Greg Ryan for *The Westfield Leader*

100TH ANNIVERSARY…Last Saturday, district Boy Scouts held their 55th Annual Klondike Derby at the Watchung Reservation. Troop 104 of Scotch Plains had the fastest time, as well as a 99 out of 100 score. Troop 73 Senior sled from Westfield was also a winner. In honor of the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouts in America this week, the Semaphore Flag Signaling was brought back.

Deer Cull Occurs in Ash Brook Through Feb. 13

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal will begin its Ash Brook Reservation Deer Management Program this week and continue through Saturday, February 13.

This program is intended to reduce the white-tailed deer population in the Ash Brook Reservation and Golf Course. Eight licensed hunters and members of the Cranford Rod and Gun Club have volunteered to participate in this program and completed a marksmanship test and orientation program, officials said.

Weather permitting, hunters may be in the Ash Brook Reservation from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day except Sunday. Shooting may only occur during daylight hours.

The public should note that the Ash Brook Reservation and the Ash Brook Golf Course will not be closed during the deer management program. Park users and neighbors are encouraged to stay out of the wooded areas during that time period, and to keep pets restrained on a leash.

For further information, contact the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal at (908) 789-3682.

Westfield PD to Enforce Underage Alcohol Buys

WESTFIELD – This weekend, on Saturday and Sunday, February 6 and 7, law enforcement officers from the Westfield Police Department will join with local retail establishments volunteering to deter the sale of alcoholic beverages to underage individuals and to stop adults from attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages for people under the legal age of 21.

The Westfield Police Department conducts this program through funding received from the State of New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control: Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Grant Program.

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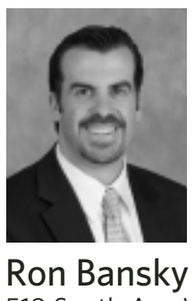

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POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield

Monday, January 25, Theodore Acosta, 22, of South Amboy was arrested on an outstanding Sayreville traffic warrant in the amount of $170 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of Kimball and Mountain Avenues. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting bail.

Patrick A. Schiazza, 22, of Fanwood, a passenger in the vehicle, was arrested on multiple outstanding traffic warrants. The warrants included two from Westfield, in the amount of $250 each, and one from Scotch Plains, in the amount of $1,000. Schiazza was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting $1,500 bail.

Monday, January 25, Lawrence T. Thomas, Jr., 52, of Cranford was arrested on an outstanding Keyport Boro traffic warrant in the amount of $156 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of West South and Summit Avenues. He posted bail and was released.

Wednesday, January 27, John Nunez, 47, of Plainfield was arrested at Plainfield police headquarters on an outstanding Westfield criminal warrant in the amount of $313. He was unable to post bail.

Thursday, January 28, a resident of the 500 block of Cumberland Street reported being the victim of a fraudulently issued check in her name. The victim received the check from a medical company in Michigan. When she inquired as to why she received it, the company told her it was a fraudulent check.

Thursday, January 28, a merchant on the 200 block of East Broad Street reported being the victim of fraud after an individual attempted to pass a fraudulent doctor's prescription for Oxycodone.

Thursday, January 28, Damon Carter, 34, of Roselle was arrested on four outstanding warrants as the result of a motor vehicle stop at Central Avenue and Sussex Street. They included a no-bail Union County Sheriff's Office warrant, plus warrants from Newark, in the amount of $250, and Cranford, in the amount of $1,000. He was transported to the Union County jail.

Thursday, January 28, Frederick Smith, 35, of Jersey City was arrested on the 100 block of West North Avenue on an outstanding Newark criminal warrant in the amount of $250. He was released after posting bail.

Friday, January 29, Michael Cislo, 42, of South Amboy was arrested during a motor vehicle stop at East South and Central Avenues on a Sayreville warrant. He was held in lieu of $215 bail.

Friday, January 29, Sheila Troutman, 21, of Dunellen and Nyeesha Coleman, 20, of Plainfield were arrested on outstanding warrants on the 600 block of West South Avenue. Troutman posted $125 bail on a Newark warrant. Coleman posted $440 bail on two warrants from Fanwood and $149 bail on a warrant from Berkeley Heights.

Friday, January 29, Robert McCrea, 18, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Roselle warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of the 100 block of Elm Street. He posted $100 bail and was released.

Saturday, January 30, Damien Rodriguez, 34, of Union was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on an active Cranbury warrant in the amount of $279. He was released after posting bail.

Saturday, January 30, Angela Alston-Boccia, 45, of Montclair was arrested in the area of Central and Park Avenues and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI). She was processed and released.

Saturday, January 30, Kenneth Avery, 53, of South Plainfield was arrested in the area of Central Avenue and Clifton Street and charged with DWI. He was processed and released.

Sunday, January 31, Amon Wilkerson, 35, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Summit warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at Ripley Place and Cacciola Place. Wilkerson was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting $114 bail.

Sunday, January 31, a burglary was reported at a Michael Drive residence, which the homeowner said occurred between 7:15 and 8:15 p.m. that evening. According to police, someone forcibly entered the home and removed a pocketbook valued at $300, plus $180 in cash, before exiting the premises.

Sunday, January 31, a burglary was reported at a Woodbrook Circle residence in which two laptop computers and currency were taken. The total value of the theft was $5,199.

Monday, February 1, Theodore Chletsos, 32, of Edison was arrested and charged with DWI following a motor vehicle stop at Central Avenue and Starlight Court. He was released to a responsible individual.

Scotch Plains

Monday, January 25, Sydmouth Berwick, 24, of Irvington was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Tuesday, January 26, David Mason, 45, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Tuesday, January 26, a resident of Prospect Street reported that someone cashed a fraudulent check from his business account in the amount of $1,976. According to police, the victim does not recognize the name on the check.

Tuesday, January 26, a student at the Union County Vocational Technical Schools reported that someone removed his iPod valued at $225 from his work area.

Friday, January 29, a manager at a Route 22 restaurant reported an act of criminal mischief after someone carved letters in a bathroom mirror causing approximately $100 worth of damage.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Tanglewood Lane reported that someone entered his vehicle while it was parked on Maple Hill Road. According to police, once the suspect was in the vehicle they damaged the rear view mirror but nothing was taken.

Saturday, January 30, Edwin Estevez, 26, of Princeton was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Springfield reported that she parked her vehicle in a Route 22 restaurant parking lot and while she was eating, someone smashed the rear window and removed a computer and iPod valued at approximately $1,200.

Saturday, January 30, the manager of a Route 22 store reported that two suspects removed approximately $360 worth of games and fled the store.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Aberdeen Road reported that she received a call from an unknown suspect that her grandson was in trouble in Canada and to send money. According to police, the victim called her grandson and realized it was a hoax and notified the police.

Mountainside

Wednesday, January 27, Adrian Solis, 25, of Bound Brook was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving without a license.

Wednesday, January 27, Chevonne Miller, 27, of Union was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving with a suspended license. She was processed and released at the scene with a court date of February 10, 2010.

Wednesday, January 27, Maritza Perdoma, 49, of Newark was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving without a license. According to police, she was also charged with driving with a suspended license and an outstanding warrant out of Newark in the amount of $400.

Thursday, January 28, a resident of Derby Lane reported that she received several phone call from a male with a heavy Nigerian accent informing her that she had won a large sum of money in a sweepstakes, but in order to claim the money she needed to send him a modest sum of money. According to police, the victim obtained the number the suspect was calling from and when authorities called the man he stated he worked in the claims department of a sweepstakes company. When the officer identified himself as a police officer, the suspect abruptly hung up the phone, authorities reported.

Thursday, January 29, Richard C. Pfarr, 58, of Union was arrested for an outstanding Union warrant in the amount of $500 after a motor vehicle stop for an expired inspection sticker.

Thursday, January 29, Jeremiah A. Carter, 27, of Newark was picked up at the Matawan Police Department and charged with an outstanding warrant in the amount of $409.

Thursday, January 29, an officer responded to a Route 22 business on the report of a possible assault. According to police, the victim stated that his older brother pushed him down. The suspect told police that the victim was not to be on the premises and that he was cursing at the employees who work in the building. The suspect told police he escorted the victim off the premises but did not strike or push him, authorities reported. The victim then changed his statement to police stating that his brother did not strike him, but that he stumbled and fell, police said. The victim was advised that he was not permitted on the premises and would be arrested for trespassing if he came back, authorities reported.

Sunday, January 31, Fredy Ali Cruz Lima, 29, of Bound Brook was arrested and charged with driving under the influence (DUI) after being involved in a one-car motor vehicle accident on Route 22. According to police, an officer noticed debris in the roadway and tire marks in the grass next to the curb in the roadway. Upon following the trail of debris, mud and grass, the officer found Lima's vehicle disabled in the left shoulder, police said. When the officer approached the vehicle he observed that it was leaking a large amount of transmission fluid, the left rear and left front tires were flat and the bumper and lower portion of the vehicle were damaged, authorities reported. According to police, Lima told the officer that he did not have and accident but had pulled over because he thought he had a flat tire. The officer smelled the odor of alcohol and performed several field sobriety tests, which Lima failed. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Sunday, January 31, a resident of Globe Avenue reported that someone broke into his Snap-on-Tool truck by breaking a window and removed a large amount of tools valued at approximately $50,000. According to police, the suspect unsuccessfully attempted to steal the truck along with the tools causing damage to the steering column. The incident is under investigation.

Sunday, January 31, Klaus Kronsteiner, 45, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI following a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 East. According to police, Kronsteiner told the officer he was coming from Jersey City and was heading home when he struck the rear of a vehicle driving in front of him. The officer told Kronsteiner he was heading in the opposite direction from his home and when he asked him how much he had to drink Kronsteiner responded "too much." The suspect was given several field sobriety tests, which he failed, authorities reported. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Fanwood

Wednesday, January 27, Jameen Murphy, 26, of Asbury Park was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue for an outstanding warrant out of Asbury Park. He was transported, processed and released after posting bail.

Wednesday, January 27, a resident in the 30 block of Stewart Place reported that sometime between Saturday, January 23, and Tuesday, January 26, someone damaged the locking mechanism of her back door while trying to gain entrance to the residence. According to police, entrance was not gained and the incident is under investigation.

Friday, January 29, Gary Garvin, 41, of Jersey City was arrested following a motor vehicle stop in the 200 block of South Avenue for an outstanding Jersey City warrant. Sean Oliver, 44, of Jersey City, a passenger in the vehicle, was also arrested for an outstanding warrant out for West Orange. Both men were processed and released after posting bail.

Friday, January 29, a convenience store in the 500 block of South Avenue reported an incident of shoplifting after a male juvenile put a bag of potato chips valued at $4 in his backpack and left the store without paying. According to police, a search of the area did not yield the suspect and the incident is under investigation.

Monday, February 1, Michael Delmonte, 49, of Plainfield was arrested after a field investigation in the 100 block of South Avenue for outstanding warrants out of Fanwood, Piscataway and East Brunswick. He was processed and turned over to the Union County jail for failure to post bail.

Westfield Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The project involved paving and striping in the parking lot, as well as the addition of Westfield High School senior William Foltz's new lightning shelter, which he completed as part of his Boy Scout Eagle Project.

After the meeting, Code Review Committee Chairman Jim Foerst spoke to *The Westfield Leader* about Senate Bill S-1, sponsored by Senators Raymond Lesniak (D-Union) and Christopher Bateman (R-Somerville), which would abolish the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH). The bill, in its current form, would remove state-imposed calculations of affordable-housing needs; in its place, the government would allow municipalities to determine their own needs.

The State Planning Commission would assist a town, such as Westfield, in facilitating opportunities for affordable housing. Westfield, and all other municipalities, would have to prove that they have complied with their obligations under the Fair Housing Act. If not, a mechanism would still exist to stipulate that developers may set aside 20 percent of a given project for low- or moderate-income housing.

Mr. Foerst said the difficulty with COAH is that it has been historically a "moving target," with each subsequent round of rules more onerous and different than the previous. Despite this, Westfield, he said, has "satisfied the requirements, under the [state] Constitution, to provide a reasonable opportunity for growth of affordable housing."

In the past, a town with limited amounts of developable land would take part in regional contribution agreements (RCAs), which would help provide affordable housing in neighboring communities. Under the current configuration of Bill S-1, prior RCAs that were thrown out in the third round could return. It is unclear at present whether new RCAs would be permissible or not.

Regardless of what the affordable-housing landscape eventually looks like, Mr. Foerst said a town such as Westfield could make use of "any additional tool" to provide affordable housing, including the return of RCAs.

"It needs to be viewed as a regional [commitment]. A lot of people work in Westfield and live in Scotch Plains, Cranford, Rahway, Clark," he said.

What towns cannot handle, he said, would be any mandate from Trenton that would force municipalities to propose an additional tax on residents. At present, Westfield does not fund affordable housing through taxpayer dollars. The town has mechanisms in place to place the burden of providing such housing on developers.

In neighboring Cranford, COAH-related concerns have cropped up recently after court-appointed experts informed the town that it must allow two large-density projects to proceed on South and Birchwood Avenues. Cranford, just as Westfield, was served two builder's-remedy lawsuits.

In 2005, Cranford chose not to pursue certification from COAH.

"This is an example of what can happen when you don't have the right certification… You end up in a very uncomfortable situation," Cranford Mayor Mark Smith told *The Leader* Tuesday night.

Asked about his feelings on Bill S-1, Mr. Smith said he was discouraged to read that despite Governor Chris Christie's attempts at "gutting" COAH, builder's-remedy lawsuits could remain a reality faced by municipalities.

"My feeling has always been that there has to be a better way of enforcing the mandate," he said. "I've always had a problem with [these lawsuits] as an enforcement mechanism. It's a rouse for a developer to basically ask for a development that otherwise [would not be permissible]."

While he said he breathed a "sigh of relief" at the initial mention of Bill S-1, he said he sees many deficiencies with the proposal.

"The more I read about it, the more it seems still to have a dagger pointed at the heart of any municipality that doesn't actually conform to whatever the regulations are… It still basically leaves the hammer in the hands of the developer, which I don't think any municipality takes comfort in," Mayor Smith said. "These lawsuits are expensive; they're disruptive to a town, just in terms of the time it takes to defend them. It just seems to me that there's a better way than letting a developer enforce your law."

H1N1 Clinic in WF This Saturday

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Regional Health Department will hold an H1N1 clinic this Saturday, February 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Westfield Municipal Building, Community Room, East Broad Street entrance, located at 425 East Broad Street in Westfield.

The vaccine to be distributed is the inactivated vaccine ("swine flu shot") and the live attenuated vaccine (nasal spray).

H1N1 ("swine flu") vaccinations will be available at these clinics for all individuals who are interested in receiving it, regardless of medical history, age or town residency.

For more information about this clinic, call (908) 789-4070.

Cummings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said he derived "great satisfaction serving the community" in this capacity and genuinely enjoyed some of the applications that came before the board over the past two decades.

Mr. Cummings said witnessing the beginning of downtown redevelopment in Fanwood was the most rewarding aspect of his years of service on the board, as well as the most significant issue with which the entity has dealt in recent years. He noted that the planning board's rulings on applications were challenged only twice in two decades – and both times its rulings were upheld in State Superior Court. One involved the placement of Verizon Wireless antennas on an existing borough utility tower, which the board had approved, while the other involved a property subdivision it had denied.

Mr. Cummings said members of the planning board must put aside their personal feelings when ruling on an application. "You weigh the facts that are presented, pro and con, on any issue," he said.

He maintained that although the state of the economy has slowed down investment in commercial property at present, the borough's downtown remains a vibrant and viable location for businesses. "It's a great opportunity for a lot of small businesses to move to Fanwood," he said. "It's got a great consumer base."

While no longer on the planning board, Mr. Cummings said he would continue to serve the borough as a volunteer through participation on the Earth Day Committee. Over the years, he also has served on various other municipal committees, including the Clean Communities Committee (19 years), the Holiday Celebration Committee (chairman for three years), the fundraising committee for redeveloping LaGrande Park, from 1994 to 1996, and last year as a member of the Mayor's Budget Advisory Committee.

WF Woman Indicted For Injuring Pedestrian

WESTFIELD—A Westfield woman has been inducted on two counts of assault following an August 2009 accident that seriously injured a pedestrian.

According to Union County Prosecutor Ted Romankow, Leslie D. Boughner, 56, was indicted on two counts of second and third degree assault by auto following an August 5, 2009 accident that severely injured a 25-year-old woman.

According to the investigation, Boughner was driving East on North Avenue in Westfield when she ignored illuminated pedestrian warning lights at the crosswalk near the Lord & Taylor department store. The victim, who lives in Clark, was in the crosswalk when she was struck around noon.

As reported in *The Westfield Leader*, Gina Marotta sustained a broken leg and a head injury. The prosecutor's office said the woman was hospitalized for an extended period of time. Authorities said the investigation further revealed that Boughner had a blood alcohol content level higher than the legal limit of .08 percent.

Mr. Romankow said Boughner faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted on the charges. She was released on $20,000 bail and will be arraigned in State Superior Court in Elizabeth in the coming days.

Judge Walsh

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Judge Walsh spoke about his family, including his brother, James Walsh, who was killed in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center. He said he became an attorney to serve the public. In his first job as an assistant prosecutor, he said he was committed to help crime victims and trying to make sure justice was served.

Judge Walsh's wife, Diane Curcio Walsh, is a former *Star-Ledger* reporter and currently chief of staff to Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield).

A dinner reception followed the ceremony at Solar Do Minho banquet hall in Roselle Park.

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