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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1999 - SECTION B

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Dirt dealing

The trucks will soon be rumbling into Clark. A year of shipping the soil capping for the Hyatt Hills Golf Course via rail is about to end. The railroad has decided to stop transporting the dirt. In the void, contractors and would-be wholesalers and dealers have showed up.

When the notice came that the needed 200,000 extra cubic yards of dirt for the site would be trucked in, township officials in Clark and Freeholder Vice Chairman Dan Sullivan stepped back into the fray. It was Sullivan who originally pressed successfully for the rail delivery over a year ago. Last week he sponsored county resolution 1546-99 "to formally register" the county's opposition.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

What an outrage to the good people of Clark to be subjected to this parade of dirt trucks because of the whim of some obscure railroad executive. I truly feel sorry for the people when it rains and those trucks are coming through. And it looks like the dirt is coming to Clark from more than one direction.

Cranford resident Lydia Allen sat in Mr. J's restaurant one morning watching a string of trucks driving down Walnut Avenue past her home to dump dirt at the golf course. Many of the trucks were without coverings, and some looked to be moving very quickly.

Allen made persistent calls to get the facts and took her battle to the public meeting in Cranford. The confrontation that evening between Allen and Municipal Engineer/Public Works Director Rick Brown is a textbook example for political science devotees. It pitted a citizen with a personal gripe against an unaccountable, unselected municipal employee.

Allen pressed her list of complaints over dirt which, after being held for years at the Cranford Conservation Center after its use for a basketball field fell through, was now being moved to Clark.

In response, Brown didn't act like the typical bureaucrat. Brown strode to the dais, took a microphone and went on the attack. In no uncertain terms, the community was told that Brown was doing his job. He told us he was "properly coached" by Robert Hoefler, former mayor and current chairman of the golf course operation. Brown also said he was the "middle man" between Hoefler and the golf course contractor. He explained his economics for the deal, getting rid of the dirt, as well as Allen's "diatribe."

I never worry about my friend Lydia Allen who car always give as good as she gets. The activities of Hoefler and "Middle Man" See MUNICIPAL, Page B2

Ladies and gentlemen, this is clean sweep No. 5

Dems continue dominance, retain three seats

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

For the fifth consecutive year, Democrats garnered all three seats up for election to the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Voters returned incumbents Linda Stender of Fanwood and Nicholas Scutari of Linden to the board along with their running mate Angel Estrada, whose term on the Elizabeth Board of Education expires in April.

Democrats were victorious in the county surrogate race as well where James LaCorde of Elizabeth defeated former Freeholder Linda-Lee Kelly of Elizabeth.

The last time Republicans won a freeholder election was 1994 when Henry Kurz, Ed Force and Frank Lehr earned three seats.

Stender carried the ticket in nearly every town the Democrats won and was the leading vote-getter with 36,099 votes. Scutari finished second with 34,847 votes and Estrada third with 33,600.

With slightly more than 5,000 votes separating the third- and fourth-place

finishers, this year's election was much closer than last year when Democrats outpolled Republicans by about 20,000 votes each.

Wally Shackell of Cranford led the Republicans with 28,490 votes followed by Richard Revilla of Elizabeth with 28,305 votes and Al Dill of Summit with 28,251 votes.

While only one party came out victorious, both claimed clear messages were sent by voters.

"This sends a clear message to Republicans that policies should be more about having a plan rather than just dirty politics," Scutari said.

"This is a validation stamp on the Democratic leadership for the last three years," said Scutari at the Democratic celebration at Nuno's Pavilion in Linden where Democrats declared victory sometime after 11 p.m.

"Voters sent a message that 9-0 is no good," said Revilla at The Westwood in Garwood where Republicans gathered. "We were such underdogs going in and narrowed that gap so

much. It woke up the Democrats. There are a lot of issues voters are concerned about."

"It's not about a 9-0 lock," County Democratic Chairwoman Charloite DeFilippo said. "People in the county lived through many years of a Republican majority and rejected it several years ago."

Union County voter turnout was approximately 28 percent with 429 of 437 voting districts, 98 percent, reporting at press time. Results in Roselle were not available at press time.

Both parties carried nine municipalities outright while splitting two: Fanwood, where Stender was the only Democrat in the top three, and Roselle Park, where Dill ousted Estrada for the third slot. Both sides were surprised with the results in Roselle Park where all six candidates were separated by less than 120 votes.

With local races going to Republi-



Estrada

Scutari

Stender

LaCorde

cans in Westfield, Scotch Plains, Cranford, Kenilworth and Clark, County Republican Chairman Frank McDermott was surprised his freeholder candidates didn't fare better. "I don't understand why it was not carried out at the top of the ticket."

A press conference was scheduled yesterday after this newspaper went to press where Democrats were expected to make Republicans to task for campaign failings they said were ethnic and racial and were "outright fabrication."

When asked whether a lawsuit may be filed, DeFilippo said "you don't

sue people for slander for money" necessarily, as much to put them to public shame.

"I'm very offended that ethnic slurs must be a part of their campaign literature," DeFilippo said. "It should be on the issues, not about hateful divisiveness and lies."

Union County voters overwhelmingly approved all three state questions. The bridge bond set gained 63 percent approval; the veterans property tax rebate earned 78 percent approval and the question to prohibit lottery funds for prisons was approved by 63 percent of voters.

Dredging to begin at Lake Surprise

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

The long-awaited dredging of Lake Surprise in the Watchung Reservation is expected to begin within a few weeks.

The \$12-million project would have begun earlier but the vendor had concerns about dredging when there was little or no water to float the dredging equipment following the summer drought, said Frank Dann, director of the Department of Operational Services. Since Tropical Storm Floyd dumped more than 10 inches of rain in Union County in September, that is no longer a concern.

Activity should begin within two weeks, Dann said, with a construction trailer set up in the parking lot of the Deserted Village. Shortly thereafter, work will begin in a large open field off Glenide Avenue where an earthen dam will be constructed to hold materials pumped from the lake.

During dredging, Dann said, solids will sink and liquid will float up, leaving pure water to drain back down to the lake. The lake has not been dredged since Route 78 construction was started almost 25 years ago. Most of the sediment now in the lake came from the highway, Dann said.

The Republican candidates for freeholder targeted the lake in a campaign mailing several weeks ago. "The all-Democratic Board of Freeholders could have started a clean up of Surprise Lake in the Watchung Reservation...but they

See FOLLOWING, Page B2

Downstream residents concerned about plan

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

While Scotch Plains officials hope to turn 25 acres of the county-owned Ash Brook Reservation into ballfields, residents further downstream in Rahway are concerned the move would worsen flood problems already plaguing their stretch of the river.

The township has asked the county to lease part of the 616-acre Ash Brook Reservation to develop two soccer fields, two softball/baseball fields and a three-quarter-mile walking path. The fields would have lights in addition to a concession stand and parking lot for 110 cars. The path would be similar to the paved walking oval at Tamaques Park in Westfield.

Scotch Plains estimated the cost of the project to be \$2 million. Voters approved an open space trust fund referendum on Tuesday that allows for a tax of \$0.02 per \$100 of assessed value to be set aside for open space and recreation needs. Depending on permitting issues, officials expect a best-case scenario of 18 months to complete the fields. See SCOTCH PLAINS, Page B2

Town	Linda Stender	Nicholas Scutari	Angel Estrada	Wally Shackell	Richard Revilla	Albert Dill	James LaCorde	L. Kelly
Berkeley Heights	696	649	598	1,542	1,581	1,586	542	1,549
Clark	1,112	1,090	975	1,432	1,409	1,425	1,039	1,452
Cranford	2,559	2,939	2,088	2,897	2,550	2,551	2,351	2,818
Elizabeth	6,158	5,769	6,183	2,089	2,277	2,122	6,677	2,204
Fanwood	1,078	897	850	1,058	1,059	1,016	797	1,127
Garwood	380	368	356	282	288	285	353	297
Hillside	1,442	1,409	1,410	544	568	583	1,394	614
Kenilworth	906	894	795	1,046	1,041	1,023	852	1,099
Linden	3,742	3,614	3,505	939	925	946	3,560	1,015
Mountainside	508	472	435	1,023	1,023	1,026	463	1,048
New Providence	384	377	345	1,043	1,039	1,074	356	1,042
Plainfield	2,926	2,697	2,597	826	878	837	2,680	994
Rahway	1,536	1,540	1,489	918	956	873	1,562	882
Roselle	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Roselle Park	1,053	1,028	988	929	946	921	1,029	1,030
Scotch Plains	1,957	1,699	1,614	2,827	2,637	2,548	1,818	2,700
Springfield	1,259	1,249	1,182	788	787	785	1,159	845
Summit	798	794	759	1,836	1,835	1,990	805	1,651
Union	3,286	3,253	3,052	2,772	2,742	2,770	3,205	2,870
Westfield	2,207	2,061	1,997	2,789	2,793	2,658	2,032	2,874
Winfield	181	177	170	91	92	87	161	106
Absentee	703	687	609	608	614	659	645	643
Total	38,099	34,847	33,600	28,490	28,305	28,251	33,351	28,824

*absentee

Results are unofficial

Freeholders prepare for legal battle

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is preparing for litigation just in case negotiations with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey fail.

The freeholders last week authorized a contract with Wolf & Samson of Roseland for \$10,000. Should negotiations with the Port Authority be unsuccessful, County Manager Michael Lapolla said the county would challenge the Port Authority executive director's authority to enter into a contract without the approval of its board of commissioners.

Port Authority Executive Director Robert Boyle last month approved a lease agreement with Continental Airlines for a 177-acre property in Elizabeth near the Jersey Gardens mall and IKEA. Continental purchased the land from AlliedSignal, sold it to the Port Authority which in turn leased the land back to the airline.

Local officials have called the deal a shell game, contending that Continental was aiming to avoid paying prop-

erty taxes. The tax-exempt Port Authority pays the taxes of Elizabeth \$63,000 annually as a payment in lieu of taxes. Meanwhile, authority pays Newark pays more than \$25 million for the property on its side of the border. Elizabeth has turned its own ownership in the matter as well.

"Time would be of the essence," Lapolla said, if negotiations were to break down. Legal action would require a lot of research, he said, and be filed in federal court.

The county manager said he has been in contact with Port Authority officials daily and a negotiations session is possible in the near future.

"We're fighting to correct a lot of longstanding objections with the Port Authority," Freeholder Vice Chairman Daniel Sullivan said. "Hopefully, we'll settle on some measure of equality for Elizabeth and Union County." The freeholders approved a resolution on Aug. 27 of last year, requesting that the Port Authority notify county and local officials before taking any steps to acquire land in the Port Newark-Elizabeth area. That resolution grew out of concern about the authority possibly purchasing the AlliedSignal site.

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Scotch Plains hoping to develop ballfields at Ash Brook

(Continued from Page B1)

Jimmy Lynch of Rahway, a representative to the Rahway River Intergovernmental Committee, said the Ash Brook Reservation is a critical area for flood retention and the Army Corps of Engineers thought it was the single-most important.

Filling wetlands would affect Rahway and severely impact the local ecology, Lynch said. He suggested filling brownfields or other open spaces because swamps provide many different invaluable functions.

William Fidurski, chairman of the Clark Environmental Commission, said taking natural areas in an urbanized county and planting grass for ballfields is

not the best use of resources in the county and getting wetlands consideration at the state level would be difficult.

"Don't take away our flood plains because my house will float away," said Chris Ajack of Rahway, who presented the freeholders with photos of damage incurred to her home during flooding from Tropical Storm Floyd.

There were concerns about the loss of mature trees when the freeholders were presented with this plan in September. The county has asked for an inventory of trees on the site, said Freeholder Linda Stender, because there has been a "vast discrepancy" in terms of how many trees would be felled; ranging from several thousand to a handful. The inventory would "better understand the impact of the project."

"There are conflicting needs here," Stender said. "We're not convinced this is the best spot for it yet."

The county last year leased property near the sheriff's complex near Route 78 to Summit for developing soccer fields and when construction began this year, more trees were cut down than originally expected. "It's an issue we face throughout the county," Stender said.

The arrangement with Scotch Plains would be similar to the deal with Summit. The county would lease the property to the municipality for 99 years at \$1 a year. Although permitting would go through the township, all county residents would be able to use the facilities.

The fields would be developed along Martine Avenue adjacent to the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools and John Stamler Police Academy on Raritan Road. The county is in the midst of planning to construct a boardwalk trail through the swamp on the other side of the reservation.

Scotch Plains currently has 90 acres of existing park and field with five parks having a total of six baseball/softball fields. The township has four general usage parks, one nine-hole golf course, one county park available for softball

and little league, two passive parks/wildlife sanctuary and various school fields with limited use.

Scotch Plains has several recreational sports leagues for various age levels. Three youth baseball/softball leagues with 70 teams, one four-team women's softball league, five men's softball leagues with 56 teams, one spring/fall soccer club with 84 teams and one four-team youth football league.

"It's different from 30 to 40 years ago," Freeholder-Vice Chairman Daniel Sullivan said. "Now there is tremendous demand but a limited amount of space. Girls are now playing too."

"We've certainly made open space and recreation a goal over the years," Sullivan said.

Scotch Plains officials linked similar goals in their plan to the county's Open Space and Recreation Master Plan: increasing ballfields; spending money on new parks and improving existing parkland; acquiring parkland, and adding lighting to fields to increase play availability. There are some lighted tennis courts in Scotch Plains but currently no lighted fields.

Freeholder Alexander Mirabella anticipates similar additional requests from neighboring municipalities.

The National Recreation and Parks Standard recommends 10 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. Scotch Plains has 90 acres for its 23,000 residents which works out to 3.9 acres per resident.

The township also falls short of the state's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan which recommends 3 percent of land area to be open space. Scotch Plains has 1.5 percent of land area as open space.

Site constraints cited by Scotch Plains officials include wetlands surrounding the perimeter, flood plain issues, storm water runoff, tree removal and surrounding property owners.

"We've pushed the envelope of recreation in Scotch Plains in the last 18 months to where they've never been," Mayor Gori Samuel said. "We don't want to lose the momentum we have now."

Amendment to solid waste plan tabled

By Mark Hryniak
Regional Editor

An amendment to the county's solid waste plan was tabled last week after concerns about a lack of information and confusion about the disposal of non-hazardous pharmaceutical waste at the Rahway incinerator. The freeholders have asked for more information and will have another hearing during their meeting Wednesday.

The ordinance was "to permit pharmaceutical facilities generating non-hazardous pharmaceutical waste within the county to continue to dispose of such waste by incineration at permitted facilities of their selection subject to certain conditions."

Earlier this year, to ensure the collection of the Environmental Impact Charge of \$18.51 per ton, County Manager Michael Lapolla said the Union County Utilities Authority and Union County procured type 13 and 27 waste non-hazardous pharmaceutical waste. The county also took steps to ensure the waste was not going to the Rahway incinerator, now leased to Ogen Marin.

Producers of this type of waste, already involved in contracts to take the waste out of county, asked to fulfill those contracts but were willing to pay the E.I.C. to Union County, according to Lapolla.

Since the waste generated in Union County is controlled by the county, it would be sent to the Hackensack Meadows Landfill Development Commission landfill. However, pharmaceutical companies were wary of liability because the waste could contain active ingredients; incineration can limit liability.

The ordinance was designed to create an exception for those who already were in contracts, said Freeholder Vice Chairman Daniel Sullivan. It was the phrase "permitted facilities" which bothered "Kerr Blanchard of Rahway. 'I don't believe the waste will be disposed out of state, but it will find its way to the Rahway incinerator.'"

The experience of this freeholder board should be to be leery of any disposal of waste, she said.

"Unless you have something stating that the waste will not be sent, we won't feel comfortable," said Donald Anderson, 6th Ward councilman in Rahway. "It can be interpreted as saying they can bring anything to burn."

Peter Buroff of Rahway suggested freeholders ask a phrase to the ordinance that excluded the Rahway facility, "to have any faith that you'll protect us, because you haven't in the past."

Freeholder Donald Gonzalez said there are no controls over waste from outside the county yet types 13 and 27, specifically from Union County, are controlled. It is an inconsistent policy that could allow pharmaceutical waste outside Union County to burn at the incinerator while Union County's pharmaceutical waste is not, he said.

If the language needs to be changed to delineate what is taken at the facility to make it clearer to the public, Sullivan said, the freeholders will ensure it will come in writing.

Pursuant to a D.E.P. permit, Ogen can accept the waste, however, it has no control over what is generated within the county.

Hospital seeks volunteers to teach computers

Personal computers are everywhere these days, and that also holds true for the residents and patients at Rurnells Specialized Hospital of Union County as well. Thanks to the fund-raising efforts of the Rurnells Hospital Foundation, the residents and patients at the facility in Berkeley Heights have access to several computers. The challenge now is to help them in becoming computer literate.

Volunteers are needed to assist the residents in learning the most basic task such as using a mouse to point and click, cutting and pasting, and dragging and dropping. Residents also need training in e-mail, playing on and surfing the Internet, getting on the Internet, and word processing, Word Perfect 6.1. All the facility's computers are IBM compatible — not Macintosh — running Windows 95.

Volunteers do not need an extensive background in computer software. What's needed is a very basic knowledge and a few hours a week. Volunteers are mainly needed for weekdays in the afternoon and early evening, as well as weekends.

"This is a great volunteer opportunity for high school and college students," said Freeholder Mary Ruotolo, liaison to the Rurnells Hospital Advisory Board of Managers. "It is also a good opportunity for Seniors, or those that need to fulfill volunteer hours for their school, church, or organization."

Call the Rurnells Hospital Foundation at (908) 790-5324 to volunteer. The Rurnells Hospital Office of Volunteer Services also is interested in recruiting volunteers. Flexible hours and a variety of opportunities exist with resident contact, as well as performing other tasks. Currently the facility is especially in need of volunteers to staff their coffee and gift shops.

For more information call the Rurnells Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 771-5847.

UCEDC offers seminars

The Union County Economic Development Corporation is helping local merchants to build their businesses and empower their employees with their series of business training programs offered this semester. The corporation will host a series of seminars dedicated to help small businesses integrate new technologies, increase overall efficiencies and save money and time. Anyone can attend the upcoming courses that included:

Home Page Development
It's now easy to create your own home page and have a presence on the Internet—if you have the right tools. This course will provide the basics on creating Web pages. The course is hands-on so you can actually start putting your page together.

Advanced Home Page Development with HTML
Nov. 19 from 1 to 4 p.m.
Do you want to include more information on your home page? Learn how to include forms, tables, frames and image maps.

Internet Marketing & Business Operations
Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. to noon.
This course is a demonstration-packed session that will explore selling your products on the Internet, using a Website to market your business and will look at how companies conduct business on-line.

Union County Economic Development Corporation has helped businesses start, develop, expand for over 27 years. The UCEDC is the oldest and largest county economic develop-

ment organization in New Jersey offers a range of services to businesses within Union County including: financial programs, government contract assistance, research and advocacy services.

To register for any of the about classes or to receive a complete brochure of the above training programs, call the Union County Economic Development Corporation at (908) 527-1166.

Former state senator to speak at caucus

Former state senator and New Jersey Casino Control Commission Vice Chairman Leanna Brown will be the keynote speaker at the Union County Women's Political Caucus meeting on Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Carriage House, Watson Avenue adjacent to Town Hall in Fanwood.

The former Morris County legislator will address the group on "Advisory Boards: What They Do and How to Be Appointed." The meeting is open to the public and free-of-charge. Refreshments will be served. The Women's Political Caucus is a multi-parisan organization committed to the election and appointment of women to every level of government. The Union County Caucus is an affiliate of the State Caucus and its parent organization, the National Women's Political Caucus.

Carol Cohen, acting chairwoman of the caucus, said the Union County chapter also will nominate officers for the county chapter at the meeting in anticipation of its reorganization in January.

Blood drives scheduled

The Greater Union County and Plainfield Area Chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor the following open blood drives:

• Today, 1 to 6:30 p.m., ADC/EUC Chapter House.

• Tuesday, 3 to 8:30 p.m., Oscotta Presbyterian Church, 1689 Raritan Road, Clark; 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Elizabeth High School, 600 Pearl St.

• Nov. 23, 3 to 8:30 p.m., Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad, 875 Raritan Road.

• Nov. 24, Witty's Liquor Store, 8705 St. Georges Ave., Rahway.

• Nov. 27, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., YMCA, 201 Turin Ave., Union.

Donors must be 18 years old. Seventeen-year-olds may donate with parental permission. There is no upper age limit for donors provided they have donated within the past two years or have a doctor's note. Donors should know their Social Security number and bring a signed form of identification. People with cold or flu symptoms should wait until they are feeling better before donating and there is a 72-hour deferral for dental work, including routine teeth cleaning. For those who have traveled outside of the United States recently, call the blood center for eligibility criteria.

One donor, giving one pint of blood benefits five patients because at the laboratory the blood is broken down into five components. Less than 2 percent of the population, give blood.

For more information or to sign up to donate, call (800) BLOOD-NJ, or (908) 256-6365.

Women for Women will meet Wednesday

Women for Women of Union County is a non-profit agency offering short-term, low-cost individual counseling and self-help support groups for women who want to make a positive change in their lives. On Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., The

Reading Group will meet to discuss "A Cup of Tea" by Amy Ephron, now available in paperback.

Both groups will be at 511 North Ave., Garwood.
For information or to register, call the office at (908) 232-5787.

The Arc fund-raising with entertainment books

The Arc of Union County, the not-for-profit organization that serves more than 700 individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, is now selling entertainment books for \$50. Two editions are available: the Northern New Jersey featuring Essex, Union, Hudson and eastern Morris counties and the Central New Jersey featuring Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and southern Union counties.

Both are packed with two-for-one savings on restaurants and discounts with Continental Airlines, Holland America Line and Norwegian Cruise Line, Avis, National, Alamo and Herz Car Rentals, as well as movie, bowling and sports.

Values in the area include The Huni Club Grill, Summit; Raagini Restaurant, Mountaineer; Shiki Japanese Steakhouse, Union; Tavern in the Park, Roselle Park; Lionello's Seafood Paris Grill, Kenilworth; Cafe Michigan, Roselle Park and Chez Z in New Providence; The Starburst Image; Sam Goody; Borders and Parlo Video.

The Arc provides residential services, transportation, educational services, child care services, clinical services and family support through its 19 group homes, five work centers, two child development centers, a private school, four special needs adult day programs and an adult medical day care facility.

Books can be obtained from The Arc of Union County, 1225 South Ave., Plainfield; or by calling (908) 754-2459 or (908) 754-7422.

'Smart Choices for Dating' on Sunday

As part of the monthly Community Education Workshop series offered by Women for Women of Union County, Ronald Olsman, will present "Daughterpower: Smart Choices about Dating," on Sunday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Community Room of the Waufield-Municipal Building, 425 E. Broad St.

This workshop is designed to teach parents and their teen-age daughters the signs of potential abusers so daughters can avoid "the emotional and physical damage of becoming involved in an abusive relationship."

Olsman is one of a relatively small group of professionals who has committed his career to researching and educating on domestic abuse prevention. His work in "profiling" potential women abusers has made him a controversial and notable figure among social scientists today.

Olsman contends that boys who become abusers can begin to manifest tell-tale traits from as early as age 10. He further holds that relationship abuse is preventable through early education and empowering of adolescent girls.

Olsman has been involved in healthcare since graduating the Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons with a master of public health degree. His doctorate dissertation and book "Survivors by Their Own Hands: How Women Destroy They Hurt Kids Too," asserts that children growing up observing father-

against-mother abuse suffer the same and other, symptoms of emotional trauma as the abused mom.

Born in Passaic, Olsman currently resides in Union County with his wife and best friend, Meryl. Women for Women of Union County, headquartered at 511 North Ave., Garwood, is a non-profit agency offering short-term, low-cost individual counseling and self-help support groups. Membership and community participation help keep its services thriving.

If interested in joining, to register for this workshop, or to obtain more information, call (908) 232-5787.

Campaign asking for backpacks for foster kids

Stand for Children, a national children's advocacy organization with a chapter in New Jersey, is undertaking its second annual Backpacks for Foster Children Campaign. The Community Outreach Committee of the Bar Foundation is assisting Stand for Children by collecting new and gently used backpacks and is filling them with foster toys and/or necessities for the foster children in Union County. When children move they will at least have some possessions to call their own.

Contributions of new or gently used backpacks with toiletries, toys, books and necessities included therein can be dropped off in Elizabeth on the first floor of the Union County Administration Building, at the County Council's office on Elizabethtown Plaza, the ground floor of the courthouse on Broad Street, or at the entrance of the Annex Building and the Ruotolo Center on Rahway Avenue.

If you would like to make a cash donation, make checks out to Stand for Children. They can be sent to the County Council's office, Union County Administration Building, 6th Floor, Elizabeth, or sent directly to Stand for Children, 326 Giff Lane, N.J. 08930.

If you would like more information about the organization or this project, stop by Bar Headquarters on the third floor of the courthouse to pick up a brochure or other materials, or call (908) 354-3934.

Vo-Tech schools offer maternal support classes

Ten mothers can now enroll in a program at the Union County Vocational Technical Schools that addresses their needs. According to Patrick Mauro, director of admissions and curriculum at the schools, the Maternal Support Program affords the teens an opportunity to complete their high school education and also gain a marketable skill.

He adds that the Maternal Support Program has been making a difference in the lives of teen mothers for over 10 years. It is open to students within Union County.

The Union County Vocational Technical Schools presently offer a variety of 24 training options, Mauro said. The availability of support services to the program, he adds, includes transportation and a full-time, on-site childcare center. Group and individual counseling as well as parenting education are also offered.

Pregnant or parenting teens or anyone knowing of a student who could benefit from the Maternal Support Program should call the UCVTs Admissions Office at (908) 889-2999 or Kira Urbanski, program instructor, at (908) 889-2949. The Union County Vocational Technical Schools are located at 1776 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains.

Following delays, lake dredging ready to begin

(Continued from Page B1)

thought inventing an unnecessary seldom-show \$110,000 job for the nephew of state Senator Ray Lesniak was more important," the mailing stated. The mailing referred to Deputy County Manager George Devenny who also serves as director of the Department of Economic Development.

"The campaign has helped," Republican candidate Wally Shackell said Monday. "I don't believe they suddenly realized it had to be done." The lake "has been out of control for years."

"It can give the illusion that we're not doing anything," Freeholder Vice Chairman Daniel Sullivan said, "but in fact we're doing everything we can, but there are a lot of road blocks to get something like this done."

He cited several reasons for delays including bids that came in too high and restrictions from the state as to when dredging could be done. A resolution approved by the freeholders last year allocated funds for the project.

"We resolved the whole issue last year," Sullivan said. "It's a matter of putting it in place."

The material taken out of Lake Surprise will be used to cover a clay pit in the reservation. The county used to take clay from the reservation for ballfields but now there is too much rock in the clay. Instead, the clay pit, which is west of the Deserted Village in the reservation, will be seeded for grass, according to Dann.

If it is a mild winter, the project may be completed by April 1. If not, the vendor, Hydrosport, will stop because of aquatic life and resume July 31. The contract stipulates that the work must be completed in 300 working days, Dann said.

Once dredging is complete, the county will request the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife to stock the lake with fish.

"This time next year, we should have a beautiful, pristine lake," Dann said. Lake Surprise runs parallel to Glenside Avenue and borders New Providence, Summit and Mountaineer in the northeastern part of the reservation.

Municipal dirt needed oversight

(Continued from Page B1)

Brown is another story. I use the dirt as a municipal asset you just don't give away without some oversight. A resolution designating the activity to be done would have probably been a good thing to do in that it would have necessitated comment.

I would have been happier if any of the township commissioners had told Middle Man Brown not to make such significant decisions in the future without some discussion.

I would have been happier if the decisions of the unselected Hoefler

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

Vo-Tech craft fair will be on Saturday

The Union County Vocational-Technical Schools will have their eighth annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., indoors at the Raritan Road Campus.

Heinz Kicken, chairman of the Holiday Craft Fair, announced many crafters from throughout New Jersey, and beyond, will make their wares available. He added all proceeds will be distributed to deserving UCVTs students by the sponsoring Awards Committee during the Awards Night Ceremony prior to graduation in June.

Admission is free. Refreshments will be available and the spacious campus provides unlimited parking.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vocalist mixes motherhood and music



By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

Sarah Partridge, a lovely, young pop and jazz singer who will appear at the Manor's Le Dome in West Orange tonight, started her career in the entertainment business as a very young actress and changed direction six years ago.

What started out to be a successful career on the stage, and in the movies and commercials, became a successful career as a singer in the cabaret and night club scene. And in between, she is a full-time mother to two little ones, Benjamin, 4, and William, 1 1/2. "I have a wonderful family," she said the other morning, "a family comprised of a wonderful husband, Gary Stein, who is a television producer, very helpful and very supportive; marvelous in-laws who live nearby our home in Hoboken, and a marvelous circle of babysitters. The beauty of working at cabarets, such as this really great one here at the Manor, is that I get to be with the children during the day. My work is at night; that is, unless I'm traveling."



Sarah Partridge

Partridge explained that this is her "second appearance at Le Dome at the Manor. The success of last year — which was a wonderful evening — brought dear Mary Jane Frankel, the publicist, to me to arrange for another date this year."

Born in Boston, Partridge said that

she had been an actress since she was 6 years old. "I know it was very, very early, but it was what I wanted to do. I went to Northwestern University in Chicago, majored in theater — they have a terrific department. After I graduated, I started getting jobs in Chicago. They were a mixture of plays and commercials, some movie roles."

The movies in which she appeared included "Risky Business," "The Naked Face," a Sydney Sheldon adaptation, "and I did a movie called 'Dear Amanda,' which was based on the life of Ann Landers," Partridge said. "I played her daughter. It was fun. I also did some original plays, one was 'E.R.," which was a hit in Chicago.

"Then I moved to Los Angeles, where I spent 10 years doing a lot of television commercials, voice overs." It wasn't until six years ago that the versatile performer found a new career within a career. "Someone asked me to sing karaoke. Bam! I found the only semi-jazz song on the list, a Gershwin song, and somebody said, 'You want to do something with this?' Suddenly," she declared, "I

know I always wanted to sing this music. But I didn't know that this was my focus. I started getting jobs singing jazz in Los Angeles, and started getting back into jazz blues and sort of blossomed from there."

"Then my husband was transferred to New York City. And here I am." When she discovered Le Dome at the Manor, Partridge explained, she got in touch with Frankel. "It was such a wonderful place, such a nice atmosphere for a performer. Lo and behold, after I submitted my ideas, Mary Jane decided to give it a try. And indeed, it is such a beautiful place in which to work."

"I don't usually do a show with a theme," Partridge admitted, "but this time I will. It's a salute to Sarah Vaughn, called 'Sarah Sings Sarah,' and the music she sang."

Partridge said that "I'm working on new material which is great and I do some of the old classics that I love." It's great, she indicated, to have the best of both worlds. It's a wonderful life for a talented, versatile performer and a dedicated wife and mother.

Violinist Jennifer Frautschi will be presented in concert by Lyrica Chamber Music of Chatham Sunday along with cellist Alexis Gerlach and pianist Mariel Bossert. The concert will take place in the Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township. Tickets are \$18 and \$14. For information, call 701-1734.

Lyrica's concert features Beethoven, Mendelssohn

On Sunday, Lyrica Chamber Music of Chatham will present a program of works by two of the great masters and a critically acclaimed contemporary composer.

The afternoon concert in Chatham Township will open with Beethoven's Piano Trio Opus 1, Number 3 and conclude with Mendelssohn's Piano Trio in C minor. The third work will be "Mountain Songs" for flute and guitar by American composer Robert Beaser.

The Beethoven and Mendelssohn trios will feature cellist Alexis Gerlach, pianist Mariel Bossert, and violinist Jennifer Frautschi who recently received the prestigious Avery Fischer Award.

Robert Beaser's "Mountain Songs," nominated for a Grammy Award as "Best Contemporary Composition," will be performed by guitarist Christopher Kenniff and flautist Bernard Phillips.

The third concert in the Lyrica series Jan. 2 is a music drama, "Dvorak in America: The Muse Visits Iowa." A costumed actor in the role of Dvorak's secretary will narrate highlights and anecdotes of the composer's summer visit to Middle America. The Lyrica ensemble will perform works composed during that visit.

The series finale March 26 will feature the Pro Nobis Chamber Singers in a contemporary, "jazzy" program of works by David N. Baker and Claude Bolling.

Lyrica concerts are at 3 p.m. in the acoustically brilliant Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township and are followed by a meet-the-artist reception. There is ample on-site parking, and the hall is handicapped-accessible. Tickets are \$18, and \$14 for senior citizens.

For information, call 701-1734.

International Library is seeking amateur photographers for contest

The International Library of Photography has announced that more than \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest. Photographers from the Union County area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of more than 1,300 prizes. The deadline for the contest is Dec. 15. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

"Everyone has at least one memorable photo that captures a special moment. In time," stated Jeffrey Ryan, contest director, "when people learn about our free photography contest, they suddenly realize that their own favorite photos can win cash prizes, as well as gain national exposure."

To enter, send one photograph in

only one of the following categories: people, travel, pets, children, sports, nature, action, humor, portraiture, or other. The photo must be an unmounted color or black-and-white print, 8 by 10 inches or smaller. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back, as well as the category and title of the photo. Photographs should be sent to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-9006, 3600 Crowsdell Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 15.

The International Library of Photography is an organization dedicated to bringing the work of amateur photographers to the public's attention. The website can be found at www.thephotoistic.com.

Rahway Guild showcases grant recipients

The HEART Grant Program of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, is a program which has been funding arts projects for non-profit organizations, and individuals in Union County.

This increasingly popular grant program has made it possible for many county organizations and artists to present a wider range of arts activities within the county. Two recipients of this grant, both photographers with unique projects, will be exhibiting their work at The Gallery at The Arts Guild of Rahway through Nov. 24.

Admission is free. The Gallery at The Arts Guild is conveniently located at 1670 Irving St. in Rahway, accessible by the Garden State Parkway, New Jersey Turnpike, Routes 1 & 9 and Route 27. Call (732) 381-7511 for more information.

This exhibit features work by Jay Ghering Smith, a series of photographs titled "The Bridges of New Jersey," and Owen Kanzer's project, "Antique Architectural Details of Elizabeth."

Smith is the chairman of the Art and Industrial Art Department in the Cranford schools. With his HEART Grant funding, he was able to complete a series of 43 photographs, a task which took him more than 3,000

miles in the state and 1,700 shots to complete. His photos record the many bridges of New Jersey represented over the course of the four seasons and incorporating images from every county in the state.

Kanzer of Linden is a professional photographer specializing in aerial photos. His project features stylish images of the outstanding architectural details of buildings in Elizabeth. The HEART Grant allowed Kanzer the freedom to complete this series of stunning black and white photographs, an idea which he had for a long time but was unable to work on without the county funding.

The Arts Guild of Rahway is proud to present the work of these two exceptional Union County photographers, and applauds the Freeholders HEART Grant program. According to LARRY Cappiello of the Arts Guild, "We ourselves are recipients of a HEART Grant which proved invaluable to our plans to offer a music program, 'Jazz '99' at our new arts center."

"The exhibit is for us a celebration of the partnership with the arts that has been made possible by the Union County HEART Grant program. It has provided a unique opportunity for us and these artists to mount and present work of high caliber that the appreciation of the many arts patrons and gallery-goers in the county and the state."

Roberta Flack to make Rahway concert appearance

The Union County Arts Center, Rahway's renowned 1928 vaudeville theater, will present legendary R&B diva Roberta Flack for one show Nov. 13 at 8 p.m.

Flack is a totally unique artist, whose 30-year career has seen number-one hits with "Killing Me Softly With His Song," "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face," "Where Is the Love?," "Feel Like Makin' Love" and the dance classic "Uh-uh, Ooh-oh, Look Out."

Flack is the daughter of a church organist and started playing piano early enough to get a music scholarship and degree from Howard University. After some time spent student teaching, Flack was discovered singing at a club by jazz musician Les McCann and signed to Atlantic Records. Her first two albums were critically acclaimed, but produced no major hits; however, her career took off when a version of Ewan MacColl's "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face," from her first album, was included in the movie "Play Misty for Me." The song soared to number one in 1972 and remained there for six

weeks, becoming that year's biggest hit.

Flack followed it with the first of several duets with Howard classmate Donny Hathaway, "Where Is the Love." "Killing Me Softly With His Song" became Flack's second number-one hit — staying in that spot for five weeks — in 1973, and after her third number-one hit in 1974 — "Feel Like Makin' Love" — Flack took a break to concentrate on recording and charitable causes. She charted several more times over the next few years, but was devastated in 1979 when Hathaway committed suicide. Distraught, Flack was forced to find another partner and eventually did in Peabo Bryson, with whom she toured in 1980. The two recorded together in 1983, scoring a hit with "Tonight, I Celebrate My Love." Flack spent the remainder of the '80s touring and performing, often with orchestras, and also several times with Miles Davis. She returned to the Top Ten once more in 1991 with "Set the Night to Music," a duet with Maxi Priest.

Roberta Flack will be appearing at the Union County Arts Center Nov.

13 at 8 p.m. Reserved concert seating is available at \$40, \$25, and \$20.

Flack's appearance continues the Union County Arts Center's 1999-2000 season, which also features concerts by country legend Kathy Mattea Dec. 3, the Vienna Choir Boys Dec. 17, comic thrill magicians Penn & Teller Feb. 13, 2000, seventies superstars Three Dog Night April 15, 2000, and "Mr. Las Vegas," Wayne Newton May 6, 2000. In addition, the Union County Arts Center will produce the Broadway musical "Mousetrap" in March 2000, and present family, film and classical music series: The Headliner Series, of which Flack's concert is a part, has been provided additional support by Comcast Digital Cable.

The Union County Arts Center, a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to presenting the best in the performing arts, is located in the recently restored

Rahway Theater, a 1928 vaudeville and silent film, neighborhood.

The Arts Center is handicapped-accessible, and listening devices are available to patrons upon request. Major support for the arts center and its programs comes from the City of Rahway, Merck & Co., the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Comcast Digital Cable of Union, and the Rahway Savings Institution. Tickets may be purchased by phone with a Visa, Mastercard, or Discover, or in person at the Irving Street box office. In addition, tickets will be available online this season through the arts center's website at www.uccac.org, and through EMT Ticket Kiosks located in the Menlo Park Mall and Edwards Supermarkets. For more information, or ticket availability, call the box office at (732) 499-8226, or after 5 p.m. at (888) EMT-TIXS.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

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Home cooking meets fine dining at Umberto's

Hungry diners with a taste for elegance will find all they imagined — and more — tucked away on a quiet side street in Kenilworth.

Umberto's Clam Bar and Continental Restaurant combines the comfortable charm of home cooking with the sophistication and ambience of fine dining. The cozy dining room — with only about a dozen tables — seems more like a tea room than a fancy restaurant, but don't be deceived.

The Italian music adds just the right touch to the atmosphere, offering a hint of the Neapolitan treats in store. The lush music accompanying the meal is a perfect reflection of the delights to be found on the plates, with equal hints of the foreign and exotic, and the familiar and comfortable.

Co-owned by Umberto Mamone and Rose Del Proere, Umberto's selection of northern and southern Italian cuisine tempts the palate from the menu even before the delicious aromas waft from the kitchen. Many of the recipes come from the kitchen of Del Proere's mother — by way of some modifications and "fiddling" by Del Proere herself. The restaurateur sees her patrons as guests at her own table, much like the ever-present family members in any bustling Italian kitchen. As she puts it, "I wouldn't give my family something I wouldn't eat myself."

Rather than ordering off the menu, my dining companion and I were treated to a veritable smorgasbord by Del Proere and Mamone, who filled our table with samplings from the entire menu.

Beginning with the house merlot, which was light and fruity with berry, rather than woody, notes, we were treated to Del Proere's bruschetta. This dish is usually served hot with melted mozzarella; however, at Umberto's, Del Proere prefers the appetizer served cold, with fresh-tasting tomatoes, onions, celery and garlic mixed in rich olive oil and piled onto crispy bread. The bread, by the way, is made fresh at the bakery of a family member.

Following the bruschetta came a plethora of tastes as Mamone and Del Proere covered our table with

Dining Out

By Bill Van Sant
Associate Editor

samples from the appetizer portion of the menu. We were treated to such diverse fare as broccoli di rapa; fresh seafood salad with scungilli, calamari, shrimp and scallops in Umberto's special dressing; grilled Portobello mushrooms in an exquisitely rich gravy of garlic and olive oil; stuffed artichokes; clams oreganata and casino; stuffed mushrooms; and eggplant rollatini. To isolate any one dish would be redundant and would take more space than is allowed here. It is sufficient to say that each offering was more delicious and richly flavored than the last, leaving us wondering if we would have room for the entrees.

However, once the entrees arrived — in the same sampler format — the presentation and aroma made us disregard our lightning waitbands. After a course of futility, we feasted on lamb, which surprised us as an Italian restaurant. However, that surprise was soon replaced by marvel at the tenderness and succulence of the lamb. The lobster ravioli was absolutely delicious, with tender lobster meat in a delicately thin pasta shell. Lastly, the sautéed scallops were light and fresh-tasting, with the butter, oil and garlic accenting, but not overpowering the flavor of the shellfish.

As is traditional in an Italian kitchen, we finished our meal with a salad of crisp greens and a light dressing, perfect for cleansing the palate before cappuccino and dessert.

And what a dessert! We were treated to samplings of cannoli and Umberto's famous tiramisù, which, he shared, is made with 11 different liqueurs. The richness of the treat was perfectly balanced by a lightness in both texture and flavor.

Many of the items with which Mamone and Del Proere graced our table are not listed on the menu, but

are available. In addition, Del Proere points out that the menu — which is quite moderately priced for the quality you receive — is the same for both lunch and dinner, so patrons need not worry that they won't be able to try certain dishes at certain times.

Adjoining the dining room is a tap room where one can enjoy a mug of beer, a game of pool and just about anything on the menu from a basket of steamed to some of the fancier fare.

Perhaps one of the most impressive features of Umberto's does not appear on the menu: the pleasure the owners take in welcoming their guests. It is evident from their joy at serving their guests that Mamone and Del Proere are not merely in business — they are sharing a passion for good food, not only with each other as partners, but with each visitor who comes through the door. This excitement at serving deliciously and meticulously prepared food spills over into the whole experience, leaving the diner feeling not only well-fed, but well-cared for as well.

After a meal at Umberto's, the only thing one has room for is scheduling another visit to this fine restaurant. You'll certainly be back — and you'll probably want to share this secret with your friends!

Umberto's is located on North 21st Street, just off the Boulevard, in Kenilworth. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays. Parking is available behind the restaurant, in the municipal lot on South 21st Street across the Boulevard, and on the street. Major credit cards are accepted. For information, call (908) 931-9070, send faxes to (908) 931-0113, or visit the website at www.umbertosrestaurant.com.

Editorial deadlines

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

Concert will feature jazz saxophonist

Buckley Hugo, performing on his soprano sax, will headline in a concert Sunday at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Roselle, located at the corner of Chestnut Street and West Fifth Avenue.

Sponsored by the "Music on Fifth Avenue" concert series, this concert also features accompanist Paul DiDario, The Senior Choir of the First Presbyterian Church and organist George Lachenauer. The program ranges from classical saxophone solos with piano accompaniment by Haydn and J. S. Bach to Benny Goodman selections. Also accompanying Hugo will be contemporary music selections by the Senior Choir with Lachenauer on the organ.

Hugo has been active in the New York music scene, having performed in various classical and jazz settings. As a saxophonist, he led

his own saxophone quintet, the Sax Messenger, and the jazz quartet, Riff Raff. He has been a featured soloist at New York churches including Fifth Avenue Presbyterian and Madison Avenue.

DiDario, a graduate of The Juillard School of Music, has appeared in concert with the Garden State Symphony Band and the Summit Symphony and is the Director of Music at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains. Lachenauer is well known as an accompanist and is the Director of Music at the First Presbyterian Church of Roselle.

A suggested donation of \$5 will be accepted. There will be a post-concert reception to meet the artist.

For information, call (908) 245-1611 between 9 a.m. and noon, Monday to Friday.



Hugo Buckley
Saxophonist

Kean to sponsor piano competition

The first Andrew De Grado Piano Competition will take place at Kean University's Little Theater in the University Center Building, Morris Avenue in Union, Nov. 20 and 21.

Piano students, between the ages of 11 and 18 residing in New Jersey and having a teacher with a working studio or residence in New Jersey may apply to compete in the First Annual Andrew De Grado Piano Competition open solo and accompanying recital performance. Winners in each age level will be presented with a cash award, certificate of recognition and a performance at a public recital.

The competition is conducted to pass on the rich artistic legacy left by Professor Andrew De Grado and his desire to enhance the future of talented young pianists. His philosophy is thoughtfully expressed in a paragraph taken from his personal correspondence.

"It is my ambition to continue my performing and teaching career as it gives me tremendous satisfaction to impart my knowledge and watch the development and progress of young pianists."

Competition performances will be

evaluated by a review of professional judges.

Solo repertoire requirements are any one composition, 15 minutes or less, in any idiom, by any composer. Accompanying repertoire requirements are accompanying a soloist, vocal or instrumental other than piano; composition: maximum of three minutes; performers: maximum of two — accompanist and soloist.

Prospective entrants can obtain a free application, and additional information will be sent upon request. Contact the Andrew George De Grado Memorial Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 1064, Springfield, NJ 07081-1064. Telephone inquiries may be directed to (973) 467-1348, fax to (973) 921-0349 or visit the website at <http://www.earthlink.net/~grizart/>.

Concert pianist Andrew George De Grado, 1960-1998, had performed throughout the world as a recitalist, chamber musician and soloist with orchestras. Born in New Jersey, he began his musical studies at age four.

By the age of 12, he had already gained recognition for his artistic talent as winner in New Jersey's Great Falls Festival Talent Search two times; the State of New Jersey College Piano Competition; the Foundation for the Performing Arts, Recital Stage competition, performing in a full recital; three performances on WNYC-FM Young American Artists Program; plus numerous other recitals in New York and New York.

He was the recipient of many honors, among them a Fellowship and the Performer's Certificate in recognition of outstanding musical performance in piano from Indiana University; prize winner at the Helen Hart International Piano Competition and the Washington International Piano Competition; and twice winner of the Indiana University's Concerto Competition. He was a highly sought-after collaborator for dozens of respected artists including Joshua Bell, with whom he toured extensively throughout the United States.

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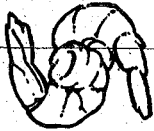
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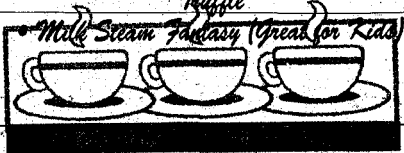
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'American Beauty' turns the tables

On the Arts

By Jan Piquet

There is a kind of American movie, distinctly American, which looks at our social order with a cold, clear eye. That eye may be a flat mirror, as in the naturalistic "On the Waterfront" or a wavy one that distorts, as in the stylized "The Graduate." Such brilliant film art, in this case a caustic satire with a powerful twist of an ending, is the current "American Beauty."

Directed by Sam Mendes, a producer of the stage who has in his credits recent Broadway productions of "Cabaret" and "The Blue Room," "American Beauty" is framed within the confines of an affluent suburban town, and focuses on the doings and strivings of one family and their peers.

The story pivots on the dissolution of civility between the ambitious mother, Annette Bening, an aggressive real estate agent, and the increasingly spaced-out father, Kevin Spacey, a failed advertising executive. "American Beauty" is not simply an Oscar-Baited story gone astray, however, as the film deals with material corruption,

their selfish relationships. In each, we are clearly on the other side of the screen divide from these characters on edge. "American Beauty" is different in that we are far from the superior view. The conspirator Oliver Stone is nowhere to be found, deriding American attitudes which he finds distasteful. "American Beauty" turns the table on us. Not only are we not elevated above these people or judging them, but by film's end we are so reminded by Spacey of his likeability, coupled with the aggressive despair, the loving details of his life recommend to us, that any cliché we might have performed disappears. I believe in time and after the thoughtful re-examination that will occur following its first commercial run, "American Beauty" will be seen as not only well-acted, visually provocative, and very entertaining, but as a precisely cogent commentary on our times, on our relationships with the other destructive behaviors into which even good people fall.

Howard Wiseman — will discuss the significance at these shattering events. Each of these historians is an expert in their field and speak in a language that can be understood in layman's terms. The tour of the cemetery is a unique opportunity. It is peaceful place and many important historical figures are buried there. There are special monuments and gravestones that reveal the area's significant history. "The American Revolution in Elizabeth" is made possible by a HEART — History Education Arts Reach Thousands — Grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The program is free and refreshments will be served. For information and directions, call (908) 351-9113.

Malamut Gallery exhibits mixed media

The next exhibit at the Les Malamut Gallery will be "Contemporary-Synchronicity-Me," a collection of artwork and photos in various media, by B. A. Cousy.

The show, which opened with a reception at the gallery in the Union Public Library in Frberger Park on Morris Avenue Saturday, will continue through Dec. 1.

Cousy states that "the use of many different media has allowed an interpretation that can express as many

ideas as can be given, to show texture and feeling for whatever subject matters wish to come out whether through sight or intuition."

The artist received a graphic arts diploma from Washington Technical School in Seattle and also studied at the Print Making Council of New Jersey in Somerville and The Art Students League in New York City. The artist has exhibited at the miniature show at the Paper Mill Playhouse, an outdoor show in Madison,

Seton Hall Art Gallery, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Doylestown Art League and the Mountain Art Show in Bernardsville. She has also had a solo show at the Florham Park Library and at the Children's Specialized Hospital. She has taught children and adult classes in a variety of media. The gallery will be open during regular library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Trailside Museum offers autumn activities

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced that Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside is offering a variety of workshops for children and their parents this fall. Trailside's location in the scenic Watchung Reservation provides the environment and the natural world.

Some new workshops are geared toward preschool to 5th grade children and their families: "Two Of Us" — an interactive program for children 3 and 4 years old accompanied by an adult which encourages child and adult to discover nature together through exploration, hikes and outdoor activities. "Two of Us" classes are offered Tuesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 to

2:30 p.m. in November and December. Pre-registration is required and the fee is \$4 per person for each class. For a full program brochure, which includes a listing of all workshops for children and families as well as upcoming special events, call or visit the Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, (908) 789-3670.

Westfield's choral society welcomes new singers

The Choral Art Society of New Jersey Inc. welcomes new members to its fall rehearsals at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield at the corner of Mountain Avenue and East Broad Street. The group meets each Tuesday at 8 p.m. under the direction of James S. Little and accompanist Mary Beth McFall. The society is currently pre-

paring the "Mass in B minor" by J. S. Bach. Little is the organist and choirmaster at Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit, where he directs three choirs and the Calvary Concert Series. He is a graduate of Trenton State College and Westminster Choir College. He is also director of MadJazz, a Union

County capella group, and the Prep Choir of the Somerset Hills Children's Chorus. For more information, call (908) 232-2455.

Revolution is talk topic in Elizabeth

The American Revolution in Elizabeth, a unique open forum and history roundtable on the role of Elizabeth during the Revolutionary War, will take place at the First Presbyterian Church, Broad Street, Elizabeth Sunday at 3 p.m.

This free program is hosted by Elizabeth Plan, a civic organization, dedicated to preserving the city's worthy landmarks, architecture and neighborhoods of Elizabeth. An optional tour of the historic First Presbyterian Church cemetery begins at 2 p.m.

Elizabethtown was vitally important during the revolutionary war. British troops were stationed on Staten Island. When British troops moved west, much of their movement took them through Elizabeth. Also,

the people of the area were of divided loyalties, some being in favor of the revolution and others loyal to the British Crown.

Local battles included the battles of Springfield, Connecticut Farms, and Elizabethtown. In Springfield, only four houses escaped devastation. Elizabethtown was devastated. Local government was suspended. Persons loyal to the Crown fled to Canada. The war locally was comparable to the Vietnam War. Homes and crops were destroyed and there were numerous local skirmishes.

Four prominent local historians — Newark city historian Charles Cummings, local historian and journalist Jean Raen Turner, Kean University Professor Emeritus Robert Fridlington, and private historical researcher

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Kean seeks theaters for 'incubation'

The Arts Incubator Project at Kean University in Union is seeking "homeless" New Jersey theater groups and playwrights.

The project provides rent-free rehearsal and performance space at the university and, when possible, assists with technical needs for productions. For playwrights, the incubator provides rent-free studio space for play readings.

The Kean Project is the first Arts

Incubator in New Jersey and the first in the country to be housed at a university.

Summer of 1999 was the first Arts Incubator season at Kean, and five theater groups were selected to rehearse and perform plays using a variety of the university's theater spaces.

According to Project Director Susan Appelbaum of Kean's Communication and Theater Department,

"This year we are expanding the use of facilities and increasing their availability to accommodate more groups. Also, we feel that offering space to playwrights will help us meet our goal of supporting the entire theater process."

Theater groups and playwrights wishing to apply for the Arts Incubator Project or needing more information may contact Appelbaum at (908) 527-2350.

Life is a cabaret for UCC Theater Project

The Theater Project of Union County College will present an evening of cabaret Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. in the Commons of the Cranford campus.

The cabaret, titled "Joie de Vivre," is a fund-raising event for the Theater Project to help support its summer 2000 production.

Scheduled to perform in "Joie de Vivre" are three

female singers: Gail Lou, Daimah Talley, and Sandra Toll. All of these women have performed with The Theater Project in previous productions.

Tickets can be purchased at the door at \$10 for general admission and \$5 for students and senior citizens. For ticket information and reservations, call (908) 659-5189.

Anti-drug showcase will feature youth

Hip-hop music, bagpipe music, drama and poetry, opera singing, a live orchestra and a rock-and-roll band are all part of the schedule for the gala Union County Showcase of Talent that is expected to attract hundreds to the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Nov. 15.

More than half of the municipalities in Union County are sending their most talented young people to participate in "Reach for the Stars," a tribute to the county's talented youth that is being presented as a bold alternative to drugs and violence.

"We're always reading and seeing things about teens that bother us, such as violent crime, drug abuse and family dysfunction," said Carol Berger, the Union County Assistant Prosecutor who helped establish the showcase as part of her role as a member of the

Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

"The county manager, the prosecutor, the county family and even the people from Union County College and St. Elizabeth's Hospital all got behind this, and that's when it all came together," she said. "It started out as a vision and now it's changed a lot of attitudes already."

The master of ceremonies for the event, which will run from 6:30 to 9 p.m., is Elizabeth's own "New World Poet," who will open the show with his own special brand of music.

Dancers—including a modern dance, poets, and members of a jazz band—have been rehearsing constantly for the last several weeks to get ready for the show.

"For a small donation of only \$5, viewers will be treated to a true showcase of local talent that is already

attracting interest from scouting and entertainment recruiters in the area," said Union County Prosecutor Thomas V. Manahan. "There's already more than 200 performers signed up to be part of this."

For tickets, citizens can contact Fe Casera at the county's Division of Planning in the Department of Human Services at (908) 527-4852 or Berger at (908) 527-4564.

Sponsors include the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Save a Life Today Project, the County Alliance Steering Subcommittee, the Rahway Municipal Alliance, St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Union County College.

During intermission, a Rahway-based youth group sponsored by the hospital will conduct a contemporary fall fashion show, according to Fiat Deveraux of St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Westfield's musical club seeks new members

The Musical Club of Westfield is inviting residents of Westfield and the surrounding communities to become members or associate members of the club.

Programs are conducted the second Wednesday monthly and feature members performing as singers or instrumentalists. A high standard of performance has been maintained since the club was first organized in 1915. Those who do not wish to perform may become associate members. Members and associates pay annual dues and support the scholarship concert, presented in November.

This concert makes it possible to give scholarships annually to auditioning students who plan to study music in college.

Those who would enjoy an hour of listening, or those who might wish to perform on programs may contact the membership chairperson, Evelyn Blecke for membership information at (908) 232-2173.

Interested persons should phone Blecke or Barbara Krause at (908) 272-5549.



'Underbelly,' a glass, cement and metal sculpture by Nancy Cohen, will be among the works on exhibit in '3 Artists — 3 Stories' at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit Nov. 14 through Jan. 16.

Women artists 'tell' their stories

Beginning Nov. 14, the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts will be hosting an exhibition titled "3 Artists — 3 Stories." There will be a reception Nov. 14 at the center at 68 Elm St., Summit, from 2 to 5 p.m. that is free and open to the public.

The exhibition continues through Jan. 16, 2000. NJCVA will also be hosting a panel discussion with the three artists Dec. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m. The panel discussion will feature slides and statements by the artists about their work and will conclude with a question-and-answer period. This event is also free and open to the public.

These three women artists present their unique voices, informed by their lives as they live them. One can infer from their personal statements about their work how strongly they are affected by their responses to their own histories and those of their ancestors.

Nancy Cohen is primarily a sculptor who also works with paper. She states that "my work is a mix of meanings and a kind of balancing act because it reflects my life and my experience of it."

She talks about a jumping-off point, a "small, blue vase that I took from my grandmother's house after she went into a nursing home" and how this becomes part of the "stream of consciousness that led to the sculpture 'Anklet.'"

Kay WalkingStick describes her work in this manner: "My paintings are made in a rather thin oil paint, very liquid, using figure and landscape often with an abstract shape or shapes... Everything that we are — our genes, our cul-

ture, our heritage, our gender, our physical configuration, our education, our era, our roles in life — informs our art. I was raised by my white mother to think of myself as a Cherokee, although we lived in a white Protestant culture."

Bisa Washington is a sculptor and mixed-media artist who uses "weaving, and traditionally decorative media to create... abstract structures." She states that "African and Oceanic art are a source of constant inspiration. Masks, decorative embellishments, costumes and performance are the subject of my images. Many of the sculptures are inspired by the ritual art and religion of the Yoruba people of West Africa."

This exhibit presents works revolving around private and personal cultures, cultures that rise to become part of the public's collective culture. All of which in turn may give one time to pause and reflect on the inferences.

Founded in 1933 by a dedicated group of local artists, New Jersey Center for Visual Arts has evolved into a major regional art center with a full-scale art school taught by award-winning faculty members. There are two interior galleries and an outdoor exhibition space/sculpture garden. NJCVA is the largest of the state's art centers specifically devoted to contemporary art. Programs include "Artists with Disabilities," docented tours, lectures, demonstrations, art trips, workshops and other activities.

The Center is open Mondays to Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The non-profit New Jersey Center for Visual Arts is wheelchair-accessible and is funded in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to: *Stepping Out*, Entertainment Editor Bill Van Sant, Worrall Community Newspapers, P.O. Box 3169, Union, NJ 07083.

Stepping Out

CLASSES

WESTFIELD YOUNG ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE will offer professional classes in the performing arts.

Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced Acting classes will concentrate on improvisation, character development and scene study. Also offered are four levels of tap and three levels of musical theater, which focuses on song selection and interpretation, ensemble work, voice, and musical theater movement and dance. Private lessons in voice and/or acting are available.

The Westfield High School is located at 728 Westfield Ave., Westfield. For information, call (908) 233-3200.

COMEDY

CASUAL TIMES restaurant features comedians on Saturdays, at 8:30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

The restaurant is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call (908) 388-6511.

CONCERTS

HARPIST MERYNDA ADAMS will participate in worship services at Faith Lutheran Church as part of All Saints Celebration Sunday at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. liturgies. The church is located at 524 South St. in New Providence. For information, call (908) 464-5177.

MUSICIAN HUGO BUCKLEY will be presented in concert on the soprano saxophone Sunday at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Roselle in the church's Music on Fifth Avenue Concert Series.

Suggested donation is \$5. The church is located on the corner of West Fifth Avenue and Chestnut Street in Roselle. For information, call (908) 245-1811 between 9 a.m. and noon, Monday to Friday.

SUNDAYS AT THREE Concert Series in Murray Hill will present violinist Mark Gundersen and pianist Jennifer Li Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens. The concert will be presented at the Suburban Community Music Center, 570 Central Ave., Murray Hill. For information, call (908) 790-7000.

ROBERTA FLACK will be presented in concert at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$28, \$35 and \$40.

The Union County Arts Center is located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call (732) 489-9226.

PLAINFIELD MUSICAL CLUB will present a benefit concert Nov. 14 at 3

p.m. at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield. Tickets are \$10. For information, call (908) 322-7480.

A BENEFIT CONCERT will be presented Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of St. Mary's School in Rahway. A voluntary donation of \$5 is suggested. Proceeds will benefit the interfaith Council for the Homeless in Union County and the St. Mary's Homeless Program. St. Mary's is located at 244 Central Ave., Rahway. For information, call (732) 388-3865.

DISCUSSION

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN ELIZABETH will be the topic of discussion at the First Presbyterian Church, Broad Street in Elizabeth, Sunday at 3 p.m. Admission to the program is free.

For information, call (908) 351-9113.

TENDER AT THE BONE, "Growing Up at the Table" by Ruth Reichl will be the topic of a book discussion group at the Town Book Store of Westfield Tuesday at 8 p.m. Town Book Store is located at 265 E. Broad St. For information, call (908) 233-3535.

GOLF

GOLF CLINIC for children ages 10 to 13 will take place at the Ballastur Golf Club in Springfield from 10 to 11 a.m. The clinic will raise funds for programs run by The Children's Aid Society. For information, call Freeman Miller at (212) 614-4216.

JAZZ

JAZZ 99 concert series opens at the Arts Guild of Rahway with the Rickey Joyce Group Nov. 19 from 8 to 10 p.m. All seats are \$10, with \$8 tickets for senior citizens and students. Reservations are suggested.

The Arts Guild is located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call (732) 381-7511.

KIDS

TRAILSIDE NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER, 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside, will sponsor workshops for families this fall.

*Two of Us, ages 3 and 4 years old with an adult, hikes and outdoor activities; Tuesdays in October, November and December from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. \$4 per class.

For information and a complete program, call (908) 789-3670.

UNION RECREATION Department will sponsor weekly ceramics classes for children between the ages of 7 and



NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA members — past and present — will perform in concert this evening in Sterling Hall of South Orange Middle School. The concert, which features Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring," is a benefit performance for the renovation of the auditorium at Columbia High School. For information, call (973) 378-7620.

12 at the Recreation building, 1120 Commerce Ave., Union, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For information, call 964-4928.

UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER, 1601 Irving St. in Rahway, will present "Winnie the Pooh" Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$9 each. For information, call (732) 499-8226.

SINGLES

INTERFAITH SINGLES will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. — for discussion and continental breakfast at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St. in Westfield. Donation is \$2. For information, call (908) 889-8268 or (908) 889-4751.

THEATER

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE in Millburn continues the 1999-2000 season with "Rags," the musical tale of the immigrant experience at the turn of the century, with music by Charles Strouse, lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and book by Joseph Stein. The production runs through Dec. 12. Originally produced on Broadway in 1986, "Rags" is an inspiring musical about

the joys and heartaches experienced by immigrants to America fleeing oppression in their homeland.

Paper Mill Playhouse is barrier-free and completely accessible to people with disabilities. Paper Mill offers audio-described performances for the visually impaired, as well as sign-interpreted and open-captioned performances for the hearing impaired. Braille and large-print programs, as well as infra-red listening system are available.

Performances are Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. Sunday at 7:30 p.m., with matinees Thursday at 2 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$36-\$60 and \$10 student tickets may be available 15 minutes prior to curtain. The playhouse is located on Brookside Drive in Millburn. For information, call (973) 376-4543.

WESTFIELD-COMMUNITY PLAYERS will present "Moon Over Buffalo" by Ken Ludwig at the playhouse, 1000 North Ave. West in Westfield, through Saturday. Shows are 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with a special matinee at 3 p.m. Nov. 7. Tickets are \$12. For information, call (908) 232-1221.

UNION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL will present three one-act comedies: "Nobody Sleeps," "The Loveliest Computer" and "This is a Test" — Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$3.

Union Catholic High School is located at 1600 Marine Ave., Scotch Plains. For information, call (908) 889-1600.

KEAN THEATER SERIES will present "Life is a Dream" by Calderon de la

Barca Nov. 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 and 20 at 8 p.m., and Nov. 14 and 21 at 2 p.m. Performances take place in the Wilkes Theater on the Kean campus, Morris Avenue in Union. For information, call (908) 527-2337.

ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE will pre-

sent "Harvey" by Mary Chase Nov. 19 to Dec. 18. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens; all tickets on are \$5 Fridays. The Elizabeth Playhouse is located at 1100 E. Jersey St. For information, call (908) 395-0077.

VARIETY

UNION COUNTY SHOWCASE OF TALENT will be presented Sunday from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center, Rahway, by the County of Union Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

The Union County Arts Center is located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call (908) 527-4852 or (908) 527-4554.

THE THEATER PROJECT of Union County College will present "Joie de Vivre... a benefit cabaret featuring TPLCC alumnae Calli'lou, Daimah Talley and Sandra Toll Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. Performances will take place in the Commons of the Cranford Campus, 1033 Springfield Ave. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$5 for senior citizens and students. For information, call (908) 659-5189.

CROSSROADS in Cranford will present a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts.

Tuesday — Jazz Jam, every Tuesday

Wednesday — Open Blues Jam, every Wednesday

Additional acts will appear throughout November Thursdays through Saturdays.

Rahway's Arts Guild begins its 'Jazz '99' concert series

The Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St., continues the "Jazz '99 Concert Series" with this month's concert.

On Nov. 19, the Guild presents The Rickey Joyce Group from 8 to 10 p.m. All seats are \$10, seniors and students \$8. Reservations are recommended as seating is limited. Call (732) 381-7511 for information.

From moves to New York clubs, Rickey Joyce has been electrifying audiences for more than 25 years. Joyce, a phenomenal jazz drummer, is an innovating pioneer with roots in the past and a vision of the future. Leader of his own jazz bands since 1977, he has performed with Larry Young, Donald Byrd, Sun Ra, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Regina Belle and The Platters. His current band, The Rickey Joyce Group, plays a mixture of straight-ahead jazz, contemporary Latin, funk and rhythm & blues, performing standards from the likes of Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Theolonious Monk.

For the last two years, Rickey Joyce has been working on adult-youth interaction jazz concerts. This project, for which he received a Union County HEART Grant from the Board of Chosen Freeholders allows teens to perform and interact with professional musicians.

Besides Rickey's intense drums, The Group features bass, guitar and keyboard. For those who like their jazz hot, this is an act they can't afford to miss.

ART SHOWS

COLLECTORS' EDGE will be on exhibit Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Palmer Gallery at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts, Summit. Works can be previewed today and Friday from 4 to 7 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission for the evening's presentation is \$75 per couple, \$40 for individual tickets.

NUCVA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, call (908) 273-9121.

ART AT OVERLOOK will be on exhibit at Overlook Hospital, featuring the artwork of hospital staff members.

The hospital is located at 99 Beauvoir Ave. For information, call (908) 525-2004.

SUMMIT FRAME & ART will exhibit paintings by American artists dating from the mid 19th to early 20th centuries.

The gallery is located at 465 Springfield Ave. in Summit. For information, call (908) 273-8666.

NEW WORK: "A Jubilee Exhibition" will be on exhibit at the Swain Galleries in Plainfield Nov. 13 to 30. An opening reception will take place Nov. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m.

"Gallery hours" are Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Swain Galleries is located at 703 Wachung Ave., Plainfield. For information, call (908) 756-1707.

CONTEMPORARY Synchronicity-ME! will feature the works of B. A. Cousy in an exhibit at the Les Malmut Art Gallery in Union Public Library Saturday through Dec. 1. An opening reception will take place Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m.

The gallery is located in Union Public Library, Fibreger Park on Morris Avenue next to Town Hall. For information, including gallery hours, call (908) 851-5450.

UNION COUNTY HEART GARDEN IN ACTION is the theme of the next exhibit at the Gallery at the Arts Guild of Rahway through Nov. 24, featuring the work of photographers Jay Gehring Smith and Owen Kandler. An opening reception will take place Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

The Rahway Arts Guild is located at 1670 Irving St. Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m., and Thursdays from 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 p.m. For information, call (732) 381-7511.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL will exhibit the works of Laurie Harden, Maryahn Gallagher and Mel Hostion throughout the month of November. CHS is located on New Providence Road in Mountainside. For information, including gallery hours, call (908) 551-8185.

PHOTOGRAPHER WALTER ROSENBLUM will have his work exhibited Monday through Dec. 2 in the Nancy Dryfoos Gallery and the James Howe Gallery, both at Kean University. Rosenblum will speak Tuesday in Kean's Little Theater in the University Center. Admission is free.

Kean University is located on Morris Avenue in Union. For information, including the hours at each gallery, call (908) 527-2371.

3 ARTISTS, 9 STORIES will be on exhibit Nov. 14 through Jan. 16, 2000 at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit. On exhibit will be the works of Nancy Cohen, Kay Walkington and Bria Washington. A discussion panel with the artists will take place Dec. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.

NUCVA is located at 68 Elm St. in Summit. Hours are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call (908) 273-9121.



NATURE'S HARVEST, a watercolor by Patricia Brantano, will be among the works on exhibit at the Swain Galleries in Plainfield Nov. 13 through 30. An opening reception will take place Nov. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. For information, call (908) 756-1707.

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REAL ESTATE

RE/MAX to open new site in Summit

RE/MAX Properties Unlimited, a new RE/MAX franchise, is soon to open in Summit. The new office will be managed by Marshall DeCristoforo and specializes in the listing and selling of residential properties in Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union counties. "RE/MAX is on the cutting edge of the real estate industry and I believe with RE/MAX, our associates can offer a higher standard of services to clients because of its national and international reputation in the real estate business," said DeCristoforo. "A world class community like Summit should have representation from the world's real estate leader." A real estate veteran of 23 years, DeCristoforo's background includes previous experience as manager of the Summit branch of the DeCristoforo's as well as a number of real estate awards and designations.

An industry leader throughout the years, DeCristoforo was often a member of the Presidents Clubs where he was affiliated. He also served as chairman of the Professional Standards Committee for the local board association. In addition, he has been a top producer and a member of the New Jersey Association of Realtors' Million Dollar Sales Club, Bronze and Silver level in years past. As one of the state's leading real estate organizations, RE/MAX of New Jersey Inc. is a privately held, wholly owned corporation based in Moorestown, overseeing 106 franchise offices and more than 1,100 real estate professionals. Since its inception in 1985, RE/MAX of New Jersey Inc. has experienced 14 consecutive years of growth, attracting sales associates who lead the industry in professional designations, experience and

production. In 1998, RE/MAX of New Jersey generated more than \$3 billion in closed sales volume and 17,488 units in sales transactions. "We are definitely pleased to welcome the Summit office to our network of top professionals. RE/MAX of New Jersey Inc. takes pride in said Joe Ventresca, regional owner of RE/MAX of New Jersey. Recently, in the first "Readers' Choice" survey determined by 4,000 subscribers of Worth Magazine, an upscale personal finance and business monthly magazine, RE/MAX International was named best in the Real Estate Broker category. In addition, the annual report from Real-Friends, a leading real estate industry publication, revealed that RE/MAX franchised offices again proved to be the most productive, averaging just over 328 transactions per office,

more than 1.8 times the production of offices in the number one firm and the office in each of seven other franchise organizations. The RE/MAX franchise network, celebrating its 26th year of consecutive growth, is a global system of more than 3,300 independently owned and operated offices in 30 countries engaging 55,000 members. RE/MAX sales associates led the industry in professional designations, experience and production while providing real estate services in residential, commercial, referral, relocation, and asset management. To search all listings in New Jersey, visit the RE/MAX of New Jersey web site at www.remax-newjersey.com. To contact RE/MAX Professionals Unlimited in Summit, call (908) 522-9444.

Welchert offers three career seminars

Welchert Realtors' Summit office will offer three career seminars in November for everyone interested in finding out about the personal and financial rewards of a career in real estate. Each informal session will include information about obtaining a real estate license and an overview of Welchert's training program for new associates. All sessions will take place at Welchert's Summit Office, located at 474 Morris Ave. Light refreshments will be served. Seminars will be offered at the following times:
• Saturday, Nov. 6, at 10 a.m.
• Monday, Nov. 8, at 7:30 p.m.
• Tuesday, Nov. 16, at 7:30 p.m.
For more information or to reserve a seat for one of the sessions, call branch manager Larry Minsky at Welchert's Summit Office, (908) 277-1200. Commercial bank — A financial institution authorized to provide a variety of financial services, including consumer and business loans (generally short-term), checking services, credit cards, and savings accounts.

Union County Leaders Circle 1998

A Licensed Realtor since 1978, Grace has a proven record of sales success and experience. She has been responsible for marketing and selling real estate in locations of immense competition. As a consistent Top Producer, Grace has received numerous sales listing awards and a recipient of the highly regarded N.J. Association of Realtors Million Dollar Sales Club award (1981, 83-98), achieving Silver Level in 1998 as well as membership to 1999 President's Elite for her total production of over \$9 million in 1998 and the distinguished Burdoff ERA's Leaders Circle. Grace's honesty, integrity, and dedication to her clients' needs have made her career a rewarding one. With her knowledge of the marketplace, her competitive spirit and an eagerness to work with people, Grace welcomes the challenge that comes her way in today's dynamic real estate market. Direct Dial: (908) 252-5522. Evening: (908) 228-3812. E-Mail: Gracep@burdoff.com, Grapp545@aol.com

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- Advertise Open Houses
- Help buyers schedule home visits with online Open House promotion which includes detailed maps and door to door driving instructions

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811 SPRINGFIELD AVE. COMPLETELY RENOVATED RANCH BRUNNOLDF. This 3 bedroom 1 bath home features vinyl room dining room brand new eat in kitchen and brand new bath with tile, walk in closet for expansion, open front porch. Completely painted inside and out. Modern kitchen with the floor, tile, recreation room with modern 12' bill. Large solid oak and mahogany park the rear yard. New roof many more. Mls #20707. Or North Ave to Springfield Ave.

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10 SOUTH AVE., CRANFORD, NJ
908-276-2400 1-800-287-2402

REAL ESTATE

Maricic honored

Faith Maricic, a consistent top achiever in the Burgdorff ERA Westfield office, has been honored for a third time this year as Salesperson of the Month for September, with sales of 6 units sold and dollars amounting to more than \$1.6 million.

Maricic has received many distinguished awards. Her latest accomplishment was earning the Burgdorff ERA Realtors' President's Council Award for 1999. The President's Council is the highest honor an associate can attain at Burgdorff ERA Realtors. The council accepts as members only the top 17 producers out of more than 950 associates each year.

The requirements for membership are based on closed dollar volume production, and number of homes sold as well as meeting the criteria for the New Jersey Association of Realtors' Million Dollar Sales Club. Maricic has also earned the NAR Million Dollar Club Gold Level Award. This award is the association's highest honor given to less than 1 percent of Realtors in the state for production exceeding \$10 million and 25 or more closed transactions in a single year.

Maricic has been a member of the NAR Million Dollar Sales Club for 11 years, attaining Silver Level in 1991, and 1996 and 1997, and Bronze Level in '87-'91 and '93-'97. She has been a member of the company's President's Club for five years and ERA's Leader Circle for two years.

John Massard, vice president and manager of Burgdorff ERA's Westfield office, added, "It's obvious that hard work and dedication to her clients' needs have resulted in high production in yet another fabulous month for Faith. She is a great asset to

our office. We are very proud of Faith and congratulate her on her many outstanding accomplishments."

Founded in 1958, Burgdorff ERA has more than 925 sales associates and 29 offices across New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania. The worldwide ERA real estate network includes more than 2,700 independently owned and operated brokerage offices with more than 27,000 brokers and sales associates in all 50 of the United States and 19 other countries worldwide.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

AMAZING MAIL Order Money Machine turns your mailbox into an ATM! FREE report tells all. Call 800-573-2236 ext. 1429 (24 hours). US BUSINESS OWNERS: Accept major credit cards. Free advice. Absolutely no upfront charges! Repackages of size, age, credit, etc. hours sale. Increase sales! 1-800-908-0011 24 hours (DT).

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HOMEBUSINESS NEEDED! Legitimate firm offering assembly work now. Stay home and make big money. Free information. Send long self-addressed stamped envelope to: GIC Marketing, 601 W. Farmer Lane, Ste. 370-413, Austin, TX 78727.

RENTAL

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

"We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

APARTMENT TO RENT

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE: All sizes and prices. 1 bedroom, from \$300, 2 bedrooms, from \$400. 3 bedrooms, some with option to buy. Call Call "Today" day: 1-908-664-1369, extension 140. \$3 fee.

BLOOMFIELD, JAMES Street, 3rd floor, 2 bedroom, completely renovated, available November 1st. \$800 per month, plus utilities. 973-783-8987.

HILLSIDE, 5 ROOM apartment, 2 family house, full bath, no pets \$350 plus utilities. Available December 1st. Call 908-586-8449.

MONTECLAIR, NO fee, 3 1/2 and 4 1/2 rooms. Heat hot water, balcony, parking. \$995-\$1095. 973-629-8700.

NEWARK—WEEQUANIC AREA STUDIO 1 AND 2 BEDROOMS Very spacious, nice quiet building and neighborhood. Near transportation. Superior service program.

ON SITE SECURITY SECURE UNDERGROUND PARKING Call Mr. D. for appointment 973-785-8449

ORANGE, 466 HIGHLAND Avenue, Studio \$475, 2 bedroom \$575, wood floors, tile bath, heat hot water included, parking available. See Super Apartment #102 or call 908-622-6168. 973-787-4725.

ORANGE, nice 2 bedroom apartment, quiet neighborhood, close to NY train and bus, \$700, pay own heat, available immediately. 973-787-4725.

ROSELLE PARK, large modern apartment, 2 family, \$550 plus utilities, lease, security, no pets. Available December 1st. 908-241-8044.

ROSELLE PARK, 1 & 2 bedroom, modern parton apartments, parking, heat hot water included. Available immediately. 973-785-8449. 201-987-9696.

SPRINGFIELD, MORRIS Avenue, ground floor 1 bedroom, eat-in-kitchen, living room, heat hot water supplied, ideal for Senior Citizen \$375. 908-686-8234.

UNIONELIZABETH UNUSUAL AVAILABILITY 1 bedrooms available at this charming, quiet well maintained building. Select units fully renovated including tile oak cabinets, brand new kitchen appliances and modern bath fixtures. Short walk to public transportation, convenient to NYC. Parking and laundry facility on-site. Rent includes heated water. 854 Westminster Avenue 908-686-8234.

YOUR ad could appear here for as little as \$100 per ad. Call for more details. Our friendly classified department would be happy to help you. Call 1-900-984-8911.

APARTMENT TO SHARE

LIVINGSTON, non-smoker, no pets, washer/dryer, central air, references. \$450 plus utilities. 973-992-1114.

ROOM TO RENT WEST ORANGE, 1 room, non-smoker, no pets, references. Potential home, own bath. Utilities, parking included. \$350. Call 973-733-2098.

GARAGE FOR RENT ONE CAR, garage, convenient location. Maplewood Village \$85 per month, also basement storage available. 973-228-1065.

HOUSE TO RENT BLOOMFIELD, (7 rooms) 2 baths, finished basement, driveway, fenced yard, dryer and refrigerator. References required. 1 1/2 month security. \$1,400. 201-985-0918.

OFFICE TO LET LIVINGSTON - 2 LARGE offices for rent. 973-992-2540.

MAPLEWOOD VILLAGE Convenient location. Near train, auto parking. Approximately 400 square feet. Storage, heat hot water included. Call 973-228-1065.

VACATION RENTALS DAYTONA BEACH, Florida. Monthly rates for 2 persons on the beach. 3 Diamond pool, heated, private pool overlooking ocean. Spend winter on the beach. 1-800-862-9919. http://www.daytonabeach.com

REAL ESTATE

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

"We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY HIGHWAY FRONTAGE in Linden. Yard and office space available. Call Marc for details. 908-862-8089.

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ELMORA TWO FAMILY

Separate utility, gas heat - 1st floor: LR, DR, Kitchen, 2 BR's, Full Bath - 2nd fl. LR, DR, beautiful new kitchen, 2 BR's, Full Bath plus Den or 3rd BR, Oak, huge attic, basement and detached 2 car garage. Call 908-888-3000. U-4397. \$212,900.

HILLSIDE ALL BRICK RANCH

Move-in condition home offers hardwood floors, 9 new baths, gas heat, brick BBQ and oven in patio. Desirable Westminster section. Call (908) 631-1515. U-4378. \$179,000.

ROSELLE PARK INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE

This beautiful 2 Family home offers 4 BR's, Kitchen, LR, DR, 2 Full Baths on 1st & 2nd floors & kitchen, LR, DR, and 1 Full Bath on 3rd floor. Conveniently located! Call (908) 991-1515. U-4380. \$189,900.

NEW JERSEY MORTGAGE RATES

FOR UPDATED RATES CALL INFO SOURCE 808-686-8899 AND DIAL THE LENDER CODE

LOOK FOR THESE LENDERS ON THE INTERNET @ WWW.CMI-MORTGAGEINFO.COM/WORALL.HTM

PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR
American All Mortgage	7.00	0.00	3.04	Bank of America	6.75	0.00	1.92
30 YR FIXED	7.00	0.00	3.04	APP 30 YR FIXED	6.75	0.00	1.92
15 YR FIXED	6.50	0.00	2.89	FEI 15 YR FIXED	7.38	0.00	7.38
30 YR FIXED-FINB	5.00	0.00	5.08	1 YR ADJ	5.85	0.00	7.38
Countrywide N.A.	6.00	0.00	2.93	1 YR	6.00	0.00	1.92
30 YR FIXED	6.00	0.00	3.04	APP 30 YR FIXED	7.38	0.35	7.94
15 YR FIXED	5.50	0.35	2.89	FEI 15 YR FIXED	7.68	0.00	7.68
1 YR ADJ	6.50	0.00	7.92	30 YR JUMBO	7.68	0.00	7.94
Countrywide Savings, BK	6.15	0.00	3.16	APP 30 YR FIXED	7.38	1.00	7.94
30 YR FIXED	6.15	0.00	3.16	FEI 15 YR FIXED	8.89	1.38	7.21
15 YR FIXED	5.65	0.00	2.84	FEI 15 YR JUMBO	8.89	1.00	6.84
1 YR ADJ	6.85	0.00	7.98	NP 1/23 BALLOON	8.89	1.00	6.84
Compass Multi-Bank	6.00	0.00	3.04	30 YR	6.00	0.00	1.92
30 YR FIXED	6.00	0.00	3.04	APP 30 YR FIXED	7.38	0.00	7.38
15 YR FIXED	5.50	0.00	2.89	FEI 15 YR FIXED	NP	NP	FEI
1 YR ADJ	6.85	0.00	7.98	NP 15 YR JUMBO	6.88	0.00	7.38
0 No App Fee! Free 1st weekly! Zero Cost Refinance Available! For more info call Melissa Meehan 908-686-8899							
First American Mortgage, LLC	6.15	0.00	3.16	APP 30 YR FIXED	7.38	0.00	7.38
30 YR FIXED	6.15	0.00	3.16	FEI 15 YR FIXED	NP	NP	FEI
15 YR FIXED	5.65	0.00	2.84	NP 15 YR JUMBO	6.88	0.00	7.38
1 YR ADJ	6.85	0.00	7.98	30 YR	6.00	0.00	1.92
First Union	6.15	0.00	3.16	APP 30 YR FIXED	7.38	0.00	7.38
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