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Union County, NJ Newspapers Past Edition, 97Aug04

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FRIENDLY CHATS

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 688, representing the American Legions and Veterans of Foreign Wars of Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Westfield and Mountainside take monthly trips to the Post Traumatic Stress Unit of the Lyons Veterans' Hospital in Basking Ridge and bring food, refreshments and engage in friendly conversations.



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PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPEN FOR NEW YEAR ON WEDNESDAY

Wilson, Jefferson Schools Prepare to Open New Additions; Dr. Foley to Join Students at N. Chestnut, Mountain Crossing

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader
97aug28

As opening day for Westfield's public schools draws near on Wednesday, September 3, Dr. William J. Foley begins a new school year as Superintendent of Schools and ends his first year on the job.

"It feels like I've been here forever," he exclaimed. It's been a challenging year. I've had wonderful support from the board (of education), staff and community."

That said, Dr. Foley welcomes an estimated 4,835 students back to school this fall. The increase since last October 15, the date when enrollments become official, is roughly 100 students, according to district spokeswoman Lorre Korecky.

To handle increased enrollment at the elementary level, the district has 12 newly-constructed classrooms -- six each at Jefferson and Wilson Elementary Schools -- and a two-year leased trailer at Washington Elementary School for small group instruction.

According to school board Vice President Darielle M. Walsh, "the new classrooms look wonderful and they're ready to go." The trailer has been installed at Washington.

Administration officials recently said the building projects were running "below budget."

A ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house for residents to tour the newest classrooms will be Saturday, September 6, at 1 p.m. in Wilson and 3 p.m. in Jefferson.

Recent redistricting of neighborhoods for elementary school attendance has been another way to cope with the district's rise in student population.

"We had to do it (redistricting)," Dr. Foley declared. "I had no choice. This is a big step for the community."

Even with redistricting, Franklin, with approximately 538 pupils, is still the largest of the elementary schools, with 100 more pupils than the next largest elementary schools, Tamaques, which has an enrollment of 438, and Wilson, with 436.

"It's a new problem," said Dr. Foley, of Franklin's high numbers. He is betting that the most recent surge in enrollment is short term through 2000, and is related to a spate of home resales in the neighborhood. If enrollment continues to go up, Dr. Foley said, "We'll have to reconsider."

This north side redistricting switches approximately 80 children from Franklin to Wilson in September. The affected area is north of Mountain Avenue at the Mountainside border, in an area known as "The Gardens." Prior to 1984, this area was allotted to Wilson.

Dr. Foley has pledged to join students at the corner of North Chestnut Street and Mountain Avenue on the opening day of school. Resident concerns over students from "The Gardens" crossing a busy avenue have led to increased safety measures. A police officer and 25 miles-per-hour speed limits will be posted along Mountain Avenue during school hours. A crossing guard stands at the intersection of Mountain Avenue and Raymond Street, as well.

The south side redistricting, an area bounded by Rahway Avenue and the Boulevard between Summit Court and Clifton Street, will witness a move of nearly 100 students from Tamaques to Jefferson School. Dr. Foley has said these students will actually have a shorter and safer route to school than before redistricting.

Jefferson School anticipates a total of 396 pupils this fall; Washington School predicts 371 pupils, while McKinley Elementary School will have a student body of 285 -- which makes it a little more than half the size of Franklin.

No class in any of the district elementary schools exceeds 24 students, according to projections. A class size limit of 25 students is the policy of the school board.

In moving toward a more technology-based system, each of the school libraries at the two intermediate and six elementary schools is in some phase of computer automation. The work was begun a year ago, according to the district's Director of Technology, Darlene Nowak. The Westfield High School library has been completely automated.

This year's cost toward library automation is \$650,000, with nearly \$300,000 of that spent on the intermediate school libraries alone,

according to the Board of Education.

Last spring, a technology committee chaired by Ms. Nowak estimated a \$5 to \$6 million tab over three years to implement its computer technology goals in the district by 2000.

A technology committee report recommends one computer for every four students in the district by 2000. At the time of the report, May of 1996, there was one computer to every 15 students. With the additional computers for the new school year, that number has improved to a computer for every eight students. The ratio is 7-1 at the Kindergarten to grade 8 level.

By early next year, the Westfield High School is looking to establish a \$50,000 interactive television (ITV) classroom whereby long-distance conferencing with up to three other sites can provide student learning opportunities.

Ms. Nowak said that ultimately, each student would have a microphone for questions and discussion.

One hundred more computers were bought for the intermediate schools, according to Ms. Korecky.

Dr. Foley said supervisors and other staff have recently been trained in using the district's new technology, citing geography and mathematics curriculums as examples.

He added that he was "very pleased" with the new intermediate school mathematics curriculum, calling it "superior." He said the prior course of study proved "not challenging enough."

Algebra will now be taught to seventh and eighth graders, with an additional accelerated program of algebra in seventh grade and geometry in eighth. In essence, the previous sixth grade mathematics course has been eliminated and pre-algebra will begin in the first year of intermediate school.

"Sixth grade math tended to be repetitious," Dr. Foley noted.

A new district appointment for the coming year is Dennis Murphy as Principal of Edison Intermediate School, replacing retiring Sam Hazell. Mr. Murphy will begin his new position on Monday, October 20.

Mr. Murphy has 20 years of administrative experience and currently serves as Principal of Cedar Grove Memorial Middle School.

"I'm really thrilled to have him here," Dr. Foley said.

Charles "Chic" Hansen is the new Principal at McKinley, coming from

the district position of Fine Arts Supervisor which will now be filled by Linda King, former instrumental music teacher for the district's elementary and high schools.

Ms. King began a computer music program for the district and led the Westfield High School Marching Band to victory in national championships in 1990, 1995 and 1996.

More than 40 other full- and part-time teachers have been hired this year, according to the Board of Education. An orientation program for new staff has been going on this week.

The Board of Education reports that 60 building maintenance projects are in the works. School grounds were landscaped, roofs replaced, bathrooms renovated and fire and security systems installed over the summer. The track at Gary Kehler Stadium will be relined and repaired by mid-September.

Asbestos removal was completed at Jefferson School and similar work will be done at Washington and Franklin Schools.

Planning for the new year, Dr. Foley said he looks forward to formulating a Strategic Plan for strict educational goals. Using board, staff and community input, the process could take a year, Dr. Foley said.

"We have (district goals) now, but it's never been codified," he said.

Asked about specific ideas for the Strategic Plan, Dr. Foley included the continued growth of the use of technology and emphasized the desire to see more opportunities for individualized learning.

"I think I'd like to see a system with more community and teacher interaction to serve as a guidance system for the school -- more like a private school. "We're competing with private schools," Dr. Foley said.

Newly-conceived "charter schools" are also cropping up across the state, according to the office of Governor Christine Todd Whitman. State Education Commissioner Dr. Leo Klagholz will decide on 37 requests by January for charter schools, according to a recent *Star-Ledger* report.

Charter schools allow community groups to open new schools using taxpayers' money. Dr. Klagholz noted that these groups are looking for better educational options in their areas.

After pointing out that strategic planning is a feature common to the military and private business sectors, Dr. Foley concluded, "I think it's worthwhile in changing times to sit back and think about what we want our children to know."

"I believe we can respond to these changes by using them to reinvent a better school district," he concluded.



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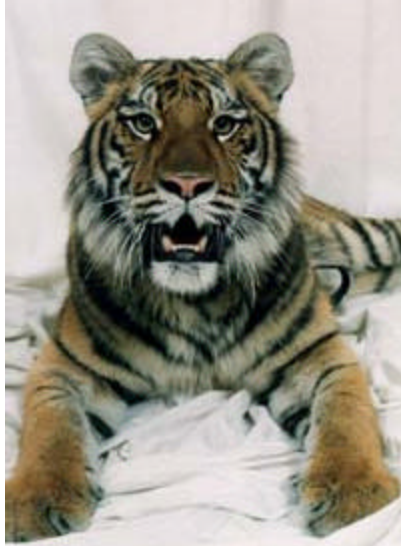
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Judge Okays Plan for Relocating Animals



Developer to Settle Mortgage Debt On Scotch Plains Zoo

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times
97aug28

A developer who recently purchased the Scotch Plains Zoo from former owners Harold and Deborah Kafka was expected to pay off the Kafkas' mortgage debt today, August 28, thus bringing to a close the saga of the zoo, a favorite attraction for children for more than half a century.

Robert F. Kraus, the Scotch Plains attorney representing original zoo owners Frank and Louise Terry, said last Friday that a lump sum of \$355,000 would be paid by Mitchell Berlant, the President of Scotch Plains Realty Investors, Inc., to the Terrys, who continued to hold the mortgage on the property after the Kafkas purchased it more than three years ago.

Mr. Berlant assumed the mortgage obligation after buying the property from the Kafkas for \$338,000. A deed recorded on June 26 confirmed the transfer of ownership, and the Warren-based developer agreed to pay off the debt to the Terrys by Monday, September 1.

The future of the 6.5-acre site remains uncertain, however. Although Mr. Berlant has stated he would like to reopen a zoo on the property, speculation persists that he actually intends to develop the land for housing. Calls placed to Mr. Berlant's office earlier this week were not returned.

Meanwhile, Superior Court Judge Frederick C. Kentz, Jr. in Elizabeth approved a plan submitted by Union Township attorney Martin B. O'Connor, 2nd, on August 20 for the relocation of more than 100 wildlife and farm animals housed at the zoo. In April, Judge Kentz appointed Mr. O'Connor as custodian of the zoo, which has been closed to the public since May 28.

Lawrence Herrighty, Supervising Biologist for the state Department of

Environmental Protection's (DEP) Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, on Friday revealed the various destinations of the animals. All the facilities were checked out by him and his staff to ensure that they had the proper permits to accept the animals.

Mr. Herrighty said the DEP had served as an advisory body to Mr. O'Connor as he prepared a plan for relocating the animals, and added that the department would also provide assistance in transporting them if the receiving facilities requested it.

He acknowledged that the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife has so far received no permit application from Mr. Berlant to reopen a zoo on the property.

The biologist commended Mr. O'Connor's efforts, saying he believed the custodian for the zoo "did a good job" in finding new homes for the animals. Of the plan approved by Judge Kentz last week, Mr. Herrighty said, "I think it's very fair and in the best interest of the animals."

According to Mr. Herrighty, any facility accepting animals from the Scotch Plains Zoo must sign a contract which prohibits them from selling or transferring the animals for five years without prior notification of Mr. O'Connor, and also protects the animals from being slaughtered, used for research or otherwise exploited.

"He's written a very good contract which covers the public's concerns about the animals," commented Mr. Herrighty.

The facilities which are expected to ultimately receive the animals include the Grassmere Nashville Wildlife Park in Tennessee; the Roar Foundation in California; the Grand Island Heritage Zoo in Nebraska; the Natural Bridge Zoo in Virginia; Primarily Primates in San Antonio, Texas, and the Royal Vista Sanctuary in New Hampshire, which is earmarked to become the new home of "Raja," a 4-year-old tiger who has appeared on television.

Other facilities which are expected to open their doors to animals from the Scotch Plains Zoo include the Pocono Snake and Wildlife Farm and the Appalachia Pet Farm, both in Pennsylvania, and Popcorn Park in Forked River, which has agreed to take two mountain lions which were hard to place because many zoos already have them, according to Mr. Herrighty.

He reported that many of the zoo's domestic animals, such as sheep, goats, rabbits and ducks, will be going to the Peterson Farm in Plainfield, and that the Buffalo Zoo in New York will get back its spider monkey and debrazza monkey which were on loan to the Scotch Plains Zoo. He added that it was still undecided where two jaguars, three ring-tailed lemurs and another debrazza monkey would be going.

In January, the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife opted not to renew the Kafkas' operating permits, citing multiple violations concerning public safety and animal welfare.

After the Kafkas withdrew their planned appeal of the state's ruling on May 13, they were given 15 days to present a plan for relocating the animals. The zoo was ordered closed after the couple failed to meet that deadline.

Mr. Herrightly confirmed that six summonses issued by the state to the Kafkas at the end of May were still in place, and that a new court date was still pending.

Four of the summonses, for possession of non-game and exotic animals without a proper permit, are related to the Endangered Species Act and carry potential fines of between \$250 and \$5,000. The other two summonses, which fall under Game Regulations, carry possible penalties of between \$50 and \$250.



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**TWENTY-FIVE NEW STAFF, LANGUAGE ARTS
SUPERVISOR JOIN SP-FW PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Professional Development Committee to Work With Staff In
Improving Daily Instruction of District Students**

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times 97aug28

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol B. Choye of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District will welcome back an estimated 4,300 students for the first day of the school year on Wednesday, September 3.

"I think Scotch Plains is a wonderful place to be," Dr. Choye said. "It's a school community dedicated to high quality education."

Courses of study for students fully exceed state education requirements, Dr. Choye said, indicating that district standardized test scores are up.

"Attendance is good," she said, which is also positive.

According to district spokeswoman Kathleen L. Meyer, Dr. Choye continues to encourage and lead district teachers down a path of commitment to improving instruction and learning every day.

"We want to ask the question, 'how do we help every child to learn?'" Dr. Choye added.

With that in mind, a revived Professional Development Committee will work with teachers throughout the district. Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Dr. John R. Crews, has said the committee will evaluate teacher performance and recommend possible training programs.

"An example," Dr. Crews said, "is technology. Some teachers use it and integrate it. Others are afraid of it. This is something we need to work at."

Additionally, district central administration offices on Evergreen Avenue were refurbished over the summer to create more space for the Director of Instructional Technology, Jeff Ross. Mr. Ross often shows teachers how to expand the role of computer technology in their classrooms.

There are 25 new district staff this school year, according to officials. Six of those are additional teachers, primarily for the Kindergarten and sixth grades. New teachers had two days of orientation this week, officials said

A new district Supervisor, Diane Kelly, will share duties with Supervisor Patricia Boland for language arts, English and social studies. Ms. Kelly will be responsible for elementary school social studies and Ms. Boland will target social studies for grades 6 through 12.

Additionally, Ms. Boland will supervise high school English while Ms. Kelly will focus on language arts in Kindergarten through eighth grade.

When Dr. Crews proposed the split supervisory plan to the Board of Education earlier this year, he said the new system would benefit the primary grades particularly, noting they were often short-changed under the traditional supervisory set up of a subject supervisor being responsible for all 13 grades in the district.

Dr. Choye has said she wants to eliminate some of the clerical duties for supervisors and get them into the classrooms where they can evaluate programs and staff. New office space also was created in the central administration office for subject supervisors as a result of construction over the summer.

Ms. Kelly has also been a supervisor in Keyport and has advanced degrees in both English and Education, according to district officials.

Both language arts and social studies curriculums will be reviewed this school year as part of a five-year cyclical process, officials noted.

In a different area, the University of Chicago's "Everyday Mathematics" and Harcourt Braces's "Science Anytime" will be used in all elementary grades throughout the district.

Board of Education member Richard R. Meade praised the mathematics program, stating, "I think it reaches out to different learning styles. I think it will help close the gender gap in math."

The new science program may require a longer science period during the school day, since it has a "hands-on element to it," officials explained. Earlier in the year, Board of Education member Theresa Larkin lauded the new program.

"It was a science program that really needed overhauling," she said.

A new \$180,000 special education program for children ages 3 to 6 who exhibit signs of autism is ready to open this fall at Coles Elementary School. Suzanne Flannery, Special Education Supervisor for the elementary grades, piloted the PDD (pervasive developmental delays)

program's startup, while Tara Pankuck will now head the teaching of the program.

Officials said the program could have as many as 15 students who previously would have been educated in private schools outside the district at a cost of about \$50,000 each.

Eleanor McClymont, who retired in 1995, returns as Interim Director of Special Services, following Susan Tillis's resignation this summer to accept a position in Westwood, Bergen County.

Ms. Tillis has said that Mrs. McClymont's appointment will "provide continuity" for the department, whose budget is \$1.8 million.

In other developments, the district bought and will install six new modular-style classrooms by November of this year. Two classes each will be added to Coles and Evergreen Elementary Schools as well as Elementary School One.

Although each school principal will decide on the use of the new rooms, officials have speculated that art and music classes may be moved into the new facilities.

The three modular units house two classrooms apiece and cost the district a total of \$745,302. They were purchased with "free balance" or reserve district funds. The units will have brick exteriors, according to officials.

Even though district enrollment has risen by approximately 400 students over the past three years, in recent years the rate of increase has dropped. This year will see an estimated 40 new students, as opposed to 160 additional students last year and nearly 200 new students in the 1995-1996 school year.

However, district planning groups anticipate increased enrollment based on new home building and a possible rise in birth rates, officials said, and hence the modular classrooms.

District Assistant Superintendent for Business and Board Secretary Richard J. Marshall will retire by January but will continue on a part-time basis as planning associate for six months. Matthew Clarke, who is currently serving as administrative assistant in the business office, will assume Mr. Marshall's duties.

District officials said the yearly update of the district's Strategic Plan would be available next week. It will include recommendations for district priorities from Dr. Crews.





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Editorial - 97aug28

**Best Wishes for the New School Year;
*Drivers Urged to Be Watchful of Kids***

On Wednesday, September 3, students in Westfield, Scotch Plains and Fanwood will be returning to their classrooms with the usual anticipation, coupled with regret that the carefree days of summer are once again behind them.

This year, in addition to new teachers, classmates and grade levels, many Westfield students also will be attending new schools through redistricting measures which were implemented to relieve overcrowding at Franklin and Tamaques Elementary Schools.

As a result of this redistricting, approximately 175 students will be taking new routes to their schools. Eighty children from "the Gardens," an area north of Mountain Avenue at the Mountainside border, will be crossing Mountain Avenue en route to Wilson Elementary School on Linden Avenue.

Students from this section of the town formerly attended Franklin School on Prospect Street.

In addition, nearly 100 other children have been redistricted from Tamaques School on Willow Grove Road to Jefferson Elementary School on Boulevard.

While many safety measures have been enacted in conjunction with the redistricting, we remind all area motorists to use extra caution on the roads, now that school will be back in session, and to be particularly aware that there will be many young children who will be traveling new routes for the first time.

As a general rule, parents are advised to review traffic safety rules with their children and to practice the route a young child will take, especially if he or she is starting school for the first time or if they will be attending a new school.

The 1997-1998 school year promises to be an auspicious one for both the Westfield and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school districts. In Westfield, 12 new classrooms, six each at Wilson and Jefferson Schools, were

recently constructed to ease overcrowding at Franklin and Tamaques.

Ready to use, they are handicapped accessible and equipped with energy efficient windows and hookups for computer networking. Sixty other projects throughout the district also have either been completed or are near done, and others are expected to be finished during the school year.

Among the pending projects are plans to fully automate school libraries; introduction of an interactive television program and other technological enhancements designed to help prepare Westfield students for the 21st century.

In Scotch Plains-Fanwood, activities related to the district's Strategic Plan are expected to get underway, including development of district assessment standards and the establishment of a Standardized Testing Action Team to develop a comprehensive plan for assessing students' progress.

In addition, the process of developing district content standards in all academic disciplines will be concluded, also in conjunction with the Strategic Plan.

A special education class for students displaying symptoms of developmental delays or autism is scheduled to open in the district. A Professional Development Committee comprised of members of the teaching staff also will be established, and the district's five-year cyclical review process will unfold.

Two modular classrooms each will be added at Evergreen and Coles Elementary Schools and at Elementary School One, which are expected to be in use by early 1998.

We wish all students, teachers, staff and administrators in the Westfield and Scotch Plains-Fanwood school districts a safe, happy and successful year ahead.



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Westfield School Redistricting Changes

Safety Measures Told For School Crossings

97aug28

While students throughout Westfield spent the last few days of summer purchasing pencils, notebooks and back-to-school clothes, the Westfield public schools prepared for the new school year with plumbing, paint and flashing lights.

A total of 60 maintenance projects are nearing completion in an ambitious effort to rebuild, maintain or improve safety conditions for an estimated 4,800 Westfield public school children, according to district spokeswoman, Lorre Korecky.

Among the most noticeable of the physical changes are the additions of six classrooms each to Jefferson and Wilson Elementary Schools. To alleviate overcrowding at the elementary level, these additional classrooms will provide needed space to maintain class sizes at a maximum of 25 elementary students.

In order to achieve this class size in all six elementary schools, officials determined redistricting of approximately 75 students from Tamaques to Jefferson and 80 students from Franklin to Wilson was necessary.

To provide the safe crossing of these children to and from school, and with the cooperation and direction of the Westfield Police Department, these steps have been taken:

- A police officer has been assigned with a marked police car with flashing lights at the crossing of Mountain Avenue and North Chestnut Street (the preferred crossing by the district) three times a day.
- Footprints have been painted on the sidewalks leading to this school crossing.
- The Mountain Avenue/North Chestnut Street crossing has been painted. Orange cones will be in place approaching the Mountain Avenue/North Chestnut Street crossing.
- A request has been made for state approval of the installation of flashing lights and a 25 miles-per-hour speed limit at the Mountain

Avenue/North Chestnut crossing.

- **A crossing guard has been assigned to the Mountain and Dudley Avenues intersection.**
- **A speed trailer with flashing lights will be placed at school crossing areas. "No left turn" signs have been posted on Mountain Avenue to prevent cars from turning into the "Gardens" area.**
- **"No left turn" signs have been installed at Dudley Court and Highland Highland Avenue.**
- **Stop signs have been installed on Summit Court.**
- **Cross walks at all locations of crossing guards have been repainted.**

Westfield Board of Education Vice President and Facilities Committee Chairwoman Darielle M. Walsh reported that interior and exterior improvements to the nine schools also have been underway or are completed, including bathroom renovations have been made at Westfield High School and re-roofing is being completed at the school, as well. The track at Gary Kehler Stadium is being repaired and re-lined.

There are re-roofing plans for Edison Intermediate School and the boys locker room is undergoing renovation. Electrical work has been accomplished to provide for new computers in the science rooms. Library automation electrical work also has been completed.

Exterior lighting been installed at Roosevelt, bids have been adjusted and requested for the renovation of the athletic field and the creation of a fitness track, and a school sign has been placed on the property. Bathrooms have been renovated on the second floor and plans are being developed for the third floor. Electrical work needed for library automation at Roosevelt and for the new science and geography computers also has been finished.

Electrical work for the library automation in all six elementary schools has been completed and the boiler room mechanical renovation are occurring at all the schools.

The Franklin School roof has been replaced. Other projects include landscaping, floor tile removal, and first floor bathroom renovation.

In addition to Wilson and Jefferson Schools newly constructed classrooms, new fire alarm and building security systems have been installed and landscaping for the new additions completed.

Plans are being developed to complete the renovation of Wilson School

gutters. Asbestos floor tile has been removed from the hallways of Jefferson School while interior renovation is almost complete at McKinley, Westfield's oldest elementary school. A renew alarm also has been installed.

Tamaques School's improvements include window replacements a new lawn tractor and plans to blacktop the rear play area.

A classroom trailer has been installed at Washington School, where enrollment is increasing steadily, according to Mrs. Korecky. A handicapped entrance for the trailer is also in place. A dividing wall has been removed in a classroom and the removal of asbestos floor tile has been completed. A new lawn tractor also has been provided for the school.

"On behalf of the Facilities Committee and the board, I am extremely pleased by the progress of the facilities projects and safety measures in place for the start of the new school year. We appreciate the efforts of the administration, our police department, Town Council, parents and community who have shared in these accomplishments," said Mrs. Walsh.

Town School Board Ratifies Deal With Administrators

The Westfield Board of Education approved a three-year contract between the Board and the Westfield Association of Administrators and Supervisors (WAAS) at its public meeting on Tuesday, August 19.

Effective July 1 of this year through June 30, 2000, the WAAS contract includes average salary increments of 3 percent for each year. The WAAS represents 31 administrators and department heads in the Westfield Public School district.

Chairwoman of the Board of Education's negotiating team, Board President Susan Jacobson, commented, "I am extremely pleased that negotiations were completed in a positive and timely manner, resulting in fairness to our employees and demonstrating fiscal responsibility to taxpayers."

Also serving on the Board's negotiating team with Mrs. Jacobson were Ginger L. Hardwick, Darielle M. Walsh and Thomas Taylor. The WAAS negotiating team members included Dr. Robert G. Petix, Richard Konet, Stewart Carey and Connie Odell.

The last multiple-year contract was negotiated for 1993-1995, which included average salary increases of 4 percent. The WAAS 1995-1997 contracts included a decrease in health insurance costs. The new 1997-2000 agreement further controls long-term costs to the school district with the elimination of payments for longevity, previously granted after 15 years of employment, according to district spokeswoman Lorre

Korecky.

The Board of Education is continuing to negotiate with the Westfield Association of Educational Secretaries (WAES) to reach a settlement on their impending contract. A tentative settlement has been reached with the Westfield Instructional Support Staff Association (WISSA), with ratification of that contract expected this fall.



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FORMER MAYOR SEEKS TO HAVE STATION REHABILITATED

Westfield Inspection Station to Remain Open Until New Facilities Are Available to Public

By PAUL J. PEYTON

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader 97aug28



The Westfield Motor Vehicle Inspection Station on South Avenue and 10 other stations slated to be closed will remain operational until new, more modernized stations have been built nearby to replace them, according to a state official.

The current facilities will remain open until new stations, possibly private ones, are opened as part of the state's Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance Program. The state has yet to determine if inspection stations will be privatized.

Just last week the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) announced that it was expanding the time period to accept bids from firms to upgrade the state's automobile emissions inspection system at centralized facilities, and to develop a computer network linking the state emissions inspection system with privately run inspection sites to conduct emissions inspections.

The bids are part of the state's new Enhanced Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program, unveiled in March, to comply with the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The DMV had hoped to issue contract awards this past spring. That deadline, however, had to be extended after a bid by Dynamometer Car Inspection of Glen Rock, Bergen County, was rejected.

To design, build, operate and maintain the inspection facilities, the firm bid \$26.93 million for capital components and another \$38.56 million for operating costs. To design and build the facilities, the firm bid \$33.29 million.

New Jersey State Treasurer James A. DiEleuterio said the firm's bid "fails to meet the state's objectives" established for bid proposals.

The decision to close the inspection stations was decided by the DMV, a division of the State Department of Transportation (DOT), during the planning stage of the enhanced program.

Under the Clean Air Act, New Jersey and several other states have been mandated to develop a motor vehicle inspection program as a method of enhancing air quality, according to DMV Director C. Richard Kamin.

Mr. Kamin made his comments in a written response to a letter by former Westfield Mayor Bud Boothe.

Mr. Boothe said he believes the closing of the Westfield station and the decision by the state agency not to issue initial private inspection center licenses will "make life very unpleasant" for Westfielders and other residents in the vicinity who use the facility.

He told *The Leader* that the Westfield station is one of the few which offers a parking lot which in effect enables cars waiting on line to shut off their engines rather than simply waiting on a continuous line with the engines idling. This, he said, increases air pollution while also destroying the catalytic converters in the vehicles.

Mr. Boothe has urged the DMV to keep the Westfield station in operation until at least private garages are added to the program.

He also has asked the agency to investigate whether the station can be upgraded to include the new equipment needed to meet stricter air quality standards. In addition, he said the second lane should be enclosed. That lane is currently only partly sheltered.

If the Westfield station closes, as planned, the alternatives would force motorists to have their vehicles inspected at inspection stations in Rahway or Newark, or to use private garages which charge a fee, unless, of course, a new facility opens in the area.

Another problem in the mix is that service stations not currently licensed by the DMV, or those stations under new ownership, are not being issued licenses at this time.

The DMV, however, has kept the addresses of those stations seeking inspection station licenses on file. Mr. Kamin said when the DMV begins accepting applications again these stations will be notified.

Mr. Boothe has asked the DMV to investigate whether the town's facility could be rehabilitated with the required new equipment and upgraded, including enclosing the remaining area for the second lane of vehicles. That area is only partly sheltered.

Mr. Kamin has said the Division's new program will "ensure that the average driving time from home or work to any station will not exceed 15 minutes for at least 90 percent of registered motor vehicle owners.

"Every consideration will be given to the needs of regional users while phasing in the new stations," he said.

In addition to the Westfield station, inspection facilities in Somerville and Plainfield are slated to be shut down. The state currently operates 35 inspection stations.

In an interview with *The Courier-News*, Department of Transportation spokesman John Graf said the Westfield station has "stacking and congestion problems." The station has been in business for over 40 years.

Under the state plan, new emissions testing would be included for vehicles while the inspection cycle switches from annually to every two years, according to newspaper accounts.

If inspection stations are in fact privatized, it would follow a similar state action in July of 1995 when two dozen Division of Motor Vehicle agencies were privatized.

When reached yesterday by *The Leader*, Mr. Graf said there has been no changes in the enhanced program.

The DOT began seeking bids in March from companies on two different scenarios. In the first scenario, a contractor would design, build and maintain the inspection facilities. Under the second scenario, a contractor would design and maintain them. In the second scenario, a contractor would be asked to operate up to 24 of the new facilities. Most of the state's current 35 inspection centers will be expanded to include lanes with the new emission-testing equipment.

Mr. DiEleuterio said his office plans to have the first phase of the new testing facilities project in operation by November 15 and thus new requests for bids will be advertised "as soon as possible."



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Back To School Preparations **Westfield and Scotch Plains/Fanwood**

School Crossings Concerns



Tiger
at SP
Zoo



Inspection Station
Closing is Delayed



School Maps
Editorial Schools

[Front Page](#) [Weddings](#) [Classifieds](#) [The Forum](#) [Letters](#) [Photos](#) ['96 Review](#)

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Dublin **Marathon**

Scotch Plains Post Office **Is Under Reconstruction**



Popular 1950's Vicki's Diner



Temporary Trailer in Rear Services Postal Customers



Westfield Wire Service

Mayor's Golf Outing

Rialto Theatre

DWC Executive Director

Cafes in Violation

Conducting on Broadway

County Business Cruise



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Resident Complains About Tice Place Developer, Westfield Officials Vow Vigilance

Scotch Plains Library Gets Unexpected Visitor



Car Damages Library Wall



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Dublin Marathon

Scotch Plains Post Office Is Under Reconstruction



**Temporary Trailer in Rear
Services Postal Customers**



Popular 1950's Vicki's Diner



Westfield Wire Service
[Mayor's Golf Outing](#)
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The Arthritis Foundation's "Joints in Motion" Team of volunteers is headed to **Ireland at the end of October to run in the **Dublin Marathon**.**



These 90 people from New Jersey are working hard to raise \$288,000 (or \$3,200 per runner) and train for the 26.2 mile run through the streets of Dublin. Kate McAneny of Summit is pictured here at NJ Shore Marathon.



Two runners from our area, Lauren Howard (Westfield) and Kate McAneny (Summit), are part of the team and looking for your support. They are requesting donations from Westfield area businesses, and anyone individuals in our community who would like to help.

Lauren Howard of Westfield is pictured here at the New York Marathon

Please send your donations by August 30th to:

The Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter

200 Middlesex Turnpike

Iselin, New Jersey 08830-2000

or

[Email Lauren and Kate](#)

(Make all checks payable to The Arthritis Foundation. Please write *Westfield Leader* in the memo line of your check, so that Lauren and Kate can keep track of their fundraising.)

The money raised supports the Arthritis Foundation’s efforts to improve the quality of life for people living with arthritis through:

Support Groups (learning and sharing information about the challenges of living with arthritis)

Self-Help Courses (treatment plans including exercise, relaxation, nutrition)

Exercise Classes (land and warm water classes)

Education Programs (pamphlets, magazine, health fairs, physician programs)

Arthritis Research (national and local research projects, grants to arthritis doctors/specialists)

A marathon is a celebration of human spirit. Honor friends or family members in their struggle against arthritis by sending in your donation today.



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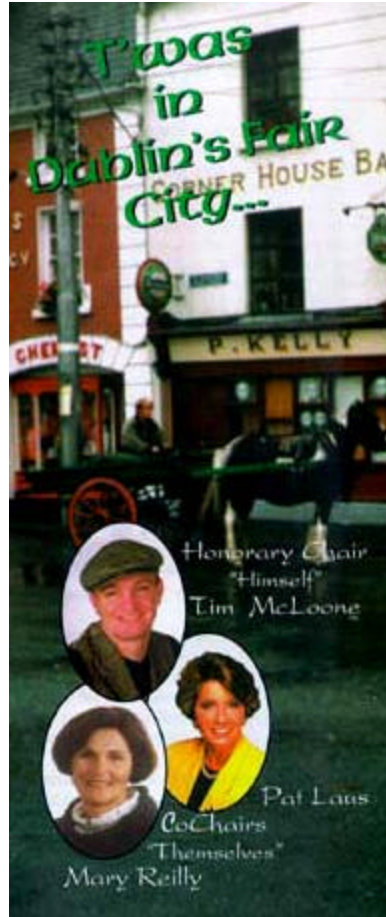
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Over one million people in New Jersey suffer from arthritis.



The odds are, if you aren't personally affected by arthritis, you probably know someone who is. Encompassing more than 100 different diseases, including lupus, Lyme disease, and fibromyalgia, arthritis affects one out of seven people in this state. In milder forms, it causes stiffness and swelling in the

joints. Severe forms of this disease can be crippling and extremely painful. Sadly, arthritis is a chronic disease for most people, lasting for life.



You can help. Support local runners in their race for a cure for arthritis!


next

		
	Park Beverage	Town Book Store 

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FORMER COFFEE HOUSE NOW HAS 1950s LOOK

Photo by David B. Corbin



POPULAR EATERY... Vicki's Diner on East Broad Street has become a popular place to meet at all hours of the day in downtown Westfield. (Left to right) husband Tom, son Teddy, Vicki Pavlou and Chef Francisco Lopez

97aug07

Vicki's Diner Becoming Favorite Westfield Spot to Meet and Eat

By PAUL J. PEYTON

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

The following is the third part in a series of articles about the future development and viability of Westfield's downtown business district. This week's story takes a look at a business owner who has invested time and money to expand an existing business to fill a void in town.

* * * * *

For over a decade, NBC (National Broadcasting Company) aired a show about a popular establishment where "everybody knows your name." The show was "Cheers." Well, Vicki's Diner on East Broad Street is starting to gain a reputation as a place to meet where the wait staff and owner, Vicki Pavlou, actually know all the regular customers by their first names.

After operating a small coffee house for 12 years, Mrs. Pavlou knew she needed to expand in order to better serve her customers who wanted expanded hours, including Sunday evenings, and more space to bring their families.

"All the time I was here (as a coffee house) my customers used to say, 'Vicki, you have to get a bigger place,'" she explained, noting she used

to only have small tables, located against a side wall and in the front, which simply couldn't fit large families.

Vicki's Place offered breakfast and lunch with about half the seating of the diner.

So when she heard that the travel agency located next door to her business was closing its doors, Vicki's Place, she realized she couldn't pass up this opportunity to expand. The location was perfect, as it didn't require her to move the restaurant to another location, which could have caused some confusion on the part of her regular patrons.

After shutting down for 25 days for construction, Mrs. Pavlou officially opened her new establishment, Vicki's Diner, a vintage 1950s diner. In addition to historic shots of the town, the local fire, police departments and rescue squad have provided pictures for display on the diner's walls.

Despite the fact the eatery had been closed, customers quickly came back.

"We are doing very well. We are very happy," said Mrs. Pavlou, whose husband, Tom, and two kids, Teddy, who works full-time, and Rena, who works while she is in college, are both helping out at the diner.

The popularity of the diner spread quickly by word of mouth, said Mrs. Pavlou during an interview with *The Westfield Leader* on Tuesday, noting that during the first couple of weeks she worked from 4:30 a.m. until as late as 12:30 a.m. Lately, she has been able to leave the establishment in mid-afternoon on some weekdays.

While most Westfielders are sound asleep, Vicki and Tom Pavlou and their chef, Francisco Lopez, are busy preparing for the day ahead by making the pancakes, boiling potatoes for the home fries, cooking the bacon, making the soups, etc.

But for Mrs. Pavlou, the hours are just part of the business she loves so much. Practically every person who walks in the diner's doors is greeted by her friendly smile and Greek accent.

"I love to be with people," she said, noting that she considers her many patrons as part of her family.

The expansion into the former Travel Time space has doubled the square footage of her business, which now seats 90 in booths and at the counter.

Vicki's Place used to close at 4:30 p.m., thus eliminating the possibility of families and singles coming in for a bite or coffee at night, perhaps even movie crowds getting out of the Rialto Theatre.

The diner is open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays and 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays.

Since its conversion to a diner, Vicki's has attracted crowds not just from Westfield, Scotch Plains and Fanwood, but from Summit and Cranford and even from the Jersey Shore as word continues to spread about the popular eatery.

Although Vicki said the loss of the Excellent Diner a few years ago did not figure into her decision to open a diner, it has apparently attracted persons who used to eat at the former downtown staple.

In keeping with her desire to keep the interior of the restaurant simple, the eatery does not have fancy chandeliers or upscale booths.

The interior of the diner features checkered floors, red booths with old fashioned tables and counters. To give the place a Westfield feel, Mrs. Pavlou visited the Westfield Historical Society. They gave her a number of historic shots which have been framed and displayed throughout the diner.

In addition, pictures of her younger customers at the opening of the diner, as well as pictures of Mrs. Pavlou with Mayor Thomas C. Jardim and his predecessor, Bud C. Boothe, are displayed on a side wall in the front of the diner.

A picture of the late former Police Chief James Moran also is displayed as are pictures of now retired Westfield Patrolman William Sampson, who was a regular figure downtown when he directed traffic at East Broad and Prospect Streets.

Among the favorites on the menu are the Greek salad and burgers. Hamburgers are made with chopped meat which is purchased fresh each morning. Mrs. Pavlou noted that a hamburger with a Greek salad is a very popular meal.

Each day the menu consists of daily breakfast specials including waffles and blintzes. Lunches and dinner specials also are offered.

The diner employs 25 persons who are mostly from Westfield and surrounding communities. Like the diner's owner, the staff maintains a friendly attitude when greeting customers, especially the regulars.

As is traditional with many diners, the owner and staff share many of the customers' joys, such as an engagement or marriage of a customer's child or the birth of a grandchild, as well as sorrows such as a death in a patron's family.

Over the years Vicki's patrons have remembered their experience of eating at her place. In one case, a couple from Colorado Springs,

Colorado, saw an article in a Greek newspaper recently about the opening of Vicki's Diner and decided to send her a copy of the paper.

That couple had eaten at Vicki's Place in 1977 and still recalled their experience when they came across the story.

So while businesses come and go from Westfield, Vicki's Diner is likely to continue serving up omelettes, Belgian waffles, grilled sandwiches, salads and triple decker sandwiches, for many years to come.



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Construction Underway At Township Post Office

97aug07

TEMPORARY TRAILER SET UP IN REAR



Construction work is underway at the Scotch Plains Post Office, causing confusion on the part of some postal customers.

The construction work officially began Monday at the Post Office, located at 536 Park Avenue. The work at the building, built in 1961, will

include the expansion of the post office box section by 200 new units available for rent.

In addition, a "postal store" will be constructed for the sale of postal products such as stamps, packaging supplies and stamp gift items.

Due to the extensive renovations, the window services and post office boxes have been temporarily relocated to a trailer near the back of the parking lot behind the post office.

Services at the trailer will be available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Customers may park their cars in the lot near the trailer.

"We realize that there may be some inconvenience caused by the temporarily limited hours," said Scotch Plains Post Office Supervisor Wayne Harrison. "But we know our customers will be happy with the new expanded postal facility."

"We also want to extend our gratitude to the offices of the municipal planner and the town zoning official for their help and patience through this transitional period," added Mr. Harrison.

Construction will continue through the remainder of the year.





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THREE SHINING STARS...The Westfield White 9-year-old traveling team had three players selected to appear in the North Jersey All-Star game which was played in Chatham on July 15. The boys were on the winning National League team. From left; Tommy Layton, Tommy Ricciuti and David Weinstein.

Checchio's Calls Gamblers' Bluff With a 16-7 Trumping

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

It was all in the cards, and the luck of the draw shifted drastically as Checchio Chiropractic took what seemed to be the losing hand and shuffled themselves the winning Full House against the Gamblers in the third game of a best-of-five series of the Westfield Men's Softball League at Tamaques Park in Westfield on July 30.

Having lost the first two games, 10-2 on July 27 and 3-2 on July 28, Checchio's backs were about to crack, and after the top of the third inning, it appeared that the Gamblers had stacked the deck, holding three aces and leading 7-0.



The Gamblers drew the ace of spades in the top of the first as they had several Checchio fielders diving onto the turf in attempts to dig up the Gamblers' hits. Joe Dasti poked a short fly which forced Checchio left fielder Dave Buckwald to make an unsuccessful sliding attempt to catch the ball. Rich Chaparro hopped a single past third which had Joe Walsh diving after it as Dasti sped around to score.

Frank Malta stepped to the plate an

lined a single to right past the outstretched arms of first baseman Joe Fischetti while Chaparro scored, then Terry Hanratty dribbled an infield single to short which sent Brian Chapman to the turf as he smothered the ball.

The ace of clubs was scooped up by the Gamblers in the second inning as Chaparro thumped a crashing blow to deep, deep left to clear the bases, allowing Danny Mondelli, Dasti and himself to score.

With the score 5-0, the Gamblers snatched the ace of diamonds as it appeared that they could pick and choose anyplace on the field and find a hole in the Checchio defense. Hanratty drilled a single in the hole between short and second base, then Brian Countryman bounced a controversial fair-ball double over the bag at third. Billy Perez smashed a sacrifice fly to deep right-center to bring home Hanratty, but a misdirected throw to home allowed Countryman to score.

It seemed as if the Gamblers were going to sweep the pot in three games; however, the Checchio players were not about to lose heart and had no intentions of folding their hand. In the bottom of the third, Fischetti wiggled a single to left, Nancy Jogis drew a walk and Dondi Chambliss lashed a double to center, driving in Fischetti.

Jeff Kole stepped to the plate and looped a single to right, sending Jogis and Chambliss around to score. Kole also darted to third as the ball got by the right fielder. Chapman brought home Kole with a bouncing single to left, narrowing the score to 7-4.

Checchio's squeezed a little harder in the fourth, adding another run. Buckwald tapped a single to left, Walsh walked, then Pat Brady sliced a grounder through the legs of the second baseman. Buckwald scored and Walsh was waived around third as the ball was thrown perfectly to the plate in time to get the face-sliding Walsh.

Checchio's finally cracked into the lead, 8-7, by scoring three runs in the fifth. Chambliss slammed his second double of the evening with a lined shot down the third base line, Dave Yacilla grounded a single up-the-middle and Kole punched a single to right, bringing home Chambliss.

Chapman skid a single through short to drive in Yacilla, then Jack Failla hooked a single to left, loading the bases for Buckwald who ricocheted a single soundly off the pitcher's leg to drive in Kole.

Stunned by the Checchio Chiropractic comeback, the Gamblers were unable to keep their poker face and, in the bottom of the sixth inning, their house of cards came crumbling down. The Checchio players revealed their full-house as they consistently kept the bases full, sending a complete suit of 13 batters to the plate and amassing eight runs.

Fiscetti walked, Jogis neatly placed a single between short and third and Chambliss arced a single over second to load the bases for Yacilla who grounded into a force play at home. Kole and Chapman both walked to give Jogis and Chambliss wildcards to safely trot home, then Failla hit a grounder to the second baseman who tried unsuccessfully to force out Yacilla at home.

Buckwald drew a walk to give Kole a free ticket home, Walsh hit into a fielder's choice which forced Chapman out at home for the second out, Brady walked to bring home Failla, then Fischetti ripped a single off the glove of the shortstop to drive in Buckwald. With the bases still loaded, Jogis spinned a grounder which hit third base and the third baseman's glove at the same time and popped out of reach as Walsh and Brady scored making the score 16-7.

Although Checchio's came through with a big hand this time, the Gamblers held the winning hand in the final game contested on July 31, winning 6-5 to take the series, 3-1, and advanced to the finals to play for the championship against either the Mattress Factory or Greco Steam Cleaning who evened the series, 2-2, on July 31 with a 6-2 victory.

Gamblers 232 000 0 07

Checchio's 004 138 x 16

WMSL STANDINGS:

(Regular Season Final)

TEAM W L

Checchio Chiropractic 15 6

Greco Steam Cleaning 15 6

Mattress Factory 14 7

Gamblers 14 7

Jolly Trolley 10 11

Nuclear Chickens 9 12

Black Crackers 5 16

Crossroads 5 16



Hunter Shoots Down Shady

Lane to Playoff

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

One playoff berth position was yet to be decided in the Fanwood Old Men's Softball Association and it came down to a head-to-head confrontation between Hunter Avenue and Shady Lane on July 31 at La Grande Park in Fanwood.

Both teams were ready to play and John Chalankeril led off for Shady Lane with a curling infield single between the pitcher and the third base line. Pete Salovitch drew a walk, Al Betau ripped a shot to left which was caught on the run by Mike Ewing, then Hal Breuninger slashed a single to left which convinced Chalankeril to attempt to score; however, a strong, accurate throw from Mike Ewing nailed him at the plate. Matt Brown lined a single to center to bring home Salovitch and Breuninger.



Down 2-0 Hunter fired back in the bottom of the first. Mike Ewing slapped a single, Paul Ewing outfoxed the defense with a slyly confusing infield dribbler, then Todd Kylish thumped a single to right-center which brought home Mike Ewing, but was thrown out as he slid into second.

Phil Wein singled home Paul Ewing and Lou Danielle cracked a single to left. Dave Roth hit into a fielder's choice for the second out and John Walsh grounded to short to end the inning.

Hunter Avenue scored four runs to take a 6-2 lead in a zany third inning. Mike Ewing drilled a low liner to center, Paul Ewing chopped an infield single just out of step of a foot-stomp behind second base, Kylish grounded to third to force out Mike Ewing, then Wein glided a single by first to score Paul Ewing.

Danielle set the stage for the zaniness as he rapped a single over second to drive in Kylish but was caught in a rundown between the second baseman and nobody. Danielle headed back to first as the second baseman threw the ball to nobody, allowing Wein to score. The circus was not over yet, Roth hit a grounder to the second baseman who flicked the ball to second and the ball bounced off Danielle's back and deflected into the glove of the shortstop for the second out. When things

settled down, John Walsh slammed a double off the screen in left to bring home the fourth run of the inning.

Shady Lane got back on the path in the fourth when Brown looped a single down the right field line and stole second, Joe Viviano poked a single to drive in Brown and moved to second on the throw to home, then Kevin Maloney bounced a double off the bottom edge of the screen, scoring Viviano and narrowing the score to 6-4.

Shady Lane tied the score in the fifth. Chalankeril laid down a perfect bunt and advanced to third after the throw sailed over the first baseman's head. Salovitch placed a single by second to send home Chalankeril, then was later thrown out attempting to steal second. Breuninger stepped up and hammered a home run over the left field screen. After Brown slapped his third single of the evening, Dave Landis flew out to center.

The Hunter team got on target in the sixth as they shelled out three runs. Danielle banged his third single of the evening, Walsh drew a base-on-balls. Frank Cuccaro hooked a double which rolled out of play down the first base line to bring in Danielle. Kevin Ewing punched a single to center to drive in Walsh who was followed by Cuccaro who scored on a misdirected throw. The inning ended when Shady Lane pulled off an alert second-to-first-to-home double play.

Hunter Avenue held Shady Lane in the seventh to win 9-6 and occupied the sixth playoff spot. On August 7, Hunter Avenue played the sixth-seeded team in the first round of the playoffs.

Shady Lane 200 220 0 06

Hunter Avenue 204 003 x 09

FOMSA STANDINGS:

(As of July 31)

*** Qualified for playoffs**

TEAM W L

***Montrose Avenue 11 4**

***Russell Road 10 5**

***Willoughby Road 10 5**

***Sun Valley 8 7**

***Poplar Place 7 8**

***Hunter Avenue 6 10**

Shady Lane 5 11

Marian Avenue 4 10



**St. Michael Protects A 9-4 Lead
Over St. Pat**

By DAVID B. CORBIN

*Specially Written for The
Westfield Leader and The Times*

**St. Michael jumped out to an 9-4
lead after four innings and used
its strong defense to preserve the
victory over St. Patricks in a St.
Bartholomew's Oldtimers**

Softball League game at Forest Road Park in Fanwood on July 29.

St. Patrick, sponsored by Family Investors in Fanwood, was the first to score when Mike Camfield walked, then was thrown out at second as John Chupko reached on a fielder's choice. Brian Williams slashed a double to right-center, putting runners in scoring position, Bob Reick bopped a sacrifice fly to left to drive in Chupko.

Down 1-0, with two out in the bottom of the first, Gerry Reipe of St. Michael, sponsored by Pace Scrap Metal, bounced a single to center, Chris Reimer dribbled a single past short, then Stan Lesniewski lined a single to left to bring home Reipe and tie the score.

A streak of luck came for St. Patrick in the second inning. Bob Mallon reached base safely on a sharp grounder to third, Pat Luongo drew a walk, then Pete Chemidlin drilled a triple through the gap in right-center allowing Mallon and Luongo to score. Brian Cheney bounced the ball to the right side of the infield as Chemidlin scored to give St. Patrick a 4-1 lead.

St. Michael got some luck of its own with two runs in the second. Bill Lawrence walked and Tony Blasi whacked a single past the center fielder allowing the runners to advance. Nick Troiano hopped the ball to the second baseman who mishandled it while both runners alertly came home, narrowing the score to 4-3.

From the third inning on, the luck of St. Patrick had run out as Blasi, the St. Michael pitcher, tightened up and silenced the St. Patrick guns.

Only Chupko was able to hook a single to right in the third, Frank Del Re was able to scribble a single past third in the fifth and Ron Del Prete thudded a 10-foot infield single in the sixth

St. Michael seized any remaining wisp of luck from St. Patrick in the fourth inning by grabbing a windfall, six runs. Stan Grausso launched a triple over the head of the center fielder and scored when Lawrence reached on a fielder's choice. Mike Michalsin looped a single out of the reach of the first baseman and Jeff Friedlander drew a walk to load the bases.

Troiano stepped to the plate and bashed a two-run single to center and advanced to second on the throw, then Tom Swales slapped a single to short-center to bring home Friedlander. Reipe brought Troiano and Swales home with a double, bringing the score to 9-4.

Both teams displayed some fine fielding plays. Williams of St. Patrick made several, including a fine catch of a pop-up from Joe Romash in the second inning. First baseman Bob Mallon of St. Patrick made a great snag of a grounder hit in the hole between first and second and alertly flicked the ball to second for the force out. Troiano of St. Michael successfully pulled down several fly balls including a running grab he made to rob Reick of a hit in the seventh inning.

St. Patrick 130 000 0 04

St. Michael 120 600 0 09

ST. BART'S STANDINGS:

(As of July 29)

ANGELS DIVISION:

TEAM W L

St. Joseph 12 4

St. Paul 7 6

St. Patrick 7 9

St. Peter 6 8

St. Anne 4 10

SAINTS DIVISION:

TEAM W L**St. Thomas 12 2****St. Michael 8 7****St. Jude 7 7****St. Louis 7 8****St. Lawrence 3 12****Sour Grapes Squeeze Orange to a Pulp,
19-5****By DAVID B. CORBIN***Specially Written for The Westfield
Leader and The Times*

Eric Berger, Lowell Weiner and John Yannuzzi stomped out three RBI apiece as the JCC Sour Grapes pounced the JCC Orange, 19-5, in the Jewish Community Center (JCC) League softball action on August 3 at Farley Field in Scotch Plains.



Things started sweetly for the Orange team as it held a 1-0 lead after two innings of play. Brian Shlissel led off the first by lining a double down the third base line, Scott Mack flied to center as Shlissel tagged up and moved to third and Ira Riesenber brought Shlissel home with a sacrifice fly to left.

The wrath of the Grapes emerged with a 10-run outburst in the third. Dan Shinderman started the flow of grapeness by bashing a triple down the left field line, then scored on a throwing error. Jim Kerstein and Todd Schechter each bumped singles to center and Jason Berger loaded the bases on a grounder to second.

Weiner stepped to the plate and creamed a two-run double to center, Jim Airey followed with an RBI single to center, Erik Berger drilled an RBI double down the left field line, Yannuzzi lashed an RBI double to center, Jim Baumgartner bopped a fly to right which eventually allowed Erik Berger and Yannuzzi to score, then Chic Kaplan put the topping on the 10-run crush by launching a two-run homer to deep center.

The Orange managed to put enough juice together to squeeze two runs

in the fourth. Mack deflected the ball off the first baseman's glove, Riesenbergr punched a single to center, then Schechter of the Grapes soured the hopes of the Orange by making one of his several amazing catches by snagging a long foul ball hit to left by David Kadish. Dave Sanders looped a single to center while Mack and Riesenbergr scored.



Kerstein ripped a single to left in the fourth, Rick Wolf slashed a double to left-center to bring home Kerstein, then Schechter sailed a long sacrifice to center to drive in Wolf as the Sour Graped upped its lead to 12-3.

The Sour Grapes spewed four more runs upon the Orange in the fifth. Weiner reached on an error, Airey poked a single to center, then Erik Berger hammered a two-RBI triple to left. Yannuzzi hit an RBI single up-the-middle and scored on Darren Drapkin's fielder's choice. The inning ended when Jon Applebaum and Shinderman both flied out to left field.

In the sixth, Jeff Marx looped a single to right, Mack dribbled an infield single which sent the second baseman diving to the dirt, Riesenbergr reached on a force play, and Kadish tapped a single to right, loading the bases. Sanders whacked a two-RBI double up the middle to bring the score to 16-5.

The Grapes added two runs in the sixth when Wolf arced a single to center, Jason Berger reached safely as Wolf scored on an off-course throw to home, then Weiner rapped an RBI single past third.

The Orange threatened in the seventh. Ed Bartosik tomahawked a single to center and Andy Novick placed a single past short. After Norm Gruenberg reached on a force play, Marx blasted a shot to deep right; however, the speedy Schechter, now playing right for the Grapes, ran under the ball with his back turned and made a circus catch to retire the side.

The final Sour Grape run of the occurred when Erik Berger slammed a double to center and scored on a sacrifice fly by Yannuzzi. The 19-5 victory improved the Sour Grapes record to 8-5 while the loss slipped the Orange to 4-7-1.

JCC Orange 100 202 00 12

JCC Sour Grapes 00(10) 242 1x 05

JCC STANDINGS:

(As of July 28)

TEAM W L T

Congregation Beth Israel. 9 1 1

Marauders 10 2 0

Old Stars 9 3 0

Sour Grapes 8 5 0

Orange 4 7 1

White 4 7 0

Temple Emanu-El 1 10 0

Club 40 0 12 0

Erratum:

In the article of the JCC Softball League game between the Old Stars and the Marauders on July 27, Old Stars player Ron Brachman's name was inadvertently misspelled as Branchman. Also in an article about the JCC Sour Grapes and the JCC Club 40, Jon Applebaum's name was misspelled as John. (Sorry about that Ron!).

Under-23 Womens' Soccer/Hertell

Central Jersey Stars Win Women's State Soccer Title

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The Central Jersey Stars under-23 women's soccer team defeated

Hillsborough United, 3-2, to clinch its second straight New Jersey State Championship. The Stars avenged an earlier season setback to Hillsborough.

The Central Jersey Stars wrapped up its regular season against Somerset Hills at Houlihan Field in Westfield on August 5. The Stars are coached by Keith Hertell of Westfield.

An All Star team comprised of four representatives from the Central Jersey Stars and three representatives from each of the remaining teams in the league will challenge the New Jersey Wildcats women's professional soccer team at Mercer County Park at 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 10.

Hertell will coach the All Star team and recent Westfield High School Hall of Fame inductee Chrissy Jeremiah will be the player-coach of the New Jersey Wildcats. The four representatives for the Central Jersey Stars are: former Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School standouts Ann Keegan and Natasha Vasavada, former Union Catholic Regional High School standout Yvette Broderick and former West Morris High School standout Meghan Millar.



Jackie DeLaFuente Qualifies for Eastern Zones Swimming Championships



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Scotch Plains Library Car Crash



Photo by William A. Burke for *The Times*

Unexpected Visitor... The Scotch Plains Public Library sustained some structural damage last Saturday morning after this Lincoln Town Car crashed into the side wall of the building. The motorist, a resident of Scotch Plains, was not injured. She told police the accident occurred when the gas pedal became

stuck. Library Director Norbert Bernstein said it was fortunate that the library was closed at the time, because the section of the building where the accident occurred is normally busy with library patrons eager to peruse new books which are displayed there.

DIRECTOR PREDICTS REPAIRS WILL TAKE ONE TO TWO MONTHS

Woman's Car Damages Glass Wall At Scotch Plains Public Library

By SUZETTE STALKER

Specially Written for The Times

A woman lost control of her car last Saturday morning and struck a glass wall at the Scotch Plains Public Library on Bartle Avenue, damaging the wall and two brick support structures, according to police. The motorist was not seriously injured and the library was closed at the time of the accident.

Captain Joseph Protasiewicz of the Scotch Plains Police Department confirmed that a 1989 Lincoln Town Car driven by Mary Loh, 72, of Scotch Plains, struck the east side of the building at 11:03 a.m. She told police that the gas pedal had stuck and she lost control of the vehicle, according to Captain Protasiewicz.

The captain said authorities were alerted to the accident by a police

officer who was working traffic duty nearby. He said the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad responded to the scene to check on the condition of the motorist, who he described as "shaken up" but not injured. She was not issued any citations in connection with the accident, Captain Protasiewicz said.

"Fortunately, we're closed on Saturdays and Sundays during July and August," remarked Library Director Norbert Bernstein. "If people had been here, there could have been some injuries."

He said the damaged wall is in the section where the latest fiction and non-fiction books are displayed for five months after their arrival. During other times of the year, the area typically would have been busy with library patrons on a Saturday morning, Mr. Bernstein said.

He remarked that "it broke my heart" to see the damage, which he anticipated will cost several thousand dollars and take "a month or two to repair." While he does not believe the building will be fully repaired by the opening of the new school year in September, he said he feels the incident will not have a significant impact on business at the library.

Mr. Bernstein reported that the shelves in the damaged section can still be used to display books.



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DECA Is to Be Congratulated

97aug07

Response to Scotch Plains Business Directory Has Been Simply Overwhelming, Merchants Say

By JEANNE WHITNEY

Specially Written for The Times



Since 10,000 premiere editions of the Scotch Plains Business and Services Directory were mailed out last week to residents and businesses in the township, business is booming, according to the local business community.

Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association (SPBPA) members and five DECA marketing students from the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School worked together to create the directory.

They say response to the directory has been overwhelmingly positive.

Business property owner Seymour Stein of CEO Executive Suites, Inc., claims a prospective business tenant showed up on his office doorstep the day after the directory was distributed, with a page torn from the directory that contained Mr. Stein's listing.

Mr. Stein, who is also a Vice President of the SPBPA said other local business owners have hurried to join the association after seeing the inaugural publication.

"Recognition," Mr. Stein said, is a prime purpose of the township directory. "It's to let people know that businesses are here and its a wonderful place to be."

The directory lists approximately 450 township businesses. There are also photos -- historic and recent -- of familiar township sites. Demographic facts about the township are highlighted along the bottom

of each of the 112 pages. Advertisements about local businesses include personalized descriptions of the companies.

Township Mayor Irene T. Schmidt cheered the directory's arrival, saying, "I've been looking for this kind of thing for years. It's a valuable marketing tool. I want to commend the people involved. It was quite an undertaking."

According to Joseph Donnatelli, Jr., a business association officer and Eastern Marble and Granite Supplies owner, the SPBPA hopes to update the directory every year.

"We anticipate a strong growth in advertisers. We need 200 (advertisers) to do it every year -- otherwise we'll do it every other year," he said.

President of the business association and owner of Nuts n' Plenty, Ray Pardon, said the total cost of the directory was \$15,000, with half that amount covered by 93 paid advertisements in the directory and the other half paid by the SPBPA.

Mr. Donnatelli said DECA marketing students "did most of the legwork" in creating the directory.

High school student advisors say the directory project grew out of a three-year-old DECA survey of residents and businesses on how to improve business in the township. Survey results indicated a need for a business directory.

A follow-up study on the effectiveness of the directory will be completed this fall, Mr. Donnatelli said.

Mr. Pardon said high school marketing teacher Donald Cababe credited five DECA students with taking top honors in the national organization with the directory project for the first time in 25 years. High school juniors at the time, students Adam Baumwoll, David Gewirtz, Jeffery Gillie, Adam Koster and Brian Spitzer worked nine months producing the directory, he said. The students could not be reached for comment by press deadline.

Reportedly, one of the most difficult jobs was compiling and verifying a complete listing of the township's businesses. The students first contacted local businesses in a letter about the directory idea. The students then showed business owners a prototype of the proposed directory and solicited advertisements.

Encouraged by the results of the business directory project, Mayor Schmidt said she hopes to appoint a committee to produce a promotional booklet that describes the township's history and development to the present.



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Rialto Owner of Rialto Theatre to Add Three New Screens In Bid to Increase Film Diversity

Rialto Owner To Double Total Screens

By SUZETTE STALKER

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

In a bid to offer more diversity to his audiences, the Rialto Theatre's new owner said he expects to install three additional screens at the landmark cinema, bringing the total number to six. He said plans are also underway for other renovations to take place after Labor Day weekend, which he hopes will breathe new life into the 75-year-old theater.

Jesse Sayegh, who closed his purchase deal with United Artists for the Rialto on June 19, told *The Westfield Leader* last week he expects to add one new screen in the balcony area, and two more downstairs. The building, located at the corner of East Broad Street and Central Avenue, currently houses two screens on the first floor and a third in the balcony.

He said he expected to create the two additional auditoriums on the first floor by moving the two existing screens forward and creating a corridor allowing access to the new sections. Mr. Sayegh also explained that he would divide the balcony area into two theaters, which he said would improve viewing from all seats on the second floor of the building.

He remarked that four or five of the proposed total screens would continue to show first-run, commercial films which he characterized as "family-oriented or subject matter suitable to the Westfield area."

He said that one or two screens would likely be used to show foreign or art films which are not generally exhibited at theaters in suburban areas. During last year's successful grassroots campaign to save the Rialto from being converted into retail, supporters proposed that specialty fare would be one way to give the Rialto a unique appeal.

"The whole concept is you have a diversified audience in the Westfield area and we are looking to provide the audience with diversity, but to do this you need extra screens," observed Mr. Sayegh, who said the additional auditoriums will allow him to hold onto successful features longer while simultaneously bringing in fresh product.

"When you have only three screens or so, you don't have as much flexibility. You might lose a good picture," he commented, noting that he recently had to discontinue showing *Ulee's Gold*, which was still doing well at the box office, in order to make room for newer pictures.

Mr. Sayegh confirmed that the six auditoriums would vary in seating capacity, with the two largest holding 300 and 260 seats. Two others would hold 175 and 150 seats, while the smallest two would each provide seating for 100.

Besides the three additional screens, he said he plans to upgrade both the interior and the exterior of the aging building, including sprucing up the front canopy with aluminum panels done in a Colonial style. He also anticipates installing new carpeting and seats, along with an improved sound system, as well as implementing a general cleanup of the building.

Mr. Sayegh said he also plans to replace the Rialto's "very antiquated" lavatories with brand new, fully-accessible facilities in the area of the building currently occupied by Diane B's. That store, he said, will move next door to the space which formerly housed Merle Norman Cosmetics. He said he also hoped to restore the natural brick facade on the front of the theater, which had been painted over.

Mr. Sayegh said the time frame for the renovations to commence would depend on how soon the necessary permits were approved by the town's Construction Office. Westfield Zoning Officer Jeremiah P. O'Neil confirmed on Friday that the theater operator qualified for an exemption from site plan review pursuant to the town's zoning ordinance since his application called for internal renovations and there is no planned expansion of the current building.

There will be no need for additional parking provisions, he said, since Mr. Sayegh is rearranging the interior layout of the theater, rather than increasing the number of seats.

Mr. O' Neil said he had already approved Mr. Sayegh's construction application. The application was still under review last week by the municipality's Construction Office.

Mr. Sayegh, the President of CJM Entertainment, a company based in Cedar Grove, has been a theater operator for 20 years. Among his other holdings are cinemas with between four and 10 screens in Linden, Cedar Grove, Ocean Township, Upper Montclair and Kinnelon. Although he declined to reveal the exact amount he paid for the theater, recent real estate transactions show the theater was purchased for \$1.3 million.

Mr. Sayegh said he has received positive feedback about his plans for the theater from neighborhood merchants in Westfield, who he said have approached him about promotional efforts which would tie together the Rialto's anticipated renaissance with the business community at large. The theater operator speculated that he may address the Westfield Chamber of Commerce in the near future about doing something in conjunction with the theater's 75th anniversary this year.

He said the merchants feel the Rialto is a magnet for attracting people to the downtown, adding that the theater is "a landmark building in the community and an emotional issue for the people in the community who worked to save it." The purchase agreement between Mr. Sayegh and United Artists, which was brokered by Anthony Schilling of Relocation Realty in Westfield, was first announced in February after another potential buyer walked away from the deal.

"I think everyone who looked at the Bellevue before and after will tell you what a great job we're doing over there," commented Mr. Sayegh of his other recent purchase, a theater in Upper Montclair which has already been renovated. "The theater has been well-received, attendance has gone up...people who were there four months ago who come in think they're in the wrong place...it's changed so much for the better."



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97aug07 Editorial

DECA, SPBPA Deserve Credit For Business & Services Directory

They say the key to doing business is marketing. Well, if that's the case, than DECA, an association of marketing students at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, deserve an "A+" for the job they did on the first ever Scotch Plains Business & Services Directory.

The 111-page book, delivered to all residents and businesses within the township, contains a listing of every business that has an office in town or is a member of the Scotch Plains Business & Professional Association, which published the book, as well as a directory of civic groups, historical tid bits about the township's history including old pictures.

The book is also filled with local advertisers who provided the revenue to make the directory a reality. From the response that the SPBPA is getting, the book has been very well received.

The association has grown from nine members in 1994, when it was founded, to over 200 members today. As a result of the success this directory will bring to township businesses, we expect that number SPBPA members to grow substantially. Keep up the good work SPBPA and DECA.

97aug07 Editorial

DWC, WSO Directors' Maestro To Learn Benefits of Westfield

The Westfield community offers a tremendous wealth of resources to residents as well as those who shop or work in town. Whether it be the highly-recognized public school system, the quality of housing stock, or the little shops along Elm Street, this town has something very special to offer everyone. Three new members of our community will soon be able to take advantage of these benefits.

Last week the Downtown Westfield Corporation, Inc. (DWC) hired Michael La Place as its new Executive Director. In leading the DWC, which governs the town's Special Improvement District, Mr. La Place will be responsible for managing the downtown revitalization program. This program includes design, economic development and promotion

projects.

Mr. La Place is a native New Jerseyan who has had experience as an Assistant Planner in Montclair, where he worked on design and economic development initiatives. He also will oversee Westfield's continued participation in the national Main Street program.

He is currently the Director of Long-Range Planning with the community of Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Other newcomers to Westfield are the new Executive Director of the Westfield Symphony Orchestra (WSO), Patrick Gaines. Mr. Gaines comes to Westfield from Des Moines, Iowa, where he was Administrative Director of that city's Metro Opera. An accomplished musician, he performed with the Omaha Symphony Orchestra and the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra, both in Nebraska.

Mr. Gaines became aware of the Westfield Symphony from former WSO Executive Director Kenneth Hopper, who now has the same position with the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra.

Also joining the WSO is its new Music Director David Wroe. Mr. Wroe made his WSO debut in October of 1996 while conducting the orchestra's 1996-1997 season opener at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway. He will make his debut as the new Maestro on Saturday, September 27, when the WSO kicks off its new season theme "Passport to the World of Music," at the Arts Center with a performance entitled "A Russian Fantasy."

***The Leader* welcomes Mr. La Place, Mr. Gaines and Mr. Wroe to Westfield. We are sure their stays will be enjoyable. We encourage residents to come forward and lend their support to the tasks these individuals face in making Westfield an even better place to live, work and do business.**



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WESTFIELD CAFÉS IN VIOLATION OF ORDINANCE

Downtown Westfield Corp. Names Michael La Place as New Executive Director



Westfield Resident to Conduct on Broadway



Landmark Rialto Theater Is Getting A Lift

Dredging Crucial to Maintain \$20 Billion Shipping Industry

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FRIENDLY CHATS

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 688, representing the American Legions and Veterans of Foreign Wars of Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Westfield and Mountainside take monthly trips to the Post Traumatic Stress Unit of the Lyons Veterans' Hospital in Basking Ridge and bring food, refreshments and engage in friendly conversations.



Summer Sports Briefs

[97 N/J All-Star League Champs](#)



[Westfield Leader Wire Service](#)

Westfield Mayor Golf Outing

Fanwood Planning Board

Approves Home Businesses; Discusses Master Plan

UNION COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. HOSTS

BUSINESS CRUISE

Scotch Plains Residents

Petition School Board

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AGREEMENT WITH TOWN BROKEN

97aug07

Tice Pl. Resident Complains Over Builder's Work

By PAUL J. PEYTON

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Town officials this week vowed to continue to keep a close watch on a developer who is connecting a new sewer line on a portion of the street he owns to the town's sewer system on Tice Place. The process has involved the laying of sewer piping by using the town's easement, a portion of which runs through two privately-owned properties.

As the builder of the development on Dunham Avenue, V&R was required to construct a new sewer line, drainage system, curbing and a new street. Part of the sewer piping runs through the town easement which runs through two residential properties on Tice Place. V&R will construct four new homes on the land which the company purchased from the town in 1995.

The nearly 60,000- square-foot undeveloped Dunham Avenue parcel was purchased by builder Frank Papparatto of Kenilworth at a public auction several years ago. As the developer of the property, the town has required Mr. Papparatto to improve the street with macadam pavement and to install a new sewer pipe.

Reed Margulis, the owner of 919 Tice Place, told the council that he is concerned the developer will not follow the letter of the agreement with the town which requires him to return the town easement to pre-construction condition, including the replacement of grass, shrubbery and sprinkler heads and sewer piping.

Sprinkler systems along both the Margulis property and the home of one of his neighbors were damaged but repaired by the developer, although not to the satisfaction of Mr. Margulis, who said he wants to bring in his own maintenance person to repair the system. The sprinkler system runs along the easement and was cut, along with damage to the plastic sprinkler heads, when a trench was made for the sewer pipes.

After he was contacted by Mr. Margulis, Department of Public Works

Field Supervisor Barry Betzel visited the site. Town Engineer Kenneth B. Marsh explained that during one inspection of the site, the developer was about to install a cracked sewer pipe. Mr. Betzel quickly stepped in and demanded the two broken pipes along the easement be replaced.

Also of concern to Mr. Margulis and some council members was the failure of the developer to provide 48 hours notice before the start of construction.

Mr. Marsh explained that Mr. Paparatto notified his office that he wanted to start construction. Mr. Marsh said he told Mr. Paparatto that he could not start due to a stop work order imposed by the state's Sewer Conservation Board. That order was rescinded a few days later.

Once this was resolved, the developer paid a fine to the board and began construction, but failed in the process to give the required notification to property owners.

Mr. Marsh said it was his decision to allow Mr. Paparatto to start the work without the proper notice in order to avoid a delay in the completion of the work.

Mayor Thomas C. Jardim said he believes agreements with the town should be followed by developers.

Although noting the failure to provide notice to residents, Town Attorney Charles H. Brandt said the developer "basically adhered to the agreement." He said the developer filled in the hole on the easement promptly.

Mr. Marsh said that a storm also delayed the filling in of the hole by a few days, thus resulting in an extension over the seven allowable work days for completion of the work as included in the agreement.

When contacted by *The Westfield Leader* yesterday, Mr. Brandt said about \$35,000 has been placed in escrow for the improvements made by the developer should the town need to hire their contractor to make repairs as a result of the work. Such an agreement, he said, is customary for public property improvements.

The amount in escrow, 120 percent over the estimated cost of the work by the builder, will be held until the council approves the release of the funds when the work is completed.

Mr. Marsh explained during the meeting that "essentially the work is completed except for the top soil and seeding. Whatever adjustment has to be made on the sprinkler system will be made." He said he will tell the developer to fix the sprinkler system before completing the work.

Mr. Margulis alleged that when filling in the easement after laying the

new sewer pipes, Mr. Papatatto took grass and soil from adjoining properties without notifying property owners.

In fact, Mr. Margulis' wife called the police at which time two officers arrived and indicated to Mrs. Margulis that a police report regarding the trespassing allegation would be filed.

Litigation is pending against the developer by Mr. Margulis over charges that Mr. Papatatto trespassed onto his property and bulldozed trees in his backyard over an area of 2,300 square feet. The Margulis family has said they want the developer to pay for a landscaper of their choice to restore the damaged property to its previous condition.

The town's easement of 10 feet in width runs between Mr. Margulis' property and that owned by Fred Chemidlin, also of Tice Place. Mr. Margulis told the council that neither he nor Mr. Chemidlin were notified by the developer. Mr. Chemidlin was not in attendance at Tuesday's meeting.

"Mr. Papatatto appeared on the site one morning, personally operating his bulldozer," stated Mr. Margulis in a letter dated July 30 to the Mayor, a copy of which was obtained by *The Westfield Leader*.

During Tuesday's meeting, Fourth Ward Councilman Lawrence A. Goldman questioned whether the town could prevent V&R Realty from developing properties in town in the future.

Mr. Brandt said a municipality cannot prevent a firm from the public bidding, noting that the town is required to accept the highest bid.

Mr. Marsh indicated the Public Works Department does not have the staff to monitor a builder's work as much as it would like to, thus the town has legal agreements which include provisions regarding such issues as sewer and street improvements.

Mr. Margulis said the developer has not lived up to the "letter or spirit" of the agreement with the town.

In an unrelated matter, the approved an agreement with V&R to hook two existing homes on Dunham into the new sewer line they have installed on the street. The homes are currently hooked into a main line on Clifton Street. The town will pay half the costs.

The council introduced an ordinance to add a bird sanctuary and nature park along a town-owned portion of Durham Avenue. Town Administrator Edward A. Gottko has said it would have been unlikely that this area could be developed for homes in the future due to existing wetlands. A stream runs through the proposed sanctuary.

The sanctuary would be almost 800 feet in length and 200 feet wide

except in the area of Waite Place, where the width would be 400 feet, according to a map included with the ordinance.

In other business, the Town Council issued temporary permits to three establishments to operate cafés on property through the end of the season, October 31. Each of the establishments will be billed for the permits, officials said.

Wyckoff's, restaurant on North Avenue, Jordan's Bakery on South Avenue and the Prospector Store along Prospect Street, through the action of the Town Council, will be able to operate these cafés while the council's Laws and Rules Committee reviews the ordinance.

With the exception of the Prospector Delicatessen on Prospect Street, sidewalk cafés may open as early as 6 a.m. The Prospector deli, since it is located in a residential area, will not be able to open until 9 a.m. so as not to disturb neighbors in the area. The 6 a.m. starting time was approved in a separate ordinance and includes existing cafés.

Wyckoff's is currently operating a café in the rear of his North Avenue establishment, the only café located solely on private property. The eating area is separated from the parking lot by plantings.

Jordan's, located on South Avenue, will also be on private property while Prospector's will be situated on public and private property. When the council first established the sidewalk cafés in 1994, the ordinance was written to restrict such outdoor eating areas to public sidewalks.

Officials have said that the town's zoning laws do not permit the consumption of food on private property of eating establishments.

In addition to reviewing the expansion of cafés to include private property, the committee will also be looking at the boundaries of where the cafés can be located. The 1994 ordinance restricts such activity to the central business district.

Councilman Goldman noted last week that the ordinance, when it was drafted, did not take into account cafés on private property or areas outside of the business district.

First Ward Councilwoman Gail S. Vernick was the lone council member to vote against the resolution. She said she was concerned over the impact the Prospector café would have on the residents in the area, given the fact the area is largely residential.

She also said she would like to see a copy of a petition which has reportedly been received by some council members. Councilwoman Vernick told *The Westfield Leader* that she has heard that the multi-page document includes signatures of non-residents.



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