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## Sheriff Ralph Froehlich

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Program, assisting local police departments in the transport of prisoners to and from jail, which enabled local officers to remain in their communities.

Sheriff Froehlich was past president of the National Jail Managers Association and served four terms as president of the New Jersey Sheriffs' Association. He served as president of the New Jersey Constitutional Officers.

State Senate President Steve Sweeney said in a statement, "Sheriff Froehlich had a long and distinguished career as a public servant and was a true giant in Union County. His decades of service, both as sheriff, a police officer and as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, are a testament to the dedication and commitment he had to his community and his country. Our thoughts are with his family and friends."

State Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21st, Westfield) said, "The passing of Sheriff Froehlich represents the end of a very important era in law enforcement in Union County. He served the people of Union County with honor and distinction and cared deeply about their safety and welfare. He will be missed."

Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick (D-21st, Westfield) said, "Sheriff Froehlich was a bipartisan leader in our state and a friend. He served the people of Union County honorably and will be deeply missed."

Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz (R-21st, Summit) said, "I am saddened to learn of the passing of Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, who spent over 50 years dedicated to protecting the people of Union County. His commitment to public service is greatly appreciated and he will be truly missed. I offer my condolences to his family."

Assemblyman Gerry Green (D-22nd, Plainfield), who also serves as Union County Democratic Committee chairman, said, "Words simply fail to adequately describe the impact Ralph had on the safety of residents in Union County and New Jersey. His tenacious dedication to expanding child safety programs, developing state-of-the-art anti-terrorism techniques, and advocating for tough gun-

control measures are but only a few of his amazing accomplishments. All combined, these efforts led him to being internationally recognized as one of the most prolific law enforcement innovators to serve the public.

"For decades, Union County Democrats pointed with pride at Ralph Froehlich as an example of our best mixture of professionalism, dedication, and humanity. He will be forever remembered as a hard-working, compassionate public servant who put our public safety above all else. He had already achieved legendary status while still in office, and he will keep it in perpetuity."

Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-22nd, Scotch Plains) added that, "We have lost a dedicated public servant. Sheriff Ralph Froehlich honorably served the people of Union County. Ralph would frequently say he 'was the luckiest man alive' because of his wonderful family, friends, colleagues, and the job he loved. In actuality, we in Union County were lucky and blessed to have Ralph Froehlich serve us. He will truly be missed."

Sheriff Froehlich is survived by his wife of 29 years, Marlene, and their children, Renee Garcia, of Roselle Park. He also is survived by Marlene's children, Darla Rogers and her husband, Ken, and their children, Trent and Reese Levitt of Ringoes; Robert Coon, his wife, Pam, and their children, Ryan, Kasey and Aiden; Frank Coon and Christopher Coon. He also was the father of the late Renee Hagen.

A viewing will be held this Sunday, July 27, from 2 to 9 p.m., at the Union County Courthouse, Main Tower Building, First Floor Rotunda, 2 Broad Street, Elizabeth. The funeral will take place on Monday, July 28, at 9:30 a.m. from the Krowicki McCracken Funeral Home, 224 East Saint Georges Avenue, Linden, followed by a Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 155 Washington Avenue, Elizabeth. Burial will follow at Saint Gertrude Cemetery, 53 Inman Avenue, Colonia section of Woodbridge Township.

## MS Board of Adjustment

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Westfield Board of Adjustment to erect a new three-story building to house operating rooms, reception area, conference rooms, and examining rooms. Under that plan, the kennel would be eliminated. He had to gain approval from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for that application because a stream ran through the back of the property. That approval was granted. In that plan, the present facility would have had to be demolished while the new building was being constructed. Dr. Maus owns the Westfield property.

Dr. Maus said at the June 2014 Mountainside Board of Adjustment meeting that when he found out the Mountainside property was available right across the street he decided this was a better option. One large draw, he said, was the opportunity to operate the business on one floor rather than three, saying it was more efficient. He also said he could then keep the kennel and have a dog walk on the outside of the building.

The owner of the Mountainside property, POP Realty Corporation/RPG LLC, is Paul Gigliotti, who owns other commercial properties at various points on Route 22. The proposal calls for a new veterinary office, hospital and wellness center for the Westfield Veterinary Group. New variances were required for shared parking, foundation and lot coverage, rear-yard setback, front-and-side-yard setback, pavement and auxiliary structure within 10 feet of the principle building, access to multiple use, signage and driveways.

Under the new approved application the variance relief for rear yard setback has been eliminated. The dumpster, or trash enclosure, has been moved from the northerly side of the building to the southerly side of the building. There is a reduced sidewalk area. The generator is to be enclosed and tested only on weekdays. The utilities, such as HVAC, will be on the roof of the building, which will have a screening to block it from the view of residential neighbors to the rear of the property. Front-yard parking will match that of the day school. Amendments to the application were made in response to concerns of Michael Disko, Jr., borough engineer, who was not present at the

Tuesday's meeting. John Chadwick, borough planning consultant, and Harold Maltz, the borough's traffic consultant.

In total, 105 parking places are called for, with 14 in the hospital lot to be designated, Monday through Friday, for the Primrose Day School. Barry Dean, traffic engineer for POP Realty, said cars are getting smaller and the parking spaces were changed from 9 by 20 feet to 9 by 18 feet in size.

The building will be made of concrete with an insulated layer of styrofoam in the middle. It will be from the Bedrock Corporation of Monmouth County and will be mostly soundproof. The backyard border will contain arborvitae and other tall trees in consideration of the rear residential properties.

The amended plan calls for the dog walk to be enclosed on three sides. The size of the kennels will be six feet by five feet, down from six feet by eight feet.

Dr. Maus will be leasing the Mountainside property. He told *The Westfield Leader* he would probably lease or sell the Westfield property.

The next meeting of the board of adjustment will be Tuesday, August 26, at 7:30 p.m., at the Mountainside Borough Hall.



Evan Rossi for *The Westfield Leader*  
SEASON FINALE...Dr. Thomas Connors directs the Westfield Community Band on July 17 in Mindowaskin Park. The concert, entitled "Summer Pops," concluded the band's Summer Concert Series.



Photo courtesy of Peter Foltz  
QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC...The Foltz family of Westfield read *The Westfield Leader* while on a recent trip to Venice, Italy.

## Eric Larson Hired as New Bus. Admin. for MS BOE

By KAITLYN FREY  
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

MOUNTAINSIDE — Eric Larson recently was hired as the board of education's newest business administrator.

The position is part of a shared inter-local agreement between the Mountainside and Garwood school districts, according to Mountainside Chief School Administrator Nancy Lubarsky. Mr. Larson will work in Mountainside three days a week and Garwood two days a week.

"The county and state encourage shared service as a way to effectively control expenses," Mr. Larson told *The Westfield Leader*.

In the past, Mountainside had been using interim business administrators because the district only needed them part-time and it is more difficult to get a full-time business administrator, Ms. Lubarsky told *The Leader*.

Former Mountainside business administrator Charles Milewski is leaving because he was an interim business administrator. Ms. Lubarsky said state law dictates that an interim business administrator can stay in the same place for no longer than two years.

Mr. Larson began his position on July 1. For the past year-and-a-half he served as the business administrator for the Denville school district. Prior to working in Denville, he worked in the finance industry in New York City for 25 years. He was a certified public accountant at Deloitte and Touche and later worked for Lehman Brothers.

Mr. Larson, who lives in Chatham with his family, said one of the reasons he was inspired to work in a school district was because his wife is a teacher.

"I wanted to do something different where I could still leverage off the skill

set I learned in the finance industry, so it seemed like a natural thing to look into being a business administrator," Mr. Larson told *The Leader*.

As business administrator, Mr. Larson is responsible for overseeing all of the non-educational operations of the school.

"I am responsible for all the finances, preparing the annual budget and operations of the school such as transportation, food services and the facilities," Mr. Larson said.

Ms. Lubarsky said when hiring a business administrator the district looks for someone who has previous experience in addition to someone who understands the needs of small school districts because those needs are very different than those of large districts.

In this case, with the inter-local agreement between Mountainside and Garwood, they were also looking for someone they believed could balance the needs of two school districts.

"I think this arrangement is so great because we are starting at the same time. Sometimes these agreements come when an older district decides to contract services with another district and the balance isn't always equal. We are very optimistic this is going to be positive and cost-saving for both districts," Ms. Lubarsky said.

Mr. Larson said he is looking forward to working with both school districts and getting exposure to new things.

"We just passed a large referendum to get a lot of upgrades done to the facilities. I am excited about getting those upgrades done and all of the improvements, to create a better educational atmosphere that will result from over \$19 million of funds we will have to spend," he said.

## Cranford Planning Board

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periods, the 100-year storm in the Township of Cranford doesn't quite fit anymore. I would ask on behalf of the planning board that further revisions be made to the detention basin, so the time period does not further overburden the waterways," Mr. Hannen said.

When Hurricane Irene hit Cranford in 2011, it caused widespread flooding in the township from the Rahway River. "1,600 homes had damages, with 400 having first-floor damage," Planning Board member Dan Aschenbach said.

"For an application of this magnitude...in this regard it doesn't make sense to me," Mr. Aschenbach said.

Mr. Aschenbach and other members of the board had asked Mr. Pasqual and UCC to meet with the township engineer to go over the calculations of the stormwater management system, which were not provided at the presentation nor in the materials sent to the township in advance of the presentation.

"We are not going to sit down and meet with your engineer. We have provided the township the opportunity to ask questions," said Judy Verrone, attorney for the UCC.

"I don't understand what would be so wrong with a sit down with our engineer to be certain of the plans," Mr. Aschenbach replied. "You knew this would be on our minds as a concern."

"You should have seen our concerns, especially after what we went through with the college and the sports field. There were 1,600 homes that were flooded out. Possessions were put out on the street. So, yes, we are questioning your drainage," Planning Board member Ann Steinbach said.

Mr. Aschenbach also had concerns about the maintenance plan of the detention basin.

Ms. Verrone later said the applicant would provide the township engineer with the calculations, after being pressed by Board Vice-Chairman Peter Taylor.

"It is hard for us to answer without knowing what the calculations are and the size of the containment system. He said this information would help to understand if the system does indeed meet the requirements of the township ordinance on stormwater management," Mr. Taylor said.

The project does not provide additional parking. Planning Board member Kathleen Murray asked how the additional classrooms would impact the parking situation. Ms. Verrone replied that overflow parking would continue to flow to the Greek Orthodox Church in neighboring Westfield, located near UCC, as well as on-street parking.

During construction, 40 to 55 parking spots will be lost as a parking lot will be used for construction staging and parking for construction workers. The new construction will join two buildings over the peace garden, architect Nicholas Netta said. As a result, 10 trees from the peace garden will be removed.

A four-foot-high berm with shade trees and evergreens will be added in front of the parking area on Princeton Road to shield the views and lighting of the parking lot from the residents there. Nineteen shade trees and 17 evergreens will be planted.

UCC has received the demolition permit and will begin preparations next week, Mr. Pasqual said. Construction is expected to last 17 months, concluding December 2015, he said.

## Garwood Council

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the flooding," Mr. Guarriello said, noting that the baseball field itself was flooded. "I can say that emphatically."

Instead, Mr. Guarriello said the culverts, or the pipes and tunnels, are undersized along the Garwood Brook under the Pathmark entryway, the railroad that crosses under the Raritan Valley NJ Transit line behind the Pathmark and Frosty Freeze properties and also the one that goes under the intersection at North and Lincoln Avenues.

The culverts constrict the water flow, but the borough cannot widen them until Cranford similarly widens the Orchard Brook. The stream is a continuation of the Garwood Brook and runs northeast from the edge of Dittrick's Wines and Li-Quors property to the Rahway River across from McConnell Park between Orchard and Eastman Streets.

Mr. Guarriello claimed that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), which has jurisdiction over the stream, proposed widening the culverts and the Orchard Brook 10 years ago. But when Cranford residents along the waterway refused to grant easements for the project, Garwood chose not to condemn the properties for the right-of-way and the NJDEP shelved the plan.

Both Mr. Guarriello and Councilman Bill Nierstedt blamed the extreme nature of the storms, that they say dumped a large volume of water in a very short time, for the flash flooding. They buttressed their claim by pointing out that the flood waters receded almost as quickly as they formed.

Council members said they would bring the matter to the attention of Cranford officials either in the form of a letter or formal resolution, would attend a Cranford Township Committee meeting to bring the issue up and encouraged the residents to accompany them to lend volume to the cause.

While the flooding issue occupied more than a third of the approximately hour-and-a-half-hour work session, the council also questioned Department of Public Works (DPW) Supervisor Fred Corbitt regarding a proposal to rescind the year-old ordinance requiring residents to bag fallen leaves in autumn.

Mr. Corbitt said the ordinance

was about an \$1,800 net gain for his department, the difference between the approximate \$5,000 in overtime saved by not using the old truck vacuum system and the \$3,200 in bags the department purchased for residents' use.

He also said an advantage of bagging was fewer clogs caused by leaves in the storm sewers.

Mr. Nierstedt voice his continued support for the measure, but the most passionate defense came from Third Avenue resident and DPW worker Glenn Lewis, who said he was surprised rescinding the resolution was even being considered.

While saying he is worked for the borough for 31 years, Mr. Lewis said the biggest benefit was not for himself and his fellow DPW workers, who had noted debris in the loose piles and seen the piles dumped in any number of illegal ways prior to the use of bags. He said the borough just looks better.

"I think it's a huge mistake to go back," he said. "Putting them in the bags is for the betterment of the borough."

In other action, the council approved a \$300,000-bond ordinance for road and drainage projects in the borough. The measure, in which the town will actually spend \$75,000 and receive \$225,000 from the state, passed unanimously.

Council members generally agreed that the borough would not spray the Garwood Brook with herbicide to address complaints of rats. Through the Board of Health, the borough brought in technicians from Pest-Gon Inc. of Middlesex, who walked the brook twice and determined there were no active burrows in the waterway.

The council was informed that work still remains on the clubhouse at the \$3.2-million Athletic Field Complex between Willow, Oak, Rankin and New Streets. Besides problems with the curbing surrounding the kitchen vent on the roof and interior framing, doors that have not yet arrived and wall installation still needs to be completed.

Councilman Lou Petruzzelli indicated it could take another seven weeks for the doors to arrive, but could not offer any guess as to a date when the project, originally scheduled to be finished in spring 2013, would be completed.

## Union County Freeholders

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Many of them are homeless...They don't have family members watching over them," she said.

Ms. Renna said the lawsuit is going to cost the county "millions of dollars."

Mr. Guzzo noted that the state's Juvenile Justice Commission, an arm of the Attorney General's Office, regularly monitors the county's detention center, including compliance with state regulations as well as checks on suicide prevention efforts by the county at the center.

"We do the best that we can. We've done a good job changing the way we operated in the past," Mr. Guzzo said.

Pat Moschetti of New Providence said he was "very concerned" about the lawsuit, "because it sounds like a lot of things could have gone amiss." He said he could see the cost for outside lawyers hitting a quarter-of-a-million dollars.

"What are we not doing to stop something like this from happening?" Mr. Moschetti asked.

In other business, the board approved 2-percent raises to 11 department heads, retroactive to January 1 of this year. The last raise was given in December 2012, but was not retroactive. County Manager Al Faella said the increases are in line with what was negotiated with county employee unions. He said all directors received an increase except Deputy County Manager/Economic Development Director William Reyes, who was hired at the end of last year. His salary is \$133,980.

The department directors receiving increases are as follows: Mr. Faella, from \$158,100 to \$161,262; County Counsel Robert Barry, from \$152,504 to \$155,554; Director of Administrative Services Norm Albert, from \$120,566 to \$122,877; Director of Parks and Recreation Ron Zuber, from \$116,280 to \$118,605; Director of Public Works and Facilities Management Joe Graziano, from \$121,685 to \$124,118; Director of Public Safety Andrew Moran, from \$116,069 to \$118,390; Director of Finance Bibi Taylor, from \$122,400 to \$124,848; Director of Human Services Frank

Guzzo, from \$133,967 to \$136,646; Director of Correctional Services Brian Riordan, from \$119,646 to \$122,038; and Runnells Specialized Hospital Acting Director, Sandra Adour, from \$110,600 to \$112,812.

Also approved were two resolutions to initiate a shared-services agreement with Plainfield and its rescue squad whereby the county will now have an ambulance from the county's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) located at the city's rescue squad. JFK Medical Center in Edison, which owns the former Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, where it maintains an ambulance to respond to EMS calls, and the rescue squad will respond to 9-1-1 calls along with the county. County Public Safety Director Andrew Moran said he anticipates that money from patients' private insurance will fully fund the county's cost to provide the service.

Jennifer Medford, a former captain with the Plainfield squad, said she was concerned whether the county's agreement adheres to the squad's constitutional bylaws.

Ms. Medford said the squad averages 6,000 emergency calls per year.

"We can have up to five or six calls running at one time," she told the board.

Ms. Medford and another former squad member met with Mr. Moran and other county officials after the meeting.

The board approved a \$158,750 contract to Halecon, Inc. of Bridgewater to construct a basketball court at Meisel Park in Springfield. Mr. Zuber said the court will be constructed in the back of the park behind the football field and track where the scoreboard is located. He said no date has been set on when the project will be completed as the county is awaiting a pre-construction meeting with Halecon representatives.

In his closing remarks, Freeholder Chairman Chris Hudak noted that Jersey City Police Officer Melvin Santiago, who was gunned down July 12 in what investigators say was an ambush, was a graduate of the John H. Stampler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.