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Betsey Burgdorf for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*  
**RECYCLE AND REUSE...***The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* publisher, Horace Corbin, and his son, Ben, feed documents into the shredder at the Garwood recycle center on Tuesday.

## Rep. Holt

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He continued to say, "A few years ago, we had to deal with human trafficking, so, it's very harsh to turn a child over to anyone other than their parents. The border patrol is not ready to do it. They wind up in cells. We have to change legislation dealing with human trafficking. The kids can't be placed in foster situations."

He responded to a question on the Affordable Care Act (ACA)/ObamaCare by saying, "The Affordable Care Act is working a lot better than people think it is. Publicity has not been good. It is putting a lid on medical costs. No insurance company is going to stay in business as long as prices are going up," he added. "It's keeping prices down in insurance companies. More people are in the system now, finding out they do have coverage under Medicaid," he also said.

Rep. Holt went on to comment on the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision regarding the Hobby Lobby and about those running companies which can decline coverage if it is against the company's values. The decision allows some religiously oriented businesses to opt out of contraception coverage for their employees as part of ACA.

"I think it is not in their interest. Insurance companies must cover basic preventive care," he said. "You have to have basic reproductive coverage for women. Contraceptive coverage should be included. As far as the Affordable Care Act, any major piece of legislation is subject to change. Right now we've got it and it's working," he said.

A woman asked about the influx of children arriving at the nation's southern border, fleeing poverty and violence in their native countries. The Congressman responded by saying, "We're a diverse group. Of the states, New Jersey is the most diverse. Children coming across the border have been going on for the last few years. Now it has come to the public's attention. The numbers are larger. We need to treat them as refugees. We have to change laws so kids can be treated decently."

## Union County Freeholders

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"What are we not doing to stop something like this from happening?" Mr. Moshetti 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 Emer-

gency 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. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.



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.

## Sheriff Ralph Froehlich

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implemented the Municipal Transportation 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

## FW Rec.

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The commission agreed to renew the skate park's website for another year so it can continue to provide information and details, but members agreed it must be updated.

After establishing a Fanwood Recreation Survey subcommittee last month, Mr. Budiansky, Ms. Fletcher and Amy Boroff created a shortened survey based off of the one developed by Scotch Plains. The first draft asked people what facilities they used and how they would rank the condition, as well as any future projects that they would want funded.

"We adapted it to what we thought fit Fanwood's needs a little better," Mr. Budiansky said. "I think we tried to figure out all of the things people use in parks, and encourage people to give opinions on possible new facilities."

The commission agreed to hold off on the survey until October once families are back from vacations and children are back at school. Ms. Fletcher suggested posting the survey on the commission's website while also sending it to people through e-mail.

The recreation commission has scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, August 20, beginning at 7:45 p.m.



Benjamin B. Corbin for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*  
**UNFINISHED BUSINESS...**The pavilion in Brookside Park in Scotch Plains sits unfinished and unusable this summer. The Scotch Plains Recreation Department chose a metal pavilion in the hopes that it would deter vandals.

## Stop Order Issued at Brookside Park for Lack of Permits

By BETSEY BURGDOFF

Specially Written for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Brookside Park in Scotch Plains, located on Hetfield Avenue, is situated on 29 acres and offers the community a wide range of activities including a basketball court, soccer field, bocce ball and a picnic area. The park also includes a field house and a new covered metal pavilion, which is currently, and has been for several weeks, under construction.

According to Scotch Plains Mayor Kevin Glover, work on the pavilion was halted because "there is a discussion about it having permits, has it been inspected?" Mayor Glover stated construction on the pavilion started several weeks ago, but work was halted after a stop-order was issued.

The pavilion was purchased in the spring for \$46,272 and was expected to be installed by the time the recreation department's summer camp pro-

gram began on June 30. According to a report in the July 17 edition of *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*, Township Zoning Officer Robert LaCosta issued the stop-work order on June 27, saying that the recreation commission should have first secured approval for the pavilion from the township planning board.

"First and foremost, safety first," Mayor Glover told *The Times*. "You want to make sure [it is] properly inspected and complies with all building codes."

Parks and Recreation Director Ray Porio advocated for the metal pavilion, stating during his presentation on December 3, 2013 to the commission that metal structures are not as easily vandalized as wooden models and are grounded in the event of a lightning strike.

Calls to Mr. Porio from *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* went unanswered as of press time.

## Larson Named Bus. Admin. for MS BOE

By KAITLYN FREY

Specially Written for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

**MOUNTAINSIDE** — Eric Larson recently was hired as the board of education's newest business administrator. He replaces interim business administrator Charles Milewski.

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.

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.

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.

## Scotch Plains Council

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vored items would be about \$700,000, less than half the sum of the proposed bond ordinance. "A capital ordinance is debt," he said. "The township has enough debt."

Mr. Giaimis criticized the Democrats' opposition, saying that they had not raised any objections or concerns or put forth any of their own proposals during the months of meetings leading up to the bond ordinance's first vote in May. And he voiced his opposition to the mayor's scaled-down proposal, saying that "I don't agree with cherry-picking items out of the ordinance."

Calling the mayor's proposal "selective," Mr. Giaimis said it "pits department against department." He said it was "stunning" to consider that more than half the original \$1.525 million — which he called "one of the lowest bond ordinances in recent years" — was being proposed to be cut. Additionally, he criticized the mayor for not unveiling his proposed spending items

until this month.

Deputy Mayor Michael Marcus said the failure to pass the ordinance "impedes our progress" and said the Democrats' explanations for opposing the spending plan were "bogus and untrue." Councilman William Vastine needed the council Democrats, saying that the three Democratic candidates in the November council election have spoken in favor of a number of items that are in the bond ordinance opposed by the mayor and Mrs. Gialanella. "Somebody didn't get the memo," he said.

While the ordinance itself may be shelved for the year, Mr. Giaimis told *The Times* on Wednesday morning that he would use "all of my administrative authority to purchase necessary items regardless of last night's outcome with already available funds, where possible." He said he did not support "a watered-down version of the ordinance with politically expedient cherry-picked items that use our public safety and library employees as political pawns in this process. Unfortunately, the minority of council does just that."

In other business, the council introduced an ordinance restricting parking on Homestead Terrace near Brunner Elementary School. Police Chief Brian Mahoney told the council that the issue of student drop-off and pick-up has been a safety concern for a number of years. Similar restrictions have been in place on nearby Redwood Road, and the chief said those have been "successful." An identical ordinance for Homestead was proposed several years ago but failed to gain support. Board of Education President Trip Whitehouse spoke at Tuesday's meeting and said the board supports the restrictions.

The ordinance, which will have a public hearing on Tuesday, August 12, calls for parking to be prohibited on the north side of Homestead Terrace from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on school days from Cedar Brook Road to Muir Terrace and on the south side from Cedar Brook Road to Westfield Road.



Kaitlyn Frey for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*  
**DEDICATION...**Union County became the first county in New Jersey to dedicate a portion of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route on July 14. The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders officially marked the Union County portion of the march that helped win the American Revolution with a sign at the entrance to Echo Lake Park in Mountainside on Mountain Avenue. See story on page 2.