

## Robert E. Elliott, 91, Family Man; Was Former Resident of Westfield

Robert E. Elliott, 91, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio died on July 1, 2007 in Ohio.

Born May 6, 1916 in Newark and raised in Millburn, he graduated from Pennsylvania State College (Univ.) in 1939. He and his brother owned and operated the John H. Elliott Leather Co. in Newark for many years.

Mr. Elliott was married for 54 years to the late Marion Mercer Elliott. For more than 40 years they lived in Westfield, where they raised their four daughters and were involved with the Westfield Community Players.

Mr. Elliott was a former member and deacon of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield. In 1986 he and his wife moved to Cape Carteret, N.C., where they enjoyed many years of retirement. Following the death of his wife, Mr. Elliott moved to Chagrin Falls, Ohio, where he lived with his daughter Linda and her family for five years.

Mr. Elliott was a family oriented man known for his good nature, patience, kindness, wisdom and wit. He was an avid Penn State football fan, a devoted New York Yankees fan and proud to be an Eagle Scout. He was happiest when surrounded by family and friends, especially at the Jersey shore.

He is survived by four daughters, Joan Kodak of Harwich, Mass., Judy (George) Antonak of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., Linda (Jeffrey) Allen of Chagrin Falls, Ohio and Susan Snyder of Manchester, Mass. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. In addition, he is survived by sisters Ruth Williams of Lancaster, Pa. and Ellen Jane Bow-

man of Middlesex, N.J. A memorial service was held July 3 at the Federated Church in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Arrangements were by the Stroud-Lawrence Funeral Home. Interment and a graveside service will be held on Saturday, October 13, at 11:30 a.m. at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

October 4, 2007

### Leonard J. Watt, 62

Leonard J. Watt, 62, died on Wednesday, September 26, at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in Newark, he lived in Scotch Plains and Stirling.

Mr. Watt served in the National Guard from 1963 to 1965 and was a member of American Legion Post No. 209 in Scotch Plains. He also was a member of the Elks Lodge in Stirling.

Prior to retiring in 2005, Mr. Watt had been employed as a bus driver with the Villani Bus Company in Linden for 30 years.

Surviving are his parents, John and Mary Watt of Scotch Plains; two sisters, Claudia Barich and Heather Watt, both of Scotch Plains; his brother, Ronald Watt of Scotch Plains; two sons, Lenny Watt of South Plainfield and Richard Watt of Fanwood; his significant other, Barbara Bardeau of Stirling; four grandchildren; three nephews and one niece.

Cremation was private. Arrangements were by the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood.

October 4, 2007

## Francis A. Kelly, 91, Sales Manager; VFW and Knights of Columbus Leader

Francis Aloysius "Frank" Kelly, 91, of Mountainside died on Tuesday, September 27, at Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., he lived in Mountainside for 45 years.

Mr. Kelly had been employed as a purchasing agent and later as a sales manager for the HVAC industry in heavy construction, retiring from Carpenter & Paterson in Little Falls.

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

A past commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10136 of Mountainside and a member of Knights of Columbus Council No. 5560, he also was the first president and charter member of the Knights of Columbus council in Springfield. He additionally served on the board of adjustment in Mountainside.

Surviving are his wife of 45 years, Marian Kelly; three daughters, Kathleen Mancuso, Maureen Gambocurta and Patricia Kelly; a son, Francis A. Kelly, Jr., and 10 grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was offered on Tuesday, October 2, at the Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church in Mountainside. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Arrangements were by the Dooley

Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

October 4, 2007

### Tina R. Sharkey

Tina R. Sharkey of Mountainside died on Friday, September 28, at her home.

Born in New York City, she had lived there until moving to Mountainside 36 years ago.

A graduate of Adelphi Academy, Mrs. Sharkey played bridge with various groups in Mountainside and was a member of the International Guild of Miniature Artisans.

Her husband, Edward Sharkey, predeceased her.

Surviving are a son, Joseph Sharkey; a daughter, Francesca Moun; two brothers, Joseph Runza and Vincent Runza; a sister, Mary Contini, and two grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated yesterday, Wednesday, October 3, at the Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church in Mountainside.

Arrangements were by the Higgins and Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Atlantic Hospice, 33 Bleeker Street, Millburn, N.J. 07042.

October 4, 2007

## Obituaries

### Felix DiFrancisco, 87, Honored Veteran; Worked In Architectural Engineering

Felix J. "Phil" DiFrancisco, age 87, died on Friday, September 21, 2007, at his residence in Asbury-Solomons, Solomons, Md.

In 1996, he came to live in southern Maryland with his wife, Elaine Rhodes DiFrancisco. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Elaine Rhodes DiFrancisco; his daughter, Beth Rhodes Duncan, M.D.; his son-in-law, William H. Duncan, M.D., and his granddaughter, Kristina E. Rhodes. He was the son of the late Louis De Francesco and Concetta Perucci DeFrancesco. He was the brother of Joseph DeFrancesco, the late Laura Massa and the late Alex DeFrancesco. He was the paternal uncle of Theresa, Anita and Joseph DeFrancesco of Westfield, N.J. and Thomas and Susan Massa of Mountainside, N.J.

Mr. DiFrancisco had an illustrious and challenging career in architectural engineering, participating as consultant, architect's representative or project manager for a wide range of cultural center and construction projects in Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Florida.

Mr. DiFrancisco was a veteran of World War II. He served with distinction in the Burma Campaign, the India Campaign and the China Campaign. He was a supervisor and trainer for radio communications programs and was widely traveled. His military decorations included two ribbons, the American Theater Ribbon and the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon. He was also the recipient of two Bronze Stars.

Mr. DiFrancisco grew up in Westfield, N.J. He excelled in sports through college. He attended Purdue University and the University of Miami and graduated in 1942 with a degree in engineering and economics.

Mr. DiFrancisco lived most of his adult years at the New Jersey shore. He was an avid fisherman (those big fish stories were all true). He enjoyed reading, music, home renovation projects and travel.

January 2008 would have marked sixty years of marriage. Dad was a devoted help and soul mate to Elaine. He leaves a legacy of hard work, dedication, a love of education, and professional and personal honesty and integrity.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2007, at 3:30 p.m. at Asbury-Solomons Auditorium, 11100 Asbury Circle, Solomons, Md. with Reverend Randall Casto officiating. Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made in his memory to Solomons Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department, 13150 H.G. Trueman Road, P.O. Box 189, Solomons, Md. 20688 or to Asbury-Solomons, Benevolent Care Fund, Foundation Gift Processing, 11100 Asbury Circle, Solomons, Md. 20688. Arrangements are by the Rausch Funeral Home in Lusby, Md.

October 4, 2007



Felix J. DiFrancisco

## Francis J. Petrik, 66, Was Civil Engineer; Employed By County For 30 Years

Francis J. Petrik, 66, of Westfield passed away on Monday, October 1, at Community Medical Center in Toms River.

Born in Elizabeth in 1940, he had lived in Cranford before moving to Westfield in 1970. He graduated from Seton Hall Prep and Stevens Institute of Technology.

Frank had been employed as a civil engineer by the County of Union for 30 years, rising to the position of assistant county engineer, before retiring 13 years ago. He previously had worked at Union Carbide.

He volunteered on the board of directors for the Westfield Senior Citizens Housing Corporation. Frank also spent time traveling the world, including attending the 2002 World Cup in Korea with his sons and oldest grandchild.

He was the son of the late Joseph and Catherine Petrik and was predeceased by his amazing wife, Grace Bernadette, who passed in February of 1984.

Surviving him are his son Matthew and his wife, Laura, of Albany, Calif., along with their four sons, Aaron, Noah, Craig and Felix, and his son Jamie and his wife, Katy, of Banner Elk, N.C. He was the adoring brother of his three surviving sisters, Regina Birchler, Miriam Gilles and Teresa Petrik. He also is survived by a host of other relatives, cousins and friends.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend the viewing at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield today, Thursday, October 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be offered at 10 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, October 5, at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Burial will follow at Hazelwood Cemetery in Rahway.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in honor of Frank to the National MS Society at National MS Society, P.O. Box 4527, New York, N.Y. 10163.

October 4, 2007



Francis J. Petrik

## Community/Area News

### Screenings to Be Performed For Stroke and Osteoporosis

SCOTCH PLAINS - Stroke and osteoporosis screenings will be held this Saturday, October 6, at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at Plainfield Avenue and Jerusalem Road in Scotch Plains. Appointments will begin at 9 a.m.

Life Line Screening Radiology LLC, a mobile vascular screening service, will perform the procedures. Screenings involve the use of ultrasound technology and scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries, which can lead to a stroke; aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta, and hardening of the arteries in the legs, which are a strong predictor of heart disease. Addition-

ally, a bone density screening will be available for men and women to assess their risk for osteoporosis.

The purpose of the screenings is to help people identify their risk for these medical conditions early enough for their physician to begin preventive measures.

All four screenings take less than an hour to complete. The cost of a wellness package of all four screenings, including the free osteoporosis screening, is \$129.

For more information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, please call (877) 237-1344 or visit [lifelinescreening.com](http://lifelinescreening.com) online. Pre-registration is required.



OLD GUARD'S MEN...Members of the Westfield Area Old Guard welcome guest speaker Florence Peterson, director of the Union County Office of Consumer Affairs, to their September 12 meeting at the Westfield Area "Y." Pictured, from left to right, are: Bob Monahan, Mrs. Peterson, Dick Weiss and Roy Bowman.

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## Registration to Commence Soon For 'Y' Fall 2 Session

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Area "Y"'s Fall 2 Session will run from Sunday, October 28, through Saturday, December 22. New and expanded programs for all ages will be available.

Registration for Gold and Silver individual and family members will begin on Saturday, October 13, at 7:15 a.m. Members can register

online. Open registration for program and new members will begin on Monday, October 15, at 7:30 a.m.

New programs include Seventh Grade Jump Start Fitness Initiative, Holiday Sports Camp, Senior Splash, Snorkeling Class and Club 422. All Sports League and Pre-Season Basketball Clinics.

### Old Guard Learns Tips On Fraud Awareness

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Area Old Guard began a new season of meetings September 12 with guest speaker Florence Peterson, director of the Union County Office of Consumer Affairs.

Mrs. Peterson advised her audience to be aware of some telemarketers, as well as home repair scams, agencies switching their mortgages around and other ways in which elderly people can be cheated. She said that anyone who believes he or she may have been victimized could call her office at the Union County Courthouse.

The Westfield Area Old Guard invites retired men from local municipalities to attend any of its meetings, which take place on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon at the Westfield Area "Y," located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield. Gatherings begin with an hour of refreshments and fellowship. For more information, please call Jack McHugh at (908) 233-1539 or Walter Halpin at (908) 889-2074.

Additionally, screenings and lectures from health educators of Overlook Hospital will be held at the Westfield Area "Y" three times a week this fall. They will include blood pressure screenings, body fat screenings, diabetes screenings, "Hypnosis for Smokers," "Hypnosis for Weight" and "Ask the Health Professional."

A detailed schedule of dates and times for all programs is available at the main "Y" facility, located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield, and online at [westfieldnj.org](http://westfieldnj.org). For more information, please call (908) 233-2700 or visit [westfieldnj.org](http://westfieldnj.org).

### Hiking Club Invites Public to Activities

COUNTY - The Union County Hiking Club offers a regular and varied program of hiking and bicycling activities, most of which take place in central and northern New Jersey. Membership dues are \$10 per year. Guests are invited to try out the club before joining. To request a complimentary schedule, please call (908) 527-4900.

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