



PRETTY AS FLOWERS...At the Perch house in Westfield last Saturday, young adults are all dressed up on the way to the Westfield High School Prom.

Courtesy of Jane Goellner



PRE-PROM...Couples are 'dressed to the nines' at the Luscombe home on Maye Street in Westfield. Pictured, left to right, are: Andrew Bogatko, Shauna Latinsics, James Hooper-Hamersley, Maria Kheyman, Sam Johnson, Alyssa Ulrope, Josh Gregoire, Samantha Luscombe, Brian Fabiano and Claire Algarin.

Courtesy of the Luscombe family

Lance and Stender to Battle for Congress Seat

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Mr. Lance, speaking to supporters at the American Legion Hall in Flemington at 10 p.m., criticized the "do-nothing Democratic Congress," and said, "We cannot tax or borrow or spend our way to fiscal responsibility — and that is the contrast that exists in the general election." He said he has the "experience and independence necessary to fight in Washington for the fundamental change that is necessary to improve our economy and make the lives of the next generation better than our own."

Hetold *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* that he intends to campaign "vigorously," and believes his views "are the views of the overwhelming majority of the people of this congressional district," pointing specifically to "fiscal responsibility, social moderation and strong environmental protection." He also said that Senator John McCain, the presumptive GOP presidential nominee, "will run very well in New Jersey and he will carry this Congressional district overwhelmingly."

Ms. Whitman, speaking to supporters at her parents' home in Oldwick, said the high voter turnout in Sen. Lance's home of Hunterdon County "was a huge factor" in the voting. She congratulated the other candidates and said she was "proud of the campaign that we ran."

As for her political future, she told *The Times*, "We'll see what happens," but for now, she said she looked forward "to being able to take my kids to school in the morning instead of having to campaign at train stations."

Ms. Hatfield, awaiting the returns at a supporter's home in Summit, told *The Times* she felt "very good about what we've done," namely running what she called "a positive, issue-focused campaign. I don't think Republicans want to see one Republican bashing another Republican — it's not good for Republicans. In general," she added, "the people I have talked to are disenfranchised with bashing and negative campaigning."

Mr. Marks spoke to several dozen supporters at Scotch Hills Country Club shortly after 9:30 p.m. and soon after he spoke with Mr. Lance, who

he called "a good man" and "a true gentleman." Mr. Marks said it was "of the utmost importance that we get behind" Mr. Lance in his upcoming campaign against Ms. Stender.

Invoking the 2006 campaign theme of Mr. Ferguson, who chose not to run this year for fifth term, Mr. Marks said that "Linda Stender is still a spender." He thanked his family, as well as his campaign staff for their support and efforts.

"I don't know what the future will bring politically for me," he said, who is not running for re-election in this year's municipal election and will leave the Scotch Plains Township Council in January after 12 years. He said he had learned two major lessons in life, one from his mother, who reminded him that "life isn't always fair, and if you remember that, you'll maintain your sanity."

The other lesson, he said, was from Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones, who wrote that "you can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes you just might find you get what you need," and, turning to his wife and two children, said he had what he needed with them.

In the U.S. Senate race, Democratic incumbent Senator Frank Lautenberg easily defeated Rep. Rob Andrews of Haddon Heights and will square off in November against former Rep. Richard Zimmer, who easily defeated Senator Joseph Pennacchio of Morris County and Ramapo College business professor Murray Sabrin.

Mr. Lautenberg won in Union County with 68 percent of the vote, while Mr. Pennacchio defeated Mr. Zimmer in the county balloting.

All three Democratic incumbents won re-nominations to run for fresh three-year terms on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Democrats Angel Estrada of Elizabeth, Rick Proctor of Rahway and Nancy Ward of Linden defeated challengers from Elizabeth and Linden and will face Republicans Michael Yakubov of Roselle Park, John Russitano of Westfield and Joseph Franchino in November. They easily defeated candidates aligned with Mr. Sabrin.

John Maguire, Katie Rogers and Paul J. Peyton contributed to this story.

Mountainside Discusses Law Regulating Portable Storage

By EBONY MCQUEEN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — During Tuesday night's work session, council members discussed the second reading of an ordinance to regulate the use of Portable Containerized Property Storage Facilities (PCPSF), which are usually in place during construction.

According to council members, residents are leaving PCPSFs on their properties for extensive periods of time, creating a problem for neighbors. The ordinance will prohibit residents from leaving PCPSFs in their driveways for longer than 30 days.

The council has not yet decided how long residents who already have a PCPSF on their property will have to apply for a permit, or how long residents who have PCPSFs with measurements that do not adhere to the ordinance have to remove them.

Borough officials also discussed releasing council information in the

borough's recreation newsletter, which is sent to all Mountainside residences five times a year.

"There are certain things we don't get out to the residents, that we should," said Mayor Robert Vigilanti.

According to Recreation Director Frank Masella, inserting the council information would take away from the recreation newsletter.

The Deerfield School valedictorian and salutatorians will receive a resolution of congratulations during the council's regular meeting on June 17.

Another ordinance that will be heard on second reading at the council's meeting would allow the borough to charge a \$50 fee for any residential or non-residential construction project in which someone changes contractors during the course of the project.

The meeting concluded with the council going into executive session to discuss health benefits.

County Taxes

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make the Berkeley Heights facility "totally self-sustaining" by 2010.

Non-union employees had their salary increases delayed until July 1, and will also pay higher payroll deductions for health care to reduce costs by \$1 million.

Freeholder Dan Sullivan said the county is facing the same budget challenges as municipalities.

Garwood resident Bruce Paterson said tax increases hit small towns, like Garwood, hard, noting that Republican freeholder candidates have defeated Democrats in Garwood three out of the last four years. He said voters want the county to lower taxes in Garwood. The borough's taxpayers will pay an average of \$92 over last year, or \$1,207, in total county taxes.

Tina Renna, president of the Union County Watchdog Association, accused the freeholders of only spend-

ing money "on yourselves" to help win re-election. She said the county averages \$1.25 million in spending per day.

"You are not serving the people," she said.

Refuting her statement, Mr. Sullivan said later in the meeting that the largest portion of the budget, \$118 million, or 28 percent, is for health and welfare programs for county residents.

A public hearing on the budget has been set for Thursday, June 26, at 7 p.m. in the freeholders meeting room at the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth.

Plan Bd.

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not fully dine-in, but equally supplies catering, take out, delivery and sit-down dining.

A full service restaurant would require more parking, officials said.

Three members of the public supported Mr. Chaves during the public comment period. Mr. Elenis offered the only public opposing comment.

"I think he brings a certain je ne sais quoi to the neighborhood," resident Shelley DeJohn said. "He and his wife run a first class operation."

Manager of Annie's, Catherine Miller, said she never received a complaint from the Westfield Diner about her customers parking in their lot.

Mr. Chaves told *The Leader* that he does not know when he will open the new location, but would like to open soon.

WF BOE

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the community to a county basis.

The approved personnel agenda included transfer of staff to Lincoln School. The Jefferson School nurse will move to Lincoln, creating an open nurse position at Jefferson. A WHS custodian and a Franklin School custodian will shift to Lincoln and the Office of Instruction secretary will move to Lincoln.

Dr. Dolan told *The Westfield Leader* that the district will not hire new teachers for Lincoln. Teachers will be shifted from current schools.

Mrs. Stender Thanks Voters; Promises Addressing Issues

"It's a privilege and an honor to be a candidate for Congress from the Seventh District," Assemblywoman Linda Stender told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* yesterday. "I feel a great responsibility to my constituents and I want to make them proud of their representation."

Mrs. Stender said that she planned to continue to talk to district voters about "the issues they are most concerned about," including the economy, the war in Iraq and efforts to elimi-

nate dependence on foreign oil sources, stating that the current Republican administration had "failed us miserably."

Regarding dependence on foreign oil, she said that the government needs to look toward alternative fuel sources and renewable resources.

In addition to bringing home American troops, Mrs. Stender also called for a new GI bill to support returning veterans, a measure she said would be "an investment that will make our country stronger."



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