

# WF Goes Back to School

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In terms of RIS's space, she said, "We still have less square footage, smaller classes and higher enrollment... we're still facing challenges."

According to the BOE website, \$3.2 million will be spent "improving Roosevelt Intermediate School by expanding Roosevelt's cafeteria and library to accommodate enrollment and meet state standards; renovating Roosevelt's deteriorating stairwells and improving lighting in hallways for safety; and enclosing an open breezeway to provide security."

The construction phase of the RIS addition is anticipated to begin in November 2007, and the renovation of the existing library will begin during spring break 2008.

Of collective-bargaining agreements, Ms. Korecky said, "Negotiations have concluded with the Westfield Support Staff Association (which represents the janitorial workers)."

While there is no contract yet, "there has been a memorandum of agreement" for a three-year deal beginning in 2007 and culminating in 2010, she said.

Westfield schools will emphasize the use of new technology from as early as elementary school.

Between third and fifth grades, "we want students to be literate in basic computer programs, such as Word and Excel," Ms. Dolan said. She said, for instance, when practicing punctuation or capitalization, it represents a good time to teach aspects of Word or use social-studies data in Excel.

In the middle schools, sixth-grade students will have the opportunity to become entrepreneurs, said Ms. Dolan. They will determine a business and have to produce business cards, flyers and write a letter to a bank to convince them to give the businesses a loan.

"We hope to capture their imagination," Ms. Dolan added.

In seventh grade, students will learn how to use digital cameras and digital video "in coordination with what they're learning."

Eighth graders have the option to learn a CAD program and discover aspects of graphic design, website design and digital storytelling. She said her goal is for "teachers to use [the technology] to make the content area come alive."

As of August 10, there have been more than 50 new hires, mostly teachers replacing positions vacant due to resignations, leaves or retirements.

Of the new hires, approximately 30 are new employees to the district, while the others have been reassigned.

In addition to Ms. Dolan, new administrators include Barbara Ball, human resources specialist; Lynn Muir, Westfield High School assistant principal; Douglas Layman, Edison Intermediate School assistant principal and coordinator of the Gifted and Talented Program; Robert Gardella, Wilson assistant principal and basic-skills teacher, and David Heller, Franklin Elementary School assistant principal and basic-skills teacher.

In terms of her primary goal, Ms. Dolan told *The Leader* that she wants to "make sure the entire community gets a sense of who I am and understand my beliefs about education. I expect to maintain the high standards Westfield expects."

She said establishing the early childhood center and working to maintain the curriculum while incorporating new technology are two of her main objectives. In terms of adapting a working curriculum, she said, "you must have constant vigilance."



**MORE THAN COFFEE FETCHERS...** The Westfield Leader's summer interns, shown above in the *Leader* office in July, have completed the newspaper's internship program and have served the paper in significant ways. The interns have penned news and feature stories, participated in the editing and layout processes and have worked on group projects, such as an online election section and upcoming in-print features. *The Leader* thanks them for their dedication and hard work. Left to right, are: Ebony McQueen, Abby Ryan, intern coordinator Katie Newingham, Kelsi Browning, Martin Sweeney, Jenna Nierstedt, Allison Gibbons, Jillian Hernandez, Beth Budnick and Liza Katz. Not pictured, Georgia Mierswa and Sarah Queller.

# Public Schools In Garwood Scheduled to Reopen Today

By SUZETTE F. STALKER

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

**GARWOOD** - Public school students will return to the first day of classes today.

Borough youngsters in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten attend Washington School, while those in grades 1 through 8 are students at Lincoln School. Garwood high-school students attend Arthur L. Johnson High

School in Clark.

Acting Superintendent of Schools and Lincoln School Principal Teresa Quigley told *The Westfield Leader* last week that student enrollment is up by 10 pupils for the start of the 2007-2008 school year, bringing the total number of district students to approximately 415.

The district's one new staff member this year will be school psychologist Caren Graber.

Ms. Quigley is serving as acting superintendent while Superintendent of Schools William Murphy remains on medical leave.

The acting superintendent said that both Washington and the new Lincoln School are "cleaned, spruced up and ready-to-go" for the new school year.

She noted the district's "walking school bus" program - designed to incorporate more exercise into students' daily routine - would begin its second year in Garwood starting next Wednesday, September 12.

Walking along Center Street through the .75-square-mile borough, physical education teacher Virginia "Ginni" Hansen is joined by students en route to Lincoln School - typically arriving with at least 30 charges. Ms. Quigley said Ms. Hansen stated that, "With all this emphasis on nutrition and better health standards, I wanted to do something to get the kids moving."

"Our motto at Lincoln School, that we say over the loudspeaker, is work hard, be the best you can be, and be kind to one another - and that's our goal," Ms. Quigley said, adding that she is "looking forward to a wonderful year. I hope everyone has a great learning experience."



**BIRDWATCH...** A red-tailed hawk visits the bird-bath in Scott Schmedel's Mountainside backyard.

# Historic Preservation Ord.

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owner's wishes.

The first step in designating a home or district as historic is listing the property as a property of interest on the town's master plan, Ms. Thornton said. There are currently about 250 properties listed on the master plan, and adding to the list requires amending the master plan, she said.

Following this action, the historic preservation commission would have to perform a study on the property or district, following guidelines of the National Register of Historic Places. The study would designate the property or boundaries, and the commission would conduct a public hearing, with advance notification to property owners and the public. Following the hearing, the commission would have to make a recommendation to the council. The commission's role is strictly advisory, Ms. Thornton said.

The town council would then act on the commission's recommendation by introducing an ordinance. The ordi-

nance would then be sent to the planning board, which would discuss the proposal at a public meeting and review the proposal for consistency with the town's master plan. The board's recommendation would have to be returned to the council within 30 days.

"There's more work to be done. We want to know who will be affected [by the amendments to the ordinance]," said Councilman Jim Foerst, chairman of the code review committee that will review the ordinance before sending it to the full council. The committee wants more information as to the zones that will be affected...then we will be able to refer it [the ordinance] out to council. We don't want to refer it without having the answers."

The committee has received comments from both the planning board and the historic preservation commission.

"I am making sure we do it right the first time. I want to know who will be effected and make sure those people are contacted. I anticipate the questions the council will ask, and I want to know those answers. The number one question would be how many properties would be considered historic? What constitutes a historic zone? How many potential zones do we have?" Mr. Foerst asked.

After the board signs off, the council would then have a second reading of the proposed ordinance and public hearing. Following the hearing, the council would vote on whether to adopt the ordinance designating a property as historic.

Ms. Thornton said, "It would be very difficult for the council to designate a property or district over the owner's wishes."

Patrick Velderman, a former member of the historic preservation commission and Kimball Avenue historic district resident, said a key to balancing preservation with improvement is keeping the old portions of the home's exterior identifiable.

Ms. Thornton said the ordinance would have no impact on the interior of the property. However, it would require that a property owner obtain a certificate of appropriateness for exterior changes to a property.

Robert Newell, the planning board's representative to the historic preservation commission, said, "We (the town) haven't really designated any properties in the recent past."

In response as to why Stoneleigh Park is on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places, but not designated by the town, Mr. Newell noted that this was the result of homeowner objections.

"Our ordinance gave all rights to property owners and none to the municipality. The new ordinance is vital in preserving the historic character of town," Mr. Newell said.

Mr. Foerst said he does not expect the ordinance to be reviewed by the full council for another two to three weeks.

# POLICE BLOTTER

**Westfield**  
Monday, August 27, Jack D. Lipsett, 3rd, 22, of Garwood was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on a traffic warrant issued by Westfield. He was released after posting \$91 bail.

Wednesday, August 29, Leonard R. Newsome, Jr., 26, of Hillside was arrested on West South Avenue near Crossway Place pursuant to a Roselle criminal warrant during an investigation following a motor vehicle stop. Newsome was transported to Westfield police headquarters and later released on his own recognizance per the Roselle Municipal Court.

Thursday, August 30, a Cranford resident reported that her motor vehicle, a 2007 BMW X5, sustained damage while parked at Mindowaskin Park the previous day. A key or similar object was used to leave scratches in the vehicle's paint and body.

Friday, August 31, John Johnson, 74, of Plainfield was arrested on the 100 block of Summit Court and charged with driving while intoxicated. He was released on his own recognizance to a responsible individual.

Friday, August 31, Patrick Hughes, 18, of Westfield was arrested on the 300 block of Clark Street and charged with possession of heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to distribute and possession of hypodermic syringes. He was released on his own recognizance.

Friday, August 31, Derrick Cornigans, 55, of Newark and Christopher Boals, 28, of Massapequa, N.Y. were arrested at Davis Court and East Broad Street and charged with possession of hypodermic syringes. Cornigans was released with a summons. Boals also was arrested on an outstanding Cranford traffic warrant with \$50 bail and three Newark criminal warrants totaling \$950 bail. He was committed to the Union County jail on default of bail.

Sunday, September 2, Hakim Ali, 52, of North Plainfield was arrested at Woodland Avenue and East Broad Street on a Rockaway criminal warrant with bail of \$1,257. Ali was released after posting bail.

Sunday, September 2, Kevin Ungaretta, 25, of Clark was arrested on three traffic warrants, one from Dunellen with \$500 bail and two from Scotch Plains totaling \$1,000 bail, following a motor vehicle stop at South and Central Avenues. He was released after posting bail.

**Mountainside**  
Tuesday, August 28, a resident of Pembroke Road reported that someone removed a plate compactor and a wheelbarrow from his backyard. The missing construction equipment is valued at approximately \$2,300.

Thursday, August 30, a patron of the Mountainside Community Pool reported that someone removed her wallet from her unattended bag while she was at the pool. According to police, the wallet contained \$40 cash and two credit cards. The wallet was recovered later that day when a resident found it in the roadway in front of the pool, police said.

Friday, August 31, a business on Route 22 reported that someone knocked down the company's sign sometime overnight. According to police, the Department of Transportation was working on the road overnight and it is suspected that a backhoe could have knocked down the sign. Police are investigating the incident.

Friday, August 31, a resident reported being the victim of possible identity theft. According to police, the victim received a bill from Sprint listing a cell phone number that was unknown to him.

Monday, September 3, Julio G. Alvarado, 38, and Delancy Taylor, 42, both of Elizabeth, were arrested for theft

of a movable property after stealing a scrapped air-conditioning unit from a property on Sheffield Avenue.

**Scotch Plains**  
Saturday, September 1, a business on Park Avenue reported that someone removed a sign, valued at \$400, from the front of the store.

Saturday, September 1, Kenneth Robert, 20, of Plainfield was arrested for an outstanding warrant, as well as underage drinking after police responded to a report of a disturbance on Bartell Avenue.

Saturday, September 1, a customer at a Park Avenue bank reported that someone withdrew money from her account without her knowledge.

Sunday, September 2, a resident of Lamberts Mill Road reported that someone struck his vehicle while it was parked and fled the scene without stopping.

Sunday, September 2, a resident of Rambling Drive reported that a former coworker has been calling her on the phone repeatedly for the last several weeks.

**Fanwood**  
Saturday, September 1, Jason T. Cagle, 24, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for outstanding Plainfield and Union Township warrants.

Saturday, September 1, Larry G. Langford-Davis, Jr., 31, of Plainfield and Amin H. Bradbury, 27, of Newark were arrested after a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road and charged with unlawful possession of a weapon, unlawful possession of a handgun, possession of a defaced weapon, possession of hollow-point bullets, possession of a controlled dangerous substance (CDS), possession of a CDS with intent to distribute and possession of a handgun while in possession of a CDS.

According to police, Langford-Davis was also charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Langford-Davis is being held at the Union County jail on bail set at \$250,000 cash, police said. Bradbury is being held on \$150,000 cash bail at the Union County jail.

Sunday, September 2, Paul Cacciuotolo, 22, of Fanwood was arrested and charged with obstruction of justice after interfering with a police investigation. He was issued a summons and released.

Sunday, September 2, James J. Lambert, 41, of Fanwood was arrested in the 100 block of Russell Road and charged with driving while intoxicated. He was processed and released to a responsible adult.

## Westfield Regional Health Department Blotter

Statistics for Westfield, July 2007

Vital Statistics	
Births	32
Deaths	22
Marriages	26
Civil Unions	0
Domestic Partnerships	0

## Communicable / Reportable Diseases

Hepatitis A	0
Salmonella	1
Hepatitis C	0
Influenza	0
Lyme Disease	0
Disease Outbreaks	0
Other	6

## Retail Food Inspections

Excellent	0
Passed	9
Conditionally Satisfactory	3
Unsatisfactory	0
Total Initial/Re-inspections	16
Mobile Food Inspections	1
Temporary Inspections	8
Food Samples / Lab Tests	0
Retail Food Complaints	2
Food Borne Illness	0

## Environmental

Garbage	4
Rodent	7
Animal Control	1
Lead Investigations	0
Heating Complaints	0
Nuisance	1
Air, Water, Noise Complaints	0

## Health Screenings/Programs

Blood Pressure	0
Diabetes	0
Stroke	0
Health Education	0
Other	0
Flu/Pneumonia Vaccinations	0

## Child Health Services

Child Health Clinics	2
# of Children Attending	4
# of Vaccinations Given	4
Physicals	3

## Nursing

Home Visits	0
School Audits	0
Other	0

## Other Inspections

Pools	4
Tobacco Age of Sale	11
Nursery/Day Care Centers	1
Other	0

## Enforcement

Court Summons	1
Board Hearings	0

# Westfield Council

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refund \$39,000 to pool members.

When multiple council people asked about rescuing themselves due to their pool memberships, Mr. Cockren said that wouldn't be necessary. "No one has a financial interest," he said.

Town Engineer Ken Marsh said a study would be conducted on the feasibility of incorporating additional spots in the North Avenue train station parking-lot design plan. The area in question lies in the rear of the fire department.

Mr. Gildea said, "There's a possibility for extra spots. If we can maximize that space...it would be very helpful. We want to see if that can happen." After the meeting, Mr. Marsh told *The Westfield Leader* that the lot could stand to gain 15 to 18 spots.

In terms of upcoming roadwork, crews will address repairs on Grove Street today. Mr. Gildea said the project would amount to a "one-day inconvenience" for Edison schoolchildren and parents after a "bit of a delay." Paving will take place today, with striping to occur on Saturday.

Within approximately two months, parking lots 1 and 8 near Trader Joe's will be conjoined. In terms of the project's length, lot 1, off of Prospect Street, will take four to five weeks, while lot 8, off of Elm Street, will take roughly three weeks, according to assistant engineer Kris McAloon.

Mr. McAloon said the work would be "staggered," with lot 1 addressed first and half the lot remaining open. All told, he expects the work, which will begin Saturday, to be completed by November.

In the finance policy committee report, chairman Peter Echausse said three of four major revenue streams are "tracking, for the first seven

months of the year, ahead of the same seven months the prior year."

The existence of one "lagging" entity, construction permit fees, "makes sense because of interest rates and the building environment that we're seeing nationally," Mr. Echausse said.

However, he said, "We're only down \$30,000" and items such as parking revenue and the municipal court system are "more than making up for it."

Next Tuesday, a 7 p.m. memorial service at the 9/11 monument will precede the meeting.

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**NUNSENSE...** Nuns enjoy some ice cream during the annual St. Bart's Festival, held during Labor Day weekend in Scotch Plains.

# Election Preview

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three years ago, and Charles E. Mitchell, Sr. of Roselle, an independent running under the "Clean Up Government" slogan.

In the freeholder race, incumbents Bette Jane Kowalski, chairman, and Dan Sullivan, who works for the state Motor Vehicle Services Commission and has been a freeholder since 1995, seek re-election. Plainfield City Council President Rayland Van Blake will join them. Mr. Van Blake replaced Freeholder Adrian Mapp after the Democratic Party's county organization bumped Mr. Mapp from the party line.

Mr. Mapp seeks re-election on the independent slate; hopefuls Becky McHugh of Linden and George O'Grady of Elizabeth join him.

On the Republican line, Wallace Shackell Jr. of Cranford, Robert Reilly of Cranford and Patricia Quattrocchi of Garwood, a four-time freeholder candidate, will run for seats.

Democrats have held a 9-0 majority on the freeholder board for the past 10 years.

At the state level, in District 21, which includes Westfield, Mountainside and Garwood, former Long Hill mayor and current committeewoman Gina Genovese, a Democrat, challenges Republican Senator Tom Kean Jr.'s re-election bid. In the Assembly race, Republican incumbents Jon Bramnick of Westfield and Eric Munoz of Summit will face Democrats Norman Albert of Cranford and Bruce Bergen of Springfield, an attorney in Cranford who ran

for the assembly in 2005.

Green Party candidates George DeCarlo, the Green Party's state chairman, and Ryan Reyes, an interpreter, both of Berkeley Heights, and Libertarians Darren Young of Summit, a software developer, and Jeff Hetrick of Mountainside, a management representative for a chemical company, also vie for District 21 assembly seats.

In District 22, Republican write-in Rose McConnell of Phillipsburg faces off against Democratic incumbent Nicholas Scutari of Linden for State Senate. In the assembly race, Democrats Linda Stender of Fanwood and Jerry Green of Plainfield, both incumbents, seek re-election against opposition from Republicans Bryan Des Rochers of Rahway and Robert Gatto of North Plainfield.

## Erratum

In a front-page article last week, "DWC Approves Grants for South Avenue Locations," *The Westfield Leader* erroneously stated that funds from the 5K run usually go to fund WHS's Project Graduation. The Westfield Optimist club organizes, funds and runs Project Graduation; the DWC has never done so.

The article should have said that DWC members, during a discussion of sponsorship and promotion for the 5K run, mentioned the possibility of donating a portion of the proceeds to educational events.

We regret the error.