

GW Plan. Bd. Approves Permanent Cosmetics Bus.

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GARWOOD—The borough's planning board voted, 7-2, with Bill Nierstedt and Georgia MacIndoe dissenting, to approve the application of Andrea Lopez to operate a permanent cosmetics business at last Wednesday's board meeting.

Ms. Lopez, a Westfield resident, has signed a lease at 341 South Avenue in Garwood to open up her permanent cosmetic business, Joli Visage, where she will offer paramedical techniques of cosmetic correction, such as areola complex color restoration for women who have undergone a breast mastectomy reconstructive surgery, scar camouflaging, and other applications, as well as eye, lip and eyebrow artistry. She has 10 years' experience in permanent cosmetics and has her license and insurance.

The board discussed at length its interpretation of a state statute to determine if a micropigmentation permanent cosmetics business is a personal service use and if it is a permitted use in the commercial community zone. The zone does not allow

Shack Hires Tacconelli As Course Super.

SCOTCH PLAINS — The new owners of the Shackamaxon Country Club in Scotch Plains have announced the hiring of Richard Tacconelli as course superintendent. Mr. Tacconelli will be responsible for maintaining and preserving Shackamaxon's par-71 layout. Shackamaxon was purchased by an affiliate of RDC Golf Club in late December.

Mr. Tacconelli comes to "Shack" with a resume including experience and leadership at numerous country clubs, including Pine Valley Golf Club in Camden County and the North Shore Country Club in Glen Head, N.Y., and the Merion Golf Club in Armore, Pa.

At Shackamaxon Country Club, Mr. Tacconelli will oversee the course's bunker restoration plan to be completed in April as well as manage and train maintenance team members, oversee annual operating budgets, and supervise clubhouse landscaping.

Mr. Tacconelli is a graduate of East Stroudsburg University and received his certification in turfgrass management from Penn State University.

tattoo parlors and the board deliberated if her business was considered tattooing or not.

Victor Vinegra, the board's planner, who after meeting with the applicant privately and reviewing a packet of information on her business, said, "I felt this was a cosmetology type procedure and I gave that approval."

"This procedure is a cosmetic procedure and it is not defined as a tattoo," Board President Steve Greet said in his motion to approve the application.

"The interpretation of this board is that the practice as described by the applicant does not fall under the definition of tattooing as contemplated by the Garwood zoning ordinance and therefore this is not a use which is prohibited by the Garwood zoning ordinance," clarified Board Attorney Donald Fraser.

Mr. Nierstedt stated, "...the definition itself is contradictory...resulting in permanent coloration of the skin, which this is not, and this includes all forms of permanent cosmetics." He later said, "I still think it is tattooing."

"The intention of the ink is not to be permanent in the skin," Ms. Lopez said. "They blend into the skin. They really are different [than tattoo ink]." She said she uses different ink than that used for a tattoo. When doing eyebrows, she said it is meant to look like hair.

The technique is also different, she said, in that she uses a small needle that is pen-like, and does not go deep into the skin like a tattoo artist would to create a tattoo. "You are feathering the skin," she described.

Ms. Lopez said permanent cosmetics last anywhere from six months to two years, and the length depends on a person's pH balance of the skin. She also said she would lose her certification and license if she or anyone she hired were to do a tattoo. "I'm not allowed to do flowers or designs, nothing," she said.

As part of her business where she uses paramedical techniques, she works with medical professionals to discuss a client's needs "to create beautiful, natural results to the area of their body that has suffered trauma," as stated in her business summary.

See More Gov. News
On Pages 17-18

Christie Releases \$32.1 Bil. Budget With Income Tax Cut

TRENTON — Governor Chris Christie released his \$32.1 billion budget last week "that funds each and every program at the same level as last year." He said his budget includes \$200 million in job-creating tax cuts and business incentives.

He said his budget contributes to the state pension system and doubles the property tax rebates for the middle-class and seniors "if we adopt real reforms in health benefits. In addition, most school districts will see an increase in education aid."

"My budget proposes total state spending of \$29.4 billion, a reduction in actual dollars spent versus last year," Governor Christie said.

He said the state will continue to fund the increase that was made in last year's budget to P.A.A.D. and Senior Gold Prescription Assistance Programs while increasing funding to hospitals by \$20 million. However, the Governor also said he wants to reform Medicaid by moving "our aged, blind, and disabled recipients into modern managed care, and moving their pharmacy benefit to modern managed care as well saving a total of \$41 million while still providing vital services."

He said additional enforcement efforts by the Comptroller's Office will save another \$35 million. The Governor also said New Jersey and other states "need relief from the unfunded federal (healthcare) mandate" of which state are to pickup 50 percent of the uninsured through Medicaid.

Among the tax cuts the Governor has proposed is a 10 percent income tax cut to be phased in over three years.

"In this budget, I propose that we provide tax relief to every New Jersey citizen through the first year of an across-the-board 10 percent cut in their income taxes and increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit for the working poor. The people of New Jersey have suffered for too long under the burden of high taxes, it is time for real relief," the Governor said.

Marie Bilik, executive director of the New Jersey School Boards Association, said the NJSBA "greatly appreciates Governor Christie's proposed school funding increase."

She noted that the economic downturn in 2008 resulted in \$820-million reduction in funding in 2010-2011. "The proposed \$200-million state

aid increase, which includes additional funds for formula aid and other accounts for 2012-2013, would continue but, on a statewide basis, would not complete the restoration of funding to the non-Abbott districts," Ms. Bilik said.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21, Westfield) said the Governor's spending plan is "focused on rebuilding and improving the foundation of our economy so that it will create sustainable, private sector jobs."

"Reducing the income tax is an investment in our state just like education, state colleges and universities, property tax relief, and support for the disadvantaged. It is a needed investment in job creation for the still far too many workers seeking employment," Sen. Kean said.

Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick (R-21, Westfield) said the Governor's budget "increases state educational aid to its highest level in history, makes the required pension payment of \$1.1 billion, and cuts income taxes by 10 percent."

"As a result of Governor Christie's leadership, we have a budget that funds core priorities and provides tax relief for every New Jersey," Asm. Bramnick said. "I applaud Governor Christie for a budget plan that keeps New Jersey moving in the right direction."

On the other side of the aisle, Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg (D-37, Teaneck) said it was "wrong for him (Governor Christie) to put in place a tax scheme that provides a windfall for the wealthy and only small savings for the middle class and working people. It's wrong for him to ignore the property tax burden carried by most homeowners and it's wrong that his past budget practices caused a 20 percent increase in property taxes during his two years in office."

Assembly Majority Leader Lou Greenwald (D-6, Camden), the former budget committee chairman, responded that, "Christie just doesn't get it. His zeal for tax breaks for the wealthy, while middle-class families struggle with the highest property taxes in the nation, is wrong. He has essentially proclaimed 'mission accomplished' even though property taxes have risen a net 20.4 percent since he took office. The only thing missing is the flight suit and aircraft carrier."

New Filing Deadline for BOE Elections Now June 5

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

COUNTY — With school-board elections now moving to November, the new filing deadline for Board of Education (BOE) candidates has been changed to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, the date of the state's Primary Election.

In an interview in the offices of The Westfield Leader and The Times last Friday, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi said BOE candidates will now file nominating petitions with the election division of the Union County Clerk's office at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth. She said independent candidates for the General Election also must file by June 5 in her office.

BOE candidates elected in November will take office the first week in January when BOEs will be required to hold reorganization meetings. The terms of BOE members that were to have expired this April will now be extended to January.

The filing deadline for municipal and county candidates for the June 5 Primary Election remains 4 p.m. on Monday, April 2. Municipal candidates will continue to file petitions with their municipal clerks while county and independent candidates file with the county clerk, Ms. Rajoppi said. Federal and state candidates file with the state.

"This (school board) is still considered a non-partisan election," Ms. Rajoppi said. "It will not be mixed in with the other candidates. It will be separate and obvious from the other elections (on ballots)."

To make it easier for candidates, Ms. Rajoppi said her office would make BOE nominating petitions available in the board secretaries' offices. In the past, petitions also were filed with the local school board office, but now completed petitions can either be mailed to or dropped off at the clerk's office at 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth, N.J. 07207.

Under the new state law signed by Governor Chris Christie, BOEs and/or towns had until February 17 to decide whether to keep their elections in April or move them to the date of the General Election in November. All 19 districts that had budgets voted on by residents moved their elections to November.

Under the new law, a BOE or municipal governing body had the option to vote to move their town's BOE election to November or citizens could have submit a petition to move the election. In Union County, BOEs in Berkeley Heights, Cranford, Garwood, Hillside, Kenilworth, Linden, Mountainside, New Providence, Rahway, Roselle, Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Springfield, Union, Westfield and Winfield all voted to move elections to November. Summit has an appointed board as well

as a board of school estimate and, thus, does not have a school election.

The municipal governing bodies in Clark and Plainfield, instead of the school boards, passed resolutions to move the BOE elections while in Elizabeth and Roselle, both the BOEs and city councils passed resolutions. If school districts decide they do not like the change to November, they must wait four years before they can revert back to holding an April school election, Ms. Rajoppi said.

She estimated that BOEs would save collectively \$136,890 in annual costs through her office, although the bulk of election costs are through the Board of Elections, which hires the poll workers and transports the machines to and from the election poll locations. The county budgeted \$110,000 for the clerk's office and \$600,000 for the Board of Elections to run the school elections each of the last two years. The clerk's office prints and mails the sample, official and provisional ballots and mail-in ballots and tabulates and certifies the votes.

"I know that towns are really hurting so they're happy to get any savings," Ms. Rajoppi said.

Ms. Rajoppi said she would not know until after the Primary how many candidates would be running as well as how many state referendum questions will be included on General Election ballots.

"So my concerns will be the limitations of the ballot space for the (election) machine," Ms. Rajoppi stated.

In terms of spacing, she said there have been discussions with state officials to remove instructions from the machine ballots on how to vote "and (instead) putting them separately somewhere in the poll booth." She said there also has been discussion ongoing on whether to remove the interpretive statements on ballot questions from the machine ballots to create additional space.

"It's a challenge but we will figure it out," Ms. Rajoppi said.

The county clerk said her office's costs could increase for the General Election depending on changes to the sample and machine ballots and the number of ballot faces she has to print. Based on the number of offices and candidates, as well as questions on the ballot, she said, "there can be anywhere from 40 to 80 different ballot faces," as towns that have wards require additional ballots. In addition, nine of the 21 municipalities in Union County are required under federal law to receive bilingual ballots, which also increase costs.

Ms. Rajoppi said special BOE elections for referendum votes, such as for capital projects, would continue to be held in January, March, September and December.

Personal Injury Lawyer Helping Accident Victims Every Day

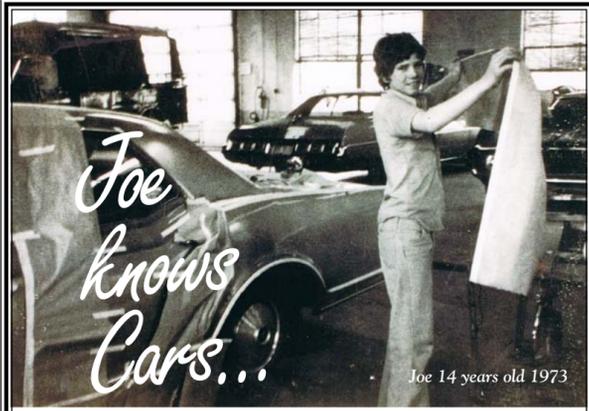
JON BRAMNICK
ATTORNEY AT LAW



JON BRAMNICK
Certified Civil Trial Attorney
30 Years Experience

**BRAMNICK, RODRIGUEZ,
MITTERHOFF, GRABAS & WOODRUFF LLC**

1827 East Second Street, Scotch Plains
908-322-7000
www.jonbramnick.com



PARK GROVE AUTO BODY

... A Different Kind of Body Shop

- Free Pick Up and Delivery
- Licensed to work for ALL insurance companies
- 24 Hour Towing

Here's what our Customers are saying

"What can I say? This is how the story goes. We smash car. We call Joe. Joe picks up car. Joe handles insurance company. Joe fixes car. Joe delivers car better than new. For real! Works for us."

Rosann & Leo L., Westfield

Free Complete Auto Detailing
with any insurance claim...\$350.00 value

Call us first...one phone call does it all
908-654-KARZ 800-834-6582

NJ license # ABR03373A • Joe & Meme Binko Proprietors



Christine Cosenza, Agent
2 Elm Street
Westfield, NJ 07090
Bus: 908-233-9100
www.christinecosenza.net

Renovate your homeowners policy.

Great insurance. Low rates.

Remodeling your home can increase its value. Protect it by taking a new look at your homeowners insurance. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
CALL ME TODAY.



State Farm

0901136 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL



Sweet Sixteen

Have your Sweet 16 Party at The James Ward Mansion!

THE JAMES WARD MANSION

With one event at a time and one event a day,
"Make Our Mansion Your Mansion" is an offer you cannot refuse.

The James Ward Mansion • 169 East Broad Street • Westfield, NJ 07090 • 908.389.0014 • 908.425.6947

www.jameswardmansion.com

DIVORCE MEDIATION

"Problem Solving for Families in Transition"



A FRACTION OF THE COST OF TRADITIONAL DIVORCE

- Divorce Mediation
- Collaborative Divorce
- Mediation Counseling
- Attorney Review



THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL R. MAGARIL

114 S. EUCLID AVENUE, WESTFIELD, NJ 07090 (908) 389-0100

Visit our website at www.magaril.com e-mail: mrm@magaril.com