

Irene M. Clement, 89, Volunteer; Was Active at St. Helen's Church

Irene M. Salerno Clement, 89, of Westfield died on Tuesday, September 20, at Bay Shore Hospital in Holmdel.

Born and raised in Raritan, she lived in Westfield since 1938.

Mrs. Clement was a homemaker. She was a member of St. Helen's Rosary Altar Society and a Eucharistic Minister, also at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Mrs. Clement additionally was a volunteer at Westfield Center-Genesis ElderCare in Westfield.

She was predeceased by her husband, Anthony Clement, in 1992.

Surviving are a daughter, Kathleen Calao; two sons, Anthony Clement and Joseph Clement; three brothers, Alex Salerno, Army Salerno and William Salerno; nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Saturday, September 24, at St. Helen's Church. Entombment took place at St. Bernard's Cemetery in Bridgewater. Arrangements were under the direction of the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

September 29, 2005

William J. Harburger, Jr., 85, Accountant; Army Veteran Received Four Bronze Stars

William J. Harburger, Jr., 85, of Fanwood died on Saturday, September 24, at Sunrise Assisted Living in East Brunswick.

Born in Newark, he had resided in Irvington before moving to Fanwood 47 years ago.

Mr. Harburger had been an accountant with the firm of Daystrom/Schlumberger in Elizabeth for 30 years prior to his retirement.

He graduated from Rutgers University in Newark with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting.

An Army veteran of World War II, Mr. Harburger served as a Technical

Sergeant in Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland and Central Europe. He was awarded four Bronze Stars for his service.

He was predeceased by his wife, Cecilia Dearing Harburger, in 2001.

Surviving are two nieces, Kathleen Mailler of Milltown and Joanne Connell of Nutley, and two grandnephews.

Funeral services were held yesterday, Wednesday, September 28, at the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

September 29, 2005

Symphony Orchestra Begins 2005-2006 Music Program

WESTFIELD - Musicians of all ages who play brass, percussion, strings or woodwind instruments can join the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA) Symphony Orchestra, which will begin rehearsals on Saturday, October 8, and will continue through April 29.

The Saturday afternoon program will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church on Raritan Road in Clark. Participants are required to have at least one year of ensemble playing experience and must bring their own music stand to rehearsals. The fee for this program is

Public Invited to Kehler Stadium Ceremony

WESTFIELD - There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 12 p.m. on Saturday at Kehler Stadium to commemorate completion of the Westfield Public School district's synthetic-turf field and new running track.

Holy Trinity to Commence New RAINBOWS Program

WESTFIELD - The Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church of Westfield will begin its second year of the RAINBOWS program on Wednesday, October 12. This program is offered to children ages five to 14, with special exceptions for four-year-olds based on maturity.

An international, non-profit program, RAINBOWS fosters emotional healing among children grieving a loss due to death, divorce, separation, illness, incarceration or other painful family transitions.

Small groups meet to discuss topics ranging from anger and guilt to forgiveness. The program is not counseling or therapy, but an opportunity for children to share experiences and provide peer support to one another in a nurturing environment.

In addition to the discussion time, the children play games, do art projects, sing and write in their journals. The ultimate goal is to help youngsters work through their grief and find healing.

The RAINBOWS program is offered free of charge, regardless of school enrollment, religious affiliation or town of residence. It will run through Wednesday, December 7.

RAINBOWS consists of six, one-hour and 15 minute sessions held on Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Grammar School, located at 336 First Street in Westfield. Information is available online at

\$125 for those who are enrolled as NJWA Music Studio students and \$200 for those who are non-Music Studio students.

Janet Lyman, instructor at the Music Studio, who has both a bachelor's and master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music, will conduct the Symphony Orchestra. A faculty member in the Tenafly school system, Ms. Lyman founded and conducts the Tenafly Symphony Orchestra. She also is the music director at Zion Lutheran Church, where she established a brass and string ensemble.

Ms. Lyman directs the hand bell choir and conducts the adult and youth chorus at Zion Lutheran.

The Symphony Orchestra is a division of the NJWA. For information on the Symphony Orchestra or any NJWA program, please visit the office at 150-152 East Broad Street in Westfield or call (908) 789-9696. Further information is available on the Web at www.njworkshopforthearts.com.

September 29, 2005

'Inside Fanwood' Show To Repeat Tonight

FANWOOD - "Inside Fanwood," a new monthly program hosted by Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, made its debut this month on TV-35, the borough's local access channel.

The premier broadcast, featuring Fanwood Police Sergeant Thomas Jedic, aired on September 23. Repeat broadcasts will occur tonight, Thursday, September 29, at 8 p.m. and tomorrow, Friday, September 30, at 9 p.m.

Each month, "Inside Fanwood" will explore topics important to area residents. The premier program features an in-depth discussion on emergency preparedness in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. It focuses on the importance of creating a family disaster plan, supplies to keep on hand and other critical information to survive any disaster.

Announcements regarding future shows will be posted on the Fanwood website, www.visitfanwood.com. Anyone with a topic he or she would like the mayor to present is asked to forward suggestions to her attention at mahor@visitfanwood.com.

Obituaries

Rowland B. Cook, 96, Had Been CPA; Active In Westfield Church and Groups

Rowland Bowen Cook, 96, of New Haven, Conn. died on Friday, August 26, in New Haven.

Born in Massachusetts, he had lived in Westfield for most of his adult life.

Mr. Cook, a Certified Public Accountant, was educated at Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass. He was awarded his Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration degrees at Rutgers University in Newark, from which he received many honors for academic excellence. After retiring from a business career, he worked in the business office of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

He was an active member of the First Congregational Church of Westfield, the Westfield Community Players and the Westfield Community Band. Mr. Cook also was a longtime member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

He was predeceased by his wife of over 70 years, Carmalyn McCann Cook, in 2004, and by a grandson, Timothy Rowland Weeks, in 1998.

Surviving are three daughters, Marilyn Neibert, Margaret Hatch and Carmalyn Buleje; a son, John Rowland Cook; a sister, Louise Gudaitis; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at noon on Saturday, October 8, at the Morrow Methodist Church in Maplewood. Burial will be in Newbern, Ala. in November.

September 29, 2005

J. David Sosnowski, 50

J. David Sosnowski, 50, of Wharton died on Saturday, September 24, at St. Clare's Hospital in Dover.

Born in Plainfield, he had lived in Westfield, Cranford and Berkeley Heights before moving to Wharton three years ago.

Mr. Sosnowski was a member of the Technical Staff for Access Hardware Development with Lucent Technologies in Whippany, where he worked for the past 15 years.

He graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in electronic engineering.

Surviving are two daughters, Tanya A. Sosnowski and Jennifer L. Sosnowski, as well as his parents, John and Gloria Dounelis Sosnowski.

A memorial service will be held today, Thursday, September 29, at 11 a.m. at the Higgins and Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home in Westfield.

September 29, 2005

James G. Steigerwald, 52, Was Analyst For Department of Defense and Amtrak

James G. Steigerwald, 52, of Fanwood died on Tuesday, September 20, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa., he had lived there before moving to Fanwood. He was a long-term care resident of Rumlins Specialized Hospital of Union County in Berkeley Heights.

Mr. Steigerwald had been employed as an analyst by the Department of Defense in Bayonne, and then with Amtrak in New York City, before retiring in 1997. Earlier, he had been Chief Research Analyst for the American Trucking Association in Washington, D.C.

He was a 1975 graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, Va., where he earned his bachelor's degree in business administration.

He was predeceased by his father, Marvin Steigerwald.

Surviving are his mother, LaVerne Steigerwald of Fanwood, and two brothers, John Steigerwald of New York City and David Steigerwald of Fanwood.

Services and interment will take place in Pittsburgh.

The Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood, handled the arrangements.

September 29, 2005

More Campaign Releases

Freeholders Work to Improve Public Safety, Emergency Preparedness

By RICK PROCTOR

Freeholder Chairman

The Democratic Board of Chosen Freeholders have worked hard over the past years to provide services, improved public safety and solutions to you.

As a public health specialist and someone who has been active on homeland security and public safety committees over the past few years, we have focused hard on improving public safety and emergency preparedness.

As a result of the county's work with local police departments and the county prosecutor, total crime has dropped 8 percent over the past reported year, according to the latest State Police crime statistics.

We helped strengthen our defense by opening the Ralph Froehlich Public Safety Building in Westfield this year to serve as headquarters for the Union County Police, the Office of Emergency Management, Homeland Security and the County Prosecutor's forensic laboratory.

The 51,209-square-foot building includes an advanced crime lab, a modern communications center and an emergency operations center. In April, the Froehlich Building served as emergency-response headquarters during Union County's participation in TOPOFF3, the nation's largest-ever terrorism training exercise. The cutting-edge facility, and the trained personnel who work there, helped make Union County an example for the rest of the nation.

Besides TOPOFF and the Froehlich Building, the Freeholder Board has worked hard to initiate a series of innovative programs that help our residents, including:

The "D-Chip" Program, designed to compile photographs, fingerprints and personal information of children onto personal disks for parents, which can be used in conjunction with all law

enforcement and media outlets in case of child abduction.

The Union County Crime Stoppers Board, established to encourage Union County residents, who might otherwise be reluctant to share first-hand information they might have pertaining to criminal activity. Crime Stoppers offers rewards of up to \$5,000 for information resulting in the arrest and indictment of criminal offenders.

The Union County Child Safety Seat Program, which helps reveal any possible defects in the child seat, points out installation errors, and teaches parents how to properly install child safety seats.

The proper use of child safety seats is one of the simplest and most effective methods available for protecting the lives of young children in the event of a motor vehicle accident.

Sheriff Froehlich's Project Life-saver Program, which outfits individuals with Alzheimer's disease, autism or other debilitating disorders with a watch-sized transmitter that can be tracked by the Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit if the individual is reported missing or lost.

Sheriff Froehlich's Fingerprint on File Program, which establishes a fingerprint record of the child that can be used by law enforcement agencies in the event a child becomes lost or abducted.

If you need more information on any of these programs, feel free to contact the Office of Public Information at (908) 527-4419.

I hope this list has helped you realize some programs you may wish to consider using in the future. Together with my running mates, Angel Estrada, and Nancy Ward for Freeholder, and Joanne Rajoppi for County Clerk on Line B, we look forward to continuing to serve you, and we ask humbly for your vote of support on Tuesday, November 8.

Letters to the Editor

County Commercials Mislead Public on Service Spending

The county launched its yearly taxpayer-funded campaign kick-off commercial this week. They will defend this spending as "needed to inform the public about services." Please ask yourself why the public only needs to be informed at election time.

Another ploy, which was also used in last year's election, is to get people angry with George Bush. The all-Democrat ruled county bashes the President several times in their taxpayer-funded press release, which was written by the office of public information for which the county claims they can't tell what their budget is or what the paid days off were for the head of this department. Imagine what *The New York Times* would do to George Bush over that sloppy record to George.

If the county can blame the federal government for all of our misfortunes, it takes your mind off of the county raising your taxes 50 percent in the past five years and also subliminally bashes their competition in the November election. It's nothing more than political spin from a campaign consultant. Why are they spending our taxes on this? They have plenty of pay-to-play money in their war chest for campaigns.

Why don't people get angry with this? It's because they don't have a clue about it. These commercials and mailers have no "paid for by you" written on them, and the Union County media can't seem to bring these issues to inform people about this scam.

Freeholder Chairman Rick Proctor also used the opportunity to announce that the freeholder board will soon be adding another new health initiative and making available \$150,000 out of the county's Family First funding for health care efforts. Human services officials are currently in the process of identifying where gaps in programs exist throughout the county, and will announce more details within the next month - hrm, more taxpayer-funded propaganda on the way, no doubt.

They could have plugged some gaps with the \$187,000 they spent on this commercial. If they stick to the plot they used

the past two years, they will also be sending out a mailer with the same theme to every Union County household. Cost to taxpayers for postage and printing is \$55,627.

And that's not all. Message and Media produces these pieces. They have a \$6,000 monthly no-bid contract for unspecified consulting work, as well as billing separately for the actual work. They also work on the freeholders' campaigns. They charge the Union County Democratic Committee \$5,000 a month.

One has to wonder if they are getting their campaign pieces at a reduced price because the taxpayers are paying them \$72,000 for consulting work that the county has no documentation to show for it.

I'll keep track of these taxpayer-funded campaign pieces through the election season. I've been "round that block before. The county spent approximately \$607,939 in 2003 and \$379,062 in 2004. I don't have all the bills; the county claims there are no bills for printing and copying done in-house.

The million-dollar question is how much of these "questionable" programs mentioned in the ad are funded with federal grant money? 2003's commercial featured the federally funded Star Opportunity Center. An article in *The Star-Ledger* a few weeks after the election appeared about someone who was in the program when the money ran out. The county had to "cobble" together the funds to send this guy out of state to complete the program. The article didn't mention the \$187,000 commercial.

The \$187,000 could have put a lot of people down on their luck through this federally funded program.

Imagine if it were George Bush spending our property tax dollars on his campaign. I wonder what our taxpayer funded commercial featuring campaigning freeholders would have to say about that.

For more information, please visit <http://www.unioncountynj.org/news/0509healthy.htm>.

Tina Renna
Cranford

Resident Concerned Over Proposed Cell Tower At Wychwood Gardens

I understand that the above reference firm is seeking to place a cell-phone tower in Wychwood Gardens, which would presently be against existing zoning regulations, and is seeking a variance with which it will be able to construct its proposed 85-foot tower.

I am greatly concerned not only from an appearance standpoint - an 85-foot American flag does seem out of place, unless it's the Pentagon, but the real concern is from the transmission and aperture, RF power levels and their long-term effects on those in the area.

I understand that during the initial planning board meeting, Cingular failed in its

attempt to answer these types of questions, and the meeting was adjourned to September 26 to give them time for a response.

I can only caution those of the board, who have a fiduciary responsibility to the public, to make sure that each and every concern for the public safety is followed with vigilance and best practice, not only today, but for the future.

We certainly don't want to follow the same deception to the public as Merck did with Viroxx.

Fred Posniak
Westfield



Campaign Release

VIETNAM VIGIL... Union County Freeholder Nancy Ward, left, and Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi place lighted candles and dog tags bearing the names of those New Jersey military servicemen still missing in Vietnam at a vigil for American Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA) on September 24 in front of City Hall in Linden. The annual remembrance ceremony is sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 779.

Mayor Thank Rec. Commission For Successful Summer Programs

As mayor of Fanwood, I would like to personally extend my sincere thanks to all the members of our recreation commission for their hard work and continued dedication in bringing to all residents of our wonderful borough yet another fun filled summer.

These hardworking volunteers, along with our energetic Recreation Director, Linda Caminiti, have much to be proud of. When I asked the commission to work on getting our park restrooms open during the day, they did it, and the entire community benefits from this. I thank you for making it happen.

This summer saw another successful FYO baseball program run out of our parks. A big thank you to Commissioner Robert Burke for his tireless efforts on behalf of our children. The Movies in the Park, a summer favorite, continues to draw large crowds from both Fanwood and Scotch Plains.

Our parks summer program provided our children with structured days of fun activities, and a big thank you to Michelle Tobier and her counselors.

Four separate sports camps ran all summer. Kevin Maloney ran soccer, Dave

Moser ran tennis, Kevin Ewing and Tommy Baylock ran basketball and baseball.

Thank you for teaching our children. The commission has also played a critical role in guiding the improvements to LaGrande Park. This summer saw five new tennis courts constructed, and next year major reconfigurations to the ball fields will take place. As mayor, I may be able to secure the much needed grant money for these projects, but it is the commissioners who help take the plans to reality.

So to Mike Brennan, Russell Wells, Pam Sayles, Russ Yeager, Phyllis Mirabella, Doris Terry, Art Badala, Jennifer Gilbert, Robert Burke, Bob Budiansky and Councilman Joe Higgins, thank you and keep up the good work.

If any residents are interested in joining the commission or interested in having a program run out of the recreation department, please contact me at mahor@visitfanwood.com.

Colleen Mahr
Mayor
Fanwood

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