

## Mayor Mapp Responds to Plainfield Council's Action on City Budget

*Editor's Note: Plainfield Mayor Adrian Mapp issued the following statement after the Plainfield City Council approved a resolution Thursday evening voicing disapproval of his comments made in a recent video and referring the matter to the New Jersey Local Government Ethics Board:*

\*\*\*\*\*

Sadly, a majority on the Plainfield City Council has demonstrated once again that they are more interested in pursuing personal political agendas than in moving our city forward. It took this council more than two months to take action on the city's budget, yet they announced and held a special meeting to respond to my mayoral message expressing my concern about their budget in less than one week.

Because of this council's action on the administration's budget, the city will be unable to fully recognize the opportunity we had to invest surplus funds in Plainfield's future. In ex-

change for this lost opportunity, each Plainfield taxpayer will save \$9 each year. That is the amount of savings produced after more than two months of the council's grandstanding on the budget.

Everyone who holds elected public office is political, and I have no problem with that. However, when politics becomes the means to protect the interests of a few, rather than act in the best interests of our city, it ceases to be a meaningful process.

My administration is acting upon the mandate for change and progress that we received last November. The council majority can continue to throw up their roadblocks, but they cannot stop Plainfield's revitalization and resurgence. I urge this council majority to invest their energy in our city and its bright future, rather than trying to preserve a political machine that has outlived its relevance.

**Mayor Adrian Mapp  
Plainfield**

## Thanks to You, Wiffle Ball Tournament Raises \$13,000 for Charity

On behalf of the Sister Pat's Kids Camp Charity Wiffle Ball Tournament, founders and organizers John Birle, Michael Birle, Chris Caminiti, Andrew Caminiti, Logan Klier, Alison Krakauer, Chris Sullivan and Katie Sullivan would like to thank everyone for another successful tournament.

The tournament this year raised over \$13,000 to benefit Sr. Pat's Kids Camp and everyone who participated had a great time! Sister Pat's Kids Camp is a weeklong camp in upstate New York for underprivileged children with cancer and their siblings.

A few years ago, the tournament organizers heard that the camp was in danger of closing because it was low on funds. To get the camp back on its feet, they began this tournament, which in its four years, has raised nearly \$30,000 for the camp. The 4th Annual event was held on Friday, May 23 at Tamaques Park in Westfield. Nearly 200 participants ranging from Pre-K to high school played in the tournament.

Over 40 people volunteered to umpire the games and help sell pizza (courtesy of Casa di Pizza), subs (courtesy of Hershey's), snacks, drinks and T-shirts (courtesy of Gilby's Screen Printing). The event kicked off at 3:30 p.m. when Westfield teen Olivia Zito, who was a former contestant on "The Voice," sang the National Anthem. The middle school teams began their games directly after, and kindergarten and elementary teams took the field at 4 p.m. The teams advanced within their brackets with multiple games each. In between rounds, players tested their pitching speed at a new addition to the tournament, the Fast Pitch Challenge.

At 7 p.m., the lighting alarm sounded and thunder boomed across the park. However, all participants left with smiles on their faces.

The winning teams were given gift

cards courtesy of Manhattan Bagel, Digiplex and Target. The tournament also had a raffle, which included a signed Mariano Rivera photo, a signed Matt Harvey photo, two Vineyard Vines ties, an Adler's Jewelry basket and four Yankees tickets.

We thank all the tournament sponsors: Cantel Medical, Pantano Family Foundation, the Bergin Family, the Birle Family, the Caminiti Family, Cappio Landscaping Inc., Casa di Pizza, Colicchi Construction, Ferraro's Restaurant, the Krakauer Family, the Loder Family, Martin Jewelers, ProSafety Services, Sullivan Family, Ron Basky Allstate Agency, College Bound Mentor, Cranford Plumbing, Family Investors, Gilby's Screen Printing, Hoens Family, Hershey's, Jersey Cutz, Klier/Shovlin Families, Let's Yo Westfield, Maliakal Family, Peretz Family, RWJ Fitness and Wellness, Salon Visage, Trenk, DiPasquale, DellaFerra, Sodono, Vasziy, Westfield Pediatric Dental Group, Wischusen, Xtra Mile Fitness, Brunner Opticians, Center Stage Music Lessons, Ciarroca Chiropractic, Cosimo's, Curves, Domino's Pizza, Geschickter, Lee, Murph Construction, the New York Jets and Vicki's Diner.

As they did last summer, John Birle, Chris Caminiti, Katie Sullivan and Chris Sullivan will be attending Sr. Pat's Kids Camp. As counselors, they meet the children who are receiving the benefit. All proceeds from the tournament go directly to the camp.

Thank you once again for all those who participated in the games, donated funds and volunteered. Sister Pat, who founded the camp over 20 years ago, would be ecstatic with the success of the tournament. We can't wait for next year's event.

**John Birle  
The Tournament Organizers  
Westfield**

## Letters to the Editor

### Scots Plains Would Have Little Concern for Present Day Issues

Being that we just honored those service woman and men who have given their lives for our freedom, I took the time to read a book of our first military titled "Morristown - The War Years 1775 to 1783 - A Pictorial History" by Mary Ann Cataldo. This book described in words, re-enacted photos and drawings of Washington's troops during the winter of 1779-80. That winter sounded like our past winter, but without the ploughs, heat, electricity and food stores. These men who fought for our freedom suffered from the cold, lack of food and were not paid.

I found a quote attributed to George Washington and wanted to share it with the residents of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

On December 4, 1779 General George Washington was quoted as saying in Morristown, "I arrived here on Wednesday the 1st instant, and am exerting myself to get the troops huddled in the country lying between Morris Town and Mendham, about three miles from the former, I intended, so I had the honor of informing Congress, to have quartered the troops in the neighborhood of Scots

Plains, but it was found upon examination, that the country did afford a compatible with our security and which could also supply water and wood for covering and fuel; considerations as well as that of security, not to dispensed with."

Assuming that this quote is accurate, my take is that George Washington considered our town for his troops. Instead he stationed his army at Jockey Hollow, which is now part of the Morristown National Historical Park.

This meant that we came close to being Scots Plains National Historical Park, which would have placed our town on par with Valley Forge and would have meant that our present day concerns with the SID, police merger, hedge front property, etc. would have been non-existent.

All those residents who care about history and the role our town played during the Revolution may find this interesting and a source of pride in our town despite our difference of opinions at times.

Perhaps George Washington did have ale at the Stage House.

**Albert Muller  
Scotch Plains (Scots Plains)**

### On 'Trademarked Seal,' County Was Wrong, the People Are Stronger

In a recent edition of "Union County Directions" mailed out to each household right before this election, Freeholder Chairman Hudak proudly proclaimed on page 2 that Union County government is a strong government. Below is his and the county's apparent attempt.

In a move akin to not allowing the people to display the American flag, in 2011 Union County government came down with legal force on a Cranford resident, Tina Renna, for displaying the Union County seal in her monthly watchdog program, "Union County Citizen's Forum" which was shown on local access channel 35 out of Cranford. Union County also gave a cease and desist order to the Cranford TV station.

Union County government claimed that "their" seal is trademarked, even though the federal government rejected the county's application for trademark. In the following court case, which was brought by "The Rutherford Institute," a first amendment advocacy group, the judge asked why the county asserted the seal was trademarked when it wasn't; the county responded that they didn't know the answer. Just recently the

judge ruled in favor of the Rutherford Institute allowing Tina Renna and channel 35 to use the county seal.

It appears that the county contrives intimidation tactics on residents and entities that bring transparency to Union County government, this not being the first. A 2012 indictment and court hearing from the Union County prosecutor to make Ms. Renna divulge names of county employees who took home county electrical generators during Superstorm Sandy. As an investigative journalist consistently exposing issues with the county government, she came into information from a whistleblower and noted the employee "borrowing" in an Internet article. The county was embarrassed at this public revealing of "borrowing" generators, and instead of investigating internally they used this issue to pursue her. However, this investigative journalist fought the case to reveal the names and source. The judge ruled she did not have to divulge any information.

Maybe "they" want a strong government. Fortunately, the people are stronger.

**Bruce Paterson  
Garwood**

**Unique Cruise & Travel**  
www.uniquecruiseandtravel.com  
Carol Bevere Hearney • Proprietor  
207 CENTER STREET, GARWOOD  
908-789-3303

*Probitas Verus Honos*

See it all on the web in color...  
www.goleader.com

## Greater Westfield Area C of C News: Garwood will be Rockin' on Sunday

Presented by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce on Sunday, June 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (rain or shine) in downtown Garwood — Welcome to Garwood Rocks!, home of New Jersey's most exciting car show and live music outdoor festival, suitable for all the family to enjoy! Featuring an all day live stage, with numerous bands, entertainment, vendors, festival foods and amusement rides, Garwood, N.J. is revving up to celebrate spring in style. Center Street will be closed to traffic from South Avenue to Unami Park.

Join us for an entire day of family fun and Rock 'n' Roll, with a top class car show hosted by Hot Rod

"Mike." The live music, presented by Crossroads, includes top bands starting at 10 a.m. with the RMC Rock Shop Band; 11:30 a.m. Cranford Guitar All-Stars, 1 p.m., Nikki Briar and The Sweet Briar Band; 2:30 p.m., The Benjamins and at 4 p.m., The Brother John Brown Band. Many artisans and crafters will be displaying paintings, pottery, photography, handmade jewelry, furniture and many other unique gifts. Food vendors will be selling culinary delights. Strolling entertainment will entertain festival goers. There will be a KidZone with rides and activities by the Garwood Family Y at Locust Avenue. Get ready to rock!

## Gary Johnson's Voice Should Be Heard If He Runs for President In '16

Former New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson was once voted the most fiscally conservative governor during his time in office beginning in 1995 and ending in 2003. He brought a business like mentality to governing and believed that public policy should be based on cost and benefits and not strict ideology.

Known as "Governor Veto" during his time in office, Johnson vetoed a record of 750 bills, a majority of which had to do with spending. When he left office, New Mexico was one of four states at the time to have a balanced budget.

In 2012, he Gary Jonson ran for the Presidency on the Republican ticket and only garnered 1 percent of the vote during the Republican primaries. He had an impact in one Primary debate when he stated that his dog created more shovel ready jobs than Barack Obama did. When Johnson could not get over the 1 percent mark, he was shunned not only by major news networks that were covering the Republican Primary debate, but also by the Republican establishment. It was after the New Hampshire Primary that Gary Johnson bolted the GOP and decided to become a Presidential candidate for the Libertarian Party. He won the nomination, and though he was not included into the Presidential debates, and though he lost, Johnson garnered more votes than any other Libertarian candidate before him.

There is the possibility that in 2016, Gary Johnson will once again run on the Libertarian Party ticket. Though the odds of him getting into the Presidential debates,

and winning the Presidential sweepstakes are very long, I strongly believe and I strongly hope that his voice and his positions on the issues of the day will be heard.

There are some issues where I personally disagree with Gary Johnson. For example, Johnson is an advocate of abortion rights where I am not. Nevertheless, when it comes to defending civil and economic liberties, we are in agreement. When it comes to having the federal government paired down to size, we are in agreement. When it comes to realizing that this nation is on an unsustainable path both fiscally and economically, we are in agreement. When he states that our entitlement programs (i.e. Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid) are unsustainable, we are in agreement. When he states that this nation must enact and must project both military and economic power, we are in agreement. When he states that wars should only be entered into only when U.S. interests are involved, we are in agreement. When it comes to sharing a love of freedom and a love for the U.S. Constitution, we are both in agreement. And, finally, when he states that the war on drugs has been a systematic and colossal failure, we are in agreement.

I do hope that people will give Gary Johnson a serious look and come to the conclusion that, yes, his voice should be heard.

**Alex Pugliese  
Kenilworth**

## Children in Trouble With the Law?

### Call Jon Bramnick

And Speak With Our Criminal Defense Team

We Have Three Former Prosecutors

**908-322-7000**

**BRAMNICK, RODRIGUEZ,  
MITTERHOFF, GRABAS & WOODRUFF LLC**

1827 East Second Street, Scotch Plains  
www.jonbramnick.com

## Interiors So Lovely, You'll Want to Stay Home

### Think "Superior" For:

- Expert Consultation Services
- Space Planning / Room Layouts
- Remodeling Services
- All Interior Related Products:  
Furniture Floor Coverings  
Lighting Window Treatments  
Accessorizing & Finishing Touches



**Joanne Womelsdorf, IFDA, ASID allied**  
Phone: 908.232.3875  
www.superiorinteriorsofnj.com



## Our image renderings will eliminate "not sure what is's going to look like"



**908-889-1647**

ferrara1234@yahoo.com

**Drainage Solutions**  
piping - basins - regrading  
**Patios - Walkways**  
bluestone - pavers - brick - concrete  
**Outdoor Living Areas**  
kitchens - pergolas - arbors - fire pits  
**Plantings**  
trees - shrubs - perennials

**Simple to Elaborate Installations**

## Calling Young Secret Agents!

Register now for "Agency D3 - Discover, Decide, Defend"

Vacation Bible School at Terrill Road Baptist Church  
1340 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains

**June 23-27 9 a.m. to Noon each day**

For children who have completed  
Kindergarten through 6th Grade

**Register today at www.trbc4him.org**

**Prepare for adventure! It's Fun and It's Free!**



## DIVORCE MEDIATION

"Problem Solving for Families in Transition"



**A FRACTION OF THE COST  
OF TRADITIONAL DIVORCE**

- Divorce Mediation
- Collaborative Divorce
- Mediation Counseling
- Attorney Review



**THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL R. MAGARIL**

114 S. EUCLID AVENUE, WESTFIELD, NJ 07090 (908) 389-0100

Visit our website at [www.magaril.com](http://www.magaril.com) e-mail: [mrm@magaril.com](mailto:mrm@magaril.com)