



REMEMBERING FIREFIGHTER PFEIFFER...Firefighters from across Union County, dressed in full uniform, pay tribute to fallen Westfield firefighter James Pfeiffer, as a funeral procession heads down North Avenue last Thursday. The firefighter's casket was carried on one of the WFD's engines, as the procession headed toward Fairview Cemetery on East Broad Street. The 30-year-old firefighter died August 22 from injuries sustained after a fall from a ladder at his home in Mountainside while cutting a tree limb.

Horace Corbin, David Corbin and Michael Pollack for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

## Union County Solar Panels

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and age of roofs on municipal buildings.

Mr. Gildea said the municipal building has a slate roof; the public works building's roof is too old, and the fire department building on North Avenue is an historic structure, thus making all three buildings ineligible for the county's program.

Westfield Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan said the UCIA and its consultant, PMK Group, Inc., inspected the roofs on the district's buildings but determined that the aging structures were not suitable for the first round of the program. She said the district was told it might be able to participate in a second round of the program in December.

"It (solar energy) is definitely one of the areas we are looking at" to cut the district's energy costs, she said. The superintendent said the district has saved more than \$1 million over the past three years on energy usage (electricity and natural gas) through the district's energy-conservation program.

She said the selection process for inclusion in the county solar program takes into consideration "the location of your roofs, the placement of your roofs and the types of roofs you have."

Ms. Dolan said the district has been looking at energy-conservation companies and "investigating all [possi-

bilities], to see what will be the best option for us."

Scotch Plains Township Manager Chris Marion, who is in his first year in the position, said the township did not have the time to conduct an inventory of its municipal buildings to see if the township fits the strict criteria for the program.

"My focus was really on roads and drainage, but it sounds like an interesting program," Mr. Marion said. "If it is successful this year, we would be interested in [participating] in the future."

### Play 'N Pray Event Set at Local Temple

FANWOOD - Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains invites families with children ages 4 and under to a Shabbat Pray 'N Play event featuring music, maracas, puppets and parachutes on Saturday, September 11.

The 30-minute interactive service, led by Student Cantor Vicky Glikin, will begin at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a free bagel brunch in the temple playroom. Older siblings are welcome.

"This isn't your ordinary children's service," said Temple Sholom Director of Education Michelle Shapiro Abraham. "It's like where Shabbat meets Gymboree. The kids are encouraged to jump up, dance, sing and play along. Afterwards, everyone gets a chance to nosh and get to know one another over bagels."

Temple Sholom is located in the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Martine and LaGrande Avenues in Fanwood. The temple chapel is located around the corner, off of Marian Avenue. Visitors are asked to enter through the door on Marian marked Temple Sholom. For more information, call (908) 889-4900, e-mail sholom@sholomnj.org or visit sholomnj.org.

## Mountainside BOE Delays Solar-Panel Project; New Courses Added for Year

By ERIC D. WILDSTEIN  
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

MOUNTAINSIDE — The borough's board of education (BOE) discussed long-term strategies at its meeting Tuesday night to help reduce spending by lowering energy consumption and reviewing the district's foodservice program. The BOE consulted with representatives from the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA) to join its Renewable Energy Program, which would install solar panels at Deerfield School.

UCIA Counsel Ryan Scerbo of the Teaneck-based law firm of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole and Wisler, and Ryan Garner of PMK Group, Inc., UCIA's energy consultant, fielded questions and concerns from the board about the program. Mr. Scerbo explained it is a "shared services project that aims to minimize county-wide energy consumption while offering local units the lowest possible power purchase price." He said the solar panels are "inherently beneficial" and estimated a possible 45-percent reduction in power consumption after their first assessment of the Deerfield property.

Mr. Scerbo stressed that capital for installation, maintenance and operation of the solar panel system is fully funded through UCIA Renewable Energy Program Lease Revenue Bonds. He said the "only cost to the district will be the energy bill," and "there is no restriction on what utility provider is used." Mr. Scerbo said the panels are guaranteed under contract for 15 years, but have a shelf life of about 25 years.

Board member James Ruban, who works as a project architect, said, "I have concerns with the effect of reinforcement on the building and the structure holding the system," noting that the roofs may need more structural analysis to ensure safety.

BOE President Mary-Beth Schauberg said, "We've continually had to postpone roofing projects and paving in the back parking lots" due to financial restraints.

The board adjourned into executive

session to further discuss the project and ultimately decided not to go forward. Acting Business Administrator Daniel Saragnese confirmed there were "too many concerns with the long-term structural situation of the roof and parking lot, as well as potential economics." He said, "We will reconsider next summer when the project enters phase two to make sure that it's right and going to work."

"Certainly this has cost-effective benefits and appeal. I think we need time to look through the particulars," Chief School Administrator Jeanette Baubles added.

The BOE passed a motion that raises school lunch costs to \$2.50 for the 2010-2011 school year. Milk purchased separately will cost 50 cents. Mr. Saragnese said the increase intends to "help the district break even" on costs associated with school meals. Mr. Saragnese suggested tailoring the foodservice program to fit requirements to join the National School Lunch Program. Mr. Saragnese said benefits would include "federal subsidies" that could be used to improve the program and offer healthier food choices. He said, "I'll be in the cafeterias each month buying the same lunch as the students, and making evaluations based on what I see."

The board approved curriculum offerings for 2010-2011 to include study skills for grades 5 and 6, computer literacy for grades 5 through 8, and journalism in the seventh and eighth grades. Mrs. Baubles said, "I'm glad to see study skills back in the curriculum." She added, "The journalism class will teach students how to write newspaper articles" and computer literacy courses will "teach students Microsoft programs in fifth grade and focus on audio and visual programs in grades 6 and up."

Mrs. Schauberg also apologized for the "confusion involving the late delivery of the school first-aid packets." She explained the delay was with the Rahway Post Office, which handles the district's bulk mail. "Hopefully, by now, everyone has received their packets," she said.

## Governor Christie Speaks in Summit

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to enact legislation to provide the so-called "tool kit," essential for mayors and leaders of other segments of government to implement these reforms. The foremost undertaking, he said, is to pressure and direct the Democratic-controlled Legislature to get the job done.

He recalled how his administration struggled to deal with the \$2-billion budget gap left by the Corzine administration and the \$10-billion shortfall for this year. The Governor said Senate President Steve Sweeney, a Democrat from South Jersey, paraded to his office one day with news cameras in tow, to present spending bills for the Governor to sign.

According to Governor Christie, Mr. Sweeney said, "Governor, I need a little of your time." The Governor said he replied, "Steve, this won't take any time at all," whereupon the Governor wrote "vetoed" and signed his name.

Governor Christie said he told the Senate President that he wants only one thing on his desk — a balanced budget with no tax increases. Further, he noted to Mr. Sweeney that there would be no cut brought into the Governor's office to sleep on while dealing with a government shutdown — referring to the action of Governor Corzine four years ago when the state government was forced to enact an emergency shutdown. Governor Christie said he would instead go to Drumthwacket (the Governor's residence), order a pizza and turn on the Mets' game.

The Governor noted that he has traveled to multiple Republican county events around the state in the last month. He said the GOP is going to make inroads in Union County government this year during the November elections (three Freeholder seats are up for election on the all-Democratic, nine-member board); will take control of county governments this year in Bergen, Passaic and Salem Counties, and then come back to Union County next year to finish the job.

During personal remarks, the Governor noted how surprised and happy he was to see his wife, Mary Pat, in attendance that night. He also recalled that he recently was able to take his oldest son on an event in Bergen County. While he was talking there, he received a text message from

Senator Tom Kean, Jr. of Westfield, the Republican leader in the Senate, — who was in the crowd, unbeknownst to him. The message said how nice it was to see the Governor with his son. Then, Governor Christie said, he realized how similar it must have been for the Senator when his father, Thomas H. Kean, was New Jersey governor.

Governor Christie said he owes a debt of gratitude to the Republican Governors Association, as it had faith in him during his campaign for election — providing \$7.5 million in support to help offset the "enormous wealth" of former Governor Corzine. He said there are 37 governorships up for election this fall, and he has received 25 requests to campaign on behalf of Republican candidates.

He turned to his wife and assured her he was not going to 25 states. Governor Christie did say he was going to California in September to support the election efforts of GOP gubernatorial nominee Meg Whitman. While there, he said maybe he could convince some companies to relocate to New Jersey.

Regarding the Obama Administration and the trillions of dollars in debt being imposed on the nation, Governor Christie said, "We're going to put up a big stop sign this November."

The Governor praised the efforts and style of Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th), who was unable to be in attendance. He said Mr. Lance, with his knowledge of history, his ethics and style — being perfect today in Congress for New Jersey — also would have fit in well in Congress during its formative years in the 1800s. Drawing enthusiastic applause, the Governor assured the crowd that next year, Rep. Lance would not have to worry about voting for Nancy Pelosi as Speaker of the House.

Governor Christie concluded by assuring the audience that he (and they) will be building the party from the bottom up, making it stronger at all levels — to best serve the people of New Jersey.

No questions were taken from the audience, and security personnel whisked the Governor from the podium to his exit through the kitchen.

In preliminary remarks prior to the Governor's address, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick of Westfield said he has never seen the kitchen so clean.

Union County Republican Chairman Phil Morin of Cranford told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* that the financial contributions from the event were very strong.

## Schools Open

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ated a new activity fee, ranging from \$60 to \$125.

Garwood schools open on Thursday, September 9, with all students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade now being housed under one roof at Lincoln School with the closing of Washington School. In addition, new Cranford Board of Education Business Administrator John Bolil has replaced Garwood Business Administrator William Muzzio, who resigned over the summer, through a new shared-services agreement between the two districts. Garwood teenagers attend Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark. Mr. Bolil officially joined the Clark district yesterday.

### 9/11 Ceremony to be Held in Westfield

WESTFIELD — The Town of Westfield will observe the ninth anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks with a community gathering on Saturday, September 11, at the September 11th Memorial site on North Avenue at East Broad Street.

The commemoration ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. with opening remarks from Mayor Andrew Skibitsky. Local clergy will offer prayers of commemoration, followed by the presentation of the ceremonial wreath by an honor guard. The ceremony will conclude with a period of quiet contemplation as those in attendance stand united as a community to support each other and those who lost loved ones.

The ceremony will be held rain or shine.

ON THE NET AT  
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## SP-F BOE

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which could include physicals and drug testing. They also renewed the board's contract with Energy for America for professional engineering services for the Facilities Management Program, with no increase from the 2009-2010 contract.

With Scotch Plains-Fanwood students headed back to the classroom on Tuesday, September 7, Board Vice-President Rob O'Connor wished the district luck during the "Good of the Order" portion of the meeting.

"Good luck and a good year to all of our students, teachers and administrators," he said.

The BOE will meet next on Thursday, September 23, for an open agenda meeting and on Thursday, September 30, for a regular public meeting.



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Attractive, Large, Professional Office in Westfield, NJ. Sublet 3 1/2 Days \$600 Contact Dr. Parsons (908) 233-2626

### OFFICE SPACE

Scotch Plains office bldg. Shared space. 2 rooms available. Big space, priv bath, receptionist, board room, gym, pkg. \$850/mo for group. Start Oct 1st. Call (908) 380-5619.

### PET FRIEND APART WANTED

Westfield native, prof man, with 3 show quality English Springer Spaniels seeks apartment or small house to rent in Westfield area, ideally with yard; Would consider house to share - will pay up to \$1750/month for the right situation. (917) 637-0438

### APARTMENT FOR RENT

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### SANDERLING INN - DUCK, NC

4 Night Package for 4 People, 2 Rooms, Includes Breakfast Daily, Chocolates & Bottle of Wine, 4 50 min. Massages, All Taxes Included. Retail \$2,800, Selling for \$1,400. Package Can be Split. (908) 654-8247

### ELDER CAREGIVER

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Assist with activities of daily living: cooking, light cleaning, laundry, errands. No task too small. Twenty years of experience in caring for seniors and disabled. Excellent references. David (908) 868-2597

### SPANISH LANG. TEACHER

The Enrichment Umbrella (www.enrichmentumbrella.com) is seeking an experienced "Preschool Spanish Language Teacher" for PT hours on site at local area preschools. Must be patient with a fun upbeat personality and show us a short 15 minute demo at our training center in Cranford. Please email resume/ or related work experience and any questions to Tobi Becker. tbeckerfit2go@yahoo.com No phone calls please.

### 2 PART TIME OT POSITIONS

2 Part time occupational therapist positions in Scotch Plains and Trenton. Send resume to: Childrens Therapy Services Inc 121 Fairview Ave Milford, NJ 08848 mh\_pt@hotmail.com

### FETCHERCISE IS GROWING!

"Fetchercise" preschool fitness/nutrition program, taught at area preschools (www.fetchercise.com), is looking for PT instructors for the Fetchercise Program. Will train for Fetchercise with your fitness background or lifestyle. Must be available Monday mornings. Please email your resume and any questions to Tobi Becker. tobi@fetchercise.com No phone calls please

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