



We Sell Space

To Advertise, call or email the spaceman

908-232-4407
sales@goleader.com

To ensure all stakeholders are engaged, next week I am hosting a forum for all of our Downtown property owners for the consultant to provide them an update on the status of our Master Plan and get their input. The surveys for both are now closed, and in total, we received over 65,000 responses on the Master Plan survey and more than 40,000 responses on the Parks survey – in addition to four well-attended public workshops.

The public is invited to attend a Master Plan meeting on the evening of October 2 to hear directly from our Master Plan consultants about the feedback that has been received, and potential recommendations. There will also be a public meeting for the Parks Plan next month which is in the process of being scheduled. More details on both will be forthcoming shortly.

WELLNESS CAMPAIGN

I'm pleased to announce the establishment of a Mayor's Wellness Campaign (MWC) Committee, co-chaired by Stacey Weinman and Sam Tooley. The Mayor's Wellness Campaign is a state led initiative that enables municipalities to gain accreditation if certain wellness criteria are met, which encompasses the mental, physical, special needs, and seniors communities. Since we are already doing so much in these areas, it only made sense to earn the accreditation which opens up several grant opportu-

nities. Thanks to Sam and Stacy for taking this on.

WESTFIELD 300 ANNIVERSARY

I'm also pleased to announce the formation of the Westfield 300 Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from the Town, various civic organizations and the clergy, which will be Co-Chaired by Barbara Burton from the Westfield Historical Society, and Robert Wendel, our Town Historian. The first meeting will be held next week where the many Westfield 300 logo submissions will be reviewed, and subcommittees will be determined to take the lead on fundraising, events, marketing/communications, finance and more. We will need a significant number of volunteers to lend their time and talent so be on the lookout for opportunities to sign up in the near future.

EVENTS

It was a great summer for Downtown events – from Second Sundays to the fabulous attendance at Sweet Sounds every Tuesday. We have received a tremendous amount of positive feedback about closing Quimby to cars for these events, and will certainly continue with that approach as much as possible. Don't forget the Farmer's Market continues every Saturday through November, and we also have the first Night of Lights 5K this Sunday evening in Tamaques Park, the Y's Fun Run for Everyone

on September 15, the DWC's Fall Fashion Show this Sunday at the Ward Mansion, and the first-ever Cultural Diversity Fair to be held in Mindowaskin Park on September 14, also sponsored by the County and Coldwell Banker. And of course, the Chamber will host FestiFall downtown on September 22. Lots of fall fun in store for everyone!

TONIGHT'S AGENDA

Continuing with our Year of the Pedestrian initiative, I'm thrilled that the Council will vote tonight on an ordinance changing the traffic requirements of two challenging intersections: Mountain/Lawrence and North/West Dudley, enabling both to change from yield to a required stop.

Also in the realm of public safety, we'll vote on resolutions to authorize the purchase of a new police vehicle as well as a replacement fire engine.

We'll also vote on the establishment of a Public Arts Council, which will pave the way for a more coordinated and comprehensive approach to utilizing art in the Town's public space.

9/11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that the Town will hold its annual 9/11 remembrance ceremony next Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. at the memorial, where the program will include remarks from local clergy, the presentation of a ceremonial wreath, and a time for silent reflection by the community to remember those

we lost on that fateful day.

I would also like to extend my well wishes to everyone heading back to school. Have a great year and please stay safe!

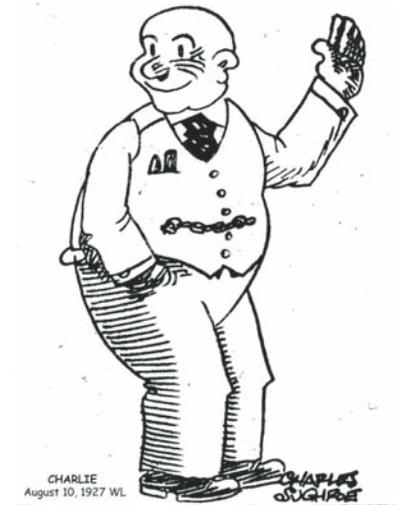
Letter to the Editor

Once again I must reply to a letter posted in The Leader, dated August 29th, by Patricia Quattrocchi.

In her opening paragraph the writer expressed her "fear" for our country for the first time in her life. Welcome to the club, as I have been fearful for almost three years now. Her concern is that Democratic Presidential candidates are to blame, as they will change the country, and it will never be as it was again. This fear has already been realized under the Trump administration!!

The writer chastises the candidates for "jumping on the ole bandwagon", as to the changes they propose in the name of progress and betterment of our nation. Perhaps she has blinders on, as I have yet to hear of any significant GOP divergence on ANY policy proposals made by your fearless leader in the past 2-3 years! Where are the discussions and debates on policies??? It seems that members of the GOP must tow the Trump line, or lose backing from the party. Democracy at it's finest!!

The "cringe-worthy" performances you state, at fairs and town halls by these candidates, is known as running



for office. I guess you have missed the President as he conducts his "rallies"?? Truly "cringe-worthy" displays.

As to the different candidates and their proposals, I ask you where are the Republican candidates and their proposals?? Are you ALL agreement with the President?? No room for debating his plans for our nation? Sounds very scary to me.

Tearing down the free press, casting doubt on our intelligence agencies, losing the counsel of respected military leaders does not give you pause??

I don't want your guns. But military-style weapons have no business in civilian hands, on that there should be no debate! I need to register my car, and pass a test to drive it, as well as insure it, gun owners should be required to do the same.

If you have time, please make a point of reading, not just listening, to every side before you spout the Trump-party line.

As for this writer, I would vote for any one of the Democratic candidates (except DeBlasio) come November 2020!

**Christine Calhoun
Cranford**