



HAPPY CAMPERS...Brownie Troop No. 360 and 445 from Wilson Elementary School in Westfield recently took part in "Mom and Me Overnight Camping" at Camp Hoover in Middleville. The trip included singing songs fireside, making s'mores, crafts, baking pretzels and cookies, and hiking. Pictured, left to right, are: Sarah Chin, Erin Frankel, Samantha Paolotti, Alexandra Colucci, Stephanie Carter, Eliza Bryen, Katie Crowley, Anna O'Brian, Emily Sullivan, Jill Burke and Alyson Palia.

Passport Fees Rise Under New Security Surcharge

COUNTY - A new, federally mandated "Security Surcharge" has increased passport-processing fees by \$12. The fee increases are mandated by the U.S. State Department, according to County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi.

The revised fee schedule will be as follows:

The new fees are adult passport applications, \$97; passport applications for persons under 16, \$82; passport renewal, \$67; and emergency or expedited service, add \$60.

Bramnick to Be Guest On Comcast 'Nitebeat'

AREA - The Comcast Network's Barry Nolan will host a special edition of "Nitebeat" focused on "The Rudest Residents" on Monday, March 28, at 11:30 p.m. on CN8, which will feature a roundtable discussion with political, business and social leaders, including New Jersey Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R-21, Union).

Assemblyman Bramnick recently joined forces with Assemblyman Gordon Johnson (D-37, Bergen) to sponsor a resolution aimed at promoting kindness and civility in the Garden State.

Assemblyman Bramnick and other panelists, including attorney Steve Selzer, who recently authored a book on civility, will discuss this initiative and share anecdotes of outrageous rudeness and examine how a state's "friendliness" impacts tourism and quality of life.

Ms. Rajoppi said the fee would fund multiple security enhancements on the U.S. Passport. The surcharge will also support the cost of upgrading passport delivery from first-class mail to priority mail with delivery confirmation.

In related news, the U.S. State Department is continuing to not accept Hudson County birth certificates as valid proof of citizenship, Ms. Rajoppi announced. However, birth certificates issued by the New Jersey Bureau of Vital Statistics and municipal registrars in Hudson County (except Jersey City, Guttenberg and Secaucus) are acceptable.

"The highly unusual decision was made after a joint investigation by the U.S. State and Justice Departments found evidence of fraud," Ms. Rajoppi said.

Passport application forms may be obtained at the County Clerk's main office in the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth and the Annex at 300 North Avenue East in Westfield. Applications and related information can also be found at http://www.ucnj.org/cycle/passport.html.

The Westfield Annex, the only County Clerk's office in the state that is open during evening hours, is open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The phone number is (908) 654-9859.

The Elizabeth office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; the phone number is (908) 527-4966.



WE CAN COUNT TO 100...Kindergarteners in Patricia Corcoran's class at Franklin Elementary School in Westfield celebrated the 100th day of school by donating 100 cans of food to the local food pantry. This year, the day coincided with Valentine's Day.

New Officers Installed By WF P.E.O. Chapter U

WESTFIELD - P.E.O. Chapter U of Westfield met at the home of Virginia Toenes on March 2 to install a new slate of officers. The co-hostess was Shirley Hooper of Westfield.

Cindy McCracken of Warren named Lee Mumford of Scotch Plains President, while Marge McCormack of Westfield was named Vice President, Kathy Storcks of Westfield was named Treasurer, Lois Patchett of Westfield was named Recording Secretary, Betty Evans of Mountainside was named Corresponding Secretary,

Estelle McKittrick of Edison was named Chaplin and Basking Ridge resident Sue Miller was named Guard.

On March 5, the New Jersey P.E.O. held a Reciprocity Group Meeting at the Presbyterian Church in Toms River. The delegate for Chapter U was Ms. McCracken. The chapter member attending was Ms. Miller.

For more information, please visit www.peointernational.org.

www.goleader.com

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, NEW JERSEY

In accordance with the New Jersey Statutes relating hereto, Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the School District of the Township of Scotch Plains and the Borough of Fanwood has prepared a tentative budget for the school year beginning July 1, 2005 and ending June 30, 2006, which is on file and open to inspections at the Secretary's office in the Administration Offices, Cedar Street and Evergreen Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

It should be observed that expenditures are shown under a GAAP format (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) approved by the New Jersey Department of Education. This format shows the School District's tentative budget by general program rather than in the line item structure, thus providing the reader with a better understanding of how the District plans to utilize community resources.

Public Hearing on said budget will be held at the Administration Offices, Cedar Street and Evergreen Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, at 8:00 p.m. on TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2005.

The tentative budget will be on file and open for examination from the date of this Notice until MARCH 29, 2005 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, on regular school days, in the Office of the Secretary, Administration Offices, Cedar Street and Evergreen Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the core curriculum content standards adopted by the State Board of Education. Information on this budget and the programs and services it provides is available from your local school district.

Anthony Del Sordi, Board Secretary Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education Scotch Plains, New Jersey

The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Publication Date: March 24, 2005

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET STATEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2005-2006

Table with columns: ENROLLMENT CATEGORY, BUDGET CATEGORY, DEBT SERVICE, CAPITAL OUTLAY, and various financial metrics for the school year 2005-2006.

Table with columns: GENERAL FUND GRAND TOTAL, SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, and various financial metrics.

Table with columns: UNION - SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD REG, ADVERTISED RECAPITULATION OF BALANCES, and various financial metrics.

Table with columns: UNION - SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD REG, ADVERTISED PER PUPIL COST CALCULATIONS, and various financial metrics.

The information presented in columns 1 through 3 as well as the related descriptions of the per pupil cost calculations are contained in the 2005 Comparative Spending Guide and can be found on the Department of Education's Internet address: http://www.state.nj.us/education/finance, when available. This publication is available in the board office and public libraries. The same calculations were performed using the 2004-05 revised appropriations and 2005-06 budgeted appropriations presented in this advertised budget.

4A. Advertised Capital Outlay Projects Describe below, by project number, the appropriations for budgeted Capital Outlay Projects including those items related to the district's Long Range Facilities Plan. Include only construction, remodeling, renovations, installation of service systems, land and improvements, and the purchase of buildings. If the project is eligible for a grant, budget only the local share of the project and enter an X in column 4. Do not include equipment. Include all projects budgeted on the transfer lines to Capital Projects fund (8326 and 8335). Complete a detailed budget for each project.

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION/ACTIVITY, PROJECT NUMBER, DOLLAR AMOUNT, ELIGIBLE FOR GRANT, and various financial metrics.