



First Regular Licensed Radio
Broadcast -- August 20, 1920

THE WESTFIELD LEADER

OUR 112th YEAR - ISSUE NO. 50-112

USPS 680020
Periodical - Postage Paid at Westfield, N.J.

Thursday, August 22, 2002

Published Every Thursday Since 1890
www.goleader.com

(908) 232-4407
press@goleader.com

FIFTY CENTS

RETIREES IN WESTFIELD SCHOOLS BENEFIT MORE

Administrators Contracts Compared in WF, SP-F, MS

By LAUREN S. PASS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

In a recent comparison of the contracts for administrators in the school districts of Westfield, Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Mountainside, research has proven that retiring administrators from Westfield receive superior benefits to those in neighboring districts.

The retirement plan states that if an administrator has 25 years of service or more in Westfield, then they are entitled to their pension and benefits. Those who retire with less than 25 years of service, in Westfield, may continue in the district health program with their de-

pendents at their own expense, until they reach the age of Medicare eligibility. Retirees may also participate in prescription and dental coverage at their own expense.

For a full-year administrator who retires between June 30 and September 1 and is used as a consultant receives a \$9,000 a month stipend, for 10- and 10 1/2-month administrators the stipend is \$7,000 a month.

The administrative contract in the Westfield public school district covers the elementary and secondary principals, department chairpersons, district supervisors, department supervisors, elementary

and secondary assistant principals, directors of technology and state/federal program, grants and testing, as well as the supervisor of the maintenance department.

However, the contract excludes the superintendent, assistant superintendent, business administrator/board secretary, assistant business manager, assistant board secretary, assistant superintendent of curriculum instruction and assistant superintendent for student personnel services.

The contract includes provisions for 12-month, 10 and a half-month and 10-month work years.

From 2000 to 2003, all administrators received a 3.9 percent salary increase per year.

Department supervisors who oversee more than one department in a school, or oversee a department in all three secondary schools receives \$1,500 a year.

The board will pay for all administrators and dependents the full premium for CIGNA designated provider program as well as the full premium for Delta Dental, providing \$1,500 per year for each insured person. Any person wishing to enroll in the CIGNA traditional indemnity coverage for health and major medical will pay \$800 if they earn \$100,000 or more, \$700 if they earn between \$70,000 and \$99,999,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



QUIMBY ON THE MEND...The Westfield Department of Public Works and Elizabethtown Water Company came to the rescue following a water main break on Quimby Street late last week.

Borough BOE Learns School Year Changes, Major Construction Delays

By TRACY EVANS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Thursday evening's Mountainside Board of Education meeting opened to a full audience that heard Chief School Administrator Dr. Gerard Schaller introduce a revamped schedule for the 2002-2003 academic year, in light of the continued delay on the

Deerfield and Beechwood School construction projects.

While the opening of the year will be pushed back on Wednesday, September 4, to Monday September 9, the larger problem remains with the process of re-opening Beechwood School to house grades MOPPET through grade 2.

The new plan calls for the temporary housing of all grades at Deerfield schools, until Beechwood School officially opens its doors on Wednesday, November 13.

Anthony Randazzo of Randazzo Builders Inc. explained the frustrated group of parents that there have been "industry-wide delays in obtaining materials." The asbestos abatement project was also noted as a factor that caused an additional 24-day delay.

The Deerfield School abatement was concluded on August 16, with construction left to begin on this past Monday. The September postponement will accommodate this delay in the work, which includes the demolition of the science and math rooms at the location.

In addition, the schools will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, November 11 and 12, as part of the effort to assist a mid-year transition and the delayed reopening of Beechwood. These school days, as well as the preceding weekend, will allow teachers to set up their new classroom locations.

The school board hopes to encourage both students and parents of the younger grades to visit the new schools prior to the move, in order to acquaint themselves with the new surroundings.

Trailers, which will be utilized for two out of the five kindergarten classes, will contain bathrooms and air-conditioning. These facilities, which have been in the possession of the Mountainside school district, have undergone testing for mold spores. The test results were available this past Tuesday.

Adjustments to the school calendar were made along with the new plans for reopening. The addition of a half-day on Monday, December 23, with a 1 p.m. dismissal, was a main part of the discussion.

While board member Frank Geiger questioned the effectiveness of open school days late into the holiday season, Board of Education President Richard Kress reminded those attending the meeting that the dates voted upon at Thursday's meeting will remain "flexible."

The arrangements currently account for the 180-day calendar required by the state, but do not factor in the possibility of inclement weather. If there are any snow days during the school year, the board will act to take away days from either President's Breaks or Spring Breaks, or add onto the end of the school year, which is slated for Monday, June 23.

Dr. Schaller's advised parents in the audience "to watch the calendar carefully" and prepare for the possibility of any changes.

President of the Mountainside Educational Association, Jeanette Maraffi, informed those gathered at Thursday's meeting that Mountainside is not the only school district facing challenges this school year.

"Every district is going through exactly the same thing right now," she said.



Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader

THEY PROTECT US...Samantha Schoenfeld, Meghan, Grace and Jack Pettit of Westfield held a lemonade and cookie stand fundraiser for the police. "They help protect us," Grace said. "It was my sister, Meghan's idea. We're having a lot of business, so that's good. They keep us safe."

Mountainside Council Designates 9/11 As 'Always Remember Day'

By MICHAEL POLLACK
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

The Mountainside Borough Council's monthly meeting of August 20 featured a resolution commemorating the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks on America this coming September 11.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the victims of this hideous and ungodly action as well as to their families and friends," said Mayor Robert Vigilanti.

"The Borough of Mountainside does hereby designate September 11, 2002 as "Always Remember Day" in commemoration of the innocent victims and the heroes of the terror attacks. All persons within the municipality are urged to honor these victims by appropriately displaying our flag of red, white and blue," said Mayor Vigilanti.

Mayor Vigilanti took time out to disclose urgent local news.

He pointed out that the Elizabethtown Water Company has established revised water limitations because of the drought, including certain restrictions on outdoor water use. Lawn watering is strictly prohibited. Trees, plant bedding, and newly-laid sod may be watered; how-

ever, the watering of vegetation other than lawns will continue on an odd/even basis, while the washing of vehicles is forbidden.

Elizabethtown Water Company's customer service can be reached at (800) 272-1325 or accessed via its website at www.etownwater.com.

The council passed several other resolutions during the session. Officials will honor the request from the court administrator to return unclaimed bail to Willie Smith in the amount of \$250. The council also agreed on a request from the finance officer for the insertion of a special item of revenue into the 2002 budget: a municipal alliance grant addressing alcohol and drug abuse in the amount of \$15,285.

The borough also agreed upon the re-appointment of part-time tax collector Patricia Scherer retroactive to January 1, 2000 after an oversight upon completion of the previous unexpired term ending December 31, 1999.

The council awarded the contract for paving improvements on Old Tote Road Section 3 to the lowest bidder: Jenicar Builders of Kearny, in the amount of \$166,359.96.

The borough has also authorized

the sale of three surplus police vehicles. The borough accepted a 1998 BMW motorcycle donated by BMW of North America, LLC and JMK Automotive for police usage.

"We look forward to the BMW riding alongside the Harley Davidson bike. We generously accept this donation," said Councilman Keith Turner.

Mountainside will renew its membership with the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) for a period of three years.

"As you all know, the JIF has been fantastic for the borough since we joined. I would estimate that we've saved probably \$400,000 to \$500,000 in premiums over all the years. It's been tremendous," said Mayor Vigilanti.

The council also revealed that salaries for all non-union employees for the year 2002 will be augmented 3 percent, retroactive to January of 2002. The governing body also authorized the refund of tax sale certificate redemption in the amount of \$3,098.98 to certificate holder Michael Mastellone for TSC 02-03.

In the last resolution passed, the borough made public the liquor license lapse of Carl Simoni of Winston's, who had special requirements to meet in order to maintain his liquor license following its renewal last year. Because the license

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

SHOPPERS HAVE CURTAILED LUXURY ITEM PURCHASES

Several Area Businesses Describe Post-9/11 Economy As Being Tough

By DEBORAH MADISON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Since September 11 and after numerous corporate accounting scandals, the economy has weathered several drastic and unpredictable upsets. The ups and downs of the bear market have sent many industries into a tailspin, with stock prices plummeting and bankruptcies looming.

While some industries have flourished in these uncertain economic times, many are faltering under the weight of escalating costs and lower profit margins. There have been as many opinions in the national media as there are economic forecasters on

where the economy will go from here.

The Westfield Leader took these issues into the trenches, querying local business owners and managers to garner their opinions on how this volatile economic climate has affected their businesses and what they think the future may hold for their sector of the retail market.

Most of the business owners surveyed by The Leader agreed that times could be better. Non-basic necessities or luxury items, such as travel, jewelry, liquor and gifts, have been the hardest hit retail markets, according to several business owners in Westfield and Scotch Plains.

Jeff Arkin, the owner of Adler's Fine Jewelry & Gifts in Westfield, saw a big drop-off after 9/11 and a lot of fluctuations since then, with no appreciable rebound.

"People have less disposable income," Mr. Arkin remarked. "I don't see the economy coming back for a while and believe things will worsen before they get better," he said.

Joe Sherry, owner for 25 years of Distinctive Men's Clothing on Quimby Street in Westfield, has also experienced a very slow summer and has noticed that people are spending less. Mr. Sherry's store sells higher-end men's clothing, which he said is a luxury item, more than a clothing necessity.

"It's been a combination of tougher economic times and cultural changes," Mr. Sherry suggested. "There's a lot more casual dress and men don't wear suits as much as they used to," he stated. "And, people are buying much more on credit than before."

Greg Natic, the owner of Scotch Plains Music Center, agreed that luxury items, such as music lessons and high-end instruments, are the first to get eliminated from tight household budgets in tough economic times.

"I haven't really noticed any negative effects, but that's probably because it hasn't had time to trickle down yet," Mr. Natic suggested. "Part of the problem is that we live in one of the most expensive states in the country. My costs don't diminish even if my profits do."

Laura Byrd, the manager of The Liquor Basket in Westfield, also has seen a drop off in sales from what the previous owners predicted for this time of year.

"Liquor is a luxury item and if people are losing their jobs, the luxury items will be the first to go," she said.

Ray Pardon, the owner of Nuts N' Plenty in Scotch Plains, had to take drastic measures to adapt to the sluggish economy. This week, he will be moving his entire store down the block to share quarters with The Apple Blossom Shop in order to cut costs by sharing the overhead. Mr. Pardon said that his sales are off this year by more than 30 percent.

"I don't think that the local politicians realize how difficult it's been for our local businesses," Mr. Pardon remarked. "They could have done more to develop downtown properties more quickly to draw more shoppers."

In addition to too few customers, Mr. Pardon attributed the slowdown to corporations spending less on his products.

KMG Computers, which is located on East Second Street in Scotch Plains, has also been struggling with the tough economy.

Owner Keith Quezara told The Leader, "Some months have been good, while other months have been terrible," adding that many people are attempting to upgrade the computers they have rather than buy new ones.

However, Crystal McCormick, the manager of Westfield's Lancaster, Ltd., claimed that she has not seen any change in their balance sheets from last year. Lancaster sells greeting cards and small gift items.

"We're completely even with last year's sales," Ms. McCormick stated. "I think September 11 brought people closer and they're buying more cards and gifts than before," she said.

David Martone, one of the owners of Classic Thyme in Westfield, agreed with Ms. McCormick. He said that his sales were steady and ahead of last year's.

"Our type of business doesn't seem to suffer in bad economic times," he stated. "We have a mix of high-end items and moderately priced kitchen necessities, making us recession-proof."

Juxtapose Gallery Proprietor Gerri Gildea, whose store sells fine art and frames, said that business has been good.

"We're related to the entertainment industry and home furnishings," Ms. Gildea said. "During times of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

PAGE INDEX

Regional..... 2	Obituary..... 8	Real Estate 12
Editorial..... 4	Education..... 7	A&E..... 15
Community ... 6	Sports..... 9	

CYAN YELLOW MAGENTA BLACK



A WET SATURDAY IN SCOTCH PLAINS... Fire departments from various parts of New Jersey represented the spirit of the state's bravest during the Scotch Plains Volunteer Fire Department's "Wetdown" on Saturday. Fire crews kept crowds of attendees cool on the scorching summer day, and the Union County Police & Fire Pipes and Drums Corps kept the beat throughout the evening. The Scotch Plains Fire Department, Engine No. 23, was presented with a "Wetdown Participation Award." See Page 4's "Straight On" column for more details.

BOE Disagrees with Councils Over 'Field of Dreams' Project

By JENNIFER PINTO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS -- The "Field of Dreams" project at Park Middle School in Scotch Plains will lead to the creation of two future baseball fields as opposed to three, the number originally agreed to by the governing bodies of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

At the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education's public meeting, held last Thursday, the board opted for Concept Two. This involves a configuration of two baseball fields, as opposed to Concept One, which allows for three baseball fields.

The Shared Services Committee, consisting of three members each from Scotch Plains, Fanwood and the local school board, has appointed Killam Associates to redevelop the Park Middle School field.

A \$300,000 grant, approved by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, which matched contributions of \$100,000 each from Scotch Plains, Fanwood, and the school board, brought a total of \$600,000 to the project.

The board's review of the "Field of Dreams" status report was the final topic of discussion on its agenda.

Business Administrator/Board Secretary Anthony Del Sordi asked board members if they would agree on a design for the facility, so that Killam Associates can move along with the project. That evening, the board approved Concept Two in a 6-1 vote (board member Thomas Russo voted against it).

No representatives from Killam Associates were present at the public meeting. Board President Lance Porter and board member Craig Nowlin were also absent.

On Friday, Mayor Louis Jung of Fanwood told *The Westfield Leader* he had not heard about the board's recent decision and that his council made its decision based on Killam Associates' recommendation.

The *Leader* also spoke to Mayor Martin Marks of Scotch Plains on Monday regarding the board's recent decision. Mayor Marks, who at that point had not spoken to any board members, stated, "Killam made the recommendation that the three fields (Concept One) was feasible."

"Another issue, especially on Park fields, is that they have been over-used," Mayor Marks said. He mentioned how three fields would help avoid the problem of overuse, which tends to lead to major maintenance problems.

Lighting for the field was briefly discussed, but due to the high cost of lighting, no decisions were reached. It is also likely that all games will be

scheduled by recreation officials using new and efficient computer software provided through a Union County REDI (Regional Efficiency Development Incentive) grant.

Under other board business, Mr. Del Sordi gave the board and the public a brief construction update. "I visited all the school sites today; we are very confident that we will be ready when school starts," Mr. Del Sordi said.

Economy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trouble, people have a strong nesting instinct. Surrounding themselves with beautiful things helps their mental health.

"Despite these uncertain economic times, many people have a 'let's-get-it-now' mentality," Ms. Gildea suggested.

Laura Sulovski, a travel agent for 25 years and owner of Key Travel in Scotch Plains, told *The Leader* that this past spring was not the best season, but much better than the drastic slowdown seen immediately after 9/11.

"September 11 was a terrible shock to the industry," she said. However, Ms. Sulovski said that people have gotten over their fear of flying and the numbers of people traveling have returned to normal. She said that the Internet has had more of a detrimental effect on the travel agency industry than anything else.

"There's a misconception that there are better deals on the Internet," she said. "There are great deals to be had, but you won't know this if you only shop on the Internet," she added. Business flights are booked up and economy class flights are also full, she mentioned.

Real estate has been one of the few industries to flourish during these economic upheavals.

According to Dom Lamastra of ERA Suburban Realty in Scotch Plains, the lower-priced housing market is booming with no signs of slowing down.

"Typically, we see a slow down in the market in July and August," he said. "This has held true for houses over \$400,000, but under that price range remains in high demand," he related.

His brother and business partner, Paul Lamastra, added that houses between \$175,000 and \$300,000 are still flying off the market. He attributed this to the lower interest rates creating a huge incentive to buy a home now and the influx of new people into this area.

One thing that all of the retail owners and managers agreed on is that local businesses need the support of local customers to stay afloat and thrive.

Adler's owner, Mr. Arkin, said that it was vitally important for homeowners to recognize that the value of their homes is directly related to the success of their towns' businesses.

Most of the private storeowners also stressed that the personal service which they could provide is unmatched by the big chain stores or Internet shopping.

According to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol Choye, registration for Park Middle School will most likely take place at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, due to extensive construction at Park School.

Dr. Choye also stated that the anticipated fifth grade orientation would be canceled and incorporated into the morning portion of the first day of school on Monday, September 9. Parents will receive letters in the mail in light of this change.

A recap of the Parent Teacher Association Safety Report highlighted safety conditions and behaviors. Mr. Del Sordi listed some of the safety objectives, including installing intercom phone systems, adding more staff members and installing additional outdoor lighting. Many of these issues will be discussed in the student handbook that will be distributed during the first week of school.

Resolve Community Counseling Services, Inc. presented its annual report to the board for renewal of contact services for September 2002 through the end of August 2003.

According to Resolve's Dr. Lydia Abrams, Resolve has increased its student referrals up to 26 percent, an 8 percent increase from the previous year. Resolve will provide most services during school hours, but according to Dr. Abrams, students can also seek counseling through Resolve after school and during the summer months, free of charge.

Resolve advises students on academic and social issues, as well as such topics as depression, sexual activity and drugs. Resolve also counseled a few students who were affected by the events of September 11. The board approved the Resolve contract in the amount of \$140,336.85.

In addition, the board approved submission of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) grant in the amount of \$264,120; a total of \$545,345 was awarded to Kyle Conti Construction for improvement of the high school varsity baseball and softball fields, and the Music Shop of Boonton has been awarded the bid for \$27,828 for new musical instruments.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held at 7:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 29, in the administration building.

Borough Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was not actively used by June 30, and the conditions were not met, Mr. Simoni's license will be lost indefinitely.

Following the passing of the resolutions, the council approved the raffles license for Community Access Unlimited of Elizabeth, for off-premises prize raffles, and also gave the green light to the appointment of Jason Parish to the Mountainside Volunteer Fire Department.

Finally, Councilman Glenn Mortimer will be wed a week from Friday.

"Congratulations and may God bless you and your bride to be," said Mayor Vigilanti.

- Elegant Accommodations
- Efficiencies for Long Term Stays
- In-Room Coffee Makers, Hair Dryers, Iron and Board
- Kitchenettes Available
- Laundry Facilities
- Club Room Available for Meetings
- Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Chez Catherine, *** French Restaurant

Westfield Inn
435 North Avenue West, Westfield, NJ
Minutes from the Garden State Parkway
908-654-5600 • www.boylehotels.com

SP Mayor Marks Says Village Green May Be Renamed For Augustine

By FRED ROSSI
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS -- Alan Augustine served Scotch Plains as a long-time member of the Township Council and as Mayor. He represented the area as a member of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and then as a State Assemblyman. Now, Scotch Plains is close to recognizing Mr. Augustine, who died in June of 2001, by renaming the Village Green at the corner of Park Avenue and Front Street in his honor.

After Mr. Augustine's death, recalled Mayor Martin Marks, township officials met with Mr. Augustine's wife, Jean, and "we told her we'd really like to remember him in some significant way."

Mayor Marks told *The Westfield Leader* that Mrs. Augustine had said that one of her husband's favorite places in Scotch Plains was the Village Green.

Mr. Augustine had been instrumental in securing state Green Acres funding for the development of the park.

Though nothing has been officially decided, Mayor Marks said it is possible that the renaming of the park will occur on Scotch Plains Day on Saturday, September 28.

Mrs. Augustine also told township officials last summer that it had always been her husband's hope that a fountain could be placed on the Village Green. And the township is moving forward on fulfilling that wish.

In recent weeks, letters have been sent to Mr. Augustine's former colleagues and associates in Union County and throughout New Jersey soliciting donations to help pay for a fountain that will ultimately be placed in the center of the future Augustine Park.

Saying that he expects the fountain's installation to take place sometime next spring, Mayor Marks reported that donations "are coming in quite nicely."

All decisions concerning the park and the fountain are being handled by the Augustine Park Committee, whose members include Mrs. Augustine and former Mayors Geri Samuel, Joan Papen and William McClintock, Jr., who serves as Chairman.

In recent months, the council has reminded residents that their donations toward the fountain are also welcome.

Checks payable to Township of Scotch Plains Augustine Park can be sent to the Municipal Building at 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, 07076.



Alan Augustine

2002-2003 Calendar Of School Events

Mailed to Parents
WESTFIELD -- The 2002-2003 Westfield Public Schools Calendar of Events and Directory of School Information was mailed to each school family.

The calendar, which includes a comprehensive listing of all school activities, has been published by the Westfield Board of Education for the past 30 years as a service to the staff and community.

A limited number of extra copies of the calendar are available to the public.

Requests can be made at the schools or at the Office of School/Community Relations at 302 Elm Street in Westfield.

Borough BOE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While words of similar circumstances did not alleviate the problem at hand, Councilman Keith Turner, who spoke on behalf of Mountainside Mayor Robert Vigilanti and the Mountainside Borough Council, presented a more comforting piece of news.

He said that the borough will offer engineering resources and sub-code officials toward the facility plan, an effort that was accepted by the board to hopefully avoid further delay.

The board adjourned into an executive session to meet with the contractor and architects of The Musial Group, which were on hand for the meeting.

In addition to other new considerations, the contractor faces a \$1,000 fine for each day beyond the Sunday, August 25, contract date where work is incomplete.

Information from the school board describing the alterations to the 2002-2003 school year were mailed out to parents and students this past Tuesday. A listing of each student's teacher and classroom assignments will be made available during the final week in August, and again in October in response to the transition to the Beechwood School for the younger grades.

Administrators

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

or \$600 if they earn \$0 to \$69,999.

Each administrator is also eligible for a grant of \$2,000 but a \$4,000 limit to meet reasonable travel or other expenses occurred outside of school hours.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood public school contract for administrators includes all principals and assistant principals for elementary, middle and high schools.

Administrators are allowed \$14,000 annually for tuition reimbursement.

The board will provide and pay for the cost of health and dental insurance. For those who retire after 20 years of service to Scotch Plains-Fanwood will receive 100 percent coverage paid for the first year, with board payment decreasing by 10 percent each year, and 50 percent paid by the board from the sixth year of retirement on.

Administrators also receive 25 days of paid vacation per year, and 30 days after six years of service, as well as 13 paid holidays.

The base salary for an administrator in the year 2002-2003 is \$73,807. There is also longevity increases for employees hired before July 1, 1997 of \$750 per year after 15 years of service, seven of which served in Scotch Plains-Fanwood, and \$3,500 per year after 25 years of service, 13 of which in the district. They also receive an additional \$550.

Mountainside has separate contracts for the chief school administrator, principal of Deerfield School, the curriculum coordinator/supervisor of Deerfield School, and the supervisor of special services/learning consultant of Deerfield School.

All administrators receive the same health and dental benefits as provided to the teachers of Mountainside. Health benefits are provided by Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

The principal of Deerfield School is salaried at \$94,500 for the year 2002-2003. The principal receives 20 vacation days per year.

The salary of Dr. Gerard Schaller, Chief School Administrator, salary is determined by the school board and is increased each year based on performance. He receives 13 sick days and 20 vacation days per year. He also receives \$2,000 annually in automobile travel expenses incurred.

The curriculum coordinator/supervisor is salaried at \$82,500 for the year 2002-2003. She also receives 20 vacation days and 15 holidays per year.

The supervisor of special services/learning consultant is salaried at \$82,950 for the year 2002-2003. The supervisor also receives 20 vacation days and 15 holidays per year.

Novartis Employees Volunteer Time at Children's Specialized

WESTFIELD -- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation recently held its annual day of service, Community Partnership Day, at its headquarters sites in East Hanover and Summit.

On this day, company employees are invited to volunteer for nonprofit community agencies on company time, either at the agencies' facilities or during activities held on behalf of the agencies at

Novartis. Thirty Novartis volunteers, among them residents of Westfield and Fanwood, were hosted by Children's Specialized Hospital in Fanwood for Community Partnership Day.

There, they assisted with the school's annual Spring Carnival, helping children with relay races, games, artwork and snacks.



NEWFOUND FRIENDS... Clara Karnish of Westfield, a Senior Systems Consultant at Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, enjoys a coloring activity with Juan, a student at Children's Specialized Hospital's Fanwood facility. Novartis employees volunteered at the annual Spring Carnival there as part of their company's Community Partnership Day.

WESTFIELD POLICE BLOTTER

- WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7**
- Jewelry and a pair of skis, valued at a total of approximately \$2,500, were reported stolen from a Moss Avenue residence during a burglary.
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 8**
- Steven Muzeni, 19, of Westfield was arrested in the 100 block of Marlboro Street and charged with possession of under 50 grams of suspected marijuana. He was released with a court summons.
- FRIDAY, AUGUST 9**
- A resident of the 200 block of Ross Place reported that the passenger side mirror on her motor vehicle was smashed. The incident occurred on the same street where the victim lives.
 - A one-foot by four-foot glass window was broken during the night at a business located in the 700 block of Central Avenue.
- SATURDAY, AUGUST 10**
- Two New Jersey license plates were reported stolen from the parking lot of a local recreation facility.
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 11**
- Jonathan J. Singhbawa, 19, of Westfield was charged with resisting arrest after he allegedly attempted to elude police who were seeking to take him into custody on a \$180 contempt of court warrant issued by the Westfield Municipal Court. Singhbawa was apprehended at his home and was later released with a summons.
- MONDAY, AUGUST 12**
- A Cumberland Avenue resident reported the unauthorized use of her debit card, whereupon \$300 was withdrawn from her bank account.
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 13**
- Three juveniles reported the theft of their bicycles, which had been chained to a lamppost in front of the Rialto Theatre on East Broad Street. The total value of the missing bicycles is \$2,250.
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 15**
- A Carleton Road resident reported that someone entered his locked motor vehicle, which was parked in his driveway, and removed a Cobra radar detector.
 - Brandon Fooster, 27, of Westfield was arrested in the 200 block of Cacciola Place and charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana. He was released on his own recognizance with a summons.
- FRIDAY, AUGUST 16**
- Johana A. Avendano, 21, of Elizabeth was arrested and charged with theft, theft by deception and shoplifting, based on a complaint from a North Avenue store. The case involved \$580 worth of merchandise and currency, according to police. She was issued summonses and released on her own recognizance.
 - Frank Linda, 40, of Watchung was arrested at Lamberts Mill Road and Warren Street and charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. He was also charged with refusal to submit to a breathalyzer test and subsequently released.
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 18**
- Paola S. Possoperez, 25, of Newark was arrested at Central and Ayliffe Avenues and charged with driving while intoxicated. She was later released.

Donate Your Car

American Red Cross
Westfield / Mountainside Chapter

Help Can't Wait
Call: 1-888-999-HELP (4357)
One Call Does It All

Tax Deductible • Free Towing
Any Make / Any Model • Cars Trucks & Vans
*Some restrictions apply.

Advertising supplied by SAS

Summer Special
\$500 OFF Any upgrade

20x30 Canterbury \$129 / Mo
24x28 Windsor \$139 / Mo

7.99% Financing for qualified buyers

Now accepting orders for FALL construction!

28x30 Oxford \$164 / Mo

800-722-0466

2 Car Starting at \$79.00 / Month! Visit us on the web at sturdybuilt.com

STURDY-BUILT

Reservations 1-800-688-7474

• Elegant Accommodations

• Efficiencies for Long Term Stays

• In-Room Coffee Makers, Hair Dryers, Iron and Board

• Kitchenettes Available

• Laundry Facilities

• Club Room Available for Meetings

• Complimentary Continental Breakfast

• Chez Catherine, *** French Restaurant

Westfield Inn
435 North Avenue West, Westfield, NJ
Minutes from the Garden State Parkway
908-654-5600 • www.boylehotels.com

As Individual As Westfield Itself...