

SP Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fanwood Soccer Association, announced that the league, in conjunction with the township rescue squad's May fundraising drive, will donate \$5 to the squad for every goal scored in May by one of its travel team players. Mr. Fawcett hopes the "Golden Goal" program will raise at least \$1,000 by the end of May. He urged township residents and local organizations to match in some way the soccer league's contribution, "whether it's a nickel or a dime or a dollar." He said additional information will soon be available on the league's website at www.scotchplainsfanwoodsoccer.com.

The council also congratulated the high school's girl's varsity swim team for repeating as state champions. About 30 members of the team were in attendance along with their coaches and parents. Each team member received a copy of the council's congratulatory resolution and a videotape of highlights from their season.

At the close of the hour-long meeting, the elected members of the council passed a resolution accepting the actions taken by the DECA students as their own. Mayor Marks congratulated the group, saying they "did quite nicely."

At its next regular meeting on May 9, the council will hold a public hearing on the \$22 million municipal budget.

SP PB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

window or to park and then go inside. He added that a goal of his employees would be to reduce the time between the placing of a pick-up order and its actual pick-up at the window to two-and-a-half minutes, something that would also reduce the potential for excessive stacking of cars.

The board's 8-0 vote in favor of the application is contingent on approval from county officials, since the site is located on Terrill Road, which is a county thoroughfare.



David Samsky for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
TAKING OVER...Richard Stender (center left), president of the Board of Trustees of the Union County Arts Center, presents Union County Freeholder Chairman Al Mirabella with the key to the arts center during a ceremony on Sunday marking the county's purchase of the theater. Also pictured, from left to right, are Freeholder Angel Estrada, Rahway Mayor James Kennedy, Freeholder Deborah Scanlon, Freeholder Chester Holmes and Assemblywoman Linda Stender (far right).

FW GOP Meets

On Monday, May 1

FANWOOD - The Fanwood Republican Club will meet on Monday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., at the Forest Road Park Building located at Forest Road and Woodland Avenue in Fanwood. At the May meeting, New Jersey Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21) will discuss the upcoming year's state budget and other topics of local concern.

The club meets on a monthly basis, usually the first Monday of the month. At meetings, the members learn about what's going on in town, such as the budget, taxes and downtown redevelopment, as well as political developments at the county and state level. For further information, call (908) 789-2557.

GW Council Adopts Budget; Taxes to Increase \$257,000

By KATHY MARQUES
Specifically written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

GARWOOD - The borough council adopted a 2006 municipal budget of \$6,164,871, which reflects an increase of more than \$240,000 over last year. The amount to be raised from taxes will rise from \$3.9 million in 2005 to \$4,157,080 this year - an increase of \$257,000.

Councilwoman Kathleen Villaggio said the owner of a home assessed at \$100,000 would pay an increase of \$115 over last year for municipal services.

Councilwoman Villaggio said in March that budget increases this year

were mostly due to employee pensions and health benefits, the library's budget and the annual fee for the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority.

In other business, State Assemblyman Dr. Eric Muñoz (LD-21) discussed the proposed \$30.9 billion state budget, which will take effect on Saturday, July 1. He said it's anticipated that residents will be upset over several problems, among them that state spending is going up 9.2 percent, or a total of \$3 billion from last year and that the sales tax is increasing from 6 to 7 percent.

There, also, are numerous smaller taxes on gyms, beauty salons, landscaping, cigarettes and gasoline, to name a few, he said.

"Municipal and school aid is flat, which unfortunately for the towns around here, will make people somewhat unhappy," Assemblyman Muñoz said. He ended by expressing appreciation to the council members for doing what he described as a "great job" representing the constituents of Garwood. The assemblyman noted that he served six years on the Summit city council.

Councilwoman Villaggio, chairwoman of the committee on aging, said she was pleased with the increase in funding received by the borough for recreation and senior citizen programs.

The borough received a \$3,000 allotment for the senior handyman program, which will aid senior citizens with minor labor work around the house, such as fixing a leaky faucet. The program will begin after September.

The borough will also receive an additional \$5,000 from the Community Block Grant Board (CBGB). "We are very happy with the program since it will help out our senior citizens and it doesn't cost a lot of money," Councilwoman Villaggio said.

In other business, Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello spoke about the tree planting bids on the 100 and 200 blocks of Second Avenue. He also spoke about the section of sidewalk that had deteriorated around the 400 block of Second Avenue.

Other streets that had the same problem with their sidewalks, such as the 300-block area of Hickory Avenue and Walnut Street, have been rectified. Yet, Mayor Dennis McCarthy said he would still like someone to assess the area and make sure the work has been done sufficiently.

The Garwood Baseball Little League will have its opening day ceremony on Saturday, April 29, since the scheduled date for last week was rained out. The league parade will begin at 9 a.m. at the Lincoln/Franklin School and conclude at the little league field. The grand reopening of the Garwood Library will also be held on Saturday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Mountainside BOE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the board to examine whether the program can afford staff cuts as a cost-saving alternative.

Parent Cathy Jakositz, who ran in last week's school board election, suggested the board explore alternate locations to cut costs, such as utilities.

Mrs. Schaumberg responded by saying the program has been successful in its current locations and "you do what's best for the program."

In other business, the board approved a \$2,800 contract with Automated Building Controls, Inc. (ABC) to service the rooftop heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units at Deerfield Elementary School.

"It's a huge milestone... that we're finally getting these air conditioning units up and running," said Mr. Perrin. Chief School Administrator Dr. Richard O'Malley added that this project is just one of several that have improved the school.

Dr. O'Malley commended two teachers who recently won awards. First grade special education teacher Maria McGrath received a full scholarship to Fairleigh Dickinson University for a graduate program. Kin-

dergarten to eighth grade enrichment teacher Elaine Fass was chosen from 1,000 applicants worldwide to attend the Honeywell Educators Space Academy this summer. She was one of 200 teachers selected.

Dr. O'Malley also announced that the borough has met all 184 state standards for special education.

UCUA Hires New Director

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Inc. and Elder Garg Law Group LLC in Summit since 1999. Prior to that, he worked with International Specialty Products, Inc., serving in the capacities of counsel, director and vice president for environment, health and safety. He also has served on the Union County Democratic Committee.

According to his résumé, Dr. Garg holds a law degree from Rutgers Law School in Newark and a doctorate degree in physical chemistry from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. He has a master's degree in chemistry from Stevens and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Delhi in India.

Calls placed to Rahway Mayor James Kennedy, UCUA chairman, were not returned. Commissioner Sharda Bardi, who works for the consumer affairs division for the County of Union, declined comment other than to say Dr. Spatola had "retired" and not resigned his post. Ms. Bardi referred calls to Mr. Cohen. *The Times* was also unable to reach Alternate Commissioner George Jorn of Cranford.

Meetings of the nine-member authority are held the third Wednesday of the month at the UCUA offices, located on the third floor of the 1,540-per day Union County Resource Recovery Facility on Routes 1 and 9 in Rahway.



POLICE BLOTTER

Scotch Plains

Thursday, April 20, an employee of School One reported someone removed cash from her pocketbook, which had been left in an unlocked file cabinet.

Friday, April 21, David Carson, 19, of Plainfield was arrested and charged with eluding police after leading officers on a vehicle pursuit. According to police, officers attempted to pull Carson over for a motor vehicle violation, but the suspect continued driving without stopping. Carson reportedly crashed his vehicle into the woods on Route 22 at Westfield Road, at which time he attempted to run on foot.

An officer was able to arrest Carson without incident, police said. Carson had several outstanding warrants out of Essex County. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and sent to the Union County jail on \$22,500 bail. No injuries were reported during the incident.

Friday, April 21, a Willow Avenue resident reported that he entered a store on East Second Street when several juveniles yelled at him.

Sunday, April 23, police reported that someone pried open the door of a donut shop on Route 22 and removed cash from the drawer.

Monday, April 24, Luis Cotto, 28, of Union was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI). Cotto was stopped for a motor vehicle violation at which time officers detected a strong odor of alcohol.

After the investigation, he was arrested and transported to headquarters, where he was processed and released, police said.

Mountainside

Wednesday, April 19, Joseph Lynaugh, 35, of Mountainside was arrested for an outstanding warrant after police were summoned to a neighborhood where residents reported a suspicious male walking through their backyards. The suspect was taken to police headquarters where bail was posted.

Wednesday, April 19, a patron of a Route 22 indoor tennis facility reported that upon exiting the club she noticed the front windshield of her vehicle was smashed and several audiotapes were taken from inside the vehicle. The victim's garage door opener was also reported missing.

Friday, April 21, Rosemarie Powel, 57, of Plainfield was arrested for an outstanding warrant in the amount of \$500 at the Plainfield Police Department.

Monday, April 24, Isaac Nickerson, 44, of Newark was arrested at the East Orange Police Department for an outstanding warrant. Bail was set in the amount of \$500.

Monday, April 24, Fonzo Wynn, 25, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 and charged with driving without a valid license. Robert Gilbert, 22, of Newark, a passenger in the vehicle, was arrested for an outstanding controlled dangerous subject (CDS) warrant in Essex County.

Westfield

Saturday, April 15, a customer at a store located in the 100 block of East Broad Street reported her pocketbook containing credit cards, a driver's license and personal information was stolen from a dressing room.

Sunday, April 16, Jennifer Conner, 18, of Westfield was arrested on

Nomahegan Drive and charged with disorderly conduct. Police said she allegedly yelled profanities and attempted to strike an officer after another person called authorities to state that Conner was refusing to exit a motor vehicle in which both of them had arrived at the scene. She was released on her own recognizance.

Monday, April 17, after being arrested at Westfield police headquarters, Diann Gropp-Roth, 40, of Westfield posted \$235 bail on a traffic warrant issued by the Scotch Plains Municipal Court.

Monday, April 17, James Laskaris, 57, of Westfield was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on an outstanding traffic warrant from Elizabeth. He was released after posting \$110 bail.

Tuesday, April 18, Kevin Coleman, Jr., 20, of Piscataway and Keri Mauldin, 19, of Plainfield were arrested following a motor vehicle stop at Ross Place and Carleton Road and charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana and underage possession of an alcoholic beverage.

Coleman also was arrested on an outstanding traffic warrant from East Orange, for which he posted \$114 bail. He and Mauldin were both issued summonses on the Westfield charges and released on their own recognizance.

Wednesday, April 19, after being stopped in the 1100 block of Boynton Avenue during a police investigation of a suspicious vehicle, Gail Ellerbe, 37, and Rasheem Moore, 27, both of Westfield, were arrested and charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, identified by police as suspected crack cocaine, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Moore was additionally charged with hindering apprehension for allegedly providing false information to police. He was held on \$2,500 bail, while Ellerbe was held on \$1,000. Both were committed on default of bail to the Union County jail.

Thursday, April 20, Elvira Vairinhos, 31, of Avenel was arrested in the 100 block of Central Avenue and charged with theft by deception for allegedly crediting merchandise from the store where she worked to her personal account. She was released on her own recognizance after being served with a summons.

Thursday, April 20, Darren Jenkins, 20, of Piscataway was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on a \$90 Bloomfield traffic warrant. He was released after posting bail.

Thursday, April 20, Howard Brown, 22, of Plainfield was arrested at the Boonton Police Department on an outstanding Plainfield criminal warrant for \$1,000 and two Westfield traffic warrants for \$500 each. Brown was committed on default of bail to the Union County jail.

Friday, April 21, Steven Jacobsen, 19, of Westfield was arrested at South Avenue and Elmer Street and charged with possession of fraudulent identification and underage possession of an alcoholic beverage. He was released on his own recognizance.

Friday, April 21, Kylie Taylor, 25, of Jersey City was arrested at Central and Elizabeth Avenues on two outstanding Jersey City warrants for contempt of court. Taylor was released after posting \$2,650 bail.



RESTORATION KIT...Rotary Frazee House Inc. Chairwoman Patricia Plante and Historic Preservation Consultant/Grant application writer Stacy Spies pose with Aunt Betty Frazee and her famous bread at the casino night fundraiser for the Frazee House Restoration Project.

Impatient? Don't Wait!!!



He's back! The old Williams checking to see if David's late to work.

Impatiens Sale

Two Days Only
April 29th & 30th

\$9.99 flat

Special Sale Hours
Sat 7am-7pm Sun 9am-6pm

If you haven't started thinking about the garden, now is the time. For those that like to get an early start, and save quite a bit of \$\$\$ we are having our Impatiens Sale Saturday and Sunday April 29th & 30th. Over 2 truck loads of Impatiens will be here available for only \$9.99 flat. We will be opening our doors early on Saturday for those that want to get a really early start. (7am). Remember there is still a slight chance of Frost, so protect them if you hear of frost warnings on the news.

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