

Christina Hinke for *The Westfield Leader*

**ZONING TALK...**Gerry Grillo, manager of Jeffs Landscaping of Cranford, speaks to the township committee Monday at the workshop meeting about his disapproval of the maximum building coverage that was adopted as part of the land development ordinance last year. The committee on Tuesday amended the ordinance to reflect the recommendations by the township zoning officer that increased the maximum allowable building coverage. The township amended its Land Development ordinance after Zoning Officer Bob Hudak realized the allowable maximum building coverages made it nearly impossible for homeowners to make an addition to a home without having to apply for a variance.

## Cranford Amends Land Development Ordinance

the resolution.

Phil Morin is an attorney of the firm, and has previously represented the township in the Birchwood litigation. Mr. Morin previously served as Union County Republican chairman and is a former mayor of Cranford.

Residents of Cranford, in the past, had said they thought hiring this firm represented a conflict of interest. A partner of the firm, Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader, was alleged to be connected to Lehigh Acquisition Corp. and Woodmont Proper-

ties, which is the new development at 555 South Avenue that was the result of a builder's remedy lawsuit.

Resident Rita La Brutto said in the conference session held prior to the official meeting that she believed hiring this firm would be "throwing good money after bad."

The township had submitted an RFQ twice, and both times only one law firm bid, Mayor Andis Kalnins said. He also said it was sent directly to the township's appeal attorney, and the attorney did not bid.

"It's pretty unfortunate what

has gone on here, especially since we are concerned of conflict," Ms. La Brutto said.

Ms. La Brutto also has voiced her opinion on affordable-housing credits that she believes exist currently in Cranford but are not accounted for, and has asked the committee on multiple occasions to pursue those credits.

During public comment at the official meeting, resident Frank Krause asked again to have the committee extend an offer to Governor Chris Christie to come and speak at a town hall meeting in Cranford.

## Wednesday Morning Club Plans Salute to the Irish

CRANFORD — St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated a little early when the Wednesday Morning Club meets on March 4, at 10 a.m., at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue. A program celebrating the Irish will be presented by the Literature Department, chaired by Edith Coogan. The board will meet at 9:30 a.m. Copresidents Dot Conheaney and Barbara Jackson will conduct both meetings.

Bernadette Murphy, director of Project Ready at St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth, will be the guest speaker when the club's Public Affairs Department meets on Tuesday, March 10, in the home of Dot Conheaney at 1 p.m.

The club's American Arts and Crafts Department will meet on Tuesday, March 17, at 10 a.m., at the Cranford Community Center. Member Anne Castellano will demonstrate art techniques.

Coming on Wednesday, March 18, members will meet at 1 p.m.

at Kilkenny House, where they will hear about "Barry's Journey to America."

The Wednesday Morning Club is geared toward mature women living in Union County who have recently retired or left the workplace and are seeking new activities. Participants enjoy getting together several times a month to exchange ideas and explore areas of interest in the arts, literature and public affairs. For more information and to attend a meeting, call Diane Hickey at (908) 272-8665.

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### Ms. Seufert to Exhibit Digital Montages

ROSELLE PARK — Roselle Park resident Leona M. Seufert will exhibit her digital montages in "Soulsapes - A 10 Year Retrospective" at the Art and Soul Galleries in Roselle Park. The exhibit will run through Friday, March 13, 2015. A reception to meet the artist will be this Saturday, February 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. Art and Soul Galleries is located at 128 Chestnut Street. For hours, call (908) 245-5900.

### Deutscher Club Posts Blood Drive

CLARK — The Deutscher Club, located at 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, has scheduled its next blood drive for Saturday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ALYX system for collection will again be available.

Donations will take place inside the club's ballroom and will support local hospitals. A free continental breakfast or a light lunch, consisting of bratwurst, potato salad, sauerkraut and beverage, will be offered to all donors.