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Issue 29 • February 2018

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U.S. POSTAG

CALL

NEW MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL SWORN IN

Submitted by Maria Boyes

On New Year's Day, over 500 residents and dignitaries came together for the Swearing in Ceremony of Westfield's first female mayor, Shelley Brindle, and four new council members, Linda Habgood, Mike Dardia, David Contract, and Dawn Mackey.

Despite frigid temperatures, guests enjoyed a traditional Flag Ceremony by the Boy Scouts, the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Girl Scouts, and the singing of the National Anthem sung by Westfield High School Graduate Sydney Stewart.

Former Union County Freeholder, Mary Ruotolo, served as Master of Ceremonies, and the invocation was led by Reverend Dr. Mark Boyea of the First Congregational Church of Westfield. United States Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Joseph Greenaway, Jr. officiated the proceedings.

During her speech, Mayor Brindle spoke of instilling a culture that inspires residents to get involved. In doing so, an Open Application Process was put into place inviting all residents to apply. Within weeks, the Town received 446 applications to fill 34 vacancies on existing Boards and Commissions. But Brindle promises there will be additional committees created for citizens to stay engaged.

"New volunteer opportunities will be announced in the weeks to come and there will be something for everyone; technology, events, promotions, master planning and more," said



(above) Mayor Shelley Brindle flanked by Council Members.

Brindle, inviting everyone to "stay tuned."

In closing the Mayor thanked the outgoing mayor and town council members as well as the sitting council, and her family. Additionally, she asked the newly sworn council members, Linda Habgood, Mike Dardia, David Contract, and Dawn Mackey, to join her on the platform.

"I would not be up here today if it wasn't for the collective effort of this group," said Brindle. After thanking everyone for coming, she said there was one more thing to do. With that, the five of them turned around and clicked a selfie with the crowd.



(above) Upon completion, the candidates take a selfie.



(above) Crowd from above, photo by Darren Altman.



Westfield Monthey

Westfield Monthly is published by Renna Media. 11,800 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Westfield.

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Burn Center/Foundation.

The competition is extravaganza where atterated to the competition of the competition of the competition of the competition.

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Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

WESTFIELD FIREFIGHTERS TO COMPETE IN COOK-OFF COMPETITION

On Monday, February 26, 2018 Westfield firefighters will join with firefighters from around New Jersey to compete at the Cooked and Uncorked Food and Wine Festival benefiting the New Jersey State Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association and the St. Barnabas Burn Center/Foundation.

The competition is part of the culinary extravaganza where attendees will be able to experience the tastes and flavors of more than 30 of New Jersey's finest restaurants, caterers and dessert shops all in one location. There will also be 30 tables offering all types of beverages for tasting. This event, which draws people from throughout the state, will be held at the Pines Manor located on Rt 27 in Edison, New Jersey from 6 to 9 p.m.

The "Ultimate Firefighter Cookoff" will be an integral part of the evening.

The New Brunswick, Clifton, Bayonne, South Orange, Roselle, Morristown, Trenton, Nutley and Hamilton Fire Departments competing in the Gourmet Cooking Category.

Westfield, Union, Long Branch, Cranford, Belleville, Maplewood, Montclair, Carteret, Paterson, Hillside and Plainfield Fire Departments will compete in the "Firehouse Cooking" category.

New this year will be the Rahway, Local 500 (retirees), Elizabeth, Linden and Harrison Fire Departments competing in the dessert category.

Some of the judges will be, Shelli Sonstein - 104.3 radio, Tony Caputo- Channel 12, Bart Oates – NY Giants, Mike Murphy – NY Giants, David Diehl – NY Giants, Kara Decker – Head Chef 100 Steps restaurant, Joe Mastrella – Executive Chef Luciano's restaurant, Mike Christensen – Pinnacle Foods, Darius Peacock – two-time Chopped Champion, GiGi and Nicole Gallodoro – GiGI Cupcakes, AJ Fusco – Chef and Firefighter Harrison NY, Christian Coughlin – District manager for Kona Grill, Mariso Esteves – Owner of Cake on Heels, Tom Coughlin – CEO of Bayonne Community Bank, Lou Healey, CFO of Allied Beverage. Others will be added.

If you are looking for an entertaining evening of great food and wine, don't miss this event. Tickets are \$60 in advance and \$65 at the door. Visit www.cookedanduncorked.com to view participating restaurants, wine/spirits, our celebrity judges and for more information. Tickets can be obtained on the website or by calling 732-499-9250.

FREE CHILD, TEEN, AND ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT

Free support groups are available for children, teens, and parents coping with loss due to death or illness on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Imagine located at 244 Sheffield Street in Mountainside, NJ.

Imagine is a free year-round peer grief support program for children age 3-18 and young adults 18-30 who have had a parent, brother, or sister die, or who are living with a family member with a life-altering physical illness. Concurrent support groups are available for parents and

guardians in both programs. Imagine also provides educational workshops and on-site bereavement and crisis support for businesses, corporations, schools and community agencies.

Imagine supports children and families coping with loss and fosters resiliency and emotional well-being for all those who grieve.

If you or someone you know could benefit please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or email info@imaginenj.org.





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STUDENTS PLAY WITH REGIONAL ORCHESTRA



(above, l-r) Three Westfield High School students, Junlin Yi, Kevin Li and Kelly Eagan performed with the Central Jersey Music Educators Association Region Orchestra on January 7 at the CJMEA concert held in Montgomery High School. According to Craig Stanton, Westfield High School Orchestra Director, "Every year hundreds of students prepare and audition for the CJMEA Region orchestra to be accepted into the exclusive group. Besides this honor, these students are also eligible to audition in March for the NJ All-State Orchestra and the NJ Honors String Orchestra." Junlin, a senior, and 11th grader Kevin are violinists. Kelly, who is in ninth grade, plays the bass.

WESTFIELD STUDENTS TACKLE FORENSIC SCIENCE CHALLENGE

a day of investigation held at Union County College last month. The students, who are enrolled in the gifted pull-out program in Westfield, joined more than 100 sixth graders from other public school districts in the county at the event organized by Westfield teacher Esther J. Van Riper, a long-time member of the Union County Gifted and Talented Association (UCGTA). "The students were introduced to Forensic Science, the FBI, and CSI work by two FBI special agents from New York, Agent Shawn Mullen and Agent Sam Lockery," explained Van

Twenty-two Westfield students participated in Riper. "After the students became familiarized with 'The Case of the Missing Millionaire' in the College Student Center, they broke out into smaller groups in classrooms where they were given time to observe two identical simulated crime scenes. Next, the students conducted forensic labs to evaluate the evidence found at the scene of the crime to make multiple direct connections to the suspects who committed the crime and to solve the case." The purpose of the UCGTA events is for identified gifted and talented students from the various schools in Union County to meet and to work together.



(above) Agent Shawn Mullen introduces students to Forensic Science.

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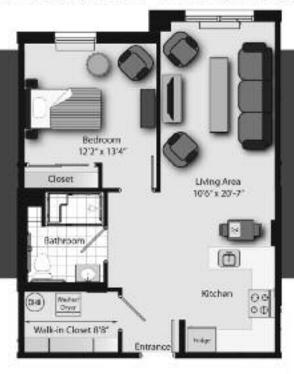
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The Westfield High School (WHS) Choir Department will perform A Night of Love Songs on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 7 p.m., under the direction of Mr. John Brzozowski, Choir Director; and Maureen Francis, Chorus Teacher. Door opens at 6:30 p.m. in WHS Cafeteria B.

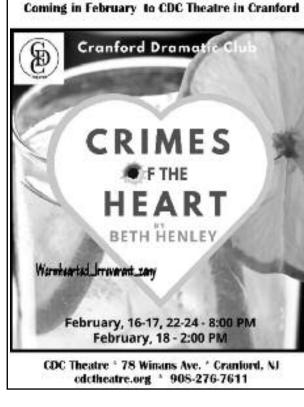
Enjoy an evening of solo and group performances by members of the Westfield High School Choir, while having coffee and desserts. In addition, there will be gift baskets to silent auction as well as a 50/50 raffle. Tickets will be sold at the door and are \$5 per student and \$10 per adult.

This wonderful event is being sponsored by the Westfield Choral Parents Association, Inc., and the proceeds will be applied toward choral performance opportunities for the students, such as trips, clinicians, and special events.

For more information, or to make a monetary or other charitable donation, please contact Susan Pink at pinkinnj@verizon.net or Scott Singer at scottdsinger@verizon.net









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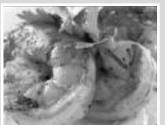
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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$7.49
Kids 3-6\$3.99	Kids 3-6\$5.99
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290 HANDS CREATE MURAL AT WESTFIELD'S JEFFERSON SCHOOL

The year 2017 ended on a bright note at Jefferson Elementary School in Westfield as students put the finishing touches on the giant mural spanning the building's main hallway. A total of 290 third, fourth, and fifth grade students each participated in 20-minute sessions creating scenes which represent their school and town. Jefferson traditions such as Walk to School Day, the school's playground and garden, and providing lunches for the homeless were depicted in the paintings. The project also included Westfield landmarks including familiar Tamaques Park, the Armory and the train station.

Co-presidents of the Jefferson PTO, Chitra Singh and Wendy Rotella, explained that the project took one year from planning to completion, with parents volunteering to prepare the walls with base coats of color prior to the three weeks of student participation. Preliminary sketches were under the guidance of artist Caren Frost Olmsted of Morris Arts. The funding for the mural, which spans 160 feet in length, was made possible through the PTO with enthusiastic endorsement by students and staff.

Fifth grader Claire Gallagher stated, "I really like that everybody in the school put their piece school, it will be here."

Victoria Marmarou agreed, "I really enjoyed that we made a mark on the school that will be here forever."

Third grader Jake Florio added, "All these parts of Westfield are represented, and I like seeing the town."

In addition to painting scenes depicting the town and the school, words of inspiration were included within the mural. Jefferson Principal Dr.

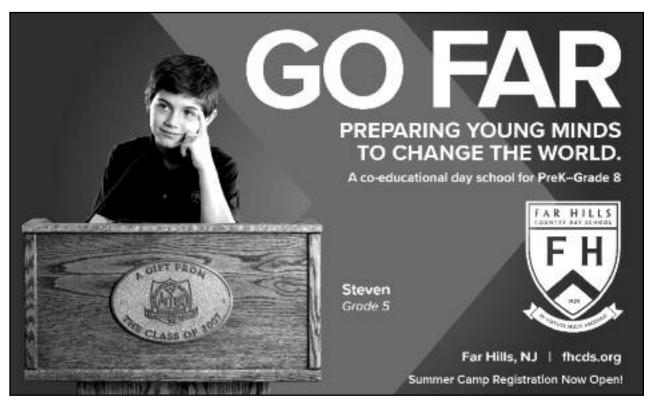
on it; even when we move on to a different Susie Hung explained, "We wanted the messages to carry sentiments of kindness and to encourage belief in oneself." Some of the quotations include: "You can do anything you set your mind to," and "Kindness begins with me."

> When asked how she feels about the mural, fifth grader Canya Nematadzira said, "I like how it tells us to believe in ourselves." Regan Stevens, who is in the third grade, remarked, "Besides representing our school, we got to paint on the walls!"



(above) Celebrating the completion of a 160-foot mural in the Jefferson Elementary School's hallway are, standing l-r: Westfield third graders Gavin Martin, Jayden Cummings, Sonya Seideman, Regan Stevens, and Jake Florio; and fourth graders Daniel Garcia and Hannah Linsen, with Principal Dr. Susie Hung. First row includes fourth graders Ashley Garcia and Kayla Genlot; along with fifth graders Claire Gallagher, Canya Nematadzira, Hannah Ramdath, Victoria Marmarou, and Isaiah Louison. The group poses at the section of the mural depicting the front of the school and its clock. A total of 290 third, fourth, and fifth grade students each participated in 20-minute sessions creating scenes which represent their school and town.





SHARE THE WARMTH

Share the Warmth is a group of local residents that gather on a monthly basis to crochet afghans to be donated to Camp Happy Times, where children with cancer go for a week to enjoy themselves.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library, Share the Warmth meets at the Westfield Library and the members create magic with yarn, design and color. This winter they decided that it would be a thoughtful gesture to spread their warmth further by crafting afghans for the Book on Wheels (BOW) participants. This is a program provided by the library staff

and the Friends and volunteers. It delivers library materials of every kind to Westfield residents that are unable to get to the library, either temporarily or permanently.

To learn more about the various programs that the Friends sponsors contact the library at 908-789-4090 or wmlnj.org.

(right, l-r) In November, eight BOW participants received hand crafted afghans to help them weather the cold winter. Pictured are Diane Weinberg from Share the Warmth with Edith Goldstein.



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Programs for Adults Check website for sign up information

2/2	1:30 pm	TGIF! John Muir in the New World		
2/3	2:00 pm	Dave Leonhardt Trio play Jazz		
2/7,14, 21, 28	10:00 am	Zumba Gold for Adults- Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers.		
2/9	1:30 pm	TGIF! The Dutchess (video)		
2/10	2:00 pm	Excel for Finances (adv. computer class)		
2/13	2:00 pm	Digital Downloading-Movies, etc.		
2/15	7:00 pm	The Music of Political Advertising		
2/16	1:30 pm	TGIF! Marilyn Monroe (video)		
2/17	2:00 pm	Chill with the Frost Kings		
2/21	7:00 pm	Traveling Theatre: Grant & Lincoln		
2/23	1:30 pm	TGIF! Movie: "Robot & Frank"		

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN CHECK WEBSITE FOR SIGN UP INFO

2/1, 8, 15, 22	10:30 am	3's on Thursday Storytime Caregiver attends with child.
2/2, 9, 16, 23	10:00 am	Playgroup-Babies & Toddlers 0-23 months Caregiver attends.
2/2	3:45 pm	Chess Club for Kids-players must know how to move the pieces.
2/6, 13, 20	10:30 am	2's on Tuesday Storytime Caregiver attends with child.
2/6, 13, 20	1:00 pm	Crafternoon Storytime 3½-5 yrs

6:30 pm Evening LEGO Club 5+years

2:00 pm Paws to Read-Beginning readers

read to library dogs for 10 minutes

2/24

3 TOP SAT & ACT SCORES BRING TOTAL TO 34

Three Westfield High School students achieved the highest score possible on the November SAT and October ACT standardized tests according to recent reports received by the school, bringing the total of perfect scores reported so far, this school year to 34.

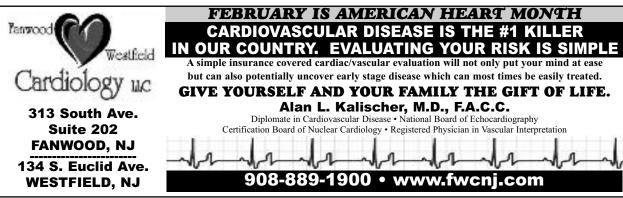
Westfield High Principal, Derrick Nelson, congratulated the students on January 9, 2018 citing their outstanding achievement on the tests which are widely used for college admission criteria. "It speaks volumes about your abilities and your commitment to your education," stated Dr. Nelson.





(above, l-r) The recent top scorers include 11th graders Julia Hollosi – ACT Science and STEM; Kevin Li – SAT Math; and Jenna Miller – ACT English; pictured with Dr. Derrick Nelson.











WOMAN'S CLUB DEDICATED TOWARD HELPING OTHERS

Submitted by Anne Magnotti

Fourteen members of the Woman's Club of Westfield (WCW) met recently for lunch at Charlie Brown's Restaurant in Westfield, NJ. It was a festive day filled with constant chatter that only women can sustain. The club is made up of dedicated ladies who strive toward helping others while believing that instead of just one, a group can make a big difference.

The Club has been awarding scholarships to outstanding Westfield High School students for over 60 years hoping to aid students with financial need. Helping these students to follow their dreams has always been of utmost importance to the club.

WCW has received awards through the years for its donations of food and children's needs, Christmas stockings filled to the brim for our military troops, feeding the homeless with Bridges, local town donations, The Paul Jackson Fund, Raphael's Life House and Covenant House are part of our calendar.

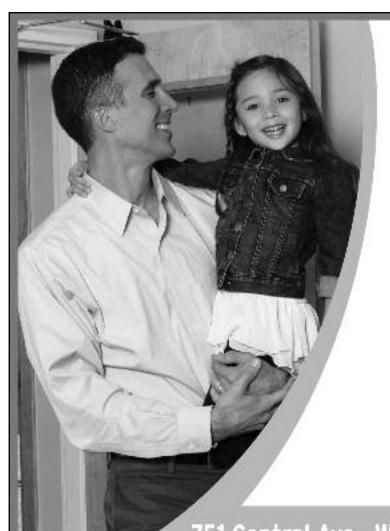
As we continue our work, we ask anyone with interest to contact us at:

Woman's Club of Westfield, Box 1157,

Mountainside, NJ 07092.



(above, front, l-r) Marjorie Wieseman, Ruth Positan, Margery Brewster, Pat D'Angelo, Nancy Hatfield, Karen Ausiello. (back row, l-r) Diana Peterson, Sally Brown, Nancy Muserlian, Mary Ann Sepe, Julie Nardone, Grace Anne Meyn, Anne Magnotti and Jane Walsweer.



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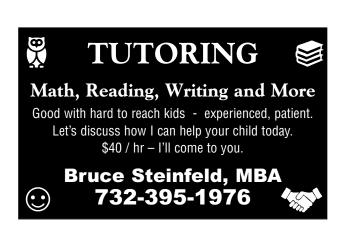
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UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE DEAN'S LIST

The following students from Westfield have been named to the University of Delaware Dean's List for the Fall 2017 semester: Nicholas Barroqueiro, Michael Cash, Kayleigh Denner, Andrew Harting-Smith, Sarah Russo, Michael Maguire, Nicole Devitt, Victoria Guerriero, Gianna Devito, Shannon Malley, Caroline Tanis, Allison Worms, Olivia Aurigemma, Jacob Klofta, Ansh Jhaveri, Amelia Ritter, Matthew Schiff, Emily McGann, Christina Di Bella, Nicol, Cristiano, Megan Melillo, Aaron Tavasi, Chloe Beauchamp, Isabelle Cohen, Katherine Brown, Max Carle, Erin Malley, Karen Forbes, and Elizabeth Brown-Cordero.

To meet eligibility requirements for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.33 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.







ICE HOCKEY TEAM HELP-OUT AT FOOD BANK

In January several girls and boys from the Westfield High School Ice Hockey team spent a weighing 31 pounds each, which were sent to day at the Community Food Bank.

Together, they put together 361 boxes, senior citizens.



(above, l-r top row) Sophie Lhermite, Sarah Wasserman (assistant captain), Megan Raftery (goalie), Maddie Mcdevitt, Alex Sumas, Chloe Root, Shane Carlin, and Jack Sumas. (l-r bottom row) Alana Allen-Jones, Annabella Buontempo, Ally Hornstein (captain), Hannah Brogan (assistant captain), Johnny Paladino, and Justin Hornstein.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT AWARDS TOTAL 143

A total of 143 Westfield High School students earned AP Scholar awards in recognition of their college level achievement through Advanced Placement courses and exams administered in 2017. The score of Westfield's students averaged 4.33. AP tests are scored on a 1 to 5 scale according to the College Board, with 5 being the highest.

Four students qualified for the prestigious National AP Scholar Award, which is granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. Those receiving the National AP Scholar Award include: Soo Min Chung, Spencer Fishman, Olivia Hamilton and Amy Liang.

A total of 61 Westfield High School students earned the AP Scholar with Distinction Award for an average score of 4.51. To qualify for this distinction, a student must score at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Thirty Westfield High School students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award with an average score of 4.25. Students achieving this award must average at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Fifty-two students were granted the AP Scholar Award, earning an average score of 3.93. To qualify for this award, test takers must receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

AP is accepted by thousands of colleges and universities worldwide for college credit, advanced placement, or both on the basis of successful AP Exam grades. Westfield High School offers 16 AP courses.





WESTFIELD RECREATION EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR WINTER AND SPRING

It's time to join the Recreation Department on our mission to keep the community active with our "Be Active, Be Healthy" movement! If your New Year's Resolution is to get healthy, come join our new class "LaBlast" fitness on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. with Peggy and our "Tai Chi" classes on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. with Barry! All levels are welcomed. Drop in and try one of these classes and find out how enjoyable they are.

For the kids, sign them up for one or more of our Winter after school programs. We offer a wide variety from Sewing/Fashion on Mondays and Thursdays, Lego on Wednesday, Intro to Rock & Voice on Mondays, Aeronautics Exploration on Fridays, and Creative Art on Tuesdays.

In the Spring, after school programs to explore are Tennis, Golf, Volleyball, Field Hockey, Manners, Fashion/Sewing, Intro to Rock, Voice, Fencing, and Lego. The department's popular spring event, the Daddy-Daughter Dance, for Westfield Residents only, will be on Sunday, March 11, 2018, from 5 to 8 p.m. for girls in grades 1-5 and their dads. Space is limited – register early. Spring programs for adults range from Tennis (new Thursday morning class just added), Guitar Lessons, Pickleball, and our yearround programs Tai Chi and Zumba.

Registrations is open for all of these programs. They are available on a first come basis. Participants can be registered on line, in person or thru the mail. Please visit our website for the Winter and Spring "Rec Room" Program Brochure.

Senior Transportation Services are also offered through the Recreation Department for Westfield residents for medical appointments and shopping. Senior residents must register in advance for this service. Please call 908-301-1287 for additional information.

For additional program information, please visit our website: Westfieldnj.gov/Recreation for the Winter/Spring "Rec Room" Program Brochure or contact the Westfield Recreation Department at 425 East Broad Street, Westfield at 908-789-4080. "Like us" on Facebook for up to date information.



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On Wednesday, February 7, 2018, the historic Reeve House, home to the Westfield Historical Society, will be transformed into an Edwardian Tea House. Enjoy a British high tea as the Edwardians would have in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Experience the "Downton Abbey" way of life as you sip your tea while eating scrumptious scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam; accompanied by a variety of delicious finger sandwiches with decadent desserts to follow.

Be entertained by the sweet tone of the violin in the beautifully restored 1872 Italianate Reeve House. Sit by the fireplace ablaze in the parlor, surrounded by elegant furniture and paintings; or contemplate in the Library with lovely artifacts from the Reeve family. One can admire the ambience in the dining room with lovely furnishings abound. This event is perfect for a civilized lunch with friends and family. Edwardian High Tea attire is optional!

The Westfield Historical Society is hosting this special event of High Tea on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at noon, at the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center at 314 Mountain Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey.

The cost is \$35 per person for Westfield Historical Society members and \$40 per person for non-members, payable at the door by check or cash. Membership information will be available.

Bring your family or friends for a pleasant lunch-time High Tea. Don't miss this event; you may feel like the Crawleys at their Downton Abbey Country Manor in Yorkshire, England; however, you will be in the 21st Century in Westfield, New Jersey at the Reeve House, the Westfield Historical Society's Museum.

The Westfield Historical Society is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

For further information on the Westfield Historical Society and its activities, or to volunteer, call (908) 654-1794 or visit westfieldhistoricalsociety.org; and like us on facebook!

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GWACC MOVES HEADQUARTERS

Commerce (GWACC) has moved its headquarters from the third floor of the Bank of America building on Elm Street to 212 Lenox Avenue, a space previously occupied by the Bittersweet Store. Gene Jannotti, GWACC Executive Director stated, "We are very pleased that after almost seventy years in Westfield that we have found an ideal street front location for the Chamber."

The Chamber was originally formed at the

The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Rialto Theater on April 27, 1948, and so it will be celebrating its 70th Anniversary in 2018.

> The storefront location will give greater access to the Chamber members, allowing for a quasiretail operation, affording visitors and new arrivals in town to obtain information about the local store and services of the five towns served the Chamber: Fanwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains, and Westfield. GWACC Gift Coins can now also be purchased



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(above) A Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting ceremony took place on December 2, 2017 with Westfield Mayor Elect Shelly Brindle and Garwood Mayor Charles Lombardo assisting chamber president Gene Jannotti in the ceremony along with Councilman Mark LoGrippo, members of the GWACC Board of Directors, GWACC Members and Sherry Cronin from Downton Westfield Corporation (DWC).



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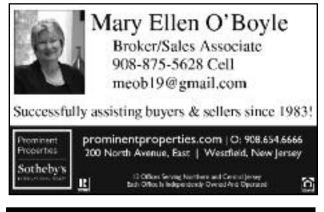
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