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Campaign Release for Andy Skibitsky & Sal Caruana The Reynolds Hold Friend-Raiser

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member of the council's finance committee, Caruana believes the council must continue to strive to find greater efficiencies in municipal government to minimize future tax increases. He believes attention needs to be focused on the negative impacts of the demolition and McMansion trend. Not only are classic homes being lost and replaced often with oversized structures that impact the character of blocks and neighborhoods, but this change in the housing stock means that the town is losing starter homes that would be affordable to young couples and families of modest incomes. This trend can change our social and economic character as much as our architectural one. Mayor Andy Skibitsky elaborated on the current traffic and safety initiative that will bring needed improvements to eight of the town's troubled "hot spots." He also discussed the seven-month efficiency study of our Department of Public Works that was recently concluded by a group of citizen volunteers who possessed vast private professional expertise. In the coming weeks the group's recommendations will be implemented, bringing productivity and management improvements to the department. Mayor Skibitsky described how such an extensive review could have cost the town in excess of \$100,000 but instead came at no cost to Westfield taxpayers because residents with professional experience volunteered to do the study. The idea to review the department with resident professionals as volunteers originated with Mr. Skibitsky when he was chairman of the town's public works committee last year. He remarked that as mayor he now hopes to form similar resident/professional volunteer task forces to improve efficiencies in all other areas of town government at no cost to Westfield taxpayers. He described it as potentially "the best of both worlds—improvements in the delivery of town services and efficiencies with studies and new, professional strategies that come at no cost to the Westfield taxpayer."

Mayor Skibitsky and Councilman Caruana invite the public to visit their websites at andy2005.com and Caruana2005.com or to call them at home at (908) 301-1265 and (908) 233-4039, respectively, for more information.



TEN MINUTES FREE...Westfield initiates a customer-friendly "First 10-Minutes Free Parking" program downtown. More than 250 parking meters have been equipped with a button that enables citizens to pick up packages, drop off laundry or get a cup of coffee without parking-meter hassle during a short stay.

Westfield Meters Downtown Undergo Makeover

From the Mayor's Desk
Andy Skibitsky

For the convenience of shoppers, the short-term, on-street parking meters in the downtown area have undergone a "makeover." The meters have been specially equipped with buttons that shoppers can press to receive 10 minutes of free parking. If you just need to run quickly into a store or office downtown, you can now park on the street and not feed the meter, - unless, of course, you need more than 10 minutes. In addition, street parking limits along South Avenue in the downtown area have been expanded from one hour to two hours. Efforts to make parking even more convenient are

ongoing. Soon, the on-street meters will be programmed to accept "smart" cards. I will keep you informed of all the changes as they happen. Until then, should you have any questions, please contact our office of parking services at 789-4044. You may also make an appointment to meet with me on a Saturday morning by calling my assistant, Joan, at (908) 789-4041.

Each participant will receive a free T-shirt. Interested persons are asked to call the Department of Public Property at (908) 322-6700, extension no. 243.

Scotch Plains to Hold Clean-up October 15

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Township of Scotch Plains will hold a Public Lands Clean-up Day on Oct. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. Neighborhood, family, service, school, athletic and social groups are invited to help pick up litter on public lands throughout the township.

A picnic lunch will follow the cleanup at noon at Alan Augustine Park, located adjacent to the Scotch Plains Municipal Building at 430 Park Avenue. Each participant will receive a free T-shirt. Interested persons are asked to call the Department of Public Property at (908) 322-6700, extension no. 243.

Cano Volunteers For Katrina Relief Service

Westfield resident Daniel Cano has volunteered his services to help in the relief of Hurricane Katrina. His journey to New Orleans will last a minimum of sixteen days. Daniel is a twelve-year veteran of the North Brunswick Police Department and served his country in the Gulf War. He currently resides in Westfield with his wife and two children.

Collaboration Between Council And BOE Will Increase Efficiency

By Darielle Walsh
Westfield Council Candidate Ward Three

I am Darielle Walsh, a member of the town council and candidate for the Third Ward in Westfield.

Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky recently appointed me to a position as the town council liaison to the board of education and asked me to explore additional areas in order to generate

Bramnick Champions Center For Hope Grant

SCOTCH PLAINS - Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R-21) spoke at a public hearing on behalf of the Center for Hope Hospice and its requested grant funding on Sept. 16.

The Center for Hope's goal was to secure funds for the construction of Hope Village, a 30-bed residential hospice facility in Scotch Plains. The center provides innovative and easy access to health care for the terminally ill in New Jersey. It has two residences that are operating at capacity. Because of limited space, the center is forced to turn away hundreds of applicants every year. On Sept. 20, the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority approved the Center for Hope's \$1.5 million grant request. The need for Hope Village crossed party lines, as Assemblyman Joe Cryan (D-20) joined Assemblyman Bramnick in testifying at the public hearing.

The grant will allow the facility to provide the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of dying patients and their families.

greater collaboration and shared services.

My intention is to establish regular communication and dialogue between the town council and the board of education to increase greater efficiency through shared services.

Because of my experience and leadership on the board of education for nine years, three of them as president, I am uniquely qualified for that position and am confident that my background with the board will pay dividends for the town council and community as we continue to look for creative ways to work more efficiently, spend smarter and save taxpayer money.

We currently practice shared resources in a number of areas and have already begun discussions with representatives of both the town council and board of education to explore other available opportunities for collaboration.

This September, I have begun working with Dr. Foley, school principals, the BRAKES group and the police department to discuss traffic and pedestrian safety around the schools. We will be reaching out to parents through the parent teacher council and individual PTA/PTO's to hear their concerns before making any decisions.

I also serve as vice-chair of the Public Works Committee and as a member of the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking committee, and I look forward to working with Westfield residents to deliver the best services possible.

Bill Would Ban Sale of Violent Games to Minors

TRENTON - Assemblywoman Linda Stender held a press conference on Monday to unveil legislation that would impose a statewide ban on the sale and rental of violent and sexually explicit video games to individuals under the age of 18. She was to be joined by bill co-sponsor Assemblyman Jon Bramnick and Dr. Ronald Coughlin, founder of the New Jersey Violence Prevention Institute.

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RUTHERGLEN ESTATES "THE ALLIANCE" \$15.99
A blend of two white grapes native to the south of France, Marsanne and Viognier, made in Victoria, Australia. Lovely floral and fruit blossom aromas. Citrus, apricot, lemon-butter and a flinty mineral note all make this a refreshing change of pace from everyday white wine. Easy enough to drink before a meal and hearty enough for heavier fish and chicken dishes.

SHINAS ESTATE THE GUILTY SHIRAZ \$21.99
A big rich northern Victorian Shiraz that still remains balanced and will only grow more elegant with age. Jammy black fruit, good peppery spices and notes of tobacco. This should age well for at least ten years. Decant for two hours and serve with lamb, beef or heavy meat dishes.

CHATON VINEYARDS CALAVERAS MERLOT \$23.99
Yes, you can still get a good California Merlot for less than a tuition payment. A small production wine from the foothills of the eastern part of the state, this has loads of cherry and blackberry fruit. There are hints of anise and licorice that blend well with the well-integrated tannins. Decant for 45 minutes.

Your Favorite Wines

Blackstone Merlot	\$8.99	750ml
J Lohr Chardonnay	\$10.99	750ml
Simi Chardonnay	\$12.99	750ml
BV Coastal Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay/Pinot Noir	\$7.99	750ml
Hess Select Chardonnay	\$8.99	750ml
Toasted Head Chardonnay	\$10.99	750ml

Your Favorite Whiskey

Jack Daniels	\$35.99	1.75L
Jim Beam	\$23.99	1.75L
Seagrams 7	\$14.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Rum

Captain Morgan	\$23.99	1.75L
Bacardi Silver	\$18.99	1.75L
Bacardi Gold	\$18.99	1.75L
Malibu	\$23.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Value Wines

Mondavi Coastal Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$16.99	1.5L
Beringer Founders Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$15.99	1.5L
Woodbridge Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$10.99	1.5L
Vendange Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$6.99	1.5L
Fetzer Cabernet/Chardonnay	\$13.99	1.5L
Cavit Pinot Grigio	\$11.99	1.5L
Walnut Crest Cabernet	\$8.99	1.5L
Cesar Pinot Grigio	\$10.99	1.5L
Bolla Soave	\$10.99	1.5L
Beringer White Zinfandel	\$8.99	1.5L
Franzia Burgundy/Chablis/Chianti	\$10.99	5L
Carlos Rossi Burgundy/Chablis/Paisano/Sangria	\$8.99	4L
Opici Homemade Barbarone	\$11.99	4L

Your Favorite Gen

Bombay Sapphire	\$34.99	1.75L
Tanqueray	\$30.99	1.75L
Hendricks	\$27.99	750ml
Beefeater	\$28.99	1.75L
Gordons	\$14.99	1.75L
Seagrams	\$15.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Scotch

Dewars White Label	\$29.99	1.75L
Chivas Regal	\$51.99	1.75L
Johnnie Walker Black	\$55.99	1.75L
Johnnie Walker Red	\$30.99	1.75L
Clan MacGregor	\$16.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Cordials

Baileys	\$17.99	750ml
Romana Sambuca	\$17.99	750ml
Kahlua	\$14.99	750ml
Southern Comfort	\$13.99	750ml
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