

## Westfield Resident Completes 10 Months of National Service

WESTFIELD — Nicole Venezia of Westfield is among 186 men and women who recently pledged to perform 10 months of national service as part of the Southern Region's 20th Class of the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), as a member of FEMA Corps.



Nicole Venezia

As part of her service, Ms. Venezia spent 10 months serving with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the administration of emergency management and long-term recovery activities.

"After being underemployed for a year after graduating from college, I decided I needed a change. Superstorm Sandy had just hit the northeast, and I saw FEMA Corps members assisting survivors. After researching the program, I thought 10 months of national service would be perfect for me," said Ms. Venezia.

Ms. Venezia graduated on June 5, 2014 in a ceremony held at the Massenburg Memorial Athletic Center in Vicksburg, Miss. She will earn an education award of \$5,550, which can be used to continue education or pay back qualified student loans.

Following FEMA Corps, Ms. Venezia was set to join a summer AmeriCorps program with Rebuild

NJ, rebuilding homes on the Jersey Shore. "I will then be attending graduate school in the fall at Rutgers to earn my Masters in City and Regional Planning," she said.

The AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) and its FEMA Corps units engage 2,800 young Americans in a full-time, 10-month commitment to service each year. AmeriCorps NCCC members address critical needs related to natural and other disasters, infrastructure improvement, environmental stewardship and conservation, and urban and rural development. FEMA Corps members are solely dedicated to disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery work.

The programs are administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS is the federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service through its AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Social Innovation Fund and Volunteer Generation Fund programs, and leads the President's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. For more information, visit [nationalservice.gov](http://nationalservice.gov).



WELCOME TO THE BOARD...The Westfield Foundation has announced that three new trustees have joined its board for the 2014-2015 term. Pictured, from left to right, are: Mark F. Swingle, Claudia Andreski and Robert Gorelick. Additionally, the Foundation has named its grant recipients for the second quarter of 2014.

## Westfield Foundation Names Trustees, Grant Recipients

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Foundation has welcomed three trustees to the board for 2014-2015, including Claudia Andreski, Robert Gorelick and Mark F. Swingle.

The Westfield Foundation is a local foundation, the goals of which include supporting the ongoing efforts of individuals and organizations to improve the quality of life in Westfield. It also supports new initiatives, most recently Roots & Wings, an organization dedicated to helping young adults who have aged out of New Jersey's foster care system. Seed money provided by the Foundation in the past has been instrumental to organizations such as Imagine and Furniture Assist, among others.

In the second quarter of 2014, the Foundation granted more than \$76,500 to 11 local organizations. These funds will be used in a mentoring program for Westfield High School students interested in medicine; theater performances at Roosevelt and Edison intermediate schools; purchase of theatrical equipment; preservation and display of archives; a junior theater program; a holiday concert; groceries for children with cancer; development of a website and seed money for a pro-

gram to help youth who are aging out of New Jersey's foster care system.

Recipients include Arts Power, Trinitas Health Foundation, 117th Cavalry Association, Summit Speech School, Solid Brass Chamber Music Guild, Roots & Wings, Hedgehog and Feather Theatre Co., Emmanual Cancer Foundation, Literacy Volunteers of Union County, Youth and Family Counseling Service and the Cranford Dramatic Club. Additionally, the Foundation awarded \$40,000 in scholarships and \$16,250 for a summer jobs program.

Over the years, donors have had the option of giving to the Westfield Foundation by establishing a "legacy" fund in an individual or family's name. The annual investment income from a legacy fund will support the Foundation's yearly giving both immediately and in perpetuity, and is a lasting legacy of generosity for families in the Westfield community.

For more information about the Westfield Foundation grant or donor opportunities, contact Betsy Chance, executive director, at (908) 233-9787. Further information is available on the Foundation's website, [thewestfieldfoundation.com](http://thewestfieldfoundation.com).



FINAL CUT...After 75 years Alex DiPace, owner of Alex's Barber Shop, located at 511 Park Avenue in Scotch Plains, recently decided to retire. Pictured is Mr. DiPace giving the last haircut on his last day of business July 12. In the chairs are father and son Todd and Billy Anderson; behind them, from left to right, are: Sam Stillo, Mayor Kevin Glover, Ralph Checchio, Janet Blaes and Mr. DiPace.

## Roselle Park Highlights SummerFest Activities

AREA — The Borough of Roselle Park invites the public to attend its SummerFest activities, a series of free family-oriented events.

National Night Out will take place Tuesday, August 5, with activities from 6 to 8 p.m. Visitors will have an opportunity to meet police officers and learn about public safety programs, enjoy a Bounce and see the inside of a fire truck. The location will be Green Acres Complex at the high school by West Colfax Avenue. Fireworks will begin at 9:15 p.m.

The Roselle Park Summer Film Series will return on Fridays, August 8 and August 29, at 8 p.m., in the backyard of the Casano Community Center, located at 314 Chestnut Street in Roselle Park. Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair. In the event of rain, screenings will be held inside. For more information, call (908) 245-0666.

Roselle Park's Planet Dance Studio will present a dance recital on Wednesday, August 20, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Casano Community Center.

A photography exhibit entitled "Summer In Roselle Park" is being featured at the Casano Community Center Art Gallery through Friday, August 22. For more information, call (908) 241-5874.

Additionally, a new exhibit called "Twisted Tales" will open on Monday, August 25, at the Casano Community Center Art Gallery, featuring artwork by the students of artist Lynnor Bontigao. The children will present known fairytales, poems, nursery rhymes or folktales, with a twist. This exhibit will continue through October 2014.

The annual Veterans Memorial Library "Reading is a Picnic" End of Summer Party also will be held on August 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. Attendees are invited to bring a picnic basket and blanket. JoJo Russell Kids in Motion — a 45-minute, non-stop, song-dance-game extravaganza for children — will be featured. It will be held indoors at the Casano Community Center.

A Night of Art will be held free of charge on Wednesday, August 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Casano Community Center. There will be a poetry reading by Roselle Park's Poet Laureate, Leona Seufert, an open mic for the audience to read poetry, plus music and a talk about the current exhibit in the Art Gallery.

A World War I exhibit paying tribute to Roselle Park's "Dough Boys" will continue at the Roselle Park Museum, located at 9 West Grant Avenue. It is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call (908) 245-1776.

## Westfield Library to Show Origami By Children

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library, located at 550 East Broad Street, will display The 2013 Origami By Children Exhibit during the month of August. It will be featured in the display case near the new books section of the library.

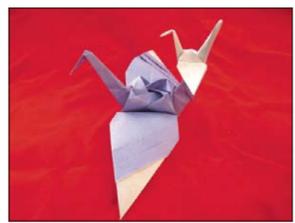
For more than two decades, OrigamiUSA has sponsored Origami by Children, an annual exhibition of outstanding origami by children from around the world. Children under the age of 18 are invited to submit origami models that they folded for the exhibit. Only the best are chosen to become part of the exhibit. Most of the origami models are made from instructions found in books but

some are original creations designed by the children themselves.

For the second consecutive year, the exhibit will feature two Westfield students, Mark and Fiona Gillespie. Mark, a 2014 Westfield High School graduate, contributed tsuru rose with baby crane, which he adapted from Satoshi Kamiya's model, tsuru rose, by adding a baby crane to the tail. This model is folded from a single sheet of paper. Fiona, an entering Westfield High School freshman, contributed a modular box wreath, a modular origami piece, created from many individual units interlocked together into a wreath shape. This model was created by Bennet Arnstein.

OrigamiUSA is a non-profit cultural arts organization dedicated to teaching and promoting origami in the United States and around the world. Based in New York City, OrigamiUSA runs folding sessions throughout the year as well as an annual convention that draws origami enthusiasts from around the world.

Westfield Memorial Library hours are 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday. The library is closed on Sundays during the summer.



FASCINATING SHAPES...Pictured are the origami creations of Westfield residents that will be among a display of children's origami at the Westfield Memorial Library during August.

## Rahway AARP Posts Final Showboat Trip

AREA — The Rahway AARP Chapter invites area residents to join members on Thursday, August 7, for the chapter's final trip to the Showboat Casino in Atlantic City before it closes.

The bus will leave at 8:30 a.m. and return at 6:30 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$25 per person and will include a \$30 cash voucher. Interested persons are asked to reserve a spot by calling Irene at (732) 499-7740.

## POLICE BLOTTER

**Westfield**  
Monday, July 21, a 2006 Yamaha R6 50th Anniversary edition motorcycle, belonging to a Westfield resident and valued at \$5,500, was reported stolen from the parking lot of a business on the 100 block of Elm Street. Also stolen were three pairs of sunglasses, valued at \$45, and the registration and insurance cards for the motorcycle. The theft occurred between 7:30 and 9 a.m. that day.

Monday, July 21, a resident of the 300 block of First Street reported that his automobile was burglarized. The victim stated that someone unknown entered the unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the driveway of the residence, and took approximately \$10 in coins and a Garmin GPS device, valued at \$200.

Monday, July 21, a guest at a business on the 500 block of Springfield Avenue reported being the victim of criminal mischief that occurred between 2:30 and 4:50 p.m. Someone unknown smashed the rear side window on the victim's 2012 Toyota while it was parked and unoccupied.

Monday, July 21, a Westfield resident reported the theft of a blue, 26-inch Schwinn men's mountain bicycle from the south side train station bicycle rack. The steel cable lock was cut prior to the bicycle being removed, police said. The theft occurred between 6:30 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. that day.

Monday, July 21, the theft of prescription medication, with an approximate value of \$200, was reported from a facility on Lamberts Mill Road. According to police, the theft occurred between 8 a.m. on July 16 and 10 a.m. on July 17.

Tuesday, July 22, while responding to a call about one or more unidentified persons running through the rear yards of residences and jumping fences in the area of the 1100 block of Lawrence Avenue, police spoke to a 19-year-old male who said he was robbed of \$70 in cash by an unknown suspect who was with two other unidentified individuals. The suspects then fled on foot. One suspect was described as a black male, approximately 6 feet tall with a thin build, while another was described as a small-built white male with blonde hair and wearing dark pants.

Wednesday, July 23, Abdulquod Sayyed-Hill, 18, of Maplewood was arrested and charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of Lawrence Avenue and Barchester Way. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released with a mandatory court date.

Wednesday, July 23, detectives took into custody a juvenile suspect, age 16, subsequent to a motor vehicle burglary investigation. According to police, the juvenile was charged with third degree burglary, credit card theft (fourth degree) and intent to defraud a credit card holder (third degree), as well as with disorderly persons offenses for theft and receiving stolen property. He also was charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, identified as prescription medication. The juvenile, who was taken into custody pursuant to a motor vehicle stop on Park Drive in Mindowaskin Park, was processed and released into his parents' custody.

Police also confirmed that the juvenile had previously been taken into custody on a juvenile complaint for defiant trespass in connection with an incident on Prospect Street earlier in July.

Wednesday, July 23, Aswad Turner, 20, of Westfield was arrested subsequent to the investigation of a burglary that occurred April 9, 2014 on the 400 block of Downer Street. Turner was charged with third degree burglary and theft. He was processed and committed to the Union County jail pending posting of bail.

Wednesday, July 23, Charles Pollard, 51, of Elizabeth was arrested at Newark police headquarters on outstanding warrants from Westfield, Cranford, Elizabeth and Union, with bail totaling \$2,657. He was held on default of bail.

Thursday, July 24, a resident of the 300 block of Wychwood Road reported being the victim of fraud. The victim told police she received a phone call from an unknown suspect claiming to be from Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) for an electric meter replacement, which she was told required a \$1,000 deposit. Once funds were sent via MoneyGram, the victim realized the caller was an impostor.

Friday, July 25, Douglas Smith, 25, of Newark was arrested on an outstanding Westfield warrant for \$300 after Westfield authorities responded to Newark police headquarters. He was processed and released after posting bail.

Friday, July 25, a resident of the 600 block of Roosevelt Street reported that his motor vehicle was the target of criminal mischief, which included damage to the driver-side mirror and numerous scratches along the front and rear driver's-side door, as well as the hood.

Friday, July 25, a resident of the 200 block of Scotch Plains Avenue reported being the victim of fraud. The victim claimed to have sent \$523 via Western Union for concert tickets offered on the Craigslist website and to have received nothing in return.

Saturday, July 25, two home burglaries were reported. In one incident, police responding to an alarm call on Lawrence Avenue discovered a residence had been forcibly entered through an interior garage door; it was unknown what was taken at the time of the report. In the second case, a Harrow Road resident reported returning home to find the residence had been ransacked after forced entry was gained through a rear window.

Saturday, July 26, a Harrow Road resident reported discovering a burglary had occurred at his home. Footprints were observed and it appeared entry was gained by forcing open a rear window.

Saturday, July 26, a business on the 300 block of East South Avenue reported the theft of two motor vehicles from the property, which were originally allowed to be taken from the premises but were not returned.

Saturday, July 26, a resident of the 100 block of Fairhill Drive reported an incident of lewdness in the neighborhood. The victim stated that a male suspect exposed himself as she was driving her motor vehicle through the area.

Saturday, July 26, a resident of the 100 block of First Street reported a motor vehicle burglary. The driver's side front window was smashed and the trunk was pried in order to remove golf clubs and a GPS unit — with a combined value of \$1,300.

Saturday, July 26, Benjamin Koker, 30, of Westfield was arrested after being stopped for a motor vehicle violation at Sycamore and Irving Avenues and charged with driving under the influence (DUI). He was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Sunday, July 27, police received a report that a motor vehicle was damaged through criminal mischief while it was parked on the 100 block of Effingham Place. The victim stated that someone unknown gouged multiple scratches into the vehicle between 4 p.m. on July 26 and 11:55 a.m. on July 27.

**Fanwood**  
Tuesday, July 22, Gary Parks, 25, of Plainfield was arrested on an active warrant out of Plainfield and a charge of possession of a controlled dangerous substance after a motor vehicle stop on the 40 block of South Avenue. He was processed and turned over to the Plainfield Police Department.

Tuesday, July 22, a resident of the 100 block of Pleasant Avenue reported the theft of jewelry from her house. The jewelry, valued at approximately \$2,300, was taken sometime between April 16 and May 16.

Wednesday, July 23, a resident of the 60 block of Helen Street reported that someone cut a window screen to gain access into the house and, once inside, removed a cell phone, valued at \$200.

Sunday, July 27, a resident of the 70 block of Willoughby Road reported that her unlocked, parked motor vehicle was entered by an unknown person. At the time of the report nothing was discovered missing, police said.

Sunday, July 27, a resident of the 10 block of Watson Road reported his unlocked, parked motor vehicle was entered by someone who removed two DVD players, valued at \$180.

Sunday, July 27, a resident of the 50 block of Farley Avenue reported his unlocked, parked motor vehicle was entered by someone who removed \$15 in cash.

Sunday, July 27, a resident of the 100 block of Paterson Road reported her unlocked, parked motor vehicles were entered by an unknown person. At the time of the report, nothing was discovered taken, police said.

Monday, July 28, a business on the 100 block of South Avenue reported that an unknown person removed two license plates that belong on the company's work truck. The incident occurred sometime between July 18 and July 28.

**Mountainside**  
Monday, July 21, Cristena M. Bush, 29, of Plainfield was arrested for driving with a suspended license after a motor vehicle stop on Route 22. She was processed and released at the scene.

Monday, July 21, Taylor M. Johnson, 22, of Scotch Plains was arrested for driving with a suspended license after a motor vehicle stop on Route 22. She was processed and released at the scene.

Monday, July 21, Jason L. Johnson, 32, of Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding Union County Sheriff's Office warrant in the amount of \$38,553 and an ACS warrant out of Scotch Plains after the motor vehicle in which he was a passenger was stopped for a motor vehicle violation. He was processed and transported to the Union County Sheriff's Department.

Tuesday, July 22, Jonathan B. Lanza, 31, of Florham Park was arrested for driving with a suspended license after a motor vehicle stop on Route 22. He was processed and released at the scene.

Tuesday, July 22, a resident of California called police headquarters to report that someone fraudulently used her credit card to make on-line purchases from several stores and had them delivered to an address in Mountainside. According to police, the victim's credit card company would not disclose to the victim the address the purchases were delivered to and the victim was advised to cancel the credit card and notify all three credit bureaus.

Wednesday, July 23, an individual came into police headquarters to report a theft of services after an individual told the victim he would pay his gas bill in the amount of \$3,579 on July 19, but never showed up with the payment. According to police, the suspect was contacted by police, who left a message stating that the matter needed to be resolved or charges would be filed.

Friday, July 25, Joseph F. Kowalski, 39, of West Orange was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) after being stopped for speeding and failure to maintain a lane on Route 22 near Locust Avenue. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Friday, July 25, police responded to a business on a report of harassment. According to police, the victim stated that a former client has been calling and complaining about an eviction from 2009 on his record that he wants removed. According to police, the suspect called up to 50 times in a 30-minute period. Authorities called back the number and left a message requesting the suspect call police headquarters to discuss the matter, police said.

Saturday, July 26, Maurice Z. Jordan, 27, of Newark was transported to police headquarters by the Seaside Heights Police Department on an active ATS warrant out of Mountainside.

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