



Photo courtesy of Vince Lehotsky
CLEANUP CREW...Debris is the prize as scout volunteers cleanup Rahway River in the Clark vicinity last Saturday. Pictured, left to right, are: Joe Seebode of Cub Scout Pack No. 30, Pete Buckley of Boy Scout Troop No. 3300, county representative Jim Lynch, Steve Yafchak of the Rahway River Association, Scott Douglas of Winfield Schools and Bob Spiegel of the Edison Wetlands Association.

Center For Hope Commences Campaign For 'Hope Village'

SCOTCH PLAINS — Judge John "Jack" Boyle, Chairman of the Center For Hope's Capital Campaign, has formally announced that the organization is conducting a Capital Campaign to raise \$10,144,000 to construct "Hope Village" in Scotch Plains.

"To date, we have raised \$6.7 million, which is 66 percent of our campaign goal," said Judge Boyle. The campaign must raise another \$3.5 million to provide complete funding for the project.

Robert Coloney, President of Center For Hope, said, "Due to lack of bed space, we could not provide residential hospice care for over 250 people last year. Our new facility will allow us to care for an additional 110 people annually."

A Capital Campaign Leadership Committee has been established in order to raise awareness of the project and raise the balance of the funds. In addition to Judge Boyle, the committee includes Gerard "Jay" Boyle, June Fischer, Michael Lapolla, John Malcolm, Pamela McClure, Jim O'Brien, Mary Ruotolo, Alfred Sauer

and Robert Sloan.

"A project of this scope requires extraordinary commitments from the community, and it is at this time we ask for those who wish to make a difference to step forward and offer their assistance," added Judge Boyle.

Established in 1983 by the late Peggy Coloney, a Registered Nurse, and the late Reverend Charles Hudson, the center has cared for over 11,000 patients and their families since then.

The Center For Hope remains the only hospice in New Jersey to operate its own residential facilities. Father Hudson House and Theo House, both in Elizabeth, provided care for 83 individuals last year.

"Peggy's House of Hope," the centerpiece of Hope Village, will provide 30 beds for patient care. In keeping with the center's policy of caring for all patients regardless of one's ability to pay, 14 of these residential units will be designated for low- and moderate-income families. Construction of the facility will utilize organized labor.



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SERVING UP CHARITY...The Center For Hope Hospice is swarmed with supporters during their charity fundraiser last Tuesday, at the Northside Trattoria in Westfield. The hospice, headquartered in Scotch Plains, benefited with several thousand dollars from the event. Janette Danco, a member of the restaurant staff, serves up a smile during the pleasant evening.

Former WPD Dispatcher Tibbs Graduates from NJSP

TRENTON — On April 29, the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) held graduation ceremonies for the 139th NJSP Training Class. Commencement took place at the War Memorial's Patriots Theater in Trenton.

Among the 84 recruits sworn in as New Jersey State Troopers was former Westfield Police Department dispatcher Gerard Tibbs.

New Jersey Attorney General Peter Harvey and Colonel Joseph Fuentes, Superintendent of the NJSP, presented the graduates with their badges.

Trooper Tibbs, whose academic

grade point average of 96.2 percent achieved after 26 weeks of intense physical training and academic instruction, ranked him second behind the 96.3 percent average attained by academy classmate and academic award recipient Gregory Austin of Ocean View.

Prior to being accepted into the NJSP Training Academy located in Sea Girt, Trooper Tibbs spent two and a half years with the New York City Police Department, assigned to the patrol division of the 40th precinct located in the Bronx.

Rahway River Gets Cleanup From Scout Volunteers

COUNTY — Cub Scout Pack No. 30 conducted their Fifth Annual Rahway River Cleanup this past Saturday. More than 65 individuals from around the county participated in the cleanup effort during pleasant weather that day. Participants were treated to a hearty breakfast thanks to the generosity of Vaccaro's Bakery, Dunkin' Donuts and Clark Bagels. They also received gifts including T-shirts for all the kids, tree seedlings, posters, and merit patches for the scouts.

Work gloves were provided by Bartell Farm and Garden Supply, Ace Hardware, Merck and the Union County Clean Communities Program. Shop Rite and New Jersey American Water Co. provided snacks and bottled water. Plastic garbage bags were provided by the county Department of Parks and Recreation who also disposed of all the debris that was collected.

The three areas of the river that had litter problems were addressed including the vicinity of Bloodgoods Dam in Winfield, the western side of the river by the old Felt Mill in Clark, and the island at the top of Jackson's Pond where the borders of Winfield and Clark meet.

After four hours, the teams amassed a large array of garbage from the river including: 80 bags of garbage; 42 tires; three shopping carts (one whole, two in pieces); a bicycle; a painters easel; two plastic milk cartons; a pair of fisherman's hip waders; a push lawnmower; 75 feet of copper wire; a large orange traffic barrel; two couch cushions and a garbage can.

Several interesting items were also gathered, including: a punching bag; football; bowling ball; drag racing tire; wheel barrow; rubber shark; backpack; clothing; compact disc; deer skull with antlers; washing machine tub; inside of a refrigerator; bow saw and parts of a camera.

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