

## John Murphy Visits Area In Quest for GOP Nod

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on January 24. He filed his campaign paperwork with the state's Election Law Commission on March 31 of 2004.

"We are in a solid third but at this point it is a distant third," he said.

Mr. Murphy said he is working to target his campaign message to the 350,000 to 400,000 registered Republicans "that have a history of voting in gubernatorial elections."

The candidate recently ran an ad on Fox Cable News and has sent out four mailings of campaign literature to likely Republican Primary voters. Among his campaign platform issues is the creation of an elected auditor general to focus on cutting state spending and property tax relief. He also proposes making the attorney general an elected position.

"We now know that the Democrats will be running Jon Corzine. I would make the case that we have to run someone who is the sharpest contrast possible," he said during an interview Tuesday in the offices of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

Mr. Murphy said he would focus on grass roots support rather than buying media time to win the nomination.

"While Jon Corzine was making hundreds of millions on Wall Street, I was on Main Street being a mayor, being a fireman, and a freeholder," he said. He said spending over \$63 million, as Mr. Corzine did in his 2000 Primary and general election races combined, is "obscene," and puts opponents at an extreme disadvantage.

"Trying to raise a family in New Jersey is a difficult thing to do these days. And I think most people in New Jersey would relate to me better than they would relate to a multi-millionaire like Jon," said Mr. Murphy. He said having Mr. Forrester at the top of the GOP ticket could cause Republicans to lose one of their biggest campaign issues, namely Mr. Corzine's attempt to "buy" the Governor's office.

"I think I am better to make that criticism having not put a dime of my own money in (the campaign) versus someone like Doug who has spent

millions previously and who has said he will spend millions (this year)," said Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy said Acting Governor Codey was likely "boxed out" of the race for governor by Democratic leaders to eliminate a "divisive" Primary race.

Mr. Murphy has proposed legislation where by both parties' nominees would receive \$6.4 million in matching state campaign funds to run for office. His plan would forbid candidates from spending their own money and would not require candidates to raise the \$3.2 million to be eligible for matching funds as is currently required under state election law.

He likens his campaign strategy to that of former Congressman Bob Franks, who captured 48 percent of the vote in his 2000 U.S. Senate bid despite being significantly outspent by Senator Corzine.

"We plan on taking a page out of the Bob Franks book," he said, by being a "retail politician" at the grassroots level.

The candidate said his campaign is also concerned with ballot integrity to ensure that only properly registered voters cast their ballots.

Mr. Murphy of Morris Township has been a Morris County freeholder since 1998. He was freeholder director in 2002 and again in 2003, and served as deputy director in 2000 and 2001.

He is a former member of the Morris Township Committee, a position he held from 1994 to 1998. Mr. Murphy, a partner in and financial advisor with the Morristown Financial Group, is also a former commissioner of the Morris County Sheriff's Crime Stoppers program.

Mr. Murphy is a volunteer firefighter in Morris Township and a former captain and president of the Woodland Fire Company.

Also seeking the GOP nomination are Bogota (Bergen County) Mayor Steve Logegian, Assemblyman Paul DiGaetano of Nutley, Washington Township, Bergen County Councilman Robert Schroeder, and former Bergen County freeholder Todd Caligie.

## Prelim. Municipal Budget Increasing \$2.4 Mil. Over '04

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lic works or around \$70,000 to \$75,000 and creating a new town planner post. The council agreed to the first two positions, but their vote on the final position.

Finance and Policy Committee Chairman Peter Echausse, who represents the first ward, said the council needs to "stop thinking in a vacuum" and long to the town's long-range needs. He argued that the council should fund the position in the event it is needed even after the two posts are filled.

First Ward Councilman Sal Caruana said the position is needed although he was not sure whether it would be a planner or some other position in the building department.

Fourth Ward Councilman Jim Foerst opposed the planner's position noting that the town was proposing a large increase in added salaries to the budget on top of the other increases in the 2005 budget.

"You are talking a lot of money" for a town planner, said Councilman Foerst.

Third Ward Councilman Andy Skibitsky said the council needs "to be very careful when we add head counts" to the town's payroll. He said the planner position should be reviewed in 2006 and not this year.

Mayor Greg McDermott said he believes the position needs to be better defined before the council makes a final decision on the post.

Mr. Gildea said he would meet with

building department directors to review the position to better define it and come back with a report to council.

In other business, the council will take action Tuesday to approve a resolution to create an employee paid voluntary supplemental insurance program. The program will be operated by AFLAC at no cost to the town.

The administrator said he will begin to reach to Scotch Plains officials on an agreement for township residents to use the Westfield recycling center on Lamberts Mill Road.

"This is not a simple agreement. This is a lot more intricate than a simple resolution," he said.

Calling it a "quality of life issue" for persons living near the recycling center, Councilman Foerst said he would like to see how the increase use of the center would relate to more traffic in the surrounding neighborhoods, which are included in his ward.

Officials said the town sells about 3,000 permits annually to Westfield residents to drop yard waste off at the center. It was estimated that around 700 Scotch Plains residents might utilize the center. Councilman Echausse said the town could restrict the numbers of permits issued Scotch Plains residents to better control the impact on local neighborhoods.

Councilman Foerst said once the program is approved and starts generating revenue for the town it would be difficult for the council to scale back the program.

## WF BOE

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ing of a new junior varsity tennis team at WHS and the full funding of the WHS varsity ice hockey team.

As part of the 2004-2005 school year budget, the board decided to support half of the ice hockey team's costs, excluding the rental of ice time. At the time, the board stated it would fully fund the team, minus the ice time, in the 2005-2006 budget.

Salaries for the athletic director, his secretary, and an athletic trainer come to \$205,623. Stipends for interscholastic athletics, intramurals, cheerleading, eighth grade sports, weight training, and equipment manager, and two junior varsity tennis coaches come to a total of \$628,149. The budget proposes \$19,000 for the reconditioning of equipment, including the re-tipping of javelins, a reconditioned high-jump pit, and the repair of goggles for the WHS girls lacrosse team.

The district's athletics programs currently accommodate 28 teams involving 1,329 students over the course of the year.

"There are a lot of opportunities," said Mr. Tranchina.

Prior to the meeting, the board announced that board members William Ziff and Alice Hunnicutt will seek reelection in this year's school board election. Board member Arlene Gardner announced in January that she would not seek reelection.

Additionally, residents Gary McCreedy and Steven Dory have both filed for candidacy to the board. The filing deadline for board elections is 4 p.m. on Monday, February 28.

## MS BOE

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regarding three projects the department is planning involving school property.

The Recreation Department received a Trust Fund Grant in the amount of \$50,000 as a result of the Open Space tax.

Ms. Winans indicated that the specific locations targeted for improvement will be the tennis courts at Deerfield School, the realignment of the Pony League baseball field and the installation of batting cages next to the new restrooms at Deerfield.

"The plus to the batting cages is that they will be for softball as well as hardball," Board Member John Perrin stated.

Ms. Winans concluded, "The improvements to the facilities will be dramatic."

Business Administrator Paul Vizzuso presented Phase II of the preliminary budget which includes technology, child study teams, out-of-district tuition, general administration, school administration, plant and maintenance, student transportation, business and support services, employee benefits, capital outlay equipment, debt service and revenue. The preliminary figure totals \$12,256,049.

"Be aware these numbers will be debated and adjusted but this is where we sit right now," Board member Ray Haggard stated.

## McCreedy Seeks BOE Seat; Hunnicutt Seeks Reelection

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hood home from his ailing mother. They jumped at the chance to return to Westfield.

Mrs. Hunnicutt is no longer a professional musician and currently works for Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN). SPAN receives federal money in order to help educate parents with children 14 and over who have disabilities transition from the school environment into the real world. She has personally reaped the rewards of her commitment to SPAN because her oldest son was diagnosed with developmental disabilities and was considered multiply handicapped. She stated that his transition has been successful and he is currently employed.

Mrs. Hunnicutt is the mother of five children ranging in age from 15 to 25. She currently has two sons attending Westfield High School. One is a freshman and the other, a junior. Her other three children were the product of the Westfield school system.

Her current position on the Westfield Board of Education is as the Facilities Chairwoman, and she was involved in the track and field project that recently passed in a bond referendum.

"With the population growing in Westfield, this is a good way to allow the community to have better usage

of our fields," Mrs. Hunnicutt commented.

She has also been extensively involved in the renovation of the auditorium at the high school. Mrs. Hunnicutt stated that her music background will help in designing an auditorium that, "with the right kind of acoustics, can provide more of a curriculum for those students who are interested in directing."

She also stated that she would be carefully looking at the current curriculum, which is up for review this year, to make sure, "we are reaching all populations." She also said that with the foreign language program now being introduced in third grade, students are entering junior high and high school with more knowledge.

"That's exciting," she said, adding that it also requires that the foreign language curriculum in sixth, seventh and eighth grades needs to be revisited.

One goal she has for the future of the district is to bring more students back from out-of-district placement. She acknowledged that this would require teachers being prepared and educated in order to instruct children with disabilities.

"Kids are like rubber bands. The farther you stretch them, the farther they go," she said.

## Recent Home Sales

### WESTFIELD

James R. and Mary Ann Corcoran to D. Villane Construction, LLC, 81 Fairhill Drive, \$689,900.

Stanley J. and Hazel L. Silverberg to Seung-Ho & Mi-Jeong Han, 320 Orenda Circle, \$645,000.

Gordon J. Esterly to Igor Mashtaler, 817 Mountain Avenue, \$620,000.

Lee Sayre & Raymond P. Derosa to Robert F. and Jane W. Summers, 511 Birch Avenue, \$979,000.

Glenn F. and Marianne Reynolds to Scott B. and Hilary M. Hefner, 252 Edgewood Avenue, \$560,000.

Thomas G. and Francine M. Matthews to Barbara Wong and Timothy Van Epp, 630 Glen Avenue, \$650,000.

Jane Schwarz and Alan Zimmerman to Privilege Jules, 942 North Avenue, West, \$355,000.

Timothy and Sandra Perkins to Thomas G. and Francine Matthews, 15 Galloway, \$890,000.

Bruce A. Frank and Leslie Erika Antoine to Troy and Jennifer Doll, 770 Oak Avenue, \$569,900.

John R. and Alsina F. Lima to Robert T. and Tasneen B. Carey, 234 Walnut Street, \$785,000.

RAJ Investments, Inc. to Michael Moretti, 576 North Avenue, East, \$1,100,000.

Fukuko and Yoko Narusawa to Charles S. Spinardi and Janet Albano Spinardi, 804 Coolidge Street, \$510,000.

Surk Young Kang and Nam Hee Kang to Brian P. Murphy and Michelle Belardi-Murphy, 605 Salter Place, \$425,000.

Michael Erickson to Michael and Karen Mueller, 738 Castleman Drive, \$730,260.

Rosemary P. Wellner to Lee Sayre De Rosa, 748 St. Marks Avenue, \$650,000.

Edwards S. France to Mao Ping Li, 257 Windsor Avenue, \$260,000.

Norman W. Cornelly and Erich K. Cornelly to Malcolm L. Cadd, Jr. and Christine M. Lau, 403 Beechwood Avenue, \$418,000.

Michele Marron to Brian and Fabiola Meade to 940 Grandview Avenue to \$455,000.

Alice F. Shill to Steven Fernandes and Todd Felter, 1416 Boulevard, \$349,900.

Melvin H. and Carol N. Ginsburg to Thomas Y. and Elaine K. Cha, 352 Orenda Circle, \$675,000.

Anthony & Diane M. Starita to Jay C. Brumfield and Sharon L. Levy, 346 Orenda Circle, \$745,000.

Susan J. and Thomas D. Cherin to Michael Mahoney, LLC, 860 Standish Avenue, \$350,000.

Matthew C. and Elizabeth S. Nilsen to Thomas and Stephanie Pitta, 237 Seneca Place, \$570,000.

Arthur O. Hennander to John C. and Donna R. Molinelli, 347 W. Dudley Avenue, \$745,000.

Gene N. Hobson and Joelle M. Minet to Gregory J. Redington and Michele M. Modestino, 530 Clark Street, \$525,000.

Frances T. Charlesworth to John Barker and Alicia Doyle, 538 Sherwood Parkway, \$620,000.

Max J. and Lila C. Kalm to Britain A. and Maureen W. O'Connor, 9 Bennett Place, \$1,050,000.

Sherri and Brian Longstreet to Scott D. and Suzan E. Salmon, 232 Golf Edge, \$675,000.

John H. and Jenifer C. Watty to Su-Ellyn Stern, 128 Woodland Avenue, \$1,450,000.

Peter W. and Elizabeth G. Schauf to Damiano and Giselle Bavaro to 1411 E. Broad Street, \$615,000.

Scott J. and Stacey Gordon to Thomas H. and Rhonda L. Kean, Jr., 215 Linden Avenue, \$1,290,000.

Jeffrey E. and Lara F. Jackson to Kevin E. and Eileen A. Sroka, 526 St. Marks Avenue, \$610,000.

Paul S. Hornung to D. Villane Construction Co., LLC, 110 Nelson Place, \$390,000.

William E. Pores and Dawn Kelsey to James and Kerry Fitzgerald, 719 Warren Street, \$527,000.

M.M. Real Estate Developers, Inc. to William M. and Mary C. Link, 615 Shadowlawn Drive, \$1,450,000.

Walter and Lucille Lawson to Patricia Thompson, 545 Edgar Road, \$435,000.

Scott and Kimberly Glucksman to Sarino Tropeano, 551 Trinity Place, \$380,000.

Robert Joback to Christopher D. and Jamie Huss, 534 Trinity Place, \$421,000.

Robert B. and Laura A. Denner to Robert Grella and Jaime Lehrhoff, 732 Coolidge Street, \$850,000.

Michael and Karen Mueller to John M. and Toni Lynn W. McMeekan, 850 Fairacres Avenue, \$690,878.

Claire Stern to Laura A. Denner, 745 Marcellus Drive, \$479,000.

Cara 1037, LLC to Jeffrey Gabriel, 1037 Coolidge Street, \$430,000.

Mary J. and Albert F. Hairback, Sr. to Ronald E. and Evelyn A. Moss, 6 Eastgate Square, \$680,000.

Dolores DiFonzo and Ruth Ventrella to Benjamin Gomez and Laura DiFonzo-Gomez, 217 Springfield Avenue, \$400,000.

Parkview Developers, Inc. to K&J Niemczyk, a New Jersey Partnership, 229 Myrtle Avenue, \$312,000.

Karl E. and Maria L. Newman to Richard S. and Lisa D. Tannenbaum, 104 Washington Street, \$517,750.

Carol Mingping Lee to Michael Mahoney, LLC, 774 Knollwood Terrace, \$690,000.

Adam and Nicole Winters to Guy L. and Carla A. Levy, 761 Hyslip Avenue, \$870,000.

Harry and Barbara Zietchick to Michael Mahoney, LLC, 753 Norgate, \$725,000.

Neal B. and Emily L. Snitow to Michael Mahoney, LLC, 890 Talcott Road, \$665,000.

Frederick B. and Donna D. Stumpf to Gordon J. Latter and Jane Maxwell, 955 Summit Avenue, \$729,900.

Stephen M. and Amanda Jaron to Kimberly and Brian Sokol, 845 Summit Avenue, \$620,000.

Brian and Kim M. Sokol to Mary C. Zito, 1101 Irving Avenue, \$500,000.

Winifred A. McCorry to Thomas Mazzeo, 105 Harrow Road, \$340,000.

Ilona and Eberhard H. Knuettel to Jonathan A. Nitche and Wendy Henderson, 302 Belmar Place, \$418,000.

Samuel and Millicent K. Levine to Laura Brown, 400 Poe Avenue, \$737,000.

John and Suzanne O'Rourke to Lili Chu, 53 Faulkner Drive, \$499,900.

Judy Bell and Alexander L. Bell, 3rd, to Glen and Randy Rosen, 33 Faulkner Drive, \$500,000.

JB Ventures, LLC to Scott R. and Elyse R. Everett, 14 Cottage Place, \$790,000.

M.M. Real Estate Developers, Inc. to Joseph and Carol A. Bonelli, 1708 Summit Avenue, \$929,900.

Igal Brenner and Debora Friedman Brenner to Joseph A. and Nicole M. Bresnahan to 18 Moss Avenue, \$495,000.

Mohamed H.A. Ragab and Eman Osman to Prudential Residential Services, 1616 Boynton Avenue, \$635,000.

Margaret Ann Reilly to Jay S. and Linda S. Kaplan, 1000 Minisink Way, \$910,000.

First Congregational Church of Westfield NJ, Inc. to Jennifer C. Watty, 849 Bradford Avenue, \$835,000.

William M. and Mary R. Beshears to Candant Mobility Financial Corporation, 51 Mohican Drive, \$710,000.

Cendant Mobility Financial Corporation to Edward R. and Teresa C. Davenport, 51 Mohican Drive, \$710,000.

Craig E. and Judith A. Reynolds to Jeffrey Gabriel, 830 Kimball Avenue, \$635,000.

WTWVTC, LLC to Donald A. and Jennifer L. Andretta, 722 Warren Street, \$651,500.

Needle Point Homes, LLC to Fred and Karen Posniak, 33 Woodbrook Circle, \$940,000.

Barry L. Lazarowitz and Claire Bay Lazarowitz to Home Again I, LLC to 817 Tice Place, \$480,000.

Ray and Victoria Brito to Leo and Alexander M. White, Jr., 26 Cottage Place, \$450,000.

## Permit Fees

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to \$120. A \$5 increase would raise a senior membership to \$75.

For non-resident families, there is a \$30 increase, which brings the total for this membership category to \$440. Both a single non-resident membership and a senior non-resident one would increase by \$15, for a total of \$220 and \$180, respectively. The ordinance also states that the non-resident initiation fee will be increased by five dollars to a total \$35 for a family and \$20 for a single membership.

The second ordinance increases the fee for certified copies of vital statistics, from \$5 a copy to \$15 a copy. These documents are defined as copies of birth, death and marriage records. Last month, Mayor Vigilanti noted that the increase was needed because of state mandated certified paper now being used for such documents.

The mayor stated that this special safety paper cannot be duplicated or altered with correction fluid. It is numerically ordered by the state, and any mistake made on these official copies must be sent back with a recording of what the mistake was. The mayor also noted that the new process is much more costly, but done by the state as a result of the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, noting that the process is a security measure.

On another matter, members of the governing body stated that they were preparing an ordinance for its first reading for the Tuesday, February 15 meeting regarding the resurfacing of Globe Avenue.

It was noted that \$232,500 would be taken from the borough's capital improvement fund for the job, but that \$140,000 would be returned to the borough from a Department of Transportation grant.

## Wake Forest Honors

### Carolyn Harbaugh

WESTFIELD—Carolyn Elizabeth Harbaugh of Westfield, a freshman at Wake Forest University in North Carolina, has been named to the university's fall 2004 dean's list.

## WESTFIELD POLICE BLOTTER

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Juan Cesar Islas Perez, 20, of Westfield was arrested at Elm and Quimby Streets. He was charged with driving while intoxicated; driving while intoxicated underage; resisting arrest and underage possession of an alcoholic beverage. He was later released on his own recognizance.

Thomas Duddy, 27, of South Plainfield was arrested at South Avenue and Downer Street and charged with driving while intoxicated. He later was released on his own recognizance.

Duddy also was taken into custody on an outstanding contempt of court warrant for \$260 out of Middletown. He was released after posting bail.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Cesar Cardoza, 28, of Elizabeth was arrested at the intersection of South Avenue, West, and Boulevard and charged with driving while intoxicated. He later was released on his own recognizance.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

John Pulidore, 36, of Westfield was arrested at South Avenue and Cumberland Street and charged with

driving while intoxicated. He was subsequently released on his own recognizance.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

After being stopped for careless driving, Mark Simonetti, 41, of Westfield was arrested at Central Avenue and Clifton Street and charged with driving while intoxicated and with refusal to take a breathalyzer test. He later was released on his own recognizance.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Someone damaged signs in the parking lot of a business located on East North Avenue.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Two men were arrested after police responded to a report of a fight at the northside Westfield train station, and witnessed the individuals allegedly shouting at and pushing one another, authorities said.

Branden Gassmann, 20, of Winfield Park and Adham El-Sherbeini, 18, of Westfield were each charged with disorderly conduct. El-Sherbeini was additionally charged with resisting arrest. Both were released on their own recognizance.



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader*

**A PROFESSIONAL DONATION...** Former Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football star Nathan Jones, now playing for the Dallas Cowboys, donated his jersey, No. 33, to his alma mater. Mr. Jones, who graduated from Rutgers University as an Academic All-American, also was a *Leader/Times* Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Pictured, left to right, are: SP-F Athletic Director Rob Harmer, Jones and SP-F Football Head Coach Steve Cicotelli.

