



CLASS...This photo of a mudroom designed and built by Michael Robert Construction has been added to more than 11,000 Ideabooks on Houzz.com (Photo by Mike Mroz)

Michael Robert Construction Earns 'Best Of Remodeling'

WESTFIELD - Michael Robert Construction of Westfield, N.J. has been awarded "Best Of Remodeling" 2012 by Houzz, the leading online platform for residential remodeling and design. The Westfield-based design/build construction company was chosen by the more than 1.2 million registered members of the Houzz community.

Mike Mroz, Westfield native and owner of Michael Robert Construction, was humbled by the news of his win. "We are thrilled to be included in this elite group of remodeling professionals, and honored to be a part of the talented and diverse Houzz community. The positive feedback and recognition we have received for our design/build projects has been encouraging and insightful."

The photo that has received the most attention on the site is a photo that Mr. Mroz took himself of the Mudroom at his project on Shadowlawn Drive in Westfield. "The photo features a turquoise blue door that my wife and I affectionately refer to as the 'Smile Door.' I think people are most drawn to this image because of the ample storage and the unexpected pop of color. It evokes a feeling of supreme organization, and people love that," he said.

The photo has been added to more than 11,000 Ideabooks, and continues to gain popularity every day. "It feels great to be recognized for a project where we did both the design and the construction. That's really our sweet spot, and I believe the future of our company. The design/build format streamlines the process for the client, and makes for a much simpler and cost-effective project," stated Mr. Mroz.

With Houzz, homeowners can identify not only the top-rated professionals like Michael Robert Construction, but also those whose work visually aligns with their own design goals. Homeowners can evaluate professionals by contacting them directly on the Houzz platform, asking questions about their work and evaluating their responses to questions from others in the Houzz community. Michael Robert Construction often encourages their own clients to use Houzz to gather their design ideas in one place, and to share them with their project managers and design team to achieve the aesthetic they are looking for.

"With 3.5 million monthly unique users and 80 million monthly page views, Houzz has rapidly become the largest community of active remodelers, providing homeowners and design enthusiasts with first-hand advice from Houzzers who have been through the renovating and decorating process," said Liza Hausman, vice-president of marketing for Houzz. "This is a real stamp of approval for Michael Robert Construction from the Houzz community and we're thrilled to welcome them to this elite group of 'Best Of' winners."

About Michael Robert Construction: Michael Robert Construction is an award-winning construction company specializing in high-end building and remodeling, including Energy Star homes and renovations. As a design/build company, our focus is on major renovations, additions, custom homes, high-end remodeling projects and architectural detailing. We are proud to be a family-owned business located in Westfield, N.J. For more information, please visit www.MichaelRobertConstruction.com and www.NJDesignBuild.com.

*Paid Bulletin Board
goleader.com/express*

The Family Law Department of Dughi, Hewit & Domalewski, P.C. Presents



Kristin M. Capalbo, Esq., Mario C. Gurrieri, Esq. (Chair), Richard A. Outhwaite, Esq. and Andrew J. Economos, Esq.

4 Lawyers, 4 Levels of Experience, 4 Hourly Rates

All designed to serve your interests in all aspects of divorce including custody, parenting time, relocation, distribution of assets, alimony, child support, college costs, prenuptial agreements, mediation, domestic violence, palimony, post-divorce changes in financial circumstances, and civil unions

Mention this ad to receive a complimentary conference

Dughi, Hewit & Domalewski, P.C.
340 North Avenue Cranford, NJ 07016
(908) 272-0200 www.dughihewit.com

WF Foundation Announces First Qr. Grant Recipients

WESTFIELD - The trustees of the Westfield Foundation recently selected their grant recipients for the first quarter of 2012. The Foundation granted more than \$45,110 to seven local programs and projects benefiting all segments of Westfield and surrounding communities.

These grants will be used for such projects as respite care for Alzheimer family members; repair of park benches; musical performance support and purchase of land and materials for affordable housing for people in need.

The Westfield Foundation favors grants for programs or projects that focus primarily on the community of Westfield or groups serving the Westfield community. Areas of focus include education; the arts and other cultural activities; civic, health and human services; community development and the conservation and preservation of historical resources.

This quarter's recipients include

Habitat for Humanity, Alzheimer's Association, Imagine Inc., Oratorio Singers of Westfield, 117th Calvary Association, Friends of Mindowaskin Park and the Westfield Symphony Orchestra.

The Westfield Foundation started with an initial donation of \$2,000 over 35 years ago. The Foundation's funds are professionally invested and the income generated is granted to carefully screened applicants throughout the year.

Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed more than \$4 million. Tax-deductible donations made by local residents allow the Foundation to keep thriving and giving back right at home in Westfield.

For more information about the Westfield Foundation, visit thewestfieldfoundation.com. Anyone interested in contributing to this community foundation is asked to contact Betsy Chance, executive director, at foundation@westfieldnj.com or to call (908) 233-9787.

Mr. Mahmoud to Spotlight Byzantine Empire's History

WESTFIELD - "The Rise and Fall of the Byzantine Empire" will be the topic of Hassan (Sam) Mahmoud at the First Wednesday Luncheon of the Westfield Historical Society. It will take place at noon on April 4 at the Echo Lake Country Club, located at 515 Springfield Avenue in Westfield.

Mr. Mahmoud will explain various aspects of the Byzantine Empire's history. The Byzantine Empire was the heirress of the Roman Empire. It lasted three times as long as the original Roman Empire itself. The Byzantine Empire rescued and embraced Christianity, but Western

Christians gradually demolished it before the Ottoman Turks inflicted the final coup de grace.



Hassan Mahmoud

Mr. Mahmoud, a member and trustee of the historical society, has presented various programs on ancient history to the society's membership over the years. This will be his 10th talk. A 20-year resident of Westfield, Mr. Mahmoud came to the United States 42 years ago. He has been a world traveler, author, lecturer and a student of the history and culture of many countries. Since he has lived in the United States, he has published numerous articles about history and politics in major state newspapers. He also has written many columns in the *Home News Tribune* and the *Courier News* besides many letters in *The Star-Ledger*.

Spring Programs Are Available to Seniors

FANWOOD - Fanwood Recreation has announced its spring program schedule for senior citizens. Most of these programs will begin the week of April 2 and run through the week of June 18:

Aerobics (Tuesdays, 9 to 10 a.m.), Tai Chi (Tuesdays, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.), Water Exercise (Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.), Tennis for 65+ (Thursdays, 11 to 11:45 a.m.), Line Dancing (Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m.) and Zumba Gold (Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m.)

All classes will be held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park in Fanwood, except for Water Exercise, which will take place at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey Wilf Jewish Community Campus indoor pool in Scotch Plains, and Tennis for 65+, which will be held at the Hilltop Tennis Club, 330 North Avenue in Fanwood.

The fee is \$10 per program for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents and \$25 for all others. To get a schedule and a registration form, visit fanwoodrecreation.org on the Internet or pick them up at Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue. For more information, call Fanwood Recreation at (908) 370-7092.

Support Group Open To Grieving Youth

WESTFIELD - Imagine, a free, year-round grief support group, is available for children ages 3 to 18 who have had a parent or sibling die. Concurrent groups run for parents and guardians and for young adults ages 18 to 30.

Support groups meet every other Monday for an hour and a half. Dinner is provided prior to the group meeting. Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, is located at the First United Methodist Church, One East Broad Street in Westfield, and is open and available to all.

To schedule an orientation for oneself or one's family, or for more information, contact Imagine at (908) 264-3100 or support@imagineinj.org.

Calvary Lutheran Church

An ELCA Congregation
108 Eastman St., Cranford, NJ
(908) 276-2418

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday
April 1, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday
April 5, 1:15 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Holy Communion

Good Friday
April 6, 7:30 p.m.
Service of Tenebrae

Easter Sunday
April 8
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Festival Services of Holy Communion

LAWRENCE A. WOODRUFF

Attorney-at-Law

General Practice

Estate Planning and Probate

Divorce and Mediation

201 South Avenue E.
Westfield
654-8885

Eve. and Sat. Appt's

POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield
Monday, March 19, Stephen Pemberton, 28, of Avenel was arrested pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at South and Central Avenues on active warrants from Westfield, Marlboro, Cranford and Roselle Park. He was processed and released on \$2,000 bail.

Monday, March 19, a motor vehicle burglary was reported on the 700 block of Girard Avenue, in which a laptop, valued at \$800, was taken.

Monday, March 19, a motor vehicle burglary was reported on the 800 block of Wallberg Avenue, in which a wallet was taken.

Monday, March 19, Bianca Dort, 21, of Elizabeth was arrested on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant for \$178 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at West North Avenue and Elm Street. She was transported to police headquarters, processed and released on posted bail.

Monday, March 19, a resident of the 100 block of Cherry Lane reported the theft of personal belongings that had been left unsecured inside an establishment on the 200 block of Clark Street. The missing items included a black AT&T iPhone, a Brown Coach wallet, \$300 in cash, a Bank of America credit card, Ralph Lauren gift card, New Jersey driver's license, khaki shorts and a Chicago Bulls T-shirt. The approximate value of the theft is \$1,030.

Tuesday, March 20, a resident of the 800 block of Winyah Avenue reported that someone unknown gained entry to an unlocked motor vehicle and stole a GPS unit worth \$150.

Tuesday, March 20, a Clark resident reported that someone unknown stole her ring, valued at \$24,500, while she was at a business on the 600 block of West North Avenue.

Tuesday, March 20, a Wells Street resident reported that someone unknown used the victim's debit card and purchased \$495 worth of items.

Tuesday, March 20, a Cranford resident found two \$100 bills on the 200 block of East Broad Street. The money was turned over to the Westfield Police Department and secured in the property locker.

Thursday, March 22, the theft of a baby stroller, valued at \$150, was reported on the 600 block of Lawrence Avenue.

Thursday, March 22, Mice Lawson, 23, of Linden was arrested on the 300 block of Windsor Avenue on two outstanding traffic warrants, one from Fanwood for \$250 and the other from Garwood for \$249. A search incident to the arrest revealed Lawson to be in possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana, according to police, and he additionally was charged with this offense. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released on posted bail. Lawson was released on his own recognizance on the marijuana possession charge pending a court date.

Thursday, March 22, a business on the 200 block of East Broad Street reported a shoplifting incident in which two suspects stole approximately \$2,355 worth of clothing as they fled out the rear entrance of the store. They were described as two black females, approximately 25 years old, with short, stocky builds, shoulder-length hair and matted clothing, and both carrying purses. The incident currently is under investigation.

Friday, March 23, Jason Dressler, 24, of Kenilworth was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of Central Avenue and Sycamore Street. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released to a responsible adult.

Friday, March 23, a theft was reported on the 500 block of Dorian Road, in which someone unknown took a black iPhone, valued at \$500, according to the victim's mother.

Friday, March 23, a resident of the 1200 block of Prospect Street reported a case of possible identity theft/fraud.

Saturday, March 24, Adam Lee, 23, of Point Pleasant was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on the 600 block of West South Avenue on a Matawan warrant for \$250. He was released after posting bail.

Saturday, March 24, Christopher Conboy, 28, of Aberdeen was arrested on a Sayreville warrant for \$207 during a motor vehicle stop on the 600 block of West South Avenue. Conboy was released on her own recognizance by Sayreville and given a court date.

Saturday, March 24, a resident of the 300 block of Wells Street reported that someone unknown had stolen his identity and filed a false tax return in his name.

Sunday, March 25, Michael Cino, 38, of Toms River was arrested on a Westfield warrant at the Long Beach Island Township Police Department. He was transported to the Union County jail in lieu of \$1,500 cash bail.

Sunday, March 25, an attempted motor vehicle burglary was reported on the 500 block of Carleton Road. Two unknown suspects attempted to gain entry to the parked vehicle, but fled before gaining access. No damage was reported.

Fanwood

Monday, March 19, Annalessi Rhoden, 26, of East Orange was arrested following a motor vehicle stop at South and Martine Avenues on an active warrant out of East Orange. She was processed, posted bail and released.

Tuesday, March 20, Runanko Anderson, 31, of St. Albans, N.Y. was arrested following an investigation into a report of a suspicious parked vehicle on the 500 block of North Avenue, of which he was the driver. He was charged with possession of a weapon, after police found a stun gun in his vehicle, and on an outstanding warrant out of Monmouth County. He was processed and turned over to the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department for the outstanding warrant.

Christopher Rushin, 29, of Valley Stream, N.Y., a passenger in the vehicle, was charged with possession of suspected marijuana and possession of a weapon. He was processed and turned over to the Union County jail after failing to post bail set at \$2,500 with a 10 percent option.

Jeffrey Henry, 31, of Cambria Heights, N.Y., a second passenger in the vehicle, was charged with possession of a weapon. He was turned over to the Union County jail for failure to post bail set at \$2,500 with a 10 percent option.

Tuesday, March 20, Isaac Coston, 25, of Plainfield was arrested following a

motor vehicle stop at South Avenue and Terrill Road on an active warrant out of Newark. He was processed, posted bail and released.

Wednesday, March 21, Malittha Madden, 26, of Somerset was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on the 100 block of South Avenue on an active warrant out of South Plainfield. She was processed and released by the South Plainfield Court.

Wednesday, March 21, Elizabeth Harrell, 33, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on the 100 block of South Avenue on an active warrant from justice warrant out of the Volusia County, Fla. Sheriff's Department. She was processed and turned over to the Union County jail awaiting extradition to Florida.

Thursday, March 22, Lewis Salters, 46, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop at Terrill Road and Cottage Way on an active warrant out of Scotch Plains. The driver was arrested, processed, posted bail and released.

Saturday, March 24, Sharon Jackson, 41, of North Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop at East Third Street and Terrill Road on an active warrant out of Elizabeth. She was processed, posted bail and released.

Scotch Plains

Monday, March 19, a resident of Raritan Road reported that she had friends over and that when they left she noticed that her prescription medication was missing from her medicine cabinet.

Thursday, March 22, a student at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School reported that after school, during practice, someone removed his phone, valued at approximately \$200, from his locker.

Thursday, March 22, Terrance Kelly, 27, of Hamilton was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana after a motor vehicle stop on Rahway Road. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Friday, March 23, Jason Souza, 23, of Fanwood was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana after a motor vehicle stop on Mountain Avenue. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Friday, March 23, a resident of Newark Avenue reported that someone made several thousand dollars in purchases on his credit card without his authorization.

Friday, March 23, Zolli Williams, 54, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with burglary after an investigation into two burglaries, which occurred at a Route 22 gas station on February 26 and March 16. According to police, detectives were able to obtain evidence that led them to Williams. He was processed and transported to the Union County jail after failing to post bail set at \$54,000.

Saturday, March 24, the manager of a Westfield Avenue store reported that a customer came into the store and grabbed several hundred dollars in over-the-counter medication, then left without paying.

Saturday, March 24, a resident of Clydesdale Road reported that sometime overnight someone removed approximately \$4,000 from his checking account without his authorization.

Saturday, March 24, a resident of Fairway Court reported that sometime during the day someone smashed her window.

Saturday, March 24, Kelly Duncan, 49, of Colonia was arrested after a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road on an outstanding \$35,000 warrant issued by the Middlesex County Court. She was transported to police headquarters, processed and turned over to the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office.

Saturday, March 24, Tiffany Grant, 28, of Elizabeth was arrested after a motor vehicle stop on Front Street on an outstanding \$1,580 warrant issued by the Elizabeth Court. She was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Saturday, March 24, Daniel DeMaurez, 20, of Plainfield and Matthew Johnson, 24, of Plainfield were arrested and charged with burglary after an officer observed them walking down Route 22 around midnight carrying multiple items. According to police, the suspects were stopped, and it was later determined that the items were taken from an earlier burglary at a Route 22 store. They were transported to police headquarters, processed and then transported to the Union County jail when they were unable to post bail, which was set at \$73,500 for DeMaurez and \$16,000 for Johnson.

Mountainside

Tuesday, March 20, Abdurrahe A. Akbar, 52, of East Orange was arrested on three counts of burglary and theft, receiving stolen property, identity theft and credit card fraud after an investigation into three commercial burglaries. According to police, the investigation also revealed that Akbar is the suspect in similar commercial burglaries that occurred in Cranford, East Hanover, Bridgewater, Warren Township, Parsippany-Troy Hills and Middletown Township. Taken during the burglaries were laptop computers, cases of wine, power tools, iPhones and cash, police said. One victim had her purse removed from her office and her credit card was used within half an hour at the Walmart in Watchung to purchase a flat-screen television, authorities reported. Akbar was transported to the Union County jail after failing to post bail set at \$300,000.

Tuesday, March 20, a resident of Bayberry Lane reported that she received a notice of levy against her bank account from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for \$35,848. According to police, the IRS told the victim that an individual living in Chicago, Ill. had filed a 2009 tax return using the victim's name. She was advised to file an identity theft/fraud report, police said.

Wednesday, March 21, Yusuf M. Abramson, 32, of Plainfield was arrested for allegedly driving with a suspended license and on warrants from Fanwood and Scotch Plains, in the amounts of \$942 and \$191, respectively. He was processed and turned over to the Fanwood Police Department.

Thursday, March 22, a resident of Holly Hill reported that an individual residing in Perth Amboy used his Social Security number to obtain an account with Elizabethtown Gas. The victim is filing a complaint against the suspect for identity theft.

Friday, March 23, Marcos A. Alvarez, 45, of Plainfield was arrested for allegedly driving with a suspended license after a motor vehicle stop on Route 22.