

## Man on the Street: State Government Shutdown



**Sean Gallagher**  
Scotch Plains businessman

"I don't think [state agencies] should have been shut down. The government should have seen this coming and resolved its differences on time....Everyone is only talking about a one-cent increase [in the state sales tax]."



**Mirajam Janvieratta**  
Fanwood resident

"It's awful. The shutdown didn't affect me, but the whole situation stinks... They've got to do something to stop raising taxes."



**Kim Traschtenberg**  
Matawan

"It's ridiculous. Things like this shouldn't happen. They need to plan ahead. It's almost like [the state is] broke in every way....Due to all the taxes, it's getting harder and harder to live here and buy a home. It also can't be good for tourism."



**Aden Toloui**  
Westfield business owner

"[The shutdown] was a waste... Raising the sales tax doesn't bother me. If it's necessary, raise it. I'd rather pay a penny more (on every dollar) than pay more property taxes."



**Carl Baron**  
Westfield resident

"From what I heard from Trenton officials, [the shutdown] was really unavoidable. Raising the sales tax is a good thing...we need to raise taxes to get the state out of debt."



**Dan Pugliesi**  
Westfield resident

"Taxes are an evil thing. Governor Corzine did what he thinks is right, but there are other ways [to pay off the state's accumulated debt] than holding out until taxes are raised."



**Bob Falgares**  
Somerset

"The shutdown is ridiculous. Legislators should have worked harder to avoid it. The sales tax is fair. Everyone has to pay—the rich and the poor. Hopefully, we can also take care of property taxes."

interviews by Don Williams, photos by Sarah Queller



**WARINANCO RESTORATION...** Union County Freeholder Vice Chair Bette Jane Kowalski (left) works with Liz Crawford, a New Jersey Watershed ambassador, during the restoration of the shoreline of Warinanco Park Lake in Roselle. The \$99,000 project is funded by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

## Fanwood Democrats to Host Miniature Golf Party, July 13

FANWOOD — The Committee to Elect Dolce and Valian will host an evening of miniature golf on Thursday, July 13, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex, 1300 Raritan Road in Clark.

The outing provides an opportunity to meet Council President Dolce and her Democratic running mate, Mr. Valian, while enjoying an evening of summer fun for the whole family. Attendees may play a round of miniature golf or hit a bucket of balls at the driving range.

Admission to the outing is \$25 per person (\$50 per family) in advance; or \$30 per person (\$60 per family) at the door. Admission includes a round of miniature golf or a bucket of balls at the driving range, plus hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages (beer included).

Early-bird tickets may be purchased by writing to the Committee to Elect Dolce and Valian, PO Box 163, Fanwood NJ 07023. For more information, please call Bill Populus at (908) 789-7577.

### Fanwood Notice

The north side of the Fanwood Train Station will be closed on Saturdays, July 22 and 29 and August 5 for paving operations, weather permitting. Please remove all vehicles from the parking lot by 7 a.m. on each Saturday listed above. The parking lot will re-open on the following Monday.

## Corzine Names Davy NJ Commissioner of Education

By KATIE NEWINGHAM  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

TRENTON — New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine named former Westfield resident Lucille Davy the permanent commissioner of the New Jersey State Department of Education on Tuesday, July 11. Ms. Davy had been serving as acting commissioner since last fall.

Former Governor James McGreevy appointed Ms. Davy to the education counsel in 2002, where she remained when Acting Governor Richard Codey took office. Her responsibilities included serving as the governor's representative to the State Board of Education, Commission on Higher Education and New Jersey Institute of Technology Board of Trustees.

Governor Codey appointed Mrs. Davy acting commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education on

September 12, 2005. It was speculated that she would only hold the position for a few months.

Mr. McGreevy appointed Ms. Davy's husband, James Davy, Human Services Commissioner in January 2004. In 1998, Mr. Davy worked under then-Mayor McGreevy as the business administrator for Woodbridge Township.

Mr. Davy served as operations manager for the successful 2001 McGreevy for Governor campaign.

When living in Westfield, Ms. Davy served on the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) at Roosevelt Intermediate School and held the organization's president position. She was involved in the first strategic planning committee for the Westfield Public School system.

After Mr. McGreevy won his bid for state governor, the Davys moved from Westfield to the Trenton area.

## Gov. Creates \$1.4 Billion Dept. of Children & Families

TRENTON — Governor Jon Corzine signed S-2069/A-3356 Tuesday, which creates the Department of Children and Families (DCF).

The DCF will be staffed by approximately 6,600 state child welfare employees from within the Department of Human Services' (DHS) Office of Children's Services: the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services, the Division of Prevention and Community Partnerships, the Office of Education and the New Jersey Child Welfare Training Academy.

Governor Corzine appointed Kevin Ryan, who has served as the Commissioner of Human Services since January, to lead the DCF on an interim basis. The appointment requires Senate confirmation.

From 2003-2006, Mr. Ryan was the State Child Advocate where he was responsible for holding accountable state agencies that serve children at risk of abuse and neglect. He earned a B.A. from The Catholic University, a J.D. from Georgetown University and a LL.M. from New York University.

According to a press release, Governor Corzine will nominate Clarke Bruno to fill the post of Human Services Commissioner. Mr. Bruno previously served as General Counsel to the New York City Department of Homeless Services. The agency had 2,200 employees with an operating budget of \$730 million.

Mr. Bruno obtained his B.A. from Swarthmore College and his J.D. from New York University. Until the confirmation process is complete, DHS Director of the Division of Addiction Services Jim Smith will serve as Acting Commissioner. Mr. Smith previously served as the Acting Commissioner of Human Services from 2001-2002 and also as Deputy Commissioner of Human Services from 1998-

2001.

DCF's budget for the fiscal year 2007 will be \$1.4 billion. The majority of DCF's divisions, programs and staff will continue working from current offices. The central office will remain at Capital Place One, Trenton.

Governor Corzine's Policy Advisory Council on Human Services Restructuring will make recommendations to the Commission on efficiency and effectiveness reform of New Jersey's human services.

The press release said that DHS will be streamlined to provide more targeted services to persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness; persons with physical disabilities; those who are blind, visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing; people in need of addiction services; and people in need of affordable health care and other welfare services, such as food stamps, emergency assistance and unemployment support.

Governor Corzine also announced Tuesday that he will nominate Lucille Davy to serve as Commissioner of Education and George Hayman to serve as Commissioner of Corrections.

Davy was first appointed Acting Education Commissioner in 2005; previously she served as Special Counsel to the Governor on Education. She earned a J.D. from the University of Notre Dame and a B.S. in mathematics from Seton Hall University.

Mr. Hayman, a 22-year veteran of the Department of Corrections, has served as Acting Commissioner since January. He previously served as Assistant Commissioner of the Department. He earned both an M.A. and B.A. in social work from Rutgers University in Camden.

### WF Jazz Set for Tuesday Night

WESTFIELD — Jazz Night Performances in downtown Westfield scheduled for Tuesday, July 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. include B. D. Lenz on Central Avenue, The Tone Masters at the North Avenue Train Station, Mary Ellen Desmond on the corner of E. Broad and Prospect Streets and Joel Chassen on Elm Street in front of the First Baptist Church.

Jazz performances take place every Tuesday night in downtown Westfield through September 5. Rain dates are the following Wednesday evenings.

For more information, please call the DWC at (908) 789-9444.

### FW Car Show Set Tuesday, July 18

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Business and Professional Association and the Cougar Club of New Jersey are sponsoring "Cruise Night" on Tuesday, July 18 in the Fanwood Municipal Parking Lot. The entrance is on LaGrande Avenue just off Martine Avenue. Classic cars are featured and music will be spun by DJ "Hot Rod" Mike.

For additional information, contact Donald Wussler at (908) 889-1709.

"Movies in the Park" at LaGrande Park also scheduled that evening will begin at sundown.

## FW Council

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only council member to vote against the rezoning, saying that it appears to be "out-of-step" with South Avenue redevelopment plans. "I don't think Fanwood needs more single-family houses," he said. "I think we need more rentals and I think this (rezoning) will hurt Fanwood in the long run."

Council President Donna Dolce abstained.

The council approved new usage fees for organizations renting the recreation buildings at LaGrande and Forest Road parks.

This issue first came up in the spring, as commission members pointed to an increase in use of both buildings by a growing number of organizations and individuals.

The new fee schedule allows local service and charitable organizations to use both park buildings free of charge.

All other local organizations and clubs will now have to pay \$15 to use the Forest Road Park facility. It will cost \$50 to use the building's kitchen. LaGrande will still be free.

Non-local groups will now be charged \$75 to use the LaGrande facility and \$150 for Forest Road Park (plus another \$50 for kitchen use).



**SEVENTY-NINE YEARS YOUNG...** Westfield residents Jon Holt and John Falzon partake in free Slurpees...Westfield residents Jon Holt and John Falzon partake in free Slurpees at 7-Eleven on South Avenue in Westfield on Tuesday, July 11. The company, which was founded in 1927, celebrates its "birthday" every July 11.



**CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING...** Rep. Mike Ferguson (D-7) was at The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times office last Wednesday to discuss national and international issues with the newspaper staff interns. See story on page 2. Pictured, left to right, are: Cassie Lo, Chrissy Hamway, Don Williams, Rep. Ferguson, Carolyn DiProspero, Bryan Krichilsky and James Diddell.

## POLICE BLOTTER

### Scotch Plains

Thursday, July 6, a resident of Jerusalem Road reported being the victim of fraud. She said unknown person(s) used her debit card to make withdrawals totaling \$2,000 from various ATMs.

Friday, July 7, a resident of Church Street reported being the victim of theft. He stated that unknown person(s) entered his vehicle and removed items.

Saturday, July 8, a resident of Linden reported being the victim of aggravated assault. He stated that he was driving when another vehicle almost hit him.

According to police, after the victim confronted the driver of the other vehicle, the driver tried to run him over. The victim was able to get out of the way. Police are investigating the incident.

Saturday, July 8, a resident of Front Street reported being the victim of harassment. He stated unknown person(s) made several calls on his cell phone and left messages. The unknown caller used profanity on the messages, police said.

Sunday, July 9, several holes to the walls of the main room of the Scotch Hills Country Club were discovered after a party. According to police, the attendant discovered the damage. Police are investigating to determine if the damage was the result of criminal activity.

### Fanwood

Sunday, July 2, Kashana L. Randell, 23, of Union was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue for an outstanding warrant issued by Newark.

Tuesday, July 4, Robert E. Chapman, 30, of Dunnellen was arrested on an outstanding Dunnellen warrant.

Wednesday, July 5, Sophie Nusek, 56, of Cranford was arrested for an outstanding warrant issued by Forked River following a motor vehicle stop on North Avenue.

Thursday, July 6, Errol E. Singh, 32, of Plainfield was arrested on an outstanding North Plainfield warrant after a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue.

Thursday, July 6, Mogul A. Ramos, 42, of Newark was arrested on numerous outstanding warrants from Elizabeth, Millburn and Newark after a motor vehicle stop on Martine Avenue.

Friday, July 7, Kenneth E. Boger, 23, of Westfield was arrested on outstanding Fanwood warrants after a motor vehicle stop on Martine Avenue.

Monday, July 10, Clayton C. Ferrara, 22, of Covington, La. was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue, which revealed outstanding warrants issued by Bridgewater.

Monday, July 10, Robert L. Piper, Jr., 35, of Linden was arrested for numerous outstanding warrants issued by Woodbridge, Elizabeth and Linden, as well as a no-bail warrant from the Union County Sheriff's Department following a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue.

Monday, July 10, Marcus Boykin, 25, of Bloomfield was arrested on an outstanding Newark warrant after a field investigation.

### Westfield

Sunday, July 2, after being stopped for a motor vehicle violation, Antonio R. Martorino was arrested on a no-bail Sheriff's warrant and also an outstanding Edison warrant.

Sunday, July 2, Officers responded to the Cranford Police Department to take custody of George Macks, who was being held on an outstanding Westfield warrant.

Monday, July 3, Tanashia M. Johnson of Newark was arrested for contempt of court and was committed to the Union County jail in lieu of \$205 bail out of Westfield.

Monday, July 3, Daniel Wasama of Elizabeth was arrested on the 1000 block of Lambertsmill Road for contempt of court during a field interview. Defendant posted \$424 bail and was released.

## Fanwood Delays Tax Bills Awaiting State Aid Figures

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ery \$50,000 of state aid, average property tax bills would drop about \$20. Mayor Mahr said the borough remains "cautiously optimistic."

"Indications are that Fanwood's application (to the aid program) was well received and that it had some merit," she said.

## SP Council

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Mr. Atkins said the township will participate next summer in Union County's Summer Camp Scholarship Program, which will allow children of low-income families in Scotch Plains to take part in a wide variety of county-sponsored summer programs.

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Tuesday, July 4, a 17-year-old juvenile was arrested in Lot #5 for possession of a destructive device. The juvenile in question was released to his father.

Wednesday, July 5, Christopher Castro of Kenilworth was arrested at Nomahegan Dr. and Springfield Ave. for DWI and false reports to law enforcement. Suspect was released to a responsible party after providing an alcohol test reading 0.11% blood alcohol content.

Wednesday, July 5, Todd Auran of Cranford was arrested on an outstanding Westfield warrant (\$150 bail) in front of 545 First Street. He was released on bail.

Thursday, July 6, Ramone A. Jenkins of East Orange was arrested for possession of under 50 oz. of CDC and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was processed and released on two summonses.

Thursday, July 6, Robert Jumper of Roselle reported to Westfield Police Headquarters to satisfy three outstanding warrants issued by Westfield Municipal Court, totaling \$155 bail. Subject posted bail and was released.

Friday, July 7, Peter G. Ward of Scotch Plains posted \$99 on an ATS warrant issued by the Westfield Court.

Saturday, July 8, Janis Richards of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding warrant out of the Westfield Municipal Court (\$150). Subject posted bail and was released.

Sunday, July 9, Rasheem Moore, 27, of Westfield was arrested at Livingston St. and Sterling for an outstanding (\$500) warrant out of Westfield.

Monday, July 10, Francis Zalenski, 35, of Jersey City was arrested at Central Ave. and Cacciola Pl. during a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding (\$300) Jersey City warrant.

### Mountainside

May 8, Michele Stambo, 41, of Mountainside was arrested for theft by deception. According to police, after an investigation, Stambo, an employee of Quality Portraits, was charged with stealing \$18,318 in photo packages, \$157 in petty cash, \$346 in U.S. postage stamps and \$639 in photo mats. The total amount stolen was \$19,460.

Sunday, July 2, Tabraz Mohammed, 25, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Route 22 for driving while intoxicated (DWI). He was also charged with driving with a suspended license.

Tuesday, July 4, Oluwaremi A. Awogboro, 24, of New Brunswick was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Route 22 for an outstanding warrant out of North Brunswick in the amount of \$500.

Tuesday, July 4, Dorian L. Williams, 41, of Midway, FL was arrested after a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 for driving with a suspended license.

Tuesday, July 4, Luis A. Hernandez, 30, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Mountain Avenue for DWI. He was also charged with driving without a license.

Wednesday, July 5, Rakiem M. Mitchell, 31, of Newark was picked up at the Essex County Jail for an outstanding Mountainside warrant in the amount of \$350.

Friday, July 7, Almirido Gonzalez, Jr., 37, of Union was arrested on an outstanding warrant out of Paramus for \$55 following a motor vehicle stop for driving too slow on Route 22.

Friday, July 7, a patron of a Route 22 theater reported being the victim of theft to his motor vehicle. According to police, unknown suspect(s) smashed the passenger side window and removed a navigation system worth \$500.

Saturday, July 8, Noel J. Chambers, 28, of East Orange was arrested for driving with a suspended license following a motor vehicle stop for having no inspection sticker. He was also charged with a warrant issued by East Orange for \$150.

Mayor Mahr said that some municipalities applying for extraordinary have received phone calls advising them to approve their budgets without expecting any aid. "We didn't get that phone call," she said, saying that "that's an encouraging sign."

At Tuesday night's hearing, only one local resident, Andrew MacDonald, spoke and asked for clarification on whether the borough expects at least some form of a municipal increase even if expected state aid comes through. Mr. Tomkins told Mr. MacDonald an increase is likely when tax bills finally go out.

Mr. Tomkins noted that, independent of the state aid issue, the introduced budget requires amendment to reflect other economic variables. Specifically, he pointed to increasing gasoline prices. Mr. Tomkins said the borough has already spent \$25,000 on gasoline so far this year, and only \$43,000 was budgeted.

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