injury, the "experts" who are responsible for this hare-brained scheme have, for no constructive reason, now prohibited cars from turning right on red at the intersection of West Broad Street and South Avenue. Exactly whose moment of triumph was this?

I call upon the Mayor, Westfield Town Council and Union County to take immediate steps to halt this hazardous and thoughtless project and to restore South Avenue to its original configuration. If no one is willing to step forward to take responsibility for our safety, then tragedy is surely inevitable.

Robert Ratner
Westfield

Letters to the Editor

Thanks to Town for Making Weinermobile Wish Come True

I am so thankful to live in such a wonderful community.

A truly extraordinary thing happened to our family this year and because of this great town, we got to share the experience and turn it into something spectacular.

My eight-year-old son Alex entered a national contest and won the Oscar Mayer Weinermobile for a day. He was one of 50 winners out of 70,000 entries nationwide. He won the contest by writing "Oh I wish the Oscar Mayer Weinermobile would come to town so I could raise money for my best friend Patrick's charity. I want to see him walk one day." His seven-year-old friend Patrick Higgins is afflicted with Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

On October 2, his wish came true when the Weinermobile rolled into town. In the short amount of time that we were able to prepare for this event, I enlisted the aid of so many people.

I want to thank everyone who helped make this wish come true.

Thank you to the town council, recreation department, Westfield Police Department, Downtown Westfield Corporation, the chamber of commerce, the Westfield Board of Education and PTO for helping make this Weinermobile event such a huge success.

Thank you to Shoprite, Drug Fair,

Trader Joes, Stop & Shop, Culligan Water, Westfield Pediatric Dental Group and Party Stop for your donation of candy, photo printing, water bottles, give-aways and balloons.

Thank you to all my friends for handing out wiener whistles and candy at all our donation tables.

Thank you to Channel 36 and the Westfield High School for coming out to film the event.

Thank you to all the wonderful people in our area for taking time out of your busy hectic schedules to witness a once in a lifetime event and to donate to such a worthy cause.

Thank you to each child who melted my heart with donations from their piggy banks.

It was a day set aside to help others in need. It was children helping children. It was truly an emotional experience to see so many wanting to help and offering any way they could.

I will never forget this day or your generosity. Thanks to you, we helped raise \$4,990 for continued research into SMA.

Part of the Weinermobile wish came true...now for a cure. Wishes can come true! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Carolyn Fromm
Westfield

Mother Thanks Westfield Police For Assistance in Finding Son

On Saturday November 13, my 12-year-old son did not return home on the agreed time. He went to lunch with a friend downtown at 1 p.m. and was to return home by 3 p.m.

When it was 3:35 and my son was not home, we contacted his friend only to find out that they had parted ways 45 minutes prior — two blocks from my home. My husband and I frantically searched for him until 4:30 before alerting the police. We knew our son to be extremely responsible and therefore we reasoned that something terrible had happened to him.

Certainly, the Westfield police had two very distraught parents to deal with including one hysterical mother. I commend the Westfield Police Department on their professionalism and competency as well as their compassion and understanding. They treated the situation very seriously. Their response was immediate. While some officers tried to locate my son, another officer remained home with us and suggested we call a neighbor who was to perform with my son that evening in the school play. My son was indeed at that neighbor's home, and he had indeed been responsible. He arrived home a few minutes earlier than expected and went to the neighbors to phone us. He left a message on our answering machine that was not functioning and left messages on each of our cell phones, which we didn't have with us. Each time he came home to check, we were not there because we were looking for him.

Believing that your child is missing is the greatest fear any parent can imagine. It is a paralyzing experience.

I cannot thank the Westfield Police enough for their exemplary performance

of duty. I also thank them for not making us feel foolish or alarmist. Westfielders should feel secure knowing that these fine and competent individuals are keeping our community safe.

Karen Salemm
Westfield

In a Dangerous World, We're in Good Hands Today with 'Dubya'

Regarding 'Ratner Raves' in *The Westfield Leader* a week ago, let me congratulate the author for proving that an excellent command of the English language can produce such a bitter and mean-spirited garbage, when rationality, reason and good judgment are not made part of the composition.

Yes, John Kerry won in Westfield. He also won the county and the state; but the heart and soul (and majority) of the good people of this country reelected George W. Bush — a man of courage, wisdom, fairness and vision; the same man the author refers to as dimwitted.

Over 60 million Americans voted for content, rather than delivery.

Deceit, guile and slime were not part of the winner's campaign but were part of 'Ratner's Rants.'

Courage, honesty and integrity in a difficult and dangerous world for the next four years — be happy that 'Dubya' won. We are in good hands.

George Tomkin
Scotch Plains

To Reach Us:
E-mail to editor@goleader.com

Dreyfus Planetarium Special Programs Set For Holidays

NEWARK – The Dreyfuss Planetarium will feature three special programs for the holiday season including *Oceans in Space*, *Mystery of the Missing Seasons*, and *'Tis the Season*.

Mystery Of The Missing Seasons is about a young schoolboy named Angelo who finds himself whisked away by two aliens from the planet Dipnot. The friendly aliens, Quix and Queeb, help him discover why we have seasons and why we see different constellations at different times of the year. The winter skies are explored and the winter solstice is discussed. Bowen Technovation created the program.

'Tis The Season traces the development of many of the world's endearing holiday customs — from Yule logs, sparkling Christmas tree lights and the lighting of the Hanukkah Menorah, to gift-giving, kissing under the mistletoe and Santa Claus. It investigates the meaning of the Christmas star and the beautiful constellations that grace the wintertime sky. Loch Ness Productions created the program.

Oceans in Space is a journey of exploration that seeks out places where conditions are favorable for life to exist. Audiences are introduced to the diversity of life on our home planet, even as humans embark on the search for life in the universe. The hunt for extra-solar planets is highlighted as are the conditions necessary to form and sustain life. The program is narrated by Star Trek's Avery Brooks. *Oceans in Space* was created by Loch Ness Productions.

Oceans in Space will feature the latest images from the Cassini spacecraft that flew past Saturn's moon Titan on October 26.

Images and soundtrack samples for this program are available at: http://lochness.com/shows/ois/ois_dls.html.

All visitors and museum members must report to the South Wing Desk for ticketing before proceeding to the planetarium. Tickets go on sale at noon on a first come first served basis only. Seating is limited. Programs begin promptly and latecomers cannot be admitted.

The planetarium is not recom-

mended for children under four years old. Strollers are not permitted and an adult must accompany all children. Advance reservations are required for schools and groups.

The Dreyfuss Planetarium is in the Newark Museum, located at 49 Washington Street in the Downtown/Arts District of Newark. Public hours are Wednesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Museum Café is open Wednesdays through Sundays from noon to 3:30 p.m.

For more information about the Dreyfuss Planetarium, please call (973) 596-6529. For more information about the Newark Museum, please call (973) 596-6550. Information is available online at www.newarkmuseum.org.

The Dreyfuss Planetarium's schedule from November 27, 2004 through Jan. 2, 2005 is as follows:

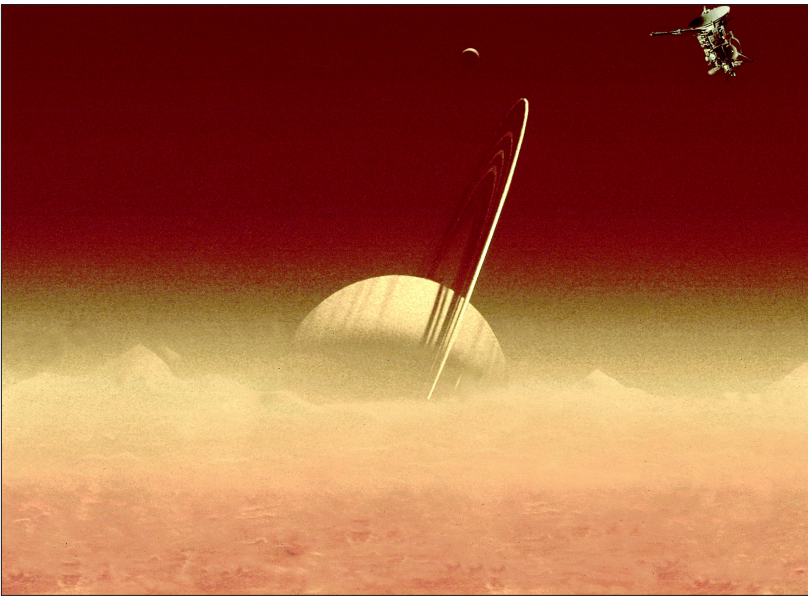
Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; 2 p.m., *Oceans in Space* (adults and children ages 10 and up, 40 minutes).

Saturdays and Sundays; 1 p.m. *Mystery of the Missing Seasons* (children 4 to 10, 35 minutes); 2 p.m. *'Tis the Season* (adults and children ages 6 and up, 40 minutes); 3 p.m. *Mystery of the Missing Seasons* (children 4 to 10, 35 minutes); 4 p.m. *Oceans in Space* (adults and children ages 10 and up, 40 minutes).

The Planetarium's Holiday Schedule for Nov. 26 and Dec. 26 to 31 is: 1 p.m., *Mystery of the Missing Seasons*; 2 p.m., *'Tis the Season*; 3 p.m., *Mystery of the Missing Seasons*; 4 p.m., *Oceans in Space*.

The Planetarium will be closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

Admission is \$3 for adults; \$2 for children under 12 and \$2 for senior citizens and college students.



Artist's view courtesy of the European Space Agency

ANOTHER WORLD...Saturn is depicted as seen from its moon, Titan, with the Cassini spacecraft just visible. The spacecraft will release the Huygens Probe in November 2004 for descent through Titan's atmosphere. The latest photos will be featured at the Dreyfus Planetarium in Newark during the holiday season.

United Fund of Westfield Changes Name to United Way

WESTFIELD — The United Fund of Westfield (UFW) has changed its name to The United Way of Westfield (UWW) according to a press release from the agency last Monday.

The release noted that during its decades-long presence in town, the United Fund always has been affiliated with United Way of America, the Virginia-based national organization. The national United Way system includes a series of regional and county units as well as town-based organizations. Due to the official membership rules of the United Way, the Westfield unit has changed its name to United Way of Westfield.

"The name may be a bit different, but the organization is still the same," said Linda Maggio, its executive director since 1975. "The change al-

lows us to conform with United Way rules that mandate that affiliates use 'United Way' in their respective titles and logos."

The press release related that the Westfield organization's success has been extraordinary in that the town United Way goal has been met every year for the past three decades. This year, a campaign to raise \$700,000 is in full gear. Hundreds of volunteers are soliciting donations from residents, business owners, professionals, and others in Westfield.

"Once again, the town is responding a hundredfold," says Mrs. Maggio.

The UWW gives funds for 20 local agencies that provide many programs and services to town residents. The UWW release said that each agency undergoes an extensive annual review prior to distribution of the funds.

In addition to its standard work, the UWW has been a force in times of need. For example, the organization led the relief efforts to assist local families of 9-11 victims.

The release also said that the name change would have no effect on operations. "We will still be the same organization at the same location at the northside train station," emphasized Mrs. Maggio.

Reader Responds to Ratner's Litany of Distortions Letter, Suggests Fresh Air

In reading Mr. Ratner's Letter to the Editor in the November 18 edition, I find I must ask a question or two.

When he mentioned being hoodwinked by the endless litany of distortions, half-truths and just plain untruths, didn't he really mean C.B.S., Dan Rather, the front page of the *New York Times* and the so-called elite media?

When he mentioned President Bush's puerile pack of candidates, Karl Rove assisted by a motley mélange of media moguls, wouldn't motley be better used in describing Whoopi Goldberg's filthy on-stage display, which candidate Kerry seemed to approve (not having the cour-

age to disavow it), the half-truths and lies put forth by Michael Moore and the so-called Hollywood elite.

If our friends are truly to be judged by the friends they keep, then John Kerry doesn't deserve to be in the Senate, let alone be the President of the United States.

I have read some of his other bitter Letters to the Editor and I can only say – "Mr. Ratner, open your eyes and mind and let some fresh air in. It will help you feel a lot better."

This letter is from a life-long Democrat.

Thomas Conheeneey
Westfield

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Letters to the Editor

Candidate Says Central Union County Has Taxation Without Representation

As a candidate for freeholder this past election, I recently received a report from the county clerks office containing the election results, in detail, of the votes cast in the general election.

The report is a breakdown of how many votes each candidate received in each ward, district and town. It also shows what percentage of the votes a candidate received. A review of this year's "numbers" makes a strong argument for changing how members of the Board of Chosen Freeholders are selected.

Currently, the board members are elected "at large," meaning our county is not divided into districts. It doesn't matter where in the county a board member resides or how many members are elected from the same municipality or geographic area. Normally, three seats are up for grabs each year. Occasionally, an independent candidate will run, but generally three from the Republican Party and three from the Democratic Party are the choices.

The three candidates who garner the highest number of votes win the seats. This year, as in the past several years, the three Democrats won. The newspapers reported the total votes, but these numbers do not tell the whole story. The Democrats garnered about 30,000 more each than the Republicans. However, 15,000 of those votes were out of the City of Elizabeth alone. The Republicans were victorious in Westfield, Scotch Plains, Clark, Garwood, Mountainside, Springfield, Kenilworth, Berkeley Heights, Summit, New Providence and Cranford. Republicans were in the top three in Roselle Park and Fanwood, as well. The Democrats took, Elizabeth, Linden, Hillside, Plainfield, Roselle, Rahway, Union, and Winfield Park by large margins. Roselle Park and Fanwood were splits.

The Republican candidates clearly won the majority of the votes in the majority of the towns, all in central Union County. Currently, we have taxation without representation. The towns in central Union County carry the freight for the rest since these towns have higher property valuations. They pay more county taxes.

We have a nine-member freeholder board that is totally Democrat whose members are almost exclusively from outside central Union County. There are two exceptions. Bette Jane Kowalski was appointed in September to replace Mary Routolo and then ran as an incumbent. She did not win in any central Union County towns — including Cranford, her own hometown. The other is Freeholder Mirabella who is serving a third term. He moved to Fanwood after being reelected.

It is clear that we don't have a true voice for the residents of central Union County.

Patricia Quattrocchi
Garwood

Viewer Calls For Channel Choice in TV

I am alarmed by the programming on some of the basic cable networks. A special report by the Parents Television Council shows just how licentious and depraved some of the programming on basic cable is. I urge people to read the report, which can be found at www.ParentsTV.org.

The report shows that basic cable is rife with some of the most obscene content imaginable, including pornography [and many variants]. Why should I be forced to bring this sewage into my home in order to watch the Food Network, or the Disney channel? Why should parents have to subsidize channels that undermine their core values and beliefs?

I ask you [those that make the regulations] to consider families like mine when deciding on cable choice. By offering the ability to choose, the power is put back in the hands of the consumer and it forces the producers of indecent or violent programming to fund their own raunchiness. Cable networks have been carried on the backs of consumers long enough. It is time for this extortion to end, and stop it.

Joseph Murray
Colonia

Property Tax Talks Must Include Govt. Spending Discussion

Mr. Bud Boothe is 100 percent correct in his statement that any constitutional convention on taxes must also address spending.

New Jersey needs a constitutional amendment that limits boards of education and all government spending to the rate of inflation plus the rate of population growth.

Our elected officials talk about controlling spending and taxes while passing mandated spending increases and signing unreasonable wage and benefit agreements. The spending increases must be halted. Then we may have some long overdue tax relief.

Walter Appel
Scotch Plains

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Miss Caroline Pretre and Christopher M. Colyer

Miss Caroline Pretre To Marry Christopher Colyer

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Pretre of Westfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss

Singles Group Posts December Meetings

WESTFIELD—Widowed, divorced or never-married individuals are invited to join other single people on Sunday mornings at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street.

Meetings will take place next month on December 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 9 a.m. in the lower level meeting room of the church. A \$2 donation is requested and all are welcome.

Participants enjoy coffee and cake while engaging in lively discussions on single living. Group members also take part in winter movie nights, summer picnics and holiday get-togethers, among other activities. For more information, please call (908) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.

Caroline Pretre, also of Westfield, to Christopher Marlin Colyer of West Orange. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Colyer of Big Flats, N.Y.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Westfield High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. in 1999. She is employed as a copy editor at Scientific Therapeutics Information, Inc. in Springfield.

Her fiancé, a 1995 graduate of Corning East High School in Corning, N.Y., received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1999 from Messiah College in Grantham, Pa.

In 2002, he graduated from Seton Hall University in South Orange with a Masters in Taxation, and currently is pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree at Rutgers University in Newark. Mr. Colyer is employed as a Tax Supervisor at Wiss & Company in Livingston.

The couple plans to be married in October 2005.

Two From Galilee to Depict Story of Mary and Joseph

SCOTCH PLAINS — *Two From Galilee*, a dramatic Christmas musical from Torn Curtain Productions, will be presented over four evenings next month at the Evangel Church, located at 1251 Terrill Road in Scotch Plains.

Performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, December 10 and 11, and Thursday and Friday, December 16 and 17, at 7:30 p.m. each night. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. There is no admission fee.

Written by Robert Sterling and Karla Worley from a novel by Marjorie Holmes, the musical utilizes drama, humor and music to convey the story of Jesus' birth and the love story of Mary and Joseph.

"The play takes some literary license in depicting Mary and Joseph prior to their union and tries to portray their human qualities, their relationship with their parents and future in-laws," said director Bob Olsen of Westfield, who has directed Torn Curtain Productions for the past 14 years.

Kristina Genova, a student in New York City at the American Musical

and Dramatic Academy, will play the part of Mary. Joining her will be Marc Perrella, of Plainfield, in the role of Joseph.

Supporting cast members will include Synnove Reilly of Berkeley Heights and Al Carmon of South Plainfield. Liz Leadenham of Colonia, who also serves as wardrobe designer, and Mr. Olsen will round out the principal cast as the parents of Mary and Joseph.

"The musical is funny, with some comic relief provided by the three Magi and their entourage. It's also very moving, very human and is a great way to get into the real spirit of Christmas," said co-director Andrea Saladino of Clark.

"The entire production is made up from the volunteers of many area churches," added artistic director Maureen Corrao of Piscataway. "The cast, chorus, crew and tech staff total close to 100 and took three months preparing this production as a gift to our community."

For more information on this production, please call (908) 322-9300 or visit www.evangelchurch.com.



James P. Sletteland, Jr. and Miss Allison M. McEnerney

Miss Allison McEnerney To Wed James P. Sletteland, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. John J. McEnerney of Westfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Allison Megan McEnerney of New York City, to James P. Sletteland, Jr., also of New York City. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James P. Sletteland of Lawrence, N.Y.

Miss McEnerney, a 1993 graduate of Westfield High School, also attended Holy Trinity Grammar School and graduated cum laude from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Mr. Sletteland, known as J.P., attended the Brooks School in North Andover, Mass., and is a graduate of Union College in Schenectady, N.Y.

Miss McEnerney and Mr. Sletteland met in early 2002 while working at Marsh & McLennan Companies.

The bride-elect is the Vice President of Operations and Communications in the New York operation of Marsh, Inc. Her fiancé is a partner and the Vice President of Operations

and Strategy at Risk Solutions International LLC in New York City.

The couple will be married in Lawrence, N.Y. in May 2005.

Holy Trinity Seniors Set Holiday Luncheon

WESTFIELD – The Holy Trinity Senior Social Club will hold its annual Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 13, in the auditorium of the Holy Trinity Interparochial School in Westfield.

Church cantor Joseph Loria will sing Christmas music, with a sing-along to follow. Participants will gather at 12:30 p.m. and lunch will be served at 1 p.m.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to call the Holy Trinity Rectory at (908) 232-8137 for further information.

Future trips will be announced at the group's next meeting on Monday, January 10, and sign-ups will be accepted.

FSO Program to Address Positive Behavior Support

WESTFIELD – The Family Support Organization (FSO) of Union County, located at 137 Elmer Street in Westfield, will present a discussion on "Positive Behavior Support in New Jersey Schools" on Thursday, December 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This program, for Union County parents, will focus on how families can deal with situations in which serious behavior problems interfere with a child's ability to learn in school.

Instead of blaming the child or parents, Positive Behavior Support studies what the behavior means to the child and addresses the behavior with a specific plan incorporating long-term strategies for successful outcomes.

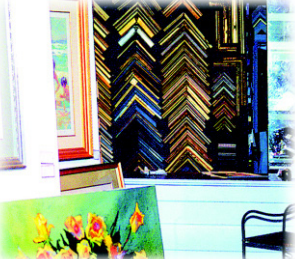
Alice Hunnicutt, a Westfield parent and staff member of the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN), will be the presenter.

This event will be offered free of charge, but reservations are suggested. To make a reservation, be placed on a mailing list for future events or for further information, please call Gail or Kathy at (908) 789-7625.

The FSO supports Union County families that are raising a child with special emotional or behavioral needs by offering support groups, educational forums and warm-line telephone assistance at (908) 789-7625.

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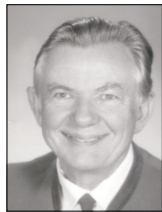
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TREE TIPS:

Rock Salt - The Mineral Trees Can Do Without

By: Martin Schmiede, President
Schmiede Tree Expert Company



Trees do not have to live near the ocean to experience the real stresses which come from the adverse effects of salt. The rock salt used to melt snow and ice on streets and sidewalks throughout the Northeast has the same damaging results. But homeowners may help their properties by selection and protection.

Many people are unaware that salt spray carries a good distance. Trees as far as thirty feet from highways may experience damage from rock salt. At the seashore, salt spray is dispersed in the air in minute particles and may travel inland for thousands of feet. When this spray settles down on salt tolerant plants and trees, not much may happen, but others may be burned almost beyond recognition. This is particularly true for Japanese cut-leaf maples, roses, ferns and beeches.

During normal capillary action in trees, water is absorbed and retained by the roots for use by the other parts of the trees. Salt damage basically is a dehy-

dration process which pulls the sap backwards out of the root systems through reverse capillary actions.

Tree owners may be able to identify rock salt effects by observing leaf scorch, early fall coloration, die-back of twigs and branches or, ultimately, the deaths of the trees. Beech, birch, hemlock, sugar maple, red pine and white pine are trees especially intolerant of salt.

Road maintenance departments are not likely to change their habits so it is best to plant salt resistant species when within reach of salt spray. These varieties include willow, jack pine, black cherry, sycamore, bayberry, white oak and red oak (New Jersey's State Tree) trees.

For owners' uses, if salting of sidewalks and driveways is considered necessary, calcium chloride is far preferable to sodium chloride (rock salt), at least from the trees' points of view. Calcium chloride is ten times less toxic to trees than sodium chloride and is still effective in melting away snow and ice.

If your trees do seem to experience damage from salt applications or salt spray, it may be possible for trained professional arborists to save them. Look for your State's certified tree expert qualification to be certain they have the expertise you and your trees will need.

Those who say that good people are the "salt of the earth" are wise in many ways but they do not know much about tree care!



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Let Each Day Be Thanksgiving To God For All His Blessings

By REVEREND VICTORIA NEY

November is the month that we, as a nation, reflect on being thankful. When you think about it, isn't that rather sad? One day out of 365 days to be grateful.

That certainly wasn't what the apostle Paul had in mind when he wrote I Thessalonians 5:16-18. This passage reads, "Be joyful always; pray continually; in everything give thanks, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

I believe the words "always" and "everything" may seem challenging to us. Many people are only joyful occasionally or in certain circumstances. And as for giving thanks in everything — well, I know we all can come up with things in the last year we wish had not happened.

But Paul doesn't tell us to pick and choose some of our favorite moments for which to be grateful. He says, "In everything give thanks." Why does Paul — why does God — ask this of us?

Perhaps God has a specific purpose for thankfulness. It seems to me that when we are thankful, we become more aware of God's presence and more motivated to find God's

purpose and path. By being thankful, we are actually trusting God — believing that even in the worst circumstances, God is right beside us working things out. It also helps us to take control out of our hands and place it where it belongs — in God's strong capable hands.

This season, why not make every day a Thanksgiving Day? Adopt an attitude of gratitude at the start of each new day and live the day with a grateful heart. Like the old hymn says, "Count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done." Beyond anything else in our lives, God, in Christ Jesus, has taken care of us eternally already. Make your life a thank-you letter.

Turn this Thanksgiving into thanksgiving. It could make all the difference.

Reverend Ney has been the Associate Pastor for Parish Life at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield for the past five-and-a-half years. She serves as the staff person for Pastoral Care, working with the Board of Deacons and the Stephen Ministry program at the church.

St. Helen's B-ball to Host Shoot-a-Thon Fundraiser

WESTFIELD — The St. Helen's CYO Basketball program has announced that it is holding its Second Annual Shoot-A-Thon on Sunday, December 5, at Westfield High School. St. Helen's will have all 11 of its CYO teams (Boys and Girls fourth through eighth grades) participate in a fundraiser to support the "Helping Hands and Hearts" service ministry at the church. The fundraiser features a Shoot-A-Thon where each participant will shoot 100 foul shots.

Since 1981, the Helping Hands and Hearts ministry has been an outreach program that meets the spiritual, material and financial needs of the St. Helen's local community. In the late 1980s, the program was extended to persons outside the local community, primarily the poor and homeless of the inner cities. Through the help of many volunteers, the activities of this outreach include providing help through a prayer network, meals to shut-ins, transportation assistance, home visits, support to caregivers, parish nursing, one-on-one ministry and visits to homes and nursing homes.

The Helping Hands and Hearts ministry has grown throughout the years and is one of St. Helen's most important programs today. In addition

to the core services that have been offered since 1981, the program provides Thanksgiving Baskets to approximately 200 needy families and approximately 3,000 Christmas gifts that are donated through other churches, schools and agencies.

The Helping Hands and Hearts program also operates a soup kitchen and food pantry, which serve the local community and inner cities as well.

Each participant will seek pledges, either a straight pledge of any amount of money or on a per shot basis. The pledges for this event will be shared between the St. Helen's CYO Basketball program and Helping Hands and Hearts program.

All businesses and/or individuals interested in sponsoring a St. Helen's CYO basketball player or coach in this Shoot-A-Thon may contact a coach or player or respond directly to Oliver Kirna by e-mail at o.kirna@comcast.net with a pledge amount.

A pledge can be entered up to the morning of the event. Pledges will be collected after the Shoot-A-Thon. Checks can be made payable to: St. Helen's CYO Basketball and mailed to: 185 Tudor Oval, Westfield 07090.



HOLIDAY SPIRIT...Members of the Westfield Service League's Holiday Sale Committee display items that will be available at the league's Thrift Shop during the sale on Saturday, December 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The shop is located at 114 Elmer Street in Westfield. Pictured, from left to right, are: Barbara Vanderbilt, Pat Del Duca and Chairwoman Marielyce Watner.

Westfield Service League Announces Holiday Sale

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Service League will hold its annual Holiday Sale on Saturday, December 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at its Thrift Shop, located at 114 Elmer Street in Westfield.

This is the league's major sale event for the year. Merchandise will include new toys at discount prices, as well as new clothing for men, women and children, Christmas decorations and a large selection of gift items.

Each league member is required to donate a new toy for the sale. All items to be offered for sale have been donated by the public. Due to the large volume of items for the sale, merchandise will be replenished throughout the day.

Santa to Arrive in SP On Sun., December 5

SCOTCH PLAINS — On Sunday, December 5, Scotch Plains will hold its Township Holiday Celebration from 2 to 5 p.m. on the Alan Augustine Village Green on Park Avenue. All are welcome.

The festivities will include horse-drawn carriage rides from 2 to 4 p.m. for a small fee; a petting zoo and pony rides, plus a walk-around clown to entertain visitors. Additionally, an ice sculptor will create a masterpiece on the stage.

Santa will arrive at 3 p.m. and visit with the children until 5 p.m. at the gazebo. Parents are encouraged to bring cameras. Santa will light the tree at 5 p.m. For more information about the event, please call (908) 322-6700 ext. 221.

In preparation for the sale, the Thrift Shop will have a 50 percent off sale of the entire shop inventory during the week of Tuesday, November 30.

A non-profit organization, the Westfield Service League operates both the Thrift Shop and a Consignment Shop Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Proceeds benefit various organizations such as St. Joseph's Social Service Center, the Westfield Area "Y" and the Westfield Rescue Squad.

The Consignment Shop, located at the same address as the Thrift Shop, will also be open for business during the Thrift Shop's holiday sale.

Christmas Service Offered to Grieving

CRANFORD — The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, located at 11 Springfield Avenue, will present its yearly alternative Christmas service for those who have experienced loss and are grieving.

It will be held on Sunday, December 5, in the Chapel following the support group's meeting on the topic of "dreams." The meeting will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Mettam Lounge.

The service will include scripture readings, songs, poems and a short meditation, along with candle lighting. Participants may bring a friend.

The next six-week Journey to Wholeness Seminar will start on Sunday, January 23. For more information, please call Patti Williams at (908) 709-1341 or Virginia Waters at (908) 276-2226. All are welcome.



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Westfield Hadassah Chapter Honors Beatrice Wetscher

WESTFIELD — Beatrice G. Wetscher, recently named as the Westfield Chapter of Hadassah's "Woman of the Year," will be among the honorees on Sunday, December 5, at the Northern New Jersey Region's Myrtle Wreath luncheon at the Venetian in Garfield.

A Life member of Hadassah for over 12 years, Mrs. Wetscher, of Westfield, has served as Vice President of Education, Chairwoman of Hadassah Tributes and Book Review Chairwoman for the Westfield chapter. She additionally has lectured on contemporary issues of concern to Jewish people.

Mrs. Wetscher, a widow for over 20 years, is the mother of two daughters, Holly E. Wetscher and Dr. Rosalind S. Dorlen. Her daughters, together with granddaughter Dr. Allison Dorlen Pastor, also are Life members of Hadassah. Mrs. Wetscher's family additionally in-

cludes two grandsons and a son-in-law who are active supporters of her efforts.



Beatrice G. Wetscher

Mrs. Wetscher graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Kean University and holds dual certification in elementary education and library science. Now retired, she was a teacher-librarian in the Bridgewater-Raritan school district and a media specialist at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

A lifelong advocate and champion for children with cerebral palsy, Mrs. Wetscher created and led the Guild for Child Care, an advocacy and fund-raising group of women supporting the needs of children with cerebral palsy in New Jersey. She was inspired in this endeavor by her daughter, Holly, who was born with cerebral palsy.

First Baptist Plans

'Hanging of Greens'

WESTFIELD — The First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street, will hold its annual "Hanging of the Greens" this Sunday, November 28, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Decorating will get underway at noon.


The church will be decorated festively for the holidays. A nativity scene with freestanding characters, designed by graphic artist and church member Art Taylor, will fill the front of the sanctuary, watched over by colorful angels patterned on Michelangelo's.

Candlesticks, bows, and greenery will adorn the pews of the sanctuary, while banners and live Christmas trees will mark the entry doors.

The decorations will provide a backdrop for Carols in the Round, to be offered at 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, December 4 and 5, by the young adult Westfield Chorale, directed by William Mathews.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help decorate the church, or in ticket availability for the Westfield Chorale concerts, may call the church office at (908) 233-2278.

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AARP Holiday Luncheon Scheduled For December 7

WESTFIELD – Westfield Area Chapter No. 4137 of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will hold its Annual Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 7, at noon at The Westwood in Garwood.

An international buffet will be offered, featuring a variety of foods including beef, chicken and fish entrees. There also will be appetizers, salads and desserts, with pitchers of wine and soda on each table. Coffee and tea will be served as well.

Musical entertainment will be provided by the Union Township Harmonica Band, which will perform a medley of “golden oldie” songs, popular

tunes and holiday music.

The cost is \$20 (including gratuities) for both members and non-member guests. For reservations, please call Luncheon Chairwoman Marie Stock at (908) 925-2536.

This luncheon will replace the regular December meeting. The next AARP meeting will be held on Monday, January 3, in Assembly Hall of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

During this first meeting of 2005, guest speaker Fontaine Gatti will show color slides of Egypt and discuss her recent visit to that country. Additional information is available by calling AARP Chapter President Bill Lenke at (908) 232-5818.

Westfield Recreation Events

Holiday Concert: Our Annual Holiday Concert is scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, at 7 p.m. in the Edison Intermediate School auditorium. The concert features the Westfield Community Band and the Edison Broadway Singers. Music of the season will be performed as we ring in the Holidays! We encourage you to come out and join in the holiday spirit with us. Admission is free.

Bowling League: This 12-week program began September 27. It will be held Mondays at 3:50 p.m. at Linden Lanes forages five to 14. The cost is \$6 per week, payable at the lanes.

3rd Annual Family Bowling Night: Join us for a fun afternoon of bowling on Saturday, January 15, at 2 p.m. Bring family and friends, the more the merrier! Held at Linden Lanes. Fee: \$10.75 per person. Includes two hours of bowling and shoe rental. (Snack bar will be open for business). Please register by Friday, December 31.

Night Place: Offered to Westfield students in grades 6 through 8 on the following Friday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Edison Intermediate School: November 19, December 17, January 21, February 18, April 15 and May 13. Fee: \$3 at the door.

Teen Center: The Teen Center is open on most Friday evenings during the school year between the hours of 7 and 11 p.m. for all Westfield High School Students. (Closed during Night Place dates). The center features pool tables, ping-pong tables, air hockey tables, video games, large TV and VCR with movies, complete stereo system, vending machines and more!

Piano: Learn basic piano skills in reading music and playing melodies on electronic keyboards from instructors of the NJ Workshop for the Arts. Classes located at 361 South Avenue, East. Each 10-week session is 30 minutes in length, and includes six students per class. Winter session begins January 10 for

second and third graders. Class times: 4, 4:30 or 5 p.m. Cost: \$145.

Total Toning: Let Maureen Kobrin get you in shape for the holidays! Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Community Room. 10 classes are offered per session, and sessions are continuous. Late fall session is held from October 21 to November 29. Fee: \$65/session.

Atlantic City Trip to Bally's: Saturday, February 12, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Enjoy a day at the casinos, shopping, or just sight seeing. Cost: \$26 per person. Bus departs 9 a.m.

Rent: Thursday, March 3, at 8 p.m. This Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway musical features an energetically eclectic score that accompanies the emotional story of love and loyalty among struggling artists in New York's East Village. Location: State Theatre, New Brunswick. Cost: \$64 per person. Bus departs 7 p.m.

Kodo Drummers: Wednesday, March 16, at 8 p.m. “If there is such a thing as perfection in music, Kodo comes as near to it as any group in the world,” proclaimed *The Boston Globe*. Exploring the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum, Kodo is forging new directions for a vibrant, living art form. Location: State Theatre. Cost: \$60/ per person. Bus departs at 7 p.m.

Kirov Orchestra: Friday, April 1, at 8 p.m. Valery Gergiev, conductor; Irina Mataeva, soprano; Olga Borodina, alto; and The Desoff Choirs perform Mahler: Symphony No. 2 (“Resurrection”). Location: NJPAC, Prudential Hall. Cost: \$62 per person. Bus departs 7 p.m.

Please register for the above programs at: The Westfield Recreation Department, 425 East Broad Street For further information, please call the Westfield Recreation Office at (908) 789-4080 or visit westfieldnj.net/townhall/recreation.



BRUSH WITH CELEBRITY...Members of Girl Scout Troop No. 384 from Park Middle School in Scotch Plains are pictured with Matt Lauer during a recent visit to “The Today Show” in New York City. The girls, accompanied by their leaders and two other mothers, made the trip as part of their efforts to earn their communications badge. They also visited Democracy Plaza.

Girl Scout Troop No. 384 Visits ‘The Today Show’

SCOTCH PLAINS — Eight girls representing Troop No. 384 from Park Middle School in Scotch Plains traveled to New York City on November 4 on a quest to earn their communications badge.

Armed with extra clothes, bagels, hot chocolate and a box of Girl Scout cookies, and accompanied by their leaders and two other mothers, the girls visited “The Today Show,” arriving outside the studio at 6:15 a.m.

The girls displayed posters telling everyone they were working on their communications badge, while hoping to make it on camera during their visit.

Al Roker, Ann Curry, Matt Lauer and Katie Couric all stopped to talk to the girls. They learned of Mr. Lauer’s fondness for Girl Scout cookies, and Ms. Couric, once a Girl Scout herself, recited the promise with the girls on air. In all, the girls were seen on television four times.

Afterwards, the scouts toured Democracy Plaza and took turns debating with one another at the podium. They viewed the Declaration of Inde-

pendence, sat at a replica of the President’s desk in the Oval Office, and walked through Air Force One.

Dickens Wright, of WNBC advertising sales, arranged a tour of NBC Studios for the troop, where the girls learned that everything isn’t what it seems to be on television.

The troop members included Allison Grimm, Kendall Fawcett, Katherine Fletcher, Kerri Killeen, Rebecca Maioriello, Kristina Palozzolo, Cassandra Segulin and Emily Stefanik.

Leaders Linda Grimm and Gina Fawcett, along with the other mothers, Kim Stefanik and Debbie Palozzolo, accompanied the scouts on their visit.

The girls will now work on the final phase of earning their communications badge, when they design and present an advertising campaign for a product or service of their choice.

In an effort to give back to the community, Troop No. 384 will prepare and serve lunch to Habitat for Humanity workers in Plainfield on Saturday, December 11.

Vitalize Series to Conclude With Program on Dementia

COUNTY — Vitalize, a local geriatric care management company, will conclude its second series of Lunch and Learn community health education programs on Wednesday, December 8, with a discussion of dementia.

Senior citizens and caregivers of loved ones suffering from the condition are invited to attend this free program, which will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home office of Vitalize. The office is located at 136 Central Avenue in Clark.

Bonnie Testa, a registered nurse with over 30 years experience in long-term care, will provide attendees with a clear understanding of

the condition. Ms. Testa is Director of Care Management with Vitalize.

Guests will be encouraged to participate in the discussion, and the program will conclude with a question-and-answer session.

Lunch will be provided for all who register and attend. Seating is limited. All individuals interested in attending must make a reservation. To reserve a seat, please call (732) 574-3539. Guests are asked to arrive no more than 10 minutes prior to the program’s scheduled start time.

Funding for this event has been made possible by Pfizer through an ACOVE unrestricted educational grant.

Scotch Plains Recreation Events

Senior Line Dancing: Taught by Sandy and Lou Smeihil. The class will be held Wednesdays, December 1 through February 9 (no class January 12). Classes are held in the Towne House in Green Forest Park from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee is \$15 for residents, \$20 for non-residents. Register in the Recreation Office in the Municipal Building on Park Avenue.

The Community School of Scotch Plains-Fanwood has affiliated with the Township of Scotch Plains Recreation Department this semester to provide educational, cultural and history-oriented trips for area residents. Individuals are invited to broaden their horizons by partaking in these EduTravel opportunities, specifically geared for family outings. These excursions may be given as a gift for a birthday, anniversary or upcoming holiday. A minimum of 15 registrants is required for each trip to operate. Enrollments limited. EduTravel reservations are not refundable but may be transferable to another person if the trip has a waiting list.

Yogi Berra and His Baseball Museum: Saturday, November 20. Departure at 11:30 a.m. from Park Middle School, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains. Return approximately 5 p.m. Fee: \$35. Group members will travel to the Clifton/Little Falls area by bus to have lunch on their own at a local restaurant and then arrive at the destination of the day – the Yogi Berra Museum & Learning Center on the campus of Montclair State University. The visit there will encompass a special presentation led by its director on “Yogi Berra and Lifelong Lessons Taught By Sports.” A guided tour of the museum will be provided, including Hall of Fame quality displays tracing the history of baseball from its pre-Civil War origins to the development of the Yankees as sports’ most fabled franchise. Participants will see the winning tradition of the Yankees — from Ruth to Gehrig to DiMaggio to Berra and Mantle — in the images and memorabilia throughout the exhibit area. Finally, there will be time after the program and tour to find a baseball souvenir in the gift shop.

Holiday touring and tea at Liberty Hall: Wednesday, December 8. Departure at noon from Brookside Park, Heffield Avenue, Scotch Plains. Return approximately 4:30 p.m. Fee: \$45.

Built on the eve of the Revolution, Liberty Hall in Union was home to the prominent Livingston and Kean families of New Jersey and was associated with many of the events that shaped the nation’s destiny. A local estate set on 26 acres, it is a jewel complete with a 50-room mansion, of which docents will give a guided tour. The mansion will be especially exquisite with its holiday decorations. On the glass porch, group members will enjoy tea with sandwiches, petite scones, pastries and clotted cream and jams. There also will be time at Liberty Hall for group members to walk the grounds on their own and to browse the museum gift shop.

Jumble Store Invites Public To Annual Holiday Boutique

CRANFORD — The Jumble Store, located at 110 Walnut Avenue in Cranford, will present its annual Holiday Boutique on Saturday, December 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

An array of new and nearly new merchandise will be featured, including holiday decorations, seasonal items, unique giftware, jewelry, toys and clothing for the entire family. Light refreshments also will be available.

Santa Claus will make a special appearance during the boutique. Polaroid pictures with Santa will be offered for a small donation.

The Jumble Store is a thrift and consignment shop wholly owned and operated by the Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield (JLEP). Profits help

fund JLEP’s many charitable projects.

Regular hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Donations are always welcome and are tax-deductible.

The Jumble Store is also collecting supplies for troops deployed in Iraq, including toiletries, snacks and personal items. Suggested items include microwavable foods and snacks; breakfast bars, nuts, gum, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, foot powder and antibacterial wipes.

Donations may be dropped off any time during regular store hours. Collected items will be distributed to troops stationed with the National Guard’s 250th Signal Battalion, based out of the Westfield Army.

Center For Hope To Hold Fur Sale

CLARK — The Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care will sponsor a one-day-only Fur Sale and Holiday Bazaar on Sunday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Gran Centurions, 440 Madison Hill Road in Clark.

Admission is free. All proceeds will help provide terminally ill patients with hospice care and their loved ones with physical, emotional and spiritual support.

Drum Circle Slated To Begin in January

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area “Y” has announced the beginning of a community Drum Circle, to be held at 7 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month at the “Y,” located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield.

A gathering will be held on January 18. Facilitated by experienced leaders, the Drum Circle is based on the concept that drumming relieves stress and provides a feeling of harmony and community. It will be open to both teenagers and adults.

Participants will bring their own drums, and additional drums will be available.

For more information, please call Linda at (908) 966-9341 or Mary Ann at (908) 966-9344. The fee is \$5 per person.



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FAMILY FUN...Families and students of Holy Trinity Interparochial School enjoyed Family Fun Night filled with friends, food, song and dance at the Mountainside campus.

Local Residents Inducted To National Honor Roll

AREA – Residents from Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Mountainside and Berkeley Heights have been inducted to the National Honor Roll for the spring 2004 semester.

The following students are listed with their respective towns and schools:

- Maggie Edinger, Berkeley Heights, Governor Livingston High School (GLHS);
- Caryn Feder, Fanwood, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS);
- Joshua Michael Fishman, Westfield, Union County Magnet High School;
- Andrew Ghosh, Berkeley Heights, GLHS;
- Stephen Grabowski, Scotch Plains,

Union Catholic High School; Tariq Hasan, Berkeley Heights, GLHS;

- Nick Keller, Mountainside, GLSH;
- Michael Kreitzer, Scotch Plains, The Wardlaw-Hartridge School;
- Greg Needham, Berkeley Heights, GLHS;
- Jasmine Pagan, Scotch Plains, SPFHS;
- Manish Pandya, Scotch Plains, SPFHS;
- Michael Sheffield, Scotch Plains, SPFHS;
- Alec Wasserman, Westfield, Westfield High School; and
- Bethany Zimmerman, Scotch Plains, SPFHS.

Coats Collected by Students At Mount St. Mary Academy

WATCHUNG – Each year, students from Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung collect coats and warm clothes, which are distributed to the homeless in New York City.

Last weekend, after all of the clothing was distributed, a homeless man, who had no coat, approached the group. Mr. Pettorsson removed his own coat and gave it to the man.

Julia Popora of Westfield spearheaded a drive to purchase a new coat for Mr. Pettorsson. She received donations from other students on the field trip. She enlisted the aid of her mother to shop and the students presented the teacher with his new coat.

"Mr. Pettorsson taught us generosity by his act of compassion," Julia said. "We were practicing what we learned."



GIFT OF WARMTH...Colin Pettorsson, a religion teacher at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, accepted a surprise gift of a coat from his freshmen students. Pictured, left to right, are: Colleen Ryan of Chatham, Julia Popora of Westfield and Mr. Pettorsson, a Bridgewater resident.

Award Links Kean Univ. With Nat'l Science Library

UNION – The National Science Foundation, as part of its ongoing effort to establish personalized science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) researcher access accounts for the National Science Digital Library, recently awarded a major grant to Kean University.

The award was made through the Shodor Foundation, the lead agency. The four-year \$2.8 million Pathway of the National Science Digital Library initiative adds Kean as a partner, along with North Carolina

Central University.

In the program, STEM teachers and students at Kean can now access and benefit from the Computational Science Education Reference Desk (CSERD).

Kean Project Liaison Dr. David Joiner, Assistant Professor in the Department of Science and Technology, was a key contributor to developing the original CSERD in 1997, and has been assisting in its expansion ever since.

CONCEPTS & THOUGHT

Education Fund of Westfield Announces Annual Stroll Date

WESTFIELD – The Education Fund of Westfield's annual Westfield Winter Stroll will take place on Sunday, December 5 from 12 to 5 p.m. Over 30 downtown businesses will donate a percentage of the day's receipts to the Education Fund.

The Education Fund of Westfield is a non-profit community organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of education in Westfield schools. With fundraisers and direct solicitation, this volunteer-based group raises money to give back to the schools through grants to teachers and principals.

To date, the Education Fund has dis-

tributed over \$160,000 to Westfield schools. For the 2003-2004 school year the fund distributed \$21,262 with 13 separate grants to purchase equipment and to fund new programs.

During the Winter Stroll a special book entitled "Westfield, A Celebration of Community" will be for sale at Liberty Travel for \$25. The special edition book is filled with over 100 color photographs of Westfield.

For more information contact the Education Fund of Westfield at (908) 317-9813 or e-mail at edfundwestfield@comcast.net.



HELPING OTHERS...The School One Service Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Committee recently sponsored a Thanksgiving Day Food Drive. The pupils were asked to contribute specific non-perishable items by grade. The food will be donated to Union County Social Services to be distributed to area families in need. Pictured, left to right, are: first graders from Jane Butler's class, Amanda DeBellis, Joseph Bianco, Danny Reimers, Celia Phansalkar and Paul Triamarit with donated food items.

Far Brook School to Host November Open House

SHORT HILLS – Far Brook School, located at 52 Great Hills Road in Short Hills, will hold an Open House on Tuesday, November 30, for parents who would like to consider enrolling children for the 2005-2006 school year.

Far Brook will accept applications for all grades from nursery to grade 7. New students are not admitted for eighth grade.

The focus of the morning-long program at Far Brook will be to show interested parents the ways in which the school combines a curriculum of math, science and liberal and creative arts with opportunities for individual self-development.

The Open House will begin with Morning Meeting, a feature of life at Far Brook, where the entire school convenes each day for announcements by Director Mary Wearn Wiener, student presentations, faculty readings of prose and poetry, and songs led by Music Director Allen Artz.

Morning Meeting will be followed by a campus tour so that visitors can observe classes in session.

The Open House will conclude with comments and a question and answer period with a panel comprised of faculty and staff members, students and

parents of alumni.

Eighth grader Daniel Elkind of Short Hills will participate in the panel, along with classmates William DeSouza of Chatham and Grace Toolan of Millington. Current parent and Far Brook alumna Jeni Miller of Watchung will join alumni parent Linda George of Summit in rounding out the panel. For those unable to attend, individual tours can be arranged. For more information, please visit www.farbrook.org or e-mail Director of Admissions Iris Leonard at ileonard@farbrook.org.

To make reservations for the Open House, please call (973) 379-3442.

Black Student Union At SPFHS to Stage Once On This Island

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Black Student Union at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School will present *Once On This Island* on Thursday, December 11, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6.

For more information, please call (908) 889-8600.

Blood Drive Is Scheduled At Red Cross Chapter

WESTFIELD – A blood drive sponsored by the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross will take place Wednesday, December 1, from 3 to 8 p.m. at the Chapter House, 321 Elm Street in Westfield.

The drive will be held in a Bloodmobile at that location, as well as inside the building itself. Compli-

mentary cholesterol screenings will be available for all blood donors.

All donors must present a signed or picture identification and know their Social Security number. They are also advised to eat a meal before donating. For more information, please call the Blood Center of New Jersey at (800) NJ-BLOOD, extension no. 140.



BOOK ENTHUSIASTS...St. Paul's Day School in Westfield held its annual Book Fair on November 9 and 10. This year's event featured a reading and book signing by child psychiatrist and author of "Pinky Promise," Vanita Braver. Through the book, the preschoolers and kindergarteners learned about the main character, a little girl named Madison, who learns the importance of honesty and telling the truth. Pictured, above, the students pose with Ms. Braver.

Holy Trinity Students Win Five Awards at Olympics

WESTFIELD – Holy Trinity Interparochial School in Westfield sent a team of 17 eighth graders to compete in the 33rd Annual Scholastic Olympics at Roselle Catholic High School on October 27.

Students from 18 Catholic schools throughout Union and Essex counties competed in all areas of the curriculum, including art, spelling, religion, forensics and current events.

Holy Trinity students won five awards.

First place honors were presented to Matthew Berka for English and Ann Fiedler for mathematics.

Second place in mathematics was

awarded to Taylor Kelly. Michelle Ball and Matthew Mullman received third place awards for English and spelling, respectively.

Representing Holy Trinity were John Doyle and Emily Fennik (art); Ben Camargo and Jeanne Fitzpatrick (current events); Matthew Berka and Michelle Ball (English); Robert Granstrand and Kristen DeLorenzo (history); Taylor Kelly and Ann Fiedler (mathematics); Robert Realmuto and Ashling Coffey (religion); Connor Cattafe and Colleen LaBella (science) and Matthew Mullman and Camille Trongone (spelling).



SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONS...Holy Trinity Interparochial School Scholastic Olympics team medallists, pictured, left to right, are: Matthew Mullman, Taylor Kelly, Michelle Ball, Matthew Berka and Ann Fiedler.

WF, MS Pupils Named To Pingry Honor Roll

WESTFIELD – Pingry Headmaster John Neiswender and Assistant Headmaster, Lower School Director Ted Corvino have reported the names of Westfield and Mountainside students named to the Lower School's First Quarter Honor Roll.

The roster recognizes students for achieving a B+ average or better with no individual grade lower than a B-.

Westfield students Helen Daifotis, Kasra Manoocheri, Jason Reitman, Taylor Shepard and Whitney Weldon were named to the list, as well as Maxwell Ingrassia of Mountainside.

Intermediate Schools In WF to Participate In 'Day of Learning'

WESTFIELD – Representatives from Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools in Westfield will participate in the New Jersey Peer to Peer (NJPTP)'s Eighth Annual Middle School Day of Learning on Thursday, December 2, at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick.

This year's program, "Powerful Connections," will bring together over 500 New Jersey middle school students and their adult mentors for a day of learning about how they can conduct outreach activities around substance abuse prevention in their schools and communities.

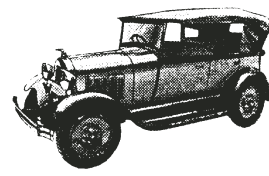
Student-led workshops will precede a motivational speaker presentation and other activities throughout the day.

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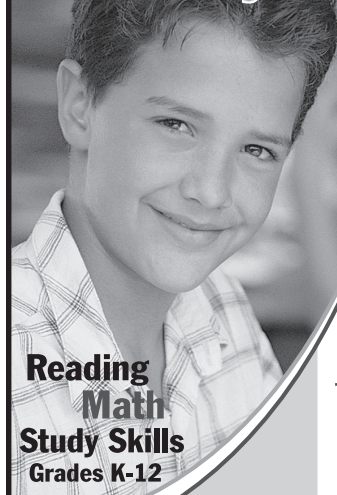
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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 11-14

ANNIE ONISHI WAS THE TEAM'S 'ACE IN THE HOLE'

Blue Devil X-C Girls Battled Through Competitive Season

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

Until two years ago, the Westfield High School girls cross-country team reigned supreme in the Watchung Conference (WC) and in Union County (UC). But with the emergence of a strong Scotch Plains-Fanwood squad and a surprising performance from Oak Knoll two years

ago, the Blue Devils' supremacy has been tested.

In 2002, Oak Knoll snapped the Blue Devils' 11-year streak as king of the hill in the UC tournament. The Raider girls halted the Blue Devils' 88-dual meet winning streak and nine-year reign as WC champions in 2003 before Westfield battled back to regain the UC title. This season, the

Raiders nipped the Blue Devils by a whisker for the WC title and had the judges recounting the sheet before edging them for the UC title. However, the Blue Devils went on to claim their second-straight North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 title.

"2004 was a challenging season across the board," said Blue Devil Head Coach Thom Hornish. "For girls cross-country, there was improvement across the board. The county and conference certainly have grown in terms of competition. Scotch Plains, last year, made a very serious bid. You couldn't ignore them. Their strength was repeated in 2004. They are to be commended for everything they did. In addition to Scotch Plains and Oak Knoll, you see the emergence of Cranford. Laura Gallo was one of the premier runners. It's nice to see the young lady from Plainfield (Jahlisa Smith). A long time ago, Plainfield was the gold standard in the early 1980s."

Westfield has always run with a "pack" mentality, but the leader of the "pack" has been senior Annie Onishi who placed fourth in the WC race, fifth in the UC race with a personal-best (PB) time of 20:10 and crossed sixth in the sectionals with a time of 20:52.

"Annie was our ace in the hole. She is a tough competitor. She will run through a wall for you," said Hornish. At the WC, the Blue Devils took

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



ACE IN THE HOLE...According to Head Coach Thom Hornish, Annie Onishi was the Blue Devil girls cross-country team's ace in the hole.

SENIOR SEAN MCNELIS KNOCKS IN GOAL NUMBER 14

Crimson Knights Top Raiders For NJ Group 3 Crown, 4-1

By FRED LECOMTE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Looking to bring home its first New Jersey Group 3 Championship since winning its seventh in 1998, the No. 5 ranked Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys' soccer team was limited to just three shots on goal and stunned by unranked Wall, 4-1, on November 19 at the College of New Jersey in Ewing.

"We had the pressure on for the first 20 minutes of the half but we just couldn't punch one in to equalize it. We brought sweeper Terrence Charles out of the back and into the forward position and we paid the price in the back with some people not doing their job along with two major mistakes that put it out of reach," said Raider Head Coach Tom Breznitsky. "Wall was pretty fortunate with the chances that they had. They capitalized and it came back to haunt us."

Things seemed to be going in the Crimson Knights favor, especially in the early going. With 26:09 left in the first half, midfielder Mike Juska broke

through the middle and unloaded a shot from 20 yards out that deflected off a defender's left leg in front of the box. The ball slithered into the right corner of the net.

The Raiders roared back when freshman midfielder Brian Hessemer, attacking from the left, sent a cross into the center where junior forward Sean Young, dogged by several defenders drilled a header to Knight keeper Ryan Bumbera. The deflection off the keeper found senior midfielder Sean McNelis properly positioned in the goalmouth. McNelis blazed a shot into the upper right corner to tie the game with 25:36 left.

The Knights regained the momentum with ferocious and unrelenting assaults. With 17:15 left in the half, forward Jay Vigilante, on a cross from David Larcara, tattered the right side of the net to give Wall a, 2-1 lead. By halftime, the Raiders had one shot on goal, two corners and two direct kicks.

"We definitely did not show up to play defensively. We were not ready in the first half and the two goals they

scored were definitely mistakes in the back and the midfield was not getting back. They came to play and we didn't," said McNelis. "We won our section, conference and counties. Being here we have such a high regard of what a successful season is. We have higher standards than anyone else, but what can you ask for?"

Although the Raiders pressured hard in the second half the Knights positioned themselves well and successfully ward off every incoming shot. The Knights narrowly escaped disaster when Young, on a long throw from junior Jeff Bell, charged the center, eluded several defenders and rifled a header towards the goal that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



ALWAYS CLOSELY GUARDED...Because of his dangerous scoring ability, Raider forward Sean Young, front, has been very closely guarded by opponents all season.



BIG NIGHT IN PASS RECEPTIONS...Raider wide receiver Sean Smith, being tackled, had eight receptions for 109 yards against the Wolfpack in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 semifinals in Chester.

LAFORGE HITS 17 OF 20 FOR 190 YDS, TD; SCORES TD

'Wolfpack' Defends Domain, Halts Raider Gridders, 28-21

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

Finely executed offensive drives on the part of both teams seemed to be overshadowed by one key mental lapse that eventually led to a 28-21 victory by the West Morris High School football team over Scotch Plains-Fanwood in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 semifinal game in Chester on November 19.

The Raiders were punting from their own 33-yard line with 52 seconds left in the half. Punter Mike Baumwoll's knee touched the ground on the 21-yard line after receiving a low snap. Although Baumwoll got the kick off, the incident did not escape the referee's watchful eye. The 6-5 Wolfpack took over and seized the opportunity, taking three passing plays to hit pay dirt, with Pete Hornung's three-yard touchdown reception, and to carry a 21-7 lead into the locker room.

"That was big! End of the half! Instead of down by one (TD) we are down by two," said Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli. "We can't do that. We gave them the short field. Football is a real position game and we left them in a position where they did not have to drive the length of the field."

The 5-5 Raiders, known primarily for their rushing offense, totaled 115 yards on 33 carries, but

the urgency to put points on the board quickly influenced them to take to the air. Quarterback Dan LaForge (8 carries for 38 yards, including a 19-yard touchdown run)

Devil Boys Place 8th At Meet of Champs

The Westfield High School boys cross-country team turned in its finest performance of the season to place eighth at the Meet of Champions in Holmdel Park on November 20. The Blue Devil boys totaled 233 points to win a tiebreaker with Ocean City and also topped rival Cranford that finished 11th at 242.

Blue Devil Jeff Perrella crossed sixth with a personal-best time of 16:07 and teammate Robert Broadbent finished 25th with a time of 16:29, both ahead of any Cranford runner. Superb performances were also turned in by Kris Kagan (93rd), Mike Gorski (104th) and Jay Hoban (121st).

TOP SIX RUNNERS:
1. Bob Papazian (Gill St. Bernard's) 15:39
2. Craig Forsys (Colts Neck) 15:53
3. Brian Dennis (Hillsborough) 16:03
4. Joe Berardi (Red Bank Catholic) 16:07
5. Chris Horel (Christian Brothers) 16:07
6. Jeff Perrella (Westfield) 16:07

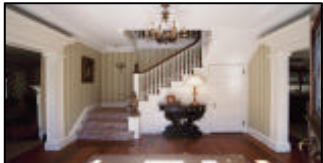
CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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Westfield/Plainfield Rivalry

Westfield 50, Plainfield 42, Tie 7

1900	—	Westfield	26-0	1956	—	Plainfield	19-6
1901	—	Westfield	NA	1957	—	Plainfield	19-12
1903	—	Plainfield	15-0	1958	—	Plainfield	21-0
1905	—	Plainfield	24-0	1959	—	Plainfield	7-0
1907	—	Tie	6-6	1960	—	Westfield	13-7
1908	—	Westfield	11-0	1961	—	Westfield	13-6
		Plainfield	12-6	1962	—	Plainfield	27-7
		Plainfield	5-0	1963	—	Westfield	14-12
1909	—	Plainfield	35-6	1964	—	Plainfield	13-7
		Westfield	6-0	1965	—	Westfield	21-0
		Plainfield	37-6	1966	—	Plainfield	33-12
1910	—	Westfield	19-7	1967	—	Plainfield	12-7
1911	—	Westfield	20-6	1968	—	Westfield	25-21
1912	—	Westfield	26-7	1969	—	Westfield	45-0
		Plainfield	19-0	1970	—	Westfield	49-6
		Westfield	7-0	1971	—	Westfield	12-6
1913	—	Westfield	6-0	1972	—	Westfield	27-6
		Tie	0-0	1973	—	Westfield	20-0
		Plainfield	7-3	1974	—	Westfield	31-14
1917	—	Plainfield	39-0	1975	—	Westfield	9-6
1919	—	Plainfield	6-0	1976	—	Westfield	34-0
1921	—	Plainfield	28-0	1977	—	Westfield	14-0
1922	—	Plainfield	19-0			Westfield	38-0
1923	—	Westfield	3-0			Westfield	6-2
1924	—	Plainfield	18-0	1979	—	Westfield	3-2
1925	—	Plainfield	7-2	1980	—	Westfield	14-0
1926	—	Plainfield	20-0	1981	—	Westfield	28-6
1931	—	Westfield	21-0	1982	—	Plainfield	21-3
1932	—	Westfield	13-6	1983	—	Plainfield	14-6
1933	—	Tie	0-0	1984	—	Plainfield	14-0
1934	—	Westfield	7-6	1985	—	Tie	0-0
1935	—	Plainfield	7-0	1986	—	Westfield	27-14
1936	—	Tie	0-0	1987	—	Westfield	35-6
1937	—	Tie	0-0	1988	—	Westfield	7-6
1938	—	Plainfield	13-0	1989	—	Westfield	14-7
1939	—	Westfield	20-0	1990	—	Westfield	21-6
1940	—	Westfield	13-0	1991	—	Westfield	28-0
1941	—	Westfield	1-0	1992	—	Plainfield	14-9
1944	—	Westfield	12-6	1993	—	Tie	0-0
1945	—	Westfield	12-0	1994	—	Westfield	20-7
1946	—	Plainfield	6-0	1995	—	Westfield	28-20
1947	—	Westfield	32-12	1996	—	Plainfield	38-7
1948	—	Westfield	14-6	1997	—	Westfield	22-7
1949	—	Plainfield	19-6	1998	—	Plainfield	21-7
1950	—	Plainfield	33-7	1999	—	Plainfield	20-14
1951	—	Plainfield	14-6	2000	—	Westfield	42-25
1952	—	Plainfield	27-14	2001	—	Westfield	24-21
1953	—	Plainfield	25-6	2002	—	Westfield	14-6
1954	—	Plainfield	6-0	2003	—	Plainfield	9-7
1955	—	Plainfield	21-0	2004	—	?	



ROLLING LEFT FOR A BIG GAIN...Westfield PAL "C" football team quarterback Michael Stravach, No. 20, rolls left for a big gain in the PAL "C" Superbowl game against Millburn on October 21.



DANGER ALL OVER THE FIELD...Raider Terrance Charles, No. 10, frequently moves up from his sweeper position to pressure the opponent's goal.

Crimson Knights Top Raiders For NJ Group 3 Crown, 4-1

was stopped by Bumbera. "We came out flat in the beginning while they set the tone. We never really picked it up," said Young. "You come out here, you get pumped up, you get excited but then you start getting nervous and you don't know what to do with the ball so we just started turning it over and they took advantage. We picked it up in the second half but we did not put one into the goal while they finished their chances."

The Knights scored their third goal when Kevin Luska crossed to Matt Bouraee who smashed the net at 14:56. Knight Mike Juska put the game out of reach when he scored his second goal off a feed by Bouraee with 10:16 left. "We wanted to come out, work the ball in there and score the early goal,

but they got a deflection. We got it back but they managed a couple of lucky breaks and capitalized while we did not. That's what happens in these big games," said senior Greg Leischner. "We had a slow start early in the year but we picked it up. We won a lot of big games, ended here and that's a great feat. Unfortunately, we fell short tonight."

"Anytime you get to the state finals, it's a tremendous accomplishment. A final season of 23-4, Union county champs, Watchung conference champs, and sectional champs. We certainly would of liked to win the final one here but like you said, we did not bring our 'A' game with us. I'm proud of them. They did a great job and once again, it was another season where people did not expect us to be where we were. We had a great run and there's nothing to hang our heads about," concluded Breznitsky.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Westfield is requesting proposals for an Insurance Risk Management Consultant.

The proposal is due by 12:00(noon), Friday, December 10, 2004 at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090. Ten (10) copies of the proposals must be submitted.

Proposals will be rejected if not submitted within time, date and place designated.

Specifications can be obtained through the Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm. Questions regarding the RFP should be made in writing addressed to the Town Clerk, Town of Westfield, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 or faxed to (908) 233-3077 at least 5 business days prior to the date of submittal.

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County High School State Football Results:

NJ SEC 2, GROUP 2:
West Essex 33, Governor Livingston 7

Chris Bergeski scored on a five-yard TD run for the 6-4 Highlanders.

Gov. Livingston 0 0 7 0 7
West Essex (10-0) 7 6 13 7 33

CENTRAL, SEC 2, GR 2:
Raritan 48, Rahway 0

NJ SEC 2, GROUP 4:
Phillipsburg 14, Elizabethtown 12

Garry Warren had two TD runs but the 9-1 Minutemen could not convert the extra points.

Elizabethtown 0 6 6 0 12
P-burg (10-0) 7 7 0 0 14

Piscataway 27, Linden 0

Kyle Wilson and Malcolm Jenkins each scored two TDs for the 10-0 Chiefs.

Linden (6-4) 0 0 0 0 0
Piscataway 13 0 14 0 27

CENTRAL, SEC 2, GR 1:
New Providence 33, South River 0

Corey Cattano scored three TDs and Brandon Doyle completed TD passes to Scott Savarese and Mike Conte for the 9-1 Pioneers.

South River 0 0 0 0 0
New Providence 6 6 14 7 33

Florence 33, Brearley 20

Vinny Russo had TD runs of 41 yards and one yard for the 8-2 Bears.

Brearley 7 7 0 6 20
Florence (10-0) 7 13 6 7 33

Devil's Den

Westfield/Plainfield Joins 'Century Club'

By BRUCE JOHNSON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The Westfield-Plainfield football rivalry will reach historic proportions this morning at 11 a. m., when the teams meet for the 100th time. Hub Stine Field in Plainfield is a fitting site for the game, since Stine was a coach at Westfield (1916-20) before going to Plainfield for a long career as a coach and athletic director.

According to unofficial research, only Millville vs. Vineland (135th meeting tomorrow) and Blair Academy vs. Peddie School (101st meeting earlier this year) have played more games than Westfield-Plainfield. (Phillipsburg vs. Easton, Pa., will reach 100 next Thanksgiving.)

The nation's oldest rivalry, according to the National Federation of High Schools, is Connecticut's New London vs. Norwalk Free Academy that started in 1875. Only about two-dozen schools in the country have met more often than WHS and Plainfield. Westfield's No. 2 all-time rival in games played is Rahway with 58, though the schools last played in 1998.

Westfield has 50 wins, Plainfield 42 and there have been seven ties. Here's a breakdown of the results, by decade (Westfield wins-Plainfield wins-ties):

1900-09: 3-5-1
1910-19: 5-6-1
1920-29: 1-5
1930-39: 4-2-3
1940-49: 6-2
1950-59: 0-10
1960-69: 6-4
1970-79: 11-0
1980-89: 6-3-1
1990-99: 5-4-1
2000-03: 3-1

The Cardinals dominated the 1950s, as Abe Smith's juggernauts annually ranked among the state's premier teams. Les Zorge's final Westfield team in 1960 ended WHS's 11-game losing streak on Thanksgiving Day with a 13-7 victory before over 10,000 fans in Plainfield. Sophomore Marty Howarth had two interceptions, a fumble recovery and a touchdown-saving tackle that day.

After Westfield ruled in the 1970s with 11 straight wins (including one during the state playoffs in 1977), the teams have battled on fairly even terms for the last quarter-century. Westfield winning 14, Plainfield eight with two ties. But this is truly one of those games where the teams' won-loss records (Plainfield is 4-5, WHS 1-8) don't mean a thing. It's the last game ever for a lot of players, and it means a lot to the people and alumni in both towns. The biggest crowd of the year will be there as another part of history is put into the record books for one of New Jersey's great rivalries.

NEXT WEEK
With the 2004 football season completed, we'll take a look at a couple of all-time Westfield High School teams. One was picked in 1950 by Hall of Famer Rick McGinley for his senior paper, covering 1900-1950. The other is mine, covering 1960-2004.

TRIVIA QUESTION
Who was Westfield's first Thanksgiving Day opponent and what year was that game? And how many others were there before 1944, when Plainfield became the annual Turkey Day foe? By the way, sophomore Bobby Dougherty passed to Jack Salvato for one TD and ran for another as Westfield's 12-0 victory capped a 10-0 season.

MOVIN' ON?
Cranford is rumored to be trying to leave the Watchung Conference, where it has to play too many big

schools. If the Cougars are able to make the move – possibly to the Mountain Valley Conference, where they would join A.L. Johnson, Rahway, Dayton, New Providence, Roselle Park, Roselle, Union Catholic and Governor Livingston among others – would Westfield, and maybe Scotch Plains-Fanwood, be next to leave? The Skyland (Bridgewater, Hunterdon Central, Phillipsburg, Watchung Hills) and/or Greater Middlesex (East Brunswick, Sayreville, J.P. Stevens, Edison) conferences would no doubt love to have teams with the athletic traditions of WHS and SP-F. The Blue Devils have belonged to the Watchung Conference since 1960.

GREAT FINISH
Another congrats to coach Jack Martin and his boys cross-country team. The Blue Devils, sixth at the Group 4 championships, finished eighth at last Saturday's Meet of Champions in Holmdel Park. Junior Jeff Perrella, the sectional individual champ, finished behind just five runners in the entire state!

Martin's bunch finally beat Cranford, which had beaten WHS in their dual meet and at the county and conference championships. Both teams are loaded for next year, when Cranford will try to win its ninth straight county title. The county record of eight in a row was set twice by Westfield, from 1975-82 under legendary coach Walt Clarkson and from 1989-96 under Martin.

STREAKIN'
WHS's 28-7 win over Edison in their NJSIAA consolation game ended this year's Blue Devils to end an 11-game losing streak, longest in school history. The old mark of nine losses in a row was set during the 1952 and '53 seasons, under Hall of Fame coach Joe Freeman.

After opening the 1952 season with a 7-0 win over Union, Westfield lost to Rahway (14-0) and South River (21-0). Ties against Roselle Park (0-0) and Columbia (6-6) preceded the losing streak, which began on November 1 with a 14-12 home loss to Bound Brook (Westfield was 28-2-1 in 31 meetings with the Crusaders over the years). Losses to Springfield (13-0), West Orange (8-0) and Plainfield (27-14) ended a 1-6-2 season. In 1953, Union (7-0), Rahway (26-12), South River (28-0), Roselle Park (46-0) and Columbia (31-6) ran the losing streak to nine before George Buchanan's two touchdowns and one by Sonny Bonneau produced an 18-6 win at Bound Brook.

TRIVIA ANSWER
Madison in 1923. Westfield won 6-3. Other Turkey Day opponents, with scores: 1925 Madison 13, WHS 0; 1926 WHS 13, North Plainfield 0; 1927 WHS 6, North Plainfield 0; 1934 WHS 37, Nyack, N.Y. 13; 1935 WHS 24, Nyack, N.Y. 0; 1936 WHS 43, Haverstraw, N.Y. 6; 1937 Pearl River, N.Y. 7, WHS 0; 1940 Ridgewood 18, WHS 0; 1941 WHS 41, Ridgewood 7; 1942 WHS 13, Ferris of Jersey City 6; 1943 Ferris of Jersey City 20, WHS 6.

Bruce Johnson's Devil's Den appears every Thursday in The Westfield Leader. Contact him with comments or ideas at bj1019@aol.com.

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Blue Devil X-C Girls Battled Through Competitive Season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

the fourth through seventh spots with Onishi at 20:38, sophomore Jennifer Danielsson at 20:40, junior Rachel Barrett at 20:47 and senior Anne Siwulec at 20:58. At the UC race, sophomore Kim Legones placed 12th at 20:33 (a personal best (PB)), Siwulec was 13th at 20:46 (PB), Barrett was 14th at 20:53 and freshman Rose Driscoll crossed 15th at 20:57 (PB). Danielsson, who crossed ninth at 20:30 (PB) in the UC race and finished ninth in the section at 21:07, has been making great strides to possibly becoming the Blue Devils' front runner next year.

"Jen has been our steady Number 2," said Hornish. "What we did not have was that way out in front Number 1. This year you needed to have someone who could run 20 flat at

Holmdel, or perhaps two, if you were really going to make a bid for the Meet of Champions, or have a group of kids who could run 20:30. If you ask me my druthers, I would rather have a pack."

Other pack runners who have contributed well this season are: senior Erin McCloskey, juniors Meg Driscoll, Jayne Ruotolo, Carly Oliff, Caitlyn Berkowitz and Jillian Hobson and sophomores Ayn Wisler and Meg Buttrick.

"We did very well. We had a good time at the state meet. 21:24 was our team time, an improvement of 37 seconds from the Shore Coaches. We are right where we want to be. We are coming back next year with a real strong situation. We have a baker's dozen plus one, 14 kids, which we call our varsity core."



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
GOING OVER THE PLAY...The Westfield PAL "D" offense gets the play from quarterback Nathan Mitchel in preparation for their big day at Giants Stadium on November 28.

Westfield PAL 'D' Preps For Giants Stadium

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

Dreams will come true for the Westfield PAL "D" football team when they march onto the field during halftime of the Giants/Eagles game at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford on November 28. Surrounded by a crowd of approximately 76,000 spectators and viewed by millions, the "D" team will show off its talents.

The setup will pit the Westfield PAL "D" offense against its defense. "We will get in about a dozen or so plays," said PAL "D" coach John Dugan who added, "This is the second-year players – fourth and fifth graders, so it is very much still instructional football. It's just been a fantastic group of kids to coach. At the beginning of the year, they were just bumping into each other. They really came together and had a 6-3-1 season. I hope they stick together all through high school."

On December 5, 1999, the "D" team, under the guidance of Owen Brand, also performed at Giants Stadium during a Giants/Jets game. Twenty-two years to the day prior, Brand had touchdown receptions of 47 yards and 24 yards in Westfield High School's crushing, 33-12, victory over Barringer in the presence of a record crowd of 32,232 – for high school games. "Several years ago we had the opportunity to do it with the "D" team. Just knowing the right people up at the Giants organization, who were really into youth football, helped us do it. They actually contacted us," said Dugan. "That was almost 22 years to the day that Owen played up at the Meadowlands." "I can't wait. I have been there a couple of times," said wingback Brandon Vassallo, a Giants fan, who has one touchdown to his credit this sea-

son. Vassallo said he was not nervous yet, but he may be when they come out to the shoot at the stadium.

Running back Brendon Dugan, who has scored two touchdowns this season, said, "It sounds cool, exciting. I'll be a little nervous."

Halfback John Lanzano, who has scored some touchdowns and had a long run of about 70 yards, said, "I have been there a couple of times. I'm a little nervous but I'm going to enjoy it."

"These kids have been on cloud nine ever since we told them from their last victory, which was a come-from-behind win over Berkeley Heights," said Dugan. "At the end of the game, we told them to keep their uniforms another few weeks and that they would be going and playing at the halftime show of the Giants/Eagle game. Since then they have been absolutely crazy over it, telling everybody in town."

WF Turkey Trot Set For This Saturday

The 21st annual Westfield 5-Mile Turkey Trot and Westfield Midas PracticeHard Mile will be held this Saturday, November 27, at Tamaques Park in Westfield. The 1-Mile event will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the 5-Mile Run will begin at 11 a.m.

The 1-Mile course is run entirely inside the park. The 5 Miler (USATF certified and 500 point Grand Prix) will begin and end in the park with the bulk of the run on the residential streets of Westfield.

Refreshments – hot chicken soup, bagels and snacks – and awards to top finishers as well as random prizes will be available after the races. There will be a \$250 cash drawing at the awards ceremony – all participants are entered.

Online registration can be found at www.PracticeHard.com or by calling (908) 245-3000.

Wolfpack Defends Domain, Halts Raider Gridders, 28-21

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

fore being chased down by Smith. Five plays later from the 12, Critchley hit Hornung in the end zone on the same pass pattern to put the Wolfpack up 14-7 with 5:24 left in the first half.

The final Wolfpack TD began when a Raider drive was ruined with an interception at the Wolfpack seven-yard line early in the third quarter. After a nine-yard gain by Field, fullback Nate Anderson burst off-tackle for an 84-yard TD run with 8:20 left in the quarter.

On the other hand, the Raiders scored all three of their TDs on long scoring drives. The first came on an eight-play, 62-yard scoring march that ended with LaForge's 19-yard TD run with 10:32 left in the half. Their second TD came after the Wolfpack's final TD. Finding success on the ground with halfback Rashawn Strong, the Raiders chewed up 65 yards on 12 plays, concluded by Strong's two-yard plunge into the end zone.

Late in the fourth quarter, the Raiders

engineered their third long scoring drive, this time with a six-play aerial attack that covered 76 yards, ending with Weber's spectacular, 20-yard leaping grab in the end zone with 1:08 left in the game. The ensuing onside kick was smothered by a Wolfpack defender.

"We did a lot of good things. Weber did a nice job. Danny was throwing the ball. We did what we wanted to do offensively," said Ciccotelli.

"It wasn't anything physical. It was definitely mental. We made a lot of mental mistakes, not covering our people. The second half we played better. We didn't come to play today like we should have," said linebacker/center Kevin Urban who made several tackles and had a tipped pass. "The punt before the half where our punter put his knee down really hurt. That gave them good field position. But, it's just a game."

"Our kids never quit. They never stopped. I got to be proud of them. It didn't work out," said Ciccotelli.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood 0 7 7 7 21
West Morris 7 14 7 0 28



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
WILD DOGS AND WOLVES...The Raider "Wild Dog" defense smother Wolfpack fullback Nate Anderson during the section semifinal game. The Wolfpack defended their domain with a 28-21 victory.

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS

Public notice is hereby given that the undersigned, The Collector of Taxes of the Town of Westfield, Union County, New Jersey, will sell at public auction on the 16th day of December, 2004 in the Tax Collector's office in the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, at ten o'clock in the morning, the following described lands:

The said lands will be sold to make the amount of Municipal liens chargeable against that same on the 16th day of December, 2004 together with interest and cost of sale, exclusive however, of the lien for taxes for the year 2004.

The said lands will be sold in fee to such persons as will purchase the same, subject to redemption at the lowest rate of interest, but in no case in excess of eighteen percent (18%) per annum. Payments for the sale shall be made by cash or certified check before conclusion of the sale or the property will be resold.

Any parcel of real property for which there shall be no other purchaser will be struck off and sold to the Municipality in fee for redemption at eighteen percent (18%) per annum and the Municipality shall have the right to bar or foreclose the right of redemption.

The sale will be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 54, Revised Statutes of New Jersey, 1937, and amendments thereto. At any time before the sale the undersigned will receive payment of the amount due on the property, with interest and costs incurred up to the time of payments, by certified check or cash.

Industrial properties may be subject to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11 et seq.), the Water Pollution Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq.) and the Industrial Site Recovery Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1K-6 et seq.) In addition, the municipality is precluded from issuing a tax sale certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site.

The said lands so subject to sale, described in accordance with the tax duplicate, including the name of the owner as shown on the last duplicate and the total amount due thereon respectively on the 16th day of December, 2004, exclusive of the lien for the year 2004 are as listed below:

Location of Property Address	Owner	Block & Lot	Amount Due Dec. 16, 2004
**1. 765 Clark Street	Dabulas, Joseph & Diane	707/30	\$ 470.09
2. 914 North Avenue West	Rudnicki, David & Cynthia F.	907/20	\$ 5,358.25
3. 754 Belvidere Avenue	Schwinn, Alice L. Est of	1302/7	\$12,224.39
4. 206 Florence Avenue North	J. Holder, Inc.	2704/32	\$ 3,565.51
5. 833 South Avenue West	Ciullo, Alfonso & Emma	2706/12	\$ 2,880.49
6. 524 Cumberland Street	Ciullo, Alfonso & Emma	2706/17	\$ 1,048.42
7. 532 Cumberland Street	Bianco, Theresa	2706/19	\$ 7,014.08
8. 614 Dorian Road	Fisher, Bruce	2904/5	\$ 2,288.93
9. 515 Trinity Road	Rowland, Cheryl	3010/11/C0050	\$ 4,751.76
10. 1 Elm Street	One Elm Street Realty Assoc., LLC	3105/18	\$ 28,068.05
11. 215 Cacciola Place	Ciullo, Alfonso & Emma	3205/10	\$ 1,977.05
12. 121 Cacciola Place	Morris, Cleoster Est of	3205/16	\$ 1,872.44
13. 576 North Avenue East	RAJ Investments, Inc.	3305/2	\$ 31,773.76
14. 525 Chestnut Street South	Helfenstein, George	3408/32	\$ 11,242.11
15. 127 Windsor Avenue	Carter, Lillie	4001/34	\$ 923.26
16. 303 Windsor Avenue	Johnson, Robert L. Est. of.	4004/22	\$ 1,157.83
17. 251 Windsor Avenue	Richardson, Gary	4004/32	\$ 3,178.07
18. 1010 Seward Avenue	Isbrecht, Richard W.	4604/2	\$ 9,841.14
19. 609 Ardsleigh Drive	Nienburg, Gordon & Mary Ann	5402/22	\$ 1,333.35
20. 132 Cambridge Road	Junno, Anna Mae	5717/1	\$ 11,452.95

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4 T - 11/18, 11/25, 12/2 & 12/9/04, The Leader Fee: \$408.00

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SCOTCH PLAINS \$689,000

Watch the sun set from the Master Bedroom balcony of this 4 Bedroom, 3 bath home nestled amid a marvelous yard with in-ground pool. Many spacious rooms feature natural wood molding, hardwood floors, French doors and custom built-ins.



FANWOOD \$339,000

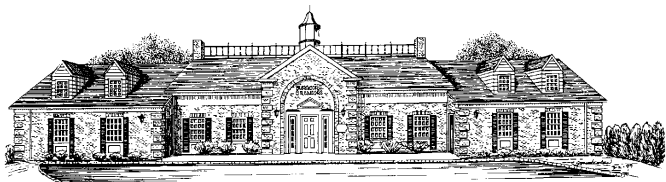
Charming Cape Cod in move-in condition includes an updated Eat-In Kitchen, newer furnace, central air conditioning and appliances. There is a Recreation Room in basement, lovely yard with deck and is conveniently located close to park, town and transportation.



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BEGINNING OF A 60-YARD TD...Westfield PAL "A" quarterback Tony DiIorio tosses to Chris Rhodes for a 60-yard touchdown in the 32-0 win over Berkeley Heights.

WF PAL 'A' Grid Kids Win Suburban Youth League

Westfield PAL "A" team won the Suburban Youth Football League Championship by beating Richmond Boro (RB), 18-13, on November 21 in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. The "A" team coached by Fred DeFazio finished 10-0-1.

Chris Rhodes began with a 60-yard run then Tony DiIorio handed to Ricardo Johnson who had a short sprint for the TD. Joe Kania, Matt Marcus, Josh Firestone, Eric Moran, Mike Tarnofsky, Craig Dyer, Jihaad Billups, Tyshon Allen, Brett DeFazio, Chris Sheehan and Brandon Rolnick provided blocking.

Michael Clark, James Diddell, Chris Jacob, Brandon Rolnick made tackles with support from Jimmy Reardon, TJ Mruz, Kevin Murphy, Spencer Cassidy, Billups, Allen and Rhodes.

The defense again came up big with tackles by Rolnick and Rhodes that stopped a first down with assistance from Gerald Schuman. Eric Moran later recovered a fumble on a RB punt return. DiIorio passed to Johnson who sped 45 yards for his second TD. DeFazio intercepted a long pass to end the half.

In the second half, Reardon, Murphy, Diddell, Jacob and Mruz had tackles and Rhodes closed with a backfield take down. RB botched a punt and Rhodes tackled for the turnover deep in RB territory.

Next, Rolnick recorded a tackle and Diddell recovered a fumble. Westfield moved downfield after DiIorio passed to Billups who pitched out to Johnson.

In the fourth quarter, Matt Stroup, Ryan Gradel, Dan Ludlum, Nick Hawkins, Brian Dunn, David Babetski and Drew Bergin provided offense. Johnson carried twice, Mruz got a first down and DiIorio tossed to Johnson who glided for a 35-yard TD.

Defenders John Gilmartin, Frank Lewis, Nick DeFraites, Evan Paulen, Matt Reiss held strong but RB got on the board after two long pass completions and an extra point.



UNDEFEATED AND CHAMPIONS...The Westfield Juventus U11 boys undefeated "A" soccer team finished first in its division with 30 goals for the season. Coached by Matt Felix, Steve Schapow and trainer Adrian Borrows, their last game in Berkeley Heights this past Sunday was a 3-1 victory that put them in first place.

Westfield Rangers Capture U11 Division Soccer Title

The Westfield Rangers boy's soccer team beat the Plainfield Red Falcons, 2-1, to clinch first in their U11 division of the Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association (MNJYSA).

The Rangers fell behind 1-0 on a long pass to a wide-open shooter. Ranger goalie Adam Firestone had little chance to stop this shot. The Rangers quickly closed the door by successfully matching the offensive and defense speed of the Plainfield team.

Midfielder Eric Saunders shifted to goal in the second half and made several key stops. Defenders Michael Woods, Julian Olivares, Evan Friedman and Kevin Larkin controlled the goal zone and were quick to get the ball downfield.

With about 10 minutes left in the game, the Rangers pulled even on a great goal by forward Spencer Kerkhof.

With the title on the line, the Rangers kept the offensive pressure on. With about one minute remaining, a Plainfield defender was called for a clear tripping foul in the goal zone. Midfielder Brian Vander Schaaf converted the penalty kick for the victory.

The Rangers finished with an 8-2 record (10-2 with tournament play) and the division title. Sean Doherty, Declan Fitzmaurice, Jack Leahy, Will Goeghegan, Brendan Seery, Henry Ritter and Steven West also contributed to the Rangers' midfield and offensive power during their final two games.

Rangers' Coach Shawn Doherty, Assistant Coaches David Vander Schaaf and Mark Friedman, and Trainer Rob Alman did an excellent job.



DIVISION SOCCER CHAMPS...The Westfield U11 Rangers recently won their division of the Mid-Jersey Youth Soccer Association. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Kevin Larkin, Michael Woods, Adam Firestone, Julian Olivares, Evan Friedman and Sean Doherty; middle row, Brendan Seery, Declan Fitzmaurice, Eric Saunders, Jack Leahy, Spencer Kerkhof, Brian Vander Schaaf, Will Goeghegan, Henry Ritter and Steven West; back row, Trainer Rob Alman, Coach Shawn Doherty and Assistant Coach David Vander Schaaf. (Assistant Coach Mark Friedman not pictured).

CJ U14 Stars Conclude Successful Fall Season

The CJ Stars U-14 soccer team concluded its fall season with a 4-2 record in the competitive Jersey Area Girls (JAGs) league.

The team started with a close, 2-1, loss against East Windsor, then rallied with four consecutive wins over SSC (4-1), Staten Island (2-0), Robbinsville (1-0) and Princeton (1-0). They ended with a hard-fought 1-0 loss against first place Wall on November 7. The Stars will be playing this winter in an indoor league against high school teams.

The CJ Stars are coached by Keith Hertell. The team plays a Brazilian style of soccer, with an emphasis on ball movement on the ground, minimum number of touches, diagonal passes and runs, and circulating the ball using the entire field. They generally play three tournaments each season in addition to league games. Any interested players may call Coach Hertell at (908) 233-5522.

See it all on the Web!
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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, 2004 granted approval to Joseph & Paula Dzuback for a front porch on the property at 22 Beech Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey being Block 112, Lot 9.
Documents pertaining to this application are available for public inspection at Borough Hall during normal business hours.
Joseph & Paula Dzuback
22 Beech Avenue
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023
1 T - 11/25/04, The Times Fee: \$15.81

PUBLIC NOTICE
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-10755-04
FILE NO. 8242-04
NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: THOMAS FUSARI;
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon CASALE & PELLEGRINO, L.L.C., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is: GATEHALL, 1 PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a Civil Action, in which FUNB CUST/TTEE % PLYM SPV 2 is the plaintiff and MANUEL FERNANDEZ, ET ALS; are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION County and bearing Docket No. F-10755-04 within thirty-five (35) days after November 25, 2004 exclusive of such date. If you fail to answer or appear in accordance with Rule 4:4-6. Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.
You are further advised that if you are unable to obtain an attorney you may communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of Venue and that if you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Venue. The telephone number of such agencies are as follows: Lawyer Referral Service 908-353-4715 - Legal Services Office 908-354-4340.
THE ACTION has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the following tax sale certificate: 1. A certain tax certificate 006867, recorded on 7/1/2001, made by ROBERT A. MACK, Collector of Taxes of ELIZABETH, and State of New Jersey to FUNB CUST/TTEE % PLYM SPV 2 and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, FUNB CUST/TTEE % PLYM SPV 2. This covers real estate located in ELIZABETH, County of UNION, and State of New Jersey, known as LOT 172 BLOCK 12 as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and Tax Map duplicate of ELIZABETH, and concerns premises commonly known as 1058 BOND STREET, ELIZABETH, New Jersey.
YOU, THOMAS FUSARI, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on October 5, 1989, a judgment was entered in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Monmouth County, by Thomas Fusari against Manuel Fernandez disclosing a debt in the amount \$89,916.66, plus costs. Said judgment was entered as Judgment No. J-082973-1989. Said judgment is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien.
AND YOU, THOMAS FUSARI, are further made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on August 29, 1991, a judgment was entered in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Monmouth County, by Thomas Fusari against Manuel Fernandez disclosing a debt in the amount \$75,000.00, plus interest and costs. Said judgment was entered as Judgment No. J-096480-1991. Said judgment is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien.
DATED: November 17, 2004
Donald F. Phelan,
Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey
CASALE & PELLEGRINO, L.L.C.
1 Gatehall Drive
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
1 T - 11/15/04, The Leader Fee: \$72.93



LEAGUE SOCCER CHAMPS...The Scotch Plains U12 Blue Sharks soccer team recently won their League Championship. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Sarah Weber, Lauren Berk, Toni Ann Capece, Melissa McKenna, Kara Gaynor, Desli Demarisco and Annie Rubin; second row, Jessica Feeley, Sarah Lazarus, Erin Brown, Lauren Buckley, Alyssa Young, Emily Cohen, Amanda Rodriguez, Jessica DiGiacomo and Rebecca DiGiacomo; back row, Coaches Kurt Rubin, Mike McKenna, Andy Weber and Tom DiGiacomo.

U12 Soccer Blue Sharks Bite Rahway in Penalty Shootout

The Scotch Plains Blue Sharks U12 Girls intercounty soccer team defeated Rahway in penalty kicks 4-3 to win the league championship at Rahway Field in Rahway on November 20.

The Sharks, 5-0, losers in their previous battle with Rahway, adopted a defensive strategy but still trailed 1-0 late in the second half until Kara Gaynor converted Emily Cohen's corner kick to tie the game after McKenna had kept the Sharks in the game with several acrobatic saves. After a scoreless sudden death overtime period, the teams went into a penalty kick shootout.

After falling behind 1-0, Rebecca DiGiacomo drew the Sharks even with a well-placed shot in the corner. After Rahway scored again, Lauren Berk, one of the scorers against South Mountain connected with a high, hard shot. McKenna made a good catch on a hard shot. Erin Brown, who scored the clincher against South Mountain, delivered another left-footed cannon that gave the goalie no chance. When McKenna saved Rahway's fifth shot, the Sharks mobbed their goalie and carried her on their shoulders.

Other contributors included Jessica Feeley, Alyssa Young, Amanda Rodriguez, Sarah Weber, Toni Ann Capece, Lauren Buckley, Jessica DiGiacomo, Annie Rubin, Sarah Lazarus and Desli DeMarsico.

FSPY Swimming Girls Dunk Ocean County Y Swimmers

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA girls B swim team defeated the Ocean County YMCA on November 6.

In the Individual Medley, 9-10 Molly O'Halloran took first, while 11-12s Ellen Tomljanovic and Kirsten Carbone touched first and second, respectively. 13-14s Julie Disch and Rebecca Clapp finished 1-2; Nicole Zoller and Brittany Adisano were 1-3.

In freestyle, 8Us Tiffany Inacker and Cami Sullivan finished second and fourth, 9-10s Carly Whitmer and Brenda Ho touched 1-2 and Hannah Greaney and Emily Ho were first and second, while 11-12s Megan Hoerner and Gabrielle Titone finished 1-2. Katelyn Cavanaugh, Joanna Luzny and Bianca Pacheco swept and 13-14s Kim Many and Amanda Gianni went 1-2. 15-18s Brittany Cole and Kaitlyn Daly touched 1-3.

In breaststroke, 9-10s Sara Hoerner and Emma Sherry finished 1-3 and Caroline Lesce and Madeline Krema touched 2-3. 11-12s Megan Hoerner and Gabrielle Titone were 1-2, and 13-14 Katelyn Cavanaugh was first. Judy Fitzpatrick and Melissa Fitzgibbons swam well. 15-18s Lindsay Hauptman and Diane Fitzpatrick finished 3-4.

In backstroke, 8Us Emma Sherry, Cami Sullivan and Sara Hoerner swept. 9-10s Brenda Ho and Caroline Lesce touched 1-3. 11-12 Nicole Buzzanca was third. 13-14s Rebecca Clapp, Melissa Desnoyers and Cheryl Monteiro finished 1-2-4. Kate Flor-Stagnato, Emily O'Halloran and Katie Gartner swam well. 15-18s Nicole Zoller, Brittany Adisano and Caitlyn Daly swept.

In butterfly, 8Us Olivia Whitmer and Tiffany Inacker touched 1-3. 9-10s Carly Whitmer and Molly O'Halloran finished 1-2, as did 11-12s Ellen Tomljanovic and Kirsten Carbone. 13-14s Julie Disch, Bianca Pacheco and Melissa Desnoyers touched 1-2-3. Elizabeth Peach swam well. 15-18s Brittany Cole and Christine Albanese-Demair finished 1-2.

In the freestyle relays, the 8U team of Olivia Whitmer, Cami Sullivan, Emma Sherry and Sara Hoerner finished first as did 9-10s Carly Whitmer, Caroline Lesce, Katie Sullivan and Brenda Ho. 11-12s Kirsten Carbone, Elena Haggan, Gabrielle Titone and Ellen Tomljanovic touched first, as did 13-14s Rebecca Clapp, Katelyn Cavanaugh, Bianca Pacheco and Julie Disch and 15-18s Brittany Cole, Brittany Adisano, Caitlyn Daly and Nicole Zoller.

U14 Blue Thunder Tie Flemington in Soccer

Solid defense and sound goalkeeping proved key as the Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SPF) U14 boy's soccer team closed out the regular season with a hard fought, 1-1, tie against the visiting Flemington Phantoms.

SPF fullbacks Joe D'auria and Denzel Anankwah, with help from midfielder Colin Grimm, turned back countless Phantom rushes in the first 10 minutes and cleared several Flemington corner kicks as goalkeeper Andrew Smith recorded eight first-half saves to keep the game close.

The lone Blue Thunder goal came off the foot of Dan Meurer late in the first half as he hammered home a rebound off a shot by Michael Roth. The goal was Meurer's third in two games. Juan Castillo, Danny Gore, Steve Kuchinsky and Marc Fusillo all added shots on the Flemington net.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY
The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on November 23, 2004. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Township Council to be held at its meeting room in the Township Hall, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, on December 14, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:
TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF \$150,000 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ANTENNA TOWER AT THE SOUTH SIDE FIRE HOUSE (CO. NO. 2) IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.
Purpose(s): Supplemental funding for the replacement of the antennatower at the South Side Fire House (Co. No. 2) in, by and for the Township.
Appropriation: \$150,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$142,500
Grants (if any) Appropriated: -0-
Section 20 Costs: \$70,000
Useful Life: 10 years
This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.
Barbara Riepe
Township Clerk
Township of Scotch Plains
County of Union
State of New Jersey
1 T - 11/25/04, The Times Fee: \$53.04

F-SP YMCA Offers Youth Gymnastics
Young gymnasts at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA brought their teddy bears to class recently to share the fun with new friends. A progressive preschool gymnastics program focuses on age-appropriate activities utilizing the vault, uneven bars and balance beams, as well as special mats and equipment to help refine gross motor skills.
The "Y" also offers parent/toddler and kindergarten classes, a progressive program for girls in grades 1 through 12, and competitive teams for girls. For more information about gymnastics at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, please call (908) 889-8880.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
NOTICE is hereby given that at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, held in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building of said Township on Tuesday, November 23, 2004, there was introduced, read for the first time, and passed on such first reading, the following ordinance:
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF TITLE TO LOT 5 IN BLOCK 7302 FOR LOT 7 IN BLOCK 7303.
PURPOSE: Authorizing exchange of title to lot 5 in block 7302 for lot 7 in block 7303. A public hearing for same will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, or any time and place to which a meeting for the further consideration of such ordinance shall from time to time be adjourned, and all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning such ordinance.
A copy of same may be obtained from the office of the Township Clerk, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday by any member of the general public who wants a copy of same without cost.
BARBARA RIEPE
Township Clerk
1 T - 11/25/04, The Times Fee: \$31.11

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Dominic and Phyllis Lisanti to
 Barbara Piatkowski, 631 Dorian
 Road, \$550,000.

Daniel and Wanda Ambrose to
 Naoto and Mina Uemura, 1031
 Harding Street, \$515,000.

Arthur and Joan Emtage to Santiago
 Rodriguez, 242 Myrtle Avenue,
 \$374,500.

Leonard and Teresa Ferrara to
 Angelo Puma, Jr., 1037 Irving Street,
 \$389,500.

Philip and Dena Lawton to John
 and Suzanne O'Rourke, 402 Sandford
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 seph and Rosemarie Vaccaro, 1133
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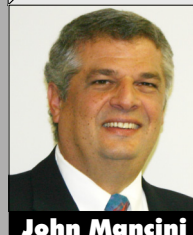
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DEATH NOTICE

Jane M. Seader, 64, Choir Member; Volunteered With Hearing Impaired

Jane M. Seader of Newtown, Pa., formerly of Westfield, died on Thursday, November 18, at St. Mary Medical Center in Langhorne, Pa. at the age of 64.

A daughter of the late Eugene and Theresa Caffrey, Jane enjoyed reading, piano, and was a member of the church choir. She was active with the

DEATH NOTICE

Suzanne M. Wolny, 57

Suzanne M. Randel Wolny, 57, of Brick and Placita, Colo. died on Saturday, November 20, at her home.

Born in Washington, D.C., she had lived in Howell Township prior to moving to Brick in 1972.

Mrs. Wolny had been employed with the Lacey Township Board of Education as a media specialist at Lacey Middle School for 10 years before retiring in 1996. Earlier, she had worked for the Howell Township school system.

A 1964 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, she earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. in 1968.

She was an avid John Denver fan. Mrs. Wolny was a member of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Point Pleasant.

Surviving are her husband, Howard Wolny; a son, Matthew Wolny of Bayville; a daughter, Jennifer Wolny-Shurtliff of St. Petersburg, Fla.; her parents, Harry and Lillian Randel of Scotch Plains, and a brother, James Randel of Lutz, Fla.

A funeral service was scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, November 24, at the Herbertsville Colonial Funeral Home in Brick. Burial was to follow at St. Mark's Cemetery in Allentown, Pa.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 246 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst 07755.

November 25, 2004

St. Clair Monastery and was a volunteer for the hearing impaired.

Jane is survived by two daughters, Mary Jane Bobyock and her husband, David, of Chester Springs, Pa. and Ann Marie Hanson and her husband, Greg, of Wrightstown, Pa.; her grandchildren, Lauren, Jessica and Julie Bobyock and Dean and Makena Hanson; two brothers, Patrick and Eugene Caffrey, Jr., and her aunt, Anne Contreras.

A Life Celebration for Jane was held on Monday, November 22, at the Swartz Givnish Funeral Home in Newtown, Pa. A Funeral Mass followed at the Old Church of St. Andrew in Newtown. Interment took place at the Our Lady of Czestochowa Cemetery in Doylestown, Pa.

Memorial contributions may be sent to St. Mary Medical Center, Langhorne Newtown Road, Langhorne, Pa. 19047 or to a charity of one's choice.

November 25, 2004

Elizabeth C. Chrono, 89

Elizabeth C. Shedneck Chrono, 89, of Westfield died on Thursday, November 18, at her home.

Born in Garwood, she lived in Westfield since 1936.

Mrs. Chrono had been the hostess at the Town House Restaurant of Westfield for 30 years prior to retiring in 1992.

She was predeceased by her husband, Eugene Chrono, in 1964.

Surviving are a daughter, Judith Battiloro of Edison; two sons, Eugene Chrono of Georgetown, Tex. and Allan Chrono of Westfield; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Monday, November 22, at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Interment took place at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

November 25, 2004

Library Friends Announce Most Successful Book Sale

FANWOOD – The Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library have reported that the organization held its most successful annual book sale ever on October 2.

The library support group collected more than \$3,000 – a 20 percent gain over last year's proceeds.

On the front lawn of the library, at North Avenue and Tillotson Road, the Friends displayed a dozen tables overflowing with books in every major category: fiction, non-fiction, biography, history, mystery, romance, cookbooks, self-help and children's offerings.

Children's toys, tapes and videos were also for sale. Prices increased this year as follows: hard covers, \$1.25; paperbacks, 75 cents, and children's, 50 cents.

Many people worked "long and hard to make it a success," according to the Friends. Adult and student volunteers, as well as several scout troops, joined forces to collect, sort, set up and clean up.

The Friends have enlisted the help of new volunteers for next year's sale, which will occur at a new location –

the Forest Road Park building. However, more volunteers are needed and welcome.

Anyone interested in serving on the Book Sale Committee is asked to call Carol Campell at (908) 322-9179.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Planning Board at its special meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2004 memorialized the following Board action taken on November 4, 2004:

Please take notice that the Town of Westfield Planning Board on November 15, 2004 memorialized an amendment of the Land Use Plan and Housing Plan elements of the Master Plan of the Town of Westfield. The amendment recommends that age-restricted housing be a permitted principal use on all floors of a building in a location on the west side of Prospect Street near Ferris Place in the Central Business District, with appropriate regulations. The amendment also recommends that new development be required, where appropriate, to address any affordable housing obligation that may be imposed upon the Town by such development.

Kenneth B. Marsh
Secretary
1 T - 11/25/04, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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— Obituaries —

DEATH NOTICE

Erwin Raabe, 83, Retired Executive; Was Known For Kindness and Humor

Erwin M. Raabe of Carmel, Calif. was freed from all care on Thursday, November 18, 2004 at the age of 83.

Born in Baltimore, Md. on May 6, 1921, he had lived in Westfield with his family from 1960 to 1988, when he moved to Carmel.

Erwin was a holder of several metallurgy patents and the inventor of various container types, including the common five-gallon pail. He rose from the position of bench chemist to that of Vice-President of Research and Development of Rheem Manufacturing Company of Linden, N.J., working in the container division for 43 years.

After retiring in 1984, he was an avid hiker and naturalist in the Monterey Peninsula and Big Sur areas. Erwin had been recognized at the age of 14 as discoverer of the northern-most habitat in North America of

the trap-door spider.

A United States Army veteran, Erwin served in the Medical Corps during World War II.

He was a member of the American Chemical Society, Monterey Bay Aquarium and The Carmel Foundation.

He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Clare, of Carmel, Calif.; son Ted of Pleasanton, Calif.; son and daughter-in-law Ken and Jane of Chicago, Ill., and four devoted grandchildren, Alex, Vanessa, Max and Ethan.

His great sense of humor and kind nature will make him greatly missed by all who knew him. "God bless us, everyone" was his favorite saying.

At Erwin's request, services will be private. Arrangements are by The Paul Mortuary in Pacific Grove, Calif.

November 25, 2004



Erwin M. Raabe

Anthony Deland, 75, Plumbing Contractor; Longtime Business Owner In Westfield

Anthony Deland, 75, of Westfield and Point Pleasant died on Saturday, November 20, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Newark, he had lived in Bloomfield for 50 years before moving to Westfield 22 years ago. For the last 24 years, he also maintained a second home in Point Pleasant.

Mr. Deland, a plumbing contractor, was the owner of A-Mech, Inc. in Westfield for many years. He also was a long-time member of Plumbers Local No. 24 of Springfield.

Surviving are his wife, Jean Finamore Deland; a son, Steven

Deland; two daughters, June Gaglioti and Jacqueline Dubinetti; two brothers, Michael Deland and Vincent Deland; a sister, Marlene Caffrey, and four granddaughters.

The funeral service was scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, November 24, at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield. A Mass of Christian Burial was to follow at 10 a.m. at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Interment was to take place at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover.

November 25, 2004

Community/Church News

Calvary Lutheran to Host Rutgers University Chorus

CRANFORD – The Calvary Lutheran Church, located at 108 Eastman Street in Cranford, will present the Rutgers University Chorus, Newark Campus, in a Holiday Choral Concert on Sunday, December 5, at 4 p.m.

The program by the 50-voice chorus will feature works by Brahms, Telemann, Praetorius, Howells and Bryan Kelly, as well as special arrangements of Advent and Christmas

carols, Hanukkah folksongs and African-American spirituals.

The program will be under the direction of Dr. John Floren, who has been conductor of the chorus since 1979. Harvey Burgett will be the accompanist.

General admission to the concert will be \$10. Preferred seating will be available for \$25. Student and senior citizen tickets will be \$5. All tickets will be sold at the door.

Besides the Cranford appearance, the chorus will perform on Sunday, December 12, at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 528 Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard, Newark, and at a noon concert in the lobby of the PSE&G Building on Park Place in Newark on Monday, December 13.

For directions to the Calvary Lutheran Church or for more information about the program, please call the church office at (908) 276-2418.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

NOTICE IS hereby given that at a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, held on Tuesday, November 23, 2004 the following ordinances entitled:

AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING GAMES OF CHANCE ON SUNDAY MARCH 20, 2005 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER VII OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS ENTITLED "TRAFFIC"

were adopted on second and final reading.

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS
Barbara Riepe
Township Clerk

1 T - 11/25/04, The Times Fee: \$21.93

Serving Westfield and Cranford Area
For Over 108 Years
With Dignity and Respect for all Faiths

Gray Funeral Home

318 East Broad Street
Westfield, New Jersey

William A. Doyle, Manager

New Jersey License Number 2325

908-233-0143

908-276-0092

DEATH NOTICE

Josephine C. Santo Salvo, 94, Had Been Loving Grandmother to Her Family

Josephine C. Santo Salvo, 94, of Scotch Plains died on Thursday, November 18, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Staten Island, N.Y., she was a lifelong resident of Scotch Plains.

Mrs. Santo Salvo had been employed as a sales associate with Lady Leslie in Scotch Plains before retiring. Earlier, she was employed in the same capacity with Tepper's in Plainfield and Short Hills.

She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas J. Santo Salvo, Sr., in 1948; her son, Thomas J. Santo Salvo, in 1999, and by her daughter, Dorothy Gutierrez, in 2002.

Surviving are a brother, Philip

DiFrancesco; a sister, Louise Mingione; three grandchildren, Deborah J. Tallman, Thomas D. Santo Salvo and Commander John T. Santo Salvo, United States Navy; a daughter-in-law, Arlene Santo Salvo, and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held on Monday, November 22, from the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood. A Funeral Mass followed at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains. Interment was at St. Mary's Stony Hill Cemetery in Watchung.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 815, Elizabeth 07207-0815.

November 25, 2004

Joseph R. McEvoy, 68, Army Veteran; American Bakeries Route Salesman

Joseph R. McEvoy, 68, of Scotch Plains died on Sunday, November 21, at Rumlens Specialized Hospital of Union County in Berkeley Heights.

Born in Newark, he had lived in Linden before moving to Scotch Plains five years ago.

Mr. McEvoy had been employed as a route salesman with American Bakeries in Edison for 35 years prior to retiring in 1996.

He served in the United States Army from 1956 to 1958 and was a member of the American Legion in both Kenilworth and Roselle Park. Mr. McEvoy also was a member of Teamsters Local No. 194 in Union.

Surviving are two sons, Scott McEvoy of New York City and Gary McEvoy of Fanwood; his former wife,

Lorraine McEvoy of Linden; a brother, Martin McEvoy of Cranford; three sisters, Dorothy Wierzbicki of Union, Anna Sprague of Fords and Catherine Kennedy of Keyport, and two grandchildren.

The funeral was scheduled for 8 a.m. on Wednesday, November 24, from the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood. A Funeral Mass was set for 9:15 a.m. at St. James Roman Catholic Church in Springfield. Interment was to follow at Graceland Memorial Park in Kenilworth.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 815, Elizabeth 07207-0815.

November 25, 2004

Area Church to Conduct Holiday Bazaar on Dec. 4

COUNTY — St. Theresa's parish will host its Second Annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday December 4, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the church's McVeigh Hall, located at 540 Washington Avenue in Kenilworth.

Booths and every section of the event will be staffed and run by parish groups and volunteers. There will be a Mini Tricky Tray; a Mini Garage Sale; craft items; a Christmas Store; 50/50s throughout the day; games and prizes; a Play Land area for children; a free Breakfast with Santa from 9 to 10 a.m. in the school cafeteria; pictures with Santa and a mini Kids Boutique.

Additionally, a variety of food will

be sold in the cafeteria throughout the day. There will be musical performances throughout the day, including adult and youth choirs, and the Youth Ministry Program will provide a babysitting service during the event.

In conjunction with the bazaar, the parish is running a Mega 50/50 Holiday Raffle. Chances are \$5 a ticket and can be purchased in advance at the Parish Rectory and School offices. Tickets also will be on sale the day of the event.

The event will serve as a fundraiser for the parish. All are invited. For more information, please call Rich Donovan at (908) 709-1930.

Dr. Sarna to Discuss Book On Judaism in America

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey will hold its Fifth Annual Scholar in Residence program on Sunday, December 5, featuring Dr. Jonathan Sarna.

Dr. Sarna will speak at 4 p.m. at the JCC's Wilf Jewish Community Campus, located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains. A scholar and educator, he will discuss his newest book, "American Judaism: A History," an award-winning narrative on Jewish life in America over the last 350 years.

In his book, Dr. Sarna tells the stories of individuals struggling to remain Jewish while also becoming American, and how people shaped events by establishing and maintaining communities, responding to challenges and working for change.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person, and registration is strongly recommended. Interested persons are asked to contact Susan Lernerman at

(908) 889-8800, extension no. 205, or slemerman@jccnj.org.

Screenings to be Held For Bone Density

WESTFIELD — Overlook Hospital personnel will be at the Westfield Area "Y" on Wednesday, December 1, from 10 a.m. to noon to perform bone density screenings.

These screenings are especially for women over the age of 40 or those with a family history of osteoporosis. The cost is \$12 per person and \$8 for those over age 60.

Appointments are necessary. To register, please call Michael Johnson at the Westfield Area "Y" at (908) 233-2700, extension no. 251. The "Y" is located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield.

Payments may be made the day of the screening. Checks should be made payable to Overlook Hospital. The deadline for scheduling an appointment is Tuesday, November 30.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-9257-04
FILE NO. 8323-04

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: SHIRLEY PETIT; JOHN DOE, HUSBAND OF SHIRLEY PETIT, SAID NAME JOHN DOE BEING FICTITIOUS; WORLD COMMERCIAL CORP.;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon CASALE & PELLEGRINO, LLC, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is GATEHALL 1, PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a Civil Action, in which U.S. PROPERTY SALE, L.L.C. is the plaintiff and SHIRLEY PETIT, ET ALs; are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION County and bearing Docket No. F-9257-04 within thirty-five (35) days after November 25, 2004 exclusive of such date. If you fail to answer or appear in accordance with Rule 4:4-6, Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

You are further advised that if you are unable to obtain an attorney you may communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of Venue and that if you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Venue. The telephone number of such agencies are as follows: Lawyer Referral Service 908-353-4715 - Legal Services Office 908-354-4340.

THE ACTION has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the following tax

PUBLIC NOTICE

sale certificate: 1. A certain tax certificate 000053, recorded on 6/29/2000, made by STEVEN M. DAVIS, CTC, Collector of Taxes of CITY OF PLAINFIELD, and State of New Jersey to US PROPERTY SALE, LLC and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, U.S. PROPERTY SALE, L.L.C.. This covers real estate located in CITY OF PLAINFIELD, County of UNION, and State of New Jersey, known as LOT 12 BLOCK 110 as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and Tax Map duplicate of CITY OF PLAINFIELD, and concerns premises commonly known as 684 WEST 3RD STREET, CITY OF PLAINFIELD, New Jersey.

YOU, SHIRLEY PETIT, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because you are the owner of a property which is the subject of the above entitled action.

YOU, JOHN DOE, HUSBAND OF SHIRLEY PETIT, SAID NAME JOHN DOE BEING FICTITIOUS, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because plaintiff has been unable to determine whether defendant SHIRLEY PETIT is married, and if married, the name of SHIRLEY PETIT's spouse. If SHIRLEY PETIT is married, the plaintiff joins JOHN DOE, HUSBAND OF SHIRLEY PETIT, SAID NAME JOHN DOE BEING FICTITIOUS as a defendant for any possessory or marital rights you may have.

YOU, WORLD COMMERCIAL CORP., are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on January 27, 1989, Shirley A Petit, executed a mortgage to World Commercial Corp. in the amount of \$ 1,000.00, which mortgage was recorded on 2/27/1989 in the UNION County Clerk's/Register's Office in Mortgage Book 3953 at page 722. Said mortgage is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien. DATED: November 17, 2004

Donald F. Phelan,
Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey

CASALE & PELLEGRINO, L.L.C.
1 Gatehall Drive
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
1 T - 11/25/04, The Leader Fee: \$84.15



THE GIFT OF ART...Local artist Dolores Brink, left, accepts "Sunflower Mix", painted by internationally renowned pastel artist Christina DeBarry, right, during the Westfield Art Association's meeting and demonstration held at the Westfield Community Room on November 14.

Chansonettes of Westfield To Present 'FaLaLa Holiday'

WESTFIELD – The Chansonettes of Westfield are currently rehearsing for their upcoming holiday program, "FaLaLa Holiday," which will include "A Merry Madrigal," "A Snow Carol," and "Hanukkah Nagilah."

The concert tour will begin at St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Church in Colonia on Thursday, December 2, and continue at the Westfield Senior Housing Complex on Thursday, December 8.

The following Thursday, December 15, the ensemble will travel to Rumlens Specialized Hospital of Union County

in Berkeley Heights, and then St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Garwood on Friday, December 16.

A women's choral group, the Chansonettes is comprised of women who love to sing. To join or book a performance for the spring concert, please call Nancy Lau at (908) 654-5130 or Jane Walsweer at (908) 232-4531.

The Chansonettes convene every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield on Mountain Avenue. The director is Jean Schork, accompanied by Mel Freda.

Mid-Day Musicales to Return For 21st Season on December 1

WESTFIELD – The First Congregational Church of Westfield will begin the 21st season of its Mid-Day Musicales concert series on Wednesday, December 1, with violist Brett Deubner and guitarist Christopher Kenniff.

These free, half-hour noon concerts on Wednesdays feature professional musicians from the Tri-State area and beyond in classical, jazz and world-music performances.

On December 8, soprano Meredith

Hoffman-Thomson will perform with clarinetist William Shadel and pianist Barbara Thomson. The December 15 concert will feature duoharpists Karen Lindquist and Andre Tarantilis.

Each concert is followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon available in the church's social hall for \$5.

The church is located at 125 Elmer Street in Westfield.

For more information, please call (908) 233-2494.



POPCORN™

Sideways: The Days of Wine and Woe-Is-Me's

One Popcorn, Poor • Two Popcorns, Fair • Three Popcorns, Good • Four Popcorns, Excellent

By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER
3 & 1/2 popcorns

Life is tough. Witness the trials and tribulations of Miles Raymond in writer-director Alexander Payne's bittersweet portrait of the human comedy, *Sideways*.

Played with a tragicomic effervescence by Paul Giamatti, the divorcee and author of two rejected novels recalls the melancholic protagonists of early 20th century literature, when it was fashionable to feel sorry for one's self. But this classical sad sack updates the syndrome. His ego would have it no other way. He must redefine middle-class malaise. If you're going to be depressed, by golly, be the best at it.

Formerly, the problem was one of alienation. A result of the introspection afforded the suddenly moneyed, Madame contracted the vapors; Monsieur agonized over the insignificance of man. Shortly thereafter, recognizing the need, Freud invented psychiatry to fill it. And business has been brisk ever since.

But now, in post-Warholian times, when 15 minutes of fame pleases our vanity no better than a non super-sized burger satisfies our appetites, there is a new malady. Miles suffers from it. And it is on the occasion of this last hurrah, this bachelor traipse through California wine country in celebration of best friend Jack's (Thomas Haden Church) impending nuptials, that we observe his highly entertaining, thought provoking symptoms.

After a hard week at work, looking for a little diversion come Saturday night at the Bijou, by all rights we should strangle this guy for dragging our heads through the muck and mire of his tortured mind. Too bad if he hasn't made his mark. Where does he get off? We have our own troubles. Who is he anyway? So what if he hasn't become famous?

But we do an interesting thing instead. We like him.

In a testament to the human spirit, we cheer Miles on. After all, his agent has submitted a third novel to a publisher, and there "has been some interest." Besides, he's so bright, so passionate, and so humorous in his own self-effacing way. Maybe this adventure will give him the shove he needs. If ever he dares to be happy, we want to be there.

There's more. The beneficiary of the celebratory road trip, Thomas Haden Church's rogue pal is just as distinct a type as Miles' nebbish. And he just might be as complex an entry in the ego sweepstakes. Fair of visage and devil-may-care, he is the original good time guy.

Handsome Jack enjoyed brief matinee idol status on a soap opera 10 years ago, and still manages to dine out on that fame whenever the opportunity presents itself. You know him. He's the guy in the dorm who never studied, who just got by. He had his ways, charming and otherwise. Yet still you felt sorry for him. There was a certain sadness in his eye. Not enough to deter him from his partying ways, mind you. But all the same, it's there. You see, Jack isn't so vacuous that he doesn't recognize his vacuity. It's part of the reason he so admires Miles.

Of course, friendships and movie plots being what they are, that admiration won't keep the tarnished bon vivant from compromising his pal from time to time. This is especially true if it's in the cause of l'amour. In Jack's case, this can't be often enough. Which eventually leads to deception. Hence suffice it to note that a

rather tangled web is woven when the vacationing duo meet up with waitress Maya (Virginia Madsen) and winery receptionist Stephanie (Sandra Oh). The resultant consequences make for very telling drama.

While the Madsen and Oh hit just the right notes as the supporting female interests, there is a third character sharing center stage with Giamatti and Church. That is wine. Wine in all its aspects, in all its particulars and in all its glory. Talked about from start to finish, drunken incessantly and romanced like no belle of the ball has ever known, the nectar of the grape plays a fully viable, catalytic role in the doings. It is both metaphor, in how each person defines it, as well as entity unto itself.

Skeptics may want to bring along a wine aficionado to vouch the accuracy of Payne's loving tribute. Otherwise we trust the filmmaker knows his way around the vine. The production notes assure it. In any case, it's extensive, and rather enchanting. Viewing the length and breadth of someone's dearly held pastime oftentimes gives us a unique look at our own special ardors, at the things we ourselves imbue with a very special, life affirming importance.

Just a personal note, but returning home after viewing *Sideways*, I viewed my own string collection with a whole new perspective.

But even more enticing in emotion and intellectual torque than the wine ruminations is the dialogue Payne fashions for his two bachelor pilgrims. While also neatly stitching exposition into the conversation, which helps explain the symbiotic nuances of their relationship, the running banter his odd couple engage in holds the movie's greatest magic.

As they argue, pontificate, criticize and ennoble, several times we wonder, only to once again be convinced, why they keep their friendship alive. But then there's also the je ne sais quoi aspect of it. It's not much different than the philosophical question mark raised in any love relationship. It is explained here not in words, but in the heartfelt intangibles both Giamatti and Church's personae are able to project through their superb acting performances.

Payne pulls no punches in his examination of human behavior. People are capable of terrible things and wonderful things. That's the way he plays it...sans the sugarcoating. While commendable, it troubles us just a bit.

Sure, these guys have given us agita: Miles with his unremitting, hangdog pessimism, and Jack with his servile attention to libido. But they've also provided several heartwarming moments, as well as a steady flow of laughs. In movie terms, they've become our friends. And so it stands to reason that we'd like to see things come out okay for the boys. The tension mounts as the weeklong jaunt approaches its climax.

This is a soulful survey of life that spans the gamut of emotion. Whimsically reaffirming on film the Roman philosopher's speculation, in vino veritas (in wine there is truth), *Sideways* is clearly the cinema direction to take if imbibing the good stuff is your goal.

Sideways, rated R, is a Fox Searchlight Pictures release directed by Alexander Payne and stars Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church and Virginia Madsen. Running time: 123 minutes.

Arts & Entertainment

SP-F Arts Association Plans Metropolitan Museum Trip

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Scotch Plains and Fanwood Arts Association will sponsor a bus trip to The Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA) in New York City on Tuesday, December 7.

Visitors will have the opportunity to view special exhibits, including "China Dawn of a Golden Age, 200 to 750 A.D.," "Princely Splendor: The Dresden Court, 1580 to 1620," and "The Colonial Andes Tapestries & Silverwork, 1530 to 1830."

The traditional MMA Christmas tree and Neopolitan Baroque

Crèche will also be displayed.

The bus will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the Scotch Plains Municipal Building parking lot and will leave the MMA at 2:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip, bus only, is \$22.

For reservations, which must be made by Tuesday, November 30, please call Anne Gibbons at (908) 232-2631.

Photo Courtesy of The Metropolitan Museum of Art
"Angel," 18th century Neopolitan by Giuseppe Sammartino is one of the delicate adornments placed on the museum's



Christmas tree.

It's A Wonderful Life Radio Play Set by Theater Project

CRANFORD – The Theater Project (TTP), Union County College's professional theater company, will recreate the Lux Radio Theater circa 1947 in *It's A Wonderful Life*: The Radio Show on Sunday, December 5, at 3 p.m. The snowdate is Sunday, December 12.

In the cast, 12 actors, a musician and one sound technician prepare to broadcast *It's A Wonderful Life*, the story made famous in the Frank Capra film.

"So much of what we do is adult-oriented," said TTP Artistic Director Mark Spina, "and we wanted to do something the whole family could en-

joy for the holidays. It's a 'thank you' to our patrons for their support over the last 10 years."

It's A Wonderful Life unites many of the professional actors who regularly appear with TTP, including Gary Glor, Rick Delaney and Daaimah Talley.

Director Liz Zazzi has been named one of New Jersey's outstanding actors. She has performed and directed with most of the state's professional companies.

Adult tickets are \$10, while children are admitted for free. For reservations, which are optional, please call (908) 659-5189.

LOCAL STARS



Photo Courtesy of Louisa Melrose Gallery

LOCAL LANDSCAPE...Westfield Art Association member Betty Stroppel of Plainfield is among 23 artists to have their artwork included in Louisa Melrose Gallery's Holiday Art Exhibit. Pictured, above, is "Craigmar Farm," a watercolor by Stroppel based on a site in Oldwick. A reception to meet the artists will be held on Saturday, December 4, from 4 to 7 p.m. The exhibition will feature two themes, "Winter Scenes" and "Epicurean Delights."

Christmas Tree Lighting, Nature Craft Show On Tap

MOUNTAINSIDE – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will sponsor the annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Nature Craft Show on Sunday, December 5, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Watchung Stables, 1160 Summit Lane in Mountainside.

"This event will offer a day filled with fun for the entire family," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

She also noted that Santa Claus will hear holiday wishes and the day will culminate with the lighting of the county's Christmas tree.

"At the craft show, everyone will find those special gifts to be given this holiday season. Stop by and visit the vendors to purchase handcrafted quality gifts that are either made from natural materials or are nature-themed," added Freeholder Kowalski.

Barn tours, a petting zoo, horseback-riding demonstrations by the Watchung Mounted Drill Team, and

strolling holiday singers will be part of the festivities. Lead-line horse rides and children's crafts will be available for children. Refreshments will be available for purchase throughout the afternoon.

The Union County Police Department will be available for children's fingerprinting throughout the afternoon.

Santa Claus will arrive at 1 p.m. and children may visit with him from 1 to 5 p.m. The Christmas tree lighting will begin promptly at 5 p.m.

There is no admission fee, however, it is suggested that patrons bring a donation of a dry or canned food item, or a new, unwrapped toy. All items collected at the event will be distributed through local charities.

For more information or directions, please call the Trailside Nature and Science Center at (908) 789-3670, Watchung Stables at (908) 789-3665, or the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900.

The Two Tenors: NJWA Faculty at Lincoln Center

WESTFIELD – Two vocal music teachers on the staff of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA) Music Studio performed at Lincoln Center this November.

Luis Cabrera appeared on November 20 at Alice Tully Hall in the role of Lapo in the Teatro Grattaciolo's production of Umberto Giordano's *La Cena delle Beffe*. The Teatro Grattaciolo Orchestra will be conducted by Maestro Alfredo Silipigni, Principal conductor and Artistic Director of the New Jersey State Opera.

Cabrera, who studied at the Boston Conservatory of Music and is a graduate of Rutgers University Mason Gross School of the Arts, has performed professionally with the Cosmopolitan Symphony Orchestra of New York City, The American Chamber Opera Company, the Little Opera Company of New Jersey, Opera at Rutgers, the American Chamber Opera, the Paper Mill Playhouse, Carnegie Hall and the PNC Bank Arts Center.

Juan Pineda performed in the Fourth Annual Concert of Excellence on November 22 at Jazz at

Lincoln Center, Frederick P. Rose Hall.

Pineda will be singing several numbers including "One Day More," "Putting It Together," and "Aquarius/Let the Sun Shine In." This will be Pineda's third appearance in The Concert of Excellence, which recognizes Asian American artists who have made an impact in America.

At the NJWA Music Studio, Pineda is a vocal music instructor, co-founder of the Little Opera Company of New Jersey, director of the Musical Theater Workshop and director of the Westfield Summer Workshop theater productions. He was a longtime member of the Broadway cast of *Miss Saigon* and has extensive opera, film and recording experience.

Dr. Theodore Schlosberg, NJWA Founder and Executive Director, remarked, "We are so proud to have faculty members with this type of experience guiding our students at the Music Studio. Both men are outstanding performers, creative teachers and true professionals in their field."

A Junkyard Christmas Carol To be Staged at Westfield HS

WESTFIELD – The Westfield High School (WHS) Drama Department will present *A Junkyard Christmas Carol*, an adaptation of the classic tale by Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," but with a modern twist.

The play's schedule run is Thursday, December 9, at 3:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, December 10 and 11, at 8 p.m. and a new matinee performance on December 11 at 2 p.m.

All performances will be held in the school auditorium, 550 Dorian Road in Westfield.

A play within a play, *A Junkyard Christmas Carol* centers on a businessman arrested for tax fraud. He is sentenced to hours of community service and decides to produce a play using homeless people who live in the local junkyard. Using the junk found in the yard as props, the homeless put on their own rendition of *A Christmas Carol*.

WHS drama teacher Joe Nierle, who came up with the concept and then adapted the novel into a script, directs the play. Jake Brandman, a student taking independent study in drama with Nierle, assists him as student director and by writing the junkyard scenes, which are part of his class project.

Ebenezer Scrooge is a miser who detests Christmas. He is visited one Christmas Eve by his former partner, Jacob Marley, who died seven Christmases past. He is suffering in the afterlife and hopes to help Scrooge repent and change his ways. Marley tells Scrooge that three spirits, Christmas Past, Present and Future, will visit him. They succeed in showing Scrooge the need to change his ways eventually giving way to a complete reformation. On Christmas morning, he sends the Cratchit family a huge turkey and visits with his long estranged nephew, Fred, and his family.

A Junkyard Christmas Carol features 33 student actors led by Max Lazar as Ebenezer Scrooge. Chloe Zeitounian, Emily Greenberg and Nick Brennan play Christmas Past, Present and Future. Aaron Eisenberg portrays Jacob Marley.

The Cratchit Family is led by Zal Spialter as Bob, Stephanie Christiano as his wife with Alex Wronski, Suzanne Toriello and Georgia Mierswa as the Cratchit children, Peter, Belinda and Marthan. James Scipo is Tiny Tim.

Another prominent family in the play is the Fezzigwigs led by Dan Fotz-Morrison and Jennifer Kujawski as Mr. and Mrs. Fezzigwig with Rachael Leopold and James Hooper-Hamersley as their children. Allison Siko plays their grown daughter Belle, who has the first love of a young Mr. Scrooge played by Nick Williams, Mike Burns is another young apprentice in the Fezzigwig Company.

Scrooge's sister Fan is played by Allison Simon and Chris Hild takes the role of this nephew, Fred. Lyndsay Ryan is Fred's wife, with Jessica Minsky playing the part of her sister. Maurice Blackmon plays Topper, a friend to Fred.

Supporting cast members appearing

SPFHS Band and Guard

Perform at Giants Stadium

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) Marching Band and Color Guard presented a top performance during the United States Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) All-States Championships on November 13 at Giants Stadium.

The SPFHS groups joined other high school bands and color guards from states from Massachusetts to Virginia.

Although their performance was not enough to win, SPFHS Band Director Durand Thomas commented, "The kids gave their best performance of the year. It was a great way to end the competitive season."

Byard Bridge, Scotch Plains-Fanwood Music Boosters Co-President, said, "USSBA Group 5 is extremely competitive. The kids stepped up to the plate and hit a homerun with their performance."

Next Week:

- Focus on the Westfield High School Concert Choir : winning members and leadership;
- Delicious desserts for the holiday season to be detailed by Marylou Morano;
- Christmas books for crafting and cuisine to be highlighted.

Metro Rhythm Chorus

Plans Holiday Show

CRANFORD – The Metro Rhythm Chorus will present an afternoon of a capella music in "Your Community Holiday Show" on Sunday, November 28, at 4 p.m. at Bates Hall in The First Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Springfield and Union Avenues in Cranford.

Tickets are available in advance for \$5 each or \$6 at the door. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

For more information, please call Ruth Ruediger at (908) 638-6661 or leonardandruth@hotmail.com or Sara Peterson at (908) 735-6170.



NO BAH, HUMBUG! ONLY CHEER...The Westfield High School fall drama, *A Junkyard Christmas Carol* will feature a cast of 33 student actors. Pictured, left to right, are: Chloe Zeitounian as Christmas Past, Emily Greenberg as Christmas Present, Max Lazar as Ebenezer Scrooge and Nick Brennan as Christmas Future. Seated, are: Zal Spialter as Bob Cratchit and Aaron Eisenberg as Jacob Marley.

by WHS art teacher Roy Chambers with help from art class students. Tim Mathews serves as stage manager, with assistance from Greg Ryan. Handling lights are Greg Ryan and Jaclyn Nicoli; props by Julia Korn; costumes by Lauren Miceli and hair and makeup by Kayli Spialter.

All tickets for the performances are \$7 for general admission/adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. All tickets for the children's Saturday matinee are \$5. For tickets, please call (908) 789-4549.



Get Outta The House

By CAROL F. DAVIS

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Salt & Light Drama, a ministry of the Oasis Christian Center, will present the interactive "Uncle Phil's Diner" with a cast of 35. The sanctuary of the church will be transformed into a 1950's style diner for this collection of improvisation, music, choreography, sketch comedy and, of course, dinner. Advance tickets (if you mention this promotion) are \$10/adult and \$5/child, otherwise it will be \$15 at the door, located at 2052 St. Georges Avenue in Rahway. Call the Church Office at (732) 499-0040 for more information. Be prepared to participate.

On Saturday, December 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., New Jersey author Robert J. Skead will be in The Town Book Store of Westfield to promote his new book, *Elves Can't Tackle*. Sebastian is back in this sequel to *Elves Can't Dunk*. This time, Sebastian and the gang are on a mission to give Jack Fabulous, professional football's most famous quarterback, a little Christmas spirit. The book delivers a valuable lesson about the importance of loyalty between friends. Skead is also the author of *Hitting Glory* (a baseball bat adventure) and *Safe at Home* (a baseball card mystery).

Auditions will begin on Thursday, December 2, for Summit Chorale's 2004-2005 season. There are openings for all voice parts for this Chorus-in-Residence at Drew University. The next concert is scheduled for Saturday, February 26, and will feature the haunting piece, *Holocaust Cantata* by contemporary composer David McCullough, and other works. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings on campus. If you think you've got what it takes, call Ellie at (973) 762-8486, and visit at www.summitchorale.org.

It's time to load the kids into the car, and take the annual ride to PNC Bank Arts Center's *Holiday Light Spectacular* in Holmdel. There will be more than a million lights on there, between Thanksgiving and New Year's with a variety of displays designed to be viewed from the comfort of your car. There is also outdoor skating, live music, refreshments and decorations for sale, and photo-ops with the great man in red. For pricing, hours, and information, log onto http://www.artscenter.com/hls_main.html.

Arts & Entertainment



CREATIVE PAIRING...Juxtapose Gallery Proprietor Gerri Gildea, left, poses with artist Helen Frank shortly before the reception for the artist began on the evening of November 20.

Admirers Flock to View Frank's Latest Art at Juxtapose Gallery

By MICHELLE HELEN Le POIDEVIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD – At 4 p.m. last Saturday, the doors to Juxtapose Gallery on Elm Street in Westfield were opened to collectors and admirers of Springfield artist Helen Frank.

Besides the one spacious gallery wall normally devoted to Frank's artwork, other spaces were set aside to mount the artist's etchings, drawings and lithographs.

Frank, who was on-hand for the three-hour exhibition and reception, was unstoppable and exuberant, greeting visitors and modestly explaining her techniques and creativity.

"It was the most successful show ever," reported Juxtapose Gallery Proprietor Gerri Gildea on Monday morning. "It went very well. The whole gallery was filled throughout the evening. I would estimate that over 100 people came."

While sales of Frank's etchings were made during the show, no one will pick up their pieces for another two weeks. Visitors and shoppers are encouraged to stop by and view copies of the etchings, as well as multiple works by the artist.

The showcase window of Juxtapose featured one of Frank's latest

original drawings, "The Dining Room," while the two other recent pieces, "Dance Lesson" and "Central Park" were also prominently displayed.

Gildea announced that the gallery will host its next reception on Saturday, December 4, for artist Joanna



Michelle Helen Le Poidevin for The Leader/Times
CENTER STAGE...Two of Helen Frank's most recent works of art, "Dance Lesson," above, and "Central Park," right, were featured during a special reception at Juxtapose Gallery on Elm Street in Westfield on November 20. The much-anticipated event was attended by Frank and hosted by Juxtapose Gallery Proprietor Gerri Gildea. Both pieces are original drawings.

For more information, please call Juxtapose Gallery at (908) 233-3278 or visit www.juxtaposegallery.com. To preview some of Węzyk's artwork, visit the gallery or log onto <http://www.joannawęzyk.com>.

Donna Lisa Earns Multiple Awards For Popular 'Toucan You Can' CD

By KERRIANNE SPELLMAN CORT
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD— Westfield resident, Donna Lisa, has been busy promoting her delightful children's CD, "Toucan You Can." The singer/songwriter/performer and all around musical dynamo believes strongly in educating children through the magic of music and make believe.

In an article published last April in *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*, I spoke highly of Lisa's debut recording, and I am pleased to learn that the artist is receiving the accolades that she deserves.

"Toucan You Can" has garnered several impressive awards and many exciting and noteworthy projects are in the making, including a benefit CD, entitled "Jersey Jams III, Playful Journeys to Grow on."

With the assistance of SRA studio President Seth Alexander and *Courier News* Entertainment Editor, Bob Makin, Lisa's new CD will aid New Jersey children through scholarships and music education. Several of the artists featured on the CD will be well-known and recognizable talents.

Lisa is also at work on an animated film that has strong interest from a major California animation studio. She recently signed with a literary agent in

California who is very interested in Lisa's work and hopes to find the right house that will publish Lisa's stories in conjunction with her music.

The wife, mother and psychotherapist always manages to find time to perform locally at schools and libraries and is passionate about sharing her love of music with children.

Raised in California, Lisa studied songwriting and story writing and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California and a master's degree from Yeshiva University.

"Toucan You Can" is filled with wonderfully catchy tunes, all penned by Lisa, and the CD includes the talents of several local children. The artist sings and accompanies herself on the guitar, and I honestly can say that this is one of the best children's albums I have ever heard.

In addition to the title song, the CD offers many clever songs, including "Oliver Otter," "My Malamute" and "Hey, Baby Llama."

Recent awards include The Children's Music Web Award for Best Preschool Album, the iParenting Media Award and the John Lennon Songwriting Contest, among others.

When I most recently spoke to the artist, she had just finished performing at the Hard Rock Café in Washington

DC, where she had won the Mid-Atlantic Song Contest for her original songs, "Toucan You Can" and "My Pockets."

The innovative and educational CD would make a great gift for the holidays. The CD is available for purchase at CDBaby.com/DonnaLisa and on Amazon.com.

For more information on the artist and to inquire about bookings, please visit www.DonnaLisaMusic.com.



Donna Lisa

Potters Guild Presents Annual Holiday Show

By MARYLOU MORANO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MOUNTAINSIDE— The Potters Guild of New Jersey, an organization dedicated to the development of New Jersey's ceramic artists, held their 11th Annual Holiday Pottery Show and Sale at Community Presbyterian Church in Mountainide on November 13 and 14.

Over 25 guild members participated in the event, which showcased handcrafted ceramic vases, pitchers, plates, trays and other one of a kind pieces of pottery created by members.

The guild holds several shows each year where the ceramic craftsmanship of its 50-plus membership from throughout the state can be presented to the general public.

In addition to selling pottery directly from their tables, many potters received commissions for custom work, such as eight piece place settings, at the sale.

"We had a lot of serious buyers," said Nancy Radomski, Marketing Director for the Guild, "many of whom were first-time customers."

Radomski added that many long-time customers were returning to this year's show and sale with their adult children, who were looking to

'Heavy Metal' Band Delian League Prepares to Climb to Top of Charts

By CAROL F. DAVIS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — David Hatfield serves as a profound reminder that stereotypes are a poor guide in forming an opinion.

Sitting across the table from this handsome, well-spoken, clean-cut guy, one would find it hard to believe that he is the founder of Delian League, a "heavy metal" band that is bound to go places.

The band formed 2 ½ years ago, and has already recorded a demo. Now, they are in the studio working on their first album, due for release in April 2005 on Screaming Ferret Records.

When asked about the band's enigmatic name, Hatfield told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* about the Greek reference to the army responsible for "clearing a path for the arts in civilization." It seems that Athenian culture saw its heyday as the League carved the way for wealth and arts, after freeing Greek cities from the Persians.

While the sounds of heavy metal may not be a cultural ideal for all, the music was perfectly fine for a brisk walk around the lake, as *The Leader/Times* had an opportunity to hear the demo, "The Day of Question."

You can download the three songs on the demo by visiting <http://www.delianleague.com/media.html>.

The band currently has five members (three of which are Westfield High School graduates) including Hatfield, one of the originals who founded the group with Richard Broadhead in 2003.

Although Delian League is his first formal band, Hatfield has been a guitarist since the eighth grade, and a student of voice, jazz, and guitar for years. He also teaches at the Scotch Plains Music Center when he isn't busy in the studio, performing, or at his full-time job managing the Barnes & Noble

in Springfield.

In fact, one thread connecting these five seems to be their passion, dedication, and love of bands like Metallica. Each is a serious musician, and, while not busy in the studio, is living the life of any other person waiting for that ultimate, big break.

Bass player Shane Boulos manages his own company and is studying graphic design. Guitarist Broadhead, who writes the songs with Hatfield, holds a master's degree from Stevens Institute of Technology, and is described by Hatfield as the classically-minded guy who balances him and brings "common sense and feeling" to Delian League.

The band's newest member, drummer Joe Dooling, owns a hardware store in Suffern, N.Y., while vocalist Jude Andrade, who did some marketing on the Internet and established a mailing list of more than 500, is employed by J.P. Morgan and Company.

Go figure. Hatfield's dream is that, following the release of their album, a major record company would pick up Delian League and the tour will begin. Somehow, this does not seem unrealistic for the group that has been named the "Best Unsigned Band



Photo by Christopher J. Demers for delianleague.com
METAL FEVER...Delian League guitarist Richard Broadhead, left, and bass player Shane Boulos rocked out at The Starland Ballroom on March 26.

live. We are not only playing the music, but feeling the music. We love what we do."

Delian League can be heard on WJHA, 105.5 FM, as well as on other radio stations.

Faltermayer Posthumously Publishes Children's Book

WESTFIELD — "Clouds Go Wild" by 35-year Westfield resident Edmund Faltermayer, a children's book published posthumously by Author House, is expected to be released on Wednesday, December 15.

Westfield was a model for the book's setting, the fictional town of Lysander. Faltermayer began writing the novel shortly after the blizzard of 1978, during which 18 inches of snow hit the Westfield area in a series of snowstorms.

Readers young and old will recognize Westfield in descriptions of Lysander's wide streets and stately old homes with wrap-around porches. Faltermayer was a member of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield and Echo Lake Country Club. He served as President of the Westfield Memorial Library board.

The story's protagonist Roderick Ringley was inspired by the author's son, Steven, whose obsession with snow lasts to this day. An accomplished journalist,

Faltermayer hoped one day to publish a novel for children.

"Clouds Go Wild" was two decades in the making, with final revisions completed in 2001. He book was being shopped around to the major publishing houses in New York City when Faltermayer died due to complications of Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS) in January of 2003.

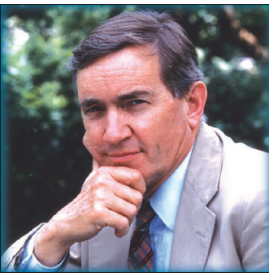
Frances Faltermayer and Charlotte Faltermayer

Dolling, the author's wife and daughter, decided to publish "Clouds Go Wild" themselves to ensure control over the novel's content and to preserve the author's voice. They chose AuthorHouse to produce and market the book. The two collaborated to complete the final preparation of the novel, from formatting to proofreading, for publication.

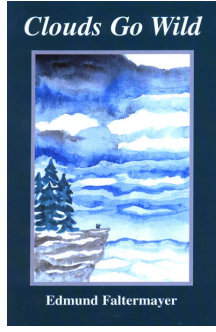
Frances, an art history teacher at the Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, illustrated the novel's cover.

"Clouds Go Wild" is Faltermayer's first work of fiction. A portion of the proceeds from the novel will go to ALS research.

Copies of "Clouds Go Wild" may be purchased as of December 15 by visiting www.cloudsgowild.com or by calling AuthorHouse at (888) 280-7715.



Edmund Faltermayer



Edmund Faltermayer

Marc Acito Appears At Barnes & Noble

WESTFIELD — Westfield High School graduate Marc Acito, the author of "How I Paid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship & Musical Theater," appeared at Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Clark in the Meet

the Writers program on November 19. A Portland, Ore. resident, Acito is a syndicated humorist, whose column appears in 19 newspapers.

After briefly attending drama school, he sang roles with major opera companies, including Seattle Opera.

"How I Paid for College..." is described by the book's publisher, Broadway Books, as "a farcical coming-of-age story that combines the first-person tone of David Sedaris with the Byzantine plot of Armistead Maupin."

Acito's book has received praise from *Details*, *Out*, and *City* magazines, as well as the BBC and *London Financial Times*.



Marc Acito

Youth Orchestra Students Prepare Holiday Concert

AREA — Students from the New Jersey Youth Symphony's (NJYS) Youth Orchestra will perform in concert at Morristown High School on Sunday, December 5, at 4 p.m.

The concert program will include Von Suppé's *Overture to Poet and Peasant*, Saint-Saëns' *Suite Algérienne*, Ope. 60, Rachmaninov's *Symphonic Movement in D Minor*, and Bass's *The Night Before Christmas*, featuring NJYS'

Operations Manager Robert Varner as the narrator.

Ken Selden, who is in his first year with the ensemble, leads the NJYS, which is for advanced students in grades 7 to 12. He is also assistant conductor of the Eos Orchestra and the Brooklyn Philharmonic.

Adult admission is \$5, while students and children are admitted for free. For more information, please visit www.njys.org.



CONGRATULATIONS...Dennis Jenkins, right, President of The Celebration Singers, under the direction of Sean Berg, accepted the group's Union County Arts Grant from David Miller, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. The ensemble, which provides musical programs with a wide range of styles, also sponsors a tuition-free children's chorus.

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