

## RVSA Discusses Concerns For Cogen. Exhaust System

By WAYNE BAKER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

RAHWAY—The Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) board, on June 18, discussed the meaning of a statement in Caterpillar/Foley's commissioning report for the cogeneration engines at the RVSA's wastewater treatment facility. The authority also approved a treatment works application for a "Mount Laurel" housing complex, approved on June 22, by Roselle Park.

Caterpillar's report noted a concern about restraint of the exhaust system on the cogeneration system. The question centers on how much movement of the breeching (a flexible connection) of the engines' exhaust is acceptable. Caterpillar supplied vertical breeching, which is connected to the exhaust system, which includes a heat reclamation section.

Caterpillar claims the design allows for an unacceptable four to six inches of movement, while RVSA Executive Director Michael Brinker described about three-eighths of an inch of movement.

According to Mr. Brinker, Caterpillar cited a "worst-case" scenario, but only after commissioning. This concern has suspended the authority's planned 10-day test of the equipment. Caterpillar's report notes the system should be "rigidly restrained."

It was noted that Paulus, Sokolowski and Sartor, the engineering firm responsible for the design, had designed movement into the system. Mr. Brinker described a "straight up" stack system as the norm for these engines, but these follow a serpentine path to allow for heat reclamation.

Clark Commissioner Frank Mazzarella asked, "If we don't tie the system down, do we void the warranty?"

Mr. Brinker responded that he scheduled a meeting on June 22, to discuss with all parties involved on how to best resolve

this question.

A follow-up call by *The Westfield Leader* to Mr. Brinker revealed that the meeting produced no clear results, but Paulus, Sokolowski and Sartor would review the design to determine if changes are necessary.

In other business, under the threat of a lawsuit, the authority decided to permit the Avon Bay "Mount Laurel" housing development in Roselle Park to dispose of up to 20,000 gallons per day of sewage through the RVSA. Two commissioners voted no, and two other commissioners abstained.

Clark had needed to purchase flow rights from other municipalities to allow for their growth. Roselle Park had sold a portion of their flow rights to Schering-Plough in Kenilworth, and since a change in flow measurement procedures, has exceeded their flow rights regularly. The objections centered on whether Roselle Park should have to buy flow rights from another RVSA member town.

Allen Chin, Westfield's commissioner, stated, "In fairness to Roselle Park, it's not clear they'd exceeded their flow rights. Prior meetings had brought into question whether the new metering procedure was accurately measuring the flow."

Anthony Gencarelli, the authority's manager of regulatory compliance, questioned the authority's plan to hire another engineer. He described having three engineers on staff as "excessive." Mr. Gencarelli said the impending completion of expansion work would likely free up time of the two engineers on staff -- Mr. Gencarelli and Mr. Brinker. Mr. Gencarelli said he is a licensed professional engineer in both New York and New Jersey, a certified municipal engineer, and has 30 years of experience. Saying the current economic climate demands the authority "do more with less," Mr. Gencarelli said his expertise could be utilized by the authority at a "nominal added cost, if any."



Susan M. Dougherty for The Westfield Leader  
**GONE FISHIN'...**Alexis Struszczyk of Linden and her young cousin, Emily Bornstad of Cranford, get the chance to touch the whiskers of a catfish that are described by volunteer Shawn Crouse of the New Jersey Wildlife, Fish and Game Division as rubbery. Fellow volunteer, Kelsey Fisher, pictured, right front, also wears one of the ubiquitous neon green shirts at the 24-hour Bio Blitz held at Briant Park in Springfield. The June 13 event, sponsored by Union County, offered walking tours of edible plants, bird watching groups and a number of family friendly displays under the weather-friendly giant tents.

## School Board, Admins. Settle Contract; Insurance Costs Rise

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD—A three-year agreement was decided on between the board of education and the Westfield Association of Administrators and Supervisors on Tuesday night. The 26 school principals and assistant principals, supervisors, directors and the technology administrator will see salary increases of 4.4 percent, 4.5 percent and 4.6 percent each year beginning July 2009.

This increase is somewhat offset by increased healthcare member contributions set at a minimum of 10 percent and a new doctor visit co-pay of \$20, three-times the current rate, and an increase in prescription co-pays. The board also stilled new enrollment into the traditional health plan and increased the amount paid to those who waive their right to the district health plan to control health insurance costs.

Board President Ginny Leiz called it a "groundbreaking settlement" and "successful."

Two administrator positions -- supervisor of instructional technology and the director of personnel and student services for grades 9-12 -- were eliminated as was announced during budget talks earlier this year. The two jobs were combined with other positions to cover a greater span. The retirement of a teacher, two substitute teachers and the resignation of an Edison Intermediate School language arts teacher were announced.

Due to the cut of one music teacher in the 2009-2010 budget, the board approved to split days of music teachers between schools in the district.

Three people were also appointed to new positions. Jeremy Davies will be paid \$90,000 per year as Westfield High School (WHS) assistant principal, a position he was approved for back in December but had to complete an administration certification. He taught English at WHS for six years previously.

WHS Science Department Chairman David Stoneback was named Supervisor of Science K-12 at a salary to be determined. Andrea Brennan, who comes from Wall Township where she was a supervisor for grades 6-12, was named supervisor of social studies K-12 at an annual rate of \$108,500.

The appointment of Andrea Lo to supervisor of special education Pre-K was tabled.

The board also approved 30 coaching assignments for the fall in sums ranging from about \$4,500 to \$10,600.

Business Administrator Robert Berman said out-of-district placements so far are at a cost of almost \$4.8 million, and could rise, out of a budgeted amount of just over \$5 million.

He also said the State of New Jersey

reduced its pension deferral amount from 100 percent to just under 96 percent.

Board Vice-President Julia Walker said the district has saved \$296,815 or 25.7 percent in total energy bills dues to its conservation efforts from September 2008 through April 2009.

Board member Alice Hunnicutt said enrollment for Edison Intermediate School would increase by 300 students by 2011. The curriculum committee, she said, is planning to address how to prepare for the increase. She also recommended to the board that the WHS senior final exam pilot, calling it "successful," be put into practice next year. The pilot exempts students who meet certain criteria from taking final exams.

Board member Ann Cary said the long range planning committee is putting together a 2010-2015 strategic plan for the schools and plans to conduct a survey. It is also forming a council made up of 40 people from the community and district staff to provide input into the district's vision, mission, beliefs, goals and strategies.

Also, the air conditioning installment at WHS is expected to be complete by the end of the month, Mr. Berman said.

After the public meeting, the board met privately for over two hours discussing personnel items. Ms. Walker said the board deliberated over salaries for staff members who do not have bargaining units. She said that it was less than 20 workers out of 800 in the district that do not belong to a union.

Local Pastor Charged With Medicaid Fraud

WESTFIELD—Attorney General Anne Milgram and Division of Criminal Justice Director Deborah L. Gramiccioni have announced that Kevin Clark, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church of Westfield, was named June 24 in a Union County Grand Jury indictment for his role in defrauding the Medicaid program.

Pastor Clark, 52, was charged with two counts of third degree Medicaid Fraud. Under state law, the crime of third degree Medicaid Fraud carries a maximum penalty of three years in state prison and a criminal fine of \$10,000. He will be ordered to appear in Superior Court in Union County to answer the charges on a date to be determined.

According to Ms. Gramiccioni, the indictment returned by the State Grand Jury alleges that on or about November 17, 2004 and April 7, 2005, Pastor Clark completed, signed and submitted a Medicaid application on behalf of an elderly parishioner that contained false information concerning the disposition of property valued at approximately \$183,038 in which the Medicaid applicant had an interest.

## POLICE BLOTTER

### Westfield

Monday, June 22, Tramaine Marshall, 25, of Jackson, Miss. was arrested and charged with lewdness after he allegedly exposed himself to a female lifeguard and touched himself inappropriately at a private swimming pool at a condominium on the 100 block of Sandra Circle. He was unable to post the \$2,500 bail and was committed to the Union County jail.

Monday, June 22, Patrick Hodge, 55, of Roselle was arrested at South Avenue and Livingston Street and charged with theft of a bicycle, receiving stolen property, possession of burglary tools and criminal mischief. He is suspected of having stolen a bicycle from the south side Westfield train station. The bicycle was recovered, police said.

A further investigation revealed that Hodge was wanted on a criminal warrant from Elizabeth for \$455. Bail on the theft charge was set at \$1,000. He was unable to post bail and was turned over to the Union County jail.

Tuesday, June 23, Joseph Lockhart, 32, of Linden was arrested at Plainfield police headquarters on a Westfield traffic warrant for \$200. He was committed to the Union County jail in lieu of bail.

Tuesday, June 23, a resident of the 800 block of Lenape Trail turned in a brown leather jacket found on the front porch to the Westfield Police Department.

Tuesday, June 23, Mice Lawson, 21, of Linden was arrested on an outstanding North Plainfield traffic warrant for \$600 at Ripley Place and Livingston Street pursuant to an investigation. Lawson was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and turned over to the North Plainfield Police Department in lieu of bail.

Wednesday, June 24, Garth Richards, 44, of Irvington was arrested after a motor vehicle stop on the 1100 block of Summit Avenue on an Irvington criminal warrant for \$1,000 and a Jersey City criminal warrant for \$5,000. Richards was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and held in lieu of bail.

Wednesday, June 24, Sonya Vinson, 38, of Newark was arrested at the Essex County jail on an outstanding criminal warrant from Westfield for \$84. She was held pending the posting of bail.

Thursday, June 25, Giuseppa Valentino, 45, of Union was arrested at a store on the 600 block of North Avenue and charged with shoplifting an item valued at \$40. She was released on her own recognizance.

Thursday, June 25, Charles Cary, Jr., 45, of Newark was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on an outstanding \$750 Westfield traffic warrant. He was released after posting bail.

Friday, June 26, Ryjon M. Burke, 36, of Westfield was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) and possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana after a motor vehicle stop in the 100 block area of Myrtle Avenue. Burke was released to a responsible individual.

Saturday, June 27, a Citizen watch and a Nike baseball cap found in the gazebo in Mindowaskin Park were turned in to Westfield police headquarters. The owner of the items responded to police headquarters and retrieved them the same day.

Saturday, June 27, Regina E. Washington, 42, of Plainfield was arrested during a motor vehicle stop at South and Windsor Avenues on a Plainfield traffic warrant for \$373 and an Edison criminal warrant for \$155. She was released after posting bail.

Saturday, June 27, Jasmine Bailey, 24, of Elizabeth was arrested during a motor vehicle stop on the 200 block of South Avenue, West, on a traffic warrant from Elizabeth. She was released after posting \$150 bail.

Saturday, June 27, Jose Romero, 63, of Linden was arrested on five warrants during the investigation of a motor vehicle accident at Central and Elizabeth Avenues, in which he was one of the drivers. The warrants included a no-bail Union County Sheriff's Office; two Newark criminal warrants for \$5,000 each; an East Orange criminal warrant for \$1,000; a South Orange criminal warrant for \$500 and a Woodbridge traffic warrant for \$95. Romero was turned over to the Union County Sheriff's Office. No injuries were reported as a result of the accident.

Road reported that someone smashed the rear window of her vehicle and moved several items from their location in her yard and her neighbor's yard sometime over night.

Sunday, June 28, a resident of Chapel Hill reported that he was awakened by the sound of his burglar alarm going off at which time he noticed someone had thrown an object through his front window causing damage.

Sunday, June 28, a resident of Nottingham Way reported that someone threw a rock through the bay window of his residence also causing damage to the coffee table and a candleholder, which was on the table. According to police, a neighbor heard glass break and witnessed a male get into a beige colored vehicle and drive away. The approximated value of the damage done to the window, coffee table and candleholder is \$5,850.

Sunday, June 28, a resident of Long Meadow reported that while he was at headquarters being arrested on Saturday, June 27, his vehicle, which he left parked in the driveway at a friend's house on Appletree Lane, sustained damage when someone scratched an obscenity into the rear quarter panel of the vehicle.

Sunday, June 28, Ricardo M. Sudlow, 28, of East Orange was arrested for receiving stolen property, eluding police with a motor vehicle, resisting arrest and several outstanding warrants after an officer patrolling the area of New Providence Road observed an Acura with North Carolina license plate parked in the unfinished driveway of a unoccupied new house being built. According to police, when the officer shined his spotlight into the vehicle, Sudlow exited the driveway and headed towards Route 22 tailgating vehicles and eventually crossing the double yellow line to make a left turn on Route 22 in front of other vehicles.

Other units responded to the chase and also observed the suspect weaving in and out of traffic and eventually flipping over after striking a patrol unit positioned to stop the vehicle, police said. The suspect then fled on foot and was later apprehended by a Union police officer who had responded to the APB.

Monday, June 29, a theater on Route 22 reported that \$978.75 was removed from an arcade game in the lobby by removing the master lock and prying the door to the coin holder open after removing a secondary lock.

Monday, June 29, a resident of Woodland Avenue reported that the rear window of his cousin's vehicle was shattered by an unknown object, which also caused damage to the hood of the vehicle.

Tuesday, June 30, a resident of Saddle Brook Road reported that someone threw several large rocks at his residence with all of them hitting the house and landing on his front walkway. According to police, no damage was reported due to the fact that the rocks had hit the brick directly under the victim's front window.

**Scotch Plains**

Wednesday, June 24, Ricky Antoine, 27, of West Orange was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Wednesday, June 24, a resident of Warren Street reported that he left his bicycle in front of a Park Avenue store where he witnessed three juveniles take the bicycle and ride off with it. According to police, the juveniles were later apprehended in Plainfield with the stolen bicycle in their possession. They were released to their parents and charges are pending, authorities said.

Wednesday, June 24, a resident of Glenside Avenue reported that someone tried to gain entrance to his residence by prying open a window. According to police, they were unsuccessful and nothing was reported missing.

**Fanwood**

Thursday, June 25, Vincent M. Visconti, 31, of Staten Island, N.Y. was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Westfield Road for an outstanding warrant out of Mansfield. He was processed and released.

Thursday, June 25, Sharif Bond, 28, of Irvington was arrested at police headquarters for an outstanding Fanwood warrant. He was processed and released.

Friday, June 26, Jeremy C. Lisnock, 32, (address unknown) was arrested for an outstanding Kenilworth warrant after a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road. He was processed and released.

**BH Coach Charged in Little League Assault**

By SUZETTE F. STALKER  
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD—Authorities have charged the coach of a Berkeley Heights Little League team with aggravated assault after he allegedly struck the coach of a Westfield team following a game between the two teams at Westfield's Gumbert Park Thursday evening.

Lieutenant Scott Rodger of the Westfield Police Department said Andrew Hoffman, 47, of Whitehouse was arrested at Westfield police headquarters the following day and was released with a summons.

The incident occurred at approximately 7:45 p.m. as members of the two little league teams were exchanging customary handshakes following the game.

According to the police report, Hoffman allegedly grabbed the Westfield coach by the stomach, told the victim that he needed to lose weight and uttered a profanity. Hoffman allegedly then head-butted the other coach and then punched him in the face, causing the victim's face to redden and swell, as well as a cut on the bridge of his nose and chipped teeth, Lieutenant Rodger stated.

"The Westfield coach did not do anything" to provoke the altercation, the lieutenant told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* on Tuesday. He added that the incident occurred "in front of two little league teams of 12-year-old boys."

After the altercation, Hoffman fled the scene in his motor vehicle, and authorities were contacted, according to the lieutenant. It was unknown who called police to the park. Lieutenant Rodger said the victim sought medical treatment from a hospital on his own.

Captain Clifford Auchter told *The Times* on Wednesday that it is an indictable offense and will go in front of a grand jury as a crime in the fourth degree because the incident took place at a community sporting event with children under 16 years old present. He said fourth-degree crimes do not make presumption of jail time, but the possibility increases if a person had a criminal record. He would not comment on Hoffman's past.

**Mountainside**

Wednesday, June 24, the owner of a tavern on Mountain Avenue reported that three individuals ordered meals and drinks and later stated that they did not have the means to pay at the time because the tavern did not accept credit cards and would return later with cash. According to police, the bartender took the patron's information before he left, but despite several phone calls he has still not returned to pay his bill. The suspect was seen leaving the parking lot in a two-tone red and peach colored Jeep with Pennsylvania tags, authorities reported.

Wednesday, June 24, the chief executive officer of a business on Mill Lane contacted police regarding four suspicious items received in the mail. According to police, four letters, three of which contained zip-lock bags with what appeared to be sperm donations in them were received at the business via the postal service. Authorities took possession of the letter that did not contain the alleged sperm and contacted the sender to request he discontinue his correspondence and he stated that he would comply with the request, police said.

Thursday, June 25, Andrew Huber, 25, of Mountainside was arrested and charged for harassment after and investigation that started with police being summoned to a residence on New Providence Road on a report that the victims saw an individual running from their residence and fleeing in a blue Honda parked in a nearby lot after someone banged on their door.

According to police, the home owner and his son stated that over the past several months someone had been continually calling the residence and hanging up and banging on the front door and running away when the victim answered the door. While police were searching the area adjacent to the residence and near to where the Honda was parked they found a wallet belonging to Huber, police said.

Police said they later observed Huber, who arrived in a blue Honda in the area, with a flashlight. After questioning him he stated that he lost his wallet sometime earlier in the evening after he had been to a local pub and then walked to a convenience store, authorities reported. Due to the ongoing investigation, police did not inform Huber his wallet was in their possession and police later observed Huber searching the path leading to the victim's house and in the location of where the Honda was parked but not in close proximity to where the suspect stated he had lost the wallet, police said. Upon further questioning Huber was arrested.

Thursday, June 25, a resident of Orchard

**Mass Transit Tunnel**

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New Jersey communities would be "in jeopardy of folks leaving the region."

He said the tunnel project is the "lynchpin" to the expansion of the rail system and works to promote downtown development in many New Jersey towns.

The following rail lines will receive direct (transfer-free) service to Manhattan: Main Line, Bergen County Line, Pascack Valley Line, Raritan Valley Line, Port Jersey Line, North Jersey Coast Line (points south of Long Branch), Morristown Line (points west of Dover) and the Boonton Line (points west of Montclair State University).

To allow for transfer-free access to New York City on these lines, NJ Transit, in late 2008, purchased 26 dual-mode locomotives, which operate as diesel in diesel territories and as electric in electric areas. They will come online in a couple of years, so the transit system has time to work out the kinks before 2017.

Fourth Ward Councilman Tom Bigosinski asked of the project's environmental impact and what it would do to reduce carbon emissions.

Mr. Weinberg, noting that the environmental and labor communities are behind the venture, said expanded train service will take 22,000 cars off New Jersey highways daily, reducing greenhouse gases and other pollutants by nearly 66,000 tons per year.

Completion of the new rail project will coincide with a modernized commuter station under 34th Street in New York, which will provide access to subway concourses at 8th, 7th and 6th Avenues (Herald Square).

Fourth Ward Councilman Jim Foerst asked how the project is being funded.

Mr. Weinberg said the \$8.7-billion tunnel is being funded as follows: Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, \$3 billion; federal government, \$3 billion, and State of New Jersey, \$2.7 billion. Because the tunnel project, also called the Access to the Region's Core (ARC) Tunnel, is deemed "shovel-ready," the federal government has already made a \$130-million down payment from the stimulus package.

The ARC project, according to NJ Transit, will create 6,000 construction-related jobs each year for nearly a decade.

**Garwood Family**

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was also grateful for her husband Patrick Zoteck's handiwork on the heating, and she is most grateful for her friends, the Tweedles. "As far as Barbara and her husband go, she invested every waking moment helping," she said.

Between Ms. Sullivan working the overnight shift and watching her mom during the day, she acknowledged, "If it wasn't for Barbara, this wouldn't have happened."

Ms. Tweedle did the legwork of

gathering volunteers, waiting for the inspectors to show and giving access to the workmen when they began each day's work.

Should everything work according to schedule, the Sullivans will be in their restored home just in time for the Fourth of July to celebrate the freedom of the nation along with the remembrance of fellow Americans lending their support to neighbors so their flag yet waves.

**Mountainside BOE**

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ciation," Ms. Jenks said. "I was told there was not enough registration to support the staff salaries approved at the April 28 board of education meeting."

Summer Enrichment instructors agreed to the stipend rate of \$39.71 per hour for a total of \$2,382.60 for the entire summer enrichment program, Ms. Jenks said. She said she was told the program would operate if salaries were reduced to \$20 per hour.

"On Thursday, June 18, I consulted with the MEA officers and decided to advise our members not to accept the lower salary. I'm here tonight to make sure the BOE and the community know why some staff members, myself included, chose to decline further employment in our enrichment program," she said. "I'm hoping everyone can understand the immense frustra-

tion for the staff to learn one week before the program started they would be choosing whether or not they would work for half of what they were originally anticipating. I am not here to place blame. I do want the staff members to be portrayed as victims not villains."

During the budget and finance portion of the agenda, board member Cathy Jakositz asked for clarification on why the salary rate for the enrichment program was reduced.

"We didn't have much control; enrollment is down," Ms. Baubles replied.

"The goal was for everyone to win; this was a cooperative effort," Board President Mary Beth Schaumburg said.

"It's a shame it (the salary rate) was conditional on enrollment," board member Gene Nagel further added.

**Cap And Trade Protest**

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Among those protesting Monday afternoon in front of Mr. Lance's office were members of Smart Girl Politics (SGP), a conservative political group for women. Member Maria Carluccio of Westfield said she was angry with Mr. Lance "because [he] didn't represent the people who [he was] supposed to represent."

"Cap-and-trade isn't something that is going to help. Our taxes are going to go through the roof because it [is a] scam. It's all under the umbrella of global warming. It's [a] total scam; there is no global warming. Do your homework. It is another false religion," Ms. Carluccio said. "Cap-and-trade is all about money. As usual, Wall Street is going to benefit."

Rosa Leonetti of SGP, said SGP is "very disheartened" by Mr. Lance's vote supporting cap-and-trade.

"We don't expect our representative, who marginally won his seat, to vote with the majority (Democrats). We ex-

pect our representative to represent us," she said. "It really puts us in a position where if [you] can't turn to your representative body (New Jersey delegation), then whom are you going to turn to?"

"We expect better... We are going to hold the people who are supposed to represent us accountable," Ms. Leonetti said. "So, going forward, he can pretty much consider his seat in jeopardy."

Manly Rash of Somerset, a conservative blogger dressed in the uniform of a Revolutionary War major in the Continental Army, 2nd New Jersey Regiment, said he was "very upset" with Mr. Lance's vote.

"New Jersey was once the economic powerhouse of the United States, and now, we're ranked 50th, the worst state in the United States to do business because of environmental regulations, because of taxation, because of excessive government regulation. Unless this is ended, we will go bankrupt," Mr. Rash said.

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## Garwood Family

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