

Westfield High School Freshman Dies After Tree Limb Fall; Eight Other Students Injured, One Seriously

By FRED LECOMTE and SUZETTE F. STALKER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Nine students were injured during the early afternoon on September 11 when wind gusts in excess of 40 miles per hour ripped into a 70-year-old oak tree on the grounds of Westfield High School, shearing off a large branch. The branch measured 30 feet long, 20 inches thick and weighed over 1,000 pounds. The tree, which was not fully cut down until last weekend, was located near the front entrance to the school, where dozens of students gather daily at picnic tables for lunch and homework. Fourteen-year-old freshman Greta Schoenemann died just before 8 p.m. on Sunday from the injuries she sustained. She suffered severe head trauma and was airlifted by New Jersey State Police's North Star helicopter to University Hospital in Newark following the accident. Freshman Amanda Gross, 14, was



Greta Schoenemann

also transported to University. She was initially listed in serious condition with internal injuries and chest trauma.

As of last Friday, Amanda's condition had been upgraded to fair and she had been moved to a regular nursing unit.

According to her grandmother, Nancy Bregman, she was expected to go home yesterday or today and is expected to fully recover, said her father, Jonathan Gross.

According to Rogers Ramsey, a spokesman for University Hospital, another female and one male student were also brought to the facility the day of the accident, but were released that night. Janina Scheitz, the spokeswoman for Overlook Hospital in Summit, where five students were taken, told *The Westfield Leader* that all five were released the evening of September 11.

A 9-1-1 call was received by the Westfield Police Department at 1 p.m. Units responding to the scene found two female students lying on the ground amid the debris from the fallen tree limb. The Westfield Rescue Squad, Fire and Police departments all responded to the scene. Other participating agencies included rescue squads from



EMERGENCY RESPONSE...New Jersey State Police Northstar Helicopter departs from the Westfield High School accident scene as it takes Greta Schoenemann to University Hospital Trauma Center in Newark.



UNITED EFFORT...Immediate and effective response by numerous Union County emergency units provided assistance to multiple injured students.

Mountainside, Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Roselle and Roselle Park.

Medic units from Overlook Hospital in Summit and Rahway Hospital in Rahway responded as well.

Other students who sustained injuries were Julie Ann Zenarosa, 14; Rachel Fallig, 14; Laura Yee, 16; Kathrynne Read, 14; Alex Zierler, 14;

Jaawell Faggins, 15, and Jennifer Ann Lane, 15.

Classes resumed on Thursday morning and counseling was offered to the students.

According to an email sent from Westfield High School Principal Dr. Robert Petix, the high school will provide counseling and continued support to its staff and students this week and for as long as necessary. "I was right in the front hallway

See Page 9 for more photos

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BOE Responds to Death Of WHS Student; Wraps Up Candidate Interviews

By CHARLOTTE LEDERMAN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

With great sadness, the Westfield Board of Education met this past Tuesday to hold what Board President Arlene Gardner called, "a special short meeting." Initially scheduled in order to interview final candidate William Sweeney for the vacant board position, much of the board's time was dedicated to mourning the loss of Westfield High School (WHS) student Greta Schoenemann.

Ms. Gardner emotionally relayed the grief of the board, stating that Westfield, "was once again struck by tragedy on 9/11." She further extended the board's sympathy to Greta's family and all who knew and loved her. Ms. Gardner later led all those present at the meeting

in a commemorative moment of silence.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. William Foley, spoke of the Westfield school system's response to the tragic events. Tuesday, was the first day students attended WHS since Greta's death became known.

WHS Student Assistance Counselor, Mauren Mazzarese, supported the regular classroom schedules in effect that day.

Dr. Foley said Ms. Mazzarese stressed the importance of creating a sense of normalcy, "recognizing that different students need different ways to deal with grief." He outlined the school's support system for its young adults during an early morning pre-class meeting.

"Teachers were given guidance on how to identify students in need of counseling and where to direct them," said Dr. Foley. Moreover, "seven counseling rooms were set up within the school with more than a dozen specially trained professionals on hand to help."

Social workers, guidance counselors, and clergy contributed to the 25 trained adults positioned in the halls, courtyards, and offices throughout the school ready to speak to students who needed someone to talk to.

Dr. Foley told the board that the front of the high school has almost become a memorial setting for Greta. Here, students have placed "cards, notes, and signs," in addition to flowers. He added that, on Monday night, "close to 1,000 students, faculty, and parents attended a candlelight vigil" on the premises.

Dr. Foley said that coupled with Westfield's great loss was the comfort offered by the community's response. He remarked in closing that the outpouring of love exhibited here shows what a "caring and wonderful town this is."

After the moment of silence and flag salute, the board commenced with its interview.

Unable to attend the previous meeting, Mr. Sweeney was the final candidate to interview for the interim board position. Despite the week separating the two board meetings, all candidates were asked the same pre-selected questions and allowed a three-minute response time.

Mr. Sweeney previously sat on the Westfield school board from 1993 to 1996. His enjoyment of this experience prompted him to apply once again. Having worked on finance committees for the board in the past, he believes, if selected, his "experience and interest" in this area will be one of his greatest strengths.

He sees one of the most important issues facing the district today as dealing with the "difficult situations" created by "spending to accommodate the price of enrollment."

Mr. Sweeney also said that a board must, "have (the) courage to hold their ground" and "learn to say 'no', because you can't do everything" with a limited budget.

Now an "empty nester," he feels he has the time necessary for a demanding position such as this. His experience with the Westfield school system includes seeing three children graduate from WHS. Mr. Sweeney has served on several boards, including the Westfield Architectural Review Board.

When asked if he would be willing to run in April, he replied that he hasn't "made a decision yet."

Following the conclusion of the interview, the board adjourned and moved into a closed, private session. The results will be made known as soon as possible. The board hopes the new board member will begin at the regularly scheduled meeting next week.

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MS Council Pays Homage To Baseballers

By JENNIFER PINTO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

The Mountainside Borough Council awarded resolutions of commendation to three Mountainside teams during the regular public meeting on Tuesday, September 17. The three teams honored included the Mountainside Age 10 All-Star Baseball Team, Mountainside PAL Sponsored U-12 Girls All-Star Softball Team and Mountainside Age 13-14 All-Star Baseball Team.

Councilman Keith Turner read the resolutions for all three teams allowing each player and coach to be individually announced and handed a resolution.

After the brief ceremony the council, with the exception of Mayor Robert Vigilanti who was not present, approved minutes from the June 18, July 9, July 16, August 13 and August 20 meetings.

The council also accepted and agreed for a 100 percent disabled veteran to be exempted from property tax on block 5.A, lot 21.C. Children's Specialized Hospitals' exempt status for property tax was also given the green light.

Certification by council of the review of the annual audit for 2001, with no recommendations, was also approved. A resolution for a refund in the amount of \$5,584.41 was approved by the council for the tax appeal settlement on Block 7D Lot 40 on 1081 Bristol Road.

The council also approved the appointment of Debra Stroin as Police Administrative Assistant at the annual salary of \$30,000, effective on September 9 with a probationary period of 90 days.

The council officially appointed Jon Freer to the planning board to fill the un-expired term of Nancy Lauricella whose term would initially expire on Tuesday, December 31. The council also introduced ordinance 1053-2002 to amend the code of the Borough of Mountainside by adding a definition for residential dwelling.

In other business, bills and claims were approved in the amount of \$1,299,420.70. The appointment of Jeffrey Faulks and William McMeekan, Jr. to the Mountainside Volunteer Fire Department was briefly discussed by Councilman Werner Schon who stated, "two appointments to the fire department sets a high standard as far as participation."

The next meeting of the Mountainside Council is Tuesday, October 8.

Public Contract Reform Discussed; Town Council to Meet With Board of Education

By LAUREN S. PASS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

At Tuesday night's Town Council conference session, Mayor Gregory McDermott began the meeting with a moment of silence to acknowledge events that occurred in the community during the past week.

Under municipal business, Town Engineer Kenneth Marsh reported to the council that there was a problem with the paving of West Dudley Av-

enue. He said the water service broke beneath the road near Prospect Street and that it needed to be replaced.

Mr. Marsh also reported that he was recommending that Steve Friedman be appointed as the Acting Plumbing Sub Code Official. He explained that the former official was on leave while undergoing cancer treatments and that Mr. Friedman has been handling the job, which only involves 12 hours a week.

He asked for Mr. Friedman to be paid \$2,000 a month and for that to be retroactive to September 1.

Second Ward Republican Councilman Rafael Betancourt explained that the town's new Master Plan would be adopted by the Planning Board in October.

Councilman Betancourt went on to say there were three issues that the Planning Board did not feel were future planning issues and so they

were being brought to the council's attention.

The first issue had to do with a need to move forward with an in lieu of parking ordinance, for incoming businesses to follow for lack of employee parking.

Town Attorney Robert Cockren said the research has been done and that the town is prepared to move forward on the ordinance.

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Westfield Police Department Plans to Launch New Emergency Call System, 'Reverse 911'

By HORACE CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

The Westfield Police Department is installing an automated telephone calling system that will enable the department to provide recorded messages to residents and businesses, such as may be needed during times of an emergency.

The system, from the company known as "Reverse 911," will enable

them to call any or all of the published telephone numbers in Westfield.

Westfield Police Chief Bernard Tracy told *The Westfield Leader* that he expects the system to be fully functional in about four weeks and that the total cost for the hardware and software is about \$24,000.

Chief Tracy said, "Software is being installed that will enable the de-

partment to select various calling zones or matrix of numbers within the town, depending on the need of the emergency. It's an added tool for the police department to serve the public."

There are eight telephone lines connected to the calling system to keep the time for the messaging to a minimum. Even so, Chief Tracy estimated that it would take about 12

hours to call the entire town in the unlikely event that this became necessary. There are approximately 10,000 residences in Westfield.

The Chief said it is more likely that the calling system would be used in a matrix, rather than dialing the entire town.

"Recent headlines involving the abduction of children have height-

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Democrats Estrada, Proctor and Scutari Map Out Objectives for Freeholder Board Terms

By FRED ROSSI
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Union County Democrats will be trying to maintain their 9-0 majority on the Board of Chosen Freeholders in this fall's elections.

Incumbents Nicholas Scutari and Angel Estrada will be running for reelection, while Freeholder Rick Proctor will be seeking a full three-year term after having been appointed earlier this year to fill the seat vacated by Linda Stender, who was elected to the State Assembly last year.

The candidates are being challenged by Republicans Joel Whitaker of Fanwood, Anira Clericuzio of Cranford and Elyse Bochicchio Medved of Rahway.

Mr. Scutari is seeking his third term after having served as Vice Chairman of the Board in 1999 and Chairman two years ago. He told *The Westfield Leader* that he wants to continue identifying and protecting open space.

"There are more than 500,000 people living in just over 100 square miles in Union County, which means that green space is rare and must be preserved," said Mr. Scutari.

He added that continued improvements to the county's infrastructure, such as the renovations to the Lawrence and Milton Street bridges in Rahway, as well as the opening of the global freight center on the New Jersey Turnpike, are also on his list of priorities.

Mr. Scutari, a Linden resident, is also calling for continuing the county's hazardous materials waste removal program as well as the child safety seat program.

Mr. Estrada is seeking a second term on the Freeholder Board. A former member of the Elizabeth Board of Education, he is stressing education in his campaign by calling for continued county support of Union County College and following through on the expansion of the Union County Vocational-Technical School in Scotch Plains, a project the Freeholders approved earlier this year.

Mr. Estrada said that he wants to strengthen both the Freeholder Scholars Program, which is aimed at providing college educations for middle-income students, and the Y.E.S. program (Youth Employment Strategies).

The freeholder also told *The Leader* that he wants to improve services aimed at senior citizens, including the Senior Focus and Seniors in Motion initiatives.

Mr. Proctor, the health officer for several county municipalities including Scotch Plains, has been a Freeholder since February and is finishing the remaining months of Mrs. Stender's term.

Mr. Proctor's focus during the campaign will include the aftermath of September 11, specifically continuing his role as coordinator of the county's emergency services in conjunction with federal, state and local officials to "ensure that the county is thoroughly prepared for any possibility."

He also wants to ensure, mainly via the county's federally-funded STAR Opportunity Center, that

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Murder of SP Resident Laurite Linked to Slaying in California

By DEBORAH MADISON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS -- New evidence linking the August 2000 murder of a Scotch Plains resident in Arkansas to the murder of a California woman four months later has been discovered according to police in both states.

Matching DNA samples through a national computerized system, Merced California Police and Police in Conway County, Ark. have linked the two murders to the same killer, Conway County Sheriff Mark Flowers told *The Westfield Leader*.

Kristin Laurite, 25, a Scotch Plains High School graduate, was passing through Conway County on her way to a new teaching job in Eureka, Calif. Her abandoned 1971 Volkswagen bus and her two dogs were discovered by a truck

driver at an Arkansas rest stop outside of the town of Morrilton.

Police found Ms. Laurite's nude body a day later by a lake near Morrilton. She had been raped and fatally stabbed numerous times. Law officials had no clues as to the motive or identity of Ms. Laurite's killer. Four months later, in December of 2000, the nude body of Jackie Travis was found in her Merced California apartment.

The two cases were not linked until July of 2001, when DNA samples from both victims were entered into the national computer matching system, Sheriff Flowers reported. Police in both states have met numerous times to share more evidence on these two cases and other, possibly related cases, Sheriff Flowers said.

Police also stated that Ms. Laurite and Ms. Travis, who were 20 years apart in age, had no connection to each other, other than being victims

of the same killer.

"Unfortunately, the DNA evidence is the only break we've had in this case," Sheriff Flowers reported. He added that there is a possibility that the same killer has committed other murders and will commit more murders until he is caught. However, the police are not yet labeling these cases the work of a serial murderer, which by definition requires at least three victims.

"You can draw your own conclusions as to whether this is a serial killer," Sheriff Flowers remarked.

Shortly after her murder, Ms. Laurite's family set up a fund in her honor asking for contributions to assist in finding her killer. There is also a Kristin Laurite website, www.kristinlaurite.org, with more information on the fund and the ongoing investigation.

Westfield Police Department Plans to Launch New Emergency Call System, 'Reverse 911'

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ened residents' fears and that is why we are anxious to provide Westfield law enforcement with another level of emergency communications," said Mayor Gregory McDermott.

"We have been working on this program for a while, but felt it was essential for it to be fully operational at the beginning of this school year," the Mayor noted.

The new calling system will en-

able the police department to send communications out to Westfield residents in a variety of ways. It can sort, send or search any published telephone number by name, by alphabetical order or by geography, including a single block or any square radius.

Once a population is targeted, all residents with published numbers will receive a taped recording with an appropriate message related to the emergency.

"The Westfield Police Department believes that Reverse 911 will truly improve our ability to work not only within the community in the case of an emergency, but also better coordinate responses when there is an emergency on the county or state level," said Chief Tracy.

"The system can also be used for more informational purposes, including communicating with all the businesses in town on non-emergency situations," he added.

The Mayor and Police Chief expect the system to be particularly useful in the case of missing children, when quick communications is essential. "The ability to target communications to a specific geographic location will enable us to alert residents as to a missing child, thereby allowing designated Block Captains and their fellow neighbors to assist us in our search efforts," said Chief Tracy.

The Chief also noted that the State of New Jersey has been participating in the AMBER Alert Pro-

gram since August and that the new broadcast emergency response plan is activated by the State Police. In the case of the most serious child-abduction cases, Westfield police would immediately contact the State Police so that the AMBER plan could be used as needed.

"When time is of the essence, communications becomes a powerful tool," concluded Mayor McDermott. "We are hopeful that all Westfield residents will come to understand the program and recognize that every individual member of this community can help be a part of keeping our neighborhoods safe."

Mayor McDermott told *The Leader* that Westfield has many communication tools that can be employed, including TV-36, e-mail notification lists, the town Internet site and loud speaker broadcasting in neighborhoods, along with systems used by the public schools and the newspapers.

The Chief also said that, once the ball is rolling, there is a strong "word of mouth" communication in Westfield.

The Leader asked if the department is planning to organize and coordinate all these tools in the future. Lieutenant John Parizeau indicated that this appears feasible and that this is something that is being looked into.

Chief Tracy said that, ultimately, it is the police chief's responsibility to determine what message is to be sent to the public during emergencies. Obviously, however, he confers with the mayor and the town attorney.

"One example where the new calling system could be useful is such as occurred during the water crisis in September of 1999," said Chief Tracy. There are many other applications possible as well, such as checking on senior citizens in need of care and monitoring."

The newspaper asked about the difficulty observed during the water crisis of 1999 and during the World Trade Center tragedy for example, who determines what message to broadcast and how do all the government bodies coordinate with an emergency?

Chief Tracy said, "Since the events of last year, the citizens can be assured that significant improvements have been made in this regard."

The Reverse 911 company states on its website that the system "is used effectively in over 100 U.S. communities, counties, commercial businesses and non-profit organizations to dramatically improve the lines of communication to the general population and targeted groups."

Chief Tracy said he does not think it is in use in the county, but that Union Township is working with a similar system and that the communities intend to compare notes.

For more information on the new system, e-mail Chief Tracy at police@wpdnj.org or call (908) 789-4000.

Westfield Street Fair To Be Held Sunday
WESTFIELD -- The Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a street fair, "FallFest" on Sunday, September 22, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The raindate is Sunday, September 29. Admission is free.

Public Contract Reform Discussed; Westfield Town Council To Meet With Board of Education on Parking Spaces, Trees

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Councilman Betancourt's second issue was assessments for traffic studies. He said that the council had made a commitment to the ShopRite grid, but that monies needed to be allocated and the town cannot afford all the calming measures that are being requested.

The third issue involved opening communication with the Westfield Board of Education (BOE) to consider an extra 120 parking spaces behind the National Guard Armory located opposite Westfield High School.

Councilman Betancourt said that with development now underway on Codding Road, residents may feel the 120 parking spaces will devalue the property and that now is the time to move forward.

Mayor McDermott agreed that now was the time to renew the discussion.

Second Ward Republican Councilman Matthew Albano questioned if the property needs to be rezoned in order for the lot to be built.

Mr. Marsh explained that the Master Plan was not carved in stone and that things could be changed later. He also said the town was keeping an eye on the Armory property, in case it should ever become available for the town or the BOE to take over.

Harry Pozycycki, Chairman of the Board for Common Cause, spoke at length with the council on a new public contract reform ordinance First Ward Democratic Councilman and Laws and Rules Committee Chairman Carl Salisbury proposed two weeks ago.

The ordinance would prohibit a professional business from being awarded a contract with the town if the company had given over a certain amount to candidates and po-

litical parties within the town and county governments.

A similar bill passed in the state Senate, with Senator Raymond Lesniak casting the only dissenting vote. The bill, number 427, is currently on the floor of the state Assembly and is sponsored by Assemblyman Tom Kean, Jr. The state bill has no effect on municipalities.

Washington Township passed a similar ordinance and another was being introduced in Hopewell on Tuesday.

The council agreed that the Westfield ordinance should be returned to the Laws and Rules Committee for further evaluation.

Under other business, the town has taken the final step in the agreement process with the Westfield/Mountainside Red Cross Chapter for the Seniors in Motion van and the bus that Westfield purchased with grant money. The agreement could be signed as soon as Tuesday, October 1.

Councilman Albano questioned the termination provision in the proposed contract with the Red Cross that would permit the town to notify of its intent to terminate the agreement only within the last 60 days prior to the two-year anniversary of the signing of the pact.

Councilman Salisbury said that as long as the contract did not state that this was the only time it could be terminated, that the town could always terminate for breach of contract. He said he was more concerned that there is not currently an assignment clause, meaning that the Red Cross could subcontract. Mr. Cockren will review it.

Mr. Marsh reported that there has been an increase in calls about trees to the Department of Public Works (DPW), prompted by a September 11 accident at Westfield High School in which a fallen tree limb injured nine students, one fatally.

He noted that not all the calls were "legitimate" and that the DPW is getting backlogged. Trees in the worst condition are being taken care of first.

Mr. Marsh also voiced his concern that the town has always helped the BOE in emergencies involving fallen trees, but that they are now asking for "a lot of help." He stated that the DPW does not have the manpower to care for the BOE trees and questioned if the town would be exposed to liability.

Town Administrator James Gildea said he had spoken with BOE Secretary and Business Administrator Robert Berman and asked him for a written request of what the BOE would like the town to do.

The council plans to approach the

school board about holding a joint meeting.

Mr. Gildea commended the Westfield DPW, police, fire, and rescue squad units for their quick response to last week's accident at the high school.

Mayor McDermott said he is also proud of the town's professionals and volunteers.

Councilman Betancourt reported that Wilbur Smith, who had been contracted to perform the traffic calming study in the ShopRite grid, had been contacted. He said Wilbur Smith would be meeting with residents in the ShopRite grid soon.

He said that he was recommending the town pass an ordinance to make the intersection of Shackamaxon and Rahway Avenues a right turn only.

Mr. Marsh said he spoke to county officials about a traffic light at Crossway Place and North Avenue. He will be writing a letter to formalize the request.

Fourth Ward Democratic Councilman and Public Works Committee Chairman Lawrence Goldman reported that the committee discussed the town's curb replacement policy, but did not make any changes at this time.

Mayor McDermott asked if the town would replace concrete curbing.

Mr. Marsh said that if the curbing is replaced at the same time a road is repaved, it adds life to the road.

Mr. Gildea reported that the town had met in arbitration with the police department and said it was "a very good meeting." It was agreed that the council will meet with Labor Attorney Rick Danser after the October 1 public council meeting.

Councilman Betancourt wanted to remind everyone that streets in the downtown will be closed Saturday night during the September 11 memorial dedication and that people should park at the South Avenue train station.

Mr. Cockren reported that there has been a change in the Open Public Meetings Act that will allow the public the opportunity to be heard at conference meetings.

Councilman Betancourt asked if this would mean that the meetings will have to be recorded.

Mr. Cockren responded that this was a possibility and that the council will have to come up with a policy and procedure for this.

Commercial Design Awards Given To Debra Ryan

WESTFIELD - The New Jersey chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) has announced that Westfield resident Debra Ryan was a multiple winner in the 2002 Commercial Design Award Competition.

Held every two years, the contest is judged by a panel of professional interior designers from outside of the state.

Ryan, who is an allied member of ASID and an interior design at Grad Associates, P.A. in Newark, earned two Bronze Awards of Excellence.

In the Commercial/Large Corporate category, Ryan was recognized for a major renovation and small cafeteria addition for two merging companies with very different corporate cultures.

The project, which included integrating two existing independent mechanical systems and a central "village" housing café, company store and other employee amenities, was implemented in phases to allow for construction during full occupancy. The client is Reckitt & Colman in Wayne.

In the Public Spaces category, Ryan received a Bronze Award for the lobby of the 200 Building in the Mountainview Corporate Center in Basking Ridge. Incorporating the exterior granite into the floor pattern draws visitors into the space. Makore wood wall panels add warmth and richness, while pale marble wainscoting lightens and enlarges the space.

St. Peter's Prep Open House Scheduled for September 29

JERSEY CITY -- St. Peter's Preparatory School in Jersey City will hold its Fall Open House on Sunday, September 29, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the school's campus, which is located at 144 Grand Street. Prospective students and their parents are invited to attend.

Members of the St. Peter's Prep faculty and staff, as well as coaches, moderators, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school and the admissions process.

Tours of the campus and school facilities will be given throughout the afternoon. Applications for next year's freshman class will be available as well.

For more information or directions, please call (201) 547-6389 or visit www.stpetersprep.org.

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Freeholders

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county families who lost jobs as a result of the terrorist attacks have continued access to job assistance and training.

Mr. Proctor, a Rahway resident, told *The Leader* that Union County's busy and vital transportation network "meets the growing needs of not only the regional economy but also an international economy."



Join the Team:

The Westfield Leader and THE TIMES of Scotch Plains - Fanwood
Freelance Reporters:

We are currently seeking freelance professionals to cover meetings in Westfield, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Fanwood. Freelancers must be available during evening hours. Meetings typically covered in our newspapers include Board of Education, Planning Boards, Municipal Councils, etc. College students welcomed. For information, contact Lauren Pass at (908) 232-4407 or send email to editor@goleader.com.

Student Interns:

Area high school students who are interested in journalism are encouraged to write for *The Student View*, a weekly column by local high school students. For information, contact Jeremy Lipstein at jlipstein@goleader.com.

WESTFIELD POLICE BLOTTER

- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**
- Anneliese Graczyk, 62, of Cranford was arrested and charged with shoplifting a necklace valued at \$18 from a store within the 600 block of North Avenue, West. She was released on her own recognizance with a summons.
 - **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**
 - Diamond Clark, 20, and Arielle Warren, 20, both of Plainfield, were arrested and charged as disorderly persons after an altercation that occurred in a municipal parking lot located off of Central Avenue.
 - Warren was also wanted on warrants out of Westfield and South Plainfield and was turned over to South Plainfield authorities.
 - **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**
 - Rimgaudas Songaila, 28, of Garwood was arrested on South Avenue and charged with driving while intoxicated. He was subsequently turned over to a responsible party.
 - Stanley F. Budd, 70, of Westfield was arrested at South Avenue, West and charged with being a disorderly person and with driving with a suspended license. He was released on his own recognizance with a summons.
 - Budd was also taken into custody on a contempt of court warrant from the Municipal Court of Clark, for which he posted \$250 bail.
 - **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**
 - Claudia Wiggins, 26, of Plainfield was arrested at a North Avenue store and charged with shoplifting and possession of burglary tools. She is alleged to have shoplifted \$100 worth of clothing from the store. Wiggins was released on her own recognizance with a summons.
 - **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**
 - Nonna Kopylov, 52, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with shoplifting an article of clothing valued at \$67.99 from a North Avenue store. She was released on her own recognizance with a summons.
 - **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**
 - A Marcellus Drive resident reported that a checkbook and some jewelry were removed from a safe in her home. She said she discovered the items were missing after a repairman had left the house.
 - **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**
 - A burglary to a business in the 200 block of East Broad Street was reported, in which a safe containing \$9,100 in currency was missing.
 - A set of golf clubs valued at \$700 was reported stolen from a business in the 700 block of Central Avenue.

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