

Joseph J. Powers, 80, Army Veteran; Former Scotch Plains Police Chief

Joseph J. Powers, 80, of Silver Ridge Park West, Berkeley Township, died on Wednesday, October 2, at the Community Medical Center in Toms River.

Born in Newark, he had lived in Scotch Plains prior to coming to Silver Ridge Park West.

Mr. Powers was a former Chief of the Scotch Plains Police Department, where he had been employed for 30 years before his retirement in 1976. He subsequently served as director of police training in Union County.

He was a United States Army veteran of World War II and the

James T. Boyle, Sr.

James T. Boyle, Sr. of Richmond, Va. died on Thursday, October 3, at his home.

Born in Bayonne, he had been a resident of Avon-by-the-Sea before relocating to Richmond.

Mr. Boyle attended St. Vincent's Elementary School, Holy Family Academy of Bayonne and Seton Hall University in South Orange.

He was a United States Army veteran of World War II.

He was a communicant of St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church in Avon-by-the-Sea.

Mr. Boyle was predeceased by his brother, Vincent Boyle, earlier this year.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret "Peggy" Carson Boyle; a son, James T. Boyle, Jr. of Cary, N.C.; a daughter, Mary Elizabeth Hansen of Richmond, Va., and five grandchildren.

A Mass was offered on Monday, October 7, at St. Elizabeth's Church. Interment was private.

Arrangements were handled by the O'Brien Funeral Home in Wall. Memorial donations may be made to Msgr. Thomas Kleissler Renew International, 1232 George Street, Plainfield 07062.

October 10, 2002

Michael P. Stoffer, 66, Accountant; Had Formerly Worked For AT&T

Michael P. Stoffer, 66, of Mountainside died on Saturday, October 5, at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Born in Jersey City, he had lived in Hillside prior to moving to Mountainside in 1969.

An accountant for Montclair State University for seven years, Mr. Stoffer had previously been an accounting manager with AT&T, where he was employed for 35 years.

He was awarded a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and a master's degree in business administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

He was active with the Little League and Pop Warner football league, both in Mountainside, as well as with New Jersey Right-to-Life.

Korean Conflict, having served as a Staff Sergeant.

He was a member of the Tri-State and the Union County police chiefs organizations, the New Jersey Association of Police Chiefs and Policemen's Benevolent Association Local No. 87 of Scotch Plains. Mr. Powers also belonged to American Legion Post No. 209 in Scotch Plains.

Surviving are his wife, Evelyn Moran Powers; a son, Joseph J. Powers, Jr. of Scotch Plains; a brother, Lawrence Powers of Delaware; three sisters, Catherine Meyer of Pine Beach, Jean Iaione of Fanwood and Fran Keller of Arizona, and four grandchildren.

The funeral took place on Saturday, October 5, at the Quinn-Hopping Funeral Home of Toms River. A Mass followed at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Toms River. Entombment was at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Toms River.

October 10, 2002

John P. Marciniak, 80

John P. Marciniak, 80, of Bridgewater died on Saturday, October 5, at the Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Harrison, he had lived in Westfield before recently moving to Bridgewater.

Prior to retiring in 1985, Mr. Marciniak had been a coach cleaner for NJ Transit. Earlier, he had been a truck driver for Railway Express in Harrison for 30 years.

He was predeceased by his wife, Evelyn Burns Marciniak.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, October 11, at the Higgins Home for Funerals in Watchung. Entombment will be at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington.

Visitation will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. today, Thursday, October 10, at the funeral home.

October 10, 2002

More Community News

Children's Author to Visit Westfield Library Oct. 26

WESTFIELD — Children's author Suzy Kline will visit the Westfield Memorial Library on Saturday, October 26.

During programs at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., she will share her experiences as an author, introduce her newest books and involve audience members in a Reader's Theater, where they can take part in their favorite scenes. The program is designed for children in grades 2 and up, as well as adults.

An autograph session is scheduled after each presentation. Books will be available for purchase or attendees may bring their own copies of Ms. Kline's books.

Tickets are required for admission and will be available at the Children's Desk beginning Saturday, October 12, for Westfield Library cardholders. Any remaining tickets will be offered to the general public starting Saturday, October 19.

The library is located at 550 East Broad Street. For further information, please call the Children's Department at (908) 789-4090.

Newcomers Announce Halloween Celebration

WESTFIELD—The Children's Committee of the Newcomers Club of Westfield has organized a Halloween party on Friday, October 25, at 10 a.m. at Parker Greenhouses, 1325 Terrill Road in Scotch Plains.

Activities will include a hayride, pumpkins to decorate and a straw fort in which to play, along with cider and treats.

The committee also plans to meet Thomas the Tank Engine at the Imaginarium toy store on Central Avenue in Westfield tomorrow, Friday, October 11, at 10 a.m. Brunch will immediately follow at the Westfield Diner on North Avenue.

— Obituaries —

DEATH NOTICE

Anna T. Lanza, 87, Retired Teacher; UNICO Volunteer Helped Immigrants

Anna T. Lanza, 87, of Westfield died on Wednesday, October 2, at Rahway Hospital in Rahway.

Born in West Orange, she lived in Westfield since 1939.

A teacher, she taught in Newark, at South Plainfield High School and also tutored privately before retiring many years ago.

In 1965, she graduated summa cum laude from Seton Hall University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Romance Languages.

Ms. Lanza was a longtime member of the Westfield Civic Club and was a board member of the Westfield Community Center.

She was a member of the Westfield chapter of UNICO, where she volunteered her time teaching English and providing translation services for recent immigrants.

In particular, she was tireless in her efforts to help and encourage people who wished to become naturalized American citizens.

Ms. Lanza was a communicant of

the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, where she served as a sacristan, a choir member and a member of the parish council for many years.

She was predeceased by a sister, Julia Richelieu, and by a brother, Andrew Lanza.

Surviving are three brothers, Frank Lanza and Peter Lanza, both of Westfield, and Joseph Lanza of Arizona; a sister, Josephine Gonella of Westfield; 13 nieces and nephews and many beloved great-nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Monday, October 7, at the Holy Trinity Church. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

October 10, 2002



Anna Lanza with her brother, Peter Lanza, in the late 1940s.

Marie McCloskey, 80, Had Owned Hotel; Was Founding Parishioner of St. Helen's

Marie "Betty" Moore McCloskey, 80, of Westfield died on Sunday, October 6, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Newark, she had lived in Maplewood, Asbury Park and Elizabeth before moving to Westfield in 1966. She was also a seasonal resident of Belmar for many years.

Mrs. McCloskey had been a child care provider for youngsters in their homes for the past 25 years, as well as at two area dance studios, Rogers in Westfield and Yvette's in Cranford.

During the early 1950s, she and her husband were the proprietors of the Lake Park Hotel in Asbury Park.

Mrs. McCloskey graduated from St. Vincent's Academy in 1941 and from the Berkeley Secretarial School, both in Newark.

She was a founding parishioner of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, where she taught Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes.

She additionally was a volunteer

in the Children's Wing of St. Michael's Hospital in Newark.

Mrs. McCloskey was active in the St. Vincent's Alumni, the Akempis Society and the American Contract Bridge League. She also assisted with the Westfield Women's Club Friday Night Bridge games for many years.

She was predeceased by her husband of 51 years, James W. McCloskey, in 2001, and by a son, Dennis McCloskey, in 1971.

Surviving are two sons, Kevin McCloskey of Kutztown, Pa. and Brian McCloskey of Hoboken; a daughter, Maryann McCloskey, and two grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 12, at St. Helen's Church. Interment will be at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Visitation will take place today, Thursday, October 10, from 7 to 9 p.m.; tomorrow, Friday, October 11, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. and Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

Memorial donations may be made to a favorite charity.

October 10, 2002

William Heim, 89, Founded Law Firm; Was Judge and Distinguished Rotarian

William V. Heim, 89, of Westfield died on Tuesday, October 1, at The Rehabilitation Institute of Morristown.

Born in Elizabeth, he had lived in Roselle for 14 years before moving to Westfield in 1960.

Mr. Heim founded the firm of Heim and Barisonok in Roselle and practiced law there for 60 years before retiring five years ago.

He graduated from Rutgers University in 1937 with an LL.B. degree and was admitted to the New Jersey Bar Association in 1938.

He was a United States Army veteran of World War II, serving as a sergeant with the 13th Armored Division in Central Europe and the Rhineland.

A judge on the Roselle Municipal Court for seven years in the 1950s, Mr. Heim was a member of the New Jersey State and the Union County Bar Associations.

He was the director and the general counsel of the Roselle Savings and Loan Association for many years. Additionally, he was a member and

former President of the Roselle-Roselle Park Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International.

Mr. Heim was the former President of the Board of Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth. He was also a former trustee of the Prudent Fund for the Blind in Elizabeth.

He was a former Judge Advocate for Unity Post No. 229 of the American Legion of Roselle.

Mr. Heim was a member of Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield.

He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Heim, in 1989.

Surviving are two daughters, Mary Louise Heim of Westfield and Judith A. Heim Ross of Watchung.

Funeral services were held on Friday, October 4, at the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth. Interment took place at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

Memorial donations may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth.

October 10, 2002

Joseph Ruffa, 74, Public Accountant; Served in Navy During World War II

Joseph D. Ruffa, 74, of Scotch Plains died on Wednesday, October 2, at his home.

Born in Raritan, he had lived in Plainfield before moving to Scotch Plains 45 years ago.

Mr. Ruffa was a self-employed public accountant with offices in Highland Park and Scotch Plains.

He served in the United States Navy during World War II.

He was a graduate of Somerville High School and Rider College, where he received his degree in accounting.

Surviving are his wife, Patricia Marcotte Ruffa; two daughters, Nancy Ruffa Colvin of Morristown

and Suzanne E. Ruffa of Manhattan; a brother, Gregory Ruffa of Scotch Plains; two sisters, Rosemary Tarulli of Scotch Plains and Carmella Vovinkel of Whitehouse Station, and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Monday, October 7, at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield. Interment followed at Hillside Cemetery in Scotch Plains.

The Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood, was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Make a Wish Foundation, 1034 Salem Road, Union 07083.

October 10, 2002

Charles Gurske, 95, Office Manager; Was Member of Holy Name Society

Charles A. Gurske, 95, of Scotch Plains died on Friday, October 4, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Jersey City, he lived in Scotch Plains since 1950.

Mr. Gurske had been employed as an office manager in the warranty claim department of Auto Sport Car Dealership in Somerville until 11 years ago.

Earlier, he had been senior assistant buyer for American Tobacco Company in New York for 35 years, retiring from that position 30 years ago. He had additionally worked for the Delmonico Hotel in New York City.

He was a member of the Holy Name Society at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, 2032 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains 07076; the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 325, Scotch Plains 07076 or Hope Worldwide, 12 Essex Street, Andover, Mass. 01810.

He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Satonak Gurske; a son, Thomas Gurske, and three brothers, John Gurske, Joseph Gurske and Theodore Gurske.

Surviving are a son, Robert Gurske; a daughter, Iona G. Sewell, and six grandchildren.

A Mass was offered on Monday, October 7, at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, following the funeral from the Rossi Funeral Home in Scotch Plains. Interment took place at St. Gertrude's Cemetery in Colonia.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, Attention: Father Hummel, 2032 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains 07076; the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 325, Scotch Plains 07076 or Hope Worldwide, 12 Essex Street, Andover, Mass. 01810.

October 10, 2002

WACC Honors Mr. Lyon As Employee of the Year

WESTFIELD — Thomas Lyon, an Automotive Specialist and Estimator for Sevell's Auto Body Company, will be honored by the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (WACC) as Employee of the Year at its 54th Anniversary and Faith In Westfield Awards Ceremony and Dinner to be held at the Primavera Regency, owned by the Ferraro Family, on November 4.

An automotive enthusiast, Mr. Lyon

began his career in the army and worked in various areas of the automotive industry. Furthering his training at Sevell's, he has continued to build on his knowledge of the automotive industry and repair work for the past 15 years. As the official estimator of car work repairs, he is responsible for car repair estimates on any car, foreign or domestic.

Mr. Lyon has been married for 10 years and has one daughter and two grandchildren.

The Faith in Westfield Awards Ceremony and Dinner is open to the public. The event is scheduled for 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and features a cocktail hour, hors d'oeuvres, a full dinner and entertainment. Dress is black tie optional. If you would like more information on this event sponsored by the WACC, please call (908) 233-3021.

Choir Concert to Laud Professor Albert Cary

SCOTCH PLAINS — The St. John's Inspirational Choir of St. John's Baptist Church in Scotch Plains will honor its musical director, Professor Albert Cary, this Sunday, October 13, at 4 p.m. with a concert featuring the choir and several guest artists who have performed with him. He will be assisted by Belinda Smiley.

A native of Plainfield, Professor Cary studied at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. For over 34 years, he has directed the Gospel Chorus, the Young People's Choir and, presently, the Inspirational Choir.

The public is invited to attend. St. John's Baptist Church is located at 2387 Morse Avenue in Scotch Plains. For more information, please call (908) 232-6972.

Seminar to Offer Tips On Getting Published

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library will host a free seminar by author Mark Csordos on "How to get your manuscript published" on Thursday, October 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the downstairs conference room.

An author, speaker and entrepreneur, Mr. Csordos founded a customer service company, C&S Mystery Shoppers, and counts among his clients Pizza Hut, Wendy's, the New Jersey State Lottery and Outback Steakhouse.

The seminar will address motivation for writing; the potential need for agents; the pros and cons of using a publisher versus self-publishing; marketing works through publicity and the media, and various other topics such as book signings and finding a distributor. The Scotch Plains Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.



AWARD WINNER...Tom Lyon will receive the "Employee of the Year Award" at the 54th Annual Faith In Westfield Awards Ceremony and Dinner.

WNC to Hold Street Fair on South Avenue

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Neighborhood Council (WNC) Street Fair on South Avenue will be held at the South Avenue Train station on Saturday, October 12 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a rain date one week later.

For more information regarding the fair, please contact Ezella Johnson, Executive Director of the WNC at (908) 233-2772.

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