



# Union County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2000 - SECTION B

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## Supervisors

Sixty or so people joined together Saturday night at the First United Methodist Church in Westfield to talk about the horror of nuclear war. They sang some songs, observed displays and listened to two first-hand accounts of the atomic blast on Nagasaki 56 years ago.

Sponsored by New Jersey Peace Action and Peace Voter 2000, presentations were made over the weekend in Elizabeth Westfield, and Middlesex and Mercer counties. This was the 12th year of remembrances for the group that wants to abolish nuclear weapons.

## Left Out

By Frank Capece

The political bent of the evening was immediately clear as a volunteer folk group sang "This Little Light of Mine — I'm Gonna Let it Shine." "Who You Gonna Vote For" including verses for the homeless and AIDS victims, and finally, "No More Nuke Tests" with a verse urging me "to stand for a thermocoupling ban."

Speaker Keiko Fukushima, a survivor of the blast, was 6 years old at the time. Through a translator she recalled the crumbling city and watched her mother's hair catch fire. Next was Kenzoh Mashiko, a retired chemist, also a survivor. Mr. Mashiko observed "blackened bodies and a sense of powerlessness."

But it was a detail in Mashiko's remarks which was personally stunning and saw me actually cross-examine the elderly gentleman. At the time of explosion, it turns out Mashiko was supervising in a factory making war planes. He was part of the Japanese military effort.

To their credit, the peace group encouraged hard dialogue. They got their wish. The first questioner defused President Truman's decision, and spoke about the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Bettsen Death March, and the horrors of Fascist and Imperial Japan whom he called "the aggressors."

Three miles down the road at the Clark VFW Post 7363, John I. Ruddy Post, Elizabeth resident Edmund Proctor Jr. was concerned with a lack of aggression by the football Giants team defense in the second half of the opening exhibition game. Sitting at the bar, with friends and his son, he supervised a discussion over health benefits in between plays.

At the time of the explosion in Nagasaki, Proctor was in Louisiana getting "transmission training." Like Mr. Mashiko, he also knew something about war planes. He had been flying B-17's in combat and was training on B-29's for the final push into Japan.

Proctor knew the justifications as set forth by the A-bomb, that the dropping of the bombs ended the need for a land-based invasion which it was estimated would have caused a million dead and another million casualties.

Proctor said he was "just happy I was going home." Had the invasion occurred, even 6-year-old little Mike Proctoring were deemed to be in the service of the Emperor.

Standing by Proctor was another World War II veteran, a tech sergeant with the 58th Infantry. "We were serving in Europe after the German surrender. We didn't find out until the surrender that the reason was the dropping of the bomb. I was just so glad I was going home."

The Peace Action Group argues persuasively about the status of the German soldier. But I believe that after reading Richard Butler's book "Weapons of Mass Destruction" and how some countries continue to press to gain a military edge against the United States.

The dialogue over nuclear weapons, defense budgets, and even biting folk songs, all have a place in a Democratic society. Proctor and the tech sergeant made that possible.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

## Nearly \$380 million expected for transportation needs

### State trust fund concentrates monies on eastern corridor

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

Union County will receive nearly \$380 million as part of the state's \$3.75 billion Transportation Trust Fund renewal, with a majority of the funds coming in the final two years of the five-year plan for transportation improvements and nearly all of the money slated for the county's eastern corridor.

The Legislature reauthorized the trust fund for another four years earlier this summer. Union County can expect to receive \$25 million in fiscal year 2001, \$72.6 million in 2002, \$28.7 million in 2003, \$125 million in 2004 and \$129 million in 2005; a total of \$378.97 million.

The trust fund dedicates additional state revenue annually to transportation needs. The fund "will provide the state's largest road and infrastructure construction program ever while keeping a tight ceiling on the accumulation of debt and increasing the amount of pay-as-you-go funding going into the system," said State Senate President Donald DiFrancesco, R-Scotch Plains, whose district includes western portions of the county. DiFrancesco, a likely gubernatorial candidate next year, devised the

2001	\$25 million
2002	\$72.6 million
2003	\$28.7 million
2004	\$125 million
2005	\$129 million

plan which was passed by the State Senate.

Nearly half of the funding to Union County is concentrated on improvements to the Portway, New Jersey's Intermodal Connection to World Trade. More than \$172 million is spread out over the next four years to "create a dynamic new intermodal corridor for international goods movement and will provide a truck route that will relieve congestion on areas roads as well as save time and energy for seaport traffic." It will establish an intermodal freight corridor that supports economic development and jobs.

The entire \$129 million expected for Union County in fiscal year 2005 will be for the Portway.

The first part of the Portway International/Intermodal Corridor broke ground last month with the \$31-million Doremus Avenue bridge replacement in Newark which serves

as a gateway to Port Newark and Port Elizabeth. The 82-year-old Doremus Avenue bridge is located northeast of Newark Airport and crosses over Conrail's Oak Island rail yard, one of the busiest in the nation.

The Portway International/Intermodal Corridor program is a series of freight improvement projects that officials believe will strengthen access to and between the Newark-Elizabeth airport/seaport complex, intermodal rail facilities and the regional surface transportation system.

Assemblyman Neil Cohen, D-Roselle — whose district includes Elizabeth, Linden, Roselle and Bayway — said Union County's share of the trust fund is a "good chunk of dollars" that will affect all towns in the county. The funds will help provide easier access to the airport — an "important hub for our little region" — and provide benefits for the economy and travelers.

Other trust fund projects in Union County include:

- A new parallel structure over the Rahway River at Routes 1&9 in Rahway that will carry three, 12-foot travel lanes with two, 12-foot shoulder lanes; \$25.8 million in 2002.
- Two ramps at Exit 142 of the Gar-

den State Parkway with Route 78 to provide movement from the Parkway North to Route 78 West and the Parkway South to Route 78 East, in Union and Hillsdale; \$18.2 million in 2002 and \$4.3 million in 2003.

- Routes 1&9 from Production Way to East Lincoln Avenue will be widened to include auxiliary lanes/shoulders and intersection improvements and complete overall improvements initiated with a new bridge over the Rahway River in Rahway. The rehabilitation of the existing bridge will provide new ramp connections between Routes 1&9 and Randolph Avenue; \$8.85 million in 2001 and 2002, and \$27.3 million in 2004.

- The existing two, 10-foot lane bridge on Routes 1&9 over the Elizabeth River in Elizabeth will be replaced with a six, 3.6-meter lane bridge with two, 3.6-meter outside shoulders and two, 1-meter inside shoulders; \$2.8 million in 2001, \$11 million in 2002, and \$73.3 million in 2004.

- The Magnolia Avenue Bridge over Routes 1&9 in Elizabeth will be replaced with a new structure that has two, 15-foot travel lanes and two, 6-foot sidewalks; \$700,000 in 2001, \$1 million in 2002, and \$10.9 million in 2003.

- The eastbound North Avenue bridge in Elizabeth will be widened as part of a cost-sharing agreement with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey; \$3.5 million in 2001.

- Milling, resurfacing and handicap ramp construction on various county roads, in Berkeley Heights, Clark, Cranford, Elizabeth, Linden, Rahway, Roselle, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Union and Westfield; \$2.5 million in 2001.

- Drainage improvement in the vicinity of Evergreen Court in Mountaintop; \$350,000 in 2001 and \$1.8 million in 2003.

- A Comprehensive Transportation Planning Study conducted by Union County of Kapkowski Road, North Avenue and Trumbull Street in Elizabeth; \$1.24 million in 2001, \$380,000 in 2002 and \$380,000 in 2003.

- Traffic signal modernization in Rahway; \$1.2 million in 2001.

- Funding to construct, reconstruct and integrate multi-transportation modes to establish an international intermodal transportation center between and within Elizabeth, Newark and Bayonne; \$360,000 in 2001, \$380,000 in 2002, \$380,000 in 2003.

- Interchange improvements to Route 78 at Diamond Hill Road in Berkeley Heights; \$1 million in 2002 and \$8 million in 2004.



**HONORING VOLUNTEERS** — The Board of Freeholders honored five- and 10-year awards for volunteers at Rummelle Hospital. Above, from left, Freeholder Lewis Mingo, Helen O'Connell, five-year award; Freeholder Deborah Scanlon; County Manager Michael Lapolla; John Cunningham, five-year award; Five-year award winners not pictured are Grace Mulligan, David Perrin and Janet Yueh of. Below, from left, front row, Ise Trewbella, Mary Jane Wilson, Volunteer Guild President James Picozzi and Guild Vice President Stuart Hirsch and, back row, Mingo, Scanlon, Mildred Neylon and Lapolla. Ten-year award winners not pictured are Earlene Giambalvo of Murray Hill, Rose Marie Henriksen, Rosann Phelan and Catherine and Gene Soazzella.



## Freeholders renew deal with grantsmen

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

The Bruno Group of East Hanover will continue to work with the county to secure funding for the next year at a rate of \$95,000. The Board of Chosen Freeholders renewed a contract with the firm during its July 27 meeting.

The firm "has been exceeding expectations," said Director of Economic Development and Deputy County Manager George Devanney, and the county has received much more back than what it has paid the firm. The agreement with The Bruno Group stipulates that if the firm does not raise at least the equivalent of the annual contract sum, it will continue providing services beyond the contract period at no additional cost until the guaranteed amount is reached or exceeded.

The Bruno Group reviews and analyzes current grant and aid programs applicable to Union County, analyzes demographic data, infrastructure and "quality of life variables that impact upon county services," and "modifies and implements a development strategy tailored to Union County."

The county has used the services of The Bruno Group for about two years. During the contract period of July 1, 1998 to June 4, 1999, The Bruno Group secured more than \$2.8 million in grants for the county and submitted 22 grant applications.

During the term of the The Bruno Group's last contract, July 1999 to June of See COUNTY, Page B2

## Board sets use policy for Internet and email

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

The Board of Chosen Freeholders last month formally adopted the county's first policy regarding the use of the Internet and email for county employees. The measure was approved by the board's Policy Committee July 13 and subsequently passed by a unanimous vote of the freeholder board July 27.

Freeholder Nicholas Scutari, who chairs the Policy Committee, said the committee tried to put together a policy due to the lack of a current policy on the topic. He said there "may or may not have been indications with the use of e-mail or the Internet." The Policy Committee this year has undertaken the task of revising the county's administrative code, which basically sets the rules by which the county is governed.

All information stored on county computers belongs to the county, the policy states, and the county retains the right to monitor all on-line communications "to ensure that employees pursue only appropriate business purposes."

"Monitoring may include, but is not limited to, review of e-mail content and attachments, e-mail addresses, tracking Internet sites visited by each user, the frequency and time spent on the Internet by each user, blocking access to certain types of sites, and ensuring compliance with this policy."

"The county reserves the right to enter or search computer files and the e-mail system, and/or monitor computer and e-mail use. Employees, therefore, should have no expectations that any communication or other use of the county computers or the e-mail system is private."

## Cranford teen judged #1 in statewide poster contest

When 16-year-old Josh Harris of Cranford was given the opportunity to use his artistic talents to create a poster for an important message, he had already won the contest. He was judged #1 at the county level competition, and that it would go on to win the statewide poster contest. "Stand Up and Speak Out for Brotherhood and Sisterhood."

High school students were asked to submit posters to address the statement, "Standing up and speaking out for brotherhood and sisterhood can help prevent prejudice, discrimination and violence in my school and community." "I applied all of the high school students who took the time to participate in this contest," Prosecutor Thomas Manahan said. "The artwork that was submitted to us reflects talent, insight and innovation. The students' artwork and essays highlighted how important it is

to them for all people to get along and respect each other, and their willingness to do whatever it takes to drive the message home."

Josh Harris, a state winner, a 2000 savings bond, and proclamation from the governor. The contest was sponsored by the National Conference for Community and Justice, and the Union County Human Relations Commission. The state-level judging and award presentation was held at the State Museum in Trenton on July 13. Harris' artwork, as well as that of other New Jersey county winners, is on display at the State Museum.

The Cranford High School junior's winning artwork depicts a landscape of various individuals walking along a roadway and bridge built with individual virtues and morals, including strength, self-worth, achievement, morality,

cooperation, human dignity, respect, education, emotional well being, wisdom, honesty and loyalty. The judged rocks in the stream below are labeled discrimination, prejudice, vandalism, victimization and violence.

Harris' "Bridges" was inspired by his childhood track for "whipping out my Connects building pieces and quickly putting the pieces together to make something greater." He also credits some of the interesting insights he recently gained from a bioethics class, which "explored morals and values, and what can help a person have good judgment and be looked upon as a good person and a strong individual who can prevail and go on to do greater things."

Harris said he has "always felt the undercurrent of racism. As a child, it always made me feel bad, but I didn't know what I could do about it. Now I'm growing up, and I know I can

do something to change it." He viewed the poster contest as a great way to use his insights and talents to help build awareness and help to foster change in attitudes, individual behavior, insights and talents to help build awareness and to help to foster change by allowing individual behavior.

Harris is not about to sit back and let prejudice, bias, hate and violence happen. He perceives that people have good intentions, but do not realize that what they say and do influences people and can hurt people.

"Everyone wants to be treated with respect," Harris said. "Sometimes you have to sit back and think about what you're doing, and how you affect people, and start to change things by first changing yourself."

The kid in school who no one else will talk to See TREN, Page B2

# Governor Livingston takes county Consumer Bowl title

The next time that your teen-ager goes to the mall, credit card in hand, or even with cash, you'll wish that they were among the students who tested their level of knowledge about consumer rights and general life skills in the Union County Competition of the New Jersey High School Consumer Bowl 2000. Students who represented Linden, Elizabeth, Roselle Park, Governor Livingston and New Providence high schools competed in a game show format at Linden High School, in conjunction with Union County's Board of Chosen Freeholders, Department of Public Safety and Division of Consumer Affairs.

"Why do we encourage our young people to learn the skills that they need to take part in the Consumer Bowl?" Freeholder Lewis Mingo Jr. asked. "The answer is simple. Men and women between the ages of 18 to 34 suffer the highest incidence of consumer fraud victimization. This is simply because they don't know their rights."

"Teen-agers have exceptional economic clout," said Freeholder Chester Holmes, liaison to the Consumer Affairs Advisory Board. "They spend over \$140 billion a year and influence the spending of their parents to the tune of billions of dollars more. Some control more money than teens in previous generations

because of greater job opportunities or parents who give greater allowances than before."

"Large numbers of teens do at least some of the family's grocery shopping each week due to both parents working. We must ensure that they are knowledgeable so that they are not defrauded."

A 1995 U.S. Justice Department study learned that consumers 18 to 34 years of age are two-and-a-half times more likely to be fraud victims than those over 60. This program makes an effort to educate New Jersey's teen-age consumers about the marketplace, their rights and how to successfully obtain the goods and services they need.

Starting with a single team of five members in 1997, Union County had 25 students on five teams this year.

The air was electric at the competition as the teams squared off on the audition stage of last year's winning team — Linden High School. The answers came rapidly and showed a solid grasp of consumer knowledge.

When the final round of the contest was over, the team from Governor Livingston High School, together with their teacher/advisor Joseph Hubert

claimed the victor's trophies. The winning Highlander team members were Brian Pritchard, team captain; Marc Maccarelli; Indrani Mondal; Jonathan Wu and Steve Bergeski, alternate.

"My congratulations to the students and their teacher/advisor from Governor Livingston High School," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan. "They did more than win the county-level round of the state competition. They demonstrated the knowledge to protect themselves from fraud and dishonest business practices as well as the power to spot scams and to avert the disasters that may follow. Although they did not win the regional competition at Raritan Valley Community College, they proved themselves knowledgeable indeed and the Union County Freeholders are very proud of them."

Winning teams from the regional competitions went on to take part in the state competition in Trenton.

Any Union County resident needing assistance learning what their rights are as consumers or requiring a mediator between themselves and a manufacturer or retailer should call the Union County Division of Consumer Affairs at (908) 654-9848.

## County successful in securing grants

(Continued from Page B1) this year, the firm helped to procure more than several million in grants. Seven of the firm's 20 grant applications in that period have been approved while four were denied and another six were still pending at press time. The remaining four are either still in the development stage.

Among grants that received approval are:

- The U.S. Department of Justice, State and Local Domestic Preparedness Program awarded \$100,000 for emergency equipment and technology for domestic preparedness. The funds are allocated through the Department of Human Services and Division of Emergency Management.

- The Bruno Group helped to develop a Workforce Plan for the Workforce Investment Board to submit to the state Employment and Training

Commission, a requirement of the newly implemented WIA legislation, to be eligible for funds. The funding includes amounts of \$4,178,813 and \$4,086,000 in WIA funds.

- The state Juvenile Justice Commission approved two grants under Title V; \$110,000 submitted by the Union County Youth Services Commission, the lead applicant, and the Safe Haven Program of Plainfield, the lead administrator, and another \$160,464.

- A request submitted to U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg's office as part of the Special Projects Appropriations Process yielded \$500,000 for improvements costs to the Teppers building, a former clothing warehouse in downtown Plainfield the city plans to revitalize.

- The Hyde and Watson Foundation awarded \$10,000 for capital

improvements at St. Mary's Center in Elizabeth.

- The Prosecutor's Office was awarded a \$109,000 grant by the state Department of Law and Public Safety, Community Justice Program, for the implementation of the "restorative justice" project, which is part of the Save-A-Life Today initiative, a violence prevention program for at-risk youth that targets 22-square block area in west end of Plainfield. Three other grant applications involving the SALT program are among those pending or denied.

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved an application for \$200,000 under the Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Program for remediation of "brownfield" sites along the Raritan Valley Line from Hillside to Plainfield which the county has targeted for economic development.

## Contact We Care hosts annual 5K Road Race

Contact We Care's annual 5K Road Race and Kid Sprint fund-raiser is set for Aug. 19 at 6 p.m. at LaGrande Park in Fanwood. Runners of all ages and abilities are encouraged to participate.

Complete with a USATF-certified course, two water stops, digital clocks at mile one and two, countless individual and team awards, custom t-shirts, food, drinks, random prize drawings, and entertainment, Contact's 5K Road Race and Kids Sprint attracts runners and supporters from far and wide.

"This exciting community event draws hundreds of people of all ages and abilities," said Joan Bonner, chairwoman of the event. "It's a great way to have fun, get some exercise, and support Contact We Care's crucial service to the community."

Contact We Care is the 24-hour suicide prevention telephone hotline located in Union County. Since 1975, Contact telephone volunteers have handled more than 1,000 calls a month from individuals who are lonely, depressed or in crisis. Contact volunteers are highly trained to actively listen and deal with a broad range of human needs. The hotline number is (908) 232-2880.

Race registration is \$12 prior to Monday. After that, and on race day, registration for the 5K Race is \$15.

The Kids Sprint, anywhere from 25 to 440 yards, depending upon age, will begin at 6:45 p.m. Children, ages 2 through 12, can participate in the Kids Sprint for \$5. All Kids Sprint participants receive a T-shirt and lots of other fun goodies.

For information on Contact's annual 5K Road Race and Kids Sprint call (732) 381-0318 or e-mail [mzrace@aol.com](mailto:mzrace@aol.com).

## 'Freeholders Forum' celebrates progress

Union County's dramatic rise from the economic doldrums of the early 1990s is the subject of the latest

Bernard Flashberg, director of social studies at Cranford High School, both serve as co-organizers.

For more information about the commission call (908) 689-0028.

## Teen 'speaks out for brotherhood'

(Continued from Page B1) can count on Harris to approach him. Harris has found talking to him different perspectives.

"Once you start talking," Harris said, "you find out that he's a good kid and that you have something in common. If you don't give him a chance, you both put up a wall and keep yourselves away. And once you talk to him when no one else does, you're a leader, and you're making your own tracks."

"Once the other kids see I'm doing it, it makes them feel safe and gives them a cushioning to talk to him, too. My mom always taught me 'Do unto others as you will have them do unto you,' and I believe that. By helping other people, they'll give it back to you yourself. By working at celebrating diversity as youth, we can create more positive experiences for ourselves as we become adults."

Having a sport, activity or common goal helps Harris and his peers focus on working together, being a team, doing the best they can, and being happy. "We don't look at our individual differences or label anyone," he said. "No one wants to be labeled. And when you're a teen-ager, you're trying hard to be an individual. Labels are superficial."

Harris views "having free time, being bored, with nothing to do" as a problem that might lure kids into loitering, being unproductive, falling into drugs, or falling into other traps. "They might think later, that wasn't such a great thing to do," he said, "but at the time, they didn't see they had any other choices." He encourages adults to be positive role models and mentors, and to organize community activities, such as community beautification projects.



Cranford High School junior Josh Harris' 'Bridges' poster was awarded first prize in both the Union County level and statewide poster contest, 'Stand Up and Speak Out for Brotherhood and Sisterhood.'

"You'd be surprised how much kids like to talk to adults, and how much adults can change the way kids think," he said. "Adults can have fun with the kids, and do something positive to help them focus their energies and give them an outlet."

At school, Harris enjoys biology and social studies. He holds starting varsity defensive and offensive positions on his high school football team, and is a member of the high school's Cougar Wrestling Squad. He has been a home room representative for the past two years, and plans to run for class representative this year. In addition to sketching and drawing cartoons, Harris lifts weights and is a sought-after break dancer and a James Glasson of Cranford and is

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## COUNTY NEWS

"Freeholders Forum" television show sponsored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

This program features excerpts from the annual breakfast meeting of The Union County Alliance, a non-partisan organization including government, business, labor, academia and community organizations dedicated to economic development and other improvements in Union County.

In each 30-minute program, freeholders and guests discuss news events and issues affecting the lives of Union County residents. "Freeholders Forum" is made possible through the facilities and technical direction of Union County College.

Entitled "Celebrating Union County's Progress," the show will be aired through Friday according to the following schedule:

- Union County, except Elizabeth and Plainfield: Channel 36, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.
- Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Springfield, Summit: Channel 36, Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon.
- Elizabeth: Channel 10, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
- Fanwood, Mountainside: Channel 35 check cable listings.
- Linden, Roselle, Roselle Park, Winfield: Channel 36, daily, 5:30 and 9:30 p.m.
- Plainfield: Channel 74, Wednesday, 1 p.m.
- Scotch Plains: Channel 34, check cable listings.
- Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Mountainside: Channel 36, check cable listings.

Anyone wanting more information

or to comment about "Freeholders Forum" can call the Office of Public Information at (908) 527-4746.

## Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey is appealing to community members to donate a pint of blood for someone in need.

The Blood Center will conduct the following blood drives:

- Friday, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.
- Monday, 4 to 8 p.m., Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield.
- Aug. 25, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.
- Aug. 28, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.

For more information or to register call (800) BLOOD-NJ.

Donors must be 18 years of age. Seventeen-year-olds may donate with parental permission. There is no upper age limit for donors provided they meet health requirements.

Donors should know their Social Security number and bring a signed or picture form of identification. People with a fever or sore throat should wait 72 hours after symptoms disappear before donating, and there is a 24-hour deferral for teeth cleanings and fillings. For those who have traveled outside the United States recently, call the blood center for eligibility criteria.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## American artist pays homage to Europeans in Springfield exhibit

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

Despite the exhibition's "American Paintings" title, Brian Dursee's oils are European as well as American, with neither culture having the upper hand. Demonstrating qualities of Marc Chagall and Raphael Soyer, the Cranford-based artist represents, on the surface at least, bits of both east and west, with Chagall's rich blue mysticism and Soyer's Depression-era social realism both in evidence. Dursee's own particular obsession — the moon — acts as the link between the two worlds.

The canvases, currently on exhibit at the Donald B. Palmer Museum at the Springfield Public Library, encourage decoding, but for a viewer unwilling to decode, the works still offer excellent rewards. There's a ghostliness about many of the pieces; the figures, with rare exceptions, are not physically alive, although their spiritual life is keenly present through Dursee's skillful use of blue, and its contrast with his yellowish, pale-toned moons.

The laborer in "18th Street" is one of the artist's most ghostly characters. Standing full-frontal, an illuminated lantern hangs from his lowered right hand, with a second light burning from his helmet. There are a multitude of settings — in the far distance, an urban skyline; at the lower left, gravestones; and on the lower right, a dark body of water in which a tall-masted ship drifts almost unnoticeably, but with a kind of ominous purpose, into the picture, its course lit by the moon. Another, much fainter moon, appears near the skyline.

The laborer's face is heavily shadowed, with no eyes visible. The silhouetted form of a hobo looms just behind him, his belongings tied to the end of a long stick. Dursee leaves the viewer with the impression that the hobo is much more physically alive than the laborer; a freight train stretching across a bridge in the center of the composition implies that the hobo, at least, has the potential for some kind of movement. The laborer, although supplying the primary light source, is inert and dead.

Silhouetted forms reappear in "Into the Harbor." In Dursee's most naturalistic portrait, a head-and-shoulders image of a sailor in a knit cap confronts the viewer directly from the lower right of the composition. The face is fully lit, with the expression non-committal but affecting. To the immediate left, defying the logic of light, are a pair of silhouettes, also of sailors; the smoke from one sailor's pipe drifts up and away into the center of the picture, mingling in a stylized curl with the smoke from a distant tugboat.

*The figures, with rare exceptions, are not physically alive, although their spiritual life is keenly present through Dursee's skillful use of blue, and its contrast with his yellowish, pale-toned moons.*

Although the harbor and tall buildings of what may possibly be lower Manhattan are the setting for Dursee's triple "portrait," there is no genuine feeling of climate. The young sailor's coat and shirt are open at the neck, and although he wears a knit cap, no quality of cold air exists. A bright yellow moon lights the scene; the picture is essentially about the light of the moon, and the strength with which Dursee allows its glow to spiritually illuminate the piercing features of the young sailor.

A distinct Chagall influence permeates "Exit II," with a figure in workboots, heavy clothes and cloth cap making his way across the roofs of what may be a European village. The figure, curiously, also has a distinct American flavor, with a large, Santa Claus-like sack flung over his shoulder. Although floating unrealistically, the character is made unusually tangible by Dursee's willingness to trim its edges sharply with yellow moonlight.

Both "Empire Baroque" and "King" are atypical for the exhibition in that both seem to project distinct Biblical qualities. In "Baroque," three seated figures, one wearing a simple crown and holding a string instrument, are painted with uncomplicated geometric shapes describing mask-like faces. The center figure is blindfolded; Dursee seems to suggest that all three figures are lacking in sight, although a moral or humanistic weight seems to exist in its place. The figure in the head-and-shoulders portrait "King" also sports a simple crown. The glance is downward; the eyes — which may be closed — and the awkward bend of the neck imply idiocy or ineffectualness rather than blindness, as if the character is spiritually struggling under the weight of the crown. In contrast to most of the works, "King," although one of the smaller pieces, is striking for Dursee's use of subtle golds rather than rich blues.

Brian Dursee's works will be on exhibition at the Springfield Public Library through Sept. 1.



One of the more atypical works in Brian Dursee's current exhibit in Springfield is "King," an oil on canvas, striking for Dursee's use of subtle golds rather than rich blues.

## Entertainer's jobs help her find best of all worlds

By Bea Smith  
Staff Writer

There are many aspects to the lovely, always smiling Mary Jane Frankel of Verona — and her versatility and talents are boundless.

There is just so much more to the red-haired warm and friendly woman, whom everyone in the music industry, the newspaper field, and the public relations and advertising worlds basically know as the press agent and business gal for the Manor in West Orange. She's a food expert, a newsletter editor and writer, and most of all, she has made a name for herself in the musical theater world through the years, appearing in Equity and dinner theaters, stock, touring companies, regional, children's touring theaters, films and television and night clubs. She even was featured in a Paper Mill Playhouse musical production of "Amadeus."

In fact, Frankel recently completed an engagement with the Retro Music Theater, where she sang selections from "musicals that are not often done on stage. I got involved with that group about a year ago. We performed," Frankel explained during a recent chat over lunch, "selections from 'Paint Your Wagon,' 'High Society' and 'State Fair.' We just ended an engagement at the Daughters of Israel nursing home in West Orange — and there was a lot of nostalgia."

Frankel, who was born in Belgium and is fluent in French and Dutch, said that "last year I had just lost my parents, and I felt that I needed something comfortable to get back into — such as performing. I hadn't performed in 10 years. I did a Studio Playhouse production of 'Office Hours,' a comedy, for a three-week



Mary Jane Frankel

run in Monclair. And now, this."

She explained that "when my parents were in a nursing home, I would perform for the people there. I would do a cabaret-type program of songs. I must admit," Frankel mused, "that I sang a lot of my parents' favorites. French songs were my favorites. I actually started singing 'La Vie en Rose' when I was at Woodbridge High School. But in the nursing home, I learned the hard way — not everybody can take an evening of French songs. Only Piaf could get away with it."

"The last thing I did was 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood' with the Stroulers in Maplewood in 1990. I played a fallen woman," Frankel smiled. "I get cast very often as a lady of the night unless I get cast as the mother — and something in between is the real me."

Frankel said she started her career "doing Broadway show tunes. I did a stint as a singing waitress at the Bedminster Inn. There was a foursome — a Billy Eckstain type, an engineer and

a tenor — and me. I met the owner of the inn recently," she grinned, "and he said, 'I remember you. You were a very good singer and a lousy waitress.' I was doing a lot of musical shows especially in summer stock, and I began expanding my career. I even got a callback for the Jerry Herman musical, 'The Grand Tour.' That was an encouragement, even though I didn't get the part. One day, I had the nerve to go to a Paper Mill audition of 'Amadeus.' I'm very proud of being chosen out of three or four hundred women there that day."

"I played Theresa Salieri, the wife of Bill Gunter. Of course I was thrilled," she said. "I was working full time then, so I had to take my two week vacation so I could rehearse with the Paper Mill in New York City. I had a very understanding boss who let me off for my Thursday matinees for six weeks. But I eventually made up the time. I guess they liked me because they wanted me for their next production, 'Guys and Dolls,' but there was no way that I could do it. I couldn't get more vacation time from my full time job. I had two kids at home — there just was no time at all. It was heart-breaking to say no."

As production and development manager for a specialty food import company, Frankel said, "I used to travel a lot to Europe and Canada, and my job was the marketing and promotion of specialty foods. And I noticed that I was getting a lot of national coverage from promoting the items."

"My boss, who was having dinner at the Manor one night, suggested to Harry Knowles, the owner, that I might be a good addition to his staff. Before long, one of Harry Knowles' sons, Wade, walked me through the

Manor showing me all the sites. It was enough to fill a book. But what came out of that was a newsletter that I formed called 'Manorians.' That was in 1988. It comes out quarterly. I'm the editor, and I write all of it. You know," she sighed, "when I was very little in Belgium, I wanted to be either a writer or a singer."

Frankel smiled again. "And I was lucky enough to do both. So, I enjoy my job, and I enjoy my avocation as well. I started out as a public relations director in 1987 at the Manor, and now I also handle advertising and special events. I never thought that I would be booking cabaret acts, too. But Wade had talked about the beautiful night club called Le Dome. It was only used on weekends for dancing. And I thought, this should have stars in it. The very first thing we did was get in touch with Marlene ver Planck, and I must say, she was very helpful. She helped me pick our people for Le Dome."

"The first year was not easy," she explained. "We tried a cabaret show once a week, then every two weeks, then once every month. That seemed to be a perfect formula. Most often, the audience is always packed."

Frankel books cabaret acts "by working directly with the performers. It makes life easier," she said. "And now, four years later, I'm familiar with everyone who is really good. I get a lot of requests from performers,

and they're wonderful. I go to some cabarets and different venues in New York. Right now, we're working on the 2001 series, and we already have Karen Akers. We're working on Craig Rubano, going to bring the Three Tenors back, the Manhattan Rhythm Kings, and we'll be talking to Lee Roy Reams. He likes working with us."

And as for Frankel's theatrical career, "I'm going to start auditioning again. I'm taking an acting class with Jackie Knox, and I'm taking a class in Albert Evans' musical theater workshop at the Paper Mill. I want to do more musicals, but I want to get in a little straight drama to polish my skills — Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller — there are so many great playwrights' works around."

"If I ever retire," Frankel mused, "which I don't see happening in a long time, I'm going to audition for television commercials. Maybe I can be the next 'Where's the beef?'"

In addition to Frankel's public relations, advertising and bookings for cabaret engagements, she admitted that "I love performing so much. You can really reach the people — all of the people."

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Bill Van Sant, Editor

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## Website offers 'connection' to county culture

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the August edition of the Union County Calendar of Events, "Cultural Connections," is available on the county's website.

"The Cultural Connections Calendar is an instant link to Union County's broad range of artistic, musical, educational and historical programs," said Freeholder Mary P. Rucolo, liaison to the Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board. "The website not only highlights our talented county organizations and individuals, but also makes it easy to plan ahead so you don't miss any special events."

Union County is rich in culture, history and arts activities. The calendar reflects this broad spectrum with a variety of events, from concerts to lectures, children's programs to theatrical performances and dance.

To access the Union County website, type in [www.union.countynj.org](http://www.union.countynj.org). When the homepage is downloaded, notice the department listings on the left side of the page. Click on "Calendar of Events" and then "Cultural Connections Calendar."

For more information on the Calendar of Events or other services of the division, call (908) 558-2550; send e-mail to [scen@unioncountynj.org](mailto:scen@unioncountynj.org); or contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 635 Pearl St., Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

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# Family-owned ice cream parlor recalls emporiums of the past

By Bill Van Sant  
Associate Editor

I scream, you scream, we all scream!

Since the time scientists first discovered how to control temperature, people have been savoring the luscious taste and refreshing chill of ice cream. From the quaint parlors and ice cream socials of 100 years ago, to the inundation of chain stores and designer brands of today, this frozen treat is as much a dietary staple as the milk from which it comes.

And with the proliferation of Haagen-Dazs, Ben & Jerry's, Baskin-Robbins and the like have come an equal number of exotic flavors with more ingredients than the heavens have stars. And, as with anything that crosses the line into "trend," it has also created a new breed of connoisseur, both the legitimate and the would-be.

But when all is said and done, the elitist labels and chain-store names take a backseat to taste, pure and simple: the sting of cocoa in the chocolate, the burst of strawberry, the crunch of a fresh pecan. And when served on a marble-topped table next to the penny candy bins, somehow it tastes even better.

Nostalgic musings of an ice cream junkie? Not on your tinsy! For in the heart of South Orange Village is to be found a time portal to the ice cream emporium of days gone by.

Open for business a mere seven weeks, the Stony Hill Creamery is an homage to a time and art form of the past. Not the neighborhood franchise of a national chain, this delightful and delicious addition to Sloan Street is owned and operated by two local couples — business partners and best friends alike — who share a passion for creating not an eatery, but a complete experience for the community.

From the tongue-and-groove wainscoting to the "penny" candy bins at the entrance, from the mounted and framed artwork of South Mountain Elementary students gracing the walls to the Cone Zone with its row of kid-height stools, the Stony Hill Creamery boasts an atmosphere as appealing as the ice cream made and sold there. Here, customers are greeted by name as an auxiliary police officer chats nearby with the proprietor over a cone.

This sure isn't Carvel.

Friends and partners

Stony Johnson of South Orange, originally a Summit resident, and Joanne Breaky of Maplewood met and began their friendship while students at Johnson and Wales Culinary School. Since that time, each had pursued careers as chefs, but found their employment paths taking them in different directions. Johnson is now employed by Schiffenhau Packaging, and Breaky is the vice president of Restaurant Marketing Associates, the food-service contractor for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

It was while living and working in

Seattle, where he met his wife, actress Laura Johnson, that Stony first stumbled on the idea of an ice cream parlor. A friend at the time was employed by a Haagen-Dazs franchise, giving the restaurateur an inside view not only of the culinary angle of the business, but the enormous customer demand as well. It wasn't long before he started thinking in terms of his own ice cream establishment, but selling his own wares, not someone else's.

After broaching the subject with Breaky, the two began exploring the options such a venture presented. The Johnsons had relocated to New Jersey, bought a home in Maplewood and then moved to South Orange, just as the township was undergoing a renaissance in the Sloan Street area.

Laura Johnson noted that, at that time, they and their families — the Johnsons have three children, and the Breakys have two — would travel to Millburn when their sweet tooth started making demands. "Why should we go to another town for good ice cream?" she remembers asking.

Wanting to focus their talents on something which would, in turn, benefit their community, the foursome sought a "home" for their sweet idea.

Finding the perfect in-town spot proved easier than one might think — a vacant location was available next to the Blue Moon Diner. "We live in South Orange and we go downtown almost everyday," Stony said. "We saw a 'For Rent' sign in the window and we immediately saw it was just a fine location."

Partnering with their friends — Joanne Breaky is the office manager for Restaurant Marketing Associates — the Johnsons conceived the Stony Hill Creamery, featuring an old-fashioned, family-friendly atmosphere and a freezer case filled with a variety of flavors, all made daily on the premises.

The timing for the venture was right, too. At least, to a certain extent, that is.

With South Orange Village experiencing a cultural and community rebirth, the Stony Hill Creamery seems to have been meant for its spot on the quiet side street, with the terraced plaza out front, replete with benches, planters and sitting-height walls. In addition, Laura Johnson, who acts as on-site manager, found herself with time on her hands.

Formerly employed part-time — she had taught theater arts to pre-schoolers in Maplewood — further possibilities opened up as her children got older. "I'd been looking for something full time since my kids are all in school now," she said. The creamery had its manager.

However, Joanne Breaky, who shares the management duties with Laura, found herself in a diametrically opposed situation: matters of motherhood took her out of the equation, at least in physical terms. In mid-winter, the mother of two daughters learned

she was pregnant again, and expecting twins. Approximately two months before the Stony Hill Creamery was to cut its ribbon, Joanne experienced false labor and was told by her obstetrician that her diet must consist not of ice cream, but of bed rest.

The road to opening proceeded smoothly, despite the speed bump. "The only thing it affected was vacation," said Stony — the Breakys were supposed to join their friends on a trip to Rhode Island, plans which had to be shelved for the expectant couple.

Open for business — "We opened June 13 and it's been great," enthused Laura, whose point was backed up by Stony. "The response from the town has been just phenomenal."

That response has been from young and old alike, making the creamery a meeting place of sorts. Stony points out that many senior citizens frequent the establishment, often bringing younger relatives with them. "They've said, 'We have someplace to go now, bring our grandkids,'" he noted.

Looking out the store's front windows, Laura added, "I love the people sitting on the wall. All the kids from the town come in before leaving for camp. We think this store is going to be great for the community." Success never tasted so sweet.



Laura Johnson of South Orange, left, one of the four owners of the Stony Hill Creamery, serves up a dish of homemade ice cream to Jan Hines of Millburn.

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**The Stony Hill Creamery**  
By Wendy Ciaquanta  
A&E Correspondent  
Upon entering the Stony Hill Creamery, one is immediately greeted by the wonderful sights and scents of a true, old-fashioned ice cream parlor. Nothing can replicate the aroma of wholesome ingredients, so you know that you are in for a treat.  
There is a large glass cannister on the counter filled with whole vanilla beans, and they are more than simply an appropriate decorative accent. All the ice cream and cones are created at the shop by the husbands of the two-couple partnership. During a recent visit, Stony Johnson took our family on a tour of the kitchen and let us help out with the ice cream-making process. Together with our host, we made a batch of vanilla and the only ingredients were cream, guar gum to retard spoilage, sugar and ground vanilla bean. This vanilla is the base for the other flavors, and it everything it should be: simple, creamy, and fresh.  
There is a vast array of flavors, from the classics to some new favorites, including Stony Hill Road, which consists of chocolate ice cream, chunks of brownies, pecan halves, marshmallows and gourmet dark chocolate from De Choix Specialty Foods. Equally tempting is Chocolate Elephant, made with chocolate ice cream, swirls of peanut butter and miniature Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. One of the most popular, and certainly the most unusual flavors, is called "Liver and Onions." This festive flavor combines a rum-flavored ice cream, dark chocolate chunks representing the liver, and British toffee, which resembles the onions! This time of the year is especially nice for fruit fans. Stony Johnson told us, "Tomorrow, I'll be making fresh peach and fresh blueberry."

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# Healthy Living

## Yoga's benefits can be found in odd places

By Jack Williams  
Copley News Service

In a typical workday, our bodies may store more stress than our computers do memory.

And how about those dysfunctional postures — neck bowed, shoulders hunched, pelvis immobile, lower back muscles compressed. Terminal tension, you could call it, the paralysis of keyboard confinement.

An exercise break can provide temporary relief, the way aspirin does for a headache. But for every minute spent working out the stress, hours of constricted movement will set you back on your rear.

Darwin Zeer has that sort of thing in mind when he works with people one on one or in corporate-sponsored group settings.

Give the desk a break — a few seconds, even at the guy will do — and he'll give you all kinds of yoga-inspired stretches. You can do them on the job. Or in bed. In the car. Or on the elevator.

Zeer, 35, a San Diego-area stress consultant, put his stretches and mini-meditations in book form more than a year ago. He sent the package to 60

publishers, 59 of whom either responded with a form letter — rejection — or ignored him.

Number 60, Chronicle Books in San Francisco, hooked him up with a professional illustrator, Michael Klein. The result: "Office Yoga," a 96-page handbook of simple stretches for busy people that has been selling briskly since it may release.

**"Fun and Simple"**  
Zeer, who spent seven years traveling through Asia before settling in San Diego, apparently tapped the nerve of a quick-fix nation. We may not have time for those yoga classes we keep putting off, but we may have a few minutes throughout the day when we can take a deep breath, decompress and stretch out the stress.

More than 60 percent of work-related injuries involve repetitive strain, the kind that strategies like Zeer's are designed to avoid.

We can relate, it seems, to such suggestions as the e-mail meditation — simply breathe slowly and focus on your breath — and the kick-back log-on pose — interlace your fingers behind your head, relax your elbows and shoulders — in our multitasking universe.

There are an ankle stretch for sitting and talking on the phone, empty-elevator stretches for when you can't wait to get to the next floor, even a crowded-elevator stretch for a more confining space.

This isn't classic hatha yoga, admits Zeer, who studied meditation and yoga in India and Nepal.

"I did my own restructuring and changed the poses for the modern workplace," he said.

"Just the word 'yoga' can be a little intimidating for some people. I wanted to make it fun and simple. The main point is to spend time calming and relaxing the body."

**The Two-Minute Pause**  
Zeer, who lived for a month in a Tibetan monastery, has a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Alberta in Canada.

"Yoga is not the most important part of my life," he said. "Helping people live more peaceful lives is. I use whatever medium I can, and yoga is one of them."

It can start in the morning, when most of us respond to an alarm clock.

"We're out of bed and running full steam, relying on coffee to kick us in," Zeer said.

Zeer's suggestion: A two-minute calming meditation as you sit up in bed and breathe gently through your belly. Gentle stretches follow.

Once we have it ingrained in our minds that stretches and deep breathing can induce relaxation, which can in turn enhance productivity and creativity, the hope is that it becomes second nature.

"If I have a spare moment, in line for a cinema, for example, I'll stretch without even thinking about it," Zeer said.

Eventually, he started diagramming some of these random stretches for his clients. "I realized people needed something simple and quick because the formal yoga poses I photocopied from books and magazines were being tossed away," he said.

That's not to say, though, that yoga in its purest form isn't doing a crest of popularity. In fact, it's so well-accepted these days in the Western world that its inclusion in a book title makes you sit up and take notice.

Just remember to stretch your neck, shoulders, arms and hands while you're at it.

## Fitness strides can be made with fast walking

By Jack Williams  
Copley News Service

Given her patience and wisdom, it's unlikely that Liz Neporent ever will be walking waddled, for that matter.

At 39, she's one of those rare runners of marathons and beyond who's been burdened neither by injury nor delusions of invincibility. Translation: She'll substitute a walk for a run once in a while.

A fast walk, anyway. With a few hills thrown in. Like those 12-percent grades she negotiated the other day.

Still on the agenda was two hours of rock climbing and her daily Internet radio program that originates in New York: "Lizzyfit" on cyada.com.

"I don't sleep a whole lot," she confessed.

Walking isn't wimpy. Perhaps if she did, she wouldn't also be cranking out fitness books including "Fitness Walking for Dummies" and "Fitness for Dummies, Second Edition."

Many of us dummies have only come to appreciate the power of walking by necessity. Face it, injuries are as common to runners as holes are to socks and scuffs are to shoes. Without them, where would sports medicine be?

"If I feel a twinge, I'll get on the bike or maybe an elliptical trainer for a couple of days and let it pass," Neporent said. "Otherwise, something minor can turn into an injury that doesn't go away for months."

Not that Neporent's fitness regimen, complete with 45 miles of weekly running, isn't without risk. As a rock climber, something she does for fun and "to overcome my fear of heights," falling comes with the territory.

Like the time she missed her step and fell 20 feet to the end of the rope.

But for all her adventurous athleticism, Neporent would like to make a point to anybody who has ever laced up a pair of running flats: Walking isn't wimpy.

Especially when you do it up hills, through terrain-challenging trails, and at a resolute pace.

"Fitness walking is when you want to walk with a purpose, get everyone out of the way, and take short, quick strides, pumping your arms," Neporent said.

For many of us, brisk walking of

3.5 to 4.3 miles per hour — that's Neporent's definition of fitness walking — may suffice. Beyond that, there's high-energy walking — 4.4 to 6 mph — and walk-run intervals.

**Pep in your step**

About 80 million of us are walking for health and fitness these days, whether to meet the daily minimum requirement of 30 minutes of movement a day suggested by the surgeon general or something more vigorous.

For walkers of any level, Neporent has some tips to put pep in your step, especially in summer weather. Among them:

- Wear light colors that are less likely to absorb heat, and wear synthetic as opposed to natural fibers. Mesh is best.

- Synthetics take moisture away from the body," she said. "They keep you cooler and drier."

- There's one caveat here, though, for the socially-conscious: synthetics tend to hold odors more than natural fibers. Neporent finds that throwing her fitness clothing into a mesh bag and then putting the bag in the washer works best.

- "Never put it in the dryer," she cautioned. "That will shrivel the clothing and reduce its life by half. Air dry it."

- For extra freshness, consider an

additive such as Febreze Clean Wash, she suggested.

- Don't leave the house without a water bottle, sunscreen and sunglasses.

- "I like to wear a hat that covers the face as much as possible," Neporent said. "And a baseball cap isn't as good as a broad-brimmed hat."

- Select a shoe with an angled heel and padded forefoot, flexible enough to allow your foot to bend naturally as you stride. While most running shoes are fine for walking, many are designed for more of a rear-to-midfoot stride than the heel-toe

motion required of fitness walking.

Mark Fenton, editor at large of Walking Magazine, suggests a tall posture when you walk, chin and head up to open the chest cavity and prevent excessive spinal curvature.

Tilt your pelvis under and forward and tighten your stomach, too. It can improve your form and minimize lower back, gluteal and hamstring tightness.

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# Leisure Lifestyles The Potting Bench

## Attractive shrubbery, foliage can serve as burglar deterrent

By Jeff Rugg  
Copley News Service  
Q. I have two windows in the front of my house that are easily accessible to break-ins. I would like to plant something in front of them that would prevent burglars from entering. What would you suggest?

A. There are several things you must consider. It is easy to find plants that have thorns that will keep most people out, but how will you do routine maintenance on your house? If you can get close enough to wash the windows or paint the trim or fix the siding, then intruders can probably get to the window, too.

Maybe you could plant poison ivy. You could always wear gloves when working around it, but if you were robbed, you could tell the police to look for the guy who is doing a lot of scratching.

Kidding aside, here are the plants I would use. If you are in the south, I would look for holly, roses, pyracantha and hardy orange. In the north, try barberry, juniper and roses. In very warm areas, try yucca and, of course, cactuses.

The pyracantha, barberry and hardy orange are all so thorny that only crazy people would try to go through a hedge of these plants. They are also the most difficult to prune and maintain because of the difficulty in untangling the dead branches. I have worked on landscape maintenance crews working with these plants, and long leather gloves are needed if you want

to work on them. In the south, the pyracantha and barberry are both evergreen and have nice flowers and fruit in the summer.

It may be better to pick dense-growing plants so they do not provide an easy place for the burglar to hide when car lights shine down the street.

In all parts of the country, there are varieties of these plants that could work. Try cotoneaster, spirea, boxwood and azalea or rhododendrons.

Q. We sprayed a few weeds in our lawn with weed killer and killed the weeds, but we also had a lot of the grass die, too. We used a product that was not supposed to kill the grass. Now, it is not the best time of year to plant grass, so what can we do to fix this?

A. First, let's make sure you do not do this again. There are chemicals that kill all plants on contact and some that even sterilize the soil so no new plants can grow for a while. Even though it may seem obvious, these plant killers will kill the good plants in flower beds and the lawn. Sometimes they will kill in very low doses.

Be very careful when using them. Do not use them on windy days, and be sure to spray close to the plant so extra mist will not spread out and get other plants. It is best to use a separate spray bottle or sprayer for this type of chemical. Washing the sprayer out several times very thoroughly with soap and water will reduce the risk of problems but not eliminate them. If they are not washed out very well, the

next use of the sprayer may kill lots of plants even though it was filled with fertilizer or insecticide that normally would help the plants. You may need three sprayers: one for plant killers, one for broadleaf-weed killers, and one for other pesticides.

Lawn chemicals intended to kill weeds but not kill grass will still kill grass when applied incorrectly. Chemicals can be applied at the wrong dosage, wrong time of day, wrong season or at the wrong time in the grass plant's life cycle.

Too much of a good thing can be a problem. Never add more of a chemical than what is recommended in the directions. If the grass is newly planted and has not become established, it is very likely to have problems with weed killers that will not harm it later on. Grass under stress from hot weather or droughty conditions is more sensitive to herbicides.

Sometimes the grass plant is not entirely killed. The top leaf blades may be chemically burned, but the crown of the plant is still alive. In this case, the plants will recover rather quickly.

If the grass is dead in thin strips or areas smaller than a saucer, it can grow in from the sides. Again, water and fertilizer will help cause the grass along the edges of the dead areas to grow. Leave the dead grass in place as a protective mulch and watch for weeds that may sprout.

One of the problem weeds that may sprout is grass that does not match the

existing lawn. Watch the leaf color, shape and size of any new grass that sprouts. Weed grass will not look the same and should be pulled when it is noticed. It is very often a lighter green color, and the leaf blade is usually much wider.

If the dead areas are large, you will have to reseed or sod the lawn. Matching the type of grass will help the new lawn not look like a patchwork quilt. If you can find out what kind of grass plants were used and buy more seed or sod of that type, you will be very lucky. Very few people, let alone their landscapers, know what they have in the lawn.

Planting sod to fill in the dead areas is generally difficult due to the size and shape of the dead spots. Digging each spot out so the soil level of the piece of sod will match the existing soil level is difficult.

If you want to seed the dead areas, get as good a match to the species and varieties as you can. Prepare the soil the same way you would a new lawn during the proper season. Spreading new seed in large areas during the summer is hard even without watering restrictions that many towns now have. Spread the seed into the live grass areas around each dead area. Try to blend the new grass seed with the old grass. Sometimes it is best to reseed the entire lawn so it will blend together visually.

Email questions to Jeff Rugg at [agreenview@allavista.com](mailto:agreenview@allavista.com)

### Natural Burglar barriers

A number of thorny and "unfriendly" plants can be planted beneath windows to make burglars think twice about a break-in.

- In the South, plant hollies, roses, pyracantha and hardy orange.
- In the North, try barberry, juniper and rose.
- In very warm areas, use yucca and cactuses.
- Pyracantha, barberry and hardy orange are very thorny, so will be somewhat difficult to prune and maintain. Pyracantha and barberry are evergreen and will have nice flowers and fruit.
- When planting around a house, choose dense-growing, short plants that will not allow hiding places for burglars. Cotoneaster, spirea, boxwood, azalea and rhododendrons are good candidates for these locations.



### Composting aids the garden and environment

By Jim Neidner  
For News USA  
Homeowners plant and tend gardens to beautify their homes, and for the spiritual satisfaction it gives them. And experienced gardeners know that compost added to a garden makes flowers fuller and vegetables bigger.

But what is compost, and how do you make it? Compost is a substance resulting from the decomposition of organic matter such as leaves, shredded wood, old roots, grass clippings, fruit peels, coffee grounds and other materials that are vegetable in origin. Organic matter, such as hair and nail clippings, also work well.

Composting creates humus, which adds essential nutrients to the soil; you can buy it by the bag at a garden-supply center or make your own. Gardens thrive with the help of a compost pile. Compost supplies plants with food and improves soil structure. It also helps retain rainfall and plant food.

Building a compost pile is not an exact process. It can be started any time or the year, but fall is usually the best time.

There are various ways to make a compost bin, and the cost is minimal. Most homeowners have odds and ends of lumber or cement blocks around the house that would be suitable for a compost bin.

Be sure the bin is not airtight — composting

requires oxygen for decomposition to take place. And don't put a bottom on it; that way the nutrients will enter the soil directly.

As you pile refuse into the bin, add a layer of 10-10-10 fertilizer evenly over the top of the rotting matter. Cover the refuse with two inches of soil, and then sprinkle two cups of hydrated lime on top of that.

Continue to build successive layers of refuse about 12 inches high, repeating the fertilizer, soil and lime process. The fertilizer hastens the process of decay. When the pile is four to five feet high, let it decay for three or four months. When it is soft and crumbly, the compost material is ready for use.

Besides the joy it provides gardeners who see their plants bloom and grow to their fullest and composted material, composting is good for the environment. It reduces the high volume of organic materials dumped into landfills and keeps organic waste from flowing into streams and rivers.

For more information on building a home compost bin, click on [www.ihomeline.com](http://www.ihomeline.com) — an online resource guide of "how to" information for homeowners — or visit its parent company, JVVWEB, at [www.jvweb.com](http://www.jvweb.com).

Jim Neidner is a national radio home host and award-winning builder/remodeler. You can talk to him online at [www.ihomeline.com](http://www.ihomeline.com).

### Figurines add flora to gardener's shelf

In the language of flowers, roses symbolize love, lilies symbolize purity and jasmine symbolizes grace and beauty. Flowers inspire the romance of poets and the brushstrokes of artists.

"To create a little flower is the labour of ages," wrote British writer and artist William Blake, 1757-1827.

Today, many people identify with nature's most fragrant beauty and are leaving the city's concrete and clamor for the lush serenity of country life. One such couple, Martin and Corinna

Perry, were so inspired by nature that they fled London's frenzied film industry for the rolling hills and hedgerows of the English Cotswolds.

In a gardener's shed in Corinna's boundless garden, Martin tends to his garden of flower box figurines, Harmony Garden.

Harmony Garden is a collection of cultured marble flower figurines that have a virtually seamless lid. Inside each flower is Lord Byron, resident

ladybug. Harmony Garden tells the story of Lord Byron as he travels from flower to flower looking for lost love and adventure. The romantic garden flowers include some of the most symbolic flowers, such as the iris, sunflower and forget-me-not. They are colorfully hand painted and available in fine gift shops throughout the United States and England. For more information and a colorful look at all the flowers in Harmony Garden, visit the company's website at [www.harmonykingdom.com](http://www.harmonykingdom.com).

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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Baun honored**  
Dorothea "Dottie" Baun, a top-producing sales associate with the Fanwood office of Burgdorf Eira, was recently honored with the Quarter Century Club Award from the New Jersey Association of Realtors. This award is given to Realtors who have been a member of the NJAR for 25 years or more.

In accepting the award, "Dottie" Baun recalled, "From the first home I sold back in the early '70s to the lively market we have been experiencing in the area for the past few years, I am proud to be a Realtor. Being able to make families comfortable with the whole relocation process is something I enjoy being a part of. There aren't too many jobs in this world where you can help others achieve their dream, and even after more than 25 years in the business, it's still a wonderful feeling."

A member of the Somerset, Westfield and Middlesex Boards of Realtors, Baun has been named to the NJAR Million Dollar Sales Club on numerous occasions. She also has been the recipient of numerous listing awards in her office. As a relocation specialist, she has worked with major corporations to assist executives and their families. She is active in the Eastern Star community organization and has supported local hospital fund-raising efforts. She and her husband, Frank, have lived in Mountainside for more than 40 years.

**Ferreira ranks high**  
Olga C. Ferreira has been ranked as the No. 11 Realtor for most homes sold from January through April 2000 for RE/MAX of New Jersey. Olga also ranked as the No. 3 Realtor for dollar volume in April 2000.

Ferreira is a member of the RE/MAX 100 Percent Club and the New Jersey Association of Realtors' Million Dollar Sales Club Silver Level for three consecutive years. She has ranked No. 1 in her office in 1998 and 1999 for most homes sold.

## ERA Brokers hold annual awards event

The ERA Brokers of New Jersey recently held its annual awards event which recognizes the top real estate professionals from each ERA office in Northern and Central New Jersey. More than 600 people attended the gala event at the Mayfair Farms in West Orange. According to Anthony J. D'Agostino, broker/owner of ERA Village Realtors on Clark, "We presented more than 200 awards to ERA agents throughout the region, many of whom had sales far in excess of the minimum requirements."

Brenda Casserly, chief operating officer of ERA Real Estate, presented award-winning agents with bronze Rookie of the Year, Most Improved Agent and Going the Extra Distance.

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1 YEAR ADJ	6.25	0.00	6.34	NP	1 YEAR ADJ	6.63	0.00	6.73
30 YEAR FIXED	6.50	0.00	6.53	APP	30 YEAR FIXED	6.78	0.00	6.81
15 YEAR FIXED	6.00	0.00	6.04	FEI	15 YEAR FIXED	6.63	0.00	6.74
1 YEAR ADJ	6.50	0.00	6.53	NP	1 YEAR ADJ	6.63	0.00	6.74
30 YEAR FIXED	6.13	0.00	6.17	APP	30 YEAR FIXED	6.13	0.00	6.13
15 YEAR FIXED	7.75	0.00	7.78	FEI	15 YEAR FIXED	7.75	0.00	7.78
1 YEAR ADJ	6.25	0.00	6.34	NP	1 YEAR ADJ	6.25	0.00	6.28
30 YEAR FIXED	7.25	3.00	7.74	APP	30 YEAR FIXED	6.78	0.00	6.83
15 YEAR FIXED	7.25	0.00	7.28	FEI	15 YEAR FIXED	6.38	0.00	6.49
1 YEAR ADJ	7.25	0.00	7.34	NP	1 YEAR ADJ	6.13	0.00	6.24
30 YEAR FIXED	6.75	0.00	6.78	APP	30 YEAR FIXED	6.78	0.00	6.78
15 YEAR FIXED	6.25	0.00	6.28	FEI	15 YEAR FIXED	6.25	0.00	6.28
1 YEAR ADJ	6.75	0.00	6.78	NP	1 YEAR ADJ	6.75	0.00	6.78

Rate compiled on August 4, 2000  
NP - Not provided by institution

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# AUTOMOTIVE

## Aurora takes off after Indy 500 debut

By Mark Maynard  
Copley News Service

The 2001 Oldsmobile Aurora has its coming-out party on Memorial Day weekend as the Indy 500 pace car. It was a good advertisement because 32 out of the 33 Indy cars used race-prepped versions of the Aurora 4-liter V-8. Nine out of the top 10 cars, including the winner, were Oldsmobile-powered, making it four years in a row that an Olds engine won the Indy 500.

Win on Sunday, sell on Monday seemingly would not apply to the luxury-class sedans, but the Aurora had its best month of sales in May, at 2,654. This is the second generation of Oldsmobile's flagship sedan and for the first time it will be sold in V-6 and V-8 versions. Previously, only a V-8 model was offered.

Those early sales this year were of the 3.5-liter V-6 model, today's test car, but both versions are online at the factory in Lake Orion, Mich., and supplies to dealers are building.

The Aurora debuted in 1995 as the flagship for Oldsmobile's technology-driven direction. The momentum nose-dived for the lack of effective advertising despite the car's sophisticated V-8 engine, interior gadgetry and shape.

That was then. Now there's a whole new car. A more practical car. Built from the architecture of the Cadillac Seville, the Aurora is not a clone, but it benefits from the Seville's presence.

Every car built from this platform — including the Pontiac Bonneville and Buick LeSabre — shares a solid chassis, lively drivability and a good interior package for head and leg room.

More conservative in its exterior design, the new Aurora is similar in concept for Marriott or Hilton hotel — luxury class but mainstream enough for general acceptance.

"It's a car that has class without flaunting it," says assistant brand manager Doug Stott, who was in town recently to talk about the car. Stott has been with General Motors nearly three decades as an engineer and all of it with Oldsmobile, including work on the first Aurora.

The concept for the new model "is one car, two premium engines," Stott says. "Adding the V-6 will be a tremendous opportunity to capitalize on the woman buyer," he says. "A V-8 is a negative to a woman buyer."

In the past, 70 percent of Aurora buyers were male. With the V-6 model, Stott expects a 50/50 male/female split between the engine choices.

In the redesign, Oldsmobile is doing more with less. The body is six inches shorter than the previous model, but the inside is bigger for more head room and slightly more shoulder room. And though the trunk is smaller, the dimensions are more boxy for easier loading and stowage.

The Aurora 3.5 comes with just about the same luxury as the V-8. The big differences are 16- vs. 17-inch tires and the V-8 model's aluminum hood, suspension pieces, trunk deck and a gallon smaller fuel tank to save weight and improve fuel mileage.

The V-6 is rated 19/28 miles per gallon city/highway and the V-8 at 17/25.

The 3.5 test car had a sticker of \$33,265, and a 4.0 test car finished at \$36,570.

The 215-horsepower V-6 test car was a strong argument against paying the additional \$4,175 for the V-8 Aurora. It is quick off the line and lively in the throttle response.

However, V-8 power seemingly is mandatory in the luxury class, and the 250-horsepower 4-liter V-8 gives substantial performance. It sounds great when exercised and the smoothness helps reinforce the luxury image.

**Value and styling**  
The Aurora competes with a range of sedans, including the BMW 5-Series, Acura TL and RL, Lincoln LS, Mercury Grand Marquis and others.

For many, the Aurora will be a decision of value and styling. The original Aurora has classic styling, Stott says, but it was too much of a statement for some people.

"People in this segment want a distinct car, but don't want to be considered out of step," he says. "They want to be viewed as normal."

So they made the styling evolutionary but with some of the characteristics of the previous design, "without being way out there," he says. For most people, there will be just enough there.

The car benefits from Oldsmobile's reach into a variety of GM parts bins to load the Aurora with features without adding cost.

For example, the wood trim is real walnut veneer, the seats only come in leather, the wheels are aluminum, and the stepped shift gate is a European adaptation from the Seville.

The OnStar communication system will be available. Though Oldsmobile has resisted calling Aurora a sports sedan, it handles with confidence and precision. The Aurora 4.0 is 164 pounds lighter than the old car, and the Aurora 3.5 is 300 pounds lighter than the V-8 model. That translates to agility and a light easy touch behind the wheel.

The Goodyear Eagle RSA tires on the V-6 generated more road feel and noise than the Michelin MXV4's on the 4.0. The tire upgrade, if possible, would be worth it for those considering the V-6.

There are many sedan choices in this entry-luxury category — and even some competitors among the GM ranks, though the company may insist otherwise. The Aurora is a solid offering with refined styling, interior roominess and only those proven electronic features that enhance usability.

Aurora is luxury with a conscience and an Indy winning spirit.

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# Saturn's L-Series is a step up from the S-Series

By Mark Maynard  
Copley News Service

Come from among the skeptics of the Saturn L-Series.  
This outer-orbiting division of General Motors started off strong in 1990 with the original Saturn coupes, sedans and wagons, which have now been renamed the S-Series.  
It was an American company building cars for Americans, and a past general manager told me this division

would never consider rebadging and selling it as a Saturn.  
Times change, attitudes evolve.  
Saturn changed how cars are bought and sold with its no-haggle, no-hassle sales and service and a money-back guarantee if not satisfied.  
The cars found a dedicated core of buyers and all drifted along nicely for a few years, until the rest of the compact-car segment caught up with Saturn quality and features.

Saturn, meanwhile, didn't keep up with the industry.  
When it came time to trade in and move up, there was nothing to move up to, and the cars were little changed from the years before. It wasn't until the 1999 model year that the cars were noticeably changed by quieting the engines and adding soundproofing for a quieter interior.  
Saturn also played a trump card last October when it surprised the industry with its three-door coupe. It was the first of its kind and a fascinating innovation that resulted in a jump start of sales.

Company executives and dealers are hoping for more sales activity with its new L-Series and are eagerly anticipating a compact sport-ute planned for 2002.  
The L is a substantial move up from the S-Series, but it's not a Camry nor an Accord in ride quality or craftsmanship. The L has fairly plain styling, but it is dutiful in how it performs daily chores.

It should do well among the current Saturn owners who want something different, if it can be heard among the ones for attention from all the other midsize models in this category.  
The LS sedan and LW wagon are built from the Opel Vectra, a popular GM model in Europe. Only the very base infrastructure of the car is carried over from the Vectra, Saturn insists. All else has been well Saturn-ized.

Some of the appealing European elements have survived, such as a normal-sized dashboard that is not as oversized as the widely copied cab-forward design, a fast-looking silhouette, and a steeply raked windshield that usually adds a distracting reflection in the lower portion of the windshield.

The L-Series cars have plain good visibility for the driver and doors that open wide for access and a solid, quality-assuring thunk when closed.

The SW1 test wagon came with the new 2.2-liter four-cylinder, the standard engine, and had an as tested price of \$19,565, including \$440 for destination, floor mats and an upgraded stereo. A comparable S-Series wagon will cost less than \$17,000.

The LS2 and LW2 models come with a 182-horsepower 3-liter V-6 that is built in England. This is the first six-cylinder offered in a Saturn,

and another much-needed enhancement in the midsize class.  
It's not that the four-cylinder is underpowered. Actually, it has the punch of a small six-cylinder, but a V-6 is expected in this class, especially to compete in the midwest and east.

The four-cylinder is part of a global effort of GM engineers to create an engine that eventually will be used worldwide for the company.  
It is a sophisticated double-overhead-camshaft design with four valves per cylinder and twin balance shafts to counter the effect of vibration. It is rated at 137 hp with 147 foot-pounds of torque.

You can load a pair of parents and a couple kids and notice little depreciation in power. Performance is perky, but I would have wished for a Power mode to the electronic transmission to give a sharper response to acceleration and shift points. The four-cylinder could use it for passing or entering the freeway.

Saturn says the base four-cylinder wagon will do 0 to 60 in 9.8 seconds with standard four-speed automatic. The LS and LS1 sedan come with a 5-speed manual transmission and will do 0 to 60 in 9.5 seconds.

Fuel mileage is a thrifty 24 mpg around town and 31 on the highway or 24/32 with the automatic transmission.  
Fuel mileage for the six cylinder is 20/26 with the standard automatic; 0 to 60 acceleration is 8.2 seconds. However, the cruising radius for both models is held back slightly by the 13.1-gallon gas tank.

Credit the Opel roots for good stopping power. The power-assisted front disc and rear-drum system will bring a fully loaded wagon to a stop from 60 mph in 160 feet without ABS or 140.3 feet with ABS. Compare that to 172 feet with the S-Series without ABS and 147 feet with.

The interior is well-packaged for maximum space, though there is nothing innovative about its wagonness, as was done in the Subaru Legacy Outback or the Saab 9-5, which has similar styling lines. Both of these cars have a multitude of wagon additions for pets and people to accommodate busy and sporting lifestyles.

The wagon's utility comes with a split folding seat back and 29.4 cubic feet of storage or 71.3 cubic feet with the seats folded. The cargo floor has tie-downs, a pair of storage compart-

ments on either side of the spare tire and a cargo net.

There is 39.3 inches of head room in the front seats and 39.6 in back. Leg room is 42.3 inches in front, which is as good as it gets in most passenger cars.

In back there's remarkable leg room at 37 inches, but passengers would have appreciated the raised theater-style seating used in other GM cars to give a better view.

The driver's area is efficient with a height-adjustable seat and an easy reach to the door-panel map pocket, the deep, locking glove box and AM-FM-CD stereo and eight speakers. The uplevel LW2 adds lumbar adjustment to the driver's seat.

As on the smaller Saturns, the L has plastic body panels to deflect door dings and errant shopping carts. No side air bags are offered, which isn't a loss to most people, but it seems a missed opportunity to tout safety features.

The fit and finish are very good overall. The fabric appears durable as do the interior trim pieces without that typical GM sheen of cheapness. The test wagon had fake wood accents around the center instrument panel console and around the base of the gear shift lever — a nice, warming touch that contrasted well with the two-tone plastics.

There's also subtle use of chrome on the door handles, air vents and push buttons on the gear shift and emergency brake handle.

Mark Maynard is automotive editor at the San Diego Union-Tribune. Contact him at mark.maynard@uniontrib.com.

## AUTOMOTIVE

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BUICK PARK Avenue Ultra, 1991. Dark blue. 100,000 miles. Great running condition. \$3500. 908-273-8532.  
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CHEVY BLAZER, 1986, 131k miles. AWD. Low miles. \$1,000. 908-278-7947.  
CHEVY CAVALIER, 1996, 48k, 4 cylinder, new tires, front wheel drive, great running condition. \$7000. Best offer. 908-355-5709. Joe  
DODGE GRAND Caravan 1991. Good condition. \$2500. Call 908-851-0759.  
EAGLE TALON, 1991, 4 cylinder, automatic, power windows and doors, air conditioning, sun roof, new engine and transmission, good tires. Very good condition. 80,000 miles. 1 owner. color white with black \$3,800. Call 908-241-8972.  
FORD ESCORT 1998 has low mileage. Great view. 48,000 miles. New tires, brakes. Very good condition. 908-687-4640.  
JAGUAR XJ6, 1989, red. A1 condition. low mileage. original owner. Garage kept, loaded, must sell. 973-763-3114.  
JEEP CHEROKEE 1990, 4 door, 4 wheel drive. 135,000 miles, excellent condition. \$3800. Low miles. Call 973-763-8058 or 973-762-0440.  
JEEP WRANGLER SE, 1996, 48,000 miles, automatic, V6, CD, hard top, soft top, AWD, remote start, Viper alarm. \$13,000 or best offer. 973-762-0299.  
LINCOLN TOWN CAR, 1998 (1997) good condition. Fully loaded. 40,000 miles. AWD. \$17,000. Please call 973-376-0812.  
LINCOLN TOWN CAR, 1989, Cream. Full. Loaded. Garage kept. 107,000 miles. dark blue. \$5,000, or best offer. 973-228-7252. Leave message.  
MERCURY COUGAR XR7, 1994, Great Buy, 42,000 original miles, silver, V6, automatic, all power, AM/FM cassette, excellent condition. \$5900. 973-994-0268.  
MERCURY GRAND Marquis LS, 1992, 62K, excellent condition. All power, ABS, air bags, cassette. New tires. A/C, brakes. \$5000. 908-984-1656.  
MERCURY SABLE LS, 1995 green with tan leather interior. automatic, A/C, all power, 70K miles, front wheel drive. \$7295. 973-376-2937.  
OLDSMOBILE CALIE, 1991, A/C, auto, AM/FM, 4 cylinder, 22-34 miles per gallon. 19500. dark blue. Call: 201-972-6029 evenings. 973-783-1980.  
PONTIAC LEMANS, station wagon, original mileage 97,000 miles, good tires, good running condition. Asking \$3500 or best offer. 908-686-2961, evenings and weekends.  
TOYOTA CAMRY LE, 1997, blue, 10,000 change, sunroof, remote keyless entry alarm, 51,000 miles. Excellent condition. \$13,495. 973-762-8454.  
TOYOTA CAMRY, 1991, low mileage, V-6, sunroof, air, all power, new belts, pumps, tires, brakes. Original owner. \$2K. \$49.50. 973-736-1028.  
VOLKSWAGEN GTI, 1997, excellent condition, black, white leather seats, sun roof, automatic transmission. 36K, \$14,000. 908-687-4558.

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## 2000 Saturn LW2

- Body type: Midsize five-passenger wagon
- Drive system: Transverse front engine, front drive
- Engine size and type: 2.2-liter DOHC four-cylinder
- Horsepower: 137 at 5800 rpm
- Torque: 147 foot-pounds at 4400rpm
- Transmission: Four-speed automatic
- Acceleration: 0 to 60 mpg, 9.8 seconds
- EPA fuel economy estimates: 22mpg city, 30 highway, 87 octane recommended

- Fuel capacity: 13.1 gallons
- Cargo space: 29.4 cubic feet, rear seats up; 71.3, rear seats down
- Front head/shoulder/leg room: 39.3/55.7/42.3 inches
- Rear head/shoulder/leg room: 39.6/56.1/37 inches
- Overall length: 190.4 inches
- Wheel base: 106.5 inches
- Curb weight: 3,075 pounds

### Equipment

- Standard features include: cruise control, power heated mirrors/windows; wood grain trim; remote locking; midlevel cloth-trim seats; height-adjustable manual driver's seat; cargo net, cover and light; rear decklid spoiler; roof rails; eight-speaker AM-FM stereo with clock; covered passenger vanity mirror; two-speed intermittent wipers; rear wiper-washer; locking glove box with light; rear armrest with cup holders; front map light; tilt steering wheel.
- Safety features include: Dual air bags; steel modified space frame around passenger area; three-point active seat belts at the four outboard seating positions and top-tyer child seat attachments for all rear seats; four-way adjustable front head rests; Passlock II anti-theft system with fuel cut-off.

### Chassis

- Brakes: Power-assisted front discs, rear drums; optional ABS
- Steering: Power-assisted speed sensitive and variable effort
- Suspension: Four-wheel independent — Front: MacPherson struts, lower control arms and stabilizer bar; Rear: multi-link with shock/spring module and stabilizer bar
- Tires and wheels: P195/65R15 and steel wheels with full wheel covers
- The wagon competition includes: Ford Focus, Hyundai Elantra, Subaru Legacy

- Where assembled: Spring Hill, Tenn.
- Base price: \$19,275, including \$440 destination charge; price as tested, \$19,565
- Options on test car: Carpeted front and rear floor mats, \$70; eight-speaker AM-FM-CD cassette audio system, \$220
- Pluses: Euro-simplicity in the doors that open wide; unobstructed visibility for the driver; lots of head and leg room in both rows of seats; and strong braking power.
- Minuses: Quirky power window switches on center console; rear seats could benefit by being raised to give a better view for passengers, especially youngsters.

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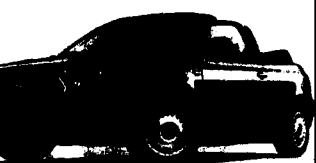
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Price/lease fee: all costs to be paid by a consumer except for taxes, tags & reg. New 2000 Volvo S80 V6M #1138699, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, w/c, a/s, v/h, v/h/d, h/c, leather, alarm/sec, 973, 000/mi a/cons/d, hid, etc. Incline central, MSRP: \$38,225. 36 mos. closed end lease includes 12k mil/yr @ .29 per mile thereafter. Down payment/1st mo. 2k per mile thereafter. Buy back/1st day of lease: \$10,500/\$10,500. Total payments/lease fee/total cost: \$13,697.50/\$1,697.50/\$14,395.00. Lease approval for credit, excess wear & tear, 5¢/mi. In primary market approved. Program subject to change without notice.



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**NEW 2000 VW GOLF GL**

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**NEW 2000 VW PASSAT GLS**

**NEW 2000 VW CABRIOLET**

VIN #YV3E1110, 4 cyl, 6 spd, p/s/b, air, am/fm cass/cd, MSRP: \$15,775. \$1995 down pymt. + \$199 1st mo. pymt. + \$0 bank fee = \$2194 due at lease signing.

VIN #YV006462, 4 cyl, 5 spd, a/c, p/s/b, MSRP: \$19,450. \$1965 down pymt. + \$199 1st mo. pymt. + \$490 bank fee = \$2654 due at lease signing.

VIN #YP115934, 4 cyl, 5 spd, a/c, p/s/b/winds/hrs/mrs, am/fm cass/cd, tit, cruise, air bags, alloy whls, alarm, MSRP \$23,770. \$1509 down pymt. + \$279 1st mo. pymt. + \$490 bank fee = \$2278 due at lease signing.

VIN #YV4809347, 4 cyl., auto, a/c, p/s/b, MSRP: \$24,800. \$1995 down pymt. + \$299 1st mo. pymt. + \$490 bank fee = \$2784 due at lease signing.

LEASE FOR **\$199** PER MO. 39 MOS.  
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\$2684 due at signing + tax, tags & MV fees.

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VIN #VA083541, 6 cyl., 6 spd., a/s, p/s/b/winds/hrs/mrs/leather, cold weather pkg, convenience pkg, airbags, alarm, Bose sound sys, Navigation, MSRP: \$42,130. \$2995 down pymt + \$489.88 1st mo. pymt. + \$0 mil excp + \$490 bank fee = \$3974.88 due at inception + taxes, licensing & registration.

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