

***CHRIS WITWICK, RYAN WILLIAMSON EACH SCORE A TD; JP CHRISTIANO SCORES 2 TDs***

# Cougar Gridders De-Ice Hillside Comets in Football, 35-6

Versatility of a Cougar offensive attack and solidarity on defense led the Cranford High School football team to a 35-6, de-icing of the Hillside Comets in Hillside on October 22. The victory set up a showdown between unbeaten, 7-0 teams when the Cougars host the Summit Hilltoppers at Memorial Field on October 28 at 7 p.m.

The Cougar offense, led by quarterback Reggie Green, blended an inside-outside running game with a timely passing attack to confuse the 0-7 misdirected Comets' defense. Senior running back Chris Witwick got the ball rolling with a 59-yard touchdown run early in the first quarter. It did not take much longer for the Cougars to jack the score up to 14-0 when defensive back Eric Garguilo intercepted a Comet pass and returned it 24 yard to pay dirt. Troy Kettler kicked the second of his five points after.

Senior fullback JP Christiano added the third touchdown on a 19-yard rumble, also in the first quarter. Just when the Comets' defense was concentrating on which Cougar runner to key on, Green connected with wide receiver Ryan Williamson, result-

ing in a 55-yard touchdown. Just before the half, Christiano bashed in from the four-yard line to make the score, 35-0.

Time ran rapidly in the second half because of the 35-point mercy rule. Finally, the Comets managed to score late in the fourth quarter when quarterback Joe Stralle tossed a six-yard touchdown pass. The point after attempt failed.

The Cougar defense had five sacks and senior linebacker Mike Klimek, who had five tackles,

made two of them. Christiano finished with 38 rushing yards. Witwick had 63 yards rushing and Adham McGuire added 32 yards rushing.

Last year's game was far more intense when Rob Gaeta booted a 25-yard field goal as time ran out to give the Cranford High School football team a 23-20 victory on Senior Night. In that game, Comet Calvin Lofton returned a kickoff for a 75-yard touchdown. Wide receiver Isiah Little added a 29-yard touch-

down reception to give the Comets a 20-13 lead at halftime, but Cougar quarterback Joey Papandrea engineered an 11-play, 72-yard scoring drive in the

third quarter that ended with him curling to his left for a three-yard touchdown to knot the score.

Cranford	21	14	0	0	35
Hillside	0	0	0	0	0

*Photos from last year – Cranford 23, Hillside 20*



## Cougar Footballers to Face Summit in Battle of Unbeaten

The big showdown between undefeated teams will take place at Memorial Field in Cranford tomorrow, Friday, October 28, at 7 p.m. The 7-0 Cranford High School football team will square off with the 7-0 powerhouse Summit Hilltoppers.

The Hilltoppers, under Head Coach John Liberato, are coming off a 35-20 victory over previously unbeaten New Providence last week in Summit. The Hilltoppers are hovering around the top rung in North Jersey Section 2, Group 2, while the 5-1 Pioneers are still in the hunt for home-field advantage for one or two games in North Jersey Section 2, Group 1.

The Hilltoppers offer plenty of offensive punch with running back A.J. Iarussi, quarterback Ryan Bringewatt and kicking specialist

Mike Badgley. The defensive line and linebackers will be quite a challenge to Cougar quarterback Reggie Green, and running backs Chris Witwick, JP Christiano and Adham McGuire.

Not only do the Cougars have a strong running attack, but Green has also been successfully finding wide receivers Ryan Williamson and Eric Garguilo for big gains. Sophomore Troy Kettler has been getting more-and-more reliable kicking extra points and could also be a threat with field goals.

The Cougars' veteran defense has been the backbone of the team. Linebackers Mike Klimek, Mike Diaz, Anthony DaSilva and JP Christiano, along with linemen TJ Nichols, Chris Fulinosz, Jeff Weiss and Ryan Farrell make a formidable wall for opposition to crack. Defensive backs Walter James, Green and Garguilo will look to break up Bringewatt's passes.

**Cranford/Summit**



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**Cougars!**



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# Blue Devil Gymnasts Defend UCT Crown, Nip Cranford Cougars, 109.15-109.05

High team scores and outstanding performances from Westfield, Cranford and Scotch Plains-Fanwood highlighted the Union County Tournament (UCT) gymnastic championships held at Westfield High School on October 21.

In the end, the Blue Devils upped their season-high team total by nearly two points to nip the Cougars, 109.15-109.05, to earn their sixth consecutive UCT crown. The Cougars' total set a school record. The Raiders placed third with a team total of 104.85, followed by the Union Catholic Vikings at 98, the Union Farmers at 90.525, AL Johnson at 87.25, Elizabeth at 59.45, Dayton at 57.55 and the Summit Hilltoppers (one competitor) at 34.675.

The Cranford Cougars, who had previously defeated the Blue Devils in a duel meet and in the Cougar Classic, had a repeat all-around champion in senior MaryKate Walch, who had a total

of 37.4. Blue Devil Abby Cook took second with an all-around total of 37.275. Cougar Alexandra Puryear took third at 37.250, followed by Viking Nicole Pietrapertosa at 36.225, Raider Alex Peluso at 36.15 and Johnson's Bianca Briscese at 35.625.

Puryear took top honors on the vault with a 9.5, followed by Pietrapertosa at 9.475, Walch at 9.425, Peluso at 9.3, Blue Devil freshman Jenna Rizkalla at 9.2 and Raider Kacie Bumiller at 9.175.

Walch won the uneven bar event with a 9.525. Cook was second at 9.3, while Hilltopper Christin Martin and Puryear tied for third at 9.175, followed by Pietrapertosa at 8.7, Blue Devil freshman Mae Devin at 8.525 and Blue Devil junior Lindsay Ripperger at 8.5.

Ripperger placed first on the uneven bars with a 9.5, followed by Peluso at 9.475, Cook at 9.45, Puryear at 9.275, Pietrapertosa

at 9.25 and Walch at 9.05. Briscese took first on the floor exercise with a 9.5, followed by Cook at 9.425, Walch at 9.4, Puryear at 9.3, Blue Devil freshman Hannah Goldring at 9.2 and Cougar Emily Grable at 9.175.

Cook also scored a 9.1 on the vault, Hannah Goldring had an 8.95 and Blue Devil Kelly Vassel had an 8.45. Rizkalla scored an 8.1 on the unevens. Blue Devil senior Sara Shields scored an 8.4 on the beam and a 9.1 on the floor. Vassel had a 9.05 on the floor.

#### TOP THREE BY EVENT:

**Vault:** 1. SP-F (27.55), 2. Cranford (27.475), 3. Westfield (27.15)

**Unevens:** 1. Cranford (26.85), 2. Westfield (26.325), 3. SP-F (25.025)

**Beam:** 1. Westfield (27.95), 2. Cranford (26.85), 3. SP-F (25.9)

**Floor:** 1. Cranford (27.875), 2. Westfield (27.725), 3. SP-F (26.375)



David B. Corbin (Previous files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

**COUGAR ATHLETES OF THE WEEK...** Junior tennis player Marianna Dzunova's record is currently 9-3 at first singles, with seven straight wins. Eli Howard, a senior on the varsity cross-country team, placed third in a personal-best time, while leading the boys cross-country team to its first conference championship since 2004.



## Cougar Snacks



### Cougars Top Dayton In Girls Volleyball

The Cranford High School girls volleyball team defeated the Jonathan Dayton Lady Bulldogs, 25-21, 25-21, in the first round of the Union County Tournament in Cranford on October 19.

Stephanie Bagniewski notched six kills, two aces and a dig. Kathryn Ahern had three aces, three kills and three digs. Izzy Acton had two kills and a dig. Tessa Gonzales seven digs, an ace and a kill. Toni Gonzales had 10 digs and two kills. Vickie Zourzoukis had eight assists, two aces and a dig. Paulina Przydzial had two assists and a kill. Keri Rothman had a dig. Taylor Schomp had six assists. Shannon Smith had two kills, an ace and a block. Danielle Manginelli had four digs. Amanda Montealegre notched a pair of kills.

### Cougars Dismount Mounties in F.H., 3-2

Maria Guarisco had a huge afternoon with three goals in a 3-2, Cranford High School field hockey team's victory over the Montclair Mounties in Cranford on October 20. Goalkeeper Jess McCoy had six stops for the 8-6 Cougars. Fabiana Citro and Julia Albert netted goals for the 7-3-3 Lady Mounties.

### Summit Tops Cougars In UCT Volleyball

The 16-1 Summit High School girls volleyball team ousted the Cranford Lady Cougars, 25-9, 25-10, in the quarterfinals of the Union County Tournament on October 21. Ali Hoesley had 13 assists, an ace and a dig for the Hilltoppers, while Nicole Johnson notched seven kills.

### FH Cougars Blank Lady Farmers, 8-0

Maria Guarisco netted three goals and added an assist to lead the Cranford High School field hockey team to an 8-0 shutout of the Union Lady Farmers in Union on October 25. Erica Faraone, Charlotte Hurley and Emily Snyder each had a goal and an assist. Emily Pipala and Julie Schott also netted a goal.

### Soccer Cougars Lick Linden Tigers, 1-0

The Cranford High School boys soccer team pulled off a 1-0 victory over the Linden Tigers when Matt Aquiles ripped the net from 20 yards out early in the second half in Cranford on October 25. Goalkeeper Dan Weber made nine saves for the Cougars.

## Area Mayors to Create Panel To Address River Flooding

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD – Since the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, Cranford, Union, Millburn and Springfield are banding together by forming the Mayors' Council on Rahway River Watershed Flood Control, headed by each municipality's mayor and engineer, to discuss ideas for controlling Rahway River's floodwaters.

Cranford Mayor Dan Aschenbach said that the council will focus on regional floodwater storage projects, other regional flood-control improvements and model municipal ordinances to improve drainage practices. Also, a regional damage assessment from Irene will be done. The first meeting is scheduled for November and will be hosted by Millburn Mayor Sandra Haimoff.

The panel includes Mayor Haimoff, Union Mayor Joe Florio, Springfield Mayor Hugh Keffer, Winfield Mayor Margaret McManus, Mayor Aschenbach, Kenilworth Mayor Kathi Fiamingo and Rahway Mayor Richard Proctor.

The formation of the organization was agreed to at the Regional Conference on the Rahway River Watershed Flood Control and Environment held October 21 at Union County College in Cranford.

"No one I know has in-the-box solutions to this problem," said Leo Coakley of Hatch Mott MacDonald, a Millburn-based engineering firm, at Friday night's mayors' roundtable held at Union County College.

By proving there is a regional flooding issue, the municipalities anticipate it would help to get funding assistance from federal and state governments, which without is too costly for each municipality to take on alone.

"We are going to do our best...but money is going to be an issue. But I think you have to try to make the effort...come up

with a plan that is regional and see what happens after that. After that it's going to be a money issue," said Ed O'Malley, finance commissioner for the Cranford Township Committee, during the citizens' input part of the meeting.

The Army Corps of Engineers has been studying the Lenape Basin, but the main message of Jodi McDonald, chief of flood risk management for the Army Corps of Engineers, was that the funding is not there. "Over the course of eight years, funding has been very slow in coming. We're using funds from last year to continue work. We have to justify federal monies," she told the audience.

"Is there any question about whether federal spending is justified to mitigate flooding that affects multiple thousands of people in a very crowded area in the single most crowded state in the United States?" asked David Emma of Millburn during the citizens' input portion of the meeting.

"We have to show whatever solution is proposed that is has a benefit-to-cost ratio that is greater than one," Ms. McDonald replied.

Mayor Aschenbach said, "Our probability of loss has to be high," in order to receive the federal funding from the Army Corps because Cranford and other towns are competing nationwide for funding.

As a cost-saving measure, Professor Jennifer Ebert of Union County College had offered the help of her staff and students from the engineering department, regarding which Mayor Aschenbach said he would be in touch.

Gregory Sgroi, an engineer for Cranford from 1973 to 1984 who was instrumental in flood mitigation, including the pump station, had stated to *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* in a separate interview that the Army Corps has

historically been "deliberate and slow" in its process.

As Mr. Aschenbach pointed out, "This (severe flooding) can happen again soon. We need to find ways to mitigate as much as we can."

During Mr. Sgroi's time as engineer, a similar mayors' flood committee never took action on its meetings because of its "inability to make decisions," Mr. Sgroi told *The Times*.

Ed Trush, a member of Cranford's flood advisory committee, said about that same committee during the citizens' input portion of the meeting, "It was a failed project. That commission never filed a report. It's not sour grapes – it's a touch of realism."

"Maybe in combination we can reduce the risk to a practical number of people," said Mr. Coakley in the beginning of his presentation.

Millburn flooded even after building a retaining wall after Floyd. Deputy Mayor of Millburn Robert Tillotson said, "I hope that something good does come of all of this."

Union Township Mayor Joe Florio said the South Mountain Reservation in West Orange is where "the main controls should be," as well as "downstream the bridges need to be fixed."

Regarding the Morris Avenue bridge, in the 1990s a study was done of its historical nature, Mr.

Emma said, and "there were no historical objections at all. The project was abandoned. Someone dropped the ball on that. That needs to be an aggressive issue. That is a ground zero right in the middle of Union and Essex counties, exactly where the two branches of the Rahway River meet, and flows downstream from there."

"We think if those dams upstream in the reservation are raised with some gates, we think the water can be controlled much better up there before it even gets down there where the rivers meet," Mayor Florio said.

Some thoughts have been to raise the dikes in Cranford, but according to Mr. Sgroi, even if they were raised three feet higher it would help with a 50-year storm, but "it's doubtful to handle Floyd and not practical to handle Irene."

"There is no one cure," Cranford Township Engineer Rick Marsden said. "In the South Mountain Reservation, it's not going to cure the whole regional flood problem."

"Some may not be cost effective individually, but combined with other methods of stormwater management, it may be an effective means for a positive outcome for that whole area, giving protection to not only Cranford but upstream and downstream. This is the right forum, in my opinion, to move forward with that."

## Rahway River Park Sees Improvements

CRANFORD – New surfacing and a backboard for the basketball court, weed clearing in Munsee Pond, and restoration of a small pedestrian bridge are all in store for a section of Union County's Rahway River Parkway in Cranford, on the east of the Garden State Parkway.

The improvements include clearing a heavy growth of aquatic weeds and undergrowth from Munsee Pond with a hydro-raking machine. This work is fully funded through the Union County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, under a \$25,725 contract with Aquatic Analysts of Middleville, N.J. Work on the pond is expected to be finished before the end of October. A small bridge over a creek was damaged during Hurricane Irene, and repair work will start within the next two weeks.

## Garwood Lions To Host Parade

GARWOOD – The Garwood Lions Club will host the borough's annual Halloween Parade on Monday, October 31. The parade will step off at 7 p.m. sharp. After assembling at Willow Avenue and Center Street, marchers will proceed to the Lincoln School gymnasium on Second Avenue. Costume judging will take place in the gymnasium.



REGIONAL REMARKS...Mayors and engineers from Cranford, Millburn, Springfield, Union and Winfield Park attend Rahway River Flood Control conference at Union County College on October 21.

## Cranford Birchwood Petition to Stop Over-Development, Flooding

CRANFORD — Andis Kalnins and Lisa Aduabato Nesi, Republican candidates for Cranford Town-



ship Committee, gathered close to 1,000 signatures on a petition addressing the detrimental effects of builder's remedy lawsuits on towns like Cranford. During a tour of the Birchwood site and the surrounding areas, Mr. Kalnins and Ms. Aduabato Nesi presented the petition to Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21, Westfield). The candidates are asking the State Legislature to put an end to the court's ability to determine where, and how many, affordable housing units can be built in a municipality. Two separate developers have sued the Township of Cranford on the premise of helping the town meet its affordable housing obligation.

## Todisco Says Report Was Not Politically Charged

ONE THOUSAND SIGNATURES... Andis Kalnins, left, and Lisa Aduabato Nesi, Cranford GOP council candidates, present a petition with 1,000 signatures from residents to Senator Tom Kean, Jr. The petition opposes over-development in the town forced by COAH litigation. Mr. Kean, who is the Senate Minority Leader, said, "Virtually everyone agrees that New Jersey's affordable-housing system is broken."

Please accept this note in response to Garwood Mayor Quattrocchi's letter printed in the October 20 edition in which she said my council report on the Recreation Commission was politically charged. Per my duty as liaison to the Recreation Commission, I am responsible for attending committee meetings and providing information between the Commission and the Mayor and Council.

Although the Mayor criticized my reading of the letter at the council meeting, I am firm in my decision that the issue needed to be aired in public. My actions resulted in the Mayor attending her first commission meeting on October 19 and launching a discussion of the issues. The dialogue clarified the matter of appointments and communication in general and appeared to avoid any resignations.

My choice to read the letter as I felt appropriate helped raise the concerns and helped move the relationship forward. Those are the actions of a statesman, not a politician.

Sara Todisco, DEM  
Garwood Council Candidate

*Letter to the Editor*

Due to a failure of the 2005 Township Committee to apply for certification under the Council on Affordable Housing mandate, the court was able to impose an arbitrary, punitive judgment to satisfy COAH requirements," the candidates said. The petition seeks to end the subjective assignment of numbers of affordable housing units by the state, and give towns greater protection against builder's remedy lawsuits. Mr. Kalnins and Ms. Aduabato Nesi also are asking that the law be changed to allow consideration of the project's impact on overall municipal services, schools and environmental concerns such as flooding. During their campaign for Cranford Township Committee, Mr. Kalnins and Ms. Aduabato Nesi have brought their petition door-to-door and garnered support from many residents.

"This is clearly not the right place to put a development of this size and density," said Mr. Kalnins. "The schools are already at capacity and there are no plans for infrastructure improvement to support the increase in population and traffic."

"There was inadequate consideration of the environmental issues of the property in the judgment," added Ms. Aduabato Nesi. "This property floods on a regular basis."

## Cranford Officials Pledge To Stop Birchwood Dvpt.

By FRED T. ROSSI

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

CRANFORD — Cranford Township officials say they will seek to prevent the Birchwood Avenue developer from doing any further work on the site after it was discovered that some initial digging had been going on during the past several weeks.

At the township committee's regular meeting on Tuesday, township attorney Daniel McCarthy said it had been found that Paramus-based S. Hekemian Group, which owns the property, had been engaged in "a significant amount of moving earth" at the site, even though no permits allowing such work had been issued. Earlier this week, a judge denied Cranford's request for a temporary restraining order to prevent any further work; Mr. McCarthy said on Tuesday that the township would seek other legal remedies to stop work on the property.

Hekemian bought the property three years ago. This past summer, a court ruled that the developer would be permitted to build 360 housing units despite Cranford's contention that the property lies in a flood zone and could be better utilized as a water-detention basin in the event of a heavy rainstorm similar to last summer's Hurricane Irene.

A number of residents spoke to the council about the work taking place at the property. Most expressed anger and frustration that development appeared to be moving forward and that the township government was not doing enough to stop it. Mayor Daniel Aschenbach defended the municipal government's actions, saying he has been meeting with state Department of Environmental Protection officials about the

matter. "We have to work together as a community to fight this," he said, adding that he fully understood residents' frustrations.

Both the mayor and Mr. McCarthy reminded residents that the township has to follow legal procedures to stop the development. "We just can't go in there and physically stop them," Mr. McCarthy said.

"We're going to have to fight [the developer] all along the way," said the mayor, who criticized the judge for having "cavalierly" denied Cranford's request for a restraining order against Hekemian.

Mr. McCarthy also said it had been discovered that the site had been used as a landfill back in the 1960s or earlier, with long-discarded wood, tires and other debris found. In response to the concern raised by a few residents that soil containing potentially hazardous chemicals may have been disturbed or moved from the site, Mr. McCarthy said the county's HAZMAT (hazardous materials) team had visited the property and found "no threat" to residents in that regard.

At the start of the committee's meeting, the mayor handed out certificates of appreciation to a number of individuals and groups to recognize their efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg, Rep. Leonard Lance, State Sen. Tom Kean, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick and Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz were cited, as were officials from the county and the mayors of several neighboring towns who lent manpower and other support to Cranford as it recovered and cleaned up from the late August storm.

*Probitas Verus Honos*

# Maintaining Taxes Is Among Garwood GOP Hopefuls' Goals

By PAUL J. PEYTON

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader*

GARWOOD – Garwood Republican Borough Council candidates Carol Kearney and Steven Blaufeder, both local business owners, said in a video interview on Monday that keeping municipal taxes under control while maintaining services is their main reason for seeking office.

Mr. Blaufeder has lived in the borough for eight years. He said "out-of-hand" taxes in town was the main issue "which really made me get interested in trying to do something about the town." His business restores and customizes British vintage motorcycles.

"We're doing pretty good and I feel that I can take some of that experience to the town level and in some way, shape or form be able to help with keeping our taxes at a reasonable rate for three years, at least, if I get elected," Mr. Blaufeder said.

Ms. Kearney, who has lived in the borough for five years, has owned a travel agency in Garwood for 11 years, located across from the Garwood Post Office. She previously resided in Union.

Mr. Blaufeder said in his opinion, Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi "has done everything in her power to slash the [municipal] budget within what she can do within the town."

"With this new administration, with the transparency level, we are really making strides to move forward to help the residents in the town," Ms. Kearney added.

Mr. Blaufeder said one of the problems for Garwood's taxes is the county, which, he said, "demands so much in taxes from us." Mr. Blaufeder said he would like to see a coalition of council representatives from multiple towns formed "to actually make a presence at the county level."

"I think that's the only way, at least in my opinion, that the county is really going to start taking notice of some of the issues that

we're dealing with," Mr. Blaufeder said. "As a Republican, personally, I think they are just over spending, over spending, over spending."

On the school board side, he said through the mayor he has heard that the BOE "were not willing to bend on some things" in their budget.

Speaking on behalf of himself and Ms. Kearney, Mr. Blaufeder said he wants to create "more of an open line of communication between the businesses and the government in town."

"And that is something that I feel would help bring businesses in [as well as] keep businesses here," Mr. Blaufeder said. "Being a small business owner, [I know] you can't

have a big business without having a small business first. I, as well as Carol, feel we need to do whatever we can to nurture and help the small businesses in town... And without small business, you'll never have big business."

Ms. Kearney said one of her goals is "to promote and bring new business into the town." She said this could be done by lessening the tax burden on the building owners while bringing more people into the community.

She also wants to keep borough costs down while keeping the level of services up "by exploring the options" for savings in the municipal budget. She also wants to make sure Garwood senior citizens have adequate space for their

meetings.

Speaking on recent mayoral appointments to the recreation commission, which included her son, Ms. Kearney noted that these are volunteer positions. She said her son and another individual volunteered for two vacancies on the commission in July. The commission has seven members and two alternates.

Ms. Kearney said Mayor Quattrocchi did not remove any commissioners when she took office, but that two commissioners resigned later in the year and that the mayor had to fill those openings.

"Unfortunately, they [Democrats] tried to make a political issue out of it and it's not a political

issue because I am not on council," Ms. Kearney explained.

Mr. Blaufeder said appointed positions on borough boards and commissions are "open to anybody in the town" who wants to serve.

"I think it is a resolved issue at this time," Ms. Kearney said of the recreation commission appointments.

Both candidates said if elected they would be readily accessible to residents, as Mayor Quattrocchi is as a full-time mayor through phone, e-mail or just walking around the borough and meeting residents.

The entire interview is available at [www.goleader.com/11\\_election/](http://www.goleader.com/11_election/).

## Garwood Council Approves Extending Pact With UCUA

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE

*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader*

GARWOOD – The borough council Tuesday night voted to approve by a 6-0 vote to extend the contract with the Union County Utilities Authority (UCUA) through 2031. The council heard a presentation from UCUA Interim Executive Director Daniel Sullivan and the authority's attorney, Jonathan Williams of Decotiis, Fitzpatrick and Cole, outlining the effects of a renegotiation of the contract with Covanta that shortens the length of the terms and in effect tacks on two balloon payments towards the end of the contract or the repayment of the debt.

"The municipality is not at risk for that," said Mr. Williams.

"Every debt is paid by the municipalities," resident Bruce Paterson said during the public comment portion of the meeting. "This balloon payment may not pan out."

Councilman Timothy Hak tallied the results of the bulk pickup, which saw a \$1,797 surplus, which he recommended be put toward administration costs and maintenance of the garbage trucks. Eighty-seven

permits were purchased at \$55, of which \$38.76 was the cost incurred by the borough. Tipping fees totaled \$1,103.20, fuel cost totaled \$242.25, manpower cost \$1,921.11 and postage totaled \$105.60.

The sidewalk repair and tree-maintenance project is out for bid, Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi said. Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma said the project is bigger than anticipated and expects the costs to be higher than anticipated. "We'll need to amend the ordinance or take money out of capital," she said.

Ms. Ariemma said the contract is to repair sidewalks, prune trees and cut down healthy shade trees that are raising up sidewalks. The mayor said some trees were hanging over residents' properties, which she said is a potential liability to the borough.

The council also discussed in workshop Councilman Keith Sluka's recommendation to repeal the longevity benefits within the personnel policy. As proposed, current borough employees receiving longevity payments will not receive additional longevity benefits.

"I won't support it," Councilman Victor DeFilippo said. "People signed up for this job with these benefits in mind."

Ms. Ariemma said eight employees, all unprotected non-union workers, receive longevity benefits. These include Ms. Ariemma and her office staff, as well as dispatchers, the court administrator and public works superintendent. The benefits total \$14,689, and the annual per-home cost is \$7.80 at a house assessed at \$100,000.

"You have employees who are valued... How many cents do you want – I'll give it to you," resident Karen McCarrick said.

Chief of Police Bruce Underhill said he considers the longevity benefits "recognition, not a reward" for his service. "They signed on knowing what they were going to get, what they were promised," he said of his staff.

Resident Liz Mathieu supported repealing longevity, and relayed her own experience in losing bonuses in the corporate world.

The governing body decided to move the matter to the agenda for

its next meeting.

After Councilwoman Sara Todisco at the last council meeting read a letter from Recreation Commission Chairman Richard Bree, stating that Mayor Quattrocchi's appointment of Vincent Kearney as a member of the recreation commission was a "political" move and the commission's four recreation commission members had threatened to resign, Mayor Quattrocchi had said in the workshop session that one person had announced resignation and she was awaiting a letter of resignation from that person.

"The overarching issue was communication," Ms. Todisco said.

Ms. Todisco said that since the mayor attended a recreation commission meeting since the last council meeting that "results seemed positive from both sides."

The mayor announced that the Purple Heart memorial was installed and a dedication is planned for Saturday, November 12, at 11 a.m.

Mr. Sluka announced the eighth-grade play, *Guys and Dolls*, will be performed on Friday and Saturday, November 18 and 19.

## Cranford/Garwood/Area News

# Garwood Seniors Gather, Reveal Upcoming Events

**GARWOOD** – The Garwood Senior Citizens Club held its regularly scheduled meeting of October 20 at the Garwood Firehouse, with 59 members in attendance. Grace Chargois, a regular member of the club, celebrates her 101st birthday this month.

The Dooley Colonial Funeral Home in Westfield sponsored lunch for attendees at the meeting and also presented attorney Nick Guiditta, who discussed issues relevant to seniors such as estate planning and guardianship. In a separate presentation, Nick Pettito of World Wide Gold Buyers of Marlboro discussed converting one's old jewelry and coins into cash.

Garwood Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi took questions on issues such as the Social Security increase, the Garwood TeePee, bulk program, the borough newsletter and the Purple Heart monument.

During the club's November 3 meeting, the Garwood Fire Department will present a program on fire prevention. On Wednesday, November 9, club members will travel to Doolan's of Spring

Lake for the "Irish Wake Show, a musical comedy. The bus will leave the Garwood Firehouse at 10:15 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. Food and open bar will be included. This trip also is open to seniors outside of Garwood. For more information, including the cost, call Walter Maszczak at (908) 789-1067.

The Garwood Senior Christmas Party will be at The Westwood in Garwood on Thursday, December 1, from noon to 4 p.m. There will be entertainment, a DJ and food. The cost is \$15 per person. For tickets, call Jennie Browne at (908) 789-0778.

The Garwood Senior Citizens Club meets on the first and third Thursdays of every month at noon at the Garwood Fire House. The next meeting will be held on November 3. Anyone interested in joining may call Patsy at (908) 789-0835 or ask for Dolores if attending a meeting.

## Rummage Sale Set Sunday at Temple

**CRANFORD** – The Sisterhood of Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim will have its fall Rummage Sale this Sunday, October 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be held in the temple, located at 338 Walnut Avenue in Cranford.

Jessica Hoff-Gottschalk, event chairperson, has announced that there will be available for sale men's, women's and children's clothing, as well as household items, bric-a-brac, toys and miscellaneous items. For more information, call the temple at (908) 276-9231 during office hours.



Peter Biedermann

## Peter Biedermann To Play at Library

**GARWOOD** – Guitarist and composer Peter Biedermann will perform at the Garwood Public Library on Tuesday, November 1, at 7 p.m. Based in Morris County, Mr. Biedermann has been performing in a variety of musical formats for more than 35 years. Since 2008 he has played a string of solo performances in libraries, house concerts, churches and other similar listener-friendly venues.

He will play entirely original acoustic instrumental music, performed on various six-, eight- (Baritone) and 12-string guitars in unique tunings accompanied by the subtle use of ambient electronics. Interactive dialogue with the audience will be encouraged.

CDs will be available for sale after the performance. Admission will be free and all are welcome. Registration is required for this event and may be done by calling (908) 789-1670, in person at the library or on the calendar page of the Garwood Library's interactive website, [youseemore.com/garwood](http://youseemore.com/garwood). The library is located at the corner of Third Avenue and Walnut Street, at the back of the Lincoln School complex.

# Union County 4-H Horse Club Seeks Youth Members

**UNION COUNTY** – Union County has a thriving 4-H program with club for every interest from photography and Lego to Colonial living, and there is even a club for horse lovers, too. Right now the Union County 4-H Horse Club is seeking boys and girls in grades 5 through 12 to join in fun activities while learning about their favorite subject.

The club is run by Lora Cherepy of Union and Kathy Ann Krajcik of Mountainside. Lora holds a Bachelor's Degree in Equine Science. Kathy Ann is a long time horse enthusiast and owner. These two volunteers will share their knowledge of horses with club members and prepare them to participate in the annual New Jersey State 4-H Horse Bowl in March.

All 4-H members practice teamwork, organization, communication and many other important skills while exploring a passion in their lives.

The Horse Club meets on the first and third Sunday of each month at the County services in Westfield from 2 to 3:30 p.m. during the school year. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. For more information call (908) 654-9854, or email 4-H secretary Ellen DiIorio at [ediiorio@ucnj.org](mailto:ediiorio@ucnj.org)

[ediiorio@ucnj.org](mailto:ediiorio@ucnj.org) or visit [ucnj.org](http://ucnj.org) to download the form. The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative Extension. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, K-13, on an age-appropriate basis, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

For more information on any

Union County press release, please contact Sebastian D'Elia, Communications Director for the County of Union, or a designee listed at the top of this press release. Please join the County of Union online at [www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org) [www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org), on Facebook at [www.ucnj.org/facebook](http://www.ucnj.org/facebook) [www.ucnj.org/facebook](http://www.ucnj.org/facebook), and on Twitter at [twitter.com/countyofunionnj](http://twitter.com/countyofunionnj).

## Women of Excellence Nominations Sought

**COUNTY** – Area residents still have an opportunity to nominate candidates for the 20th annual Women of Excellence awards program, sponsored by the Union County Commission on the Status of Women and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The award recognizes achievements by women from all walks of life who live or work in Union County.

All Women of Excellence awardees are recognized with a dinner in their honor and receive a certificate of achievement. Nominations may be submitted for any woman, age 21 or older, who has distinguished herself in the arts, community service, business, education, government, law enforcement, medicine and other fields.

To obtain a Women of Excellence Award nomination form, contact Madeline Brigantino at (908) 527-4144 or [mbrigantino@ucnj.org](mailto:mbrigantino@ucnj.org), or visit [ucnj.org](http://ucnj.org) to download the form. Nominations must be post-marked by Thursday, December 1, 2011. The completed form should be mailed to Jane O'Hara, Union County Commission on the Status of Women, 708 Newark Avenue, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

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