Public Antics Don’t Contribute To Good Local Governance

If last week’s antics at the township council’s budget meeting didn’t convince you the atmosphere in Scotch Plains has gotten truly ugly, then nothing will.

When a political party chairman who is also a candidate for local office publicly utters an obscenity once, but twice at a meeting, is threatened with expulsion for being disruptive and then makes deliberate physical contact with his chief nemesis on the council floor before his meeting, it is evident to all that the level of hostility in the township government is as low as it can get.

Unfortunately, Mr. Samuel’s antics last week were not an aberration. He has disrupted other meetings and has been a thorn in the side of the Westfield Community Action Group since some heated discussions about the 2008 municipal budget. A year ago, Mr. Samuel also disrupted a budget meeting by trying to come to Mr. Glover’s municipal elections. His outbursts last week came as no surprise to those who knew he was a productive member of the governing body.

This is the second year in a row that I have attended the council meeting in June (the May 8th edition of the Westfield Column copy of May 8th). Mr. Samuel has been the most notable person to attend these meetings.

I was highly offended. It’s ignorance. I was highly offended.

Asm. Jerry Green (D) Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 (908)-587-0404

Rational Parking Policy Needed in Westfield

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Friends of the Scotch Plains Public Library, I was delighted to have received support from many of our friends and neighbors for our annual Book Sale.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood townspeople can be very proud of our Book Sale, which is held every year in the Scotch Plains Public Library. The sale is a moveable feast of books, with books for all ages and interests. The sale is open to the public and is a wonderful opportunity to support the library.

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We hope to see you there.

Respectfully,

Mary Jane Arnold

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Respectfully,

Mary Jane Arnold

Who is Responsible for Red Oaks in Downtown Westfield?

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you today to bring to your attention the condition of the red oaks in Downtown Westfield.

These oaks are located at the intersection of Orange Avenue and Broad Street. They have been in poor condition for several years, and it appears that they are dying.

I have been in contact with the city’s forestry department and have been informed that the oaks are healthy and will not be removed.

I am concerned about the appearances of these trees and believe that the city should take steps to improve their condition.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Westfield Police Should Protect Children At Nursery Playground

As predicted in our nursery school's annual newsletter, the Westfield Police Department has been failing to protect our children at the nursery playground.

According to the newsletter, the Westfield Police Department has been neglecting its duty to protect our children at the nursery playground, as evidenced by the fact that our children are frequently being injured by the playground equipment.

The nursery school management has repeatedly asked the Westfield Police Department to increase its presence at the nursery playground, but the department has failed to respond.

This is unacceptable. As parents, we have a right to expect that our children will be protected while they are at the nursery playground.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]