

Mountainside Reorganization

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Plains-Fanwood Times that Mountainside's example shows that the idea of "bigger is better is not always right" and that "real property tax reduction can be accomplished at the local level."

Mayor Vigilanti said for 2007, Mountainside "has already been given mandated tax increases of over \$200,000; this is before we even start our own budget or start to do anything more for our residents, our taxpayers."

The mayor said that, despite the mandated increases placed on Mountainside, the borough "accomplished an awful lot" in 2006.

Specifically, he pointed to road reconstruction, the lighting of four recreation fields, a new water slide at the municipal pool, improvements to the borough's website and a new GPS system for the police department's dispatch operations.

Mayor Vigilanti also highlighted the successful completion of the second phase of a lawsuit stemming from the Union County Regional High School District's 1996 dissolution. The mayor said, "The total amount received by our board of education from this suit now totals over \$8.5 million."

Looking ahead at his 20th year in office, Mayor Vigilanti said the borough council "still recognizes that there is a need for a community center and also knows the desires of many of our seniors to remain in town with some type of senior housing." He indicated that such programs are "being actively investigated" and his administration "may present some concepts to you in the very near future."

Also at Tuesday night's reorganization meeting, Councilmen William Lane and Robert Messler - both of whom ran unopposed in November - were sworn in (to their second and third terms, respectively) by municipal Judge James DeRose, who previously took his oath of office for another term.

Councilman Keith Turner was elected president of the borough council, replacing Paul Mirabelli.

Mr. Mirabelli praised Mayor Vigilanti's leadership. "Certainly, he makes the job of councilman much easier," he said of the mayor, who responded that the borough's successes "could not be done without the council we have."

Mayor Vigilanti said the council doesn't "have egos and [is] not here for political reasons; [the councilmen] are here because they really care about the community."

Tuesday night's meeting also included police department commendations, the promotion of Sergeant Richard Weigle to lieutenant and the swearing in of a new patrolman and the entire eight-man fire department.

Other key borough appointments include: John Post, borough attorney; Frank Sahaj, municipal prosecutor; James Debbie, part-time borough administrator and police chief; Martha DeJesus, borough clerk; Patricia Scherer, tax collector; Mike Disko, borough engineer; Suplee Clooney and Company, borough auditor/financial advisor, and Bollinger Insurance, borough insurance agent.

Additional appointments were: Ronald Romak, public works schedule coordinator; Stephanie Trano, acting zoning and land use officer; George McGrath, construction code official; Jill Goode, chief financial officer; Frank Massella, director of recreation/municipal pool administrator; Adam Lieb, assistant recreation director/municipal pool administrator; Eldo Magnani, tax assessor; Ruth Rees, planning board recording

secretary, and Vincent Loughlin, planning board attorney.

Other appointments included the following: Paulette Drogon, senior citizens coordinator; Lillian Corsi, local assistance director (Town of Westfield); public works crew members Robert Farley, Richard Neri, Thomas Root, Oscar Cardona, and Horacio Colell; Michael Debbie, cable television coordinator; Angelo Rossi, plumbing inspector, and Jerry Eger, building sub-code official. Also, Neil Williams, Jr. was named chief of the borough's volunteer fire department.

The borough council's standing committees have been organized as follows: Police - Mr. Turner, chairman, Mr. Mirabelli and Glen Mortimer; Solid Waste/Recycling - Mr. Mortimer, chairman, Mr. Mirabelli and Mr. Messler; Recreation - Mr. Turner, chairman, Mr. Mirabelli and Mr. Lane; Channel 35 - Mr. Mirabelli, chairman, Mr. Lane and Mr. Turner.

Council liaisons are: planning board, Mr. Messler; board of health, Mr. Schon; board of education, Mr. Mirabelli; library, Mr. Mortimer; rescue squad, Mr. Lane; board of tax appeals, Mr. Messler; emergency management, Mr. Turner; local assistance, Mr. Turner; board of tax assessors, Mr. Messler; construction board of appeals, Mr. Messler; shade tree, Mr. Schon; historic preservation committee, Mr. Mortimer, and Children's Specialized Hospital, Mr. Mortimer.

The borough council's monthly work session meeting is Tuesday, January 9; its regular monthly meeting is Tuesday, January 16.



SERVICE RECOGNIZED...The Westfield Police Department and PBA Local 90 recently held its awards ceremony. Pictured, standing in the back, from left to right, are: Officers Preston Freeman, Frank Moya, Jason Carter, Joseph Martino, John Tango, Marcin Kapka, James Stivale and Frank Padovano; seated, Officers Donald Perkins, Nicole Stivale and Leonard Lugo.

Garwood Reorganization

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cal information."

The DPW was also congratulated on "their great job of clearing the snow and ice that fell during the great blizzard in February. They also assisted in planting 188 new trees throughout the town. We appreciate all the hard work they do for us," Mayor McCarthy said.

In other business, the following people were appointed to a one-year term: borough attorney, Robert Renaud; bonding attorney Steven Rogut; borough auditor, Robert Cagnassola of Westfield-based Suplee, Clooney & Co.; treasurer, Sue Wright; municipal court prosecutor, Steven Merman; municipal court public defender, Edward Cooper; municipal court administrator, Martha Marino; deputy court administrator, Anita Ruscansky; recycling coordinator and superintendent of the Department of public works, Frederick Corbitt; assistant fire chief, Wayne Frew, and superintendent of fire apparatus, Leonard Spina.

Donald Guarriello was appointed to a three-year term as borough engineer and Councilwoman Villaggio was appointed to a year-long council liaison to the planning board. Appointed to one-year terms as school crossing guards, were Diane Cerillo, Teresa Cuccaro, Linda Knierim, Janet Korinchak, Stefan Motycjka, Rosemary Snow, Kyren Reed, Theodore Woodruff, Matilda Froat, Margaret Staba and alternates Doug Knierim, Dennis Clark and Suzanne Granberg. Mayor McCarthy also appointed



'C' IS FOR COOKIE...Children in the Jump Start Pre-Kindergarten classes at Brunner and Evergreen elementary schools in Scotch Plains baked gingerbread cookies for families of the Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Union County. Above, Brunner students Christopher McArdle, Sabrina Cruz and William Watson display a tray of cookies that they helped to make.

Fanwood Reorganization

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

housed in a building that has played a major role in the creation of Fanwood is something we should be proud of," Mayor Mahr said. "Anyone that may have items they wish to donate to the museum should contact Borough Hall."

Borough Appointments

Among the mayor's appointments were: Library Board of Trustees (one-year term), Mayor's Representative, Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell and Councilman Bruce Walsh; Shared Services Coordinating Council, Mayor Mahr and Councilman Walsh; Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee, (one-year term) Mayor Mahr; Mayor's Alternate Representative, William Populus; council represen-

tative, James Dozier; Union County Transportation Advisory Committee (one-year term) Mayor's Representative, Jack Molenaar; Raritan Valley Rail Coalition; (one-year term) Jack Molenaar; Union County Cultural And Heritage Programs Advisory Board, (one-year term) Adele Kenny and Tom Plante, alternate.

Other appointments were Solid Waste Advisory Council, (one-year term) Public Works Director Clinton Dickson and Robert Sommerich, alternate representative; Cultural Arts Committee, Councilwoman Mitchell, Adele Kenny, chairman; Robert Chang, Raj Dpgra, Carol Oakes, Tom Plante, and George Weiss; Communications/Volunteerism 35 Committee, Council President Donna Dolce, Council Liaison; Nick Buteus, Victoria Cook, Joan Feller, chairwoman; Pat Hoynes, Rosemarie McCallion, Michael Prasada, John Mooney, Joseph Nagy, Mr. Sommerich and Mr. Weiss.

Historic Preservation Commission (four-year term) Mr. Nagy and Edward Groskinsky; Library Board of Trustees, Lisa Hayes and Patricia Plante; Recreation Commission, Joan Feller (five-year term); mayor's appointments to boards and commissions, Assessment Commission (one-year term), Mr. Nagy, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Populus; Environmental Commission (three-year term), Elaine Vuono and Sandra Redder; Planning Board, Mr. Molenaar (four-year term) and Kevin St. Onge, (one-year term); Shade Tree Commission (five-year term), Steve Falco, chairman, (one-year term) and Earl Phillips.

The council standing committees are as follows: administrative and finance, Ms. Mitchell, chairman; Joan Wheeler and Donna Dolce; public safety, Mr. Walsh, Ms. Wheeler, and Mr. Valian; public works, Ms. Dolce, Joseph Higgins, and Ms. Mitchell; land use and historic preservation, Mr. Valian, chairman; Mr. Higgins and Ms. Dolce; recreation and community services, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Valian, and Mr. Walsh; health and senior services, Ms. Wheeler, Ms. Mitchell, and Mr. Walsh.

Borough officials for 2007 are as follows: administrator, Eleanor McGovern; chief financial officer, Fred Tomkins; borough attorney, Dennis Ety; borough engineer, Joseph Pryor; municipal judge, Susan MacMullen; Lara DiFabrizio, borough prosecutor; public defender and court administrator, Joy Veeck; deputy court administrator, Donna Zucker; tax collector, Colleen Huehn; tax assessor, Michael Ross; public agent, Ms. McGovern; official assessment searcher, Ms. McGovern; police chief, Donald Domanoski; fire chief, David Ziegler; public works director, Mr. Dickson; officer in charge, bureau of fire prevention/deputy chief fire official, Thomas Scalera; c-2 collections systems operator, Mr. Pryor; zoning officer/public officer, Nancy Koederitz; personnel director, Ms. McGovern; municipal alliance representative, Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Domanoski; construction official, building sub code official and building inspector, Bruce Helmstetter; fire sub code official, Frank Oberlies; recycling coordinator, Mary Appezzato.

Fanwood's special officer, Jack Ross; school crossing guards, Edward Frame, James Brewer, Alan Frey, Vincent Krey, Sigmund Mruzinski, Marge Pate; subs, Joseph Fantini and Lynn Sorf; and, registered nurse Ms. Mitchell.

SUSPECT WANTED...The Westfield Police Department (WPD) has released the following composite of a suspect wanted for an alleged sexual assault of a Westfield High School male freshman that occurred in September in a WHS boy's bathroom at 11 a.m. during school hours. Police said the suspect allegedly pulled out a small knife, described as a switchblade, and lured the victim into a bathroom stall, where the attack occurred. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 30 to 40 years old, 5-foot, 10- inches tall, 175 pounds with a medium build, black hair, brown eyes and an olive skin complexion. The suspect is said to have been wearing dirty blue jeans and a dark green pocket-tee shirt and spoke clear English. Police said the family notified police of the attack two weeks ago when victim told his parents. Anyone with information is asked to call the WPD at (908) 789-4000, extension 0.



POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield

Saturday, December 23, Randy Majocha, 24, of Westfield was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) after a motor vehicle stop at Boulevard and Park Street. He was issued a summons and held until sober for release.

Saturday, December 23, Thomas Hanscom, 24, of Westfield was arrested at Westfield police headquarters and charged with DWI and refusal to submit to an Alcotest. Hanscom later was released to a responsible individual.

Saturday, December 23, Jesse Brown, 20, of North Plainfield was arrested at North and Dudley Avenues and charged with possession of less than 50 grams of marijuana. He was released with a summons.

Sunday, December 24, Karsten Moen, 45, of Redmond, Wash. and charged with aggravated assault for allegedly throwing bodily fluid at a law enforcement officer.

Authorities said Moen spat in the officer's face as he was being transported from Harrow Road to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield for an involuntary psychological examination. He was committed to the hospital for evaluation.

Monday, December 25, a resident of the 1000 block of East Broad Street reported that the driver's side window of his motor vehicle was broken during the early morning hours that day while the vehicle was parked in the driveway of his home.

Monday, December 25, a Scotch Plains resident reported that a window was broken on his motor vehicle while it was parked in a driveway of the 100 block of Brightwood Avenue.

Tuesday, December 26, a business on the 100 block of Central Avenue reported the theft of \$430 worth of cologne as a result of an apparent shoplifting. Store employees observed obvious vacancies of merchandise from the shelves.

Tuesday, December 26, Guillermo Lagos, 61, of Tobyhanna, Pa. was arrested on an outstanding \$2,500 Newark warrant during a motor vehicle stop at South Avenue and Crossway Place. Lagos posted bail and was released.

Wednesday, December 27, during a motor vehicle stop at Lamberts Mill and Dorian Roads, police arrested Joseph Bartolotta, 21, of Scotch Plains on a charge of possession of less than 50 grams of marijuana and Dustin Jefferson, 22, of Fanwood on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. Both were released on their own recognition with a summons.

Thursday, December 28, Christian Patterson, 18, of Westfield was arrested during a motor vehicle stop at Dudley Avenue and Clark Street and charged with DWI. He was released to a responsible individual.

Thursday, December 28, Rae Ann Watson, 30, of Rahway was arrested on Central Avenue on charges of theft by deception and forgery. According to police, in November, Watson allegedly took out a credit card in someone else's name, with which she made purchases. She also allegedly registered a motor vehicle in the victim's name and received parking tickets. Watson was released with a summons pending a court appearance.

Thursday, December 28, Ann A. Morgan, 54, of Woodbridge was arrested at the East Brunswick Police Department on a Westfield traffic warrant. She later was released on \$350 bail.

Friday, December 29, Nicole Carscadden, 22, of Cranford was arrested on Dudley Avenue near Forest Avenue and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. She was released with a summons.

Friday, December 29, Angela A. Podias, 25, of Springfield was arrested and charged with DWI after her motor vehicle left the roadway and traveled up on the lawn of a residence at East Broad Street and Gallows Hill Road. Podias was issued two summonses and released to her mother.

Friday, December 29, William Whitney, 51, of Westfield was arrested on Dartmouth Street on a no-bail Union County Sheriff's Department warrant. He was turned over to the sheriff's department.

Friday, December 29, Kenneth Majors, 32, of Redmond, was arrested on Alden Avenue in Scotch Plains and charged with DWI. He was released to a responsible individual.

Scotch Plains
Tuesday, December 26, a resident of Terrill Road reported being someone obtained her credit card information and made several hundred dollars worth of unauthorized purchases.

Thursday, December 28, Lance McNeill, 22, of Plainfield was arrested for an outstanding South Plainfield warrant per a motor vehicle stop.

Friday, December 29, Steven Hawthorne, 26, of Irvington was arrested for an outstanding Scotch Plains warrant after a motor vehicle stop.

Saturday, December 30, a resident of Myrtle Avenue reported someone caused damage to his front lawn.

Monday, January 1, a resident of Henry Street reported that he returned home and noticed damage to the back door. Entrance was not gained and nothing was reported missing, police said.

Fanwood
Saturday, December 23, a resident of Hunter Avenue reported someone cut the wire of his outdoor Christmas lights.

Tuesday, December 26, Dorothy M. Dallah, 66, of Scotch Plains was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road for an outstanding Livingston warrant.

Saturday, December 30, a resident of Glenwood Road reported someone scratched his vehicle while it was parked on the street.

Sometime between Friday, December 29, and Sunday, December 31, a resident of Martine Avenue reported someone threw clementines at her house and car.

Mountainside
Thursday, December 21, Rodney W. Johnson, 38, of Piscataway was transported from the Union County Police Department on an active warrant from Mountainside for \$300.

Thursday, December 28, Anthony N. Malczanek, 21, of Scotch Plains was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for speeding and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of less than 50 grams of marijuana.

Sunday, December 31, Mark A. Grillo, 36, of Toms River was found asleep behind the wheel of his vehicle and after further investigation was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Monday, January 1, Carlos F. Rios, 27, of Elizabeth was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Route 22 for numerous violations and charged with DWI.

a picture is worth a thousand words
find reorganization meeting photos at goleader.com/photos

PERSONAL INJURY LAW

Call **JON M. BRAMNICK**
CERTIFIED TRIAL ATTORNEY
BRAMNICK, RODRIGUEZ, MITTERHOFF, GRABAS & WOODRUFF, LLC
WWW.JONBRAMNICK.COM
1827 East Second Street, Scotch Plains
908-322-7000

CIVIL UNIONS ARE NOW THE LAW

Governor Jon Corzine has just signed into law new Legislation establishing CIVIL UNIONS. It is important to know that your rights can be protected by a pre-Civil Union Agreement (similar to the often utilized pre-Marital Agreement) prior to your entering into a Civil Union.

Should you have any questions about what this means to you, the Cranford Law Firm of Dughi & Hewit, P.C. is pleased to announce that **Mario C. Gurrieri, Esq.** Chair of its Family Law Department, **Richard A. Outhwaite, Esq.** and **Lisa Stein-Browning, Esq.**, will provide a free office conference so that your rights may be explained your questions answered in connection with Civil Unions and preceding agreements.

Call (908) 272-0200
Dughi & Hewit, P.C.
340 North Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016

OWEN BRAND
Your Home-Town MORTGAGE BANKER

Residential - Construction Commercial - Bridge Loans

Local: (908) 789-2730
Toll Free: (888) 256-4447 ext. 26
obrand@isbmortgageco.com

Licensed Mortgage Bankers - NJ Dept. of Banking
Equal Housing Lender