



Christina M. Hinke for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
FULL HOUSE...Residents pack the Cranford Municipal Building on New Year's Day to witness the swearing in of elected officials at the reorganization meeting.



Paul Lachenauer for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
REORGANIZATION...At the Union County Freeholder reorganization meeting on January 5, Sheriff Ralph Froehlich is sworn in by County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, center, while his wife, Marlene, looks on.



Brian Trusdell for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
OATH OF OFFICE...Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz, (R-21, Summit), left, issues the oath of office to Garwood councilman Jim Mathieu, while Mr. Mathieu's wife, Liz, and infant son, James, look on.

WF Board OKs Dentist Office At Site of Former Auto Shop

By DELL SIMEONE
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD - The planning board approved an application Monday night by Lighthouse Investments, LLC, for preliminary and final major site plan approval with variances to allow a change of use from an auto repair shop to a dental office at 924 South Avenue West. The board's approval included a stipulation that the applicant include a new lighting plan to the board's subcommittee.

The applicant, Dr. Rui Sergio Seu, sought variances relief from the town's maximum coverage by all improvements of 70 percent. His application proposed 82.59 percent. The ordinance also requires a minimum driveway width of 10 feet where the dentist office was proposed at 8.75 feet.

Architect Maria DiCosmo said the new driveway, which will be 9.7 feet wide, will replace the old 8.75-foot driveway and will be on the east side of the property. Planner Frank Mattarazzo said, previously, the property had an auto body repair shop with a residence in front, which is to be demolished. The rear of the site contains parking lot. He said there would be a 15-foot light stanchion and low growth plantings on the perimeter of the parking lot.

Board members questioned the new driveway plan and the use of the rear plot, as well as where trash and a dumpster might be kept. Ms. DiCosmo said the trash will be minimal and that any medical waste will be taken away by special pickup.

Ms. DiCosmo said the floor plan would be residential, with direct entry from the front and back of the building keeping the integrity of the structure as a house, with dormers.

"It is not imposing. It is sensitive to the neighborhood," she said. "We have eliminated the handicapped ramp in the rear and put in a virtual lift to enable safer handicapped access," she added. There is now a utility pole on the right of the property, which will come down.

Board Vice-Chairman Robert Newell objected to the placement of the driveway on the east side of the site. The applicant agreed to widen the driveway and move it to the west side of the property. Mr. Newell also objected to the lighting.

Redstar Holdings, LLC of 1024 South Avenue West, was approved for preliminary and final major site plan with variances to allow a change from

a business to a professional office use for accounting and investment management. The application was also approved with a condition that a lighting plan is submitted.

The applicant's attorney Stephen Hehl said no expansion of the building is proposed. He said the business will have seven full-time employees and one part-time employee, and the hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Project architect Dan Falcone said the building will have curb appeal with grass and shrubbery. He said interior renovations and cosmetic modifications of the building exterior are proposed. He also said the existing parking lot will be re-stripped and will continue to provide a total of nine parking spaces, including one ADA accessible space.

Mr. Falcone said the building will have a new roof over the back, and new windows and new siding. A new building mounted sign was also proposed. Applicant is seeking variance relief from the following sections of the code.

The reorganization of the board took place prior to the regular meeting. Vincent Wilt was reelected chairman and Mr. Newell as vice-chairman. Four new members were appointed. Ken Donnelly was sworn in on Monday night; Michael Fisher, Ethan Kramer and Pam Wiazek will be sworn in at the next meeting on Monday, February 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the municipal building.

The board announced that a special meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16, at 8 a.m. for the adoption of a resolution concerning the expansion of Stop & Shop, which was approved in December by the board.



Paul Lachenauer for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WF BOE Receives Update on District's Strategic Plan

By DELL SIMEONE
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD - The board of education received a power point presentation Tuesday night by Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan on the district's strategic plan and goals. The strategic plan began in 2010 and proceeds through 2015.

Topics covered were student achievement and student personal development. She also mentioned finance and facilities and the need to maximize the use of district resources and funding opportunities. She also said, "We (the district) will improve communication and community engagement between the school district and all stakeholders."

Goals for this year include the implementation of the Marshall Teacher Evaluation Model to develop and use benchmark assessments to measure growth of student performance and to implement new digital tools and media to improve communication.

Ms. Dolan said that a review of requirements of the Marshall model with administrators and teachers is being done by having a meeting schedule with administrators. She said it is important that the district has developed a district manual and website to detail requirements and provide supporting resources.

She said that in and out-of-district training sessions are important. Ms. Dolan said it is important that observation feedback be given to administrators. She said administrators and the board will receive a weekly Marshall memo, which includes research, trends, and information regarding teacher evaluations. Ms. Dolan also said it is important to establish benchmarks for student growth and objectives.

In other business, the board voted to adopt and school calendar for 2014-2015 which will include a

spring break from April 3 though April 10. Board member Ann Ormsby Cary of the legislation committee said the district is waiting to see if new state legislation will mandate an all-day kindergarten program. Westfield currently has a half-day kindergarten program.

The board voted to accept a gift of \$2,000 from an anonymous donor to the Westfield High School music department. The board also voted to accept a gift from the Westfield Coalition for the Arts of \$3,000 to the WHS music department to fund the Avery Fisher Festival.

Business administrator/Board Secretary Dana Sullivan told the board that new state legislation will delay the board's budget process by a month this year. "Usually a tentative budget is presented in January, but this year I have to wait to hear from the state," she said.

At the start of the meeting, BOE incumbents Ginny Leiz, Brendan Galligan and Mitch Slater were sworn into new terms by BOE attorney Richard Kaplow.

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, January 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the administration building at 302 Elm Street.

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SP Council

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In remarks at the start of the meeting, Mayor Glover set out some of his priorities for the new year, including using money from the sale two years ago of the Shackamoxon Country Club for downtown business district purposes. The mayor said he opposed reinstating the \$400 annual assessment on property owners to fund the Scotch Plains Management Corp., leaving the fate of that cash-strapped entity up in the air. He said one key to revitalization of the business district is hosting more "family-oriented activities" such as car and craft shows, movie nights, farmer's markets and concerts.

The mayor also praised efforts in the past year to increase communications with residents — via what he said was an upgraded television station and website, more use of social media and the establishment of an AM radio station. He also called for a township employee to be tasked with overseeing the flow of information to residents. Additionally, the mayor called for talks to re-start with Fanwood on merging the two towns' police departments. He also called for a referendum on the November 2014 ballot asking residents whether they favor merging the sewer utility back into the overall municipal budget. And the mayor said that after many years of promises that the former Terry-Lou Zoo property would be developed into a park, "let's make this the year the one where we deliver on that promise."

SP BOE

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unanimously voted to their positions; however, board member Warren McFall expressed an interest in attending the Union County Educational Services Commission's Representative Assembly meetings if Mr. Whitehouse were not available to attend.

The appointment of a delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association in Trenton was tabled as last year's representative, Douglas Layne, was not in attendance at Tuesday's meeting. Mr. Whitehouse noted that the position required a big commitment, as all of the meetings are held on Saturdays in Trenton. Mr. Whitehouse said he wanted to talk to Mr. Layne first before asking him for such a commitment again. BOE member Betty Anne Woerner also was not in attendance at the re-organizational meeting.

The BOE additionally voted for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*, *The Star-Ledger* and the *Patch* for publication of legal and public notices for the district.

The next board of education meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the administration building at Evergreen Avenue and Cedar Street in Scotch Plains.



Photo courtesy of Tim Villane
FROLICKING FRIENDS...Foxes were spotted in the backyard of a residence on Clarence Street in Westfield on Friday morning after the snowstorm. They were there for quite some time, frolicking in the snow and playing with each other. The homeowner stated, "it was like watching a live PBS Nature show."

Westfield Council

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to the mobile site include larger navigation buttons, a built-in search feature and access to Facebook and Twitter. He also reported that the mobile site now delivers all updates, news and events that are available on the regular website.

"It's just a little upgrade. It may be a minor thing, but I think it's important that our website looks presentable to the public on tablets and on other mobile devices," stated Mr. Gildea.

During the Finance Policy Committee portion of the meeting, Chairperson Sam Della Fera reported on a meeting held with Michael Bange, a representative from the New Jersey American Water Company.

"We received from certain residents inquiries regarding work being done around town that is New Jersey American Water related to upgrading their infrastructure including water mains, hydrants, installing new meters," stated Mr. Della Fera. "We asked them to improve communication and notice to the town and residents whenever possible, and they've agreed to give us as much advanced notice as possible of any road work and pipe work that's going to be going on."

"We're trying to get that information on our website whenever possible, maybe use Twitter. We rein-

forced our noise ordinance with respect to their hours of operation. Some people have complained that they are out there too early. In certain cases apparently, their contractor or subcontractors were out there earlier than they should have been under our municipal ordinance. So they have agreed to redouble their efforts in that regard."

Mr. Della Fera continued, "It sounds like we are going to see quite a bit of main cleaning, main replacement and spot work for the next 12 months. Obviously, we ask for everyone's patience and understanding. They have committed to restoring everyone's properties, street, landscaping to acceptable pre-work levels...we're happy to hear that and I think they will come out to a council meeting at some point in the future to continue to communicate with residents and the council about upcoming work."

The next town council conference session open to the public is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, at 7 p.m. at the municipal building, located at 425 East Broad Street. The conference session will be immediately followed by the council's regular public meeting at 7:45 p.m. For more information on the Town of Westfield, visit westfieldnj.gov.

Union County Freeholders

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also offer free Wifi at six county locations including: Wheeler Pool in Linden, Ulrich Pool in Rahway, the county clerk's office in Westfield, Warinanco Skating Rink in Roselle, Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside, and "possibly" part of Nomahegan Park in Cranford.

The new freeholder chairman, the first chairman from Linden in 15 years, said the county will now ask gun vendors wishing to sell guns to the county what he referred to as "socially responsible questions on gun control."

The questions are: "What do you do to combat illegal gun trafficking and illegal gun crime?"

"Do you sell assault weapons for civilian use?"

"Do you agree not to sell certain models of firearms for civilian use?"

"Do you fund research related to gun violence and smart gun technology?"

Jersey City Mayor Steve Fulop, who was in attendance at Sunday's ceremony, was the first in the country to initiate the requirement for gun vendors in his city.

Freeholder Hudak said more than 35,000 Americans have died from gun violence in the year since shootings at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn.

"Union County residents are tired of waiting for meaningful reform. And so is this board. The freeholder board does not have the authority to regulate firearms. But we do have the ability to do business only with responsible vendors of guns and ammunition," Freeholder Hudak said.

He said the county will also conduct a second countywide gun buyback program through the Union County Police Department. Last summer's program with Hudson

County, a program initiated by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, resulted in 1,000 guns being turned in by owners in Union County.

Sheriff Froehlich said he would also focus on reducing gun violence in his new term.

During a business meeting that followed the swearing-in ceremony, the board passed 36 resolutions to approve contracts, appoint law firms and an auditor as well as other start-of-the-year business. The board also approved a one-year, \$138,000 contract with Washington, D.C.-based Winning Strategies Washington to provide "comprehensive federal government relations and lobbying services."

Another resolution appointed former Garwood councilman Charles Lombardo as a commissioner to the Union County Utilities Authority.

WF Rec.

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bility of reconditioning the eight tennis courts at Tamaques Park, which he characterized as "on their last legs." A decision regarding whether it would be feasible to add an additional court will depend on the results of the surveyor's report, which will be completed within the next few weeks.

In other business, newly appointed Commission Chairman Peter Echausse advised the commission and the public that the lights at Westfield Memorial Pool would be replaced by PSE&G at no cost to the town because the pool complex meets the utility's criteria for an energy abatement program.

The commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, February 3.



Betsy Burgdorf for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
ALL AGLOW...The Westfield Train Station is bathed in sunlight as the sun sets on Monday afternoon. Comfortable temperatures in the 50s would give way to an arctic chill on Tuesday, as record-low temperatures dipped into the single digits.

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-13004353
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-013459-13
Plaintiff: WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF THE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE HARBOURVIEW MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-12 VS.
Defendant: JOSE C. ROJAS
Sale Date: 01/29/2014
Writ of Execution: 09/24/2013
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Four Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Four and 35/100*** \$438,454.35.
MUNICIPALITY: Borough of Fanwood COUNTY AND STATE: County of Union, State of New Jersey
STREET AND STREET NUMBER: 321 Terrill Road
TAX LOT AND BLOCK NUMBERS: Lot: 20; Block 49
DIMENSIONS: 50 X 100
NEAREST CROSS STREET: Paterson Road
Beginning at a point on the center line of Terrill Road, said point being distant 175.54 feet southeasterly from the intersection of the center line of Terrill Road and the center line of Paterson Road.
Pursuant to a tax search of 09/26/2013; 2012 Taxes: \$8,411.79 Paid in Full; 2013 QTR 1 Taxes: \$2,102.95 Paid; 2013 QTR 2 Taxes: \$2,102.95 Paid; 2013 QTR 3 Taxes: \$2,218.20 Paid; 2013 QTR 4 Taxes: \$2,218.20 Open due on 11/01/2013; Sewer Account: included with taxes; Property Maintenance Charge: 2013 \$72.56 Open plus penalty.
(This concise description does not constitute a legal description.)
Total Upset: ***Four Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Eight and 05/100*** \$451,688.05 together with lawful interest and costs.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.
The Fair Housing Act prohibits "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination" in connection with any aspect of a residential real estate transaction. Zuckerman, LLC encourages and supports the equal housing practices of the Fair Housing Act in the conduct of its business.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.
Ralph Froehlich
Sheriff

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-13004330
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-50801-09
Plaintiff: HUDSON CITY SAVINGS BANK VS.
Defendant: CHARLES HOLLANDER; CLAUDIA HOLLANDER
Sale Date: 01/29/2014
Writ of Execution: 06/07/2013
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Eight Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Two and 08/100*** \$855,522.08.
The property to be sold is located in: The Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 2119 Elizabeth Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.
Tax Lot No: 21 in Block: 8902
Dimensions of Lot: (Approximately) 80 x 100
Nearest Cross Street: Heffield Avenue
Subject to any open taxes, water/sewer, municipal or tax liens that may be due.
Subject to Tax and prior lien info: Taxes/ sewer/water may be delinquent - you must check with the tax collector for exact amounts due.
Subject to Prior Mortgages and Judgments (if any): None.
Total Upset: ***Eight Hundred Ninety-One Thousand Twenty-Two and 32/100*** \$891,022.32 together with lawful interest and costs.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.
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There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.
Ralph Froehlich
Sheriff

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& 01/23/14
Fee: \$197.88