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AMERICAN CLASSICS...This classic car show was a popular attraction at Sunday's second annual Garwood Rocks! festival.

## WF Zoning Board

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now, he said, it is a standard-looking house. They wish to put a master suite over the existing living room and expand the dining room on the first floor, he said. Their neighbors, Tim Lauer and Alex Lybarsky, supported the additions. The board asked that the front porch remain open.

Michelle and Nils Gesser, of 205 East Dudley Avenue, sought approval to install a cedar fence to surround their backyard, which has an in-ground pool. Mrs. Gesser said it is for safety reasons. She said right now, a four-foot, chain link fence is there. There are trees on the property and the fence would be behind the trees, Mr. Gesser said.

Joshua A. Kuntz and Stephanie M. Nash, of 237 Munsee Way, sought approval to construct a new, single-family home in the Indian Forest neighborhood.

The proposed home is large and their planner, James Watson, explained that the couple was willing to reposition the house on the property to be in keeping with the neighborhood. Their architect, Robert Algarin, redesigned the home to have the garage in the basement of the home. Several neighbors testified about the short setback in the application. The preservation of trees also was a consideration, but after much discussion, the site plan was approved by the board.

The board denied the application of Daniel Epstein and his wife, Lihong Li, of 52 Michael Drive, who wished to add another level to their bi-level raised ranch. Mr. Epstein said they needed room for their expanding family. The neighbors, however, said the expanding family consists of what looks like parents and grandparents. Their neighbor, Michael Shor, said it would be out of character for the neighborhood. He also said that he just renovated his yard and a third story with a balcony as

planned on the couple's home would intrude on his privacy.

Mr. Shor said there are two cars in the driveway and two on the street. A third-floor deck with French doors was part of the applicants' proposal. Their neighbor, Kathy Montiero, said, "I've been in this neighborhood for 20 years and have seen a lot of bi-levels. I'm concerned about the number of people in a single-family home."

The following applications will be heard on July 13: Kapildeo Bahadur, 421 Kimball Avenue; Jeffrey Gabriel, 118 Oak Tree Pass; Valerio and Diana Bruscianni, 110 Cottage Place, and Leslie North, 550 Sherwood Parkway.

The next meeting of the board will be July 13 at 7:30 p.m., at the municipal building, 425 East Broad Street.

## WF Council

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very high. We are fortunate. We are looking at new development downtown, bringing more people downtown.

"We hear all the good and all the bad. A lot of it is very, very positive. Downtown is very busy. I think the DWC, on a relatively small budget, does a lot of good for the town, not only bringing people in from all around the state with the events that they sponsor, but also reaching out to some of those national retail chains that are looking for a presence in a town like Westfield. We should always be looking forward to see what else we can be doing."

The next council conference session open to the public is set for Tuesday, June 23, at 7 p.m., at the municipal building, located at 425 East Broad Street. The conference session will be immediately followed by the council's regular public meeting at 7:45 p.m.



REMEMBERING THE WHO...The Westfield Historical Society's presentation of "The Who, When Stars Were in Reach," was held at the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center on Sunday afternoon. Michael Rosenbloom, above, spoke about a concert the English rock band The Who gave at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains in November of 1967 and how it came to be. The talk was followed by a performance by the band Boonescuttle 5.



COMMUNITY RUN...Runners race in the Centennial Village Velocity 5K Race Sunday morning in Cranford. The race was sponsored by the Centennial Village Group, which works to beautify and revitalize Cranford's Centennial Village business district.

## BOE Recognizes 21 Employee Retirements

By MELISSA COOK  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD—The board of education (BOE) and Superintendent of Schools Gayle Carrick recognized and commended 21 Cranford Public School employees on their service and dedication at a retirement recognition ceremony during Monday night's BOE meeting at Lincoln School in Cranford.

Among those retirees recognized was Joan Krov, a Cranford native, who has been a language arts teacher at Orange Avenue School, her alma mater, for 39 years. Also recognized was Jo-Ann Jayson, a special-education teacher at Hillside Avenue School, who said, "It was truly an honor and a privilege" to spend her years teaching in Cranford, as she accepted her expression of appreciation from Ms. Carrick and Board President Mary Venditti. Retiree Francine Serpico, a first-grade teacher at Bloomingdale Avenue School, enhanced the applause as she recognized her former first-grade pupil, Kathleen Marie Shatinsky, now a junior at Cranford High School, who was in attendance as the student liaison to the BOE. Anne-Marie McCarthy, a home economics teacher at Hillside Avenue School, said her "best teaching years were in Cranford" as she accepted her recognition from the board.

The board formally recognized and thanked Kathleen Shatinsky for the successful completion of her term as student liaison to the BOE for the 2014-2015 school year. Ms. Carrick extended a special thank you to Kathleen for her diligence and participation in board meetings and work sessions, adding that she appreciated the reciprocal dynamic of understanding what works in the Cranford school system. Kathleen reported that final exams at Cranford High School will begin next week, Tuesday through Friday, and the senior prom will be Friday, June 19.

The board authorized the submission of the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2004 (IDEA) combined grant application for fiscal year 2016 in the amount of \$902,563. This total includes an allocation of \$6,948 for the local non-public schools within the district. Another \$874,307 represents the basic allocation and \$28,256 represents the

pre-school allocation. Business Administrator Robert Carfagno added that this total amount of \$902,563 is "good news," as this figure is up 6.5 percent from last year.

The board approved the out-of-district placement of 36 students who receive special-education services for extended school year (ESY) programs; Cranford is responsible for tuition, transportation and related services. ESY begins as early as Wednesday, June 24. The board also approved the out-of-district placement of 26 students who receive special-education services for the 2015-2016 school year; Cranford is responsible for tuition and transportation.

Personnel board approval appointments included: Inessa Shor Vaccaro, student assistance coordinator, effective September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016; Julia Duyckinck, teacher of family consumer sciences, effective September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, and Linda Bove, mentoring coordinator, for the 2015-2016 school year.

In other business, the board is renewing the tuition agreement with Union County Vocational-Technical Schools for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Board member Michael Caulfield raised a new motion for a vote of confidence in Ms. Carrick as superintendent of Cranford schools, saying, "Cranford is a community whose complexion is changing" and needs an "experienced leader to help guide the school system at this time and for the foreseeable future." This vote was passed by all board members: Mary Venditti, board president; Jill Brown, vice-president; and board members Lisa Carbone, Camille Widdows, Cathy Morgese, Kurt Petschow, Jr., Daniel DeMarco, Jo Ann Boyle and Michael Caulfield voted for the motion.

The next Cranford BOE meeting will take place Monday, June 15, at the Lincoln School, located at 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, beginning at 8 p.m.

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*Editor's Note: On Wednesday morning a letter was received by the newspaper that was sent to the staff by Ms. Carrick announcing her retirement as superintendent from the district after seven years.*



TEACHER-STUDENT BOND...Francine Serpico, one of the 21 Cranford Public Schools employees retiring this year, reunites with her former first-grade pupil from Bloomingdale Avenue School, Kathleen Marie Shatinsky, now a junior at Cranford High School and student liaison to the BOE, at Monday night's BOE meeting at Lincoln School in Cranford.

## Garwood Council

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Bill Nierstedt asked if removing the wood chips surrounding the playground equipment at the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex and replacing them with a rubberized substitute would qualify.

Ms. Ariemma said the application was generally vague, but she believed it would qualify.

Because of the matching component, Councilwoman Sara Todisco suggested maybe the borough forego an application this year.

Council members also discussed possibly canceling the scheduled Tuesday, July 28 council meeting,

but deferred that decision until the Tuesday, July 14 meeting.

Mr. Lombardo announced that The Villages at Garwood, the \$20-million subsidized Westfield senior housing complex on the site of the old St. Anne's School on Second Avenue, is scheduled to be officially open on Thursday, June 25 at a 2 p.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony.

He said approved tenants would begin moving in "shortly." Mrs. Tarantino said she met with the complex administrator regarding the 40 parking spaces for the more than 70 housing units. She indicated the administrator did not know how many incoming residents had cars, but that the available spaces would be assigned and be adequate.

The administrator also promised to work closely with borough officials regarding the parking issue.

## WF BOE

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it appear to be sensational.

Greg Lehmborg asked the board for an update on the temporary lights pilot program at the Kehler Stadium, which was opposed by neighbors. Mr. Mattessich said he, himself, did not know the status of the program right now.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m., at the administration building, located at 203 Elm Street.



THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THIS PLACE...The 2015-2016 Executive Board was installed on Monday night by Suzanne Tucker, left, at the JCC of Central New Jersey's annual meeting. The board includes, from left, Ken Rotter, president; Erica Needle, past president; Peter Weissbrod, vice-president; Brian Shissel, treasurer; Bob Simon, co-secretary; Stefani Klaskow, assistant treasurer; Carrie Drake, assistant secretary; Elizabeth Isser, parliamentarian; Mindy Goldberger, at-large, and Scott Lazar, at-large.

## Cranford Police, Scouts Presented With Awards

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD—Police officers were honored for their achievement in law enforcement in a ceremony held at the township committee's official public meeting on Tuesday night.

Thirteen police officers were given the 2015 Police Department Award presented by Police Chief James Wozniak.

Detective Spencer Durkin was honored with an award for uncovering a heroin drug ring in Roselle that led to four arrests.

Patrolmen Mike Dubitsky, Greg Federici and Nadia Jones performed lifesaving techniques on Katherine Halix after an emergency call was received. Ms. Halix, who was present at the ceremony, thanked the officers for their efforts in saving her life.

Patrolman Dan Donnerstag, Patrolman Mike O'Neil and Sergeant Russ Luedecker were able to save a 91-year-old choking victim. It took continued attempts of the Heimlich maneuver to save the woman from choking to death.

After an identity theft investigation performed by Detective Derek Farbanec, four individuals were arrested. It was revealed that these individuals were responsible for the identity theft of 71 victims throughout the state.

Det. Durkin, Patrolman Mike Andrews and Patrolman Brian Trotter were responsible for arrests of individuals after pulling over a car and finding drugs and a handgun loaded with hollow point bullets.

"There is no doubt in my mind these individuals came to Cranford to commit a violent act," Chief Wozniak said.

After a motor vehicle stop, Patrolmen Timothy Handy and Donnerstag discovered marijuana, and a passenger of the vehicle fled the scene that led to a chase by Ptl. Donnerstag, Ptl. Handy was left with the other two suspects, on the first day on the job alone.

Det. Farbanec, Sergeant Frank Williams and Patrolman Matt Siessel apprehended two suspects in an armed robbery at a gas station. In an unmarked car, Det. Farbanec tailed one suspect on the Garden State Parkway while calling in for backup that led to the arrest of the robbers.

Also at Tuesday's meeting, Bonnie Caldwell, Sarah Cassidy, Rebecca Durant, Sabrina Huwang, Jennifer Schneider and Jillian Walter were awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Girl Scout Silver Awards were awarded to Cadette Troop 40334 members Samantha Berry, Katherine Ruane, Isabella Loto, Grace Varga, Amber Bretz, Julia StGiudice and Natalie Schindler, and to Cadette Troop 40046 members Julia Lachenauer and Mary Grace McNamara.

Eagle Scouts David Weichert, Andrew Licks and Alexander Levy were presented with Eagle Scout Awards.

During regular business, the town-

ship committee introduced a capital bond ordinance totaling \$4.4 million. Three million dollars is allocated to road resurfacing, with the remainder allocated to new bathrooms at Memorial Field, new police equipment, a generator at the firehouse and other items.

A resolution was passed, by a 4-to-1 vote, with Commissioner Tom Hennen, Jr. dissenting, to award a \$1.2-million contract for work to the North Avenue Train Station Plaza. Part of the cost will be funded with grant money totaling \$500,000. The cost of the project has increased over the years after the project's anticipated cost was much less than bids received.

"The project has ballooned to the point that I don't think it is affordable," Commissioner Hennen said. He also cited the loss of more than 20 parking spots as a downside to the project.

"This is a pedestrian safety project. It was overdue," Commissioner Robert D'Ambola said.

The committee also introduced a \$1 million bond ordinance for the swim pool utility for improvements to the town pools.

Cranford resident Leo McMahon, 90, passed away Sunday, Commissioner Hennen said. Mr. McMahon was a 55-year resident of Cranford. He worked for Western Electric and was a World War II Navy veteran. He also served on the library board of trustees. "Leo was always fighting for the taxpayer. He was our man for all seasons," Mr. Hennen said.

A viewing will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. today, Thursday, June 11, at the Dooley Funeral Home, 218 North Avenue West in Cranford, according to the obituary.

Another longtime Cranford resident, Miriam Ann Moody, passed away on May 15. She was a member of the tree advisory board and the Hanson Park Conservancy.

Mayor Andis Kalnins asked residents to attend the June 15 citizens hearing to raise issues, concerns and ideas in regards to potential impacts on the study the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting on the Rahway River Basin. The meeting will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Roy E. Smith Theatre at Union County College, 1033 Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

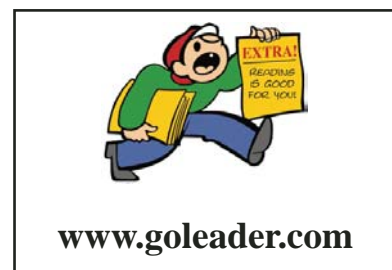
During the workshop session, held on Monday evening, the committee heard a presentation about the New Jersey Pace Program.

The fire department gave a presentation on its request for a new bucket truck that will cost over \$1 million. They said the current truck is over 20 years old and costs more in repairs than its trade in value of \$50,000.

Commissioner D'Ambola has asked residents again to send in their ideas for a memorial to Old Peppy, the historic Pepperidge tree that was cut down by the township. He has suggested a cutting of the trunk housed by a gazebo and benches made from the wood of Old Peppy.



DUNKED!...Cranford firefighter Tom Hennen gets dunked in the dunk tank during Cranford's Town-wide Cookout family dinner event held Sunday evening at the fire station municipal parking lot.



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