

## Thanks to All Who Supported Our Annual Book Sale for WF Library

The Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library wish to thank all supporters of our annual book sale. Many devoted volunteers worked tirelessly for two weeks to make this sale a success. The Westfield Board of Education donated the use of tables for display of the books. The Westfield Department of Public Works transported tables and bookcases to and from the sale. The Westfield Memorial Library provided their meeting room for the event, and the library staff supported us in every way. Special thanks to all the youth volunteers giving back to the community. Last, but certainly not least, we thank the members of the community who donated books and who shopped at the sale in support of their library. We are proud to report that no books were discarded: all leftovers were sent to various charities.

The sale is the major fundraiser for the Friends and enables us to provide many

services to the library and to the residents of Westfield. We fund the following: scholarships, the Museum Pass Program, library programs for children and adults, the Ann and Lee Hale Speaker Series, and the purchase of equipment and materials for the library. We also sponsor the following services: Books-on-Wheels, book discussion groups, opera at the Met, the annual Friends' outing, and "Sharing the Warmth," a group of knitting enthusiasts who make blankets for children with cancer.

We urge members of the community to join the Friends in supporting the library and to take advantage of our many programs. Come browse, donate or volunteer at The Friends' annual Children's Book Sale this fall. We will look forward to seeing you.

**Jody Lipson**  
Friends of the Library, Westfield

## Mayor Quattrocchi Seeks Support In June 3rd Republican Primary

I ask that the Republican Primary voters of Garwood see fit to nominate me as their candidate for a second term as the mayor of the borough. It has been a rewarding experience these past three-and-a-half years as I have learned about many of them and they have learned more about me and my commitment to them all as my extended family.

Garwood operates under the borough form of government with an elected weak mayor and six at-large council members. As mayor, I vote only in the event of a tie and that actually only occurs occasionally. Times have changed since the borough adopted this form of government and the job of mayor has certainly changed as well. With the advent of the Internet being mayor seems to have become an almost full-time engagement as residents and others have easy access to elected officials and are now demanding, to their credit, attention to their concerns. I have developed some interesting relationships with persons who would have never crossed by path years ago. I do answer e-mail inquiries from residents myself as I am able to do so at my leisure sometimes at midnight! I have strived to maintain an open door policy, just as I did in the private business world and also return telephone calls from residents and welcome visits any time I am in Borough Hall. This is generally a couple of days a week and also on Mayor's Saturday without an appointment.

Seeing to it that the residents are not on the losing end when it comes to town services, I have successfully brought back a bulk pick-up program, have increased communications options with the residents through a newsletter, enhanced website, and an up-to-date telephone system; reintroduced the position of business and industry liaison to the council; that person has revitalized the local chamber of commerce and will once again

## 10 Percent Will Defend The Bad Guys

In reply to the Barcans' letter of April 10 regarding the Westfield carjacking, I knew before finishing the first sentence the direction their letter was going - using the word "alleged" to describe the vermin caught red-handed. Alleged means without proof. How much proof did they want? Then to lay blame on the system (poor schools, lack of jobs etc.) to justify their behavior. It's called personal responsibility. Ever heard of it?

Case in point: President Obama, was born and raised in squalor, absent parents, raised by his grandmother. He had a choice: Head down the same path as the vermin, or be self motivated, lift yourself up, put yourself through Harvard and become President of the U.S. The opportunities and possibilities are endless. From Colin Powell to Dr. King (who proved even in the 50's the colleges were open to everyone regardless of race or status). Again, personal responsibility!

Now on to the wall - Do the Barcans' have locks on their cars? How about the doors to their house? Why are these locks there? - to keep undesirable out and their property safe. Zoo's have walls to keep the animals in. And in the case of Newark, the steel gates on the stores are to keep the animals out. I'm all for a wall to be around Westfield, not Newark. Of course the biggest maintenance would be to keep the graffiti off the outside of the walls to the east and west. As for Sen. Booker, his past speaks for itself.

Why the condescending, demeaning and hateful attitude toward the editors of *The Leader* for expressing an opinion? Although I don't know and have never met any of them, I too am angered that vermin would maliciously and callously invade Westfield and spew their venom.

We have all learned an important lesson. When bad things happen, there will always be the 10 percent that will jump to the defense of the bad guys.

Art Shultz  
Tucson Ariz.

## Letters to the Editor

### Parents Should Know Which Prescription Drugs Are In Homes

The Westfield Board of Health met on April 7, 2014. Concerning the increasing and serious problem of prescription opiate abuse, the Board of Health will focus on education and increasing awareness.

Parents and families should understand which prescription drugs are in their medicine cabinets and households. In addition, they should know which are most likely to be taken by, experimented with and abused by teenagers and young adults at home. There is also a potential for abusing correctly prescribed opiates, for example, after sports injuries and other needs for pain control.

Parents should do the following:  
1) Know what medicines you have; take inventory and account for your medicines.

2) Properly secure your medicines.  
3) Prevent unauthorized refills.  
4) Properly dispose of your unused, unwanted and expired medicines.

5) Talk to your children about the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

6) Learn to identify high risk behavior and what to do if abuse is suspected. You can safely and conveniently dispose of unused, unwanted and expired medicines at the Union County Division of Police, 300 North Avenue East in Westfield. It is open every day, 24 hours a day, and more information is at (908) 654-9800.

The Westfield Regional Health Department will develop and provide flyers and information on its website about this in the coming months. Until then, more information is available at the American Medicine Chest Challenge at [www.americanmedicinechest.com](http://www.americanmedicinechest.com) and the National Institute of Drug Abuse at [www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/prescription-over-counter-medications](http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/prescription-over-counter-medications).

Last year a number of residents were diagnosed with Lyme disease. The risk of Lyme disease is increasing with the advent of spring, but it can be prevented. Residents should avoid direct contact with ticks by following some simple precautions:

1) Avoid wooded and bushy areas with high grass and leaf litter.

2) Walk in the center of trails.

3) Use appropriate insect repellents.

4) After an outing, check your children and yourself for ticks and remove any ticks found.

5) Check your pets for ticks daily, especially after they are outside, and remove any ticks found.

6) Make your yard less tick friendly by clearing tall grasses and brush.

Other appropriate precautions can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov/lyme/prev/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/prev/index.html).

Thirteen initial pre-school immunization audits were completed and initial compliance ranged from 100 percent for six programs to 63 percent. Nursing

counseling was completed and all five programs re-audited to date achieved 100 percent compliance. However, the members of the Board are concerned that the state's lenient definition for compliance may leave children at risk of vaccine-preventable diseases. As a result, we will look at options for better educating parents.

Finally, we reviewed how the Westfield Regional Health Department compares to other health departments in the state and in the country. Our department cost less than half the state average on a capitated basis compared to similar departments. On the national level, we had only one-fourth of the staff compared to departments serving similar populations.

Information about all of the Health Department's activities is available on its website [www.westfieldnj.gov/health](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/health). The complete minutes of the April 7 meeting will be posted after review and approval at our May 5 meeting, which starts at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal building. The public is invited to attend.

**Lawrence D. Budnick, MD**  
President, Westfield Board of Health

### Why the Race Card vs Opposing Views?

It's interesting that anyone with views opposing Steve and Bettye Barcan are called out using "the race card" and trying to frighten them into keeping quiet.

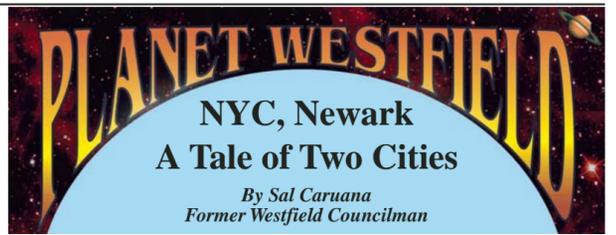
The newspaper tried to point out some obvious discrepancies between the two towns/cities.

It would behoove such a writer to try and make substantive changes to the "status quo" as the present system of "throwing money at the problem" is not working, despite that it relieves you of any guilt. That "throwing money" at the situation has not worked for 40 years, and the newspaper was pointing that out. To take that a step further, they are asking to think outside the box or a paradigm shift.

Did it ever occur to the writer that maybe the views they are espousing are the root cause of the problem? How about starting by looking at what is working and what is not working? What do you do as a family that they don't do? For one do not pretend to know even a fraction of the answers, but the newspaper is trying to bring the conversation to the forefront.

Have you heard of the saying, "Give a man a fish and he will always depend on you, but teach a man to fish and it will be independent forever?"

Carl Swenson  
Westfield



## NYC, Newark A Tale of Two Cities

By Sal Caruana  
Former Westfield Councilman

A harsh and intemperate *Westfield Leader* editorial (April 3) expressing anger over a recent local carjacking by two young men from Newark has been met by a few readers with charges of racism. In response, the editor said (April 10) it was "solely about violent crime and the denial of many in our society to recognize that it exists." One reader suggested "we as a community would be better served thoughtfully examining the problem." I could not agree more.

Violent crime is most often measured in homicide statistics. In 1993 there were 88 homicides in Newark and 2,245 in New York City. Twenty years later, in 2013, there were 102 in Newark (16 percent increase) and only 333 in New York (85 percent decrease). Analyzed in terms of population, in 2013 there were four murders per hundred thousand in New York and 37 per hundred thousand in Newark.

As for the astonishing reduction in New York, there is no debating that 20 years of focused efforts and more aggressive policing practices during the Giuliani/Bloomberg administrations is largely responsible for the improvement, and the saving of thou-

sands of lives in the process.

And while stronger economic growth in New York and the demographic and socioeconomic differences between the two cities are statistically meaningful in also explaining the divergence, they cannot excuse the comparably abysmal record on violent crime during the parallel Gibson/James/Booker eras. Mayor Corey Booker, in particular, offered more, promised more, and delivered far less in reducing violent crime, much to everyone's disappointment (including *The Leader's* editor).

As a side note: New York City Mayor David Dinkins presided at the 1993 homicide apex and was turned out of office after one term. We'll see how long new Mayor de Blasio lasts as he rolls back stop and frisk policing which, while controversial, was enormously successful. Undoubtedly more guns will stay on the street and murder rates will begin to climb. As for the present, Newark has much to learn from its own legacy of failure in public safety and from the success across the river. In the meantime 280,000 people in one of America's most violent cities are waiting with little cause for hope.



**OWEN BRAND**  
ML# 222999  
Your Hometown MORTGAGE BANKER

**investorsHome**  
mortgage A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of Investors Bank

**Residential - Construction**  
**Commercial - Bridge Loans**

**Local: (908) 789-2730**  
**Toll Free: (888) 256-4447 ext. 41349**  
**obrand@myinvestorsbank.com**

  
Member FDIC

NMLS ID #60061. Mortgage Loans provided by ISB Mortgage Co. LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Investors Savings Bank and Licensed by the NJ Department of Banking Insurance.

The Westfield Memorial Library presents  
presents  
**Under the Street Lamp:  
Tales of the Doo Wop Era**  
Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 pm



If you remember and love Doo Wop music, you must come and hear music historian and former DJ Charles Horner tell the real stories of the Harptones, Moonglows and Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers. You'll also see records, photographs and other memorabilia. Make sure you sign up!

It's your Library ... make the most of it



Open to WML and MURAL cardholders. Sign up online at [www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) and click on the Calendar link, or call 908.789.4090 option 0.

It's your Library ... make the most of it  
550 East Broad Street Westfield  
[www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) 908.789.4090

# Negligence Cases



**Jon Bramnick**  
Certified Civil Trial Attorney

**908-322-7000**

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

1827 East Second Street, Scotch Plains [www.jonbramnick.com](http://www.jonbramnick.com)

## SPIDER VEINS? GET YOUR LEGS READY FOR SUMMER!

**Amazing results** without surgery using simple sclerotherapy and new laser treatments. NJ's largest and most respected vascular practice is now delivering innovative and exceptional care in seven convenient locations. We are here to help!

**Vascular Specialists:**

Clifford M. Sales, MD	Salvador A. Cuadra, MD
Michael A. Pontoriero, MD	Combiz Rezayat, MD
Jonathan A. Levison, MD	Scott A. Sundick, MD
Mark H. Kumar, MD	Harry Agis, MD
Raymond J. Holmes, MD	Mark W. Moritz, MD
Michael D. Addis, MD	Michael Ombrellino, MD

**Vein Institute**  
OF NEW JERSEY

**THE CARDIOVASCULAR CARE GROUP**  
Dedicated to Total Cardiovascular Care

Westfield • Springfield • Morristown • Clifton  
Princeton • Shrewsbury • Sparta

**973-291-2123**  
[www.veinstitutenj.com](http://www.veinstitutenj.com) • [www.theveincenternj.com](http://www.theveincenternj.com)

## Interiors So Lovely, You'll Want to Stay Home

**Think "Superior" For:**

- Expert Consultation Services
- Space Planning / Room Layouts
- Remodeling Services
- All Interior Related Products:  
Furniture Floor Coverings  
Lighting Window Treatments  
Accessorizing & Finishing Touches



*Superior Interiors*

**Joanne Womelsdorf, IFDA, ASID allied**  
Phone: 908.232.3875  
[www.superiorinteriorsofnj.com](http://www.superiorinteriorsofnj.com)