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Sewage authority considers hiring UCUA official as its next executive director, Page B1.

Hail, Caesar
New Jersey Shakespeare Festival stages 'Julius Caesar,' Page B4.



Regional newcomer
County Superintendent Fitts names new regional board member and ends stalemate, Page 3.

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Mountainside Echo

"Your Best Source For Community Information"

A WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER MOUNTAINSIDE, N.J., VOL. 37 NO. 35—THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1995 TWO SECTIONS — 50 CENTS

Borough Highlights

Library does Lewis
The Public Library will host a Creative Theater performance of C.S. Lewis' "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" today at 2 p.m.
The Creative Theater will bring the story to life, taking the audience through the wardrobe to Narnia. Along the way, children will have the chance to participate in a snowball fight, make Turkish Delight and help defeat the witch.
This one-act version of the children's classic is recommended for kids ages 4-15. Admission is free. Call 233-0115 for more information.

Dine-a-Round planned
Tickets for the Sept. 14 Dine-a-Round are on sale, it was announced by Mountainside's 100th Anniversary Committee.
The food to be served will feature specialties from the finest restaurants and food shops in the area. The New Jersey Pops will provide musical entertainment.
The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Tickets are priced at \$30 each and may be purchased by mailing a check, payable to the Borough of Mountainside, and a self-addressed envelope to Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, attention: Dine-a-Round/Concert.
Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more information, call Jean Pascuiti at 789-9172.

Help wanted
In preparation for the Heritage Day Fair — the centennial celebration-capping event scheduled for September — the borough is recruiting crafters.
The Heritage Day Fair will provide a high profile opportunity for crafters to display and sell their wares to the public.
The fair will be held Sept. 16, beginning at 2 p.m. and is the centerpiece of a three-day celebration of Mountainside's 100th anniversary.
Crafters' tables are available for a \$25 fee.
For more information, or to reserve a spot, call Beth at 789-8649; Carol at 654-3898; or Donna at 232-4904.
In addition to the crafts available, the fair will include an antique car display, carnival games, miniature golf, pony rides and a wide array of other rides for children of all ages, including a tethered hot-air balloon.
There will be plenty of free entertainment provided. Mimes, jugglers, clowns and unicyclists will be on hand throughout the Deerfield School grounds.
Musical entertainment will continue all day long.

AARP holds picnic
The Mountainside chapter of AARP will hold its first summer picnic on July 20 at noon at the Mountainside Pool.
Anyone who would like to participate is welcome and is asked to bring a casserole for six people and \$5.
The rain date is July 21. For more information, call Alice Strohmeyer at 232-8797.

Slippery when wet



Mountainside resident Julia Chiang's Lincoln Town Car rests overturned on Baltusrol Road in Summit Friday afternoon. Her car skidded on wet pavement and hit a Belgian-block curb before flipping over. Chiang exited the vehicle through the rear window. No one was injured.
Photo By Norm Sutaria

Council discusses community events

Costs of events cited as obstacle in planning

By Cynthia B. Gordon
Staff Writer
When the Borough Council met Tuesday night, future community social events were discussed.
During this year of centennial celebrations, the council discussed holding annual golf outings and dinner dances.
A purpose for such events, it was reasoned, would be to raise money for scholarships. The heads of the committees that would plan the outings were consulted earlier this month, and it was determined that not only would such events not generate the monies for scholarships, but the expenses of the events would not be covered.
"Prices are getting very high," said Mayor Robert Vigilanti, adding, "We won't be able to sell" the golf outing and dinner dance. He then suggested holding a raffle to raise money for scholarships.
Among the golf courses from which the committee received quotes were Echo Lake, which would charge \$200 per person next year, and Baltusrol, which is currently priced at \$400 per person.
The Borough Council also discussed a dinner dance which may be held in November of 1996, and again, costs were a discouraging factor.
For a cost of \$150 per person — the price of each ticket to the centennial Gala Ball — Mountainside residents would be able to eat, drink, dance and be merry, but not in the same standards enjoyed by the Gala Ball participants, according to councilmen.

Neither the band nor the food would be of comparable quality, said Vigilanti, adding that the cost of a Gala Ball-type event would be prohibitive.
"We can hold a raffle and collect the same amount," he added.
In searching for alternatives, councilmen suggested having a picnic.
"We saw a community spirit and closeness that existed 30 years ago," said Councilman David Hart. The June 3 picnic "was an exceptional event that brought the community together."
"There was a tremendous amount of camaraderie and spirit coming together at the picnic," added Councilman Werner Schon.
When the council meeting was ending, Centennial Committee member Gary Whyte spoke on that committee's decision to have L'Affaire provide the liquor for the upcoming Dine-A-Round event, after restaurant owner Robert B. Connelly had canceled a borough of Mountainside event in October of last year.
Whyte sent a letter to Vigilanti and the council members stating his feelings about that decision to do business with L'Affaire and to announce his departure from the Centennial Committee.
"No decision should have ever been rendered concerning L'Affaire's part in this centennial without all parties being involved," his letter states. "Since our feelings were not part of any decision-making process, then I

can move forward without looking back."
Connelly also wrote a letter to Vigilanti regarding the situation, saying he had hoped the borough would have chosen L'Affaire as the site of the Gala Ball.
"I certainly wanted to work with the committee in making this an event to remember," that letter says. "I have always worked with the area people at my establishment. I sincerely wish there to be no hard feelings with the committee, citizens of Mountainside and your office. I hope we can put all our past difficulties and misunderstandings behind us and go forward."
The dispute seemed far from over at meeting's end. The council decided Schon would try to meet with both Whyte and Connelly to resolve the issue.
"I want an apology," said Whyte. Connelly was unavailable for comment at press time.
The Borough Council will meet again on Tuesday in Borough Hall at 8 p.m.
The council is scheduled to hold the second readings of two ordinances introduced last month, including one that would change the traffic regulations at the intersection of Mountain Avenue at New Providence Road.
That ordinance would establish a right turn only lane on the southbound side of Mountain Avenue and would give police the authority to enforce the right turn law.

Lewis and the Larkettes



The 1957 Deerfield School Larkettes gather with director Aden G. Lewis. Top row, from left: Linda Wilhelms, Judy Mele, Judy Hose, Jill Rowley, Virginia Werle, Madge Bird, Lewis, Karen Kroyer, Carol Bader, Maureen Britton, Pat Biondi and Beverly Russell. Middle row: Linda Tuttle, Janice Winans, Eve Ben-ari, Sandy Harris, Margaret Siefkin, Joey Ann Boise, Kathy Barry, Kathy Parry, Diance Hutchinson, Judy Cenci and Elizabeth Flanagan. Bottom row: Judy Colvin, Sharon La Rocca, Lee Johnson, Sherry Foulke, Elena Caruso, Norine Caruso, Donna Kristiansen, Barbara Hose, Carol Jensen, Pamela Johnson and Carol Susik. For more information on Lewis and the Larkettes, turn to Page 2.
Courtesy of Anne R. Hose

Regional board says no to appeal option

Merachnik says he welcomes audit by state
By Mark Crudele
Staff Writer
The Union County Regional High School Board of Education voted Tuesday not to appeal the \$2.7 million cut of its budget assessed to it by the state Department of Education, setting the stage for drastic cuts in 1996-97.
Board of Education President Joan Toth said the board felt an appeal would not be successful. "The state is telling us that they want this money cut. Any appeal will only result in us paying more legal fees."
The state's tax levy cut took \$1,185,000 out of line items from next year's budget and appropriated an anticipated \$1,515,000 surplus from this year's.
Next year's tax levy will be \$24,701,050, and it leaves half a million dollars in surplus.
Due to the large amount slashed from surplus, there is a "strong possibility" the board will have to cut close to \$4 million from their 1996-97 budget, said Kenilworth representative Robert Jeans.
Toth said the board has already received a list, from Superintendent Donald Merachnik and other board members, of possible places to consider cutting, adding that there are "quite a few areas."
She also noted that while the list is "confidential" now, board members want public input on the places to cut.
"Mary Tully brought up that she wanted the public to be told and be involved in the cutting process," said Jeans. "The spirit of that is in the motion we passed. We are not going to just announce the cuts we've made. We will come up with possible ideas, make them public and hear the public's reaction to our recommendations. We'll ask anyone in the public with further ideas to come forward. It will be an ongoing process."
Jeans said the list presented to the board during executive session has both new ideas and old. "We will go back and figure out the realness of some of the issues we had talked about before."
Board members differ on how soon the public will hear what the cuts will be. While Jeans said he hoped the board would talk publicly about it at their next meeting, Toth said she thinks it will be three months before the public first hears some of the proposals.
"We're not going to talk about this now," said Jeans. "But the public will be kept involved and kept informed."
Merachnik told the board the last place he wants cut is education. He warned the board that they will have some difficult choices and the cuts to be made will be "severe."
"None of the cuts should affect education," added Jeans. "Everybody on the board supports that."

Library receives ADA renovations, new roof

In an effort to bring the Public Library into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, one of the restrooms is being renovated to accommodate wheelchair users.
The work on the women's room should be completed within 60 days, according to Library Director Miriam Bein.
The bathroom must be large enough to enable wheelchair accessibility, said Mayor Robert Vigilanti, explaining the renovations planned. The doors will be widened, the sinks will be raised off the floor, horizontal handles will be installed on the doors, the toilets will be raised to a certain height and grab-bars will be added to allow for wheelchair accessibility.
According to Vigilanti, the repairs will provide independence to those individuals who need assistance to use such facilities. "It gives the person some privacy and dignity," he added.
Gino Bravo Construction Management is the contractor for the bathroom renovations.
In other library repair news, the building's 20-year-old roof was recently replaced at a cost of \$3,000.
"It needed maintenance after 20 years," Bein explained. Clark Builders was the contractor for that job.

School board to buy accident insurance

The Board of Education has taken steps toward providing accident insurance to cover students involved in accidents during school hours on school property.
Bollinger Fowler Insurance Company of Short Hills was expected to be chosen as the carrier of the insurance plan at the board's meeting held Wednesday night. The plan first had been brought to the board's attention at a meeting in June.
The coverage will cost the district \$2,200 and will take effect in time for the beginning of the coming academic year.
The 1995-96 school year marks the first time the school district has had this type of coverage.
"We've had numerous claims and didn't have coverage," said Superintendent of Schools Leonard Baccaro, explaining the purchase of the policy. "Over the past several years, children who were injured didn't have coverage. The only way to get the coverage was to sue the Board of Education."
"We haven't had any suits, but we felt this would stop it in the future," he added. "Their medical bills would be covered. We felt it was a very cost effective program to get into."
The board previously had insurance which was limited to covering students for both after-school sports and school-sponsored activities at a cost of \$900.
Baccaro said the cost of the new insurance was covered in the district's 1995-96 budget, adding "while the insurance premium goes up, it saves elsewhere — such as legal fees."
"It is a compulsory plan," said Gregory Thompson, assistant vice president of Bollinger Fowler Insurance, "which means all students are covered for all school-sponsored activities, such as a trip."
"Also it covers athletes, if there are games after school and other athletic events," he added. "The key is it has to be school-sponsored."
"There are loads of other schools that have student accident insurance. They all have it in one way or another," he added. "Union County school systems all have in-school coverage. Parents can provide optional round the clock coverage if they want to."

INSIDE THE Mountainside Echo

Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Regional news (3-4), Editorial (6-7), etc.

How to reach us:

Our offices are located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday.

Voice Mail:

Our main phone number, 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to better serve our customers.

To subscribe:

The Echo is mailed to the homes of subscribers for delivery every Thursday. One-year subscriptions in Union County are available for \$22.00.

News items:

News releases of general interest must be in our office by Friday at noon to be considered for publication the following week.

Letters to the editor:

The Echo provides an open forum for opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed double spaced if possible.

To place a display ad:

Display advertising for placement in the general news section of the Echo must be in our office by Monday at 5 p.m.

To place a classified ad:

The Echo has a large, well read classified advertising section. Advertisements must be in our office by Tuesday at 3 p.m.

To place a public notice:

Public Notices are notices which are required by state law to be printed in local weekly or daily newspapers.

Facsimile Transmission:

The Echo is equipped to accept your ads, releases, etc. by FAX. Our FAX lines are open 24 hours a day.

Postmaster Please Note:

THE MOUNTAINSIDE ECHO (USPS 166-860) is published weekly by Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc., 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J., 07083.

Lewis joins faculty, brings life to Deerfield music program

Continuing its commemoration of the borough's centennial, the Echo, working with the Mountainside Historical Preservation Committee, resumes chronicling the 100-year history of the community.

In 1953, Aden G. Lewis joined the Mountainside faculty as a vocal music teacher. On his first day of teaching, children ran home exclaiming, "He wears a red vest and plays the piano standing up!"

Before coming to Mountainside, Lewis was director of piano instruction in Allegheny County, Md., a program which became a model for other states.

School of Music in New York City. He received his master's degree in education at Pennsylvania State University and, while at Mountainside, he took courses toward his doctorate at Columbia University's Teachers College.

In the fall of 1956, Lewis decided to form an extra special group for sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade girls who loved to sing, had good voice quality and pitch and a mature attitude.

After try-outs, 35 girls had been selected. They rehearsed every Monday after school, and by December they were ready to be part of the school Christmas program and soon after, they performed at the dedication of Deerfield School's auditorium.

It soon became apparent that the Larkettes, as they were called, had something to offer audiences. In February 1957, they were invited to sing at the Union County PTA Founders' Day luncheon and later they sang

at Cranford Hall Nursing Home. Many of the patients were too ill to get out of bed, but they later told the nurses that the sound of the girls' sweet voices had meant a great deal to them.

In April they sang at the Music Educators' workshop at Newark State College, now Kean College. Later they "went on the road" for one day, performing at four nearby schools.

In June the Larkettes were excited to receive an invitation to sing at Convention Hall in Atlantic City at the State PTA convention the following October. When school opened in September, five eighth-grade Larkettes had graduated and 10 new ones were added.

ing, but on their vigor, joy and competence before a large audience.

By this time they has a real organization with elected officials and a manager to arrange appearances, handle transportation and permission slips and to be around with safety pins and combs, etc.

Anne Hose, mother of two Larkettes, was asked to undertake this position; Jeanne Wilhelms, also the mother of an original Larkette, became the choreographer, schooling the girls in simple dance steps and hand motions which enhanced their performances.

Over the years the Larkettes performed in a Dayton High School variety show, twice with the Maplewood Men's Club, the Plainfield Brotherhood program, Upsala College, the Mountainside Lions Club and the Newcomers Club.

They were never without a "booking" on the horizon. During this time Mr. Lewis also founded and directed

the Union County PTA Chorus, a sort of adult Larkette group that performed at many PTA meetings in Union County and several times at Lyons Veterans Hospital.

A group of parents, headed by Bea Reich and Mona Grubel, felt that the potential of the music department could not be met by the Board of Education's budget for equipment so they sought permission to form a music department of the PTA through which fund-raising functions could be sponsored.

The first undertaking was a musical potpourri titled "Broadway Meets the Met," featuring the Union County PTA chorus, the Larkettes and some musical groups from Newark State College. It was a musical and financial success and caused such a large influx of new members to the PTA committee that it was too large to be part of another organization.

Thus, the Mountainside Music Association was born.



Courtesy of Union County Narcotics Advisory Board

Deerfield student Emily Weiner, who won a Special Award in an essay writing contest, accepts her plaque from members of the Union County Narcotics Advisory Board.

Deerfield student wins anti-drug essay contest

The Union County Narcotics Advisory Board held its 7th Annual Drug Abuse Prevention Essay Contest Awards Ceremony recently in Judge Edward Beglin's courtroom in the county courthouse in Elizabeth.

"This essay and poetry contest is held each year for eighth-graders county-wide as a way to make them aware of the dangers of drugs," said Kelly. "Judge Beglin's courtroom was filled with students, parents and friends and that is what we love to see, participation by all involved."

Trailside seeks artisans and crafters

The Trailside Nature & Science Center is seeking artisans, crafts people, and food vendors to demonstrate colonial crafts and work skills, or to sell their colonial products at its 14th annual Harvest Festival.

The festival, on Sept. 24 from 1-5 p.m., will be a celebration of colonial and Native American life, and will feature demonstrations, live period music, a Revolutionary War encampment, children's crafts and colonial games, food and more.

Examples of craft and work skills being sought are: blacksmithing, kick wheel pottery, broommaking, shoemaking and quilting.

Participants who wish to sell their products will be charged a fee. For more information about how to participate or volunteer, call Betty Ann Kelly at 789-3670, Tuesday-Saturday.

Stuyvesant Haircutting advertisement featuring a 20% off senior citizen special.

Drink and Shrink advertisement for a weight loss product.

The Elite Swim Club advertisement for a winter swim program.

Why Pay More, when you can save more advertisement for vinyl replacement windows.

Large advertisement for Witty's featuring various liquor, wine, and beer prices.

Regional board adds Berkeley Heights rep

Fitts chases candidate to end stalemate

By Mark Crudele
Staff Writer

The Union County Regional High School Board of Education swore in its ninth member Tuesday night, a dean of New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Alok Chakrabarti was selected as Berkeley Heights' second representative by Union County Superintendent of Schools Leonard Fitts, after the board was unable to pick from one of the three candidates.

Entering a board that is split 4-4 on whether the public should be allowed to vote on the dissolution of the district, Chakrabarti said he wants to be "the voice of reason."

"The board is currently divided," he said. "As a scientist, I will look at all the issues and work with the other members to come to the best solution."

Chakrabarti said he does not have an opinion on "deregionalization." "My objective is to provide the best possible education in the most cost-effective way," he said. "Whether deregionalization will achieve that, I do not know. I have not read all the documentation. I want to read the studies and talk with parents and teachers before forming an opinion."

Fitts said an advantage Chakrabarti had over other candidates, was his experience in education. "He brought diversified educational experiences," Fitts said. "The other two were good also. Any of the three would have made excellent board members. Berkeley Heights is extremely blessed to have such fine applicants come forward."

Fitts maintained that Chakrabarti's opinion on dissolution was not a factor in his decision, saying "deregionalization is history as far as my involvement. My interest is in what is educationally best for the district." However, Chakrabarti revealed that the county superintendent did ask his opinion on dissolution during his one-hour interview.

"I told him the same thing I told the regional board during their interview with me," said the new board member. "I live here, I pay taxes, my daughter goes to Governor Livingston. Quality of education and the cost

of it are important to me."

Chakrabarti said he will solicit opinions from all concerned parties. "My telephone has been busy for the past few days," he said. "I want to hear from as many people as possible."

Regional Superintendent Donald Merachnik said Chakrabarti's experience with higher education will serve the district well. "He is a very impressive person. He has strong academic credentials in terms of higher education. His insight in those areas will serve our college-bound students well."

Board President Joan Toth said she also was "pleased with the selection."

"He's an educator with an excellent resume," she added.

Chakrabarti is currently the dean of the industrial management school at NJIT in Newark. He founded the industrial management school in 1989. Prior to his arrival at NJIT, he served as a professor of management, marketing and commerce, and engineering at several institutions, including University of Hawaii, Northwestern University, DePaul University, Drexel University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has authored many publications dealing primarily with engineering and business management, and has written two books.

The regional board was unable to make a decision on one of the three candidates who applied during the allotted 65-day time period and asked Fitts for more time. But Fitts responded that there is no legal precedent to grant an extension and on June 12, informed the district he would make the decision himself.

Some board members charged the board was derelict in its duties by not making an appointment during the June 6 meeting — the last opportunity they had to take action before the deadline expired.

At that time, a vote was taken to approve Lawrence McDonald as the new member, but that motion only garnered three votes.

The Berkeley Heights seat was vacated by Michael Rogers in April.

Vocation education



Courtesy of Regional High School District

Jonathan Dayton Regional High School Principal Charles Serson presents the 1995 Earl Murphy Outstanding Educator-Administrator Award to Frank Bihon. Bihon, a teacher of technical education at Governor Livingston Regional High School, was one of three educators from throughout the state to receive the award, presented by the New Jersey Vocational Administrators and Supervisors Association. In selecting Bihon, the NJVASA cited the teacher's "exemplary service to his students, school, colleagues and the pursuit of quality vocational and technical education."

High schools offer car wash, wax service

The Auto Preparation Unit of the Union County Regional High School District's Summer Youth Employment Training Program is providing car wash and wax services to the public on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School.

The cost for a car wash is \$3; a wash and wax costs \$5. An interior cleaning of the car is included in the price. All work will be done by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call Walter Wiatr at the high school at 382-0910, ext. 130.

The service will be available until Aug. 1. The Summer Youth Employment Training Program, funded by the Union County Private Industry Council and administered by the Union County Regional High School District, provides career-oriented educational employment opportunities for handicapped students.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news:
Church, club and social - Friday noon.
Entertainment - Friday noon.
Sports - Monday noon.
Letters to the Editor - Monday 9 a.m.
General - Monday 5 p.m.

High schools offer weekday lunches

The Food Services Unit of the Union County Regional High School District's Summer Youth Employment Training Program is providing lunches to the public on weekdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 201 of Jonathan Dayton Regional High School.

Patrons may purchase a complete lunch, consisting of an entree, salad, beverage and dessert, for \$2.50. The program will run to Aug. 1.

The Summer Youth Employment Training Program, funded by the Union County Private Industry Council and administered by the Regional High School District, provides career-oriented educational and employment opportunities for handicapped students.

For more information about the program, call the school at 376-6300, ext. 201.

Civic calendar

The Civic Calendar, prepared by the *Springfield Leader* and the *Mountainside Echo*, is a list of local and county government meetings.

Today

- The Mountainside Planning Board will meet in Borough Hall at 8 p.m.
- The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will meet at 7 p.m. on the sixth floor of the administration building at Elizabethtown Plaza in Elizabeth.

Tuesday

- The Mountainside Borough Council will meet in Borough Hall at 8 p.m.
- The Springfield Board of Adjustment will meet in the Municipal Building at 7 p.m.

Wednesday

- The Springfield Development Review Committee will meet in the Municipal Building at 7 p.m.
- The Union County Development Block Grant Revenue-Sharing Committee will meet at 7:30 in the administration building at Elizabethtown Plaza in Elizabeth.
- The Union County Consumer Affairs Advisory Board will meet at 7:30 in the administration building at Elizabethtown Plaza in Elizabeth.

July 20

- The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will hold a pre-meeting conference at 6:30 p.m. on the sixth floor of the administration building at Elizabethtown Plaza in Elizabeth.

July 24

- The Springfield Township Committee will meet in executive session on the second floor of the Municipal Building at 8 p.m.
- The Union County Air Traffic Noise Advisory Board will meet at 7 p.m. at 300 North Ave. East in Westfield.

July 25

- The Springfield Township Committee will meet in the courtroom on the second floor of the Municipal Building at 8 p.m.

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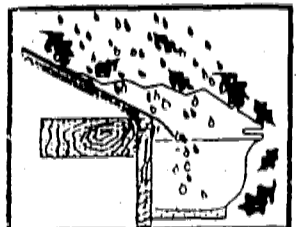
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Board members continue fight for referendum

By Mark Crudele
Staff Writer

A Union County Regional High School District Board of Education member has fired back at a response written by the board attorney in the latest in a series of exchanges regarding the district's future.

Board member Robert E. Jeans, Kenilworth representative, recently wrote to the commissioner of education attacking board attorney Lawrence Schwartz's response to a document Jeans co-wrote with three other board members that asks the commissioner for a public vote on dissolution.

That document, also signed by board members Thomas Foregger of Berkeley Heights, Carmine Venes of Mountainside and Ned Sambur of Springfield, denounces the district's official answer to petitions from four local municipalities appealing Union County Superintendent Leonard Fitts' decision on deregionalization, which is the effort to break up the six-town high school district.

When Fitts wrote that the proposed form of dissolution is "not advisable," five local boards of education and four municipal governing bodies petitioned Education Commissioner Leo Klagholz, requesting a four-member Board of Review allow a public referendum to be held and the voters decide the future of the regional district.

The district was legally required to write a response to the local municipalities' petition, and Schwartz did so through consultation with the board's Ad Hoc Committee on Organizational Status. That committee has been dealing with legal issues regarding deregionalization since 1993. Board members Theresa LiCausi, Joan Toth and Venes sat on it on May 18, when the committee approved the response.

But when Foregger tried to get the full board to vote on the response on May 23, he was blocked by board chair Virginia Muskus, who was advised by Schwartz not to let the motion be made. At that time, Schwartz charged Foregger only wanted a vote so the motion would fail. Schwartz speculated that Foregger believed the body was deadlocked 4 to 4 on dissolution. Without five votes, or a majority, the response would not have been approved and not sent to Trenton.

Foregger, Jeans, Venes and Sambur

took it upon themselves to contact Klagholz, writing in a letter that they "would like to see a public referendum on the question of dissolution," and claiming Schwartz's response "does not represent the views of a majority of our current board."

Seizing upon that letter, lawyers for the boards of education of Berkeley Heights, Kenilworth, Mountainside and Springfield petitioned Klagholz themselves, demanding the state disregard Schwartz's response. "The regional district's position is not reflected in the answer filed by its attorney," they said.

What followed was a series of back-and-forth correspondences between Schwartz and Vito Gagliardi Jr., attorney for the four local boards of education. Schwartz claimed "there is no legal requirement for a board resolution prior to the filing of an answer to any contested petition," and noted that the district is legally required to submit a response. He added that regional board members "are quite capable of addressing their own internal legal affairs. This is not a matter for opposing counsel."

Gagliardi later disagreed. "Comments like that from the regional board show how truly out of control the regional has become. The board is comprised of representatives from each town, and is obligated to be responsive to those towns. The agreement to create the district was that six local towns would send kids and would allow the district to receive state aid that otherwise would have gone to the local towns if they were running their own high schools," he said.

"In exchange for receiving local towns' children and state aid, those towns would have representation on the board. For any representative not to be heard equally is an abrogation of the very agreement that created the regional in the first place. Of course the constituent district has a right to question how the regional does business," he said.

In answering Gagliardi's petition, Schwartz charged that the four board members violated the body's Code of Ethics by writing Klagholz themselves. He said that Foregger's motion for a vote was "an obvious attempt to counter the position and procedures of the regional board," and that Foregger "presented a frivolous motion designed to obfuscate and possibly

obstruct the regional board's business."

Schwartz also speculated that Foregger's motion would not have deadlocked the board, and instead would have passed. He noted that board member Carmine Venes, one of the four who wrote the commissioner asking for a public vote, also sat on the board's ad hoc committee, and during one of those committee meetings, agreed the response should be filed. That would seem to contradict the statement in the letter saying the answer "does not represent the views of a majority of our current board," charged Schwartz.

Venes explained that he agreed that the response should be filed because he understood that the district was required to file an answer.

"I was part of the committee and I was overruled," said Venes. "At first, I didn't believe it should go further, but then I read the statute that says, 'The Board of Education of the regional district shall, within 15 days after service of a copy of the petition upon it, file an answer.' It said we shall file answer. I'm not going to stand in front of the state — if they tell me to do something I'm going to do it," he said. "I still think dissolution should come to a vote, but the district legally had to file an answer, and I wasn't going to block that."

Venes explained that he signed the letter with three other board members because he wants a public vote on dissolution. "Two to three weeks after the committee meeting, Dr. Foregger came to my house. He said he had just typed up a letter to the state and he wanted me to sign it. Well, I was very reluctant to sign it on the spot. But I was leaving for the seashore at that time and he said he would get me a copy. I signed it for one reason, because I believe dissolution should go to a public referendum, and I stand by that," he said.

"Recently, Mr. Schwartz asked me to sign an affidavit saying I agreed the response should be filed, and I signed that, because that's the way I voted in the ad hoc committee. Even though I understand that the district must file a response, and that's why I voted that it should be filed," he said.

Last week, Jeans attacked Schwartz's latest response. In a letter to Klagholz, Jeans stressed that the

board has never discussed or voted on the brief.

According to sources, Jeans continued that Schwartz's speculation of how Venes would have voted based on his affidavit is meaningless because only a vote during a board meeting could determine that. Jeans recalled that Schwartz said during the meeting that he believed Venes would vote against the motion. "If he thought it would fail, why would he represent to the commissioner that his answer was approved by a committee acting under the authority of a board majority?" asked Jeans.

And alluding to Schwartz's comment that Foregger wanted his motion to fail, Jeans wrote "neither Mr. Schwartz nor Mr. Jeffrey Bennet is known to possess any mind-reading abilities. Any claims of such abilities should be viewed with extreme skepticism."

Gagliardi's firm of Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti also has responded. In its own letter to Klagholz, attorney Michael Cole writes that statute requires the Board of Education to respond, and "does not authorize or permit an answer to be filed by the regional district's attorney or some ad hoc committee."

Cole observes that a July 9, 1993, document written by Superintendent Donald Merachnik states that "ultimately, the committee will be making recommendations to the full board on these issues." According to Cole, there was never any presentation to the board.

Not so, said Schwartz. "The ad hoc committee has reported to the board on many occasions," he said.

"I find these papers to be extraordinary," said Gagliardi. "Essentially, the board's attorney is accusing half

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of his own board of acting unethically. All of this documentation filed is an effort to justify inappropriate circumvention of the full board, for which taxpayers will be charged."

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The way Summit was...60 years ago

By Sheila Patnode
Managing Editor

Al Puder's basket made the net just at the buzzer and reaffirmed his status as the best basketball player at Summit High School. Loyal fans cheered and yelled to the team. The star athlete's girlfriend, Beatrice Sayre, glowed with excitement. She followed the crowd onto the court, carrying her terry-cloth shirt with his varsity "S" sewn into it.

The crowd wasn't thinking about its country's economic depression as attendees made plans to meet at Marten's on Springfield Avenue for ice cream. The class of 1935 had just finished a great basketball season and the students wanted to celebrate.

In the 60 years since her high school graduation, Beatrice Sayre-Puder has collected a lot of memories. Her family's history in Summit, including her father's graduation from the public high school in 1908, has created a strong attachment to the city.

The house her father was born in, known as the Carter House, is now used by the Summit Historical Society. Her father, William Sayre, was one of 10 to graduate in 1908 when the high school was still located where the new City Hall stands.

Puder's uncle, John Sayre, graduated Summit High School in 1928 and is a life-long resident and former police chief of Summit.

Like her father and uncle, Puder attended the Summit public schools. She received her elementary education from Washington School in Summit. It was a "big thing, she remembers, to reach seventh grade and attend the junior high school which consisted of seventh, eighth and ninth grades.

For 10th grade, students made the switch to senior high school. Then a resident of North Summit, Puder recalls it was a "long ways" between home and high school. She and her sister, who was in the class of 1936, had to get a ride, walk or take public transportation to get to school because there weren't any school busses.

The Great Depression took away much of the concerns about fashion.

"There wasn't much of a style of dress because it was the depression and people wore whatever," Puder said. "Skirts and sweaters and saddle shoes were popular. Girls wore the maroon varsity letters on their terry-cloth shirts. Al had so many, he gave one to me and one to my sister."

Team sporting events were social occasions, Puder said. A lot of dates

were made to watch the games. Young couples in love also went roller skating in Florham Park or took in a movie at the local theater. Ice cream was good at Marten's and at Louvis and Co.

"Marten's had a big window and I used to sit at the end of the counter so I could see out the window and see anyone I knew that went by," Puder said.

Louvis and Co. eventually became a luncheonette because Summit had several new banks in the city and the bankers made up a big lunch crowd.

Although money was tight, families still wanted to send their children to college.

"A lot of students went on to college during the depression," Puder said. "More would have gone if they had the money."

A lot of girls went to secretarial school after graduation, Puder said.

When she finished her years at Summit High School, Puder asked her father if she could go to one such school in New York. When he found out the class was in the city, he strongly rejected the idea.

Puder stayed in town and took classes at Summit Secretarial School. Through a friend of the family, she landed a job in the city.

In 1940, she married her high school sweetheart, Al Puder. The couple stayed in Summit until 1963 when his job forced them to relocate. Upon their retirement, they came back to Summit, their "home."

Puder became active in the city by joining the Summit Area Chapter of the Red Cross. She has been a volunteer for 15 years.

She got back in touch with old classmates by going to three reunions. Two were her own class and one was her sister's reunion.

The Puders organized their 50th class reunion, although Al Puder died two weeks before the event. Beatrice Puder was still able to attend the reunion and enjoy the company of her classmates.

The class of 1935 had a good turnout, although many of the members died during World War II, Puder said.

"It was a great time. I was in charge of giving out the nametags, so I met everyone," Puder said. "It was good to see them."

Some people travel far for the reunions, according to Puder.

"My uncle married other fellas from other places else and the fellas from here married girls from other places and came back here," Puder said.

She doesn't know when the class will have its next reunion, but she said everyone gets back in touch during the winter holiday season.

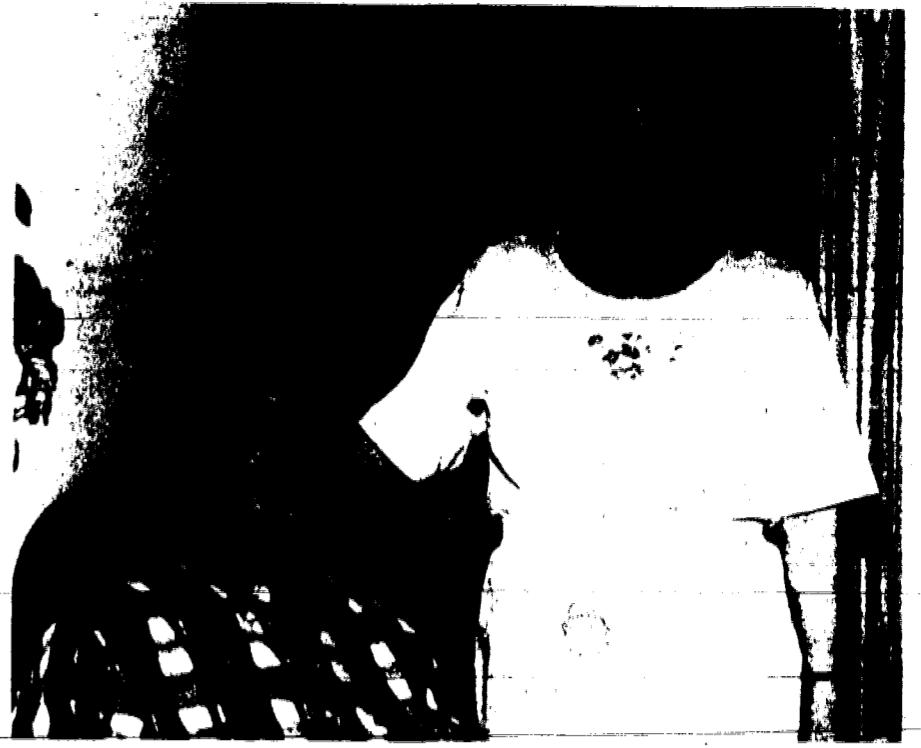


Photo By Milton Mills
Beatrice Puder, class of 1935, and her uncle, John Sayre, class of 1928, reflect on their days at Summit High School.

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A greater cost will be realized

Gov. Christine Whitman is in possession of a piece of legislation that would greatly diminish the public's right to know and greatly diminish the public's ability to have easy access to the inner workings of local government.

Passed by both houses of the Legislature two weeks ago, the bill awaits the governor's signature before it becomes law. We urge Whitman not to sign the bill because of the provision that ultimately will severely limit an extremely important right of the people — access to open government.

The bill, A-1908/S-7 and commonly known as the State Mandate/State Pay bill, was drafted by the Republican majority in the Legislature to reduce the financial burden among municipal governments when they are forced to implement programs mandated by state government. The bill's aim is noble in that the state is recognizing the burden it places on municipalities and their taxpayers, but it falls short in a provision that allows municipalities the option to publish public notice advertising by title only.

Public notice advertising is a requirement of all forms of government under the Open Public Meetings Act. The purpose of advertising these notices — which include municipal budgets, ordinances, zoning decisions and changes to zoning laws — is to keep the public informed of the policies and decisions made by their elected and appointed leaders. This kind of advertising provides citizens with access to open government.

By allowing municipalities to publish these notices by title only, which a provision of the bill offers, citizens no longer will have the access to open government to which they have become accustomed. Instead of looking at their local newspapers and finding a detailed explanation of the local laws and decisions, they will be provided with a broad synopsis of these laws and decisions. To find out more information, they will be required to call or visit their municipal clerk's office, or make a trip to the library, in the case of reviewing municipal budgets. This is a critical point when one considers the amount of time consumed by two-income parents who may not always be able to attend local meetings.

This provision does not make sense — especially during a time when more citizens are becoming involved in their local government and are more aware of the value of their vote in local elections. A law like this simply takes away the citizens' access to learning public information at their convenience and opens the doors for corruption and patronage among our elected officials.

This provision is only about the public's right to know, however, the state has raised a financial issue as a smokescreen by claiming that \$4 million will be saved annually if municipalities were permitted to publish public notices by title only. That figure is an estimate and certainly does not include the fees that most assuredly would be paid to draft the broad synopsis, or title, now required by the proposed law.

Who will write it? You can bet it will be an attorney. And how much will that cost? Who will reproduce copies and distribute them? And what will that cost?

The figure also does not account for the time that may be taken away from staff in the clerk's offices who would be required to answer the questions of the people who want their access to open government. And there will be people with questions. In a recent nationwide survey released by the National Newspaper Association, 85.2 percent of 600 respondents said they feel local government should be required to publish public notice advertising. That's more than a majority of the people, and it is to these people that our state leaders are not listening. Our legislators claim that people do not even look at the public notices.

The legislators also accuse newspapers of profiteering from public notice advertising. This is another smokescreen. In fact, the Legislature has not granted a rate increase for advertising since 1983, the only increase the last 17 years. We've heard talk by some publishers about turning down these notices because the cost of newsprint — the paper that this newspaper is printed on — has been raised more than 40 percent in just one year's time. Another 10 to 20 percent increase is scheduled for September.

This has some of our senators smiling because it is exactly what they want — newspapers on hard times. Why? Because they're sick of newspapers taking jobs at them. They're so sick that they're using this issue to jab back and completely forgetting about the public and its right to know.

Citizens across the state should support their right to open government and send a message to Whitman that this specific provision will not save the kind of money our legislators are claiming. More importantly, it will cost every citizen the right to know what their elected and appointed leaders are doing with their votes.

OPINION PAGE



COMING SOON: A THEATER NEAR YOU? — The Echo Lanes bowling alley remains vacant pending action by the borough's Planning Board. The site may become the home of a new Sony multiplex movie theater. The Sony Corp. purchased the Loews movie theater chain several years ago; in addition to renovating its existing locations, the company has built modern multiplexes along suburban highways. Some sites include fast-food outlets and multi-story parking garages. The Planning Board is scheduled to meet tonight to discuss the matter. The results of the meeting will be reported in next week's *Mountainside Echo*.

In memory of a mayor of Mountainside

On June 17, the Mountainside Recreation Commission dedicated a plaque in memory of Fred Wilhelms at the Community Pool. Wilhelms was the mayor of Mountainside from 1965-69, during which time the Mountainside Community Pool was built. He died in September of 1994. The following comments were made by Sue Winans, recreation director, at the pool.

Good afternoon. My name is Sue Winans, and on behalf of the Recreation Commission, I would like to welcome pool members, staff, the Wilhelms family and friends to the 1995 season at the Mountainside Community Pool, our 30th year of operation. We are here today to recognize and celebrate two things: the renovation of the Mountainside Community Pool and the contributions made by Fred Wilhelms to the pool.

I am going to spend a good part of my time today describing the renovation to the bathhouse and pool, because I think Fred would have found this to be of particular interest, and because what has been done here over the last seven months is a continuation of the process that began over 30 years ago when the Community Pool was conceived and built.

First of all, a number of people must be recognized and thanked. The renovation project is the result of the input and efforts of many over a two-year period. At the top of the list are the members of the Mountainside Recreation Commission: Jim Barrett, Pat Debbie, Tony DiVito, Wayman Everly, George Serio, Mary Trimmer and Carol Worswick.

Jim Barrett served as chairman in 1994 at the beginning of the project, and Wayman Everly is currently the chairman. Tony DiVito was chairman of the Pool Committee in 1994, and Mary Trimmer is currently serving in that capacity. In addition, Pat Debbie and Carol Worswick have served on the Pool Committee and made significant contributions to the project.

Next, the mayor and council must be thanked for their strong support of the renovations, and especially Councilmen Dave Hart and Ron Romak. Dave served as liaison to the commission in 1994, and Ron currently serves in that capacity.

The contributions of our staff people must also be recognized, especially

Be Our Guest

By Sue Winans

ly pool manager Scott Karaman, Recreation Secretary Sandy Burdge, and Borough Administrator Kathy Toland. Scott provided a number of suggestions and recommendations to ensure that the project was functional and practical. Sandy Burdge made sure that our programs and facilities stayed on track while I was out of the office working on the project, and Kathy Toland's expertise and support in keeping the project moving is also greatly appreciated.

The gentlemen who actually took hammer in hand to transform the facility must also be thanked. John Palumbo of Paley Construction and his crew were responsible for the building renovations as well as the construction of the zero-depth pool. Their professionalism and workmanship must be applauded.

The next person truly deserves a tremendous thank you for the wonderful job he did on this project. Mike Disko of Mike Disko & Associates serves as the borough engineer in Mountainside. Mike has spent the better part of the last year working on the project. His architect, Roger Keller, came up with a terrific design for the building, which everyone working on the project appreciated for its practicality of design as well as its good looks.

Mike Disko is truly a treasure; he has spent countless hours, and months on this effort. His intelligence, dedication and love of water are clearly evident in the finished product. Mike observed to me that if his company billed us on an hourly rate for this project, we would be talking about the Disko Community Pool today. So we are especially thankful that Mike is a generous man.

Lastly, a very important thank you to Mother Nature for providing us with a very mild dry winter and spring. I know that Fred Wilhelms appreciated the importance of good weather in order to complete a project like this one on time.

But now to the actual project

description. Many of you will recall that the old building had a flat roof with a railing around the outside of it, and an aluminum canopy which shaded the middle of the roof. That building is still here, but it has undergone several fairly obvious changes.

The canopy and railing were removed from the roof, and a new pitched roof was built over the old deck.

The building itself was expanded. Eight feet of space was added to the snack bar kitchen, and in order to maintain the same amount of dining space, eight feet of lawn area was finished with pavers and the new awning installed.

On the other end of the building, an eight foot addition was also constructed which houses the new first aid room, guard/staff room and filter for the zero-depth pool.

The women's locker room has been modified, a new gate office was created, and the old garage door at the entrance has been replaced by the new iron gate. All of the rooms have a new ventilation system, the exterior building panels have been replaced, and all new windows have been installed.

The traditional wading pool has been replaced by the zero-depth pool, thus offering children more water space and play opportunities. In addition, this area now has more deck space and shade than before. The deck was done in pavers, thereby providing a more attractive surface than concrete, and also giving us better access for maintenance and repair.

At this point, you may be asking what all of this has to do with Fred Wilhelms. It is fairly obvious that for all of the changes, the building remains fundamentally the same. The basic integrity of the original structure created by Fred Wilhelms and the people involved in the construction back in the '60s was so solid that it has and will continue to meet the needs of the pool community for many years.

But more importantly, the facility is much more than a building and swimming pool. It is a place for people to have fun, a community of all age groups and interests. There are swimmers and nonswimmers, sun worshippers and shade dwellers. (Fred himself moved from the sun worshipper section to become a deck man in his

later years.) It epitomizes the vision of what suburbia should offer to people of all ages, and that government can and should be involved in our quality of life in the area of recreation.

It is also a place of real people, warts and all. There is a story about Fred Wilhelms and an incident that occurred at the snack bar here at the pool several years ago. We had a concessionaire who was not very competent. Some of his employees had very little knowledge about food preparation.

Fred ordered a grilled cheese sandwich, and the young woman informed him that she did not know how to make grilled cheese. Then Fred did what most of us wouldn't do — instead of complaining, he went back into the kitchen and showed her how to make grilled cheese. He couldn't have been more pleasant in offering a helpful suggestion rather than being an overbearing complainer.

In March, Bill Biunno wrote to the Recreation Commission about Fred, and I would like to read part of that letter. It was during his tenure as mayor and Fred worked so hard to not only get the community moving on the community pool concept but also to spearhead the development of the project.

Fred's devotion to this project was beautiful. He was an honorable man who not only worked well with other people but also was an outstanding leader and mentor. The Mountainside Community Pool is one of the great achievements of his lifetime.

And so today the Recreation Commission is honored to recognize Fred's contributions with this plaque. It will be permanently hung in the front entranceway of the pool alongside the many wonderful photos and plaques which reflect the first 30 years of our history.

The plaque is inscribed as follows: *In memory of Fred Wilhelms, Mayor 1965-1969, #1 Pool Member, 1966-1994. For your vision in making the pool a reality, thanks for the beauty, fun and fellowship the Mountainside Community Pool has given to young and old.* From the Mountainside Recreation Commission, June 1995.

Sue Winans is Mountainside's recreation director.

Forefathers' farms led to modern gardens

From the earliest days of the colonists in the New World, it was obvious to them that they would have to provide most of their own food, and they had brought with them seeds and small plants that they used to make community gardens. The settlers in Elizabethtown also were awarded by lot outlying acres of ground to be used as farms where greater amounts of crops could be grown. As family members increased, some of these farms became small towns, and family names were used to identify them, such as Williams' Farms, or Lyons' Farms.

As the years went by, and it was no longer necessary for everyone to be a farmer, the home garden was still very much in evidence, as most of the homes had enough ground around or behind them to grow a few fresh vegetables. Some people also planted fruit trees and apple trees were among the most popular, with good reason. The fruit could be used in many ways, such as picked and eaten fresh off the tree or it could be dried and kept for later use. It could be baked into pies, or squeezed in a press until the juice ran out, to become cider, or a more

The Way It Was

By William Frolch

potent applejack. Even the wood had uses, for it burned well, and could also be used for cabinet-making.

An early kitchen tool was an apple-corer, which could be made by any tinsmith. It was a 6-inch length of a three-quarter inch tube of sheet metal, fitted with a handle on one end and the other end cut on a long diagonal for piercing an apple. Placed over the core of an apple, it was then pushed through and twisted, thus cutting free the core and seeds, which remained within the tube as it was withdrawn, leaving a neat, round hole in the apple. Such an apple, properly flavored with raisins and cinnamon, and perhaps a little sugar, could be baked in an oven, to become a delicious dessert. Although hand-made apple corers are found in antique stores and museums, the tool itself can still be

purchased in the kitchen department of most modern stores.

There is another old-time kitchen tool which can still be found in a few stores, and this is an apple-peeler. The design has not changed much in more than 100 years, and the tool still works well. Usually made of small cast iron parts, it is meant to be clamped to the edge of a table, and cranked by hand. It is, in effect, a miniature lathe, with a broad, flattened spindle, upon which an apple is to be impaled. Turning the crank turns the apple, and a free-floating small blade is pressed against the apple-skin, thus peeling it off, using no great effort from the operator. Even a small child can be fascinated by this intriguing device.

Cherry trees were also a popular fruit tree in home gardens, and there were both sweet and sour varieties, which were ready for harvesting about the end of spring, although it was a race to see who got to them first, the gardener or the birds. The birds preferred the sweet cherries rather than the sour ones, and as they perched in the tree eating the fruit, their chirping seemed to be telling

their friends, "Cherries are ripe, cherries are ripe."

Cherries can be baked in pies and tarts, but they have a drawback, in that they each contain a hard, round pit, which is rather large when compared to the size of the cherry. A person eating them directly from the tree can easily remove the pits from his mouth before swallowing, but for other uses a handy little kitchen gadget, similar in some ways to the apple-peeler as it was made of small cast iron parts and clamped to a table edge, was the "cherry pitter."

In use, a stemless cherry was placed in a sort of nest in the machine, and a hand-operated crank pushed a plunger through the center of the cherry and forced the pit out the other side of it. As the plunger was withdrawn, the cherry was stripped off and fell into a separate container. Some machines had a small hopper, or funnel, which fed the cherries into the nest for pitting.

William Frolch is a resident of Roselle and a member of the Union County Historical Society.

Mountainside Echo

Published Weekly Since 1958

Published By
Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc.
1291 Stuyvesant Avenue
Union, N.J. 07083
(908) 686-7700

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Dr. Anna M. Raska will join the Short Hills branch of the Summit Medical Group later this month.

Raska joins medical group

Dr. Anna M. Raska will join the Summit Medical Group later this month, it was announced by Dr. Kenneth P. Brin, chairman of the Board of Directors. Originally from Livingston, Raska grew up in Texas and received a bachelor of arts degree in biochemistry from Rice University, Houston, graduating summa cum laude in 1988.

While at Rice, she was also a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. Raska then went on to receive her medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, in 1992. At the university, her honors included memberships in the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society. After medical school, she remained at Johns Hopkins to complete an internship and residency in internal medicine.

"Dr. Raska comes to our Short Hills practice with outstanding credentials from one of the most prestigious medical schools and residency programs in the country. With her keen insight and pleasing personal manner, she will swiftly become an asset to the community and certainly a welcomed addition to our Short Hills practice. Dr. Scott Braunstein and I are eagerly anticipating Dr. Raska's arrival," said Dr. William Tansey.

Summit Medical Group is planning to develop the 85 Woodland Road facility as a premier multi-specialty site. The new facility, which will be renovated later this year, will have physicians in the specialties of cardiology, internal medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology. SMG physicians at the new Short Hills location are Dr. William A. Tansey, III, cardiology; Drs. Scott N. Braunstein and Anna M. Raska, internal medicine; Drs. Melissa Brown, Marie Whiteside, and Jennifer Shaw, pediatrics, and Dr. Joseph A. Barresi, obstetrics/gynecology.

Summit Medical's main center is located at 120 Summit Ave., in Summit, where they maintain state-of-the-art ancillary facilities. They also offer an accessible urgent care program, the Ready Access Center, which is open every day of the year.

In addition to the Summit and Short Hills office, Summit Medical maintains offices in Morristown, Watchung, Westfield, and Millburn. SMG participates in the Oxford, Travelers, CIGNA and Aetna health plans.

Emissions regulated under Ogden's bill

Legislation sponsored by Assemblywoman Maureen Ogden, R-Union, to regulate emissions from heavy duty diesel trucks was recently signed into law by Governor Whitman.

"I am very pleased that all heavy duty diesel trucks passing through our state will soon be subject to inspections for their emissions. This law has been a long-term goal of mine," said Ogden upon hearing the news. "Over the years, many constituents have contacted me expressing their annoyance about the pollution coming out of trucks' tailpipes," she said. "Now that we are requiring stricter emissions inspections for cars, it is only fair that heavy duty trucks be included in a state inspection program."

The bill, A-2457, would set tougher emission standards and would establish a roadside inspection program on all diesel trucks conducted by teams of State Troopers and Department of Motor Vehicle employees. Stricter tests will be conducted on buses by the Department of Transportation.

The bill is a response to new studies documenting health risks associated with diesel emissions. Particulates, the substance of the thick, black smoke of diesel exhaust, are considered carcinogenic substances. Diesel emissions comprise 80 percent to 90

percent of all particulate pollution in the state.

Diesel emissions also contribute to less visible air pollution. "Heavy-duty diesel trucks and buses cause about 15 percent of nitrogen oxide emissions in New Jersey. Nitrogen oxide is a key component of ground-level ozone. Our metropolitan area is second only to Los Angeles in its high level of ozone in the summer," Ogden said.

The DMV and the Department of Environmental Protection would set the standards for both the roadside inspection of trucks and the scheduled inspections of public and private.

An initial six-month pilot roadside enforcement program will be established first, during which time warnings will be issued instead of fines. After that period, owners, or lessees, will be fined \$700 for the first violation and \$1,300 for the second. However, if the defendant produces a certification of repair in court, the penalties will be lowered to \$150 for the first violation and \$500 for the second.

The intent of this bill is to make diesel trucks subject to stricter regulations at a time when passenger vehicles are faced with tougher inspections at DMV central inspection stations or private stations.

Delaire workers awarded for years of dedication

Delaire Nursing and Convalescent Center in Linden honored employees with 10 and five years of continuous service on June 15 at Big Stash's Restaurant in Linden.

The evening's events included food and prizes, including a free weekend trip to Atlantic City that was awarded. Employees being honored were joined by their co-workers and friends for an evening of dining, dancing and camaraderie.

Delaire Nursing and Convalescent Center employees that were honored

for 10 years of continuous service were the following: Lorraine Steinhilber, dietary service and Sheral Hawthorne, nursing service.

Delaire Nursing and Convalescent Center employees that were honored for five years of continuous service included Arnold Jones and Howard Smith, dietary service; Antonia Camacho, Louise Holmes and Irene Linkova, housekeeping service, and Rachel Adisa, Marie Datilus, Marivic Enriquez, Sandra Eugene, Lucia Figueroa, Monalisse Petiote and Deloris Sanders, nursing service.

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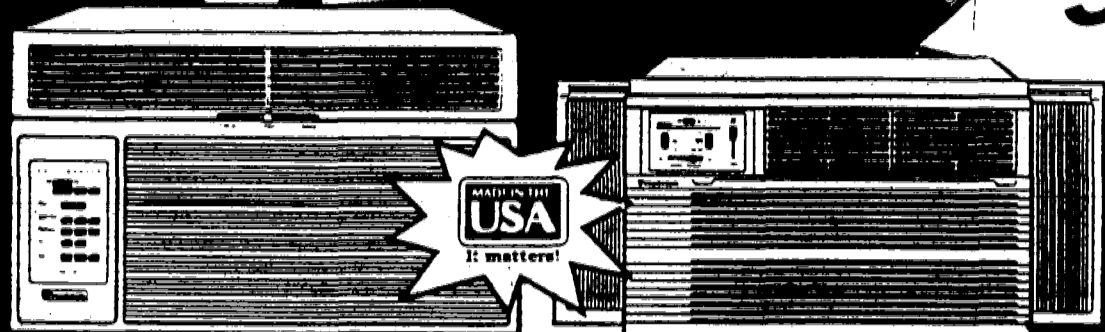
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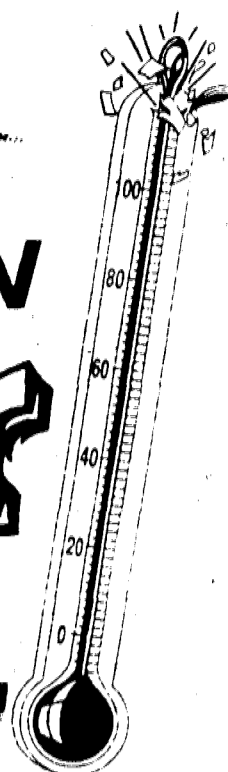
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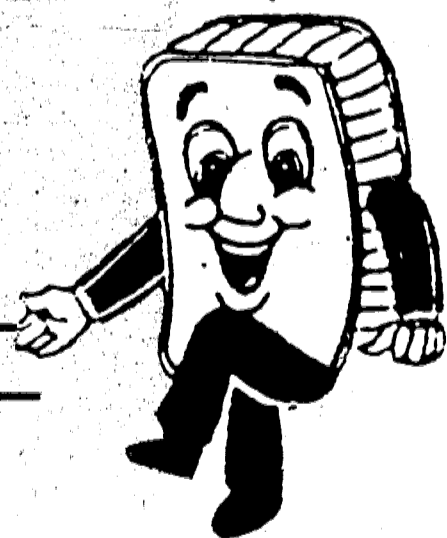
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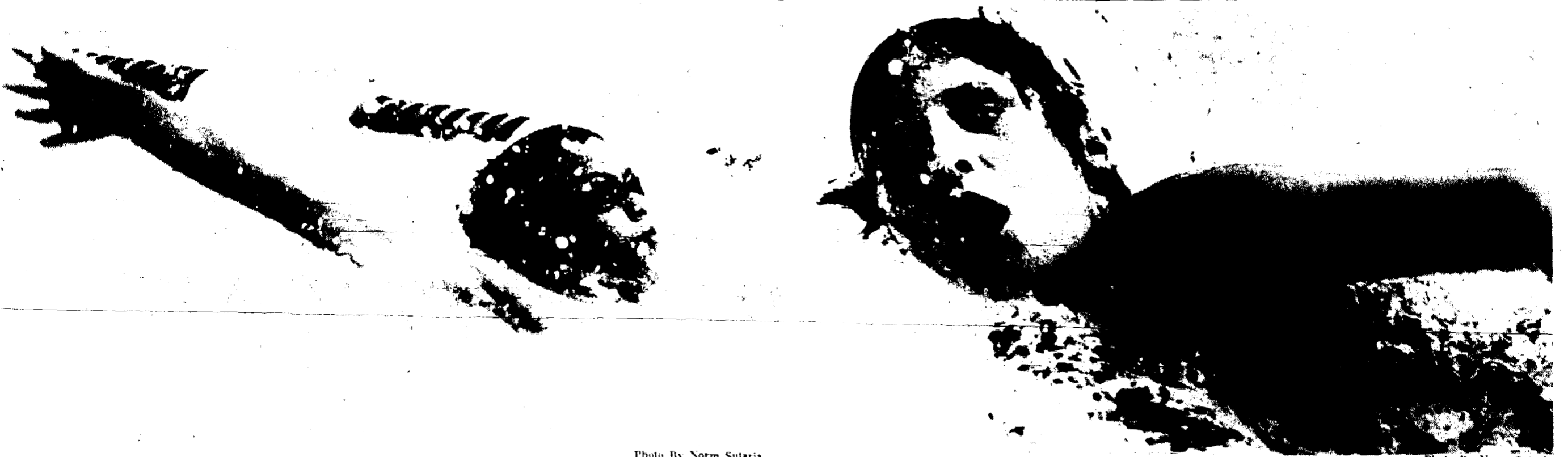
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SPORTS



Springfield's David Filepp swims the backstroke during last week's meet vs. host Mountainside.

Mountainside's Sasha Orenczak competes in the 25-meter freestyle event against Springfield.

Plenty of personal-best marks set

Individual records spark Springfield to victory over Mountainside

Many personal-best marks were set by Springfield swimmers last week as the squad split two meets in North Jersey Summer Swim League action.

Springfield first defeated Mountainside 212-197 in Mountainside June 5 before falling to visiting West Caldwell 244-200 Thursday.

The Mountainside meet, a very close one between the two area swim teams, saw Springfield swimmers post 59 personal-best times. As many as 89 personal-bests were recorded against West Caldwell.

Springfield will take a 2-1 record into this morning's meet at Summit at 9. Springfield previously defeated Summit in its home-opener 255-189 June 29.

Springfield will return to Summit this Sunday to compete in the annual Summit Invitational Meet.

Here's a look at how Springfield swimmers performed against Mountainside:

The Mountainside meet differs considerably from other regulation meets, due to the size and shape of the Mountainside Pool (a 50-meter pool). The initial individual medley events, a particular strength of Springfield, are not run at Mountainside.

The 8/under and 10/under 25-meter events are run with swimmers swimming to a floating rope placed at the halfway point of the 50-meter pool. Relays for the 8/unders and the 9/12 swimmers are run in the diving tank, with the younger swimmers swimming only one width of the tank and the 9/12s swimming two widths, neither group doing a regulation distance.

Starting the meet with the freestyle events, Catherine Andrasko placed first, Mary Sue Madara was third and Joanna Galante placed fourth for the 8/under girls. Jonathan Helmstetter placed fourth for the boys.

Christina Palermo took third for the 9/10 girls, while the boys swept the event behind the efforts of John Cottage, Matt Stigliano and Robbie Maul. Karen Bocian won for the 11/12 girls, with Joe Andrasko winning for the boys.

Barbara Maul placed first for the 13/14 girls, with teammate Nicole Siino finishing third. Danny Riva and Mike Quick were third and fourth for the 13/14 boys.

Laura DiCosmo and Christine Stracey were first and second for the 15/17 girls, while Tom Stracey and Steve Greenwood took second and third for the boys.

Annie Demberger and Carolyn Maul opened the backstroke events with a first and third for the 8/under girls, while teammates Steve Stockl and Matthew Bocian placed second and fourth for the boys. Bridgette Higgins was the lead finisher for the 9/10 girls, taking fourth.

Louis Puopolo, Andrew Elekes and Brendan Laverty took third, fourth and fifth for the 9/10 boys. The 11/12 swimmers brought home two winners, with Karen Bocian taking first for the girls, then Bryan Demberger and David Filepp taking first and second for the boys.

Leah Demberger and Barbara Maul took first and second for the 13/14 girls, while Ryan Farrell and Brian Reynolds placed second and third for the boys. Chris Johannsen and Liz Bareford took first and third for the 15/17 girls, while Steve Greenwood and Chris Behar took first and third for the boys.

Breaststroke events opened with Jessica Tseng and Christine Grywalski taking second and third for the 8/under girls, while Jon Helmstetter

and Steve Stockl took second and third for the boys. Christina Palermo placed third for the 9/10 girls, with Tim Higgins and Greg Siino taking second and third for the boys.

Karen Bocian brought home her third win of the meet, taking honors for the 11/12 girls, with Sara Abraham finishing third. The 11/12 boys

team of Nathan Denner, Drew DeCagna and Anthony DeAngelo swept their event.

Barbara Maul took first and Erin Wagner was fourth for the 13/14 girls, while Matt Reheis and Mike Quick took first and third for the boys. Chris Stracey and Meg Madara took first and second for the 15/17 girls, while Steve Greenwood and Chris Behar took second and third for the boys.

Annie Demberger placed second for the 8/under girls to open the butterfly events. Jimmy Cottage and Matthew Bocian took second and third for the boys.

Bridgette Higgins and Danielle DeCagna took second and third for the 9/10 girls, while John Cottage placed second for the boys. Catie Tupper took third for the 11/12 girls and the threesome of Bryan Demberger, Nathan Denner and David Filepp swept for the boys.

Leah Demberger won for the 13/14

DeAngelo and Joe Andrasko won their events.

Here's a look at how Springfield swimmers performed against West Caldwell:

Springfield opened the West Caldwell meet by taking all four of the individual medley events. Karen Bocian easily won for the 12/under girls, while Nathan Denner and Joe Andrasko took first and third for the boys and Drew DeCagna was fourth.

The 13/over girls event was a sweep by the Springfield girls, Chris Johannsen, Chris Stracey and Jen Meisch. Matt Reheis and Tom Stracey took first and second for the older boys.

Colleen Spadora opened with a second in the 8/under freestyle, with Annie Demberger taking fourth. Jimmy Cottage was the lead 8/under boy for Springfield, taking fourth.

Christina Palermo took a third for the 9/10 girls, with John Cottage taking a third for the boys. Karen Bocian won for the 11/12 girls, with Sara Abraham taking third.

For the 11/12 boys, Nathan Denner took third and Joe Andrasko fourth in a closely contested race. The difference between first and fourth was a mere 1.47 seconds.

Barbara Maul and Chris Spadora took first and third for the 13/14 girls, with Ryan Farrell and Danny Riva doing the same for the boys. Laura DiCosmo and Liz Bareford took first and second for the 15/17 girls, with Mike Reheis taking first for the boys.

The backstroke events opened with a third-place finish by Colleen Spadora for the 8/under girls. Steve Stockl was the lead 8/under boys finisher, taking fourth.

Meghan Bubb took a fourth for the 9/10 girls, while Louis Puopolo and Andrew Elekes took third and fourth for the boys. Karen Bocian won for the 11/12 girls, while Bryan Demberger pulled out a third-place finish for the boys.

Nicole Siino won for the 13/14 girls, while the boys threesome of Ryan Farrell, Brian Reynolds and Dennis Tupper swept for the boys. Chris Johannsen, Jen Meisch and Megan Madara finished 1-2-3 for the 15/17 girls. Mike Reheis and Chris Behar were second and fourth for the boys.

Jessie Tseng took second to open the breaststroke events for the 8/under girls. Jon Helmstetter took fourth for the boys.

Christina Palermo took second for the 9/10 girls, with Tim Higgins and Greg Siino taking second and third for the boys. Sara Abraham won for the 11/12 girls, while Nathan Denner took second for the boys.

Barbara Maul and Chris Spadora took first and second for the 13/14 girls, while Matt Reheis and Attila Vigilante took first and third for the boys. The 15/17s swept their events, with Chris Stracey, Meg Madara and Jen Meisch winning for the girls and Tom Stracey and Chris Behar for the boys.

Christy Grywalski placed second in the 8/under girls butterfly, while Jimmy Cottage took second for the boys. Bridgette Higgins placed fourth for the 9/10 girls, with John Cottage and Matt Stigliano taking first and third for the boys.

Catie Tupper took third for the 11/12 girls, with Bryan Demberger taking third for the boys. Nicole Siino placed third for the 13/14 girls and Matt Reheis, Ryan Farrell and Brian Reynolds swept for the boys.

Summer Swimming

team of Nathan Denner, Drew DeCagna and Anthony DeAngelo swept their event.

Barbara Maul took first and Erin Wagner was fourth for the 13/14 girls, while Matt Reheis and Mike Quick took first and third for the boys. Chris Stracey and Meg Madara took first and second for the 15/17 girls, while Steve Greenwood and Chris Behar took second and third for the boys.

Annie Demberger placed second for the 8/under girls to open the butterfly events. Jimmy Cottage and Matthew Bocian took second and third for the boys.

girls, with Matt Reheis and Ryan Farrell taking first and third for the boys. Chris Stracey and Laura DiCosmo finished 1-2 for the 15/17 girls, with Tom Stracey and Joe Andrasko taking first and third for the boys.

Springfield then went on to take three of the relays. The 9/12 boys medley team of Bryan Demberger, Greg Siino, Nathan Denner and Matt Stigliano came in first.

The 13/17 coed medley team of Chris Johannsen, Matt Reheis, Liz Bareford and Ryan Farrell and the 9/12 boys freestyle team of John Cottage, Louis Puopolo, Anthony

Springfield tennis backhands Mountainside

The Springfield Recreation Department's junior tennis team defeated visiting Mountainside 10-5 last Thursday in its season-opening match played at Dayton Regional High School.

Kristen Maudsley defeated Chrissy Souder 6-0 and Derrick Whitenour 6-1. Tim Homlish and John Zipkin defeated Susan Schnakenberg and Jillian McAdam 5-1. John Cpin and Homlish defeated Matt Sterenczak and Souder 6-2.

Cpin defeated Jason Grunberg 6-4 and Jason Sanyanlar defeated McCurdy 6-4. Randi Schur defeated Chris Schnakenberg 6-1 but lost to Jason Grunberg 6-2. Michele Tomasino and Jamie Neville defeated McAdam and Schnakenberg 6-4.

Manny and Christina Caram defeated Tessa Rosenthal and Whitenour 6-3. Puliti defeated Alex Grunberg 4-1. Rosenthal and McCurdy defeated Tomasino and Neville 6-0.

Grunberg and Lauren Whritenour defeated Alisandra Puliti and Marlin Caram 6-5. Sterenczak defeated Christina Caram 6-4. Chris Schnakenberg hosted Manny Caram 6-4.

The Mountainside team is coached by former Dayton standout Wendy Saldino. The Mountainside resident has earned All-New Jersey Athletic Conference honors on the Division 3 level as a first singles player at Montclair State University.

Springfield, coached by Susie Eng, was scheduled to host Rahway Tuesday and yesterday had a match scheduled at Berkeley Heights.

Springfield 9-10 baseball splits 2 games

The Springfield Minutemen age 9-10 traveling baseball team splits its first two summer games, defeating Florham Park 6-5 after falling to West Orange 8-5.

Trailing 5-4 going into the bottom of the sixth against Florham Park, Matt Nitto stole second and third after reaching base on a walk for the Minutemen. Joe Catello brought home Nitto with a single and then advanced to second on the throw home to tie the game at 5-5.

Catello scored the game-winning run on a ground ball hit by Peter Chencharik.

Bret Berger started the game on the mound for Springfield, giving up three hits in three innings. Kevin Dash struck out four in his three-inning stint. Offensively, Dash scored three runs and stole four bases.

Catcher Scott Hollander and first baseman Don Volkert played well defensively for the winners.

Catello hurled a complete game against West Orange, striking out eight and walking two. Only three of the eight runs he yielded were earned.

Mo Abdelaziz went 2-for-3 with a home run and two RBI, Dash was 2-for-3, Cory Gault 1-for-3 and Chencharik 1-for-2. Chencharik also had four putouts in center field.

Springfield's Florio in Snapple Bowl

Springfield resident Steve Florio, one of the area's top defensive tackles last year, will represent Dayton Regional as a member of the Union squad in the second annual News Tribune Union vs. Middlesex Snapple Bowl. The high school All-Star football game, featuring 80 graduated seniors, is scheduled for next Thursday, July 20 at Sayreville High School at 7:30 p.m.

Florio's play on both sides of the ball helped spark the Bulldogs to a 4-4-1 record in 1994. He had 19 unassisted tackles and 70 total, 26 first hits, four sacks, 9.5 tackles for losses, two fumble recoveries and two more fumbles caused.

Middlesex defeated Union 35-14 in last year's first game played at Union's Cooke Memorial Field. Peter Kucharski was Dayton's representative and he saw action at inside linebacker.

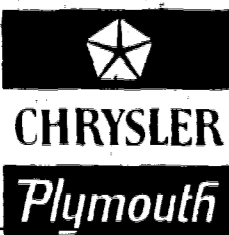
Proceeds from the game will benefit the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside and the Lakeview School in Edison.

Correction

Information submitted last week to the Mountainside Echo incorrectly stated what championship the Cubs won in the Mountainside Youth Baseball League.

The Cubs were winners of the Major League's playoff championship. The Cubs were led by the championship efforts of Eric Gay, Joseph Sperlaza, John Junguenet, Jason Krawczyk, John Doorley, Matthew Sterenczak, Matthew Spada, Michael Criscitello, Johanne Junguenet, Micah Thau and Shawn Modi.

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