

GW's Concerns Over Ice Rink

promote hate speech of any kind," stated the proposed resolution.

Resident Bill Nierstedt, a former councilman, said a billboard declaring Donald Trump an "idiot" using private property and private funding is not hate speech, but "political speech."

Mr. Nierstedt stated that free speech, the right to assemble, and the right to criticize the President are rights afforded by the United States constitution.

Resident Bruce Paterson agreed that the line between hate speech and defamation is often a fine line decided upon by the United States Supreme Court on a case-by-case basis.

Councilman Marc Lazarow stated that he supports "hate speech" being eliminated from an inclusive community, saying he wanted Garwood to remain a diverse community in opinions and creeds. However, Mr. Lazarow stated that he would support the resolution if it was rewritten to promote democracy by allowing democratic criticisms and was not as restrictive to free speech towards American leadership.

"We live in a country that allows us to criticize a President," said Mr. Lazarow, agreeing Mr. Nierstedt had a valid point on how ones free speech could be impeded if the resolution supports banning all political criticisms.

Ms. Todisco said it is important to note the billboard has been removed since Union Township residents complained.

Councilman Richard McCormick said the council's bipartisan stance against hate speech must remain; though Mr. McCormick voted to support the resolution's not yet decided rewording.

The borough council unanimously adopted an ordinance approving the Paperboard Urban Renewal Associates, LLC financial agreement.

Ms. Bianco said Councilwoman Ileen Cuccaro suffered a heart attack two weeks ago. Ms. Cuccaro was not present at Tuesday's meeting.

"The doctor's prognosis is a full recovery in the next few weeks," said Ms. Bianco. "She (Ms. Cuccaro) is very grateful for all the warm wishes and support sent by residents and council."

Ms. Cuccaro stated in her public statement read aloud by Ms. Bianco that she "looks forward to being back soon and serving the town."

Cranford Implements Tiered System for Schools

By **ROBYN ORR-GIOFFRE**
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CRANFORD — The board of education gave a presentation about the implementation of the New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS) into the Cranford School District at its regular monthly meeting Monday night.

The NJTSS is a support system that utilizes a three-tiered approach beyond the core curriculum that builds on Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and gives schools structure to meet the academic, behavioral, health, enrichment and social/emotional needs of all students.

Teachers and administrators in the district will work together to implement the NJTSS over the course of several school years.

The tiered system involves the development of nine important components for successful implementation.

Effective district and school leadership; family and community engagement; positive school culture and climate; high-quality learning environments, curricula,

and instructional practices; universal screening; data-based decision making; collaborative problem-solving teams; progress monitoring and staff professional development are all components necessary for proper implementation of the support system in the district.

Tier one provides high-quality learning environments, evidence-based curricula and instructional practices, and planning for learner variability and differentiation. Multiple means of engagement, representation and action/expression are provided to all students.

Heather Austin, Ed.D., supervisor of special education, told board members about 80 percent of the student population is helped at tier one, and "once they get the right support, again that is data-driven and monitored, they're going to do well and they are going to be able to get the support that they need."

Tier two provides supplemental supports and interventions in

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Cranford Twp. Discusses Brookside Drainage

Jersey League of Municipalities conference for potentially covering the charges of travel, registration and/or housing. The conference consists of classes and seminars. The conference currently is not in the zoning board's budget. The township committee decided there are not enough funds for it now, but the board can plan for it in its budget next year.

A resident of a Springfield Avenue apartment complex spoke about what was described as dangerous parking conditions in front of the complex. The resident requested a change in the parking ordinance and a change in dimensions and footage. This was to be voted on at Tuesday's meeting.

Barbara Krause, liaison for the Air Traffic and Noise Advisory

Garwood Candidates Forums Set

GARWOOD – Borough residents will have a chance to hear the candidates for Borough Council during an October appearance at the Pointe, the condominium complex between Maple and Chestnut Streets.

They will also have an opportunity to propose questions to be asked of the candidates during that session. Questions may be sent to PointeForum@gmail.com

The candidates – Stephanie Bianco and Sal Piarulli, Republicans, and Sean Benoit and Michael Ince, Democrats – will appear at a session beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 18. They are expected to discuss such issues as taxes, redevelopment, and shared services.

The mayoral candidates – Sara Todisco, a Democrat, and Ileen Cuccaro, a Republican – will participate in a similar discussion on Thursday, October 25.

Board, said that board member Joseph Groder recently attended a meeting at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in Newark. Mr. Groder reported to Mrs. Krause that, "Cranford had the most complaints in terms of night flights" over the town.

Lavona Patterson, director of finance, appointed two new members to the finance department: Michael Robinson as purchasing agent and Jamie Haynes as assistant to the chief finance officer.

Patrick Giblin, commissioner of police and fire, said the police will put in a request for a new motorcycle, as the department's current one is "on its last leg." Union County Prosecutor Michael Monahan wants to discuss with the township committee the possible addition of body cameras for police officers. Cranford Police currently have dashboard cameras and cameras on their tasers.

Mayor Hannen said Senators Bob Menendez and Cory Booker (both D-NJ) are doing what they can to help the towns affected by water storage problems ameliorate them by pushing for the H.R. 8, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2018. The township committee is looking into whether the governing body is eligible for earlier forecast releases so officials can determine if the storage can be dispersed. They are interested to know if, instead of having one large body for water storage, two smaller ponds can be used.

The Cranford Baseball and Softball League asked the township to consider giving money to kids' recreation. It was noted that in the past, the township donated to the boys' athletics at Memorial Field. This year, the same is requested for the girls' athletics at Adams Park to maintain the park and provide for future use of the facility.