

## Westfield Board of Education Debates Holiday Calendar

By KATIE MOEN  
For The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — As another school year draws to a close, the members of the Westfield Board of Education (BOE) are debating a few amendments to next year's calendar in order to better meet the changing needs of the community's increasingly diverse population.

Earlier this month, board member Sahar Aziz, part of last year's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, suggested the possibility of adding some new holidays — including Chinese New Year, Diwali (the Indian festival of lights) and Eid al-Fitr (a Muslim celebration that marks the end of Ramadan) — for the 2024-25 school calendar.

"As we know, students currently have to miss class, and sometimes their exams, for these observances. I know we have suggested to teachers that they not give exams during these times, but I don't know how much that's practiced," Ms. Aziz said, speaking during the board's May 9 meeting.

The Westfield board is not alone. Over the course of the past several years, dozens of districts across the

state have modified their annual calendars to better reflect the predominant ideologies of their districts.

The New Jersey Department of Education currently recognizes more than 100 religious holidays, all of which are considered excused absences for students. Teachers and staff, however, may, depending on district policy, be required to utilize personal time for religious observances that coincide with a scheduled day of school.

Ms. Aziz, who was unable to attend two recent meetings of the BOE due to her own religious observances, said earlier this month that it may be time for Westfield to start taking a look at some new scheduling options in order to create a more "inclusive" calendar.

The state's list of recognized holidays runs the gamut and includes everything from Christmas and Rosh Hashana to Mabon (a pagan holiday that celebrates the autumnal equinox); Zarathosht Diso (in which Zoroastrians commemorate the death of their Iranian-born prophet, Zoroaster); and L. Ron Hubbard's birthday (celebrated by the members of the Church of Scientology in

honor of their founder).

Outside of the recognized list, however, the state provides little in the way of guidance on the matter other than to note that students must be in class for 180 days out of the year. The details — including when to close school and how to label their holiday breaks — are largely left to the districts themselves.

In Westfield, for example, schools were closed last year in observance of Rosh Hashanah (September 26-27) and Yom Kippur (October 5), in addition to the usual slew of federal holidays like Labor Day, Presidents' Day and Thanksgiving. Schools also were closed for the last week in December (dubbed "Holiday Break" on the district's official calendar) and a "Spring Break" in April that spans a host of its own holidays, including Palm Sunday, Easter, Passover, Theravadin New Year (a Buddhist tradition) and The Last Friday of Lent (celebrated by the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church), among others.

In other districts throughout the state, conversations about switching up the school calendar have included parents, residents and even students.

In January, for example, members of East Brunswick's Islamic community spoke out at a board of education meeting to request that Eid al-Fitr and another important Muslim holiday, Eid al-Adha, be celebrated in the township.

"A day off for Eid signifies to non-Muslims that their fellow Muslim classmates are not a fringe group, but rather a part of the fabric of East Brunswick. This fosters diversity and inclusion and helps to curb Islamophobia. A move to incorporate and recognize Muslims on the school calendar promotes diversity, equity and inclusion, which are values held in high esteem in East Brunswick Public Schools," Nancy Elbasty, an East Brunswick resident with three children in the school district, said at the time.

It worked. Earlier this month, district officials announced that both days (April 10 and June 1) would be added to the list of official holiday closings going forward.

In Paramus, where similar discussions occurred between community members, district officials last year agreed to add Diwali, Lunar New Year, Eid al-Fitr and June 19th



Susan M. Dougherty for The Westfield Leader  
SHOPPING, DINING AND EXPLORING IN WESTFIELD... Hundreds of women of all ages enjoyed special in-store events, tastings and promotions during the Downtown Westfield Corporation's Girls Night Out May 11. On Quimby Street, registered guests were given blue bags donated by sponsors Coldwell Banker Realty that were filled with maps of Downtown Westfield and offers by various restaurants and shops. Stretch Lab partnered with Cinnaholic to give free, 10-minute assisted stretches, and Just-A-Soul Photography afforded free, printed-on-the-spot mini pictures to commemorate the moment. Music of DJZAP on Quimby Street flooded the area with tunes, while around the corner on Broad Street, Michael Doyle's mellow sounds set a more serene shopping mood.

## Mountainside Unanimously Passes the Municipal Budget

By KIMBERLY A. EVANS  
For The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE—Unanimously, members of the Mountainside Borough Council passed on first reading the Mountainside municipal budget, translating to a \$49.42 increase for the average home within the borough.

Mayor Paul Mirabelli explained it was a total increase of \$177,037.55 over last year's budget.

The mayor said that the actual increase for the borough started at \$438,944 but was "offset" by \$261,906.50 in surplus from last year's budget. He further explained that the household increase of \$49.42 per home was determined from the average assessed home within the borough at \$625,619.

Mayor Mirabelli stated that some of the increases in the budget came from police salaries and stated that new police staff have recently been hired. He noted that the department has been "filling ranks" and has a captain in addition to sergeants, corporals and lieutenants. He also stated

that the Department of Public Works (DPW) line has seen an increase of \$14,000 due to the new recycling contract.

The budget also includes an increase of \$20,000 for the Fire Department. It additionally was noted that utilities had increased by \$13,000 and that the board of health contract has increased by \$1,000.

In his address, the mayor noted that borough pensions have decreased by \$8,000, that the borough's legal fees have decreased by \$20,000 and that the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) assessment has gone down by \$17,500.

Further, he noted that there was \$162,000 in revenue surplus and that \$410,000 was added to the budget from Relief Funds.

In other business, a second reading for a bond ordinance for the borough was unanimously passed. It was stated that through the bond, the sum of \$1,100,000 will be used for a down payment for improvements to

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## Cranford Committee Discusses Municipal Pool Challenges

By LAURA KREISER  
For The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — As the weather heats up, many seek the pool to cool off, yet Cranford residents made it apparent during Tuesday night's township committee meeting that they are not happy with changes coming to the pool this summer.

Terrence Curran, commissioner, explained that it takes about \$1.5 million per year to run both the indoor pool as well as both outdoor pools. He said the money that it takes to operate the pool comes from mem-

berships and "other income-producing activities," rather than taxpayer dollars. Mr. Curran said there currently are 1,167 members, which only brings in \$450,000, and it costs \$550,000 to run just one outdoor pool. "There is quite a discrepancy there," he added. While saying he hopes memberships would increase in the next few weeks, leading up to the opening, he noted that this was not the only issue.

"Another issue is the number of lifeguards," Mr. Curran said, adding that the situation is not exclusive to

Cranford. While the pool currently has 57 lifeguards, it takes 24 lifeguards a day per pool to run. He also stated that there is a very "slim" margin for error and that not all lifeguards are available all day, every day. He said due to these factors, the hours would be cut back.

While the pool will be open Memorial Day weekend from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. that Saturday, Sunday and Monday, from Memorial Day to the end of school, the pool will be closed during the week and open on the weekends from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Mr. Curran said. He said once the pool is open daily for the summer it will be open from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. "This is being done to maximize the number of lifeguards available and maximize the opportunity to keep all the pools at both facilities open," Mr. Curran noted.

Bob Pells, of Birchwood Avenue, said he felt only opening the pool at noon was "unreasonable." He said he often meets with friends to enjoy time at the pool, and feels like 12 p.m. is too late, when at 10 a.m. there are usually only younger children taking swim lessons, as well as being early enough in the day to "take a nap" in the afternoon. Loretta Smith, of Oneida Place, also said she felt the township committee could work better with residents to make the times better for everyone.

Mayor Brian Andrews said making a decision on the hours, "weighs on all of us" and that his own family are "avid pool users." He added that while he hopes more lifeguards sign up, the township needs to plan for what it can staff at the pools.

For more information about Cranford's pools, visit [cranfordnj.org/pool-fitness-center](http://cranfordnj.org/pool-fitness-center).

The township committee also unanimously passed the capital budget for Cranford. Some of the capital budget projects include a new fire truck, new equipment for TV35, a new roof for the library and more, according to the ordinance. The projects will cost \$6,490,000 in total, according to the ordinance. Mayor Andrews said he was happy to see the township finally helping the library, since he felt the township had "underinvested" in the library.

## County Awards \$1.5 Million In Municipal Aid Grants

By KATIE MOEN  
For The Westfield Leader

COUNTY — Municipalities throughout the area will have the opportunity to tend to some upgrades and repairs over the coming months as part of this year's Union County Infrastructure and Municipal Aid grant program.

On Thursday, during a regular meeting of the Union County Board of County Commissioners, the county's elected representatives allocated \$1.5 million in matching-grant funding to be shared among each of Union County's 21 municipalities, all of which submitted project-based applications to the county in order to participate in this year's program.

Each award, Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Moued said, is intended to "stimulate the development of public projects of economic, social, transportation and governmental importance."

The program was created by Commissioner Christopher Hudak in 2015, developed by the County Commissioners' Fiscal Committee and is administered by the Department of Economic Development.

Funding for the grant is provided through the proceeds from the sale of Runnells Specialized Hospital in 2014.

And while a wide variety of revitalization projects, ranging from flood-water mitigation and sewer repair to

building upgrades and new community spaces, are expected to be completed with the help of the grant funding, road repairs seemingly topped this year's list of requests.

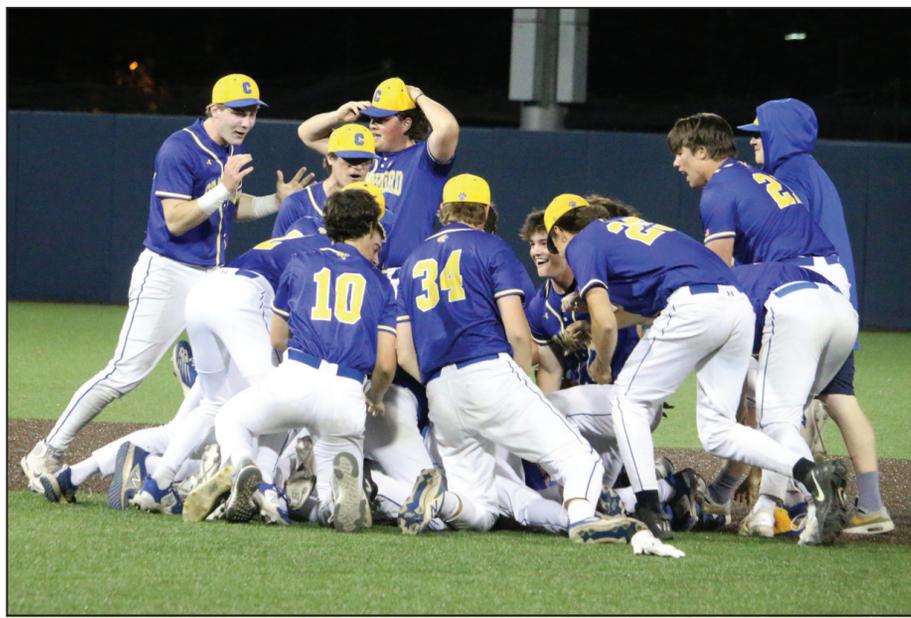
Westfield's \$100,000 award, for example, will be allocated to repairs and improvements along Summit Avenue, while Scotch Plains intends to use its \$100,000 grant to supplement its 2023 Roadwork Assistance Program. Meanwhile, Mountainside was awarded \$40,000 for paving improvements along Outlook Drive East. Other local projects include pedestrian-initiated flashing crosswalks and a new accessible ramp for the library in Clark (\$42,500); miscellaneous sanitary-sewer upgrades and some new building security in Garwood (\$38,000); and new public sewer linings for Fanwood (\$40,000).

"[Fanwood's] aging infrastructure has been one of our biggest challenges for some time, so this money will definitely be going to good use," Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr said via a recorded video presentation played during Thursday night's meeting.

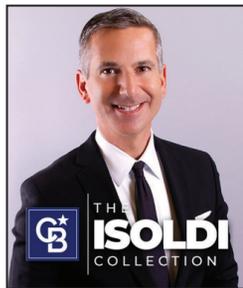
The commissioners also issued a proclamation on Thursday to officially declare Sunday, May 14, as "Apraxia Awareness Day" throughout the County of Union.

According to information provided by Apraxia Kids, an online resource

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
UCT BASEBALL CHAMPIONS...The No. 3 ranked Cranford Cougars celebrate after Braden Fry smacked the game-winning RBI double in the bottom of the seventh inning to nip Governor Livingston, 1-0, for the Union County Tournament crown at Kean University on May 15. Read entire story in the May 25 edition of The Leader and Union County HAWK.



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# Brookside Turf Petition To Be Reviewed By Officials

By FRED T. ROSSI  
For The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — The petition calling for a referendum on the Brookside Park artificial turf question, which was delivered to the municipal building last week, will be reviewed before the township council considers the next steps, according to Mayor Joshua Losardo.

The petition, which garnered 2,050 signatures—602 more than required—seeks a referendum on the \$3.8 million capital bond ordinance passed by the council last month that includes funding to install artificial turf at the park's baseball field along with a host of other upgrades to the field and to the park itself. An effort to garner enough signatures to force a referendum got underway around the same time that the council approved the bond ordinance. The effort was spearheaded by Friends of Brookside Park, a group comprised of residents—most of whom live near the park—who had spoken out publicly against the turf proposal, at multiple council meetings as well as meetings of the recreation commission.

The neighbors are concerned about the impact of the turf on the park's environment—specifically, the many cubic yards of rubber chips that would be used as an underlay for the turf and how much would eventually run off into the brook along the park's southern and eastern edges. They have also pointed to the potential for dangerously high temperatures on the turf field during the summer months, the increased potential for injuries and the overall impact of synthetic turf on the 23-acre park itself.

At the council's meeting on Monday, Susan Dazzo, one of the organizers of the petition drive, said the signers "came from all over town, about 200 different streets." She described the 2,000-plus voters who signed the petition as being a "nonpartisan, varied demographic group of people." She reported that people "were surprised and interested" to learn about the bond ordinance, and Ms. Dazzo said the council should either put the question on the November ballot or, "given the outpouring of support for the petition," repeal the ordinance.

Mayor Losardo, who last month said that he was "not a believer in referendums," said on Monday that the township attorney and township clerk will review the petition and then advise the council on the next steps to be taken.

In other business, Councilman Roshan White reminded residents that the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day parade will be held on Monday, May 29, beginning with a ceremony at 10 a.m. at the gazebo at the corner of Park Avenue and Front Street, followed by the parade at 10:45 a.m. A contest for top floats in the parade will also be held. Fanwood resident and air force veteran Oshanda Erb will serve as the parade's grand marshal. She is the first female of color and member of the LGBTQ community to be selected.

At the beginning of Monday night's meeting, Councilman Matthew Adams read a proclamation declaring the week of May 14 as National Police Week. Police chief Jeffrey Briel handed out department medals and commendations to seven officers for their heroic efforts in the past year and also issued 16 letters of commendation to several officers and also named Sgt. Stanley Pearson as officer of the year. Mr. Briel also handed out two Chief Citizens Awards to two township residents who assisted law enforcement over the past year.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Stampler read a proclamation congratulating the high school Moonglowers jazz band on finishing first in their division at the recent state jazz festival. Councilman Adams read a proclamation calling attention to the National Gun Violence Awareness Day set for June 2 and the mayor read a proclamation declaring May as Building Safety Month. Deputy mayor Ellen Zimmerman read another proclamation declaring May as Rescue Squad Month, and rescue squad chaplain Robert Gurske noted that the squad, now beginning its 85th year of service, had answered 922 calls in 2022 and spent more than 29,000 hours "helping the people of Scotch Plains." He also thanked the community for supporting the all-volunteer squad with donations.



Katie Moon for The Westfield Leader  
COORDINATED RESPONSE...Firefighters, forest rangers and police officers from multiple nearby communities respond to reports of an uncontained brushfire in a residential neighborhood near Deer Path in Mountainside on Tuesday afternoon. The cause of the fire currently is under investigation.

# Fanwood Introduces \$2 Mil. Capital Bond Ordinances

By FRED T. ROSSI  
For The Westfield Leader

FANWOOD — The borough council introduced \$2.07 million worth of capital bond ordinances on Monday that will be used to finance various improvements to local roads and borough properties. Some of the funds will also be used to acquire equipment for various borough departments, including new police vehicles. A separate \$346,000 bond will provide money for sewer improvements, including replacing the pipe extending from the Community House to the main sewer line 320

feet away. The building's restrooms are being used much more frequently now that the library has temporarily relocated to the north side parking lot at the train station. Borough engineer Antonios Panagopoulos said last month that the existing pipe is old and not sufficiently sloped to carry wastewater to the main line so installing a new pipe is necessary. Both bond ordinances will be voted on at the meeting on Monday, June 5.

Mayor Colleen Mahr said the 2023 operating budget will be introduced at a special meeting on Monday, May 22.

In other business, the council passed an ordinance that clarifies parking rules in the train station parking lots by allowing free parking after noon on week days. Nights and weekends will continue to be free while the normal permit parking rules between 5 a.m. and noon will remain in place.

Council President Jeffrey Banks said that construction of the new library is "coming along really fast," and it is expected that the steel supports will soon arrive and be put into place. He added that a foundation has been formed to oversee fundraising efforts for the new library and that Sam Rogers has been selected as the foundation's president.

Greg Kowalczyk and Ronnie Vojka, the owners of Fabio's Bistron South Avenue, were recognized and thanked by Mayor Mahr "for everything that you have done" and for the restaurant's "outstanding service to the community." She said Fabio's has "always been there for us."

At the start of the meeting, a moment of silence was observed in memory of longtime borough resident Joseph Nagy, who died on Monday, according to Mayor Mahr, "at the beautiful age of 100." She said he was the borough's historian, a "treasured volunteer" and a co-founder of Fanwood's television station.

# Grants

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network designed to spread awareness of and support for the condition, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) is a motor speech disorder that makes it difficult for children to learn to speak.

"Children with the diagnosis of Apraxia of Speech generally have a good understanding of language and know what they want to say," Apraxia Kids notes on its website. "However, they have difficulty learning or carrying out the complex sequenced movements that are necessary for intelligible speech."

The county's proclamation, Apraxia Kids representative Eileen Toplansky said Thursday, will go a long way towards helping the organization to reach its goals.

"As a legal document, this proclamation brings public awareness via newspaper, television and radio," Ms. Toplansky said, adding that the document also will reach state legislators and other elected officials. "Hopefully, one day, the insurance companies will recognize Apraxia and will help to cover more speech-therapy services."

The next meeting of the Union County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 8, in the County Administration Building in Elizabeth.

For more information, including a full list of this year's Union County Infrastructure and Municipal Aid grant program recipients, visit ucnj.org.

# Holiday

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(a newly-designated federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans) to the roster.

"This has been an ongoing conversation for some time, and we intend to give the matter our full consideration," board member Leila Morrelli said during the May 9 meeting.

The next meeting of the Westfield Board of Education is scheduled to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, in the high-school cafeteria.



FRIENDS OF THE LEADER...Linda Huff and Beth Massa celebrate their friendship by reading The Westfield Leader in the Dominican Republic

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# Budget

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Mountainside. These include: improvements to the sanitary and storm-water drainage systems, infrastructure improvements, curb construction throughout the borough and a generator for the municipal building. Members of the council also unanimously passed an ordinance upon its second reading to adopt updated Flood Hazard maps for the borough and to appoint a Flood Hazard Flood-Plan administrator.

Finally, members of the Governor Livingston High School Hockey team, which includes Mountainside students, were honored for their second annual Public C State Championship earned in 2023. A proclamation was read on their behalf.

Team members include Brian Kramer, Daltry Ferringio, Jacob Wachtel, Anthony Labisi, Jackson Benward, Teddy Baum, Brandon Fowles, Colin DeCroix, Ryan Siksnius, Owen Cook, Princess Delano, Alec Novotny, Carter Wahlers, Quentin Gallagher, Brandon Cuccaro, Matt Wallen, Jeremy Siksnius, Jordan Baum, Matt Costa, Scott Capan and Kyle Foster. Coaches Greg Jenson, Travis Diello, Matt Altomare and Carson Wahlers also were honored.

In addition, Eagle Scouts Brett Garcia and Grant George Garcia were honored for their work making flag retirement boxes for the Borough Hall and library and for renovating compost boxes and creating a storage unit for the baseball field at Governor Livingston High School.

It was announced that on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, a memorial service will be held at Constitution Plaza with a parade to immediately follow starting on Bridle Path. Afterwards, a picnic will be held for borough veterans and their families.

The next Mountainside Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the municipal building.

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Fred T. Rossi for Union County HAWK  
**SEEKING A REFERENDUM...**A petition signed by 2,050 township voters and calling for a referendum on the Brookside Park artificial-turf question was delivered to Deputy Township Clerk Bridget Cone last Thursday morning by several organizers from Friends of Brookside Park.

## Garwood BOE Thanks Community Responders

By KATIE MOEN  
For Union County HAWK

**GARWOOD** — An iconic mural that has graced the front façade of Garwood's Lincoln Elementary School for more than three decades will be getting a bit of a facelift this year thanks to the continued dedication of one local artist.

Robert Murphy, who back in 1989 painted the familiar scene of a boy stepping through the building's front door while other children and a teacher smile down from classroom windows up above, announced his plans during Tuesday's regular meeting of the Garwood Board of Education to touch up the mural.

At some point in the late 1980s, Mr. Murphy said, the district was forced to seal up the building's elaborate main entrance and several second-story windows in order to make room for more classroom space.

"I came up with the idea to paint a scene depicting the way that that doorway had always looked before they had to cement it over," said Mr. Murphy, who graduated from Lincoln some years before the mural was painted. The mural, Mr. Murphy said, was painted with a special, long-lasting outdoor paint designed to last for up to 60 years.

"The window scene is still in pretty good shape, but there are some hairline cracks down in the door," said Mr. Murphy, who also intends to repair a gap left in the mural by an old mailbox, which was once affixed to the front of the building but has long since been removed.

Mr. Murphy's work also can be viewed at major event venues like Bethel Woods, at luxury hotels including The Plaza in New York City and Orlando's Swan and Dolphin, and in government buildings including New York City Hall, the New Jersey State Capital Building in Trenton and the Army Navy Building in Washington, D.C., among numerous other locations.

Superintendent Christopher Kinney thanked Mr. Murphy for his continued dedication to the district and for his willingness to bring the mural back to its original state.

District officials also extended

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The neighbors are concerned about the impact of the turf on the park's environment—specifically, the many cubic yards of rubber chips that would be used as an underlay for the turf and

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At the beginning of Monday night's

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Katie Moen for Union County HAWK  
**A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE...**A mural that has graced the front of Garwood's Lincoln Franklin Elementary School for more than three decades will be revitalized this summer by local artist Robert Murphy, who painted the piece back in 1989.

## Clark OKs Additional Legal Counsel In Pending Lawsuit

By LAURA KREISER  
For Union County HAWK

**CLARK** — Clark Township passed two resolutions on Monday that will allow the council to hire more lawyers to handle a lawsuit stemming from a fatal accident at Clark Commons that occurred early last year.

According to a suit filed in Middlesex County Superior Court in December of the same year, 51-year-old Maha W. Qalawi, of Edison, was struck by a vehicle and killed on the afternoon of February 12, 2022, while attempting to cross the shopping center's parking lot. The woman's family, represented by a Hackensack-based injury firm (Garces, Grabler, & LeBrocq), is now seeking punitive and compensatory damages against the driver of the vehicle, the owners of the Clark Commons and numerous other entities, including Union County, the Township of Clark, its fire department and its police force.

On Monday, Clark resident Delia Collins asked the council why two more firms — DiFrancesco, Bateman, Coley, Yospin, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C., and Barr & Gulyas, LLC — were going to be hired by the township when the township already had an attorney.

According to information provided by the evening's agenda, each firm will be paid \$175 per hour for its litigation services.

Mark Dugan, the township's attorney, said the firms will be hired specifically to represent the police department and fire department. He said, "the plaintiff has added many, many people to the lawsuit...It's uncomfortable for us with all those various players to determine when and if conflicts of interest arise."

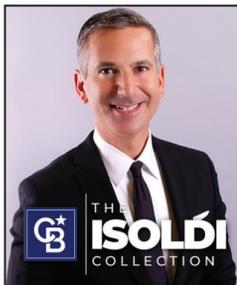
Both firms already have existing contracts with the township.

The township's business administrator, Jim Ulrich, said expenses will be capped at \$44,000 for each extra firm helping to defend the township agencies.

The council also passed a resolution authorizing a developer's agreement with EURO TIME, LLC for a property located at 221-223 Westfield Avenue. Mr. Ulrich said the agreement "memorializes the planning board's approval" and outlines property-management guidelines for sewers, sidewalks, construction and traffic control.

The council also introduced several ordinances for first reading, including one that would amend the township's existing tree-removal regulations and another that would require local restaurants to register their grease traps. Mr. Ulrich explained that restaurants will now be required to register their grease traps with the township, so "it can help keep grease out of our sewer system."

Mr. Ulrich said changing the tree ordinance was required by the state, "so we don't have a lot of leeway on it." He said the fees and type of trees that would be replanted after a tree is removed were at the township's discretion, so he said the township is keeping the fee at \$30, no matter what the diameter of the tree was. He added that when it is time to replace the tree, it will be at the Department of Public Works' discretion depending on soil type, irrigation in the area and other factors. He said the township is trying to be consistent based on what is best for each environment. The next meeting of the Clark governing body will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 19, in the Council Chambers.



# Thinking of moving? We should talk.



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**JAZZING IT UP...**It was Jazz Night last Friday at Shady Rest Golf and Country Club, a dinner sponsored by the Preserve Shady Rest Committee and featuring Carrie Jackson and her All-Star Band.

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Made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs,  
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## Responders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

detected and brought to The Westwood, a neighboring event venue, to wait for the situation to be resolved.

"We basically knocked on the door and said, 'hey, here we are — all 390 of us. It should have been chaos, but it wasn't," Mr. Kinney said.

Other community partners, Mr. Kinney said, helped out by directing traffic, contributing resources, and working to reunite students with their parents at the end of the day.

Board President April Farrell said the evacuation was "beautifully executed" from start to finish.

"It is both comforting and reassuring for us to know that in the midst of a crisis, we can rally together as a community to keep our Garwood children safe," Ms. Farrell said. "We are truly grateful to all of you."

The board entered into an executive session towards the end of the evening to discuss certain pending legal action. Board member Sal Piarulli, who filed suit against the board earlier this year for alleged defamation, excused himself from the proceedings.

The next meeting of the Garwood Board of Education is scheduled to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, in the cafeteria of Lincoln Elementary School.

# Westfield BOE Debates Holiday Calendar

By KATIE MOEN  
For Union County HAWK

WESTFIELD — As another school year draws to a close, the members of the Westfield Board of Education (BOE) are debating a few amendments to next year's calendar in order to better meet the changing needs of the community's increasingly diverse population.

Earlier this month, board member Sahar Aziz, part of last year's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, suggested the possibility of adding some new holidays — including Chinese New Year, Diwali (the Indian festival of lights) and Eid al-Fitr (a Muslim celebration that marks the end of Ramadan) — for the 2024-25 school calendar.

"As we know, students currently have to miss class, and sometimes their

exams, for these observances. I know we have suggested to teachers that they not give exams during these times, but I don't know how much that's practiced," Ms. Aziz said, speaking during the board's May 9 meeting.

The Westfield board is not alone. Over the course of the past several years, dozens of districts across the state have modified their annual calendars to better reflect the predominant ideologies of their districts.

The New Jersey Department of Education currently recognizes more than 100 religious holidays, all of which are considered excused absences for students. Teachers and staff, however, may, depending on district policy, be required to utilize personal time for religious observances that coincide with a

scheduled day of school.

Ms. Aziz, who was unable to attend two recent meetings of the BOE due to her own religious observances, said earlier this month that it may be time for Westfield to start taking a look at some new scheduling options in order to create a more "inclusive" calendar.

The state's list of recognized holidays runs the gamut and includes everything from Christmas and Rosh Hashana to Mabon (a pagan holiday that celebrates the autumnal equinox); Zarathosht Diso (in which Zoroastrians commemorate the death of their Iranian-born prophet, Zoroaster); and L. Ron Hubbard's birthday (celebrated by the members of the Church of Scientology in honor of their founder).

Outside of the recognized list, however, the state provides little in the way of guidance on the matter other than to note that students must be in class for 180 days out of the year. The details — including when to close school and how to label their holiday breaks — are largely left to the districts themselves.

In Westfield, for example, schools were closed last year in observance of Rosh Hashana (September 26-27) and Yom Kippur (October 5) in addition to the usual slew of federal holidays like Labor Day, Presidents' Day and Thanksgiving. Schools also were closed for the last week in December (dubbed "Holiday Break" on the district's official calendar) and a "Spring Break" in April that spans a host of its own holidays, including Palm Sunday, Easter, Passover, Theravadin New Year (a Buddhist tradition) and The Last Friday of Lent (celebrated by the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church), among others.

In other districts throughout the state, conversations about switching up the school calendar have included parents, residents and even students.

In January, for example, members of East Brunswick's Islamic community spoke out at a board of education meeting to request that Eid al-Fitr and another important Muslim holiday, Eid al-Adha, be celebrated in the township.

"A day off for Eid signifies to non-Muslims that their fellow Muslim classmates are not a fringe group, but rather a part of the fabric of East Brunswick. This fosters diversity and inclusion and helps to curb Islamophobia. A move to incorporate and recognize Muslims on the school calendar promotes diversity, equity and inclusion, which are values held in highest esteem in East Brunswick Public Schools," Nancy Elbasty, an East Brunswick resident with three children in the school district, said at the time.

It worked. Earlier this month, district officials announced that both days (April 10 and June 1) would be added to the list of official holiday closings going forward.

In Paramus, where similar discussions occurred between community members, district officials last year agreed to add Diwali, Lunar New Year, Eid al-Fitr and Juneteenth (a newly designated federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans) to the roster.

"This has been an ongoing conversation for some time, and we intend to give the matter our full consideration," board member Leila Morrelli said during the May 9 meeting.

The next meeting of the Westfield Board of Education is scheduled to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, in the high-school cafeteria.

## County Awards \$1.5 Million In Municipal Aid Grants

By KATIE MOEN  
For Union County HAWK

COUNTY — Municipalities throughout the area will have the opportunity to tend to some upgrades and repairs over the coming months as part of this year's Union County Infrastructure and Municipal Aid grant program.

On Thursday, during a regular meeting of the Union County Board of County Commissioners, the county's elected representatives allocated \$1.5 million in matching-grant funding to be shared among each of Union County's 21 municipalities, all of which submitted project-based applications to the county in order to participate in this year's program.

Each award, Vice Chairwoman Kimberly Palmieri-Moued said, is intended to "stimulate the development of public projects of economic, social, transportation and governmental importance."

The program was created by Commissioner Christopher Hudak in 2015, developed by the County Commissioners' Fiscal Committee and is administered by the Department of Economic Development.

Funding for the grant is provided through the proceeds from the sale of Runnells Specialized Hospital in 2014.

And while a wide variety of revitalization projects, ranging from flood-water mitigation and sewer repair to building upgrades and new community spaces, are expected to be completed with the help of the grant funding, road repairs seemingly topped this year's list of requests.

Westfield's \$100,000 award, for example, will be allocated to repairs and improvements along Summit Avenue, while Scotch Plains intends to use its \$100,000 grant to supplement its 2023 Roadwork Assistance Program. Meanwhile, Mountainside was awarded \$40,000 for paving improvements along Outlook Drive East. Other local projects include pedestrian-initiated flashing crosswalks and a new accessible ramp for the library in Clark (\$42,500); miscellaneous sanitary-sewer upgrades and some new

building security in Garwood (\$38,000); and new public sewer linings for Fanwood (\$40,000).

"[Fanwood's] aging infrastructure has been one of our biggest challenges for some time, so this money will definitely be going to good use," Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr said via a recorded video presentation played during Thursday night's meeting.

The commissioners also issued a proclamation on Thursday to officially declare Sunday, May 14, as "Apraxia Awareness Day" throughout the County of Union.

According to information provided by Apraxia Kids, an online resource network designed to spread awareness of and support for the condition, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) is a motor speech disorder that makes it difficult for children to learn to speak.

"Children with the diagnosis of Apraxia of Speech generally have a good understanding of language and know what they want to say," Apraxia Kids notes on its website. "However, they have difficulty learning or carrying out the complex sequenced movements that are necessary for intelligible speech."

The county's proclamation, Apraxia Kids representative Eileen Toplansky said Thursday, will go a long way towards helping the organization to reach its goals.

"As a legal document, this proclamation brings public awareness via newspaper, television and radio," Ms. Toplansky said, adding that the document also will reach state legislators and other elected officials. "Hopefully, one day, the insurance companies will recognize Apraxia and will help to cover more speech-therapy services."

The next meeting of the Union County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 8, in the County Administration Building in Elizabeth.

For more information, including a full list of this year's Union County Infrastructure and Municipal Aid grant program recipients, visit ucnj.org.

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## Brookside

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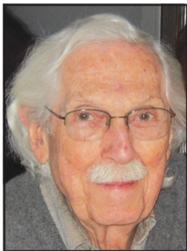
meeting, Councilman Matthew Adams read a proclamation declaring the week of May 14 as National Police Week. Police chief Jeffrey Briel handed out department medals and commendations to seven officers for their heroic efforts in the past year and also issued 16 letters of commendation to several officers and also named Sgt. Stanley Pearson as officer of the year. Mr. Briel also handed out two Chief Citizens Awards to two township residents who assisted law enforcement over the past year.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Stampler read a proclamation congratulating the high school Moonglowers jazz band on finishing first in their division at the recent state jazz festival. Councilman Adams read a proclamation calling attention to the National Gun Violence Awareness Day set for June 2 and the mayor read a proclamation declaring May as Building Safety Month. Deputy mayor Ellen Zimmerman read another proclamation declaring May as Rescue Squad Month, and rescue squad chaplain Robert Gurske noted that the squad, now beginning its 85th year of service, had answered 922 calls in 2022 and spent more than 29,000 hours "helping the people of Scotch Plains." He also thanked the community for supporting the all-volunteer squad with donations.

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## E. Austin Goodwin, Art Professor, Devoted Father and Grandfather

Surrounded by his loving family, E. Austin Goodwin passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, April 13. He was born in Muncie, Indiana, on April 28, 1930, to Elmer W. Goodwin and Eleanor Austin.



E. Austin Goodwin

He is survived by his wife, Nelleda Goodwin (Vellucci), of 57 years; his daughter, Leah Marisa Goodwin, and granddaughter, Kai Elise Robinson; his son, Seth Austin Goodwin; his daughter-in-law, Sarah Goodwin; grandson, Henrik Austin Goodwin, and niece, Lisa Capestro. E. Austin Goodwin began his progressive education at a very young age, at Burriss High Laboratory School in Muncie. He followed this by attending Ball State University, where he graduated in 1952 with a degree in Fine Arts Education. After graduation, he joined the United States Air Force, completing his service as a First Lieutenant. Austin moved to New York City upon his acceptance to Columbia University Graduate School for Fine Arts. Immersed in the arts scene, he happily settled in New York City, teaching the arts at Hunter College High School and Columbia University. He then joined Newark State Teachers College in the burgeoning Fine Arts department. He retired after 38 years as a professor in the Fine Art Department at Kean University. He taught Design, Jewelry and Ce-

ramics. He also served as chairman of the department for two years. After retirement, Austin and his wife, Nell, owned Beautiful Things, a gallery and shop which showcased American crafts/art and housed his studio. After the shop closed, he moved his work back into his home studio, in which he continued to create jewelry and art throughout the remainder of his life. Austin was a member of the American Craft Council and Society of North American Goldsmiths. Austin's work was seen in many exhibitions, galleries and museums. His jewelry and metalwork can be found in numerous collections and publications.

Austin and Nell's marriage of 57 years was the foundation for a family built on love and acceptance. Together they built a home that fostered creativity, education, dear friendships, art, food, conversation and love.

Visitation was held at Higgins and Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home, 582 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. The funeral was held at Higgins and Bonner on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, followed by the burial at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Craft Council: [www.craftcouncil.org](http://www.craftcouncil.org).

May 18, 2023

## Obituaries

### Jeffrey Edward Smith, 76, Beloved Husband, Father and Grandfather

Jeffrey E. Smith, 76, beloved husband, father and grandfather, passed away on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at Mountainside Medical Center with his loving family by his side. Jeffrey was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Norbert and Frances Smith and raised in Saddle Brook, New Jersey. At Saddle Brook High School, he starred in football and baseball, captaining both teams. He played on the varsity basketball team and also earned top honors on his bowling team. After high school, he attended Rutgers University, where he went on to earn MVP honors on the football team. He would graduate from Fairleigh Dickinson University with degrees in Finance and Accounting.

In 1972, Jeff married his wife, Virginia, at St. John the Baptist Church in Jersey City. They briefly resided in New York City before moving to New Jersey in 1976. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2022. They would go on to have five children and 14 grandchildren, who lovingly referred to him as "Pop." Jeff spent most of his career in finance, beginning as an accountant at Coopers & Lybrand in San Francisco, Fort Lauderdale, and New York. He would go on to serve as Chief Financial Officer for Alpha Inc. in Fort Lee for over 17 years before serving in the same role at PDI Inc. in Upper



Jeffrey E. Smith

Saddle River. When he retired, Jeff's favorite pastimes were playing golf and tennis. He enjoyed going to Broadway plays — *Les Mis* was his favorite! He also loved to spend time with his family at their house at the Jersey shore, where he will forever be remembered sitting on the porch with a martini in his hand and a smile on his face.

He is survived by his wife, Ginny (née Ward); his children, Jeff (and his wife, Kelly), Tim, Jill (and her husband, Dan), Brooke (and her husband, Stephen) and Michael; and his 14 grandchildren, Matthew and Andrew Smith; Emily, Christian and Luke Smith; Madelyn, Colin, Liam and Theo Granite; Gus, Remy, Indie and Graham Kendrick; and Anabelle Smith.

Visitation will take place at Gray Funeral Home, 318 East Broad Street, Westfield, today, Thursday, May 18, 2023, from 4 to 8 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, on Friday, May 19, 2023, at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield. Please go to [www.grayfuneralhomes.com](http://www.grayfuneralhomes.com) to offer condolences. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Jeffrey's name to [www.aldfoundation.org](http://www.aldfoundation.org) or [www.bu.edu/amyloid/donate](http://www.bu.edu/amyloid/donate).

May 18, 2023

### Joseph Nagy, 100, Family Man, Avid Volunteer, Loved His Community

During the century that he lived, Joseph Nagy checked all the boxes. He served his country in World War II, then went to Japan after the war ended to help to ensure the peace. A family man, he was a source of support and counsel for his wife and children, as well as other relatives. In business, he was a mentor to many and carved a successful career.

He also was a pillar of his beloved community of Fanwood, N.J., where he lived for 60 years. An avid volunteer, he cheerfully gave his time and effort for everything from a scholarship foundation to the borough Historic Preservation Commission, as well as helping establish the local cable access TV station to keep residents informed.

He was active in his church, St. Bartholomew the Apostle in Scotch Plains, where he served as a member of the Holy Name Society as well as the parish financial committee and was recognized as an honoree of the Knights and Dames.

When he died at age 100 on Monday, May 15, there was nothing he had left undone. From humble roots, he built a life that included a host of friends and made things better for so many people with whom he came in contact. As noted in an article about him published in *The Fanwoodian*, the borough newsletter, "If you live in Fanwood, you've probably been touched by something good done by Joe Nagy."

Born in 1923 to Hungarian immigrants in the Fords section of Woodbridge Township, as a teenager he sold blocks of ice and bags of coal during the Depression. He went into the U.S. Army in 1942, two years after his graduation from Woodbridge High School, and a year after the United States entered World War II.

He entered the service as an enlisted man, was selected to attend Officer Candidate School in late 1944, and then was commissioned as an officer at the Armored School, Fort Knox, Ky., in March 1945.

He served in the U.S. occupation forces in Japan, where he was moved by a visit to Hiroshima when he saw the devastation wrought by the atomic bomb, calling it "one of the most sobering experiences" of his life.

Upon his discharge from active duty in 1946, he joined the Army Reserve, retiring with the rank of major in 1966. In civilian life, Mr. Nagy attended Rutgers University on the G.I. Bill, receiving a marketing certificate, then went to work at Sears Roebuck and Co. From there, he began a 34-year career with the Bamberger's division of Macy's department store. He helped pioneer the use of computer technology for merchandising information, retiring in 1988 as vice president for merchandise control at Macy's/Bamberger's. During his time as an executive, he served as a board member and volunteer consultant for the Interracial Council for Business Opportunity. It's also worth noting that over 45 years, he did not miss a single day of work due to sickness.

Honored as the Grand Marshal of the 2017 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day Parade, he considered his volunteer work his third career, after the Army and his business involvement.

He was incredibly generous with his time and enjoyed giving it, tirelessly serving a whole host of causes and organizations. His roles included the presidency of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Parent-Teacher Association, co-authoring "Images of Fanwood," a pictorial history of the borough, and chairing the Robert Treat Council of the Boy Scouts of America in Newark. He organized reunions of his high school class and was one of the founders of the Macy's Dinosaurs, a club for the department store's retirees.

Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr called Mr. Nagy, "a significant piece of our town and we are so incredibly grateful for his contributions and having him in our lives."

He kept busy in many ways aside from his volunteer role. Active in local political campaigns, he enjoyed woodworking and was an avid reader of non-fiction, particularly historical biographies. He also enjoyed leisure travel, both domestic and international, with his wife, Claire, and often with family and friends, in addition to relishing summer visits to his children's lake homes in New Jersey and Maine.

Joan Skubish, chairman of the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission, heard from dozens of people after they learned of Mr. Nagy's passing. "The word 'exceptional' came up a lot, as well as 'great man' and 'extraordinary,'" she related. "He was just the kindest person. He loved the town."

She mentioned that he was known for his repertoire of corny jokes.

"He had such a sense of humor," she said. "A lot of his jokes were from the past, but they were new to the children who toured the (borough) museum. He would always start the tours with a joke."

Mr. Nagy is survived by his wife of 74 years, Claire; their daughter, Susan Calabrese (Gary), and sons, Dennis (Cilla) and Lawrence (Nancy); three grandchildren, Colin Calabrese, Carolyn Calabrese Sweeney (Scott) and Matthew Nagy (Katie). Other survivors are his great-granddaughters, Cora, Eve and Delaney Sweeney, and his sister, Bertha Mika.

Visitation will be from 2 to 5 p.m. on Monday, May 22, at Rossi Funeral Home, 1937 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 23, at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, 2032 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains. Entombment will follow at St. Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Mr. Nagy's memory may be made to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Scholarship Foundation (<https://spscholarshipfoundation.org/>), which he served as treasurer and a trustee.

May 18, 2023

## Library to Offer Program On Tai Chi Tuesday

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library will present "The Fundamentals of Tai Chi with Gang Huang" on Tuesday, May 23, beginning at 7 p.m.

An ancient practice that originated in China, Tai Chi is a form of exercise designed to boost both mental and physical health. Often referred to as "Meditation in Motion," it has been credited with promoting balance and preventing falls; relieving depression, Parkinson's disease and dementia; and reversing disease progression in osteoarthritis. Tai Chi also has been described as helping with insomnia, hypertension and fibromyalgia.

Dr. Huang will lead a hands-on session to work on Tai Chi fundamentals such as joint health, standing meditation, weight shifting and balance, and Tai Chi walking. He has learned Yang style from Masters like Yang Jun and Wang Hanrong, and also Chen style from Chen Bing, Chen Zhenglei and Chen Yu.

Dr. Huang is an authorized instructor of Yang Family Tai Chi Association and currently teaches Tai Chi classes in Bridgewater.

The Westfield Memorial Library is located at 550 East Broad Street. To register for the Tai Chi class, visit the library's website at <https://wmlnj.org/>.

## Temple Invites Prospective Members to Open House

SCOTCH PLAINS — Congregation Beth Israel (CBI) will hold an open-house event for prospective members this Sunday, May 21, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Prospective congregants will have the opportunity to tour the synagogue and to meet CBI's clergy, professional staff, lay leaders and teachers.

The open house will take place during the synagogue's end-of-

year celebration, which will feature a disc jockey, photo booth, food and the ice cream Scream truck. The event, which is suitable for children of all ages, is free and open to the community.

"After an amazing school and programming year, we are excited to celebrate everything that we as a community accomplished and to just enjoy spending time with one another," said Aviva Tilles, CBI's director of congregational learning and programming. "We're also excited to welcome potential new members and to introduce them to the students, families, teachers and volunteers that make up our close-knit synagogue community."

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

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

Registration for the 2023-2024 Religious School year is available. Congregation Beth Israel educates students from pre-K through 12th grade through experiential, grade-specific programs that encompass the family in its curriculum.

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

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

The open house is free to attend, but registration is encouraged at [www.cbinj.org/event/yearendparty23](http://www.cbinj.org/event/yearendparty23).

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

### Joseph J. Vecchio, 86, Attorney; Loved Family, Literature, Travel and Fishing

Joseph J. Vecchio, 86, a resident of Fort Myers Beach, Fla., since 1984, formerly of Lake Hopatcong, N.J., passed away with his loving family by his side, on Sunday, May 14, 2023. He was born July 8, 1936 in Westfield, N.J., to the late Angelo and Mary (née Simonetti) Vecchio.

The first in his family to graduate from college, Joe was Class of 1960 at Rutgers University, New Jersey, where he earned a J.D. He practiced general, zoning, planning, and real estate law. His undergraduate degree was in American Literature, which meant a lifetime of reading alongside his daughter, raising her with America's greatest poets, authors and songwriters. Joe's background in law and literature meant he was an exceptional debater and humorous storyteller; however, his greatest talent was in woodworking, making entire rooms of furniture, the stairs in his house, and all the kitchen cutting boards and blocks for the Florida home he and Diane designed. As generous hosts, all their homes were known as social epicenters for neighbors and friends, where they regularly hosted both planned and

spontaneous happy hours, dinners and parties.

He and his wife enjoyed seeing the world, from Alaska to Antarctica and numerous warm-weather places in between; they especially loved traveling on cruise ships. Joe spent his life living near his beloved water. In New Jersey, he lived on an island in Lake Hopatcong and then alongside the Florida Gulf for 40 years. He had a Master Captain license and especially loved fishing in the Keys, on both Florida coasts, and in Mexico.



Joe Vecchio

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Diane Vecchio, of Fort Myers Beach, Fla., and one daughter, Marji Vecchio, of Reno and Baltimore.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1:30 p.m. today, Thursday, May 18, 2023, at Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home, 1589 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, Fla. The family will receive friends for a time of visitation from 1 p.m. until the service time at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, [www.donate.cancer.org](http://www.donate.cancer.org), in loving memory of Joseph "Joe" Vecchio.

May 18, 2023

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## Zoom Classes to Promote Balance Awareness

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library will host Virtual Balance Awareness Classes with Yasmin Ofek at 10 a.m. on Fridays this month and in June. All adults, and older adults in particular, are encouraged to take part in these classes, which address the loss of balance and strength that can occur with age.

Ms. Ofek's instruction emphasizes moving with awareness to allow one's

nervous system to discover easier, more efficient movement patterns. With her knowledge of anatomy and experience as a fitness trainer, Ms. Ofek seeks to help participants develop a better connection between the brain and the body, while also gently strengthening the muscles that keep the body upright. All that is needed to participate in the classes are a chair and sneakers.

For more information about the

method Ms. Ofek uses in her classes, visit <https://www.mindthebodybalance.com/about-the-method>.

Participants need register only once to attend one or all of Ms. Ofek's classes in 2023. They will immediately receive an email with the Zoom link. To register, access the form on the library's website, [scotlib.org](http://scotlib.org), or call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204.

## Matthew Bolton, Ed.D., Is Named to Asst. Supt. Post

WESTFIELD — During its regular public meeting on May 9, the Westfield Board of Education approved the appointment of Matthew Bolton, Ed.D., as assistant superintendent for curriculum, instruction and programs, effective Saturday, July 1, 2023.

"Having served as an administrator in four schools (Roosevelt, Lincoln, McKinley and Edison) over the course of 16 years within the Westfield Public Schools, I have developed a keen understanding of our curriculum, programs and instructional practices," said Dr. Bolton. "My previous experiences working within Westfield have afforded me the opportunity to develop strong relationships with principals, supervisors and various district-level leaders. I believe that the strength of these relationships will be key to our growth as a district as we implement the various goals within an ambitious new strategic plan."

For the past 11 years, Dr. Bolton has served as the principal of Edison Intermediate School, with more than 700 students and over 100 staff members. While at Edison, Dr. Bolton has designed and facilitated a multi-year school strategic plan to identify and address student achievement gaps; researched and implemented school-wide programs to increase a sense of connection and belonging among students, including the Advisory Program, which has all students and staff taking part in group character-education lessons on a monthly basis; developed and served as chair of the district-wide Allergy Awareness Committee; and implemented a professional learning community model for teachers to analyze data to enhance instructional practice.

Dr. Bolton also has served as an on-site administrative mentor to aspiring administrators and has created structures for job-embedded and sustained professional learning for educators through the school day using common interdisciplinary planning periods.

Before joining Edison, Dr. Bolton served as principal of McKinley Elementary School from 2010 to 2012; acting principal of the Lincoln Early Childhood Learning Center in 2010,

and assistant principal at Roosevelt Intermediate School from 2007 to 2010. He began his career in education in 2001 as a second-grade teacher in Fairlawn, where he also taught sixth-grade social studies until 2007.

"It is my sincerely-held belief that my rich background of leadership experiences will be of significant benefit, as we chart the district's future course," said Dr. Bolton. "I have committed myself to ensuring that all students experience engaging coursework. It is my goal to continue enhancing both the daily school experience and learning outcomes of students on a district-wide level."



Dr. Matthew Bolton

Dr. Bolton holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from New York's Fordham University, where he also serves as an adjunct professor. He earned a Master of Science in Education, with a major in Educational Leadership, from the Bank Street College of Education in New York, along with a Bachelor of Science in Education, with a dual major in Elementary Education and Sociology, from Seton Hall University in South Orange.

Superintendent Raymond González, Ed.D., praised Dr. Bolton as a trusted school leader at Edison and within the broader school community, who emerged as the clear choice out of 56 applicants and three rounds of interviews.

"I am pleased to recommend Dr. Bolton to be our next assistant superintendent of curriculum, instruction and programs," said Dr. González. "His extensive knowledge of curriculum and instruction, data analysis and professional development, along with his commitment to the academic, social and emotional health of all students and staff, make him the ideal candidate for this position."

"I look forward to working closely with Dr. González, as well as school and department leaders, to ensure that our curriculum, professional development and instructional practices are organized so that the students of the Westfield Public Schools enjoy a consistent and excellent educational experience," Dr. Bolton added.

Dr. Bolton will succeed Paul Pineiro, Ed.D., who is retiring as of Friday, June 30, 2023.

## Tenth Annual Greta's Run For Imagine Is May 21

WESTFIELD — The 10th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine will be held this Sunday, May 21, with activities commencing at 8 a.m. Runners, walkers and rollers are welcome to register for this official USATF 5K race through Westfield. Proceeds raised will benefit Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, located in Mountainside.

This year will be the second time the race event is held in-person since the pandemic. The 9 a.m. 5K race will include a welcoming address from Westfield Mayor Shelley Brindle, followed by a 200-yard Kids Fun Run dash at 10 a.m., for children age 10 and younger. The event will conclude with a Memory Walk at 10:15 a.m., which was extended from 0.6 miles to one mile since 2022. Both the 5K and Memory Walk route will be lined with memory signs, available for purchase by anyone who wants to memorialize a special person who has died.

Greta's Run began 10 years ago when a group of Greta Schoenemann's friends decided to honor her memory with a 5K community race. Greta died on September 15, 2002, due to injuries she sustained when a branch fell on a group of students as they were eating lunch outside of Westfield High School.

Proceeds from the race support Imagine's free peer-support groups for children and families coping with grief, as well as Imagine's grief-education programs, which are available for schools and businesses looking to better support their communities. Additionally, Imagine staff members are available to provide support in the immediate aftermath of a loss in a school community, organization or place of business. Imagine has expressed apprecia-

tion to its sponsors thus far for the 10th Annual Greta's Run to Remember. Thus far, they include Presenting Sponsor: Twin Boro Physical Therapy; Memory Walk Sponsor: Tooley Legacy Foundation; Kids Fun Run Sponsor: Wiss; Other Sponsors: Ernst & Young, Fleet Feet, Northfield Bank, BMW of Springfield, ConnectOne Bank, Joely Triantafyllou Real Estate, Offen Eye, Schuster Family Orthodontics, Sobel Bixel, One Westfield Place | HBC | Streetworks, Union Pork Store, Banknet, CLA, Dangler Funeral Home, Ellie Mroz Design, Family Investors Company, Guillotine Salon & Spa, Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield, Prime Oral & Facial Surgery of Cranford, Rossi Funeral Home, Rabadeau Wealth Group, Rumble, Shoreline East, UBS, Westfield Pediatric Dental Group, YPTC and Southpaw.

Sponsorships help to underwrite the event and help ensure that every dollar goes directly to providing free grief support for children and families. To become a sponsor for future Imagine events, contact Angela Marie Tayco at [angela@imaginenj.org](mailto:angela@imaginenj.org) or (908) 228-3360.

Imagine offers peer grief-support groups for New Jersey children, ages 3 to 18, and young adults, ages 18 to 30, who are coping with a loss including a parent, a sibling, a close family member or other significant person in their life. Imagine also offers peer grief-support groups for parents who have lost a child (birth to age 25). Adult grief-support groups are available in English and Spanish. For full information, visit [imaginenj.org](http://imaginenj.org).

To register for the 10th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine, visit [imaginenj.org/gretasrun](http://imaginenj.org/gretasrun).



LOVE IS GOLDEN...Anthony and Sherilyn Cognetti are joined by their family and Father William Morris as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and renewal of their vows. Pictured with the happy couple are Father Morris; son Marcus with his wife, Julia, and their children, Aria and Hunter; son Matthew and his wife, Laura, with their children, Christopher and Charlotte; son John with his wife, Andrea, and their children, Jackson, Billy and Nicholas; daughter Elisa with her husband, John, and their children, Alexandra, Katelyn and Tony; son Paul with his wife, Amanda, and their children, Luca and Mia; son David with his fiancée, Tanya; son Craig with his wife, Lauren, and their son, Sebastian; daughter Catherine with her husband, Matt, and their son, Miles; and daughter Christina with her husband, K.C., and their daughter, Kennedy.

## Anthony and Sherilyn Cognetti Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Cognetti of Westfield celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, April 14, 2023. They renewed their vows at The Parish Community of Saint Helen in Westfield, with priest and family friend Father William Morris.

Anthony and Sherilyn met at Penn State University and were married on April 14, 1973 at the Our Lady of Victory Church in State College,

Pa. In 1980, they moved to Westfield, where they raised their nine children, Marcus, Matthew, John, Elisa, Paul, David, Craig, Catherine and Christina.

They have since retired to Manasquan, New Jersey, where they love hosting their nine children, their significant others, 15 grandchildren (with number 16 coming soon!), as well as friends and family.

## Library to Feature Nature, Crafts, Books, Nina Simone

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library has announced the dates and details for four events it will host this month. Program topics will include nature, crafts, literature and iconic American singer and songwriter Nina Simone. The library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.

"Wildlife in the Classroom," with Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) Environmental Science teacher Zach Rittner, will be held on Monday, May 22, at 7 p.m. This program will spotlight the wild-life-conservation activities taking place at SPFHS, among them how students have been raising rainbow trout, diamondback terrapins and bobwhite quail, and even building a native pollinator garden.

Mr. Rittner will focus on the life history of these charismatic creatures, their conservation status, their value as an educational tool in the classroom and what can be done to help protect these imperiled species. Attendees will even have a chance to meet two of the school's terrapins, "Squirtle" and "Inchy," as well as some of the newly-hatched quail chicks. To register for this in-person program, visit the library's website, [www.scotlib.org](http://www.scotlib.org).

The library will feature Drop-In Crafting on Tuesday, May 23, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Participants are invited to bring their current works in progress to the library's gallery space and create alongside others. The library staff hopes this will become a monthly event. Registration is not required. For more information, go to [www.scotlib.org](http://www.scotlib.org).

email [library@scotlib.org](mailto:library@scotlib.org) or call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204.

The library and the Scotch Plains Recreation Department have partnered for the creation of a Senior Book Chat program. Older adults are invited to join a librarian on Wednesday, May 24, at 2 p.m., at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains for an informal chat about whatever they have recently been reading — any genre or subject, any format. Registration is open to seniors (age 55 and above). For more information, email [library@scotlib.org](mailto:library@scotlib.org) or call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204.

On Thursday, May 25, the library will host "Nina Simone: An Extra/Ordinary Way to Listen" at 7 p.m. This virtual program will feature a talk with Professor Janee Moses, who will offer a revealing exploration of Ms. Simone's performance of "Be My Husband," a song written by Ms. Simone's own husband, Andy Stroud.

In addition to her career in music, Nina Simone was passionately dedicated to civil rights activism. She also was a wife and mother who felt the pull of traditional female domestic roles. Her songs allowed her a way to explore and express these often conflicting sentiments. The talk will draw on Ms. Simone's own voice in her songs, as well as on interviews with those close to her, plus contemporary visual artwork exploring the concept of "extraordinary." Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. The registration form can be found at [www.scotlib.org](http://www.scotlib.org).



GOOD CITIZEN AWARD...Members of The Westfield Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presented the DAR Good Citizen Award to Joseph DeSantis, a senior at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, on April 25 in the high-school media center. His parents attended as he was presented with a DAR certificate, lapel pin and monetary prize. Pictured, from left to right, are: Julie Diddell, Barbara Benko, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Principal David Heisey, Ed.D., Joseph DeSantis, Lisa Kane, Pat Colbert and School Counselor Catherine Phelps.



UNICO DOUBLE HONOR...Greater Westfield UNICO named two recipients of its Brian Piccolo Scholar Athlete Award this year. The Westfield High School seniors were honored at a brunch held on April 23 at Gran Centurions in Clark. Pictured, from left to right, are: Anthony Valles, treasurer, Westfield Chapter; Myriam Restrepo, chapter president; Perry Cuccaro, award recipient; Chiara Cosenza, award recipient; Robert J. Tarte, trustee, UNICO National Foundation; Anthony Bengivena, first vice president, UNICO National; and Richard Esposito, sergeant-at-arms, UNICO District X.

## Oshanda Erb Is Selected as SP-F Parade Grand Marshal

SCOTCH PLAINS/FANWOOD — The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day Parade Committee has announced that Oshanda Erb of Fanwood will be the parade's 2023 grand marshal.

Sergeant Erb, 42, a U.S. Air Force veteran, was unanimously selected to be the grand marshal for the 2023 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day Parade. She is now the first female of color and member of the LGBTQ community to be chosen for this honor.

"I didn't know who they were going to pick as a grand marshal. It was very much a surprise," she said.

Sergeant Erb has spent more than two decades serving in the military — four and a half years on active duty and another 16 years as a reservist. She first enlisted when she was 17 years old, turning down a partial scholarship to play college volleyball in upstate New York.

The grand marshal works as a program manager for KC-46 aircraft at McGuire Air Force Base, collecting software data to track maintenance, history and sustainment. KC-46 aircraft are used to refuel other aircraft in the air. She also serves as a first sergeant in the 732 Airlift Squadron, making sure operations run smoothly.

Throughout her extensive military career, Sergeant Erb says she never found it a challenge being a woman in the armed forces. "I understand there are females that have challenges (in the service). I just never felt that I was being treated differently," she said.

A member of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day Parade Committee for the past few years, she dedicates much of her free time towards helping other veterans. She is an organizer of the annual Ruck Walk to commemorate the commit-

ment and sacrifices of military members, and also put together a Ruck Walk to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11 in September 2021.

Additionally, last October, she coordinated a Warrior Week to celebrate local veterans. She also recently began putting together a We Value Our Vets support group to develop a network of resources to support veterans, active members of the military, and their families.

"Throughout my entire military career, always taking care of my people, making sure that everybody is okay and that they're in a good mind space and stable, I think that's what I love," she said. "Being in the military, I'm surrounded by greatness."

Sergeant Erb currently lives in Fanwood with her wife of four years, Irsael Bueno, and their three boys — 10-year-old twins, Evan and Ethan, and a toddler, Lincoln.

The schedule for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day observances, taking place on Monday, May 29, is as follows:

9 a.m. — Memorial service and presentation of wreaths on the lawn adjacent to the north-side train station in Fanwood.

10 a.m. — Memorial tribute and laying of wreaths at the gazebo at Park Avenue and Front Street in downtown Scotch Plains.

10:45 a.m. — Memorial Day Parade will proceed south along Park Avenue, move down Martine Avenue into downtown Fanwood and end at La Grande Park in Fanwood.

Individuals or organizations interested in participating in the parade may contact Bob LaCosta, Township of Scotch Plains, at (908) 939-8448 or [blacosta@scotchplainsnj.com](mailto:blacosta@scotchplainsnj.com).



Sgt. Oshanda Erb

## Church to Welcome Visitors To Restored Stone Chapel

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church will open up its original chapel, dating back to the 1800s, to the public this Saturday, May 20, from 1 to 4 p.m. A dedication ceremony will be held at 2 p.m.

This historic chapel has been renovated for the purpose of opening it up for community use. Baked goods will be available to purchase to help fund the construction of a ramp for the chapel.

The newly-renovated and re-named Lambert Stone Chapel, constructed in 1887, originally housed a Sunday school that local resident Susan Aymar had started in 1826 in a former building. Mill owner John Lambert donated the land for the chapel. Farmers brought stones in wagons to build it.

The chapel proved to be the keystone in forming what became Willow Grove in the 1940s, when The Presbyterian Church in Westfield helped establish the congregation on Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. After adding a new building, the chapel reprised its role as a Sunday school. Building on that legacy, it later became a preschool in which Dot Osbourne taught for many years. It continued to operate as a preschool under successive directors until recently.

The current incarnation of the chapel follows many years of renovation work by church members. All are invited to come to the chapel, located at 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, to see the results of this work as well as displays of photographs, articles and memorabilia.

The Willow Grove Presbyterian

Church works with a broad network of neighborhood organizations to provide community support in the area and welcome anyone in learning more about the congregation or its services.

For full information about the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, visit [willowgrovechurch.org](http://willowgrovechurch.org).

## Miller-Cory to Offer 'Child's Play' Sunday

WESTFIELD — Did children in rural colonial New Jersey have time to play? Their first job was working hard alongside their families with the many tasks required of daily life on a farm. Still, they managed to find time in between chores to play, and most houses had a few toys.

The Miller-Cory House Museum invites visitors — with or without children — to enjoy "Child's Play: Eighteenth Century Toys and Games," taking place at the circa 1740 museum this Sunday, May 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. Museum volunteers will demonstrate and play some old-fashioned games and showcase some interesting colonial-era toys. Additionally, cooks in period costume will demonstrate 18th-century colonial cuisine with authentic colonial-era open-hearth cooking using period recipes and techniques.

Admission is \$5 for ages 13 and older; \$4 for ages 3 to 12 and free for those age 2 and younger. No reservations are necessary.

The Miller-Cory House Museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue, Westfield. For more information, call the museum at (908) 232-1776 or email [millercorymuseum@gmail.com](mailto:millercorymuseum@gmail.com).

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## Mad Rush to Overdevelopment

By Bruce Paterson  
Guest Columnist

Our NJDEP is an independent State agency assigned to protect our state's environment. In the past the agency has performed well assisting the legislature for the Highlands and Pinelands Preservation acts. However, their agency budget is funded thru the state budget and this is where it could get sticky by political whims. Of recent, apparent questionable decisions allowing construction have been made regarding bypasses or overrides of CAFRA (Coastal Area Facilities Review Act), stormwater, even CERCLA and RCRA (two Federal Superfund and hazardous handling acts). Projects such as Jackson Trails in Jackson is allowed to be built on an un-remediated portion of defunct Earle Asphalt Company. Any opposition shown toward the unwanted negative impacts incur Federal and State DOJ lawsuits. In Lakewood CAFRA overrides were given by DEP even with insufficient proof given by the local municipality regarding water supplies. (NJ Advanced Media 03/18/2020). In addition, the NJDEP is supposed to work with the legislature when major environmental concerns arise that need addressing. Recently, maybe through NJ political motivations, they are beginning to overreach. In the Federal courts, there arises a legal theory called, "The Major Question Theory," where the Federal EPA and collaterally the NJDEP, since they are only administrative agencies, cannot assert powers beyond what the legislative branch would reasonably grant, particularly if significant economic, political, and environmental impacts result. Example to be noted below.

NJDEP Stormwater Mandates - Reap What You Sow: NJDEP stormwater mandates from 15 years ago had set a design regulation - Whatever present quantity of stormwater runoff a property emits, any flow above that must be retained if further surface area becomes impermeable. A good intention in hopes to mitigate any potential future flooding. It failed. Since then, we continue to see widespread flooding, inundation of streets, residences, and rivers overflowing, whenever major storms (barring hurricanes) hit our state. Subsequently, in 2022 the NJDEP proposed additional stormwater rules, not for addressing flooding, (looks like they gave up on that futility) but for directing developments and certain uses to be constructed to a more protective standard against precipitation and flooding. Ironically, our state and NJDEP blame climate impacts, not our statewide rampant and increasing surface impermeability. Presently, the NJDEP is planning to impose

rules mandating towns to create "Stormwater Utility Depts.," this action without legislative approval. Regarding this overreach, Roxbury Town's consulting engineer, Paul Ferriero, is quoted in a *New Jersey Hills* article, "I think they all got a little loopy sitting in their homes for two years during Covid." Does anyone hear a bell ringing?

NJ Pinelands Preservation Act - The Override Possibility: In 1979, NJ passed this act to halt the deleterious development of the southern NJ pinelands. A "Comprehensive Management Plan" was enacted with stringent restrictions on development in this ecologically sensitive region. A Pineland Preservation Commission was created within this act, consisting of members appointed by the Governor and others appointed by county commissioners, and given the sole oversight and power by just a majority vote to decide if portions of the Pinelands can be developed. It appears acreage is now being let out. Half of these members are appointed by the Governor under consent of the legislature. Some appointments of conservationists have been blocked. Presently, the Governor has been appointing private industry people, not strict conservationists.

Subtle Manipulation - Achievement by Conspiracy: Who doesn't love a good conspiracy - as our series nears the end? Politicians are wont to say that even renters have "skin in the game," that any property tax increase on the landlords, they pass it on thru rent increases. With PILOT agreements in place as tax abatements on large complexes in a town, a town could double the taxes on existing single-family homes yet the complex's building has no substantial impact to pass onto their renters. Therefore, these occupants are removed from having any "skin in the game." Yet the renters can still vote in the local elections. Depending on a town's size, high-density complex occupants can seriously impact a town's population by 10 to 15 percent and thus increase the voter rolls substantially. Developers can subtly and potentially manipulate the level of favorability for the local political party in town that he favors through various actions: Developers can directly manipulate a town's budget by increasing or decreasing rents which impact the PILOT revenues to the town, making their budget either tight or flush; or even release the excess profits into a town's budget. Voters whether the complex's or the existing residents, as they say, vote with their wallets. A subtle result could be next time the developer comes in front of the town's governing bodies with a building proposal, he may gain some favor in return. Is it possibly being done now? New Jersey thy name is Politics.

Next column #10-Epilogue

## Letters to the Editor

### Annual Library Book Sale Was a Huge Success

The 48th Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library Book Sale was held on April 26 through April 30. Over 1,000 people attended the sale and over 70 volunteers gave their time and energy to make the sale a success. In addition to members of the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library, volunteers included local and non-local residents and students, and librarians who like their work so much, they volunteered to help us.

We could not have had the sale without the ongoing support of the Department of Public Works, the Board of Education and the Westfield Police and Fire Departments. In addition, we thank the entire staff of the Westfield Memorial Library for their support and patience while we occupied their space for over two weeks. To those of you who donated over tens of thousands of high-quality books and CD/DVD's, we could not have raised as much money without you. Thank you for sharing them with us. We received hundreds of donated reusable bags which helped our customers throughout the sale and made Bag Day a huge success. We estimate over 25,000 books

### Debt Limit Crisis Requires Immediate Action

I am writing with regard to the impending debt limit crisis and the role of our Congressman, Tom Kean Jr. Specifically, I am urging readers to contact the Congressman, calling on him to stand up to Republicans in Congress who are threatening to blow up the world economy contingent upon passage of spending cuts.

I communicated to the Congressman that his party's stance is irresponsible in the extreme. The Republicans are declaring that they will refuse to raise the debt limit - thereby causing the US to default on its debt - unless they get what they want. When Republicans ran up debt under the Trump administration, they did not hesitate to increase the debt limit.

To Congressman Kean's credit, I received two callbacks from a senior aid, as well as an email from the Congressman. Kean wrote that he had voted for HR 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act, which would raise the debt ceiling. But HR 2811 requires spending cuts as a condition to increase the debt limit. If the

## Letters to the Editor

### Liquor License Reform Is Long Overdue

America retains many of its Prohibition-era attitudes towards alcohol. New Jersey has its share of outdated constraints on normal life. You can't buy wine at the supermarket (although you can in Florida). You can't stop by a liquor store on a Sunday morning when you're running errands. And the state imposes limits on how many restaurants in a town may serve alcohol. Why are municipalities allowed only one liquor license per 3,000 people? None of these regulations benefits New Jersey residents, who would never vote to approve them if offered the chance.

A leader of the New Jersey Liquor Store Association once told me his most important objective was to prevent supermarkets from selling alcohol. It's a case of special interests forcing policy in a way that suits them but not us. All around the world alcohol is treated like a consumer good. Citizens aren't burdened with offensive constraints and the rules are more relaxed than in America. I need a drink.

Simon Lack  
Westfield

### Helping Hands Thanks WHS Community Service Club

The Westfield High School Helping Hands (WHSHH) Board wishes to thank the Westfield High School Community Service Club (CSC) for their recent \$1,000 donation to the WHSHH fund. The CSC is moder-

ated by Zorana Culjak, a Mathematics teacher at WHS. Two CSC leaders, Caitlyn Gottlieb and Sylvie Maurus, organized leaf raking in the Westfield community from late October to early December. More than 60 club volunteers went to 14 different locations throughout the town to rake leaves, every Saturday and Sunday, during this time. Additionally, the CSC organized a candy sale to increase the funds raised for the WHSHH. The WHSHH Board is extremely grateful for their donation to the Fund.

Over the years faculty, staff, students, and their families at Westfield High School have suffered extraordinary and unexpected financial expenses, including serious illness or death of an immediate family member. These difficult times can result in financial hardship for families. The Westfield High School Helping Hands fund, established in 2012, helps ease the financial burden placed on families during these stressful times. Since WHSHH's inception in 2012, WHSHH has distributed over \$52,000 to 54 families.

Direct donations are critical to this fund's existence. Donations directly impact the lives of families within the Westfield High School community. The WHSHH board, which includes current and alumni faculty, staff, and parents, ensures the funds are thoughtfully and prudently distributed to individuals whose financial needs are not capable of being met from other sources. The board also ensures the fund is not depleted.

Please consider donating to the WHSHH fund. Currently, the Westfield Foundation holds and manages the funds collected. By having the Foundation manage the fund, all donors get the added benefit of a tax-deductible donation. If you wish to donate, we request that donation checks be made payable to 'Westfield Foundation' with the memo to read,

and CD/DVDs were sold during the sale. Countless more were received and processed during donation days. For items that didn't find homes after the sale, some were donated to Better World Books to help them continue with their literacy efforts, Green Drop to help benefit their non-profit partners, and the rest were put aside to be used in Little Free Libraries around town.

With donations and the support of everyone, we raised over \$17,000. This will allow the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library to continue to sponsor programs like Museum Passes, Saturday Children's Programming, Books on Wheels, librarian scholarship awards, the Hale Speaker Series, and help the Library expand into new programming such as the Native Seed Library.

We are so grateful for this community effort!

Amy Berman, Michele Martin,  
Laura Skidmore and  
Audrey Zavetz  
Friends of the Westfield  
Memorial Library



ABCDICTIONOPQRSTDECEPTIONUVWXYZ

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. Abacist - One who casts accounts with a calculator
  2. Tassie - A small cup
  3. Yach - To come up suddenly
  4. Spoliate - To plunder or rob

**HIPPARCH**

1. An arena for horse racing
2. The Trojan horse
3. An ancient war horse
4. An ancient Greek calvary commander

**HILUS**

1. The anklebone
2. A basin with a drain, near the altar of a church, for the disposal of holy water
3. In anatomy, a small notch or opening where vessels and nerves enter an organ
4. A diagrammatic representation of something; a summary; a scheme; an outline

**LUETIC**

1. Grayish blue
2. Syphilitic
3. Pertaining to white blood cells
4. Producing blood

**YURT**

1. A Siberian hut
2. To jerk or flinch
3. Violating faith or allegiance
4. To limp

## Letters to the Editor

### The Importance of Letters to the Editor

I wish to add to Mr. Robert Fromling's recent letter noting a decline in letters to the editor in this paper and encouraging residents to speak up more often. There are many important issues which will impact the future quality of life in the town of Westfield which should be thoroughly examined by us, the taxpayers and residents. With an important Town Council election this November 7, I encourage residents to become informed, register and vote.

I propose that *The Westfield Leader* provide a community service by sponsoring a series of reader comments pages this summer and fall and publicize in advance the topics by publication date. In my view it would be very helpful to readers to examine a diversity of opinions in the same issue. If you agree, please contact *The Leader* and suggest some topics.

Bill Fitzpatrick  
Westfield

### Hey Westfield, Stop Poisoning Our Children and Planet

Do you find the suggestion that the Town of Westfield is poisoning our children and planet shocking, or offensive? Then you are likely unaware of the negative impact of plastic on human and planetary health. You owe it to our current and future children to become educated about plastic, by watching "Plastics" Impact on Human Health: A Free Beyond Plastics Webinar with Dr. Philip Landrigan, which is available on Youtube. The link to the webinar, as well as extensive information about plastic pollution, can also be found on the Beyond Plastics website, [beyondplastics.org](http://beyondplastics.org).

All of Dr. Landrigan's concerns related to the impact of the toxic chemicals found in plastic applies to Westfield's existing artificial turf athletic fields, as well as the new artificial turf fields planned for Edison Intermediate School and Tamaques Park. This is because the top layer of all artificial turf fields is a plastic carpet that constantly sheds microplastics into our air, water and soil. You should also be aware that the poured-in-place playground sur-

face at Mindowaskin Park is degrading and shedding microplastics into the local environment, as well.

For nearly two years, a small group of concerned residents have been urging the Westfield Town Council and Board of Education to reject plastic grass and instead invest in natural grass athletic fields specifically designed to withstand sports activities and maintained using organic and regenerative practices. However, the town council and board of education ignored these concerned residents and instead entered into a shared services agreement that will allow nearly six acres of the natural grass schoolyard behind Edison Intermediate School to be replaced with a 250,000 square foot plastic carpet, located adjacent to a tributary of the Robinsons Branch of the Rahway River. During the most recent town council meeting, all but one member voted, upon first reading, in favor of a special ordinance to issue bonds totaling \$11.8 million to pay for the Edison Field Plan.

It is time for all Westfield residents who care about the health of our children to let Mayor Brindle, Dr. González and the members of the town council and board of education know that you disagree with the plan to blanket our natural spaces with plastic. If you fail to speak up for our children and our shared planet, then your silence will be seen as acceptance. Please be sure you are on the right side of history.

Jean Lehmborg  
Westfield

### Corrections

In an article titled, "Downer Street Subdivision Gains Board Approval" published on May 4, *The Westfield Leader* inaccurately stated that a residential home had received teardown approval by the Historic Preservation Commission. Demolition permits can only be obtained through the town's building department.

In a May 11 letter by Carol Shichman it was erroneously said that Springfield, MA has used organic turf since 2012, the actual year is 2014.

Tim Eaton  
Westfield

### Artificial Turf is Harmful for Students and Neighborhoods

At the end of last year, the Westfield Town Council and the Board of Education voted to enter into a shared service arrangement, which will turn the Edison grass field into 250,000 square feet of toxic artificial turf. What a terrible hit to the current green environment behind the school and a bad precedent being set for other fields in town.

We presented many reasons for not installing artificial turf including health, safety, water and ground contamination, traffic and parking concerns. We recommended upgrading the Edison field with stronger natural organic grass. Natural organic grass is healthier, safer, will provide more field capacity and preserve the environment and our neighborhoods.

Before the vote, I asked the town council and the board of education if they would ever accept their neighbors installing artificial turf in their (neighbors') yards, or if they would

install artificial turf in their own yards, knowing the concerns we raised. No one answered my questions. Not surprising, since a no answer to my questions would contradict the decision most of them had made to vote yes on the Edison field plan.

I and many other residents are very disappointed in this decision and hope something can be done to reverse it. Natural organic grass fields, without tower lights, will increase the needed field capacity, without sacrificing the health of students, other users of the fields and residents of the surrounding homes. The environment and our neighborhoods must be preserved.

The evidence keeps piling up. Artificial turf with lights is not a viable solution. With respect to our fields, let's go green.



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THE LEADER/HAWK

Distinguished Honor Roll

Grade 9

Alexander, Lance; Andretta, Brady; Anyaele, Ijeoma; Ausiello, Anya; Bardill, Abigail; Barton, Lia; Becker, Brooke; Becker, Zoe; Beckerman, Hailey; Black, Sofia; Blaustein, Emma; Borak, Luke; Borlenghi, Brock; Bowe, Alexa; Bracco, Emily; Brito, Nicholas; Brown, Elijah; Buchalter, Courtney; Bukiet-Beker, Benjamin; Buonopane, Christian; Burton, Hannah; Byrne, Mackenzie; Cabral, Colin; Calandra, Evelyn; Calica, Sami; Callahan, Owen; Capone, Andrew; Castillo, Gabriela; Cha, Ethan; Chororos, Cooper; Ciucci, Valentina; Cohen, Gillian; Conover, Troy; Contract, Ava; Correa, Mackenzie; Crozier, William; Cuomo, Michael; Davies, Deven; Degnan, Connor; Delaney, Lauren; Dengler, Emelia; Deren, Sophia; Dewey, Rebecca; Dickey, Jacob; Dix, Kelsey; Dobek, Oliver; Droskoski, Sofia; Ebel, Max; Edelson, Kayla; Ernetta, Lily; Fitzgerald, Luke; Fitzgerald-Jones, Milo; Flannery, William; Flor, Quinn; Garcia, Andrea; Gasparol, Ava; Gayanillo, Araceli; Genlot, Kayla; Giannetta, Giancarlo; Goldman, Kira; Goldman, Leo; Goldstein, Noa; Gonzalez, Gabriel; Griffith, Annabel; Grossman, Jake; Grygiel, Lucas; Hall, Oliver; Harper, Autumn; Harrington, Peyton; Hegarty, Tegan; Heintz, Jeffrey; Higgins, Gavin; Hirsh, Rebecca; Hohlfeld, Zoe; Holland, Thomas; Holzman, Ava; Hostler, Abigail; Hsu, Jacob; Hubner, Darby; Janaczek, Julia; Jarecki, Lilah; Jemison, Sofia; Jimenez, Angel; Judka, Sam; Kaban, Arianna; Kahn, Evan; Kamins, Naomi; Kaneda, Kiyora; Kennedy, Emily; Khan, Oliver; Kilbourn, Liam; Kiyok, Sofiya; Kofsky, Jakob; Kolesar, Samantha; Lane, Mary; Lane, Sophie; Lang, Annabel; Lehner, Jared; Levitt, Saige; Lichtenthal, Jonah; Lin, Audrey; Lin, Wei Qi; Lincoln, Lilianna; Linsen, Hannah; Logan, Megan; Lomaka, Ana Belle; Lyons, Benjamin; MacEachern, Max; Machat, Sonya; Mandhana, Aayush; Manescu, Miron; Manzo, Alice; Martin, Chloe; Martin, Flynn; Mattielli, Sophia; Matus, Grace; Mauras, Sabine; Medvedev, Andrey; Moore, Grace; Morey, Vicki; Ng, Jocelyn; Nissim, Sarah; Nuzzo, Mia; O'Neil, Michael; Patel, Kai; Patel, Kiran; Patel, Lily; Patel, Nenu; Paul, Stephen; Peachman, Lena; Pektas, Mina; Pfister, Hayden; Pissarra, Abby; Puckett, Joseph; Pugliese, Stella; Ramos, Estefan; Rappoport, Arden; Reyes, Kayla; Reynders, Kevin; Ricci, Ryan; Richards, Sarah; Richman, Cooper; Richter, Kylie; Ripper, Camille; Robin, Samantha; Rodkin, Sophia; Rokhsar, Alex; Rotter, Benjamin; Royce, Gavin; Rubin, Shai; Sanchez, Ana Patricia; Savransky, Isabella; Schaefer, Alice; Schmidt, Callie; Schuttevaer, Jacqueline; Sclar, Hanna; Seeder, Clark; Sewald, Claire; Seward, Benjamin; Sherman, Sarina; Sherry, Sadie; Singer, Alex; Smith, Audrey; Smith, Madeleine; Sohrabi, Rassa; Song, William; Spatz, Chloe; Stack, Audrey; Stadlin, Chloe; Stahlner, Aubree; Sumas, Ella; Swaminathan, Roux; Taddeo, Ryan; Tarleton, Ansley; Tarry, Ella; Tessitore, Emily; Trapani, Gina; Turetsky, Lea; Vieites, Jaylin; Walsh, Dylan; Walsh, Hope; Ward, Brian; Ward, Josielee; Warr, Kingston; Wearley, Giada; Weinberg, Melissa; Weinberg, Sarah; Welsh, Logan; Werner, Rachel; Wilkes, Joaquin; Wojcik, Maeve; Wong, Matthew; Wood, Elias; Yang, Erin; Zadrozny, Anna; Zarate Gomez, Matias; Zemsky, Jake; Zerafa, Gabriella; Zhu, Elliott

Grade 10

Aitken, Milo; Alev, Mia; Andersen, Oliver; Angelo, Luke; Ayala, Bennet; Bauer, Evan; Becker, Aaron; Bekker, Seth; Bell, Avery; Bloch, Alexa; Boado, Vince; Edward, Bruder; Jolie, Butler, Kevin; Cabral, William; Carayannopoulos, Caterina; Carollo, Luca; Chen, Jody; Cicala, Andrew; Cladis, Catherine; Clark, John; Coen, Madeline; Cohen, Savannah; Collins, Nora; Compton, Elizabeth; Concannon, Liam; Crispino, Addison; Crispino, Brianna; Curran, Macy; D'Alessandro, Kaitlyn; Dang, Mahika; Darrow, Emma; Davis, Wesley; Deignan, Keira; Del Gatto, Grace; Disko, Olivia; Donnelly, Carson; Donohue, Erica; Dossin, Sloan; Duan, Benjamin; Dwan, Allison; Ebert, Alexander; Ebhara, Hayato; Epp, Zachary; Epstein, Emma; Feinstein, Logan; Ferraro, Emma; Ferrero, Enzo; Fisher, Michael; Flannery, Gabrielle; Flores, Daniel; Fole, Natalie; Foster, Elle; Furey, Lauren; Furrer, James; Fussman, Sophia; Gaffney, Olivia; Galella, Christopher; Gao, Garrett; Gasson, Emily; Gawkowska, Michelle; Genlot, Brandon; Gerckens, Nicole; Gerne, William; Giacalone, Ella; Gilerson, Eric; Gilford, Christian; Golub, Chloe; Gonzalez, Daniel; Guglielmo, Kate; Hatch, Brenton; Hazard, Erin; Hendricks, Alexander; Hoffman, Leah; Horne, Natalie; Hughes, Mallory; Ing, Owen; Ives, Aaron; Jemison, Anna; Jenner, Lyla; Katz, Chloe; Kim, Judah; Koslowsky, Gracie; Koslowsky, Maya; Laguna, Alexandra; Laitman, Gabrielle; Latessa, Benjamin; Latessa, Zachary; Lawrence, Olivia; Liu, Charlotte; Lox, Aaron; Luchsinger, Anna; Malanowski, Grace; Marino, Olivia; Martinez, Nigel; Maya, Paulina; Mazzola, Pantaleo; McAndrew, Brooke; McCormack, Charlie; McCormack, Rhegan; McCue, Edward; McDevitt, Daniel; McHugh, Nora; McLaren, Luca; Mercedo, Gabriella; Miles, Elizabeth; Mockbee, Henry; Molen, Sara; Morey, Elena; Moscowitz, Ruby; Moshier, Alexander; Mueller, Cole; Murphy, Danae; O'Connor, Brendan; O'Marra-

Chen, Tanis; Olivera Lopez, Mayer; Panora, Sofia; Pantalena, Dahlia; Pardo, Jake; Pardo, Gabriella; Park, Jacob; Parran, Fraser; Petrie, Lillian; Phillips Vazquez, Andres; Pierce, Daniel; Pietrewicz, Tyler; Pitta, Juliet; Polito, Brian; Pritzlaff, Adalena; Purse, Katherine; Quinn, Christopher; Regas, Nickolas; Reissman, Max; Renshaw, Luke; Robinson, Julianne; Rogers, Suzanna; Romeo, Dominic; Rubenstein, Noah; Saltzman, Ruby; Schaal, Sienna; Schneider, Joshua; Scholder, Griffin; Scrofani, Alessandra; Selvers, Ethan; Shah, Aanand; Sharkey, Cole; Shepherd, Keaton; Shir, Benjamin; Sica, Jonathan; Silecchia, Sophia; Silverman, Abigail; Singer, Joshua; Snyder, Julianna; Srebnik, Tessa; Stinton, Jake; Sun, Will; Surowitz, Julia; Swenson, Logan; Tacktikos, Madison; Tanaka, Kuejiro; Thornton, Olivia; Toth, Audra; Vaccaro, Hailey; Verga, Elizabeth; Vesuna, Bianca; Wade, Ethan; Waibel, Owen; Wancier, Benjamin; Whitlock, Riley; Wietry, Daniel; Wilcomes, Hudson; Williams, Amanda; Williams, Owen; Wong, Jodi; Woodruff, Calvin; Wragg, Zachary; Wright, Lois

Grade 11

Ackerman, Benjamin; Alkorta, Mikel; Allarde, Domenica; Almendral, Jillian; Altman, Samuel; Amman, Andrew; Arbelaez, Belen; Aronowitz, Ava; Attia, Sarah; Azzaretto, Kolby; Bach, Olivia; Bailey, Caitlin; Bandelli, Ava; Bartlett, Nicholas; Beinhaker, Aylinn; Beriont, Christopher; Berman, Ava; Biedermann, Ava; Blaustein, Jacob; Bloom, Kate; Cabrales, Caitlin; Caherly, Madeline; Calandra, Olivia; Calder, Beckett; Cammarano, Giada; Capone, Daniel; Chen, Sophia; Ciarella, Kieran; Cimei, Colin; Ciotta, Brianna; Collins, Allison; Constantinou, Allison; Crooks, Margaret; Cunningham, Gabriella; Czamecki, Kaitlyn; D'Angelo, Grace; Davis, Randal; Del Re, Pietro; Dudkiewicz, Justine; Duncan, Kathryn; Ebel, Alexander; Eckard, Nathalie; Eisman, Rebecca; Engel, Casey; Faragi, Elizabeth; Ferry, Noah; Fitzgerald, Natalie; Flannery, Ava; Flannery, Ty; Fleming, Adrian; Foley, Colin; Frantzeskakis, Zoe; Fuccillo, Lauren; Gallo, Giuliana; Garg, Akshith; Gelfand, Jara; Geoghan, Lola; Gerstel, Hannah; Gesser, Sofia; Giglio, Kate; Gildea, James; Gold, Andrew; Gonzalez, Christopher; Gordon, Madison; Gorski, Ava; Greco, Collin; Haar, Alexandra; Hamilton, James; Heflin, Catherine; Hoch, Morgan; Hornbeck, Cole; Hu, Charlie; Hu, Yenjay; Hurford, Gregory; Isser, Casey; Jablonka, Emma; Jawor, Ryan; Jayroe, Maya; Johnson-Milstein, James; Kamins, Julianne; Kaplun, Samantha; Keith, Avery; Kengeri, Kathryn; Kermanshahi, Katherine; Kinch, Charles; Kocaj, Maxwell; Labin, Nicholas; Leavitt, Lindsey; Lehman, Andie; Lerner, Samantha; Lincoln, Sarah; Lisci, Gabriele; Logozzo, Michael; Lynch, James; Ma, Dillon; Maimon, David; Marcus, Zachary; Marshall, Michael; Martino, Cooper; Mazzola, Vito; McMahill, Rowan; Mehta, Tage; Meisinger, Robert; Mendel, Edward; Miranda, Pedro; Mora, Angelina; Morrelli, Caroline; Murphy, Daniel; Nematadzira, Benedict; O'Brien, Sean; Orgel, Rachel; Passante, Matthew; Patel, Devan; Patel, Deven; Patel, Madan; Paulino, Olivia; Pena, Roman; Pinkowski, Chloe; Pinto, Sofia; Polito, Gabrielle; Prip, Heather; Puckett, Charlotte; Puglisi, Gianna; Ragab, Ziad; Reed, Makenna; Reyes, Nalysa; Reynders, Nathan; Richman, Georgia; Rooney, Sara; Roszak, Mason; Roth, Riley; Sacks, Ellie; Saltzstein, Leo; Salvato, Anna; Sandberg, Gavin; Sanford, Christian; Sang, Kailey; Savransky, David; Scheuermann, Mia; Schwartz, Paul; Schwartz, William; Scipioni, Isabella; Sclar, Avital; Sewald, Evan; Shepherd, Logan; Shih, Isabella; Shinnars, Christopher; Solovey, Aviva; Spirm, Emily; Spirm, Philip; Swartz, Betheny; Tan, Sienna; Tavares, Leticia; Taylor, Aaron; Terry, Caroline; Valencia, Alexander; Valentine, Trent; Waqar, Alishba; Watson, Kate; Weinstein, Cate; Wiedman, Sarah; Wilner, Emory; Wisniewski, Benjamin; Witten, Ethan; Wright, Lina; Zemsky, Madison

Grade 12

Abdala, Vanessa; Ainge, Alexander; Albert Halevy, Zachary; Alexander, Evan; Angel, Catherine; Araya, Quetzal; Audino, Michelle; Azeem, Maya; Baker, Ryan; Bass, Nathan; Bebel, Abigail; Bertsch, Ryan; Blaise, Camille; Blake, Dexter; Blumstein, Alexandra; Bradley, Kyle; Braun, Sophia; Brindle, Nicholas; Broadus, Isabella; Brunt, Kyle; Butera, Mattia; Butler, Brooke; Butler, Madeline; Calder, Graydon; Carno, Liam; Ceraso, Emma; Cerro, Paul; Chang, Max; Chen, Matthew; Cheripka, Sophia; Christian, Matthew; Cicala, Alexandra; Collins, Catherine; Consales, Julia; Cosenza, Valentina; Cozzini, Scarlett; Craig, Owen; Cuccaro, Imperio; Currie, Jessica; D'Agosta, Jessica; Dalessio, Nicholas; Dayon, Gabriel; DeRick, Richard; Deignan, Elaine; DelGaudio, Cooper; DiFalco, Allison; Dickerson, Lily; Dragnea, Natalia; Epp, Matthew; Factor, Sutton; Falletta, Olivia; Felter, Paige; Ferrara, Gaetano; Gamba, Joseph; Garguilo, Raymond; Gauthier, Michael; Gibbemeyer, Katherine; Gilman, Cameron; Gottlieb, Caitlyn; Greeley, Benjamin; Greenzang, Zoe; Guerrero, Sophia; Guglielmo, Jane; Harper, Aidan; Havens, Sophie; Healey, Nicholas; Henderson, Sean; Hickey, Donovan; Hill, Isabella; Howard, Chloe; Hsu, Benjamin; Hubner, Lucas; Isaacman, Jillian; Jones, Audrey; Jyotishi, Nikhil;

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Kahn, Abigail; Kahn, Jordan; Karp, Eden; Keith, Ariana; Kelesoglu, Emma; Kelly, Grace; Kelner, Dan; Kilbourn, Grace; Kim, Sarah; Klemm, Sarah; Kobin, Timothy; Kofsky, Isabella; Kolchinsky, Alexander; Krihak, Hannah; LaMonica, Sarah; Laitman, Samuel; Lanza, Patrick; Lanza, Sofia; Li, Katherine; Li, Meryl; Liebermann, Michael; Lin, Christopher; Linenberg, Cameron; Linsen, Jack; Lipschutz, Justin; Loggie, Connor; Luna Santamaria, Brigham; Malkinson, Rachel; Mancheno, Matteo; Mangam, Kathryn; Mangiamiele, Leo; Martel, Lillie; Martinez, Alyssa; Matus, Andrew; Mauras, Sylvie; McAndrew, Michael; McCue, Jack; McDonald, John; McDonough, Lauren; McLane, Eleanor; Mehler, Michael; Melvin, Jack; Metz, Joshua; Mindak, Phineas; Mirtagavi, Iskandar; Mitchell, Connor; Mokrzycki, Luke; Morrison, Bridgett; Muller, Alessandra; Murphy, Michael; Narciso, Sophia; Park, Zachary; Paul, Owen; Perez, Noah; Perez, Samuel; Pierce, Avery; Pierre, Joseph; Potamousis, Dimitri; Pranke, Ava; Pritchett, Cary; Puckett, Catherine; Quinn, Kayleigh; Riordan, Katherine; Ripper, Juliana; Ritter, Jayne; Rodrigues, Carly; Roth, Lily; Rothfleisch, Jack; Rubenstein, Alyssa; Ruiz, Olivia; Ryan, Annie; Ryan, William; Saenz Guaman, Ronald; Saint-Denis, Lucie; Saltzman, Grace; Salz, Stacey; Samet, Chloe; Savin, Lucas; Scalia, Jonathan; Seiden, Seth; Sexton, Jay; Shen, Kelly; Silecchia, James; Silva, Alan; Simon, Sophia; Sinocchi, Evan; Sirot, Michael; Smiljanic, Thomas; Stack, Ethan; Stavlin, Hannah; Stillfusen, Saylor; Stoller, Emerson; Strauss, Jessica; Tananbaum, Carolyn; Tang, Vicky; Tannenbaum, Joelle; Tedesco, Christian; Tieri, Nancie; Tilyou, Alexander; Tortorella, Joseph; Totten, Jenna; Tso, Kaitlyn; Vaccaro, Luke; VanAllen, Cara; Vesuna, Annika; Waldman, Ryan; Weinberg, Jenna; Weinstein, Emily; White, Jessica; Williams, Brooke; Williamson, Ryan; Wilson, Mackenzie; Witzel, Rachel; Wojcik, Quinn; Wright, Madison; Wysokowski, Nyah; Xing, Sophia; Young, Madeleine; Zinnie, Taylor

Honor Roll

Altman, Hannah; Bach, Griffin; Barshtak, Benjamin; Bencivenga, Chloe; Black, Olivia; Bloomberg, Alexa; Bryan, Vivian; Bulger, Anthony; Carno, Benjamin; Christiansen, Emmy; Cohall, Audrina; Coleman, Lindsey; Cook, Timothy; Danenhauer, George; De Pinto, Christopher; Delaney, Ella; Diaz, Caleb; Drake, Seven; El-Khoury, Cassandra; Erck, Dylan; Filipe, Emma; Filipe, Erica; Forbes, Hana; Goldstein, Kyle; Graham, John; Gunzberg, Simon; Hafer, Lilah; Healy, Molly; Imbacuan-Ellefson, Van; Kocaj, Oliver; Kowalak, Nicolas; Labbate, Ava; Larkin, Vanessa; Lehman, Charlotte; Lehman, Elliot; Mangold, Anna; McGorty, Declan; Medvedeva, Polina; Murale, Alexa; Naeseth, Tyler; Noack, Sean; O'Brien, Julia; Oligino, James; Patel, Aaran; Paul, Mischa; Proietti, Owen; Qi, Robert; Revock, Logan; Ruiz, Christian; Ryvkin, Elana; Schafer, Carly; Schwarzenbek, Emma; Semler, Joshua; Shore, Jessica; Singer, Dylan; Singer, William; Smith, Connor; Speranza, Nikolas; Strycharz, Sinh; Sullivan, Liam; Tieri, Olivia; Toriello, Brody; Van Brunt, Avery; Ward, Lia; Warmington, Megan; Whelan, Connor; Witten, Ellie; Wright, Brandon; Yenawine, Ashley; Ziegler, Grant

Grade 9

Alon, Aiden; Basaldua, Sophia; Bibergal, Fiona; Blake, Emma; Boufadel, Sophia; Bradley, Tyler; Braun, Samuel; Brickman, Devon; Brooks, Avery; Buchak, Midas; Cabral, Logan; Calise, Alexander; Cassara, Nicholas; Chalfant, Lucas; Cotroneo, Charlotte; Da Silva Souza, Ana; Daly, Ryan; Daswani, Dev; Dayon, Priscilla; Debowski, Natalie; Deegan, Kevin; Drennan, Emily; Dulinski, Katherine; Dziekanska, Maria; Ebert, Parker; Elghoul, Adam; Ferguson, Garrett; Gallagher, Claire; Gallo, Marcella; Garguilo, Jack; Gensler-Canale, Micaela; Geme, Luke; Gilmore, Aidan; Glenn, Ryan; Hadel, Jordan; Hill, Jack; Hunsinger, Daniel; Kapuscinski, Emily; Klingelhofer, Heidi; Kopolow, Matthew; Kovacs, Jacob; Kuyat, Gillian; Kylish, Anna; LaConti, Gavin; Lentzner, Kyra; Linsen, Alex; Lu, Caitlyn; Mamlet, Amelia; Marmarou, Victoria; Marquet, Alexa; Martin, Jack; Morrison, Brooke; Moser, Jacqueline; Motwani, Arya; Muller, Sabrina; Nematadzira, Canya; Nurnberg, Alexis; O'Donnell, Aidan; Oberstein, Ella; Oligino, Kaitlyn; Pastore, Sienna; Pravlik, Drew; Price, Kathryn; Prieto, Charles; Pugliese, Maxwell; Rphael, Jaslene; Rau, Sean; Rego, Nadia; Reichel, Jillian; Reyes, Aaliyah; Russo, Nicholas; Schaible, Natalie; Shapiro, Phoebe; Silverman, Becca; Sinclair, Ethan; Smiljanic, Sofia; Solomon, Cassie; Staiger, Maisey; Stinton, Abigail; Storms, Jacqueline; Summer-Brason, Alina; Sun, Gideon; Sutcliffe, Spencer; Tedesco, Selah; Thomas, Lauren; Torralba, Marco;

Vanecek, Charles; Varner, Cole; Wallin, Jack; Wilson, Aidan; Yoon, Alex; Zippler, Toby

Grade 10

Alvarez, Evan; Andreottola, Ava; Arky, Danielle; Barbella, Jack; Barker, Annabel; Berg, Hudson; Bergerman, Justin; Braganza, Leon; Burrick, Sara; Cadigan, Patrick; Carvalho, Zachary; Chavez, Jack; Chelak, Alexander; Chen, Carson; Cho, Maxwell; Clark, Samuel; Cogan, Cara; Crane, Aidan; Daly, Nolan; Delforte, Ethan; Della Rocco, Sofia; Demeter, Gabriella; Doherty, Erin; Dowling, Kevin; Dunn, James; Evans, Carys; Fischetti, Angelo; Gallo, Joanie; Gauthier, Genevieve; Giacobbe, Isabella; Goddard, Adam; Goldfeld, Nikita; Guggino, Francesca; Heyder, Kyra; Hilliard, Owen; Holland, Bridget; Hyland, Thomas; Jacobs, Emma; Jashari, Liza; Jeckell, Charles; Jepsen, William; Jiao, Jonathan; Jimenez, Elliot; Karaban, Brienna; Kiefer, Alexander; Kim, Grace; Kinch, August; Klemm, Rachel; Korins, Graham; Korz, Zachary; Kurtz, Jack; Lam, Cody; Landry, Paige; Langhart, Philip; Logan, Clare; Lopez Gutierrez, Samuel; Maldonado, Nana; Mangam, Kenneth; McMeekam, Elyse; McSweeney, Elle; Meisinger, Zachary; Molinelli, Juliana; Mulholland, Addison; Murphy, Julia; Natt, Jaden; Ng, Bryan; O'Brien, Jillian; O'Connell, Maria; Paone, Sophia; Perialis, Athena; Petrassi, Noah; Reilly, Anne; Richards, Aidan; Rodriguez, Ximena; Rojas Cruz, Diego; Rossetti, Christopher; Rossitto, Kaitlyn; Rotter, Maxwell; Rybner, Leanna; Scheper, Brendan; Schutzer, Max; Schwartz, Audrey; Shroff, Rishi; Sigmund, Gabrielle; Smith, Allison; Surgent, Vendela; Topilow, Murray; Tukaczynski, Adam; Varano, Elizabeth; Victorino, Maxwell; Walker, Riley; Walsh, Kaitlin; Weiss, Neil; Wellnitz, Christopher; Wiesen, Asher; Young, Ethan

Grade 12

Altman, Holden; Arabatzis, Aidan; Arnot, Owen; Bautista, Eric; Beal, Caillie; Becker, Leah; Berger, Micah; Bergman, Alex; Billings, Jason; Binetti, Vincent; Bridge, Jacob; Buonopane, Lucas; Burke, Ava; Callahan, Owen; Cardoso, Juliana;

Carter, Zaire; Chakravarty, Aprameyo; Curran, Elise; Dailey, William; Dencker, Christian; Dokko, Gavin; Doyle, Lindsay; Dudkiewicz, Alexa; Duncan, Alexander; Dwan, Ryan; Esler, Tate; Fink, Ethan; Fiorentino, Melissa; Fitzgerald-Jones, Jasper; Gagliardi, Jackson; Giordano, Brooke; Giordano, Caitlin; Gorczyca, Paige; Gurland, Nathaniel; Halleran, Kevin; Hazard, Daniel; Hipschman, Henry; Holland, William; Hynes, Chelsea; Ifere, Angel; Janaczek, Olivia; Kavanagh, Colin; Kelly, Benjamin; Kesselman, Brayden; Kornfeld, Andrew; Kotiga, Connor;

Lee, Yusuf; McCormack, Jack; Michael, Albert; Navarrete, Jeremias; Nematadzira, Alexander; O'Connor, Jack; O'Connor, Katherine; Pacifico, Alessandra; Popa, Andrew; Rios, Josefina; Romo Chavez, Alessandra; Ruiz Espinoza, Luis Enrique; Rusek, Damian; Ryan, Patrick; Saadeh, Taylor; Schneider, Julia; Sidorov, Constantine; Snyder, Devon; Spaide, Taylor; Sugrue, Julia; Tarleton, Perry; Thompson, Simon; Veres, John; Welsh, Nathan; Werder, Ryan; Winters, Katherine; Wong, Tyler; Wroe, Tristan

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Cranford/GL UCT Baseball Story in May 25 Edition

# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section Pages 7-10

**HEFLIN RAPS 2 DOUBLES, 3 RUNS; SCIPIONI 4-HITTER**

## Blue Devils Double on Offense To Stagger NP Pioneers, 11-1

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

Offense took command of the driver's seat when the Westfield High School softball team hosted the New Providence Pioneers on May 11. The Pioneers entered Westfield with a 12-4 record and left with an 11-1 setback in five innings.

The Blue Devils amassed 14 hits in that five-inning offensive onslaught and eight of them were doubles to go with one triple. Additionally, every player in the lineup managed to dance across home plate. Leadoff hitter Cat Heflin led the barrage by whacking a pair of doubles, while walking once and scoring all three times.

"A lot of weird things did happen today but luckily we made adjustments as the game went on against their pitcher and we started finding the gaps. Early on we were mistiming it a little bit, a little bit under the ball, popping it up but we did our job and

pulled together to win the game," Blue Devil Head Coach Caitlin Cheddar pointed out.

Four other Blue Devils recorded two hits and Gianna Puglisi (2-for-4, 1 run, RBI) had the game's only triple. Alex Laguna drilled an RBI double, tapped an RBI single, walked and scored once. Sophia Guerrero cracked a two-run double, singled, walked and scored once. Quinlan Doherty rapped an RBI double, singled and scored once.

Erin Doherty smashed a two-run double and scored once. Natalie Ardenite doubled, scored once and had two RBI. Annie Reilly went 1-for-3 and scored once. Grace Loder doubled, walked and scored once. Loder did, however, drill a shot that hit the pole at the end of the leftfield fence but it was just a little left of the foul line.

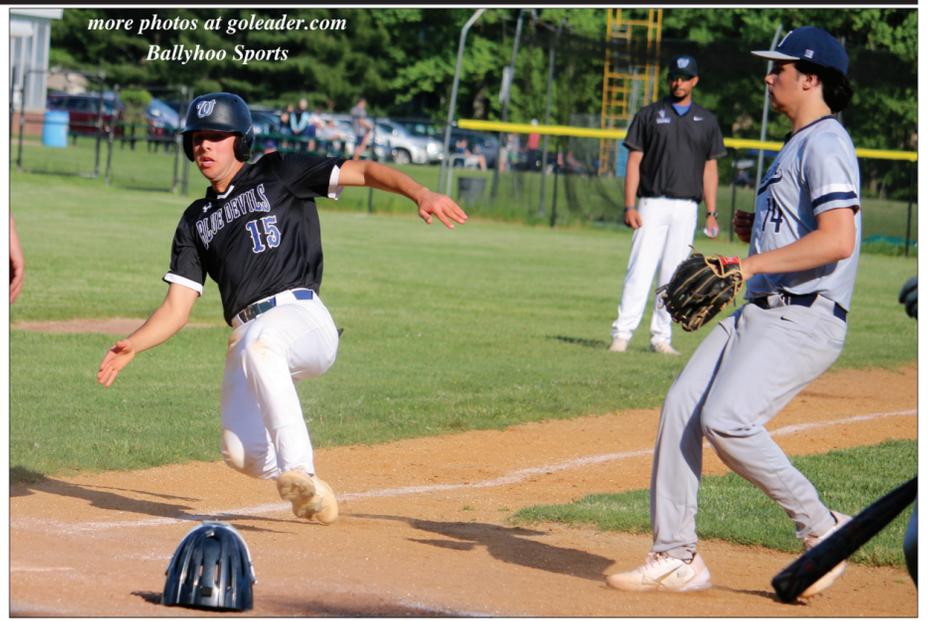
"It hit the pole that is six inches to 10 inches off the fair line." Coach Cheddar explained.

Bella Scipioni has been becoming a more familiar face on the mound for the Blue Devils and had a strong afternoon limiting the Pioneers to just four hits, while walking no one and striking out four.

"She's doing a really nice job. We have a lot of options, which is nice. Most softball team don't have four pitchers that they can put in the game. We do. Bella has been throwing a lot of strikes and showing a lot of command and really hitting the spots well, so right now we are going with her. But we have three other people ready to rock anytime," Coach Cheddar said.

Pioneer Keira Goetke singled and scored. Cate Conover had an RBI double. Haley Kessler and Cassidy Mishkind both singled. Starter Caroline Apicella was on the mound for 2.2 innings, and allowed three runs on four hits and a walk, while striking out one. Ella Deloski relieved

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
Ballyhoo Sports  
A HOMECOMING...Blue Devil Nic Labin comes home to score in the fifth inning as ALJ pitcher Steve Vigliotti covers during the Union County Tournament quarterfinal game at Westfield on May 10. The Blue Devils won 5-3.

**DOWLING TOSSES 1-HITTER; DAVIS 2 DOUBLES, 2 RUNS**

## Blue Devils Handle Crusaders In UCT Baseball Quarter, 5-3

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

Timely hitting, capitalizing on several miscues and a dominating performance on the mound guided the fourth-seeded Westfield High School baseball team down the right path to a 5-3 victory over the fifth-seeded AL Johnson Crusaders in the quarterfinal round of the Union County Tournament at Bob Brewster, Sr. Field in Westfield on May 10.

Junior Kevin Dowling was unhittable for six innings and had a 5-0 lead until he yielded a 25-foot infield chopper and walked a pair of batters before departing the mound due to his 106 pitch count with one out and the bases loaded in the top of seventh inning. Dowling in 6.1 innings, walked six Crusaders, allowed just the short single and struck out six batters.

"Oh Yeah! And it was an infield hit. He competed and that's what he does

and that's what we love about him," Blue Devil Head Coach Jay Cook expressed.

"I came out, tried to get in the zone early and give my team the best opportunity to win the game if possible. And they got me runs early. First inning! I was able to get comfortable, settle in. I lost focus, got a little tired in the last inning but we got the job done," Dowling explained.

Dowling's father and brothers were also standout athletes in Westfield around the turn of the century.

"He (father) was probably about four or five years before me, maybe a little bit more and his brothers. A very familiar name," Blue Devil Head Coach Jay Cook recalled. "He transferred in from Vermont and has been a nice addition to our team."

"That's my dad! And all my uncles went through here," Dowling added. What really helped Dowling get into the comfort zone was the catalyst

in the offensive thrust, junior leadoff hitter/second baseman Randy Davis (Mr. Double), who went 2-for-4 with a pair of doubles and two runs scored. Davis rapped a leadoff double to left-centerfield to ignite a three-run first inning then after Nic Labin drew a leadoff walk, he followed with another double to left-center which led to a two-run fifth inning.

In an 11-5 victory over Governor Livingston a few weeks ago, Davis lined a pair of doubles down the leftfield line then added a third double to left-center.

"That's where my power is. Right up in the leftfield area. If I can get it out there, put it over them, I will be at second base," Davis explained.

Coach Cook added, "He's kind of set the table for us. He's been in the leadoff spot, so when he gets on base, we are pretty confident that we are going to get some runs out of it. He's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
Ballyhoo Sports  
OUT AT SECOND BASE...Blue Devil second baseman Natalie Ardenite gets the force out on Pioneer Haley Kessler in the first inning at Westfield on May 11. The Blue Devils went on the offensive and beat New Providence, 11-1, in five innings.

**BLUE DEVIL BOYS SWEEP DISCUS, SHOT; 1-3-4 JAVELIN**

## Blue Devil Boys Win Watchung; Raider Girls 3rd in Watchung

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

The Westfield High School boys dominated the field events and led their team to the Union County Conference Watchung Division title at Governor Livingston High School on May 11-12. The Raider girls took third in the Watchung, while the Cranford girls won the Mountain Division crown and the boys placed second. The AL Johnson girls took second in the Valley Division and the boys placed third.

Thanks to the very strong showing in the field, the Blue Devil boys had a total of 135 to outpoint the Union Catholic Vikings, who totaled 129 points. Scotch Plains-Fanwood finished sixth with 30 points. Union Catholic won the girls Watchung crown with 178 points, Elizabeth was second at 105 and the Raiders were third at 81, followed by Westfield at 69.

Blue Devils Owen Paul with a toss of 160-6, Phin Mindak at 156-4 and Joe McGovern at 145-3, swept 1-2-3 in the discus. Ben Abram with a shove of 48-9, Paul at 47-8.25 and Max Romano at 46-9 swept the shot put. Mason Marino won the javelin with a toss of 171-5, followed by Raider Noah Ricca at 157 and Blue Devils Jeremy Cruz at 152-0 and Gabe Dayon at 149-0. Eamon Collins took top honors in the high jump with a height of 6-0, followed by Raider Ian Hopkins also at 6-0. Noah Perez at 11-0 and Rowan McMahill at 10-6 placed 5-6 in the pole vault.

Raiders Nate Rayan at 13.75 and Ian Hopkins at 14.9 finished 1-4 in the 110-hurdles. Blue Devil Eamon Mason took first in the 1,600 with a time of 4:30.06, followed by Kalen Stoeckman at 4:33.01, while Blue Devil Jim Hamilton finished sixth at 4:41.05. Jon Scalia finished second

in the 800 at 1:54.4 and Jimmy Gildea finished fifth at 1:57.05. Blue Devils Manny Gayanilo at 57.41 and Tyler Pietrewicz at 1:00.01 finished 3-5 in the 400-hurdles. Blue Devils Alex Valencia at 9:52.09 and Jack McCormack at 9:53.51 finished 4-5 in the 3,200. Joe Pierro finished fifth in the 400 at 50.13.

Blue Devils Gildea (51.8), Ryan Daly (51.8), Pietrewicz (52.5) and Gabe Lisci (53.9) won the 4x400 with a time of 3:30.4.

For the Watchung girls, Blue Devil Gabby Demeter won the high jump with a height of 5-2. Blue Devils Priscilla Dayon and Lily Norton placed 1-2 in the javelin with respective throws of 110-1 and 106-4. Raiders Mackenzie Virgil at 98-5 and Maggie McNulty at 92-8 placed 3-6. Raider Ava Billotto won the shot put with a shove of 33-0. Blue Devil

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



more photos at [goleader.com](http://goleader.com)  
Ballyhoo Sports  
RUNNING WITH SOME VIKINGS...Blue Devil Emma Pranke, left, runs with a pair of Union Catholic Vikings during the 3,200 at the Union County Conference meet at Governor Livingston High School on May 12. Pranke finished third.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
LEADER OF THE PACK... ALJ Crusader Kyle Gunsiorowski won the 800 and the 1,600, and placed third in the 3,200 at the Valley Division meet.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
FIRST IN THE 110-HURDLE...Raider Nate Rayan heads to the finish line and crosses first in the 110-hurdles at 13.75 during the UCC Watchung Division meet.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
CLEARING THE HURDLE...Raider Zoe Hopkins, front, took second in the 100-hurdles at 14.95 during the UCC Watchung Division meet.



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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
**PICKED OFF AT FIRST...Blue Devil first baseman Braedan Trajkovski gets the throw from pitcher Kevin Dowling in time to pick off Crusader Jackson Gulbin in the fourth inning during the UCT quarterfinal game in Westfield on May 10.**

## Blue Devils Handle ALJ in UCT Baseball Quarter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

been driving the ball. Now that we got him staying on top of the ball, he's definitely an asset and a threat with timely hits and doubles."

Dowling retired the first nine Crusaders he faced. In the meantime, Davis led off the bottom of the first inning with a double and Leo Mangiamele walked. Davis tagged up and sped to third on Braedan Trajkovski's line out to deep left. Owen Callahan hopped an RBI single just over the third baseman's glove as Mangiamele scooted to third. Callahan's courtesy runner, Charlie McCormack, stole second, which drew a throw. Mangiamele alertly scored. Tomas Cestero's grounder to third resulted in an overthrow to first and McCormack scored to give Westfield a 3-0 lead.

Dowling's perfect start was interrupted in the top of the fourth when he walked Jackson Gulbin. However, Dowling caught him leaning and picked him off at first. Dowling then got the next two batters out. Kellen Edwards led off the Westfield fourth with a walk. He stole second but slid past the base for an out. A pair of ground balls ended the inning.

Labin led off the fifth with a walk and Davis ripped his second double to left-center. Trajkovski was intentionally walked and Callahan lofted an RBI sacrifice fly to center.

Cestero's grounder drew another throwing error as Davis scored the fifth run.

"When we have guys on base, all we need to do is put the ball in play to move it over. I think we do a pretty good job of that when we stay on top. As coach mentioned, I've done a better job of staying on top of the ball the past few games. We bring in runs like that," Davis said. "Stay on top of it!"

Dowling walked leadoff batter Rob Gallagher in the sixth then struck out Anthony LaPorta. Gallagher dashed to second on a passed ball. Tom Woods hit a sharp line drive to third baseman Mangiamele, who quickly fired to second in time to double up Gallagher.

Jake Alfano (2-for-2), who doubled in the second inning rapped a single to center but got thrown out attempting to stretch it to a double. After a ground out to short, Labin drew his second walk and his pinch runner, Mike Lynch, stole second. Davis stepped to the plate and drilled another scorcher but it zeroed in on the leftfielder's glove

"With two strikes, you got to put the ball in play anyway you can. I widened out my feet so I could have full leg power but it was still a decent shot," Davis described.

Crusader Steve McCaffery led off the seventh with his little chopping single. Josh Laucik flew out to left

then Dowling walked Dave Rodriguez and Sean Patterson to load the bases. Pat Lanza relieved Dowling but was called for balks twice, which allowed McCaffery and Rodriguez to skip home. Anthony Curcio lofted an RBI sac fly to center as the third Crusader scored. Lanza struck out the final batter.

Next for Westfield would be a semifinal showdown with top-seeded, No. 3 Cranford on May 13 at AL Johnson. Their last meeting was a classic pitchers' duel between Cougar ace Sean Woodruff and Cestero that was scoreless until the top of the seventh inning.

Davis commented, "I think especially if we see Woodruff again, which we probably will. I kind of have an issue with him. I saw him last year. He was all over me. I think I missed every single at-bat against him. This year I am doing better and I hope we do even better."

"That was a great pitchers' duel. Anytime 'Mos' (Tomas) is on the mound for us. Like all of our pitchers, we expect them to go out there and compete. 'Mos' did a great job of going pitch-for-pitch with him then he ran out of pitches. Hopefully we get some runs for him and he gives us the same type of performance on Saturday," Coach Cook said.

AL Johnson	000 000 3	3
Westfield	300 020 x	5

## LABIN 2 HITS, 3 RBI; MANGIAMELE WHACKS 2-RUN 3B

# Blue Devils Erupt for 9 in First To Roar Past SPF Raiders, 11-1

By ALEX LOWE  
 Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Westfield exploded for nine runs in the bottom of the first inning then cruised to an 11-1 victory over Scotch Plains-Fanwood in a baseball game played on May 11 in Westfield. Nic Labin had two hits and drove in three runs to lead the Blue Devil onslaught. Senior Leo Mangiamele ripped a two-run triple during the first inning outburst. The win improved the Blue Devil season mark to 11-6 and set them up for a rematch with undefeated powerhouse Cranford in the Union County Tournament semifinals set for May 13.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood (9-11) actually got on the board first, taking a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning against Westfield starter Mason Gibbs. The senior righty struggled with control in the opening frame but quickly settled in after that, allowing just one run on two hits while striking out four and walking four batters in five innings of work.

"In the first inning, I felt a little shaky," said Gibbs. "My arm angle wasn't where I wanted it to be. Coming out of that inning, my teammates really gave me a cushion with nine runs. It kind of got me into my groove

and I had my command for the rest of the game. I was leaning on my cutter a lot today."

Trailing 1-0 entering the bottom of the first inning, the Blue Devil offense responded by battering Raider starter Matthew Capozzolo for eight runs on five hits. The normally reliable Capozzolo just did not have it on this day and he was gone after one third of an inning. He was not helped by his defense which committed three errors on the day.

Mangiamele had the big hit in the opening inning when he laced his two-run triple over the centerfielder's head.

"I wasn't trying to do too much," said Mangiamele. "We had runners on second and third, so I just wanted to get the bat on the ball and put it in play to get those guys across the dish. Our mentality this year has been to just put together team at-bats. We just want to make sure we aren't swinging out of our shoes or anything. Just hit line drives and get the next guy up because that is how you get momentum and put some runs across and make things happen."

Raider reliever Jack Byrne came in with just one out recorded in the first inning and he did a solid job the rest

of the way, allowing three runs on five hits, while striking out three in three and two-thirds innings. But the damage had been done by that point.

The circumstances of the game allowed Westfield Head Coach Jay Cook to empty his bench, affording several seniors with an opportunity for playing time.

"For four years, those guys have been there for us," said Cook. "It was a little emotional to see them take the field. Being able to get those guys in was a great experience. They are great on the bench, always in the game for us. Very happy for them. Eddie almost got one through there."

For Westfield, the win over the Raiders served as little more than a tune-up for a highly anticipated rematch against county front runner Cranford, which has yet lost. In their earlier meeting Cranford prevailed 3-0 in a close affair that was decided late. The two teams were tied heading into the final inning in that first match up.

"It really is just going to come down to who can play sound defense and get the timely hits," said Mangiamele. "The last time we played them we went scoreless through six. If we can get the big hits in timely situations, we will be on top."

Gibbs agreed. "I think it will be the little things against Cranford," said Gibbs. "We'll be able to duel with them again. If we keep the same mentality on the mound and on the defensive side as we had the first time we played them I think we can pull out a win."

Sc PI-Fanwood	100 000	1
Westfield	900 02x	11

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD

Date Adopted: 05/11/2023  
 Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of County Commissioners has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as an Professional service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) (i). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2023-415 amending (Resolution No. 2015-35)  
**AWARDED TO: Remington & Vernick Engineers of Cherry Hill, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES TO:** to provide additional services for the replacement of Irving Street Bridge, City of Rahway, New Jersey  
**COSTS:** an additional amount not to exceed: \$193,475.00, for a new contract amount not to exceed: \$546,629.76  
 James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners  
 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

# Summit Holds Off Blue Devils For UCT Boys Lax Title, 10-9

By ALEX LOWE  
 Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Summit withstood a furious fourth-quarter rally from Westfield and hung on for a 10-9 victory, capturing their fifth straight Union County Tournament boys lacrosse title on May 6 at Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark. Four players, Lucas Stocks, Daniel Flaim, James Granger and Sean McCeney scored two goals each to lead a balanced attack for the victorious Hilltoppers. Summit jumped out to a 5-2 first-quarter lead and extended it to 9-4 late in the third period.

Possession was the key to building the early lead for Summit. The Hilltoppers dominated possession in the first quarter of play, forcing five turnovers that led to transition goals. The high-powered Westfield attack looked lost in the early going.

"We felt like we needed to rife harder and create turnovers that led to transition chances," said Summit Head Coach Jim Davidson. "It gave us the lead and the momentum and our kids gained confidence from that."

Second seeded Westfield seemed dead in the water but when least expected began a dramatic turnaround when John McDonald scored with two minutes remaining in the third quarter, cutting the deficit to 9-5.

McDonald's goal was followed by two from Ryan Waldman and one from Dylan Wragg over a seven-minute stretch that cut the deficit to 9-8 with 6:46 still remaining in regulation.

"I think in the beginning of the game, we were just so excited and so emotional that we didn't focus on the little things and tried to do the big

things," said Westfield senior Trey Brown. "I think that over time we calmed down and realized that we were still in this. We got off to the bad start we just needed to focus on the little details and the fundamentals and just stick it through. I'm proud of my team for finishing the game like

ing the Blue Devils possession. But with just over a minute left in regulation, Summit knocked the ball loose and picked it up. Westfield's Trey Brown managed to get the ball back for the Blue Devils with just under 30 seconds to play. But Westfield could not get a shot off and eventually lost



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
**AVOIDING THE DEFENDER...Blue Devil attacker Ryan Waldman, No. 6, tries to work around a Summit defender during the UCT Championship game.**

we did."

Summit's Will Johnson scored a key goal that snapped the Blue Devil run and gave the Hilltoppers a 10-8 advantage with 5:24 left in regulation. But Westfield pulled to within one goal again after Cody Lam scored, assisted by Waldman with 2:26 to play. The score set up a final, frenetic two minutes which saw Westfield's Danny Hazard win the face-off giving

the ball back to Summit with 12 seconds left. Yet somehow the Blue Devils got one more possession by stealing the ball. Still Westfield had no chance to set up for a final decent shot at the net.

"It was amazing that we got the ball back with 10 seconds for Cody (Lam)," said Brown, who will play lacrosse at Maryland next year. "I thought that just shows the kind of heart we have on this team. At the beginning of the game, we made just a few errors and mistakes that were easy and correctible, which makes this loss just so much harder to take."

Westfield was led by Waldman who scored four goals and had three assists. Lam contributed three goals and added one assist. McDonald and Wragg rounded out the scoring with one goal each for the Blue Devils

Goalkeeper Quinn Wojcik stopped seven shots for Westfield. Summit goalkeeper Robbie Kievit recorded five saves. The championship was the fifth straight for top seeded Summit and their 15th overall.

Westfield	2	2	3	9
Summit	5	3	1	10

## Cougars Top Westfield In UCT Semifinal, 9-2

The top-seeded, No. 3 Cranford Cougars jumped on the fourth-seeded Westfield Blue Devils with six runs in the first inning and three in the third then cruised to a 9-2 victory in the semifinal round of the Union County Tournament at AL Johnson on May 13. Jake Carter went 2-for-3, walked, stole a base, scored once and had an RBI for the 20-0 Cougars and Sebastian Morales walked twice and had three RBI.

Ryan Jaros doubled, singled, was hit and scored once. Ben Monahan had two singles. Brayden Fry singled, scored once and had two RBI. Dennis McCaffery walked, was hit, stole a base and scored twice. Winning pitcher Sean Woodruff allowed one hit and struck out four in three innings. Dan Olear pitched three innings, walked two and struck out two. Shea Grady pitched one inning and struck out two.

Blue Devil Braedan Trajkovski doubled and scored once. Jake Albano and Nic Labin each had an RBI single, Kevin Dowling singled and scored. Owen Callahan and Leo Mangiamele (hit by pitch) each singled. Randy Davis walked.

The 16-4 Governor Livingston Highlanders defeated Elizabeth 11-3 in the other semifinal. Matt Diskin went 3-for-3 with a double, a walk, two runs scored and two RBI. Mike Basile went 2-for-2, walked, was hit, scored once and had two RBI. Winning pitcher Jason Habedank had two hits and three RBI. Jon Schmidt went 2-for-3.

## Cougars Oust Bears In UCT Baseball, 12-2

The top-seeded Cranford Cougars baseball team ousted the Brearley Bears in the Union County Tournament quarterfinal round, 12-2, in five innings on May 10. Shea Grady went 3-for-3 with a walk, two runs scored, three RBI and two stolen bases for the 19-0 Cougars. Sebastian Morales also went 3-for-3 and had two RBI.

Jake Carter went 1-for-1 with three walks, three stolen bases and three runs scored. Ryan Carracino doubled, singled and had two RBI. Ryan Jaros singled, walked, scored twice and swiped two bases. Matt Chapman stole a pair of bases and scored three times. Sean Riley singled, had two RBI and scored once. Dennis McCaffery walked and scored once. Brayden Fry singled. Winning pitcher Mike Zalinskaskas tossed 4.1 innings, allowing two hits, a walk and a hit batter, while striking out five. Dan Olear relieved and recorded a strikeout.

Rob Zack whacked a home run for the 11-6 Bears. Joe Galati doubled and scored once. Matt Hart had an RBI.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD

Date Adopted: 05/11/2023  
 Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of County Commissioners has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as an Professional service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) (i). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2023-414  
**AWARDED TO: Michael Baker, International, Newark, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES TO:** to provide Professional Construction engineering and other services for the West Seventh Street (CR601) Intersection Improvement Project, City of Plainfield, County of Union, New Jersey  
**COSTS:** for an amount not to exceed: \$95,000.00  
 James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners  
 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

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RESOLUTION NO: 2023-448 amending (Resolution No. 2023-225)  
**AWARDED TO: Various Agencies**  
**SERVICES:** for the procurement of services under the 2022-2023 HEARTH Emergency Solutions  
**COSTS:** in an amount not to exceed: \$50,300.00 for a total sum not to exceed: \$419,178.00  
 James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners  
 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$22.44

## Pingry Laxmen Jolt Blue Devils for Bristol

A battle for possession of the Bristol Cup shifted in No. 12 Pingry's direction with a 10-7 victory over the No. 10 Westfield Blue Devils boys lacrosse team on May 9. Senior Ryan Waldman led the 7-5 Blue Devils with four goals and an assist. Anthony Buscio had a goal and two assists. Cody Lam and Dan McGovern each scored once. Colin Coyle and John McDonald each added an assist. Danny Hazard won 17 of 20 face-offs and scooped nine ground balls. Goalkeeper Quinn Wojcik recorded eight saves.

Hilltopper Charlie Sherman notched three goals and added two ground balls. Asher Ziv scored twice and had two assists. Jonah Ziv had a goal and an assist. Jack Goodwin netted two goals and an assist. Jesse Busch contributed a goal and an assist. Dylan Blekicky scored once. Franklin Mau scooped 10 ground balls and goalkeeper Graham Stevens recorded 13 saves.

## Summit Beats Westfield In Girls Lacrosse, 15-6

The No. 1 Summit Hilltoppers girls lacrosse team scored 10 goals in the first half and went on to defeat the 6-7 Westfield Blue Devils, 15-6, on May 9. Sofia Della Rocco led the Blue Devils with three goals, while adding two ground balls. Alice Manzo, Gillian Cohen and Abi Mokrzycki each netted a goal. Julianna Molinelli had an assist. Erin Hazard had two ground balls and five draw controls. Kate Watson scooped two ground balls. Goalkeeper Kaitlynn Czarenecki recorded 13 saves.

Lauren Riley netted four goals and an assist for the 10-2 Hilltoppers. Jane Freeman had two goals and an assist. Kate Riley, Grace Matter and Nell Ducey each scored twice. Lily Spinner had a goal and an assist. Sloane Ricciuti and Abby Iacovelli each netted a goal.

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RESOLUTION NO: 2023-421 amending (Resolution No. 2023-175)  
**AWARDED TO: USA Architects, Somerville, New Jersey**  
**SERVICES TO:** to provide additional design, construction administration and professional services for the Ash Brook Golf Course Clubhouse  
**COSTS:** in the amount not to exceed: \$32,000.00 for a new total contract amount not to exceed: \$92,000.00  
 James E. Pelletiere, RMC, QPA, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners  
 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

**Union County Bureau Of Mosquito Control**

In compliance with section 9.10 of the New Jersey Pesticide Control Code (N.J.A.C. Title 7 Chapter 30) this ad will appear every 2 weeks starting Thursday May 4th 2023 Through Thursday October 12th 2023. Union County Mosquito Control will be applying pesticides for The control of Adult mosquitoes on an area wide basis as needed throughout Union County, during the period from May 1st through October 31st 2023. The U.S.E.P.A. and the N.J.D.E.P. approved pesticides that may be used are: Zenivex E20 (a.i. etofenprox PBO), Fyfanon (a.i. malathion), Anvil 2+2, and Anvil 10+10 (a.i. sumithrin PBO), Duet and Duet HD (a.i. prallethrin, sumithrin PBO) DeltAgard (a.i. deitamehrin). Products will be applied from the ground by truck or hand held Equipment and/or aircraft, all using Low Volume or Ultra Low Volume Techniques. Contact the National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378 for routine pesticide related health inquiries. Call the New Jersey Pesticide Control Program at 1-609-984-6507 for pesticide regulation information, Pesticide Complaints and health referrals. In case of any pesticide emergency, please contact the New Jersey Poison information and Education System at 1-800-222-1222 Upon request, the U.C.M.C. shall provide a resident with notification at least 12 hours prior to the application, except for Quarantine and Disease Vector Control when conditions necessitate applications sooner than that time. Request should indicate their name, Town, street address and phone number to correctly identify these areas, and such request should be made in writing or email on an annual basis (no deadline is required). Those seeking further information regarding U.C.M.C. activities are urged to contact: County of Union, Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities, Bureau of Mosquito Control, Attn: Sean Devaney, Bureau Chief (Pesticide License # 22787B) 2371 South Ave, Scotch Plains N.J. 07076 E-Mail sdevaney@ucnj.org Telephone 908-654-9834

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800 Central Ave (Leader)  
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1928 Westfield Ave (Leader/HAWK)
- 7-11 Mountainside**  
921 Mountain Ave (Leader)  
**Krauser's**  
272 Central Ave (Leader)
- 7-11 Garwood**  
309 North Ave (Leader/HAWK)  
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- 7-11 Westfield**  
1200 South Ave, W (Leader/HAWK)  
**Mountain Deli**  
2385 Mountain Ave (HAWK)
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**Westfield Mini Mart**  
301 South Ave, W (Leader)
- Cardsmart**  
170 Westfield Ave (HAWK)  
**Westfield Tobacco & News**  
108 Elm St (Leader)

Blue Devils Double on 'O' to Stagger NP Pioneers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

and was tagged for eight runs and 10 hits, while walking two, hitting a batter and striking out two.

Kessler led off with a ground single past first in the Pioneer first inning but after a groundout to third, Blue Devil right fielder Guerrero snagged a line drive and quickly fired to first to catch the runner for a double play. Puglisi led off the second inning with a triple down the right field line. Guerrero beat out an infield single as Puglisi scored and the errant throw to first went out of play. Guerrero moved to third on a fly out to right. After Hefflin was hit, she stole second, which drew a throw as Ardenite scored. Laguna walked. Puglisi bounced an RBI single to make the score 10-1. Guerrero tagged the game-winning RBI double as Laguna scored. Puglisi also scored but it did not count due to 10-run rule.

The Blue Devils took a 3-0 lead in the third. Hefflin hopped a ground rule double over the centerfield fence and Laguna wiggled an RBI single over

fourth. Reilly slipped a single under the glove of the third baseman. Hefflin doubled to center and Erin Doherty followed with a hard two-run double down the leftfield line. Laguna capped it off with an RBI double over the centerfielder's head.

The Blue Devils decided to end the game in the fifth. Loder led off with a double to leftfield. Quinlan Doherty lashed an RBI double past the centerfielder and Ardenite arced an RBI double that skid down the right field line then tagged up and dashed to third on a fly out to right. After Hefflin was hit, she stole second, which drew a throw as Ardenite scored. Laguna walked. Puglisi bounced an RBI single to make the score 10-1. Guerrero tagged the game-winning RBI double as Laguna scored. Puglisi also scored but it did not count due to 10-run rule.

seed. But ultimately the reality is it's a lose and go home tournament. Everybody has to do their job every day," Coach Cheddar said.

On April 13, the Blue Devils would host the Brearley Bears, who recently shocked the AL Johnson Crusaders, 3-2, in a regular-season game. The Crusaders did receive the second seed for the UCT.

Coach Cheddar commented, "Brearley's a good team. I know that they sometimes give up a lot of runs but they can hit. If their pitchers show up and give a good performance, they can be tough to beat and they are a well-coached team, so we got to get ready."

The 11-11 Blue Devils did get ready for the Bears and emerged victorious, 7-1. Scipioni was on the mound and walked no one, while striking out two and hitting two batters. Laguna went 3-for-4 with an RBI and run scored.



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

IN THE MIDST OF THE PACK...Blue Devils Ryan Daly and Jimmy Gidea run with the pack in the 800 during the Union County Conference Watchung Division meet on May 12. Gidea finished fifth with a time of 1:57.05 and Daly finished ninth with a time of 2:00.85. Teammate Jon Scalia finished second at 1:54.4.

Blue Devil Boys Win Watchung Conference Track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Livia Reyes was third at 32-5 and Raider Morgan Virgil was sixth at 30-4.5. Billotto at 92-8 and Mackenzie Virgil at 91-9 placed 4-5 in the discus. Raider Sarah Sicoli placed third in the pole vault with a height of 8-0 and Blue Devil Juliet Pitta was fourth also at the same height. Kelly took sixth in the long jump with a leap of 16-6.5 and Danielle Kramer was fourth in the triple jump with a distance of 35-4.

Blue Devil Sonia Olson crossed first in the 1,600 with a time of 5:02.82 and Emma Pranke crossed third in the 3,200 at 12:23.28. Raider Jenai Berry crossed second in the 800 at 2:15.17 and fourth in the 400 at 57.0. Raider Zoe Hopkins finished second in the 100-hurdles at 14.95. She also finished second in the 400-hurdles at 1:06.16 and teammate Stephanie Agwu finished fourth at 1:09.97. Blue Devil Sean O'Brien finished third in the 100 dash at 12.41 and fourth in the 200 at 25.34, followed by Raider Keira Kelly at 25.39. Raider Delaney Farley finished fifth in the

100 dash at 12.7. Raiders Mia Trombetta, Meya Williams, Sophia Catalano and Berry took top honors in the 4x400 with a time of 4:00.59.

In the Mountain girls meet, the Cougars took first with a total of 126 just ahead of Rahway at 122. Isabella Alvarez-Gomez at 59.95 and Ellie Semple at 1:00.85 finished 2-4 in the 400. Olivia Russomanno finished second in the 200 at 25.89 and Semple was sixth at 27.11. Semple also finished fifth in the 100 dash at 13.28. Cougars Semple, Alvarez-Gomez, Courtney Toy and Russomanno won the 4x400 at 4:03.58.

Toy crossed second in the 800 at 2:19.75 and fourth in the 1,600 at

5:33.46. Alvarez Gomez was third in the 100-hurdles at 15.78. Lillian Costello at 1:10.56 and Kristen Ledford at 1:10.73 finished 4-5 in the 400-hurdles. Caitlin Owens was sixth in the 3,200 at 12:36.01.

The Cougars did quite well in the field and jumping events. Kristen Fries won the discus with a toss of 94-2, followed by Tori Aslin at 91-11. Isabella DeStefano won the javelin with a throw of 99-7 and Fries was third in the shot put with a shove of 33-8.5. Sanaa Wright won the high jump with a clearance of 5-0. Damara Barnes was fifth in the long jump with a distance of 15-11.5 and was fifth in the triple jump with a distance of 33-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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

BEATING THE THROW...Blue Devil Sophia Guerrero, No. 17, beats the throw to Pioneer catcher Annie Conover in the second inning. Guerrero had two hits, including the game-ending RBI double in the fifth inning.

second base. New Providence answered with its only run in the fourth when Goetke singled and scored on Cate Conover's double to center. Quinlan Doherty, the centerfielder, then grabbed a line drive and fired to second to double up Conover.

The score jumped to 6-0 in the

The Union County Tournament would be next and the chips would be down. The Blue Devils received the seventh seed and a loss would mean, "go home".

"We didn't do ourselves any favor early. We lost a couple of close game that I think could have changed our

Erin Doherty doubled, singled, walked, scored once and had two RBI. Hefflin doubled, singled and scored twice. Ardenite scored twice and walked. Loder had an RBI and Reilly scored once.

New Providence	000	10	1
Westfield	021	35	11

SPF Raiders Reel Off Big Wins In Boys V-Ball, Record to 23-1

The No. 2 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys volleyball team reeled off seven straight wins since May 3. First the Raiders stopped Westfield, 25-14, 25-16 on May 3. Next was Colonia, 25-18, 25-23, a day later, followed by Hunterdon Central, 25-17, 25-13, on May 5 and Union, 25-15, 25-10, on May 8. On May 10 the Raiders beat Elizabeth, 25-11, 25-17. On May 11 they stopped Roselle Catholic, 25-6, 25-7, then on May 12 edged Ridge, 25-21, 25-23.

Against Westfield, Nick Schmidt dished out 21 assists against the Blue Devils and added five kills, eight digs and eight service points with an ace. Jeremy Zimmerman notched 13 kills and added two blocks, five digs, an assist and two service aces. Tim Ennis recorded eight kills, two blocks, nine digs, two assists and 12 service points with seven aces. Zach Chung scooped 13 digs and had two service points. Dan Ennis had four digs, a kill and three service points with an ace. Ryan Pierson had four blocks and two digs. Kevin Indoe had two kills, a block and three digs.

Blue Devil Ben Bukiet-Beker had two kills and four digs. Ben Greeley scooped eight digs. Brayden Abo had five assists and three digs. Veer Agawal had three kills, a block and a dig. Nate Welsh had two digs and

three assists. Schmidt recorded 24 assists, six kills, two digs and a service point against Colonia. Zimmerman recorded 10 kills, a block, six digs and six service points with two aces. Tim Ennis notched 13 kills, nine digs, a block, three assists and seven service points with three aces. Dan Ennis had seven digs and five service points with two aces. Chung scooped 19 digs. Mike Wojcik had three service points.

Ohn Shah recorded 15 assists and five digs for Colonia. Matt McSorley recorded 10 kills, four digs and three service points with an ace. Dan Latkowski had three kills, three blocks and a dig. Matt Salcedo had three kills, seven digs and two service points.

Tim Ennis notched 10 kills, nine digs, three aces and five service points with an ace against Hunterdon Central. Zimmerman had 10 kills. Schmidt recorded 22 assists, four kills, two blocks, seven digs and 10 service points with three aces. Dan Ennis had a kill, three digs and five service points with an ace. Chung had 15 digs and three service points. Indoe recorded two kills, a block, five digs and an assist. Guy Varela had four blocks.

Aidan Rutz had 19 assist and three digs for Hunterdon Central. Charles

Tirendi notched six kills. Bryce Pappalardo had four kills and four digs. Tom Chittenden recorded five kills and five digs.

The win over Union had Tim Ennis notching 15 kills and adding seven digs, a block and six service points with an ace. Schmidt recorded 24 assists, three kills, four digs and a service point. Zimmerman had six kills, five digs, a block and seven service points with an ace. Wojcik had eight service points with an ace and two digs. Chung scooped 12 digs. Dan Ennis had six service points and eight digs. Pierson had three blocks, a kill and four digs. Indoe had three kills and two digs. Varela notched two kills and a block.

Against Elizabeth, T. Ennis notched 11 kills, 10 digs and seven service points with two aces. Schmidt had 25 assists, eight digs, five kills and four service points with an ace. Zimmerman had nine kills, six digs, and eight service points with three aces. D. Ennis had five service points and five digs. Chung had 16 digs.

Schmidt recorded 26 assists against Roselle Catholic and added four kills and 10 service points with two aces. Chung had 19 digs. Zimmerman recorded nine kills and 11 service points with two aces. T. Ennis had eight kills and six digs. Pierson notched three kills.

In the win over Ridge, Schmidt had 25 assists, three kills and five service points with two aces. Zimmerman had 12 kills and three blocks. T. Ennis had 11 kills, a block and 11 digs. Chung had 10 digs and nine service points with an ace. D. Ennis had three service points and six digs. Wojcik had three service points. Pierson had two blocks and two kills. Indoe had three kills.

GL Stuns Cougars In Softball, 7-5

The Governor Livingston Highlanders softball team scored twice in the top of the ninth inning to outlast the No. 11 Cranford Cougars, 7-5, on May 10. Avery Toddings went 2-for-3 with a home run and a walk for the 16-5 Cougars. Sophia DeMarco doubled, singled and scored once. Maddy DeLong went 3-for-4 with an RBI and two runs scored. Katie Bendert doubled and singled. Emma Grace Pachkowski singled and scored once. Giulia Olear singled.

Anna Popola blasted a home run, singled, scored twice and had two RBI. Lily Sandholm went 3-for-5 with a home run and two RBI. Kelly Hanratty singled twice, scored twice. Emma McElroy doubled, singled and had two RBI. Elise Faxon singled twice. Chelsea Keisewetter singled and scored once as did Gianna Basile.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK CORPORATION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the following Ordinance was duly adopted and approved on final reading at a Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council, Township of Clark on May 15, 2023.

ORDINANCE 23-16

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT SECTION 2 ENTITLED "FEES" OF CHAPTER 122 ENTITLED "CONSTRUCTION CODES, UNIFORM" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK

Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk Fee: \$18.36

1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK CORPORATION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the following Ordinance was duly adopted and approved on final reading at a Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council, Township of Clark on May 15, 2023.

ORDINANCE 23-17

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IX SECTION 62 OF CHAPTER 347 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "PRIVATE PROPERTY OPEN TO PUBLIC"

Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk Fee: \$18.36

1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk

ALJ Tops Hanover Park, Roselle Park in Softball

Winning pitcher Krista LaBianca recorded five strikeouts on the mound, while whacking three singles and driving in two runs at the plate to lead the 12-4 AL Johnson Crusaders to a 15-5 victory over the Hanover Park Hornets on May 8. A day later the 13-4 Crusaders blanked the Roselle Park Panthers, 12-0, in five innings. Pitcher Maria Dante tossed a one-hitter.

Dante went 2-for-3 with a home run, five RBI and three runs scored against Hanover Park. Jill Duffy went 3-for-3 with three runs scored. Liz Fitzharris went 2-for-4 with a walk, an RBI and three runs scored. Liz Yanni doubled, singled, scored twice and had two RBI. Madden Puerari went 2-for-4, with an RBI and a run

scored. Lacey Vill singled and scored once. Shannon Lancellotti went 2-for-3 and scored once. Gianna Frino singled twice, scored once and had an RBI.

Against the Panthers, Dante went 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles, two runs scored and four RBI. Frino went 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Lancellotti double, singled and scored twice. LaBianca went 1-for-2, walked, was hit once and scored twice. Duffy singled, scored twice and had an RBI. Vill singled and scored once. Fitzharris singled and had three RBI. Yanni and Puerari each had an RBI single. Gabby Muretta (RBI) and Isabella Todaro each singled and scored once.

Against the Panthers, Dante went 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles, two runs scored and four RBI. Frino went 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Lancellotti double, singled and scored twice. LaBianca went 1-for-2, walked, was hit once and scored twice. Duffy singled, scored twice and had an RBI. Vill singled and scored once. Fitzharris singled and had three RBI. Yanni and Puerari each had an RBI single. Gabby Muretta (RBI) and Isabella Todaro each singled and scored once.

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# Union County Sr. Men's 50+ Softball League Standings:

**50+ A DIVISION:**

TEAM	W	L
Deegan Roofing	5	0
Linwood TapHouse	3	0
Phenomenal Boyz	5	1
Tad Pools	4	1
Douglas VW	2	3
Rocky's Bar & Grill	0	6

**50+ B DIVISION:**

TEAM	W	L
Linda's Driftwood	3	4
Suspenders	2	3
Core Fusion Solar	2	4
Thirsty Turtle	2	4
AJ Jersey	1	4

**Thirsty Turtle 19, Suspenders 6**  
Thirsty Turtle defeated Suspenders with a combination of great defense and explosive hitting. Eric Hastrup led the way with a booming double (3 RBI), Steve Owens (3-for-3, 3 runs, 3 RBI) while Carl Gamba and Dave Pringle also contributed 3 hits each to help lead the 24-hit attack.

**AJ Jersey 20, Linda's 18**  
AJ Jersey scored 10 runs in the top of the 6th to tie the game then plated 7 additional runs in the 7th and held on for the win. Rob Denner (5-for-5, 2-2Bs, 4 RBI) led AJ Jersey. Nick Nitti (4-for-5, 2 RBI), Craig Weinstein (4-for-5, 4 RBI), Steve Hobson, Chuck Serafin, Mark Marotta and Dave Ciarrocca had 3 hits each. Winning pitcher Juan Lisojo had 3 hits (double) and 2 RBI.

**Tad Pools 14, Rocky's Bar 7**  
Tom Korzenski (4-for-4); Brian Clark and Steve D'Amato (each 3-for-4), Neil Kaufman, Dave Eckart, Anderson Monzon, Tom Renna and Dave Dudas (2 hits each), while

Nick Simone, Sergio Brito and Joe Kilburg each collected a hit for Tad Pools.  
For Rocky's Frank Mastrocola (2-for-2, 2 RBI), Mike Valicky, Dave Grandmaison, Todd O'Reilly, Gary Roman, and Lou Mastropasqua (each 2 for 3).

**Deegan 12, Phenom Boyz 11**  
Deegan used a dramatic bottom of the 7th inning rally to plate 8 runs with two outs and stun the Phenomenal Boyz. John Segledi (4-for-4, game winning hit) and Nick Mennona (4-for-4) led the charge for the Roofers, while Marty Bernstein, Kevin Spellman and Scott Mugele each added multiple clutch hits.

**Douglas VW 17, Core Fusion Solar 2**  
The Douglas boy's offense came out of the shoot early. Lou Rivera (3 hits, HR); Mike Shriner, John Tropeano, Hector Munoz and Rich Gaul (3 hits each) led Deegan. The defensive shutdown was led by Al Genova and Lou Rivera.

**Tad Pools 19, AJ Jersey 9**  
Leading the hitting attack were Matt Kasper (4-for-4), Kevin Robinson (4-for-5); and collecting 3 hits were Brian Clark, Neil Kaufman, Steve D'Amato (HR) and Tom Renna (2B). Tom Korz, Sergio Brito, Steve Viz and Joe Kilburg added 2 hits each. Steve Wiz and Joe Kilburg each collected their first triples of the season.

**Phenom Boyz 8, Douglas VW 6**  
Douglas VW saw Lou Rivera lead a strong defense, but the offense was stuck in neutral all night. Collecting 2 hits were Lou Rivera, Luke Nacca and Dan Righetti

**Linwood TapHouse 19, Rocky's Bar 4**  
Linwood Taphouse had home runs from Chris Morrison, Ron Patterson and winning pitcher Mario Fastiggi. Bill Sharkey, Pat Barney, Tim Mulhall, Matt Hoynowski, Vincent Rappa, Erik Dunn and Christopher Jones contributed two or more hits each. Dave Martorano and Gary Roman each went 2-for-3 and added a home run each for Rocky's.

**Deegan 19, Thirsty Turtle 4**  
Deegan flexed their way to an 11-1 lead after two innings, then relied on strong pitching and defense. John Deitch pitched a great game and added 3 hits. Also contributing 3 hits were Nellie Santiago, Doug Fischer, John Segledi and Scott Mugele. Damon Roth launched a long HR and Tom Ulichny made the defensive play of the day in leftfield.

Thirsty Turtle's offense had Carl Gamba (3-for-3, 2B) while Steve Owens, Roy Alexander and Bob Ghiretti each had 2 hits.

**Core Fusion Solar 19, Linda's 6**

**USSL 70 DIVISION:**

TEAM	W	L
Mellow Yellow	3	1
Redd Foxxes	3	1
Green Machine	1	1
Purple Haze	1	3
Moody Blues	0	2

Purple Haze 13, Redd Foxxes 9  
Redd Foxxes 15, Purple Haze 14  
Green Machine 16, Mellow Yellow 13  
Mellow Yellow 15, Green Machine 2



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
**CLEARING THE HURDLE...Blue Devil Lily Norton clears the hurdle during the UCC Watchung Division meet in Berkeley Heights on May 12.**

## Blue Devil Boys Win Watchung

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9*

3, followed by Ava Morrison at 33-1.5. Rose Deeb took third in the pole vault with a height of 8-0.  
The Cougar boys placed second at 98 behind Rahway at 147 and Governor Livingston was fourth at 55. Ben Fossella won the shot put with a shove of 51-1. He also won the discus with a toss of 127-3. Declan Quigley was fourth in the javelin with a throw of 137-4. Liam Godwin won the long jump with a leap of 20-11-5, followed by Chris Moroses at 20-8-25. Godwin took second in the high jump with a height of 6-0. Owen Usinowicz took second in the triple jump with a distance of 42-1.5, followed by Godwin at 42-05. Usinowicz placed fourth in the pole vault with a height of 11-0.

Usinowicz finished third in the 400-hurdles at 1:00.61 and Charlie Otten was fifth at 1:02.28. Usinowicz also finished third in the 110-hurdles at 16.07. Ryan Lynskey finished third in the 100 dash at 11.45, followed by Ethan Schaufler at 11.47. Lynskey also finished fifth in the 200 at 23.26.

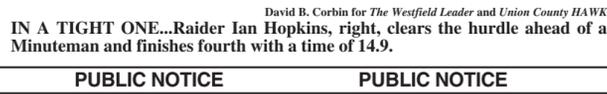
In the Valley girls division, the AL Johnson Crusaders took second with a total of 93. The jumps and the field events proved to be golden. Melissa Mitjans won the high jump at 4-10, followed by Shealyn Zawacki at 4-8. Mitjans also won the long jump with a leap of 16-6.5, followed by Zawacki at 15-9.5, while Leah Scepkowski was

fifth at 13-10. Sophia DiProffio took top honors in the javelin with a toss of 84-9, followed by Kaileigh Netland at 82-2. Victoria Hernandez was fourth at 75-7. Isabella Ciccotelli was third in the discus with a toss of 80-0 and Hernandez was sixth at 75-11. Ciccotelli was also second in the shot put with a shove of 28-10.5, followed by Jordano Tarentino at 27-5.

Scepkowski finished second in the 100-hurdles at 17.28 and Liz Brighthouse was fifth at 18.7. Zawacki finished sixth in the 100 dash at 13.39 and MacKenzie Thompson was sixth in the 400 at 1:06.07.

The ALJ boys took third with a total of 77.5. Kyle Gunionowski won the 800 in 2:07.47 and the 1,600 at 4:53.71. He also finished second in the 400-hurdles at 1:01.61 and third in the 3,200 at 11:34.44. Tim Ford was third in the 110-hurdles at 18.85. Brett Makowsky was fifth in the 100 dash at 11.83. Makowsky at 53.6 and Ken Cruz at 54.36 finished 4-5 in the 400.

Spencer Prusakowski took second in the long jump with a leap of 20-3. He also took third in the high jump with a clearance of 5-8. Steve Ciccotelli was fourth in the discus with a toss of 103-8 and Brandon Brown was sixth at 96-2. Brown was fourth in the javelin at 118-1 and Kevin Ingraham was fourth in the shot put with a shove of 39-1.25.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK  
**IN A TIGHT ONE...Raider Ian Hopkins, right, clears the hurdle ahead of a Minuteman and finishes fourth with a time of 14.9.**

# St. Bart's Men's Oldtimers Softball League Results:

**St. Anthony 7, St. Justin 3**  
"Commish" Jim Killeen led the opening ceremony, original pirate Tommy Maher tossed the first pitch and the 45th year of St. Bart's Oldtimers software was off and running. The same cannot be said for St. Justin batters who were stymied by the masterful pitching of St. Anthony's Gary "Lightning" Leichtling who scattered 10 hits over seven innings. Pete Chemidlin toed the rubber for St. Justin and did all he could to give his team a chance to win, including inducing a strikeout on a wicked knuckleball to work his way out of an early jam.

St. Anthony was led by Charlie "Huggy" Baier, "elcapitan" Bobby Camisa, Ross Alpert, Ron Bell, Vru Baboombian, Gary Leichtling, Donnie Rinaldo and Tony "Pineapple Pizza" Perconte who each racked up multiple hits. Matt Taylor and James Barba had multi-hit games for St. Justin.

**St. Vincent 6, St. Francis 5**  
St. Vincent jumped out to a 4-0 lead, surrendered the lead late in the game, but scored two runs in the sixth to prevail on Friday at Farley Road Park. The timeless veteran Frank Chupko, Erik "Nails" Hastrup, An-

drew Smyth and captain Keith Karyczak contributed key hits in the sixth inning rally. Hastrup (3-3), Karyczak (3 RBI) and Smyth led the offense for St. Vinny, while "Commish" Jim Killeen contributed with a multi-hit game. "Mr. Wonderful" Gus Alvarez and Joe LoBrace each had multiple hits for St. Francis.

**St. Sebastian 9, St. Ignatius 6**  
St. Sebastian ran off with the lead late in the game in a 9-6 victory over St. Ignatius on Friday at Brookside. St. Sebastian was down 3-2 in the bottom of the sixth inning when Rob "Zumba" Zerafa singled to knock in the first two of seven runs Sebastian would score in the frame. St. Ignatius scratched back with three in the seventh, but it was not enough and left Iggy captain questioning his late call to the bullpen.

John "Greenie" Greenblatt, Dan Brown, Zerafa, Mike Markowycz, and Lou Fraguas each had multiple hits for St. Sebastian. St. Ignatius saw the ball well, racking up 20 hits in the game. Liam Noble, Steve Pirella, Chris Paterek, Jack Kennedy, Tom Ulichny, Craig Middleton, McGuinness and Rick Wustfeld each racked up multiple hits for Iggy.

# Union County Sr. Men's 60+ Softball League Standings:

**60+ A DIVISION:**

TEAM	W	L	T
Linwood #2	4	1	1
Swan Hotel	4	1	1
Deegan Roofing 60	3	1	1
Linwood II	3	2	2
Awnings Galore	1	5	5
Rocky's Bar & Grill	1	6	6

**60+ B DIVISION:**

TEAM	W	L	T
NJ Govt Services	4	0	1
Yogi's Boys	3	1	1
Angry Joe's Apparel	3	2	2
Kenilworth VFW	2	4	4
DeBellis Associates	0	5	5

**Linwood Tap #12, Linwood II 11**  
Linwood Taphouse#2 led in the 7th. A Texas-league bloop single by Harold Zayas drove in Vance Barfield and Jeff Villani with the tying and go-ahead runs. Pitcher Jim Donaghue shined and went 3-3 at the plate.

**Awnings Galore 15, DeBellis 12**  
For Awnings, Billy Hillier, Frank Green (3B) and Rick Demsey went 3-3; Paul Newton (2B), Rich Polonitza (2B), Bruce Crawford and Pete Osborn contributed 2 hits apiece.

**Swan Hotel 6, Rocky's Bar & Grill 5**  
Swan turned 4 DPs and made a game-ending left field to second base force out. For the Swannies, Brian Latham, Doug Fischer, John Mazur, Jimmy Jimenez, Joe Difabio and Tom Baldowski had two hits each.

**NJGS 20, Angry Joe's 17 (8 Inn)**  
NJGS took a 7 run lead. Angry Joe's stormed back with 9 runs. NJGS scored 6 runs and secured the victory with a double play in the eighth. For NJGS, Steve Falco, Joe Attanasi, Danny Mendoza, Rich Conklin, Geno Raisley and Anthony Abbaleo had 2 hits each. Bill Moore and winning pitcher Anardo Calderon had 3 hits

each. For Angry Joe's, Gerard McDermott (4 Hits) and Gary Schaller and Kevin Carroll (3 hits each).

**Angry Joe's 15, Deegan Roofing 13**  
Leading Angry Joe's, Kerry Gelb (3 Hits, HR, 3B, 5 RBI). Gerard McDermott and Dave Rothenberg both had 3 Hits.

**Linwood Tap#2 20, Awnings 9**  
Multiple hits by Jim Donahue, Eddie Rodriguez, Jim Sydlow, Joe Menza and Joe Sarica led Linwood. For the Shadesters, Billy Hillier, Bruce Crawford, Rich Polonitza, Tommy Pasko, Rick Demsey and Tom Beninato (2 hits each). Frank Green and Paul Newton each doubled.

**Swan Motel 23, Kenilworth VFW 17**  
Doug Fischer relieved pitcher Jim Jimenez and shut down the VFW in the last 2 innings. For Swan, James "Knobby" Nardello (4-4, HR) and Slope Rzewuski (3-3, HR); Bryan Latham, Bernie MaGuire, Fischer, Marty Bernstein and Joe DiFabio (all with 3 hits). For VFW, Carey Durrett and Bob D'Meo (4 hits each); Tom DeRocco (3 hits) and Greg Hartnett, Ed Kleakny and Jose Santana added (2 hits apiece). In the 4th inning, Don Montefusco had a bases-loaded double.

**Yogi's Boy's 11, DeBellis Associates 8**  
Yogi's Boys came from behind due to the timely hitting of Jerry Riepe, Rich Pitonzo, Mike Kozlowski, Joe Kenny and Tim Thew, who all had two hits to lead the offense.

**Yogi's Boys 6, Kenilworth VFW 5**  
Kenilworth grabbed a 5-2 lead early but Yogi's Boys answered. Bobby D'Meo, Rory Caldwell, Jose Santana and Greg Hartnett each had 2 hits for Kenilworth VFW.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### UNION COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, please be advised that the Union County Insurance Fund Commission, a public entity established under N.J.S.A. 40A:10-6, has rescheduled its May 17, 2023 meeting to May 24, 2023. This meeting will begin at 10:00 AM. In adherence to the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government (DLGS) guidelines, the Insurance Commission Meeting will be open to the public by electronic means, and as such, will be conducted through a teleconference via ZOOM notice using the Call in Number: 312-626-6799, the Meeting ID: 584 916 8179 or https://permainc.zoom.us/j/5849168179. Official action will take place. Any member of the public wishing to participate in the teleconference meeting may do so by downloading Zoom to their individual electronic device. Members of the public who prefer not to, or do not have the means to participate in the teleconference, may continue to participate in the Insurance Commission meeting by e-mailing comments relative to any Commission issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the County to Jason Thorpe, jthorpe@permainc.com no later than noon of the day prior to the meeting date and, as is always the case, must include the public member's full name, and town of residence. All relevant comments received will be read into record during each Regular Meeting's Public Comment Portion. Agendas will be posted for the public's viewing on the Commission's official website at: http://ucifc.org. A copy of this notice has been filed with the office of the County Clerk.

By: PERMA Risk Management Services Administrator  
1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$39.27

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### TOWNSHIP OF CLARK NOTICE OF INTENTION

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the following ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey on Monday, May 15, 2023 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at a Regular Meeting at 315 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Monday, June 19, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, at which time and place all persons interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

#### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART II, CHAPTER 338, ENTITLED "TREES" OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Clark desires to amend Part II, Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark, to establish requirements for tree removal and replacement and penalties for noncompliance in the Township of Clark to protect the environment, public health, safety and welfare.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1. Definitions.** The following definitions be and hereby amend, supplement and are added to Article IV, Section 338-13, Part II, of Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark:

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Ordinance clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When consistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The use of the word "shall" means the requirement is always mandatory and not merely directory.

"Applicant" means any "person", as defined below, who applies for approval to remove trees regulated under this Ordinance.

"Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)" means the diameter of the trunk of a tree generally measured at a point four and a half feet above ground level from the downhill side of the tree.

"Tree of Significance" means any tree that is recognized by the municipal governing body or local historical organization(s) as being of significance due to its size, unique value, age, rarity, or the aesthetic, botanical, ecological, and historical value.

"Homeowner" means a person(s) who owns a residence.

"Nuisance tree" means any tree, or limb thereof, that has an infectious disease or insect, is dead or dying, obstructs the view of traffic signs or the free passage of pedestrians or vehicles, is causing obvious damage to structures (such as building foundations, sidewalks, etc.), or threatens public health, safety, or welfare.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, political subdivision of this State and any state, interstate or Federal agency.

"Planting strip" means the part of a street right-of-way between the abutting property line and the curb or traveled portion of the street, exclusive of any sidewalk.

"Street Tree" means a tree planted in the sidewalk or a planting strip in the public right-of-way.

"Tree" means a woody perennial plant, typically having a single stem or trunk growing to a considerable height and bearing lateral branches at some distance from the ground.

"Tree removal" means to kill or to cause irreparable damage that leads to the decline and/or death of a tree. This includes, but is not limited to, excessive pruning, application of substances that are toxic to the tree, and improper grading and/or soil compaction around the base of the tree that leads to the decline and/or death of a tree. Removal does not include responsible pruning and maintenance of a tree, or the application of tree treatments intended to manage invasive species.

**Section 2. Application and Replacement Requirements.** Article IV, Section 338-15, Part II, of Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark, be and hereby is repealed and is replaced by the following in its stead:

**A. Application Process.** Any person planning to remove a street tree with DBH of 2.5" or more or any non-street tree with DBH of 6" or more on their property shall submit a Tree Removal Application to the Director of Public Works. No tree shall be removed until the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission has reviewed and approved the Tree Removal Application.

**B. Tree Replacement Requirements.**  
1. Within a five-year period, any person who removes one or more street tree(s) with a DBH of 2.5" or more, unless exempt under subsection D of this Section 2 of this Ordinance, shall be subject to the requirements of the Tree Replacement Requirements Table below. Applicants will be subject to and must pay when applying, an application fee as per the Tree Replacement Requirements Table below.  
2. For Applicants, other than Homeowner.  
Within a five-year period, any person, other than a homeowner, who removes one or more tree(s) with a DBH of 6" or more per acre, unless exempt under subsection D of this

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Section 2 of this Ordinance, shall be subject to the requirements of the Tree Replacement Requirements Table below.

**3. For Homeowner Applicants.**  
Within a five-year period, any person that removes more than three (3) trees per acre that fall into categories 1, 2, or 3, combined, or any one (1) tree in categories 4 or 5 in the Tree Replacement Requirements table below, unless exempt under subsection D of this Section 2 of this Ordinance, shall be subject to the requirements of the Tree Replacement Requirements Table below.

4. The species type and diversity of replacement trees shall be in accordance with the approval of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission, in his or her discretion.

5. Replacement tree(s) shall meet the Required Actions in Table below, and shall be planted within twelve (12) months of the date of removal of the original tree(s). Replacement tree(s) shall be monitored by the applicant for a period of two (2) years to ensure their survival and shall be replaced as needed within twelve (12) months. Trees planted in temporary containers or pots do not count towards tree replacement requirements.

**Tree Replacement Requirements Table:**

Category	Tree Removed(DBH)	Required Action	Application Fee <i>(Municipality may choose to include and determine appropriate fees.)</i>
1	DBH of 2.5" (for street trees) or 6" (for other trees) to 12.99"	Replant 1 tree in accordance with the approval of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission, with a minimum DBH of 1.5" for each tree removed.	\$30.00
2	DBH of 3" to 22.99"	Replant 2 trees in accordance with the approval of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission, with minimum DBHs of 1.5" for each tree removed.	\$30.00
3	DBH of 23" to 32.99"	Replant 3 trees with minimum DBHs of 1.5" for each tree removed.	\$30.00
4	DBH of 33" or greater	Replant 4 trees with minimum DBHs of 1.5" for each tree removed.	\$30.00
5	Tree of Significance*	Replant 5 trees with minimum DBHs of 1.5" for each tree removed.	\$30.00

\*Tree of Significance removals shall be approved by the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

**C. Replacement Alternatives.**  
If the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission, determines that some or all required replacement trees cannot be planted on the property where the tree removal activity occurred, then the applicant shall do one of the following:

1. Plant replacement trees in a separate area(s) approved by the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

2. Pay a fee of \$375.00 per tree removed. This fee shall be placed into a fund dedicated to tree planting.

**D. Exemptions.**  
All persons shall comply with the tree replacement standard outlined above, except in the following cases. Proper justification shall be provided, in writing, to the municipality by all persons claiming one or more of the exemptions as set forth below:

1. Clearing, cutting, and/or removal of trees which is necessary to service, maintain, or ensure the continued safe use of a lawfully existing structure, right-of-way, field, park, and/or garden. The requirement of proper justification shall be met by submission of a written description certifying why the person needs to clear, cut, and/or remove trees to service, maintain, or ensure the continued safe use of a lawfully existing structure, right-of-way, field, park, and/or garden and photographs substantiating same to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

2. Tree farms in active operation, nurseries, fruit orchards, and garden centers. The requirement of proper justification shall be met by submission of a written description certifying the active lawful operation of a tree farm, nursery, fruit orchard, or garden center and photographs substantiating same, to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

3. Properties used for the practice of silviculture under an approved forest stewardship or woodland management plan. The requirement of proper justification shall be met by submission of a written description certifying that the property is used for the practice of silviculture under an approved forest stewardship or woodland management plan, copies

### PUBLIC NOTICE

of all such approvals thereof in writing and a written statement from licensed tree expert or arborist confirming such claim, to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Work or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

4. Any trees removed pursuant to a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved environmental clean-up, or NJDEP approved habitat enhancement plan. The requirement of proper justification shall be met by submission of a written description certifying that the property is subject to a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)-approved or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved environmental clean-up, or NJDEP-approved habitat enhancement plan, copies of all such approvals thereof in writing and a written statement from licensed tree expert or arborist confirming such claim, to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Work or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

5. Approved game management practices, as recommended by the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife. The requirement of proper justification shall be met by submission of a written description certifying that the property is subject to approved game management practices, as recommended by the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, copies of all such approvals and recommendations thereof in writing and a written statement from licensed tree expert or arborist confirming such claim, to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

6. Nuisance trees may be removed with no fee or replacement requirement. The requirement of proper justification shall be met by submission of a written description certifying that the trees targeted for removal are nuisance trees, photographs substantiating same and a written statement from licensed tree expert or arborist confirming such claim, to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission.

**Section 3. Enforcement and Penalties.** Article IV, Section 338-16, Part II, of Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark, be and hereby is repealed and is replaced by the following in its stead:

The Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission shall enforce this Ordinance. Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$875.00. The removal of a tree of significance is not subject to a fine limit, which shall be fixed by the Municipal Court of the Township of Clark in its discretion, but such fine shall in no event be less than \$875.00.

**Section 4. Removal of Trees from Commercial Lots.** Article V, Sections 338-17, 18 and 21, Part II, of Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark, be and hereby are repealed, and Section 338-22 be and hereby is repealed and is replaced by the following in its stead:

The Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission shall enforce this Ordinance. Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$875.00. The removal of a tree of significance is not subject to a fine limit, which shall be fixed by the Municipal Court of the Township of Clark in its discretion, but such fine shall in no event be less than \$875.00.

**Section 5. Protection of Trees in Clark Wildlife Preserve.** Article VI, Section 338-23, Part II, of Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark, be and hereby are repealed, and Section 338-23 be and hereby is amended and supplemented to state:

Any tree cut down or illegally removed in the Clark Wildlife Preserve and Habitat shall be replaced by the Township, at the cost of the offender, in accordance with Article IV, Sections 338-15(b)(4) and (5), Part II, of this Chapter 338.

Article VI, Sections 338-24, 25 and 26, Part II, of Chapter 338, entitled "Trees" of the Ordinances of the Township of Clark, be and hereby are repealed, and Section 338-27 be and hereby is repealed and is replaced by the following in its stead:

**Enforcement and Penalties.** The Director of Public Works or the Director of the Shade Tree Commission shall enforce this Ordinance. Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$875.00. The removal of a tree of significance is

SCOTCH PLAINS

Wednesday, May 10, Mark Oberlies, 62, of Scotch Plains was arrested subsequent to a court hearing. He was processed and transported to the Union County jail.

Thursday, May 11, a resident of Pine Terrace reported being the victim of fraud. The complainant stated that they had paid a contractor in full for some work to be done at their house and the contractor never showed back up. The matter is under investigation.

Friday, May 12, a resident of Valley Avenue reported a theft. Two unidentified individuals stole a catalytic converter from the victim's Honda. The matter is under investigation.

Friday, May 12, a resident of Montague Avenue reported a theft. An unidentified individual(s) stole a

POLICE BLOTTER

Your business can sponsor the Police Blotter Call 908-232-4407 or email sales@goleader.com

catalytic converter from the victim's Honda. The matter is under investigation.

Friday, May 12, a business on Route 22 reported an attempted fraud. An unknown individual contacted the store, claiming to be making a delivery to the business, but said they could not until they updated the credit card information for the store account.

Friday, May 12, a resident of Myrtle Avenue reported a threat. An unknown individual in a white BMW slowly drove by the resident's house and made a threat to shoot a resident. The matter is under investigation.

Saturday, May 13, Brian Kearney, 28, of Union was arrested subsequent to a motor vehicle stop and charged with driving under the influence. Kearney was transported to police headquarters, processed and released as per policy.

Monday, May 1, a resident of the 600 block of Fairmont Avenue reported being the victim of identity theft; specifically, that an unknown person(s) established a checking account at a financial institution in their name. The resident stated that they are unaware who opened the account without their authorization or what information was used to open the account. The victim reports no financial loss at this time.

Tuesday, May 2, a resident of the 300 block of East Dudley Avenue reported that unknown persons attempted to burglarize their motor vehicles while the vehicles were parked in their driveway. The individuals attempted to open the doors of the resident's vehicles; however, the doors were locked and no entry was gained. There were no items taken from the vehicles, nor was there any damage to either vehicle.

Wednesday, May 3, Westfield Police officers were dispatched to the area of Harrison Avenue and Raymond Street regarding the location of a stolen motor vehicle from another jurisdiction. Upon the initial arrival, an officer observed the vehicle in question stopped in front of a residence. This officer then observed a suspect from the rear of a residence run towards the awaiting vehicle. The suspect then entered the waiting vehicle and the vehicle fled the area. A subsequent investigation determined the suspect was on the property at the residence and had no lawful reason to be on the property. There was no damage to the residence or vehicles on the property, nor was entry gained to any vehicles on the property.

Friday, May 5, Keri Fitzgerald, 41, of Westfield was placed under arrest and charged with Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) subsequent to an on-scene investigation in the area of Central Avenue and Cacciola Place. She was transported directly to Westfield Police headquarters, where she was processed and released.

Saturday, May 6, a resident of the 100 block of South Euclid Avenue reported that an unknown person had called her pretending to be from PSE&G. This suspect attempted to gather credit card information for fraudulent use by claiming failure to pay would result in termination of services. The suspect was confirmed to not be affiliated with PSE&G.

Saturday, May 6, Lynda Bryant, 56, of Roselle was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence of Liquor or Drugs subsequent to a motor vehicle crash investigation in the area of Central and Lenox Avenues. She was transported directly to Westfield Police headquarters, where she was processed and released.

Monday, May 1, a resident of the 200 block of Linden Avenue reported being the victim of identity theft; specifically, that an unknown person(s) established a checking account at a financial institution in their name. The resident stated that they are unaware who opened the account without their authorization or how the information used was obtained. The victim reports no financial loss at this time.

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Monday, May 1, a resident of the 600 block of Fairmont Avenue reported being the victim of identity theft; specifically, that an unknown person(s) established a checking account at a financial institution in their name. The resident stated that they are unaware who opened the account without their authorization or what information was used to open the account. The victim reports no financial loss at this time.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD THE SMALL TOWN WITH A BIG HEART IS HAVING THEIR ANNUAL TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE! Saturday & Sunday June 10th & June 11th 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Rain or Shine For Shoppers, come have a fun day of shopping. List of participants and map will be available on garwood.org or you can pick up the list at: Borough Hall, 403 South Avenue. NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE!

To participate, you must register by June 8th, by calling 908-789-0710 or email kathleen@garwood.org

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-23000778 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-006450-21 Plaintiff: AJAX MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2019, MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES, SERIES: 2019-G, BY U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE VS. Defendant: JOSE M. RIOS; DONNA M. VALLARIO; PNC BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; MIDLAND FUNDING LLC; AMERICAN EXPRESS NATIONAL BANK; J.W. PIERSON COMPANY; STATE OF NEW JERSEY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF DECISION PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 7:30 P.M., at virtual public hearing, the Planning Board of the Township of Scotch Plains ("Board"), adopted a Resolution of Approval granting a development application in connection with property located at 365 Park Avenue, Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, State of New Jersey, 07076 and further designated as Block 1601, Lot 7 on the Tax Map of the Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, State of New Jersey ("Property").

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WATCHUNG ESTATE SALE 305 Ridge Road Saturday 5/20 - Sunday 5/21 10am - 3pm Packed House of a Longtime Collector, Furniture, Lamps, Artwork, Pottery, Glassware, China, Kitchenware, Vintage Stove, Books, Records, Holiday Decorations, Clothing, Linens, Costume Jewelry, Garden Tools, and Much More. Still Unpacking. Masks Required for Entry. Please Email Ahead for a Saturday am Entry Number. For Pics and Info DovetailsUSA.com

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-23000858 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-007413-22 Plaintiff: CSMC 2018-RPL10 TRUST VS. Defendant: ALLYSON GIALLUISI A/K/A ALLYSON L. GIALLUISI; PETER GIALLUISI; PNC BANK F/K/A NATIONAL CITY BANK; STATE OF NEW JERSEY; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE IS HEREBY that the following Resolution No. 2023-406 was adopted by the Union County Board of County Commissioners at their Regular Meeting held on Thursday May 11, 2023.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE IS HEREBY that the following Resolution No. 2023-406 was adopted by the Union County Board of County Commissioners at their Regular Meeting held on Thursday May 11, 2023.

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TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT The Board of Adjustment of the Town of Westfield, New Jersey will hold a meeting on June 12, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey to hear and consider the following appeals for bulk (c) and/or (d) variance relief from requirements of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance. Formal action may be taken.

ZBA 22-035 - Marinus Perdon, 415 Wells Street, Block: 3402, Lot: 10. Applicant is seeking to construct a deck in the rear yard of dwelling off of an existing back door contrary to following section(s) of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance(s): Section 12.04F2 where the maximum building and above-grade structures coverage including decks permitted is 22%/1,248.2 square feet and the proposed is 25.5% or 1,587 square feet; Section 12.04F3 where the maximum building and above-grade structures coverage including decks and porches is 24%/1,498 and proposed is 26.39%/1,647 square feet; and, Section 11.09E6 where the minimum side yard required is 10 feet and proposed is 5.8 feet.

ZBA 23-06 - Michael Crotty, 554 Lawrence Avenue, Block: 1104, Lot: 8. Applicants are seeking to upgrade the rear outside areas of the property which include reconstructing the pool and patio with a new layout design. The driveway will also be reconstructed to include a pull-off area near the side entrance of dwelling contrary to following section(s) of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance(s): Section 12.04G where the maximum improvement coverage permitted is 30%/8,794 square feet and proposed is 33.8%/9,907 square feet; and, Section 17.05A where the maximum driveway width permitted is 24 feet and proposed is 25 feet and 36.5 feet.

ZBA 23-02 - Lizette Edelman, 510 Topping Hill Road, Block: 1409, Lot: 18. Applicants are seeking to remove a rear screened porch and construct a first-floor addition for a mudroom behind an existing garage, to construct a second-floor addition which will add a fourth bedroom and master bath, and to construct a front covered porch along with other various upgrades to the existing dwelling contrary to following section(s) of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance(s): Section 12.04F3 where the maximum building coverage with porch permitted is 24%/1,751 square feet and proposed is 24.74%/1,805 square feet; Section 11.08E13 where the maximum continuous side wall permitted is 25 feet and proposed is left side 32.3 feet and right side 35.5 feet. Section 12.03D where the required front yard setback is 33.1 feet

PUBLIC NOTICE and proposed is 27 feet, Section 11.08E6 where the minimum side yard setback permitted is 10 feet and proposed is left side 8.5 feet and right side 7.25 feet; and, Section 12.04F1 where the building and above-grade structures permitted is 20%/1,459 square feet and proposed is 22.68%/1,655 square feet.

ZBA 23-09 - Ben & Lauren Pearlman, 304 Roanoke Road, Block: 406, Lot: 35. Applicants are seeking to install a 6 feet black aluminum wrought iron-style fence surrounding their pool contrary to following section(s) of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance(s): Section 13.02D5 where the pool enclosure and screening required is a 6 feet stockade, board-on-board or other solid fence, but not a chain-link, and proposed is a 6 feet open-style fence.

ZBA 23-20 - Gotschalk/Bjorn Oddense, 805 Ramapo Way, Block: 605, Lot: 7. Applicants are seeking to construct a swimming pool in their yard. The lot size, while conforming, is an irregular pie-shaped lot with the dwelling located close to what is viewed as a side yard/rear yard. Despite the removal of superfluous pavement, coverage will increase slightly creating a new nonconforming condition and exacerbating an existing nonconforming condition contrary to the following sections of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance: Section 12.04F1 where the maximum coverage by building and above-grade structures permitted is 15% but not above 4,000 square feet and proposed is 15.1%/4,599 square feet; Section 12.04G where the maximum coverage by all improvements permitted is 30%/9,156.5 square feet and proposed is 31.9%/9,755.8 square feet; Section 12.08H where the required retaining wall setback permitted is a distance of at least 1 foot for each foot of height of the retaining wall from the property line and proposed is a 2.9 feet retaining wall setback 1.2 feet, and, Section 13.02D3 where the swimming pool setback required at side yard is 15 feet and proposed is 1.8 feet.

In addition, the applicant(s) request any other variances, waivers, exceptions or other relief that may be necessary or that the Board of Adjustment may deem appropriate as evidenced by the plans now on file or as may be modified at the request of the Board of Adjustment in connection with the subject properties. All plans and documents relating to these applications are posted online on the Town's website at www.westfieldnj.gov or available to view in the office of Planning and Zoning, 959 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey and may be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Maria Rose Breien Secretary, Board of Adjustment 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$112.71

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF INTENTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey on Monday, May 15, 2023 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at a Regular Meeting at 315 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Monday, June 19, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, at which time and place all persons interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LAND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK TO BE SOLD AT PRIVATE SALE IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(B)(5)

WHEREAS, the Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey, has determined that certain municipally-owned land designated as Block 76, Lot 4, on the Tax Map of the Township of Clark (hereinafter the "subject property" or the "property"), consisting of one undersized vacant parcel of land, is no longer necessary for municipal purposes and as such shall be sold at private sale in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5), and

WHEREAS, the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq., authorizes the sale by municipalities of any real property, capital improvement, or personal property no longer needed for public use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the Township of Clark that the subject property shall be sold by private sale. The property is being sold by the Township "as is".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) and with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.2, the subject property is being offered to the adjacent property owners as it is an undersized lot.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, the following terms and conditions shall apply: SECTION 1:

- 1. The subject property being sold is subject to the express condition that it shall be added to and become a part of the adjacent lands of the purchaser and it shall for all future purposes be considered as one parcel.
2. The Township Council reserves the right to reject all bids.
3. The minimum bid the Township will consider is \$65,000.00, plus the other costs and expenses set forth hereinbelow, and agrees that deed shall be recorded by the purchaser.
4. All bids shall be submitted as sealed bids clearly indicating on the face of the envelope that it is a "Bid for Block 76, Lot 4," on the date that is twenty (20) days after date of advertisement of sale (or if such date falls on a nationally-recognized Federal or State holiday or on a weekend, on the immediately preceding business day) required by N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) by no later than 10:00 a.m.
5. Potential Bidders are advised:
A. To conduct all necessary title searches prior to the date that the bids are due.
B. That the description of the property is intended as a general guide only and may not be accurate. No representations or

warranties of any kind are made by the Township of Clark as to the conditions of the property; as the premises are being sold in their present conditions "as-is," and all representations or warranties hereby are disclaimed and excluded from such sale.

C. That the sale is made subject to all applicable laws, statutes, rules, regulations and ordinances of the United States, the State of New Jersey and the Township of Clark.

D. That no employee, agent or officer of the Township of Clark has any authority to waive, modify or amend any of the conditions of the sale.

E. That offers for the property must be made for a sum equal to or greater than the minimum bid price of \$65,000.00.

F. The property will be conveyed by a Quit Claim Deed and such conveyance shall be subject to all covenants, restrictions, reservations, easements and other matters established of record or by prescription and without representation or warranty as to character of title of the property to be conveyed, and to such state of facts as an accurate survey may reveal.

6. Additional Terms the Successful Bidder must comply with:

A. Bidder shall deposit cash, official bank check, cashier's check or money order in the amount of not less than 10% of the bid price within ten (10) days of notice of acceptance of such bidder's bid, time being of the essence (or if such date falls on a nationally-recognized Federal or State holiday or on a weekend, on the immediately preceding business day). In the event the bidder fails to timely deposit 10% of the bid price, the Township may re-auction the subject property.

B. The property purchased shall be merged with the bidder's existing property.

C. The successful bidder shall pay at the time of closing: (1) the balance of the purchase price, (2) any and all recording fees, including without limitation, the cost of recording deeds and agrees that deeds and any other documents and instruments to be recorded shall be recorded by the purchaser, (3) all legal fees attributable to the auction and sale, including but not limited to, the cost of preparation of all legal documents, (4) the advertising costs relating to each property, and (5) the realty transfer fees and any mansion taxes or fees.

D. To pay prorated real estate taxes for the balance of the current year as of the date of closing.

E. To abide by appropriate zoning, subdivision, health and building regulations and codes and stipulate that this sale will not be used as grounds to support any variance from the regulations.

F. That the failure to close title as agreed shall forfeit to the Township of Clark any and all money deposited with the Township.

G. That the purchase price shall not be used before any County Board of Taxation, Tax Court of New Jersey, or in any court of this State as grounds to support a challenge of the existing assessments with regard to other property.

H. That the title shall close at 10:30 am on the date that is sixty (60) days after the date of notice of acceptance of such successful bidder's bid (or if such date falls on a nationally-recognized Federal or State holiday or on a weekend, on the next succeeding business day), in Room 24 at the Township Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey,

Township Clerk 1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$209.61

PUBLIC NOTICE 07066, and that date shall be considered time of the essence.

I. The Township reserves the right to waive the requirement that two or more pieces of contiguous property be merged and treated as one piece of property.

J. The Township reserves the right to withdraw the offer of sale and reject any and all bids.

K. All sales are subject to final approval by the Township Council.

L. Parties interested in submitting bids and who require additional information, should contact EDITH L. MERKEL, RMC, Township Clerk, Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey, 07066.

7. The Township does not warrant or certify title to the property and in no event shall the Township of Clark be liable for any damages to the purchaser/successful bidder if title is found unmarketable for any reason and the purchaser/successful bidder waives any and all right in damages or by way of liens against the Township, the sole remedy being the right to receive a refund, prior to closing, of the deposit paid in the event title is found unmarketable. It shall be the obligation of the successful purchaser to examine title to the premises prior to bidding but no later than the closing. In the event of closing and a later finding of defect of title, the Township shall not be responsible for the same, shall not be required to refund money or correct any defect in title or be held liable for damages.

8. Acceptance of the bids shall constitute a binding agreement of sale, and the purchaser shall be deemed to agree to comply with the terms of conditions of the sale herein contained.

9. The sale is subject to all of the terms and conditions as provided for in the Notice of Sale.

SECTION 2: CONSTRUCTION: Where consistent with the context in which used in this ordinance, words importing the singular shall include the plural; words importing the plural shall include the singular; and words importing one gender shall include all other genders.

SECTION 3: INCONSISTENCY: Should any provision of this ordinance be inconsistent with the provisions of any prior ordinances, the inconsistent provisions of said prior ordinances are hereby repealed, but only to the extent of such inconsistencies.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY: In the event that any provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this ordinance which may be given effect and, to realize this intent, the provisions and applications of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 5: PURPOSE OF CAPTIONS: Captions contained in this ordinance have been inserted only for the purpose of facilitating reference to the various sections, and are not intended and shall not be utilized to construe the intent and meaning of the text of any section.

SECTION 6: EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication and in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk 1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$209.61

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY that the following Resolution No. 2023-408 was adopted by the Union County Board of County Commissioners at their Regular Meeting held on Thursday May 11, 2023.

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Union County Commissioners BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Union, that by a majority vote of the full membership it does hereby adopt the attached statement of revenues and appropriations, as the Calendar Year 2023 Budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-10 the Clerk of the Board shall transmit 3 certified copies of the Budget to the Director of Local Government Services within 3 days after adoption and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A

# Garwood Kids Speak For The Trees On Arbor Day

GARWOOD — Arbor Day was celebrated in Garwood by planting new Eastern Redbud trees at Lincoln and Washington Schools. Led by Mayor Jennifer Blumenstock and Shade Tree Board members Robert Bilyeu and Bill Nierstedt, the first planting was completed with the assistance of the Westfield YMCA preschoolers who participated in an indoor discussion about trees and

their benefits — oxygen, flowers, fruit, shade and beauty — to humans and animals alike. The students then walked outside where three new trees were planted to replace previous trees that had died. Students were shown the proper way to plant trees, and were asked to tell ask their caregivers to plant trees at home in celebration of Arbor Day.

The planting scene then changed to Mrs. Florio's and Ms. Storti's third grade classes at Lincoln School who also participated in a tree discussion but with slightly larger words and concepts. Words like "habitat" and "ecosystem" suddenly appeared! Questions about tree life cycles, tree benefits regarding society at large and advanced tree planting techniques were discussed. A new Eastern Redbud was also planted.

All of the trees were obtained through the Union County 'Free Trees for Schools' Program in which Garwood has been lucky enough to participate for a number of years. So much so that Lincoln School may be running out of tree planting locations soon! All students reviewed the purpose behind 'The Lorax' which shows in Dr Seuss' magical wording how important trees are. Students also viewed pictures of the oldest living trees (Giant Sequoias), and the widest Live Oak. With climate change upon us, and tree planting being an easy way to regain our planet's health, the Shade Tree Board, Union County, and Garwood students will continue to work together to plant more trees and encourage others to do so too. That means you, says The Lorax!

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### Third Place Best Local News In the Country

National Newspaper Association Foundation 2021 Better Newspaper Contest

### PUBLIC NOTICE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK NOTICE OF INTENTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey on Monday, May 15, 2023 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at a Regular Meeting at 315 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Monday, June 19, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, at which time and place all persons interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 347 ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" SECTION 27 ENTITLED "PARKING PROHIBITED DURING CERTAIN HOURS" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Clark, County of Union, New Jersey that the following Section of Chapter 347 of the Code of the Township of Clark entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" is hereby amended and supplemented in the following particulars:

**SECTION 1:** Section 347-27 entitled "Parking prohibited during certain hours" is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

Name of Street	Side	Days	Hours	Location
Lupine Way	West	All	8:00 am to 9:00 pm	From Runnymede Road to Oleander Way
Westfield Ave.	South	Wednesdays, except holidays	6:00 am to 8:00 am	From Bartell Place to Madison Hill Road

**SECTION 2: Inconsistent Ordinances:** Any ordinances of the Township of Clark which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 3: Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication, according to law.

Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk Fee: \$64.26

1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk

### PUBLIC NOTICE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD 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 Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on May 11, 2023. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Borough Council to be held at its meeting room in the Municipal Building, 403 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey, on May 25, 2023 at 7:00 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:

#### BOND ORDINANCE NO. 23-11

**TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$165,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

The purposes, appropriations and bonds/notes authorized in this multipurpose bond ordinance are as follows:

#### SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS, PURPOSES AND AMOUNTS

A. Acquisition of a storage container and installation thereof at the Department of Public Works ("DPW") Yard.			
Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 16,000		
Down Payment Appropriated		\$ 770	
Bonds and Notes Authorized		\$ 15,230	
Period of Usefulness		15 years	
B. Acquisition of a new automotive vehicle, including original apparatus and equipment, consisting of a pickup truck for the use of the Police Department.			
Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 43,000		
Down Payment Appropriated		\$ 2,100	
Bonds and Notes Authorized		\$ 40,900	
Period of Usefulness		5 years	
C. Acquisition of new additional or replacement equipment and machinery for the use of the Fire Department consisting of (i) turnout gear and (ii) emergency escape system equipment.			
Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 22,000		
Down Payment Appropriated		\$ 1,100	
Bonds and Notes Authorized		\$ 20,900	
Period of Usefulness		5 years	
D. Acquisition of a new automotive vehicle, including original apparatus and equipment, consisting of a utility vehicle with attachments for the use of the DPW.			
Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 45,000		
Down Payment Appropriated		\$ 2,170	
Bonds and Notes Authorized		\$ 42,830	
Period of Usefulness		5 years	
E. Undertaking of various exterior and interior improvements to the Municipal Building, the Fire House and the DPW Building. It is hereby determined and stated that said public buildings being improved are of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law").			
Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 39,000		
Down Payment Appropriated		\$ 1,860	
Bonds and Notes Authorized		\$ 37,140	
Period of Usefulness		15 years	

Aggregate Appropriation and Estimated Cost \$165,000  
Aggregate Down Payment Appropriated \$ 8,000  
Aggregate Amount of Bonds and Notes Authorized \$157,000

**Grants (if any) Appropriated: -0-**  
**Section 20 Costs: \$6,000**  
**Useful Life: 8-33 years**

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.

Catherine D. Cameron  
Registered Municipal Clerk  
Borough of Garwood  
County of Union  
State of New Jersey  
Fee: \$137.70

1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk

### PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE: 2023-06-S

**CALENDAR YEAR 2023 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

The purpose of this ordinance is to in the CY 2023 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Fanwood shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$74,983.47, and that the CY 2023 municipal budget for the Borough of Fanwood be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that this ordinance was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of Fanwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on **May 15, 2023**. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at Borough Hall, Council/Court Chambers, 75 North Martine Avenue, New Jersey, on **June 5, 2023** or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard at which time and place public hearing will be held prior to final passage of said ordinance and all persons will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning the same; at any time and place to which the meeting for the further consideration of the ordinance shall be adjourned. 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 Municipal Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same.

By order of the Borough of Fanwood, Union County, New Jersey.

Rayna E. Harris  
Deputy Clerk  
1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$42.33

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD

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 Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on May 11, 2023. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Borough Council to be held at its meeting room in the Municipal Building, 403 South Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey, on May 25, 2023 at 7:00 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:

#### BOND ORDINANCE NO. 23-10

**TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE 2023 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$695,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

**Purpose(s):** Resurfacing of the following roads in the Borough as the 2023 Road Improvement Project (including tree planting and storm and sanitary sewer, sidewalk, curb and driveway apron improvements, where necessary):

- Fifth Avenue (from Cedar Street to dead end)
- Locust Avenue (from Center Street to East Street)
- Maple Street (from North Avenue to Fourth Avenue)
- Second Avenue (from Walnut Street to Cedar Street)

Depending upon the contract price and other exigent circumstances, and upon approval by the Borough Council, there may be additions to or deletions from the above list.

**Appropriation:** \$695,000  
**Bonds/Notes Authorized:** \$365,000  
**Grants (if any) Appropriated:** \$330,000  
**Section 20 Costs:** \$85,000  
**Useful Life:** 10 years

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.

Catherine D. Cameron  
Registered Municipal Clerk  
Borough of Garwood  
County of Union  
State of New Jersey  
Fee: \$80.58

1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY COUNTY OF UNION OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK 8 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY 07016 PHONE 908-709-7210 FAX 908-276-4859 EMAIL: p-donahue@cranfordnj.org**

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS FOR HOME ELEVATION PROJECT (CFDA#97.029) FMA-PJ-02-NJ-2017-005**

The Township of Cranford is soliciting sealed bids through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Township Clerk of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Municipal Building, located at 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 on **Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, and publicly opened with the contents of same publicly announced for:

**HOME ELEVATION PROJECT (CFDA#97.029) FMA-PJ-02-NJ-2017-005**

Beginning on **Thursday, May 18, 2023**, submission packages may be obtained at the Township Clerk's Office, (908) 709-7210, during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, or by downloading the documents on the Township's website: <https://www.cranfordnj.org/bids>. **Registration on the Township's website is required.**

Respondents shall comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27. A copy of your New Jersey Business Registration Certificate shall be included with your proposal.

Sealed bids shall be enclosed in opaque sealed envelopes, plainly marked, "Home Elevation Project" and shall show the name and address of the bidder. Bid responses shall contain: one original, one hard copy and one digital copy (i.e., USB stick or thumb drive) of the submission. Bids may be hand delivered to the Clerk's Office in the Municipal Building or may be forwarded by personal service, certified mail, U.S. Post and other mail delivery services. If mailed, the sealed envelope containing the bid and marked as directed above, must be enclosed in another envelope properly addressed for mailing as follows:

Patricia Donahue, RMC  
c/o June 15th Bid Opening  
Home Elevation Project  
Township Clerk  
Township of Cranford  
Municipal Building  
8 Springfield Avenue  
Cranford, New Jersey 07016

# Westfield PD To Participate In Safe Space Initiative

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Police Department has recently announced its participation in the Safe Place Initiative, a program brought to Union County by Union County Prosecutor William Daniel.

Safe Place was first developed by the Seattle Police Department in 2015 as an effort to reduce LGBTQ+ bias incidents and hate crimes, but it has grown exponentially since its inception and now includes all forms of hate and bias incidents, as well as student bullying.

Safe Place is a partnership between law enforcement, area businesses, and organizations. It promotes a zero-tolerance policy toward discrimination and advances a shared commitment to providing for the safety and security of all persons.

The Westfield Police Department is asking area business and organizations to display the unique Safe Place shield designating their establishment as a safe place for victims of bias, harassment, discrimination, bullying, or hate crimes to find shelter while calling 9-1-1 for help. The Safe Place Initiative is symbolized by a rainbow-colored shield and has been adopted by more than 300 law enforcement jurisdictions throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. Union County is the first county worldwide to collectively execute the program, with all 25 Union County law enforcement agencies in the county committed to participating in the program.

"The Westfield Police Department is excited to join Union County's other law enforcement agencies in bringing the Safe Place Initiative to

the community it serves," stated Westfield Police Chief Christopher Battiloro. "It is our hope that every Westfield business and organization will join us in making this initiative successful and helping to ensure that those who live and visit Westfield feel safe and supported at all times."

The Safe Place Initiative is not intended for residential use. There is no cost to area businesses and organizations to participate. For more information on this program, please visit [www.wpdnj.org/safeplace](http://www.wpdnj.org/safeplace).

To participate in the Safe Place Initiative, or to request program materials, area businesses and organizations can contact Detective Elizabeth Savnik of the Westfield Police Department's Juvenile & Community Policing Bureau by telephone at 908-789-6078 or e-mail at [esavnik@wpdnj.org](mailto:esavnik@wpdnj.org).

### PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE: 2023-07-S

NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of Fanwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on May 15, 2023. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at the Municipal Building, at 75 North Martine Avenue, in the Borough of Fanwood, on June 5, 2023 at 7:00 o'clock PM. 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 PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$2,070,000 FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS FOR AND BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AND, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,279,650 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION.**

**Purpose(s):** Road improvements to Robin Road, Oak Court and Willoughby Road, including curbing and drainage and paving striping at the South Avenue Train Station; Various improvements to Borough Property, including but not limited to Forest Road Park Shelter, Fire House Kitchen, Police Station ADA and parking lot lights; and Acquisition of various Borough equipment, including but not limited to police sport utility vehicles, hand guns, front end loader, Toro ground mater and replacement of stand salt spreader.

**Appropriation:** \$2,070,000  
**Bonds/Notes Authorized:** \$1,279,650  
**Grants (if any) Appropriated:** \$500,000 expected to be received as a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation in connection with the road improvements for Robin Road, Oak Court and Willoughby Road described; (b) \$60,000 expected to be received as a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation in connection with the Forest Road Park Shelter; and (c) \$203,000 expected to be received as a grant from the American Rescue Plan.  
**Section 20 Costs:** \$122,500  
**Useful Life:** 15.81 Years

By order of the Borough of Fanwood, Union County, New Jersey

Rayna E. Harris  
Deputy Clerk  
Borough of Fanwood  
County of Union  
State of New Jersey  
Fee: \$64.26

1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$64.26

### PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE: 2023-09-S

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53(D) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,600 FOR PREPARATION OF A MASTER PLAN.**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Fanwood, in the County of Union, New Jersey that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53:

- The sum of \$99,600 is hereby appropriated for preparation of a master plan, including but not limited to land use elements, historic preservation elements and green building and environmental sustainability elements and shall be deemed a special emergency appropriation as defined and provided for in N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53(d).
- The authorization to finance the appropriation shall be provided for in succeeding annual budgets by the inclusion of at least 1/5 of the amount authorized pursuant to this act (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-55).
- This ordinance shall take effect as provided by law.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that this ordinance was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of Fanwood, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on **May 15, 2023**. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at Borough Hall, Council/Court Chambers, 75 North Martine Avenue, New Jersey, on **June 5, 2023** or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard at which time and place public hearing will be held prior to final passage of said ordinance and all persons will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning the same; at any time and place to which the meeting for the further consideration of the ordinance shall be adjourned. 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 Municipal Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same.

By order of the Borough of Fanwood, Union County, New Jersey

Rayna E. Harris  
Deputy Clerk  
1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$54.06

1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$54.06

### PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LAND

- BLOCK 7303, LOT 7, - 2404 PARK PLACE; AND
- BLOCK 7303, LOT 8, - 2406 PARK PLACE; AND
- BLOCK 7303, LOT 30, - 845 SIMS AVENUE; AND
- BLOCK 7303, LOT 31 - 843 SIMS AVENUE; AND
- BLOCK 7303, LOT 32, - 841 SIMS AVENUE

**TAKE NOTICE**, that the Township of Scotch Plains shall conduct a public sale of land known as

- Block 7303, Lot 7, - 2404 Park Place; and
- Block 7303, Lot 8, - 2406 Park Place; and
- Block 7303, Lot 30, - 845 Sims Avenue; and
- Block 7303, Lot 31 - 843 Sims Avenue; and
- Block 7303, Lot 32, - 841 Sims Avenue on the Township Tax map, on the following terms and conditions:

1. The Township shall offer the Property for sale to a purchaser who shall agree to continue its use as lots that are located in the R-3 Zone; and are conforming and meet the minimum lot size required in that zone; and

2. The Township further reserves the right to reject all bids where the highest bid is not accepted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

3. The conveyance of the property shall contain a reverter clause so that if the Property, at any time after the sale, ceases to be operated and utilized in accordance with the sale terms, title to the Property shall revert back to the Township.

4. The Township Manager or designee shall conduct an open public sale at auction offering the property for sale at a minimum bid of \$240,000 for Block 7303, Lot 7; a minimum bid of \$240,000 for Block 7303, Lot 8; a minimum bid of \$240,000 for Block 7303, Lot 30; a minimum bid of \$240,000 for Block 7303, Lot 31; and a minimum bid of \$240,000 for Block 7303, Lot 32. The successful bidder shall be required to pay a 10% deposit by certified funds within 10 days of the auction. Payment in full shall be due by certified funds on the date of closing and conveyance by Deed of the property to the successful bidder and pursuant to all terms contained within Ordinance 2023-8 authorizing the sale of the properties.

5. The public sale conducted by auction shall take place in Court Room in the Township Municipal Building at Scotch Plains, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, on the 1st day of June 2023 - 10:00 A.M.

6. Any interested party has the opportunity to perform their own sub-soil test exploration/investigation prior to the auction. The Township must be notified of the date prior to any testing by calling 908-322-6700 ext 244 or emailing [fdinzie@scotchplainsnj.com](mailto:fdinzie@scotchplainsnj.com). The party is also responsible for restoring any of the disturbed area to its original condition.

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

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

BOZENA LACINA, RMC  
Municipal Clerk  
1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$73.44

### PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE TO BIDDERS ADDENDUM TO BID

The Township of Cranford has issued Addendum No. 1 in association with the bid publicly advertised on March 16, 2023 for the **Purchase of Solid Waste Collection Services (Purchase of Garbage Removal Service for Municipal Buildings and Grounds)** in order to address changes in the quantity and schedule of the collection.

The addendum is available for public inspection at the Township Clerk's Office at the Township of Cranford Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 between 8:30 and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Mike Robinson  
Purchasing Agent

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**PURCHASE OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES (Purchase of Garbage Removal Service for Municipal Buildings and Grounds)**

**Addendum No. 1 May 10th, 2023**

Mike Robinson  
Purchasing Agent

**To All Prospective Bidders:**

To indicate receipt of this Addendum No. 1, please sign this cover sheet of Addendum No. 1 and mail to the Township of Cranford Purchasing Agent at 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, or submit with you bid proposal package.

**RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGED:**

Contractor (Firm Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor (Name of Person Acknowledging) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor's Contact Information  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDENDUM #1: PURCHASE OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES (PURCHASE OF GARBAGE REMOVAL SERVICE FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS)**

1: Section 5.2 has been revised:

**5.2. COLLECTION SCHEDULE**  
A. All municipal buildings shall be serviced 1-3 times per week, according to the attached Table 1. However, the pickup schedule must be no more often than every other day. Litter receptacles shall be serviced three (3) times per week. Bidder shall submit with his bid his suggested pickup schedule for each location, specifying the approximate hour and days of the week for each location. During the month of April through October, litter receptacles must be picked up on Saturday. Saturday must be one of the three days that the litter receptacles are picked up.

2: A four 32 gallon can has been added to Buchanan Park. The total amount of 32 gallon cans on the Southside has increased to 76, making the total for the Township 154.

3: The bid acceptance date has been postponed until June 1st. Bids will now be accepted on June 1st at 11:00 a.m.

1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$72.93

Welcome to Our Neighborhood

Brought to you by Susan Massa CRS 908-400-0778



KW KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

Susan@susanmassa.com www.NJHomeShowcase.com

14 Homes Sold May 6 - May 13, 2023 in Berkeley Heights, Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, New Providence, Scotch Plains, Summit and Westfield

Table with columns: TOWN, ADDRESS, STYLE, RMS, BRS, BTH, LIST PRICE, SALE PRICE. Lists various properties and their sale details.

\*Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield, NJ data according to the Garden State MLS, as of 5/6/23 - 5/13/23. Featured properties may not have been listed or sold by the office/agent presenting this data.

For more information on these or other real estate matters, contact Susan Massa Broker CRS SRES ABR at 908-400-0778, susan@susanmassa.com or susanmassa2@gmail.com.

Astronomy Day Is Saturday At Trailside, Observatory

MOUNTAINSIDE/CRANFORD— Amateur Astronomers, Inc. (AAI) and the North Jersey Astronomical Group will present Astronomy Day this Saturday, May 20, featuring both daytime and evening activities.

Cranford. The program will feature the James Webb Telescope, with observing through two of the largest public telescopes in the Northeast.

Arts on the Lawn on Tap This Saturday at WHS

WESTFIELD— A celebration of Arts on the Lawn will be held this Saturday, May 20, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the front lawn of Westfield High School (WHS).

Previously called Jazz on the Lawn in 2022, the event has been expanded to include a variety of performances.

Attendees are invited to bring their own lawn chairs and their appetites, as food trucks with multiple offerings also will be on hand.

dance lessons from the Arthur Murray Dance Center of Cranford, beginning at 2 p.m.

"We are particularly excited about our collaboration with the Westfield High School art teacher Leah Jarvis," said WHS Band Director Chris Vitale.

The roster of performers is as follows:

The McKinley School Ukuleliens. The Edison Intermediate School Jazz Band.

The Roosevelt Intermediate School Jazz Band.

The Roosevelt Intermediate School Afternoon Ramble.

The Westfield High School Jazz 1 and Jazz 2 Bands.

The Westfield High School Men's Chorus.

The Westfield High School Blue Devil Trebles.

The Westfield High School Choraleers.

Arts on the Lawn will occur rain or shine. There is no rain date for this event.

Mr. McClintock to Discuss Ancestor's Naval Career

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood will welcome local author William McClintock, Jr. to its meeting on Tuesday, May 23, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. McClintock will discuss his great-great-grandfather, Commodore Reigart Bolivar Lowry, a member of the first graduating class of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and a career naval officer who served in the U.S. Navy from 1840 to 1880.

in which Commodore Lowry served and the politics and corruption that he and his fellow naval officers encountered as they sought to prevent a captain with less seniority from being promoted ahead of them.

A resident of Scotch Plains since 1981, Mr. McClintock earned a bachelor's degree in history from Oberlin College and a master's degree in American history from New York University.

The upcoming meeting is free and all are welcome. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the presentation.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK NOTICE OF INTENTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey on Monday, May 15, 2023.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 279 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "SEWERS" BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION 279-26 ENTITLED "GREASE TRAPS REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED."

WHEREAS, it is in the interests of the Township of Clark and the citizens thereof to maintain the Township's sanitary sewer system by regulating the discharging of grease and other items that are detrimental to the sewer system; and

WHEREAS, §279-24 of the Township's current ordinance, which regulates grease traps, imposes upon business owners the cleaning of grease interceptors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Clark as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 279 entitled "Sewers" is hereby amended and supplemented to create a new Subsection 279-26 entitled "GREASE TRAPS REGISTRATION REQUIRED," to include the following:

279-26 Grease Traps registration required. a. No grease trap shall be operated until a registration has been obtained from the

PUBLIC NOTICE

Township Health Department by the owner of the establishment wherein the grease trap is operated.

b. Registrations shall be required for each grease trap operated and shall be renewed annually.

c. Registrations shall not be transferable between owners, businesses, or grease traps.

d. Registrations shall be displayed conspicuously in public view, at eye level, and adjacent to the establishment's retail food establishment license.

e. Initial and renewal registrations shall require completion of an application promulgated by the Township Health Department and submission of a fee in the amount of \$100.00 to the Township Health Department.

f. Initial and renewal applications shall include the following: (1) A grease trap maintenance log for the last 12 months detailing cleaning with the date, specific grease trap, and person or licensed solid waste firm performing maintenance and (2) Copies of manifests, receipts, or other documentation confirming proper disposition of grease interceptor waste by a solid waste transporter.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances of the Township of Clark that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. The provisions of this ordinance may be renumbered for purposes of codification.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk 1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$82.11

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK CORPORATION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the following Ordinance was duly adopted and approved on final reading at a Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council, Township of Clark on May 15, 2023.

ORDINANCE 23-18

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IX SECTION 63 OF CHAPTER 347 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "FIRE ZONES"

Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk 1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$17.85

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Take notice that on May 8, 2023, the Westfield Board of Adjustment adopted a resolution memorializing a decision for the following application(s) which were acted upon at their regular meeting held on April 10, 2023, and a special meeting held on April 19, 2023.

ZBA 22-039 - Nathan Wheeler/Mili Shah, 114 Lincoln Road, Block: 1006, Lot: 13. Applicants sought variance relief to allow for construction of a two-story addition to the existing dwelling. Application approved.

ZBA 22-040 - Paul & Allison Persiani, 239 Scotch Plains Avenue, Block: 2813, Lot: 22. Applicants sought variance relief to allow for construction of a second-story addition to expand the primary bedroom with a walk-in closet and a primary bathroom. Application approved.

ZBA 22-049 - Clint & Amanda Rekeimer, 732 Mountain Avenue, Block: 1203, Lot: 22. Applicants sought variance relief to allow for construction/replacement of a detached garage in the front yard along North Chestnut Street and to expand the driveway to create a back-up space. Application approved.

ZBA 22-045 - George Lyons, 718 Warren Street, Block: 2814, Lot: 7. Applicant sought variance relief to allow for construction a second-story addition over the existing first-floor garage, renovation of the adjacent bedroom to create a primary bedroom suite, and to add an office loft in the attic. Application approved.

\*ZBA 23-18 - Valuca Realty, LLC, 232 Saint Paul Street, Block: 3113, Lot: 10. Applicant sought an appeal of the Zoning Officer's determination, seeking an interpretation of the relevant ordinance provision to allow the proposed office use. Appeal was denied. And, alternatively, the applicant sought d(1) variance relief to allow for the office use as proposed. Application approved.

Plans, applications, and resolutions are on file in the office of Planning & Zoning, 959 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey and may be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Maria Rose Breien Board Secretary 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$49.47

Community Calendar

Brought to you by: The GWACC Chamber of Commerce



Balance Awareness with Yasmin Ofek Fridays, May 19, 2023 at 10 am. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library on Zoom for a different approach to exercise.

Wildlife in the Classroom Monday, May 22, at 7 pm. Join Zach Rittner and the Scotch Plains Library to learn about the exciting wildlife conservation programs taking place at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Drop In Crafting Tuesdays, May 23 and June 27 at 1 pm. Bring your current WIP (work in progress) to the Scotch Plains Public Library's gallery space and create alongside others.

Senior Book Chat Wednesday, May 24 and June 21 at 2 pm. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library and Recreation Department as partnering for a book club with no assigned reading at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains for an informal chat about whatever you've enjoyed reading.

Hypertension Clinic Friday, June 2, 10 am. A public health nurse from the Union County Office of Health Management will be in the Adult Room of the Scotch Plains Public to take blood pressure readings and share educational materials.

Garwood Rocks Sunday, June 4, 11 am. Visit a market place of vendors, crafters, retail, food, rides, a car show and more on Center Street.

Meet the Future: Your Introduction to ChatGPT Monday, June 5, 7 pm. Learn about ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot that responds to user prompts on any number of topics, from cooking to philosophy and beyond.

Guided Meditation Thursday, June 8, 7 pm. Join Barbara Brown via Zoom as she leads a virtual mindfulness-based guided meditation session, beginning with a brief discussion of one of the 9 Attitudes of Mindfulness.

Wine Tasting Event Sunday, June 11, 2 pm. Join the Center for Hope Hospice at their annual wine tasting fundraiser. Experience "Wines of the World" at the beautiful James Ward Mansion, Westfield.

Evening Book Club Thursday, June 15, 7 pm. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library outside (weather permitting) to discuss "The Measure" by Nikki Erlick. Please bring your own chair. To register, please visit www.scotplib.org.

Afternoon Book Club Tuesday, June 20, 1 pm. Join the Scotch Plains Public Library to discuss "Above the Bay of Angels" by Rhys Bowen. They will meet on the lower level of the Library. To register, please visit www.scotplib.org.

Concerts in the Parking Lot Tuesdays, July 11, 18, 25 and Tuesdays, August 1, 8, at 7 pm. Join the Township of Clark and the Recreation Department for free music Tuesdays at 430 Westfield Ave. For more information, please visit ourclark.com.

June 5, 7 pm. Learn about ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot that responds to user prompts on any number of topics, from cooking to philosophy and beyond. Rutgers Professor Jim Brown will begin with a discussion of how ChatGPT works, and will then lead a session during which attendees can ask questions—and also test out the bot themselves. To register or more information about the library's entire month of programming, please visit www.scotplib.org.

Guided Meditation Thursday, June 8, 7 pm. Join Barbara Brown via Zoom as she leads a virtual mindfulness-based guided meditation session, beginning with a brief discussion of one of the 9 Attitudes of Mindfulness.

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Submit events at Goleader.com/calendar Uchawk.com/calendar

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WHEREAS, it is in the interests of the Township of Clark and the citizens thereof to maintain the Township's sanitary sewer system by regulating the discharging of grease and other items that are detrimental to the sewer system; and

WHEREAS, §279-24 of the Township's current ordinance, which regulates grease traps, imposes upon business owners the cleaning of grease interceptors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Clark as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 279 entitled "Sewers" is hereby amended and supplemented to create a new Subsection 279-26 entitled "GREASE TRAPS REGISTRATION REQUIRED," to include the following:

279-26 Grease Traps registration required. a. No grease trap shall be operated until a registration has been obtained from the

PUBLIC NOTICE

Township Health Department by the owner of the establishment wherein the grease trap is operated.

b. Registrations shall be required for each grease trap operated and shall be renewed annually.

c. Registrations shall not be transferable between owners, businesses, or grease traps.

d. Registrations shall be displayed conspicuously in public view, at eye level, and adjacent to the establishment's retail food establishment license.

e. Initial and renewal registrations shall require completion of an application promulgated by the Township Health Department and submission of a fee in the amount of \$100.00 to the Township Health Department.

f. Initial and renewal applications shall include the following: (1) A grease trap maintenance log for the last 12 months detailing cleaning with the date, specific grease trap, and person or licensed solid waste firm performing maintenance and (2) Copies of manifests, receipts, or other documentation confirming proper disposition of grease interceptor waste by a solid waste transporter.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances of the Township of Clark that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. The provisions of this ordinance may be renumbered for purposes of codification.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

Edith L. Merkel, RMC Township Clerk 1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$82.11

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TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Take notice that on May 8, 2023, the Westfield Board of Adjustment adopted a resolution memorializing a decision for the following application(s) which were acted upon at their regular meeting held on April 10, 2023, and a special meeting held on April 19, 2023.

ZBA 22-039 - Nathan Wheeler/Mili Shah, 114 Lincoln Road, Block: 1006, Lot: 13. Applicants sought variance relief to allow for construction of a two-story addition to the existing dwelling. Application approved.

ZBA 22-040 - Paul & Allison Persiani, 239 Scotch Plains Avenue, Block: 2813, Lot: 22. Applicants sought variance relief to allow for construction of a second-story addition to expand the primary bedroom with a walk-in closet and a primary bathroom. Application approved.

ZBA 22-049 - Clint & Amanda Rekeimer, 732 Mountain Avenue, Block: 1203, Lot: 22. Applicants sought variance relief to allow for construction/replacement of a detached garage in the front yard along North Chestnut Street and to expand the driveway to create a back-up space. Application approved.

ZBA 22-045 - George Lyons, 718 Warren Street, Block: 2814, Lot: 7. Applicant sought variance relief to allow for construction a second-story addition over the existing first-floor garage, renovation of the adjacent bedroom to create a primary bedroom suite, and to add an office loft in the attic. Application approved.

\*ZBA 23-18 - Valuca Realty, LLC, 232 Saint Paul Street, Block: 3113, Lot: 10. Applicant sought an appeal of the Zoning Officer's determination, seeking an interpretation of the relevant ordinance provision to allow the proposed office use. Appeal was denied. And, alternatively, the applicant sought d(1) variance relief to allow for the office use as proposed. Application approved.

Plans, applications, and resolutions are on file in the office of Planning & Zoning, 959 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey and may be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Maria Rose Breien Board Secretary 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$49.47

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

TAKE NOTICE that on May 4, 2023, the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Scotch Plains, Union County, New Jersey, adopted the following resolution:

Patrick Filinn and Jean Patterson, 2117 Westfield Avenue, Lot 19, Block 2604, R-3A Zone, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, to install a 200 square foot maximum size shed on their property.

The Resolution memorializing said approval was duly presented and adopted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment at its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 4, 2023. A copy of the Resolution has been filed in the office of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and/or the office of the Municipal Clerk at the Scotch Plains Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, and is available for public inspection.

Joanna Roberts Land Use Secretary 1 T - 05/18/23, UC Hawk Fee: \$22.44

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

TAKE NOTICE that on the 8th of May, the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union took the following actions:

1. Application #ZBA 23-002: Adopted a Resolution of Memorialization approving the request of Jonmichael Caldaronne & Erin Snyder for "c" variance relief for maximum story height, where 2.5 stories are allowed and 3.5 stories are proposed, \$255-34, Attachment 1, Schedule 1, on Block 445 Lot 3, as designated on the Township Tax Map also known as 33 Keith Jeffries Avenue in the R-4 Zone.

2. Application #ZBA 23-004: Granted approval to Christina & Nicholas Mano for a c(1) variance for the construction of an in-ground pool. Minimum rear yard setback for a pool is 15 feet, where 7.8 feet is proposed, \$255-38(B)(2), on Block 618 Lot 8, as designated on the Township Tax Map also known as 13 Cherokee Road in the R-4 Zone.

Kathy Lenahan Board Administrator 1 T - 05/18/23, The Leader Fee: \$26.01

The Leader/HAWK Monthly Crossword Puzzle Answers By Ruth B. Margolin

Crossword puzzle grid with answers filled in: W I N T E R S P O R T A W L, E L L A F I T Z G E R A L D, W R I T T E N I N S T O N E, H E S N E T C E N T S

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# Arts & Entertainment

## 35th Annual Masterworks Concert This Weekend in Westfield

WESTFIELD — Steeple Concerts at St. Paul’s in Westfield has announced the church’s 35th Annual Masterworks Concert, upcoming this Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. Highlighting the concert program is Antonín Dvorák’s sublime and bountiful “Stabat Mater.” The general public is invited to attend this event.

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church is located at 414 East Broad Street, near Euclid Avenue, in Westfield. Concert tickets, priced at \$35 for adults and \$15 for students, are available at [www.steepleconcerts.org](http://www.steepleconcerts.org). They also will be sold at the door. Church and area parking are free. A gala reception will follow the event.

Praised worldwide for his “New World” Symphony (1893), Mr. Dvorák (1841-1904) composed in all musical genres, including choral works. Among these is the deeply moving “Stabat Mater” (“Mother Standing”). Completed in 1877, the piece is “an extended setting for vocal soloists, choir

and orchestra of the 20 stanzas of the Stabat Mater sequence.” It follows a traditional Latin text that commemorates the grief of the Virgin Mary at the crucifixion of her son.

Presumably, Mr. Dvorák wrote the piece to assuage his own grief at the death of his first child, an infant daughter. In fact, by 1877, the Dvoráks had lost all three of their small children. What began in grief, however, became a lush and lyrical affirmation of hope and optimism, prompted by the ever-present promise of eternal life.

Following its first public performance in Prague (1880), the oratorio was well received, first in England, then in the United States and worldwide. Today, it “continue[s] to hold a position among the finer works of [its] kind.”

Of note is the fact that, prior to 1875, Mr. Dvorák was virtually unknown, despite being a prolific composer and one of the first to incorporate Bohemian folk music into his works. Then, in 1875, the Austrian government awarded him a state grant that put him in touch with Johannes Brahms. Mr. Brahms gifted Mr. Dvorák with valuable technical advice. Mr. Brahms also found him “an influential publisher,” stated Fritz Simrock, who published Dvorák’s *Moravian Duets* (1876) and his *Slavonic Dances* (1878), the latter of which became enormously popular.

“Now,” advises Mark Hyczko, St. Paul’s Director of Music, “we are fortunate to offer Dvorák’s masterpiece, the “Stabat Mater,” to the

Westfield community at large. Come join us on Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. Guaranteed, you will not regret the experience.”

For tickets to the Masterworks Concert, plus information on the 2023-24 Steeple Concerts season, go to [www.steepleconcerts.org](http://www.steepleconcerts.org). Steeple Concerts are sponsored by the Friends of Music at St. Paul’s, a 501(c)3 organization devoted to presenting the arts in Westfield.

The Westfield Leader  
Union County HAWK

WE REACH  
PEOPLE

NOT DRIVEWAYS

## Spoof and Nonsense Spotlights Talent in WCP’s *The 39 Steps*

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

WESTFIELD – Parody, when handled correctly, can be such fun. The Westfield Community Players’ final production of their season, *The 39 Steps*, which opened Saturday night, is not only fun but quite a challenge for the four actors who are required to play a multitude of roles. Adapted from a novel by John Buchan and a 1935 film by Alfred Hitchcock, with the original concept and production of the four-actor version of the story by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon, *The 39 Steps* really puts the actors through their creative paces.

The main character, Richard Hannay (the talented Timothy McGovern), a bored, weary-of-life bloke, unwittingly has his life spiced

up by a chance encounter with a beautiful spy, Annabella Schmidt. Sherilyn James creatively plays the roles of three women: Annabella/Pamela/Margaret. When the spy is knifed in the back, that starts life on the run for Richard, who protests his innocence. But with his photograph plastered on the front page of the newspapers, though, he seems to be presumed guilty before he can give his side of the story and warn the world of a nefarious plot by spies. Two other actors play various supporting roles of villains and heroes. The skill of playing multiple roles takes monumental focus, a cool head, and a carefully laden prop table (Jean Liroy) filled with items to let the audience see who each one is playing at that moment. Now this could be a recipe for disaster if the cast is not properly rehearsed or if a prop is out of place. (Think the Broadway comedy *The Play That Goes Wrong*.)

Never fear, for veteran Steve Lemenille, in the director’s chair, has it fully under control. Quick changes and lightning-fast dexterity cause the two marvelously-talented actors lovingly referred to as Clown No. 1 (Rachelle Mandik) and Clown No. 2 (Andrew Weinstein) to play multiple characters within split seconds. *The 39 Steps* is ostensibly a spy story but is played mainly for laughs. Alfred Hitchcock fans who may have seen his black-and-white film version of this play might recognize allusions to many of his other films, like *Rear Window*, *Psycho*, *Vertigo* and *North by Northwest*. It is all done very tongue-in-cheek, with a wink, wink here and there. This could get overly campy very quickly, but because of deftly-handled staging and great pacing, the desired result is perfect.

This madcap escape of Richard Hannay through England and Scotland requires that he and all the people

he meets have accents. One heavy accent hilariously requires the use of a spouse as “translator” to painstakingly spell out what a Scottish innkeeper woman is saying. Bits of slapstick, tomfoolery and physical comedy keep the night light. On opening night, there was a wig mishap with a window frame that scalped Ms. James, but as a true professional, she extricated the speared blonde braided wig and made her exit head held high. Other interactions that were an extra-special delight included a Key Stone Cops-type skit where the clowns impersonated police detectives. Their bedroom scene with the handcuffed Richard and Margaret is cleverly done.

Loads of authentic sound effects by Jake Malhosky were a bit loud at times but helped flesh out the skits. Scottish plaids, a spot-on fur-piece accessory, and smart hats are all part of the brilliant costuming and wig design by Ed Bontempo that suggest the 1935s. The set design (Linda Correll and director Lemenille) takes a black-box format with a door on wheels that creatively lets the audience feel the characters approach the room on the outside, and then when it is reversed, go inside the room. Set pieces of chairs and tables are brought on by the characters as well as a proficient stage crew. Two ladders upstage act as an area for banners and posters as well as the staging area for our hero to climb outside the “train” to escape the police.

Never mind that no one exactly understands what *The 39 Steps* are other than a force for evil. Counter-acting that dastardly evil is the fun of the evening watching talented actors do what they do best: entertain. Bravo to producer Peter Curley, director Lemenille, and the rest of the creative team for offering this little two-act gem for the season finale.



Susan M. Dougherty for The Westfield Leader and Union County HAWK

A QUARTET OF TALENT...At the Westfield Community Players’ production of *The 39 Steps*, actors Rachelle Mandik, and Andrew Weinstein assume the identity of detectives while Sherilyn James and Timothy McGovern as Margaret and Richard Hannay in the “back seat” of the car are handcuffed together. Directed by Steve Lemenille, the light-hearted spy saga runs weekends through Saturday, May 27. For tickets, consult the theater website at [www.wcptheatre.org](http://www.wcptheatre.org). Tickets are available at the door.

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Story on page 7 of The Westfield Leader



**DOWLING TOSSES 1-HITTER, FANS 6; DAVIS 2 DOUBLES, 2 RUNS; ALFANO 2 HITS; CALLAHAN 2 RBI**

## Blue Devils Handle Crusaders in UCT Baseball Quarter, 5-3

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

Timely hitting, capitalizing on several miscues and a dominating performance on the mound guided the fourth-seeded Westfield High School baseball team down the right path to a 5-3 victory over the fifth-seeded AL Johnson Crusaders in the quarterfinal round of the Union County Tournament at Bob Brewster, Sr. Field in Westfield on May 10.

Junior Kevin Dowling was unhittable for six innings and had

a 5-0 lead until he yielded a 25-foot infield chopper and walked a pair of batters before departing the mound due to his 106 pitch count with one out and the bases loaded in the top of seventh inning. Dowling in 6.1 innings, walked six Crusaders, allowed just the short single and struck out six batters.

"Oh Yeah! And it was an infield hit. He competed and that's what he does and that's what we love about him," Blue Devil Head Coach Jay Cook expressed.

"I came out, tried to get in the

zone early and give my team the best opportunity to win the game if possible. And they got me runs early. First inning! I was able to get comfortable, settle in. I lost focus, got a little tired in the last inning but we got the job done," Dowling explained.

Dowling's father and brothers were also standout athletes in Westfield around the turn of the century.

"He (father) was probably about four or five years before me, maybe a little bit more and his brothers. A very familiar name," Blue Devil Head Coach Jay Cook recalled. "He transferred in from Vermont and has been a nice addition to our team."

"That's my dad! And all my

uncles went through here," Dowling added.

What really helped Dowling get into the comfort zone was the catalyst in the offensive thrust, junior leadoff hitter/second baseman Randy Davis (Mr. Double), who went 2-for-4 with a pair of doubles and two runs scored. Davis rapped a leadoff double to left-centerfield to ignite a three-run first inning then after Nic Labin drew a leadoff walk, he followed with another double to left-center which led to a two-run fifth inning.

In an 11-5 victory over Governor Livingston a few weeks ago, Davis lined a pair of doubles down the leftfield line then added a third double to left-center.

"That's where my power is. Right up in the leftfield area. If I

can get it out there, put it over them, I will be at second base," Davis explained.

Coach Cook added, "He's kind of set the table for us. He's been in the leadoff spot, so when he gets on base, we are pretty confident that we are going to get some runs out of it. He's been driving the ball. Now that we got him staying on top of the ball, he's definitely an asset and a threat with timely hits and doubles."

Dowling retired the first nine Crusaders he faced. In the meantime, Davis led off the bottom of the first inning with a double and Leo Mangiamele walked. Davis tagged up and sped to third on Braedan Trajkovski's line out to deep left. Owen Callahan hopped

*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

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 l'ennemi du journaliste



more photos next page

## Blue Devils Handle ALJ Crusaders in Union County Tournament Quarterfinals, 5-3

an RBI single just over the third baseman's glove as Mangiamiele scooted to third. Callahan's courtesy runner, Charlie McCormack, stole second, which drew a throw. Mangiamiele alertly scored. Tomas Cestero's grounder to third resulted in an overthrow to first and McCormack scored to give Westfield a 3-0 lead.

Dowling's perfect start was interrupted in the top of the fourth when he walked Jackson Gulbin. However, Dowling caught him leaning and picked him off at first. Dowling then got the next two better outs. Kellen Edwards led off the Westfield fourth with a walk. He stole second but slid past the base for an out. A pair of ground balls ended the inning.

Labin led off the fifth with a walk and Davis ripped his second double to left-center. Trajkovski was intentionally walked and Callahan lofted an RBI sacrifice fly to center. Cestero's grounder drew another throwing error as

Davis scored the fifth run. "When we have guys on base, all we need to do is put the ball in play to move it over. I think we do a pretty good job of that when we stay on top. As coach mentioned, I've done a better job of staying on top of the ball the past few games. We bring in runs like that," Davis said. "Stay on top of it!"

Dowling walked leadoff batter Rob Gallagher in the sixth then struck out Anthony LaPorta. Gallagher dashed to second on a passed ball. Tom Woods hit a sharp line drive to third baseman Mangiamiele, who quickly fired to second in time to double up Gallagher.

Jake Alfano (2-for-2), who doubled in the second inning rapped a single to center but got thrown out attempting to stretch it to a double. After a ground out to short, Labin drew his second walk and his pinch runner, Mike Lynch, stole second. Davis stepped to the plate and drilled

another scorcher but it zeroed in on the leftfielder's glove. "With two strikes, you got to put the ball in play anyway you can. I widened out my feet so I could have full leg power but it was still a decent shot," Davis described.

Crusader Steve McCaffery led off the seventh with his little chopping single. Josh Laucik flew out to left then Dowling walked Dave Rodriguez and Sean Patterson to load the bases. Pat Lanza relieved Dowling but was called for balks twice, which allowed McCaffery and Rodriguez to skip home. Anthony Curcio lofted an RBI sac fly to center as the third Crusader scored. Lanza struck out the final batter.

Next for Westfield would be a semifinal showdown with top-seeded, No. 3 Cranford on May 13 at AL Johnson. Their last meeting was a classic pitchers' duel between Cougar ace Sean Woodruff and Cestero that was score-

less until the top of the seventh inning.

Davis commented, "I think especially if we see Woodruff again, which we probably will. I kind of have an issue with him. I saw him last year. He was all over me. I think I missed every single at-bat against him. This year I am doing better and I hope we do even better."

"That was a great pitchers' duel. Anytime 'Mos' (Tomas) is on the mound for us. Like all of our pitchers, we expect them to go out there and compete. 'Mos' did a great job of going pitch-for-pitch with him then he ran out of pitches. Hopefully we get some runs for him and he gives us the same type of performance on Saturday," Coach Cook said.

AL Johnson	000 000 3	3
Westfield	300 020 x	5

*Probitas Verus Honos*





**Blue Devils Handle ALJ Crusaders in Union County Tournament Quarterfinals, 5-3**





**Blue Devils Handle ALJ Crusaders in Union County Tournament Quarterfinals, 5-3**





**Blue Devils Handle ALJ Crusaders in Union County Tournament Quarterfinals, 5-3**





**Blue Devils Double on Offensive Clout to Stagger New Providence Pioneers, 11-1**





**Blue Devils Double on Offensive Clout to Stagger New Providence Pioneers, 11-1**





**Blue Devil Boys Win Watchung Division; Raider Girls 3rd in Watchung Division**





*more photos next page*

**Blue Devil Boys Win Watchung Division; Raider Girls 3rd in Watchung Division**





**Blue Devil Boys Win Watching Division; Raider Girls 3rd in Watchung Division**





**Blue Devil Boys Win Watchung Division; Raider Girls 3rd in Watchung Division**

