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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2000 - SECTION B

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Hard, soft, otherwise

Let's be honest, most of us don't really know what the political types are talking about when they speak about hard and soft money. Actually, the language gap between the public and political types seems to be widening.

Fred Hermann, executive director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission, draws the distinction that hard money is that money where the contribution limits are set by law, soft money is so called third party. Hard money includes direct contributions to the actual candidate.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

Soft money, be it issue-type ads or party-building activities have been flooding the airways. Because of the New York race, and the hot race in the 7th Congressional District, we have all seen the soft money ads. They are the ads which beat up on a candidate but never mention the office the person is actually running to be elected. Usually at the end of the ad they tell you to call up the person to tell him how bad he is.

In the 7th Congressional District, the pro-choice people have unfairly attacked Republican Michael Ferguson. Not to be undone, the soft money supporters of Ferguson have done a hatchet job on Maryanne Connelly calling her the former mayor of "Taxwood," a.k.a. Fanwood. This ad really bugs me because the Republicans took over Fanwood and I haven't seen any of the so-called tax relief that Ferguson, until the campaign a resident of Monmouth County, will bring to this community in Union County.

The problem with trying to regulate soft money is that free speech matter in the 1st Amendment of the Constitution. As a non-candidate, if I want to raise or spend my own money to tell you what a great guy or for that matter what a bum the candidate is, whose business is it? If the only prohibition is not to tell you to vote for somebody, I can live with it.

Supporters of the ban on soft money run the gambit from conservative Republicans to liberal Democrats. They tell you that money corrupts the process. The inference of this argument is that the barrage of ads will unfairly influence the less-than-focused electorate. Quantity does make a difference in the world of television and cable ads.

The anger over the flood of soft money has gotten so loud that both candidates in the New York Senate race have agreed to tell their supporters to stop the soft money blitz. This is a "gentlemen's agreement" between Hillary Clinton and Rick Lazio. There is no such agreement on the horizon in the 7th Congressional District to ban these third-party ads.

The language gap goes beyond money. This year I especially like the definition of politicians who unfairly take credit for normal voter turnout. These polls are likened to "the rooster taking credit for the sunrise."

One consultant in urging his candidate to stay on message, reminds them that a campaign is like "the high school marching band. All you hear are the tubas, drums and the music." Presumably that means the candidates should be repetitive and speak loudly.

Last week a former Democratic chairman who served when the Republicans were flying high in Union County said, "In my time, soft money was the green stuff while hard money was the coins we received." Times have indeed changed.

Next week a look at two local races which rely on old-time virtues.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

VP candidate makes Union campaign stop

Focuses on Medicare, Social Security

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

More than 300 senior citizens and elected officials welcomed U.S. Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., to the Union senior center Tuesday morning where the vice presidential candidate outlined the Gore-Lieberman plan to protect Social Security and improve Medicare.

Various Democratic elected officials from all levels of government were on hand, including Freeholders Lewis Mingo and Mary Ruotolo and members of the Union Township Committee, in addition to U.S. Senate candidate Jon Corzine of Summit and Congressional candidate Maryanne Connelly of Fanwood.

"This is all about how do we as a people treat our fathers, mothers and grandparents," Lieberman described the issue of Medicare in the 2000 presidential campaign. "Medicare is a bond with our government that should never be broken, weakened or taken away."

Lieberman rattled off statistics relating to Medicare throughout his speech, including specifics about his platform. On Monday, the Democratic ticket released a 74-page analysis of Medicare, entitled "Medicare at a

Crossroads," which can be accessed online at www.algore.com.

Under the Gore-Lieberman plan, 50 percent of prescription drug coverage up to \$5,000 would be paid for by the government for senior citizens. He said that would include 90 percent of the senior population and seniors would not have to pay more than \$4,000 out their own pockets in one year for prescription drugs.

For seniors with incomes of less than \$11,000, the government would cover the entire cost of their prescription drugs.

Medicare's \$360-billion surplus would be protected in a "lock box" so it could only be used to strengthen the program or pay down the national debt, the senator said, and use interest saved from debt reduction to pay into Medicare and extend its solvency for at least three more decades.

Lieberman said the Republican Bush-Cheney plan weakens Medicare and "fritters the surplus on giant tax cuts that benefit the wealthiest Americans." The GOP plan would use more than 40 percent of the nearly \$260 million from the Medicare trust fund to cut taxes, he said.

"It does nothing to cover prescription drugs for half of seniors in Medicare and limits coverage eligibility for



Vice Presidential candidate Joseph Lieberman greets residents at the Union senior center Tuesday morning where he discussed the Gore-Lieberman plan for Medicare and Social Security.

those with incomes of less than \$14,600," he said of the Republican proposal. He claimed 40 percent of Medicare beneficiaries would not be eligible for any help under the Bush-Cheney plan leaves states to decide whether participate individually.

"When you have extra money, doesn't it make sense to give it to those with the least than those with the most," Lieberman said. The

GOP's proposal, he said, would raise premiums dramatically enough to force seniors out of traditional coverage and into HMOs.

"We have a bright future" because of the Democratic presidential ticket, said Corzine. "Lieberman represents the best of America," he told the audience before introducing Connelly. "The message that Lieberman has taken across the country is that Democrats will stand up to save Medicare

and protect Social Security."

Lieberman, 58, is the first Jewish person to be a candidate for vice president. The Connecticut senator recounted a telephone call he received from the Rev. Jesse Jackson after receiving the nomination to run with Vice President Al Gore. Jackson told him, "In the United States, when a barrier falls for one group, the doors of opportunity open a little wider for every American."

Board hires firm to raise awareness of trust fund

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

To help inform voters of what November's Open Space, Recreation and Historical Preservation Trust Fund referendum is all about, the Board of Chosen Freeholders has hired a firm to initiate a marketing and public awareness campaign.

The freeholders entered into a contract with MediaSquared of New Brunswick for a proposal that includes a combination of cable television and direct mail for the contract period Sept. 1 to Sept. 1, 2001, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.

Frank Sternberg, media consultant for MediaSquared, said the campaign will present information about the trust fund, explaining why the vote will take place and what it will mean, but there will be no endorsement of the public question one way or the other.

The county already has produced a pamphlet with information about the trust fund and exactly how the question will appear on the Nov. 7 ballot along with its interpretive statement.

"We can't come out directly to tell people to vote one way or the other," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan. A majority of the work MediaSquared will do for the county will be prior to November's election. Should the referendum be approved by vot-

ers, Sullivan said an ongoing information campaign will continue.

The freeholders last month unanimously agreed to place on November's ballot a question asking voters their opinion on an Open Space, Trust Fund. The trust fund would be a dedicated tax for open space, recreation and historical preservation. Approximately \$4.89 million would be raised annually for 20 years through an assessment of \$0.015 per \$100 of assessed value. That means the average assessed home in Union County at \$160,000 would pay approximately \$24 annually for the trust fund.

By creating a dedicated revenue source for open space and recreation needs, county officials expect to become eligible for more state dollars in those areas. The trust fund will help pay for the county's \$50-million Open Space and Recreation Master Plan which recommends various improvements throughout the parks system and the acquisition of almost 90 acres of land.

MediaSquared is the same firm that created the county's new signage for various facilities as well as promotional materials for Runnells Specialized Hospital. It also is connected to Message & Media, a leading political consulting firm that has handled past freeholder campaigns, which has overlapping principals with the media consulting company.

Organization meeting for moms will be Tuesday

The Union County Chapter of the Million Mom March Foundation will conduct an organizational membership meeting Tuesday in the Whitman Community Room of the Summit Municipal Building, 512 Springfield Ave. The meeting will start promptly at 7:30 p.m. and adjourn before the presidential debate at 9 p.m.

Anyone interested in working toward reducing the toll of gun violence in today's society, particularly among young people, is invited to learn about the chapter, take the opportunity to join and sign up for working committees. Men and teens also are encouraged to get involved, and people who live in nearby communities in Morris and Essex County can join the Union County chapter, if they wish.

Many counties in New Jersey have formed, or are in the process of forming, chapters as part of the transformation "from a march to a movement." The Million Mom March Foundation, established after the historic May 14 Mother's Day march on Washington, D.C. has created a system of local chapter development nationwide, similar to MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

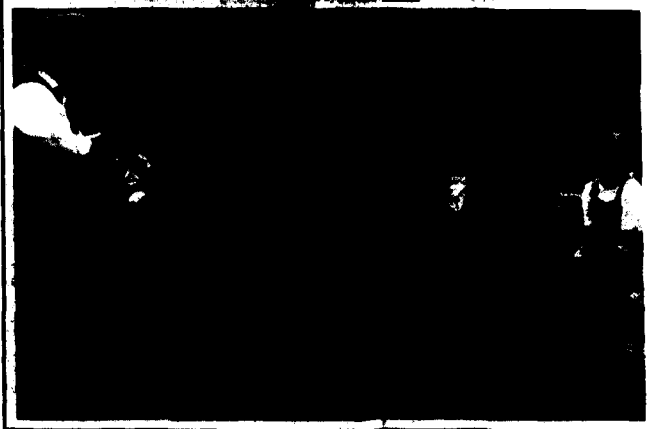
The Million Mom March Foundation will focus on education and advocacy with a primary policy goal of establishing a system of licensing and registration for all handguns. The group is working for safer schools and communities by calling for strict oversight of the gun industry and responsible, common sense limits on gun access and use.

For more information on Tuesday's meeting in Summit, call Denise at (973) 379-6864.

If you are interested in joining the Union County Chapter but cannot attend the meeting, call Julia at (908) 389-1970 and a chapter application and information will be mailed to you.



HARVEST FESTIVAL — Left, 22-month-old Hannah Welsh of Summit makes her way through the hay maze at Union County's 19th annual Harvest Festival on Sunday at Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside while, below, Ray Sullivan, a clown and magician who doesn't use makeup, tries to keep a group entertained. The annual event featured a Revolutionary War encampment, Native American dancing, storytelling and a planetarium show, a petting zoo and pony rides as well as children's colonial games and crafts.



Mothers & More meets to share Halloween ideas

Not sure what to serve at a Halloween party besides orange and black cupcakes? Need ideas for a child's costume? On Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., the Union County Chapter of Mothers & More — formerly known as FEMALE — will discuss ways to keep children safe on Halloween as well as ideas for costumes and parties. The meeting will take place at Hanson House, 38 Springfield Ave., Cranford.

Mothers & More is an international not-for-profit organization supporting women who have altered their career paths to care for their children at home. What began as one

Illinois mother reaching out to another in 1987 has now grown to almost 8,000 members in more than 180 local chapters in the United States and Canada. The Union County chapter offers a variety of activities including evening discussion groups, guest speakers, mom's night out, book discussion and weekly daytime play gatherings.

The Union County chapter holds meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month at Hanson House. New members are always welcome.

For more information call Jennifer at (732) 382-7578 or Tricia at (908) 232-7352.

COUNTY NEWS

Auditions for talent showcase next week

Calling all poets, actors, singers, dancers and instrumentalists ages 11 to 18. Finally, an opportunity to take your morning shower, show tunes and living room concerts to the road. The Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse along with many other supporting agencies are giving you a chance to become a star at the Red Ribbon Relay and Drug Awareness Day. Showcase of Talent. The showcase is scheduled for Oct. 21, with a rain date of Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Nomahegan Park in Cranford.

The Showcase of Talent is open to youth, ages 11 to 18 and may include light song, dance, ensemble acts, poetry, and monologues that convey an anti-narcotics or drug and alcohol prevention message. Each Showcase of Talent star will be allowed five minutes on stage for their act and will receive a gift for his or her achievement. Auditions will be next week. The event appeals to youth by highlighting their talents and giving them their "moment in the spotlight." Red Ribbon Relay and Drug Awareness Day is a commemoration and celebration of the Life of DEA agent Enrique Camerana, who lost his life in the fight against drugs. The day will be filled with games, entertainment, food and the county's "shining stars."

For more information or to register for the Showcase of Talent, call the NCADD at (908) 233-8810 or TTY (908) 233-8892.

Senior outreach program
 Union County's Division on Aging in the Department of Human Services will sponsor an Outreach Services

Program today at the Elizabeth Center Apartments, 509 Pearl St. from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Union County representatives will be on hand to provide assistance in completing the necessary applications for Gas and Electric Support, Pharmaceutical Assistance, Home Energy Assistance, Supplementary Security Income, Counseling on Health Insurance for Medical Professionals, and the Share Food Program.

For more information on the Outreach Services Program and other programs offered by the Division on Aging, call the division's toll-free number at (888) 280-8226.

Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey will conduct the following blood drives:

- Today, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Linden Fire House No. 4, 2400 S. Wood Ave.
- Saturday, noon to 5 p.m., Rahway Elks Lodge 1075, 122 W. Millon Ave.
- Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, Rantam Road and Oak Ridge Road, Clark.
- Wednesday, 3 to 8 p.m., American Red Cross Westfield/Mountainside Chapter, 321 Elm St., Westfield; 4 to 8 p.m., Masonic Lafayette Lodge, 1550 Irving St., Rahway, with free T-shirts.
- Oct. 6, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.
- Oct. 9, 4 to 8 p.m., Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield.
- Oct. 11, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Lord & Taylor Parking Lot, 609 North Ave. West, Westfield; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Magel's Realtors, 367 Chestnut St., Union.

For more information call (800) WJ0019-NJ.

The American Red Cross/Trinity County Chapter will conduct the following blood drives:

- Today, 3 to 8:30 p.m., Clark Emergency Squad, 875 Raritan Road, Clark.
 - Friday, 4:30 to 10 p.m., American Red Cross party for singles, 203 W. Jersey St., Elizabeth.
- 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.
- For more information call (908) 353-2500, ext. 22.

Ghost hunter founder to be speaker Sunday

Laura Miller, a founder of the Ghost Hunter Society of New Jersey, will be the guest speaker at the meeting of the Union County Historical Society at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at the Dr. Carl Hanson House, 38 Springfield Ave., Cranford.

She will describe what a ghost is and the differences between the antique and modern ghosts.

Libraries consortium honors local leaders

The Libraries of Union County Consortium will honor local library advocates during its annual reception at the Clark Public Library on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Featured speaker for the evening will be Charles Granata, author of "Sessions with Sinatra: Frank Sinatra and the Art of Recording." Granata will present rare audiotapes and anecdotes from his book.

A legislative leader award will be presented to Assemblyman Alan Augustine, R-Union, for his continued commitment to libraries in New Jersey. Other honorees include Joseph Keenan, director of Elizabeth Public Library and outgoing president of the New Jersey Library Association; Trustee Jeanette Cantalupo, Union Public Library; Volunteer Robert Hutton, Summit Public Library; Clark Mayor Robert Ellenport, and the friends of the Kenilworth Public Library, Merck and Co., Rahway, and Comcast Online, Union, two businesses that have provided continued support for local libraries, will also be honored.

Dan Weiss, director of the Fanwood Public Library and LUC presi-

dent, will make the presentations and introduce Granata.

College hosts meeting

Union County College, in collaboration with the NJ Greater Alliance for Process Technology, will host a meeting today from 10 a.m. to noon to develop a countywide consortia grant for the purpose of training new hires and incumbent workers for careers in Process Technology. The meeting will be in the Executive Education Center in the Nomahegan Building on the college's Cranford campus. Companies located in Union County in the petrochemical, pharmaceutical, power generation and food processing industries are welcome to attend.

The event is the preliminary meeting for the potential partners and those interested in learning more about Process Technology. Those in attendance will learn how this opportunity will provide their company with skilled process technicians/operators, reduce training time and offset training expenses.

Lunch will be provided so a confirmation of attendance is requested. To register for the meeting, call (908) 709-7624 or email mckennec@ucc.edu

Senior Council presents candidates roundtable

The Senior Citizens Council of Union County will present, "Your Future — Your Vote," with candidates invited on Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. in the Union senior center on Bonnet

Court and Johnson Place. The event will feature open roundtable debates on candidates' issues.

For information or reservations call (908) 964-7555

Financial strategies for retirement seminars

Financial strategies for retirement, a four-session money management class is designed for people ages 45 to 65. Topics cover taxes, pension distribution plans, mutual funds, stocks, bonds, tax deferred annuities, estate planning and Social Security and Medicare.

The first four-session series will be on the following dates: Today, Oct. 5, Oct. 12 and Oct. 17.

The second four-session series will be on the following dates: Oct. 23, Oct. 30, Nov. 6 and Nov. 14.

All classes will be in Rutgers Cooperative Extension First Floor Auditorium and will start promptly at 7 p.m. and run until 9 p.m. The fee for the four-part series is \$49 and will include a 157-page workbook manual. At the end of each series, you will have a private consultation with a certified financial planner, Robert Tillson. You must register for this class by calling Carolyn at Titson Financial Group at (908) 561-6203.

Anniversary celebrated

The Columbus Parade Association of Union County commences Italian-American Heritage Week with its New Millennium 2000 annual celebra-

tion honoring Christopher Columbus' 500th anniversary of his discovery of America, on Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m. at The Peterstown Community Center, 408 Palmer St., off Fourth Avenue in Elizabeth.

Good fellowship, pleasure and joy in the millennium will be shared in "A Tribute to Columbus," traditional parade, procession and feast concert music by The Tony Gilio Band, accompanied by male vocalist Amelio Calabria, an Italian-American ballet, Italian souvenirs, photos, nostalgic displays, the La Corte Library Book Display, including children's posters and books.

Approximately 30 organizations will be represented. Many dignitaries will be present. A special resolution, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, will be presented by Chairman Daniel Sullivan and Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella.

Donation is \$20 per person. For ticket information call Lucille Disano at (908) 486-1949, Mike Guarino at (908) 289-4640 or Carl Zarro (908) 351-3460.

Committee members include: Lorraine Demeter, Angie Di Maggio, Lil Uliano, Kate Disano, Christine Giannatauro, Frank and Diane Kelly, Al Canova, Tom Florio, Dr. Rocco Moscaritolo, Tony Carbone, Charles Scannell, Timmy Di Bella, Mike Richel, Mike De Martino, Carl Blessing, Tony La Ferrara, Bobby Taylor, Bob Hoffman, Lenny Guarino, Joey Basile, Joe Keenan, Jim La Corio, Steve Wynegar and Sam Falduto.

History discovered beneath Union County Courthouse

A little piece of Westfield history, discovered in a dusty file storage area beneath the basement of the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth, was turned over to representatives of the Westfield Historical Society earlier this month by Prosecutor Thomas Manahan.

In a quiet ceremony, a clothbound typed and handwritten transcript of a criminal trial involving a Westfield murder from the summer of 1888 was given to Westfield Historical Society President Don Mokrauer, who is hoping to put it on display at the society's museum and archives in a room at the municipal building, and to Stanley Larson, the society's curator who will come up with the best way to preserve the book with the society's archivists.

"I'm thrilled that we have found a permanent home for this little piece of history, an important document that not only reflects the legal nuances of a criminal trial from 112 years ago but also provides a lot of insight into day-to-day life in Westfield before the turn of the 20th century," said Manahan.

Sgt. Rebecca Weston of the Prosecutor's Office said the transcript was found last year in the corner of a storage area affectionately referred to as "The Sub-basement" in an old time envelope inside a file cabinet where old personnel files were kept years ago. "This is the oldest court document we've ever come across," she said, adding that she notified her superiors, placed it carefully in a storage box and just recently had a summer student intern carefully photocopy each page.

Manahan said he did not want to return the transcript back into storage, but Westfield residents deserved to look at it up close and personal. The rest, as they say, is history.

First Assistant Prosecutor James Keefe said the finding of the court case record is unusual in the county because only unsolved murder cases are ever kept longer than 20 or 30 years.

A big thanks from the scouts



The Patriots Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America recognized the Freeholder board earlier this month for providing the Watchung Reservation for scouting events including day camp. Honoring the board are, from left, Arthur Lobdell, Munsee District Director; Scouts Kenneth Toro of Elizabeth, Steven Scolas of Linden, Bryan Toro of Elizabeth and Patriots Path Council Representative Ken Maynt, with Freeholders Deborah Scanlon and Nicholas Scutari and Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan.

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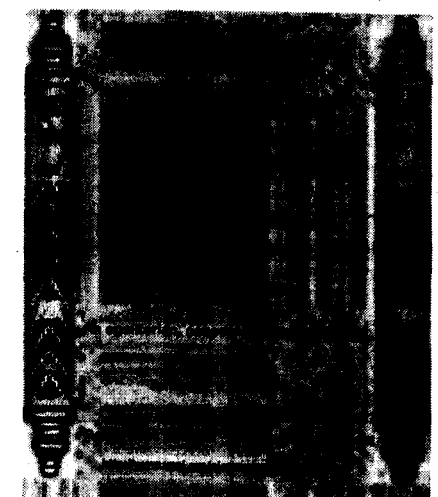
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Lindenite's novel 'took 30 years'

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

Bill Mesce Jr. of Linden, a man of many talents, recently unveiled a lifetime of ideals in one enormously creative mystery novel about the Armed services during World War II.

His book, "The Advocate," on which he collaborated with friend Stephen G. Szilagyi, was published Sept. 12 as a Bantam Books hardcover, and will undoubtedly reach for best-selling status.

The novel, in fact, has already reached such heights that the Theater Project at Union County College in Cranford last Saturday night invited the public to meet Mesce. He had dramatized the novel, and the actors of the award-winning Theater Project presented scenes from Mesce's stage adaptation of a fact-based World War II courtroom drama. A question-and-answer session followed.

"That all came about," said the author about his latest literary endeavor, "when a friend of mine, Mark Spina, the founder of the UCC Theater Project, offered to do this for me."

Mesce, who has an important position at Home Box Office in New York, explained that "Mark and I knew each other for five or six years. We met at the Bloomfield Playwrights Circle, and we became good friends. He was doing a monostrophy of a theater piece, and he was fretting about where he was going to get all the actors," Mesce said. He chuckled. "I promised to play the writer. I had one line, and at rehearsal, I missed my cue. Actually, I wanted to see what it was like on the other side."

"Mark has directed some one-act plays of mine, and we did a workshop at the Turnip Theater Company in New York. So, he thought my play would be a fun thing to do. We liked working together. I asked him, 'Who is going to read the parts in the book?'"

"That's you," he answered. "Right?"

"The book was in its early stages '30 years ago. I started it in high school," said Mesce. "It was when I lived in Caldwell. I don't know what kicked it off, but at that time, the trial of Lt. Calley's treatment of the My Lai massacre was taking place, and it started to occur to me that I might write a book about World War II. I always said that there are no good wars. We may have a better reason to fight some of them, but the same ugly things happen in all wars. It took me 30 years to get it right."

Rather than selling it as a war novel, Mesce said, "Bantam Books picked it up as a mystery war novel. Actually, Steve Szilagyi and I used to work together at HBO. That was about 10 years ago — I was manager of Consumer Affairs — you know, the complaint department. We were both staff members, and I found out that he won a couple of prizes for a short fiction. I could get the book to a certain level, but that's where I got stuck. When I saw Steve's work, I pitched my book to him. He was interested. So, we did a draft together. And we still couldn't sell it. I felt I was never going to get this book out. I had an agent. And Steve moved back home to Cleveland."

"Two years later," Mesce recalled, "he published a book called 'Photographing Fairies,' about two little

English girls who had real faeries in their garden. It sold well, and he got a movie deal. It's now on home video, and Ben Kingsley is in it."

Mesce said, "I just kept going back to work on the book, did a couple more drafts. And three years ago, I put it in an annual competition called America's Best, sponsored by a group in Florida called the Writers' Foundation. One of the judges was a literary agent, Richard Derus of CMLA. He said there were two things about it that were saleable. He said this was a mystery and in his eyes, he saw it as

the first in a series. Bantam was his fourth shot."

As luck would have it, Mesce said, "I had a dream of an editor, Kate Miciak. She not only understood the book, but she had a real gift. She was so in tune with the book, she fine-tuned it. She has great taste, great sensibility. She treated me beautifully."

Mesce mentioned that "I was in publication 20 years ago. So, I can understand all that took place. And there is a sequel to 'The Advocate,' and some of the same characters. See WRITER, Page B4

Mystery war novel forces reader to make conclusions

One often doesn't come across a mystery war novel. In fact, it is rather unique. In the works for 30 years, Bill Mesce Jr. of Linden has created a masterpiece of a book about the United States Armed services and the Air Corps in England during World War II.

With exciting, though puzzling moments on every one of the 302 pages of his book, Mesce collaborated on "The Advocate" with a friend, Stephen G. Szilagyi, and a reader would be delighted to consume it all in one reading. The book was published as a Bantam Books hardcover.

Where are the justifications of murder in the military even during wartime? And why would one pilot with an excellent war record and an emotional attachment to the pilots who serve with him suddenly turn around and murder one of his own? And then, although light-mouthed, admit his foibles and prepare himself for the worst?

All of these questions — deliberately — are not answered in the book; they are pondered by the reader, who must come to his own conclusions.

In "The Advocate," Mesce and Szilagyi weave a story, set in the England of 1943 when American flyers continue to fight bitterly against the Luftwaffe. It all begins when an old farmer witnesses an American P-47 Thunderbolt returning from a bombing, firing at a wounded American P-47, sending it crashing to earth, killing Dennis O'Connell, and upon seeing the farmer-witness, Charles Gresham, turns and fires at him.

A military crime such as this warrants a lawyer from the Judge Advocate's office, an overweight young man, who has no experience with crime and murder. His name is Major Harry Voss, and despite his initial reluctance to take the case, appears to be more realistic and energetic than the two lawyers who are assigned to assist him. He must prove that the incident was not an accident, but a clear case of murder.

But everytime he advances into the crime, he has obstacles thrown into his path by high-ranking officers. Really, the revelation of such an inhuman crime among Americans would not match the pure reputation of the American military in the war.

Off the Shelves

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

The characters in "The Advocate" are drawn by its authors with such precision, such realism that a reader could reach out and talk to them, identify with them, commiserate with them. And there's an underlying narration by a British journalist, which allows the story to run even more smoothly. There is Harry's friend, Col. Joe Ryan, a smooth-talking, handsome lawyer from the Advocate's Office who enlists Harry's aid to find enough evidence to hang Major Markham.

Then there's the cigar-smoking Major Van Damme, who was in charge of the engineers and who searched through the wreckage, one of the many people interviewed by Harry Voss. The other characters in the book, especially Elizabeth McAnn, O'Connell's girl friend, who revealed more about his reluctance to fight in the war than she had intended, was more food for thought for Voss.

All of the characters stand out in this very fine mystery book, that also offers food for thought for its readers. The whys are whereof are for the reader to determine. The authors are really geniuses in their invention of a "true" crime story, and in a footnote, one must credit Mesce in knowing and loving dogs, because he gives a description of a dog, the farmer's dog, with an inner knowledge and deep feeling.

"The Advocate," which begins with a mystery, has a slam bang ending — one that not even the most knowledgeable mystery fan would have guessed — from which this reviewer still has not recuperated.

Another novel is forthcoming by Mesce — solo — in which he again will star Harry Voss — a character every mother would love to care for and every wife would love to cuddle.

Make sure this book is added to a reader's bookshelf. It is one of the most fascinating mystery books this reviewer has ever read. It's a true winner!



'Island II: Apart,' a monotype on silk, is among the works by Maplewood artist Barrie Andrews currently on exhibit at the Donald B. Palmer Museum at the Springfield Public Library through Oct. 7.

Artist's work survives without rhetoric

The title of Maplewood artist Barrie Andrews' current exhibition at the Springfield Public Library, "Terra Alchemy," is too grand. Andrews' delicate paintings and prints certainly don't need rhetoric to make them go.

The title refers to a brief poem accompanying the show. Composed by the artist, the poem points the viewer toward the two most important characteristics of Andrews' work: the use of silk and the box-wax painting medium of encaustic.

In her poem, the artist explains what should really only be experienced about her work. Rather than tip the viewer off to what's coming, Andrews would have done better by allowing the viewer to discover, on their own, the rewards of encaustic and silk. The discovery of the material is the show's greatest asset.

Both materials make themselves known up close. Encaustic — an ancient technique currently undergoing a revival — involves the tricky task of applying one wax layer over another. Properly handled, it creates an almost dimensional effect, drawing the viewer into the picture's surface. Andrews, astonishingly, has been working in the medium for only two months. The exhibition's three best works demonstrate a sureness of hand almost unimaginable for an artist so new to a medium.

"Hot Bluffs," "Fire Island" and "Riverbed" all easily bring to mind the abstract quality — and intense perceptual experience — of late Monet. Executed in rich, household colors applied with weaving, flickering and daubed brushstrokes, the three small works command the show, bubbling off the wall like blisters.

Although literally embedded in the dense wax surface, the colors are revealed, up close, to be floating above and beneath one another. They're preserved, as if in amber, but they're also palpably alive; "Hot

In the Galleries

By Joe Lugario
Staff Writer

Bluffs," a reflection of trees in water, is especially striking in its use of underlying colors. Small as it is, the painting easily engages the viewer, submerging them in its waxy skin.

"Fire Island" and "Riverbed," like "Bluffs," offer brilliant color experiences buried within the wax. "Island" is the most abstract of all the artist's pieces, with its pale yellow ground serving as the perfect support for Andrews' nearly fluorescent reds and pinks. Like Monet's waterlilies, there's no real sense of perspective here; the viewer has no idea where they're standing in relation to the subject. The title indicates that the multi-colored mass in the lower left of the composition is an island, but the lack of realistic perspective leaves the subject in question. Like Monet in his waterlily paintings, the artist might be taking a close look directly into the water's surface.

The greens, blues and marbled whites of "Riverbed" rush across the composition in a big loop. Again, Andrews takes delight in the lushness of color and the potential for depth; despite the thickness of the painting's surface, the viewer feels encouraged to try to dip their hand into the rushing — and presumably cool — water.

The silky surfaces of Andrews' prints, like the encaustics, reveal themselves only as the viewer steps closer. But the style of the work is much different here; the abstract quality of late Monet is gone, replaced by a representational approach. The prints are oriental — a style encouraged, possibly, by the use of the silk itself.

"Temporal Falls" has the most oriental look of any of the artist's pieces. Severely vertical, low-key in color and very flat, Andrews gives almost as much focus to the bridge spanning the two steep rock faces as he does to the waterfall itself. The silk here has a simple but extraordinary effect; it gives sparkle not only to the falling water, but a sheen to the rocks and bridge and a feeling of spraying mist that fills the entire composition.

Entirely different in tone, "Island I: Refuge" has none of the idyllic feeling of "Temporal Falls." Here, the island seems somewhat unstable — there's an implied threat of it drifting away, a quality enhanced by the impression of wind stirring the water and grasses. The faint, almost sickly greens and brownish paper sky add to the threatening aura; there seems to be a storm coming. But under Andrews' muted, dirty colors, the silk plays through, suggesting perfectly the fading of light under storm clouds.

"Terra Alchemy" by Barrie Andrews will be on view at the Donald B. Palmer Museum at the Springfield Public Library through Oct. 7.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

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Writer credits teacher with early inspiration

(Continued from Page B3) including the hero-lawyer, Harry Voss, are in it. It is tentatively called "The Hero." It's already written. Actually, this was part of a package deal with Bantam, for two books. On the sequel, I've gone solo. It took 18 months to design the first draft. And sometime during that time, my wife got pregnant for the second time, and I had to get it finished before the baby arrived. Kate and I did two rewrites, and the first draft was out of control — a 900-page manuscript. We finally got it down to 380 pages. Part of the book takes place in Newark in 1943.

Born in Newark, Mesce lived in East Orange, then moved to the Heller Parkway section near Branch Brook Park. When he graduated from the University of South Carolina, Mesce "wanted to get into movie-making. I had a great writing teacher, Price Fox,

McKesson/HBOC, as a medical biller for doctors and hospitals.

"We've lived in Linden for about two years, and we really like Linden, tank farms and all."

Mesce said that his father, and his father's two brothers were in World War II. The youngest is still alive, he said. "My father, Bill Sr., served in Europe first. He married my mother, Lucy, 10 years after the war, and she told me that he had nightmares of the war all of his life — something that scared his mind. His brother, Tommy, was in the Air Corps and served in the China-Burma-India sectors. Larry, the youngest, was in the Navy. So, there was one on the ground, one in the air, and one on the water. None of them ever talked about the war. I learned about them from my mother. You'll never know how horrible it was.

"I first got my father's records from

other wars didn't compare with World War II in scale. Fifteen million men served in World War II. We had no concept of what it was like. This was a desperate war — a fight for western civilization. It's hard to appreciate today. There was no question in any one's mind that we had to fight. We had no choice. And a lot of service people will carry the memory to their graves.

"Who knew when you were in school that you sat next to someone who was going to be sent to some other world where you're going to kill another human being, or some stranger was going to try to kill you."

In "The Advocate," Mesce said, "I

don't really know where I left off in writing and Sieve began. It is our book, and the thing that Sieve and I are most proud of is that there are no real villains in the book. The guy is bad because it's the situation, the war that makes people do bad things. The war eventually made good men do bad things."

Mesce's third book, he said, would be for Bantam. "We want to try to give Harry Voss a vacation and it will give me a break from Harry. But if we feel a good story with Harry in the future, we'll bring him back. Right now, we're going to give him a rest. "I really want to do something else," he said. "It's time."



Photo By Jeff Grant

Bill Mesce of Linden beams over his recent novel, 'The Advocate,' which was staged by the Theater Project at Union County College this past weekend. A sequel is in the works.

'When I grew up, for my generation, it was still a part of the American culture. We have to renew interest in World War II because that generation is dying off.'

— author Bill Mesce Jr.

who is still there. I had worked for studios as well. I then decided that prose would be my career. Ironically, I did get script work and even got published. I had won some writing contests. I worked on a low-budget film called "Bersace Murder." I took my name off it when I saw it, but I kept the down payment.

"I did one decent movie," he said, "and it was called 'Road Ends' with Dennis Hopper. It's a small movie, but a nice little thriller and made its debut on Cinemax. I really enjoyed writing prose, and started getting good at it. I became real serious about writing prose. But I'm still keeping my day job at HBO. I've been there for 18 years now."

Mesce, who has been married to Maribel for nearly three years, talked about his wonderful children, Gabriella, 2, and Caitlyn, seven months old. His wife works for

the Army and found he was entitled to service medals — two bronze stars. He didn't take them with him when he got out of service. His brother, Larry, sent for his medals. My wife had them framed, and presented them to me as a birthday gift. You know," Mesce sighed, "I was 14 years old when my father died. When I grew up, for my generation, it was still a part of the American culture. We have to renew interest in World War II because that generation is dying off."

He said that the movie "Saving Private Ryan" was a "huge jog to the memory that this was a horrible war, and one can't imagine what it was like. It was a world war from one side of the world to the other. By the end of the war, one of every 10 people had served in the military. The whole country was involved. It was not as dramatic as the Vietnam War, where we were still insulated from it. All the

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Healthy Living

Over-the-counter pain killers can prove deadly in runners

By Alison Ashton
Copley News Service
Runners Beware

Long distance runners pop over the counter painkillers like candy, but some popular anti-inflammatory drugs combined with too much water could be deadly.

In a study of marathon runners, researchers at Houston's Baylor College of Medicine uncovered a link between regular use of a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, high water intake and an incidence of hyponatremia. The potentially fatal disorder occurs when blood sodium levels plummet.

Commonly used pain relievers include Aleve and Advil.

"These findings mainly affect marathon runners who have achy joints or pain and routinely take nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories," says Dr. Juan Carlos Ayus, the study's principal investigator. "These medications can impair the kidneys' ability to excrete water."

Hyponatremia can lead to fluid in the brain or swelling of the brain. The latest study examined seven marathoners who had been admitted to the hospital with nausea, vomiting and fluid in the lungs. One patient died. Ayus also found evidence to confirm an earlier study that showed women

are more susceptible to hyponatremia and exhibit more symptoms.

Although there is a higher percentage of male marathoners, five of the seven patients in Ayus' study were women.

"I strongly believe that this is a common condition that often goes undiagnosed, especially for young females," says Ayus. "Although this study focused on marathon runners, we believe that the findings can also apply to other forms of heavy exercise."

Athletes and weekend warriors should use NSAIDs judiciously for headaches and acute pain but seek other ways to cope with the chronic aches and pains of heavy training. And never pop more than the recommended dose.

Honey Do

People spend money on fancy sports gear for an extra boost of energy, but an effective, cheaper alternative is found in that cute, bear-shaped bottle of honey.

"During the past three decades, carbohydrate sports gels have become a popular means of providing energy to athletes," says Dr. Richard Kreider, of the University of Memphis Exercise and Sport Nutrition Laboratory.

"We found honey to be one of the most effective forms of carbohydrate

to ingest just prior to exercise. This could translate into greater endurance during a workout or race."

Granted, Kreider's clinical trials are sponsored by the National Honey Board, but Winnie the Pooh's favorite treat has some solid benefits for athletes.

"Honey appears to be a carbohydrate source that is relatively mild in its effects upon blood sugar compared to other carbohydrate sources," Kreider explains.

The sweet goo has a low glycemic index, which means the body is less likely to experience a sugar spike. Higher glycemic carbs, such as dextrose or sucrose, can cause fatigue due to a release of insulin and quickened use of glycogen stores in the muscles.

If honey is helpful before a tough workout, what should you munch post-exercise? Dr. Rebecca Reeves, a registered dietitian at Baylor's Behavior Medicine Research Center, recommends a carbohydrate-rich meal to replenish the body's glycogen stores. After workouts, she says, foods with a higher glycemic index are best. So when you cross the finish line, reach for a bagel, baked potato or high-glucose sports drink.

Teen Cuisine

As kids grow into teens, they start munching junk food instead of health-

ier fare. That won't surprise many parents, but just how bad is the news?

Nearly 300 Minnesota schoolchildren were asked about their dietary habits in grades three, five and eight. In each grade, kids were asked what they'd had to eat and drink in the previous 24 hours. In third grade, 99 percent of the children said they ate breakfast, but by eighth grade the number had dropped to 85 percent.

Fruit and vegetable consumption was had in third grade — less than two-thirds of the kids recalled eating at least a quarter-cup of fruit and less than 60 percent ate at least a quarter-cup of vegetables during the previous day. Among eighth graders, the numbers were truly dismal: just 37 percent reported eating fruits and 42 percent ate vegetables. As the kids got older, the proportion who drank soft drinks nearly tripled, while the proportion who drank milk and fruit juice plummeted.


Researchers were surprised to find kids' consumption of high-fat, sweet snacks and fast food didn't change that much between third and eighth grade. And by eighth grade, kids actually ate significantly fewer high-fat, salty snacks than they had in third and fifth grades.

This study should give parents and educators a clearer understanding of

how kids' eating habits change over time, says lead author Leslie A. Lytle Ph.D., R.D., of the Division of Epidemiology at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.

"Unfortunately, the changes we found were toward less healthful


diets," she notes. "These findings suggest that we need to pay more attention to nutrition education in the elementary — and middle school years and to providing environments that support young people's choice of healthful foods."



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Of course, not every case of fever accompanied by vomiting and drowsiness is caused by some form of meningitis, but if you are in doubt, it is always best to have a child's condition professionally evaluated. For committed pediatric care in your neighborhood, call NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE SERVICES, at 908-687-3300 to schedule a consultation at our office, conveniently located at 2780 Morris Avenue, Suite 2A in Union.

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New law addresses treatment of hemophiliacs

Gov. Christine Whitman recently signed into law legislation Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen sponsored to require managed care plans to contract with home care providers that meet quality standards for treating hemophiliacs.

"Hemophilia is a sensitive disorder that requires special treatment," said Cohen, D-Union. "Inattentive or insufficient care could have tragic consequences when a patient suffers from hemophilia."

Cohen sponsored the measure — A-2120 — with Assemblyman Christopher "Kip" Whelan, R-Somerston, in an effort to provide consistent and uninterrupted care for hemophiliacs. Under the new law, providers would have to comply with standards adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Hemophilia Association of New Jersey.

The standards outlined in the new law state that a provider must:

- Provide services pursuant to a prescription from the individual's doctor and not make substitutions of

blood without approval from the doctor;

- Provide all brands of clothing products and ancillary supplies to execute treatment regimens as prescribed by their doctor;
- Have the ability to deliver blood products, medications and nursing services within three hours and maintain a 24-hour on-call service;
- Demonstrate knowledge of bleeding disorders;
- Demonstrate the ability to properly maintain records, including third party reimbursements;

• Provide for the removal of hazardous waste; and

• Provide covered persons with a written copy of the agency's policy regarding discontinuation of services and the expected costs of medications and services provided by the agency that are not covered by the health plan.

The law directs the Department of Health and Senior Services to compile a list of eligible providers who comply with the above requirements and make that list available to the public. Finally, the law requires insurers to

reimburse laboratories with an outpatient service at state-designated hemophilia centers regardless of whether the lab is contracting with a participating provider under certain conditions.

"Some home care providers are not knowledgeable of the treatment needed by hemophiliacs and therefore do not provide the necessary services that are crucial to the patient," said Cohen. "Hemophilia is a serious medical condition that requires nothing less than the most competent of care."

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After being diagnosed with diabetes in 1969, I know to watch for infections. But I didn't realize how quickly a lesion the size of a pin could turn into a life-threatening situation. I had already lost a bone in my foot. And, virtually overnight, I developed an infection that turned into gangrene and cellulitis. I couldn't even get out of a wheelchair. I was told I would have to lose two toes.

Then a physician at the Wound Healing Center encouraged me to begin treatment. The results were nothing short of a miracle. My husband and I took our first vacation in seven years. And I can even run around after my grandchildren. I really owe them my life.

Come to the Wound Healing Center at Trinitas Hospital. Our specially-trained staff offers a variety of specialized treatments and individualized therapies. For more information or to schedule an appointment call 908-527-5480.

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St. Elizabeth Hospital and Elizabeth General Medical Center are now one.

Healthy Living

New guidelines could mean healthier diets, longer lives

By Jack Williams
Copley News Service

Every so often, we're reminded that the typical American lifestyle is a federal offense.

We don't exercise enough. We don't eat enough fruits, vegetables and whole grains. And in far too many instances, we weigh more than government guidelines suggest. This despite the proliferation of low-calorie sugar substitutes and low-fat products in the marketplace.

So, enter the food and fitness police.

Failure to comply with their guidelines could result in a stiff penalty. Such as a shorter, less-f fulfilling life.

When it started issuing dietary guidelines in 1980, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's board of scientific researchers stuck to nutrition. Recently, with the addition of the Body Mass Index, it's telling us our appropriate weight and issuing a recommended daily allowance of

30 minutes of recommended daily activity.

That doesn't necessarily mean structured exercise, such as jogging or kickboxing. Just movement, continuous or in 10-minute segments. Brisk walking, gardening, housework and washing the car even qualify here.

The idea is to motivate the remarkably large segment of the population that equates exercise with agony.

"Besides that fitness message, the USDA is going back to basics with the food pyramid," said Georgia Kostas, a registered dietitian who founded the nutrition program for the Cooper Aerobics Center in Dallas.

The base of the pyramid, fresh produce and grains, is where most of us fall short. Enriched grains are taking on a new dimension because most are fortified with folic acid, which protects against birth defects and reduces an amino acid in the heart muscle — homocysteine — that is a risk factor for heart disease.

"Studies show that the average American still gets six to seven servings a day of grains, which is on the low end, ideally, it should be all least eight or nine," Kostas said.

Two years ago, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration began requiring that folic acid be added to flour, breads and other grains. The nutrient also is available in leafy, dark-green vegetables, dried beans and peas, citrus fruits, and juices and berries.

By following the USDA Food Pyramid Guide — three to five servings of vegetables, two to four servings of fruits and six to 11 servings of grains daily — you can satisfy your need for from 400 to 500 micrograms of folic acid a day.

In interpreting dietary guidelines, keep in mind the government's definition of a serving. With grains, for example, one serving is a slice of bread, a half cup of rice, pasta or cereal, a pancake or a corn tortilla.

One of the reasons that we're short-changing ourselves on grains and fresh produce is that "we tend to go overboard on portions of meat, oils and fatty foods," Kostas said.

"One to two meals a day are consumed out of the home each day by

most Americans, which puts us at risk for inappropriate portions."

If anything, the emphasis on basics in the U.S. dietary guidelines is a refreshing departure from the alphabet soup issued by the National Academy of Sciences.

Just remember that if you follow the U.S. dietary guidelines, you'll be somewhere in the ballpark.

This newspaper is a reliable means of researching the community market. To boost your business in the community, call our ad department at 908-686-7700 today.

Gotta have heart



Marking the recent community kickoff for the American Heart Association's 2000 Union County American Heart Walk are, from left, Henry J. Ross, president of the Union County Alliance and chairman of 2000 Union County American Heart Walk, and Elizabeth resident Gerald Haass, executive director of the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce and co-chairman of 2000 Union County American Heart Walk. The 2000 theme of American Heart Walk is "Step Out. Save Lives! — Strengthen the Chain of Survival." Union County American Heart Walk will be held for the first time at Jersey Gardens Mall in Elizabeth Oct. 8. For information, call the American Heart Association at (973) 376-3636.

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Mental health advocacy group meets in Clark

Individuals with an interest in mental health advocacy and education are invited to join a new Union County affiliate of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. A reorganization meeting for new members will be held today from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Clark Public Library.

The meeting will feature a lecture by I. Harold Smelson, N.D., F.A.P.A., titled "Ask the Doctor About Evaluation, Diagnosis and Other Mental Health Issues". Dr. Smelson is a clinical associate professor of the New Jersey Medical School at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

NAMI Union County is an affiliate of NAMI New Jersey, a statewide coalition of self-help support and advocacy groups, comprises of families, friends and individuals who are affected by mental illness. Through education, support and advocacy activities, NAMI Union County fulfills its mission to improve the quality of life of individuals who suffer from mental illness and their families.

The Clark Public Library is located at 303 Westfield Ave. For more information, contact Joan Mabalick at (732) 381-7719 or Polly Ashelman at (908) 245-4937.

Living is easy in Summit

Researchers have found that successful aging is determined more by individual lifestyle choices in exercise, diet and the pursuit of mental challenges than by genetic inheritance.

Spring Meadows of Summit, a new assisted living community being developed by Capital Senior Living Corporation, offers an aging model that promotes health, longevity and quality of life. Some of the program's components include individualized care programs; continued education for life-long learning, including a computer center, physical fitness and wellness programs; and social and purposeful interaction among residents, their families and the community.

To learn more about this new option for seniors or to see the model apartments, call (908) 522-8852.

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On Saturday, October 14, 2000 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Trinitas Hospital, the Union County Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project and the American Cancer Society will sponsor a free breast screening. The breast screening will take place in the Oncology Treatment Center at Trinitas Hospital, Jersey Street Campus, 925 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth. The three part screening will consist of a physical examination by a qualified physician as well as education on breast self-examination and a mammogram. This free screening is by appointment only for:

- Women 40 years of age or older
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- Individuals who are uninsured or under insured*
- Women who have not had a mammogram in the last year

An appointment is necessary, so please call 1-800-525-3462 to register. Free parking is available.

*If you do not meet these requirements but are 40+, a reduced fee of \$50 for your mammogram will be payable at time of screening. Later you may submit this fee to your insurance carrier.



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Union County Arts Center reports record ticket sales

With a refreshed and energetic staff, and a line-up that boasts the likes of Hal Holbrook among others, the Union County Arts Center reported in the first week of ticket availability for the 2000-01 season a 72 percent increase in sales as compared to last year's record-setting season.

With an exciting mix of veterans and newcomers, the Union County Arts Center staff worked hard the last several months in preparation for what promises to be its best season ever.

Among the latest staff additions, Box Office Manager Christine Ayala believed the Union County Arts Center "had everything under control" despite a mounting buzz of anticipation for the opening of ticket sales this past Aug. 1. Recently appointed Director of Marketing and Public Relations Paul V. Fantini recognized "a good omen," referring to the con-

stant hum of telephones and conversations.

"If this is a sign of what is to come, we are going to have a very successful season," Fantini commented.

Executive Director Joseph A. Mancuso attributes this early success not only to its veterans who have served many years to bring the Union County Arts Center to the fore of quality arts presenting in New Jersey, but also to its latest additions and appointees.

Among the first offerings of the 2000-01 season will be an appearance by the Westfield Symphony Orchestra Oct. 7, award-winning actor Hal Holbrook in his one-man show, "Mark Twain Tonight!" Oct. 14, and the pop group ROKAPILLA Oct. 22. For information on tickets, call (732) 499-8226.

The newest member of the Union County Arts Center family, Ayala signed on in late July as the box office

manager. Ayala is responsible for all customer services and ticket sales operations. Ayala is a resident of Fanwood and a 2000 graduate of Franklin Pierce College, New Hampshire with a B.A. in mass communications and a minor in theater arts. She enthusiastically admits she got what she expected — "a challenge" — when she came to the Arts Center. Along with spirit, Ayala brings five years of customer service experience from a local Allstate Insurance Agency and collectively more than 10 years of experience with customer relations in different capacities from retail to corporate environments. She looks forward to being a team player to support the efforts at the Union County Arts Center and would like to continue her career in the challenging field of arts administration.

The recently appointed Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Fantini has found his home at the Union County Arts Center. Fantini first served as box office manager and was promoted to Development Associate after his first year with the theater

"His veteran status with the arts center puts him in a great position to assume the various responsibilities that this position calls on him to execute," said Mancuso. His plans for the arts center will focus on maintaining what he calls a "patchwork of many communities" that make up the patronage at the Union County Arts Center. His responsibilities will include all aspects of public relations and marketing including web page maintenance, print ad campaigns and direct mail marketing. Fantini is a 1996 graduate of Hofstra University, Long Island with a B.A. in history and presently resides in Union with his wife, Karen.

Fantini succeeded Michael Barrett Jones after Jones' four years of service to the arts center.

The Union County Arts Center is a non-profit organization that is committed to presenting quality performing arts. The season includes film preservation events, family theater, musical theater and national tours, headline and celebrity events, and

classical music concerts. The Westfield Symphony Orchestra is the resident orchestra of the Union County Arts Center.

The Arts Center is supported in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment of the Arts. The Arts Center thanks the Merck Company Foundation for its continued generosity and Comcast for being the sponsor of the Family Fun Series. The following organizations and institutions are also contributors to Union County Arts Center: The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, The City of Rahway, The Railway Savings Institution, Liberty Bank, Schering-Plough Foundation, NU/Elizabethtown Gas and many independent contributors.



Hal Holbrook 'Mark Twain' in Rahway

Local poets being sought

The International Library of Poetry has announced that \$58,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Poetry Contest. Poets from the Union County area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of more than 250 prizes. The deadline for the contest is Nov. 30. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

"Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a winner," stated Fran Campos, contest director. "When people learn about our free poetry contest, they suddenly realize that their own poetic works of art can

win cash prizes, as well as gain national recognition." To enter, send one original poem, any subject and any style to: The International Library of Poetry, Suite 1909, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be 20 lines or less, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by Nov. 30. You may also enter online at www.poetry.com.

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ANTIQUÉ

C O R N E R

Second Hand Antiques

By Wendy Cinquanta
A&E Correspondent

The initial impression upon entering Second Hand Antiques, conveniently located off Route 24 in Summit, is one of intimacy.

The tiny, cozy shop is warm and inviting, and packed floor to ceiling with treasures to be discovered. The walls are lined with tall cases of varying style; both newer shelf units, glassed in with lighting, as well as friendly-looking armoires and wooden cabinets are utilized, depending on the contents. Along the interior aisles of the store are lower glass-topped tables filled with many tiny items.

Filling some of the display tables are collections of jewelry, including bead strands and charms, as well as rings and medallions. Others have small metal toys covering almost the entire 20th century, from poseable metal soldiers and wind-up toys to model automobiles. These little vehicles are of interest since they chronicle the history of a type of toy that never loses appeal, no matter how primitive or detailed they are or what era they are from. There are also several boxed and card games from days gone by.

Another cabinet, this one along the left-hand wall, showcases a nice collection of stuffed animals of many shapes and sizes, with some Steiff creatures among them. Below these are larger toy trucks and farm implements made by Ny Lint and Tonka Toys.

If toys are not your cup of tea, move further into the space and take a look at the china collection, which features Lenox pieces in several patterns. Behind this is a case literally filled with Royal Doulton figurines, and on the opposite side is a rather small unit, the shelves of which are lined with books, books and more books. There is plenty here to pour over, so take your time and enjoy.

Take time as well to look up along the tops of the cabinets encasing the room, for there are many worthwhile and interesting items tucked there. Over the counter behind the register is a vast array of Oriental jugs and pottery in many designs and color schemes.

The atmosphere at Second Hand Antiques is friendly, allowing the customer plenty of time to explore and discover. Although the shop is quite small, it is charming and full of quality items, and so it is most certainly worth a visit.

Second Hand Antiques is located in Summit at 591 Morris Ave. Business hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, and they are closed Sunday and Monday. They can be contacted by telephone at (908) 273-6021.

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Leisure Lifestyles

The Historian's Corner

Museum Guide

The Museum Guide is compiled by Worrall Community Newspapers. It is a list of museums and historic sites in Union County and the surrounding area. To add to the list, send the relevant information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill Van Sant at Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, NJ 07083.

- **Little-Lord Farmhouse, Museum and Farmstead**, 31 Horseshoe Road, Berkeley Heights. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the third Sunday of each month from April through December or by appointment. Call (908) 464-1961.

- **Dr. William Robinson Plantation Museum**, 593 Madison Hill Road, Clark. Open 1 to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of each month from April through December. Call (732) 381-3081.

- **Crane-Phillips House Museum**, 124 Union Ave. North, Cranford. Sundays from September through June, or by appointment. Call (908) 276-0082.

- **Belcher-Ogden Mansion**, 1046 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. By appointment only. Call (908) 351-2500.

- **Boxwood Hall**, 1073 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (908) 648-4540.

- **Woodruff House/Eaton Store Museum**, 111 Conant St., Hillside. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the third Sunday of each month or by appointment. Call (908) 352-9270.

- **Deacon Andrew Helfield House**, Constitution Plaza, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside. By appointment only.

- **Trailside Nature and Science Center**, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside. Open 1 to 5 p.m. daily. Call (908) 789-3670.

- **The Saltbox Museum**, 1350 Springfield Ave., New Providence. Open 1 to 3 p.m. the first and third Sundays of the month, and 10 a.m. to noon on each Thursday of the month.



The Cannon Ball House at 126 Morris Ave. in Springfield is home to the Springfield Historical Society. Photo by Jeff Grant

- **Drake House Museum**, 602 W. Front St., Plainfield. Closed for the summer. Open 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays September to June. Call (908) 755-5831.

- **Merchants and Drivers Tavern**, 1632 St. Georges Ave., Rahway. Currently under restoration. By appointment only. Call (732) 381-0441.

- **Abraham Clark House**, 9 W. Grant Ave. at Chestnut Street, Roselle Park. Open Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (908) 245-1776.

- **Osborn Cannonball House**, 1840 Front St., Scotch Plains. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of the month. Call (908) 233-9165.

- **The Cannonball House**, 126 Morris Ave., Springfield. By appointment only. Call (973) 379-2634.

- **Donald H. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Public Library**, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. Open 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Friday. Call (973) 376-4930.

- **Benjamin Carter House**, 90 Butler Parkway, Summit. Open

- 9:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays; 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays; 2 to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of the month, and by appointment. Call (908) 277-1747.

- **Reeves-Reed Arboretum**, 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. Grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk; office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Call (908) 273-8787.

- **Caldwell Parsonage**, 909 Caldwell Ave., Union. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the third Sunday of the month, or by appointment. Closed December and January. Call (908) 687-8129.

- **Liberty Hall Museum**, 1003 Morris Ave., Union. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday. Call (908) 527-4400.

- **Miller-Cory House Museum**, 614 Mountain Ave., Westfield. Open 2 to 5 p.m. Sundays from September through June — closed during the summer — and 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays in January and February, or by appointment. Call (908) 232-1776.

- **Deserted Village of Feltville-Glenside Park**. By appointment only during daylight hours. Call (908) 527-4911.

Miller-Cory 'rests in peace'

"Rest in Peace," a program on colonial funerals, will be presented by Joan Burns of Scotch Plains Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Miller-Cory House Museum, 614 Mountain Ave. in Westfield.

Sickness, disease, and death were accepted in the 18th century. Infant mortality was 50 percent, and adult life expectancy was 30 to 35 years. Visitors will learn about 18th-century funeral customs, superstitions, and rituals, some of which are still practiced today.

The Miller-Cory House is a living museum, featuring a fully furnished 1740 farm house. Volunteers dressed in authentic costumes regale visitors with stories of that time period, while conducting tours of the house.

Patricia Lovislan and Sherry Lange, members of the cussing committee, will demonstrate open-hearth cooking, using authentic early American recipes and cooking techniques.

The museum's gift shop is filled with colonial reproductions, teas, cook books, and reading materials. The museum will be closed Oct. 15 for the annual Fall Festival at the Miller-Cory House Museum with a great afternoon of fun for the entire family. For information about the museum's calendar of upcoming events, call the museum office at (908) 232-1776.

Program is Sunday

The circa 1760 Cannoball House Museum, 1840 Front St., Scotch Plains, maintained by the Scotch Plains and Fanwood Historical Society, will be open Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

A rare framed two-page plate map from the Robinson Atlas of 1887, showing Fanwood Township, will be presented to the museum by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bousquet.

In addition, a group of other antique maps from Bousquet's private collection will be on display.

Costumed docents will give tours of the house and surrounding gardens.

There is no admission charge.

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Quilts abound at Crane House Sunday

If you like arts and crafts and needlework is your specialty, you won't want to miss the Cranford Historical Society's Quilting Bee program at the Crane-Phillips House Museum Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

"A Bee" was a social get-together where ladies worked on quilting or some other art or craft, talked about their families, and exchanged recipes and local gossip as well. Costumed docents will present a "living history" demonstration of a late 19th-century quilting bee complete with the "local gossip" from long ago. The program

coincides with the museum's exhibits "Cranford Around the Turn of the Century" and "Turn of the Century Fashions," and will take place in a setting that will take visitors back in time.

"Bees basically started as social parties where ladies could organize and get necessary work done for the family at the same time," said Christine Glazer, museum program director. "We will recreate it as faithfully as possible to show people this part of life in the 18th and 19th centuries that has become a thing of the past."

Also, a number of different types of quilts will be on display as part of the program to illustrate the craft of quilting, including a traditional Amish geometric pattern quilt; a white-on-white piece; a Victorian one-inch "Postage Stamp" quilt with 1,000 one-inch squares; a tied quilt, also known as a "cheap quilt" — because it was cheap and easy to make — which is tied together with embroidery thread; teddy bear applique quilts, and a woven coverlet.

There will also be arts and crafts for children.

The Crane-Phillips House Living Museum is open Sundays, 2 to 4 p.m., September through June. The Victoria Shop, the museum's gift shop, is open Saturday and Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m. The museum is located at 124 Union Ave. North in Cranford.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

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Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., P.O. Box 3109, Union, New Jersey, 07083.

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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers in the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill Van Sant, Worrall Community Newspapers, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

Stepping Out

ART SHOWS
SUMMIT FRAME AND ART will exhibit American paintings dating from the mid-19th century to the W.P.A. period. Gallery hours are Mondays to Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The gallery is located at 453 Springfield Ave. in Summit. For information, call (908) 273-8665.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL will exhibit the artwork of J.J. Raai and Stefano Sideris, as well as selections from the Janet Richards Collection throughout the month of September. CSH is located on New Providence Road in Mountainside. For information, call (908) 561-6185.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL will exhibit the artwork of Westfield Art Association members Paul Casella, Sheila Leng, Gail Smitter Stambler and Barbara Zatchick through Oct. 27. CSH is located on New Providence Road in Mountainside. For information, call (908) 561-6185.

IMPRESSIONS FROM FOUR CONTINENTS, a photographic exhibit by Jerry Patocika, will be on display at the Skulski Art Gallery, Polish Cultural Foundation in Clark through Saturday. Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Polish Cultural Foundation is located at 177 Broadway in Clark. For information, call (732) 382-7197.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS, the works of painter Frank Zucarelli, will be on exhibit at the Swan Galleries of Plainfield through Saturday. Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Swan Galleries is located at 703 Watchung Ave. in Plainfield. For information, call (908) 756-1707.

STOLEN GLANCES, an exhibit of photographs by David Kaplan, Sam D'Amico, Patricia D. Richards, Ronnie Sacco and Glenn Podeski, will be on display at the Gateway Arts Guild of Rockaway through Oct. 8. Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m.; Thursdays from 1 to 3 p.m. to 5 to 7 p.m., and by appointment. The Arts Guild of Rockaway is located at 1870 Irving St. in Rockaway. For information, call (732) 381-7511.

ART IN WESTFIELD, a sidewalk art show and sale — co-sponsored by the Westfield Art Association, the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Westfield Corporation — will take place Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Westfield. The rain date is Oct. 14. For information, call (908) 233-3121 or (908) 232-7058.

A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE on Life in Union County, a traveling exhibit sponsored by Community Access Unlimited, features the work of 10 adults with developmental disabilities. The exhibit will be on display at the Kenilworth Public Library, 548 Boulevard in Kenilworth, through Oct. 9.

For information on the reception, call (908) 354-5040, ext. 275. For information on the exhibit in Kenilworth, call (908) 396-1991. For information on the Westfield Public Library at (908) 276-2451. **SUMMIT ARTIST KATIE REINHARDT** will have her work exhibited in the Overlook Hospital Auxiliary Gallery, Summit, through Oct. 21.

The gallery is located next to the information desk on the fifth floor of the hospital at 99 South Ave. in Summit. For information, call (908) 822-2004. **HELLA BALIN: "RETROSPECTIVE"** will be on exhibit at the Tomesko Gallery in the Mackay Library at Union County College's Cranford campus through Oct. 28.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays, all from 1 to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays to Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. The gallery is on the first floor of the library, Union County College is located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call (908) 706-7155.

A UNIQUE VIEW OF CHINESE ART AND CULTURE: An Exhibition of Embroideries and Watercolor "Paintings", featuring the works of Wei Jinglan, will be on display through Oct. 22. For information, call (908) 527-2222.

CLASSES
NEW JERSEY WORKSHOP FOR THE ARTS is currently accepting registration for the fall session of its Music Studio. Lessons include instrumental, voice and music theory, with beginner through advanced classes. The fall session begins in early September and lasts 15 weeks. Additional courses include art classes for children and toddlers, the Westfield Franching Club and the Drawing Workshop. Classes take place at 150-152 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call (908) 789-9696.

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

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

LINDEN ART ASSOCIATION will offer classes in visual arts in five- to seven-week segments on Wednesday evenings. The sessions are as follows:
• Oct. 4 and 11 — currently in progress.
• Oct. 18 and 25, and Nov. 1, 8 and 15.
• Nov. 29, Dec. 6 and 13, and Jan. 3 and 10.
• Jan. 17, 24 and 31, and Feb. 17 and 24.
• Feb. 21 and 28, and March 7, 14 and 21.
• March 28, and April 4, 11, 18 and 25.
• May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

Classes meet at the Sunnyside Recreation Center, Melrose Terrace at Orchard Terrace. For information, call (908) 488-1408.

MUSIC FOR CHILDREN in Westfield offers various music classes to children between the ages of 10 months and 8 years old. For information on class offerings or to reserve a space at either open house, call (908) 232-4861.

COMEDY
ON THE SPOT COMEDY TROUPE will appear at Barnes and Noble in Springfield Oct. 13 at 8 p.m. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West in Springfield. For information, call (973) 378-8544.

CONCERTS
NEW JERSEY INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA will present a concert Oct. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Jersey Garden Plaza Mall in Elizabeth as part of the mall's Arts and Humanities Month celebrations. The program is free.

BARNES AND NOBLE in Clark will present musical performances throughout the month of October. All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. in the cafe scene. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call (732) 974-1818.

MUSIC IN THE CAFE in Barnes and Noble in Springfield will feature free musical performances at the coming weeks. All concerts will take place in the coffee lounge area of the store from 8 to 10 p.m.
Oct. 7: Christopher Hoyle
Oct. 14: Mark Bodino
Oct. 21: Ophelia
Oct. 28: Kevin Brooks
Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call (973) 378-8544.

14th ANNUAL FALL FINE ART AND CRAFT SHOW will be co-sponsored by the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation and Rose Squared Productions Inc. Oct. 7 and 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine, in Nomahegan Park. The park is located on Springfield Avenue in Cranford, across from Union County College. For information, call (908) 874-5247.

CRAFTS 'ROUND THE YEAR will take place Oct. 20 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Oct. 21 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Berkeley Heights Community Center, 29 Park Ave. in Berkeley Heights. The event is in benefit for the homeless and poor of Union County through the St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth. For information, call (908) 655-0609 or (908) 464-7531.

DANCE
NEW JERSEY BALLET COMPANY will present "Carman" in the Wilkins Theater on Kean University's Union campus, 1000 Morris Ave., Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18. For information, call (908) 527-2337.

NEW JERSEY BALLET COMPANY will present its "Sunday Series for Young Audiences" in the Wilkins Theater on Kean University's Union campus, 1000 Morris Ave., Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7. For information, call (908) 527-2337.

DISCUSSION
BOOKS BY WOMEN, ABOUT WOMEN, a book discussion group, will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Barnes and Noble in Springfield. The group meets the first Wednesday of each month. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West in Springfield. For information, call (973) 378-8544.

THE EPIDEMIOLOGIC TRANSITION by Peter D. Jacobson will be on display at Barnes and Noble in Clark through Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m. The group meets

DISCUSSION
BOOKS BY WOMEN, ABOUT WOMEN, a book discussion group, will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Barnes and Noble in Springfield. The group meets the first Wednesday of each month. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West in Springfield. For information, call (973) 378-8544.

THE EDISON ARTS SOCIETY WRITERS CIRCLE will meet at Barnes and Noble in Clark Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. The Writers Circle meets the second Monday

will take place 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Roy W. Smith Theater on the Cranford Campus, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. A reception will follow. For information, call (908) 709-7503.

POETRY OUT LOUD!, a poetry reading group, will take place at Barnes and Noble in Springfield Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call (973) 378-8544.

SINGLES BLOOD DRIVE AND SOCIAL will be sponsored by the Tri-County Red Cross Friday from 4:30 to 10 p.m. at the Red Cross Building, 203 W. Jersey St., Elizabeth. Giveaways will be featured.

CROSSROADS in Garwood presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts Every Sunday is Comedy Night at 7:30 p.m. Every Tuesday is the Jazz Jam. Wednesday: Roosters Oct. 5: Nick Bukavalas and Shady Grove

Oct. 6 and 7: Stanley Jordan Oct. 11: Juggling: Suns Oct. 12: Sot Parades tribute to The Doors Oct. 15: Thunder Road's tribute to Bruce Springsteen Oct. 14: Joe Tarno and the Blue Flames Oct. 18: Juggling: Suns Oct. 19: Day One Oct. 20: Royal Scam's tribute to Steely Dan Oct. 21: The Billy Populus Band

CROSSROADS is located at 78 North Ave. in Garwood. For information, call (908) 232-5666.
EAT TO THE BEAT Coffeehouse in Rahway will feature appearances by musical artists during October. Eat to the Beat Coffeehouse is located at 1465 Irving St. in Rahway at

the corner of East Cherry Street. For information, or to sign up for Open Mike Night, call (732) 381-0505.
FLYNN'S IRISH PUB and Steakhouse in Rahway will present entertainment at various times throughout October. Flynn's Irish Pub is located at 1482 Main St. in Rahway. For information, call (732) 381-4700.

HILLOT CAFE AND GRILL in Summit presents "From Broadway to the Silver Screen" every Sunday at 6 p.m., preceded by an all-you-can-eat dinner from 5 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$29.95 and reservations are required. The Hillot Cafe and Grill is located at 447 Springfield Ave., Summit. For information, call (908) 277-0220.

TAVERN IN THE PARK in Roselle Park will present Teddy Halek in "An Evening of Frank Sinatra" Saturdays at 9 p.m. Tavern in the Park is located at 147 W. Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. For information, call (908) 241-7400.

VAN GOGH'S EAR CAFE in Union will present a series of musical events in the coming weeks. Tuesday nights are "Acoustic Tuesday", with open mike from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer. Open mike participants sign up at 7:30 p.m., and get 10 minutes at the microphone. Jazz and blues are featured Sundays at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$3 for all Sunday concerts.

Sunday: Todd Collins Trio Tuesday: Paul Brubaker Oct. 8: Breakwater Oct. 10: Jason Prysak Oct. 15: Pat Clare Trio Oct. 17: Luke Brinkley Oct. 22: Steve Minter Oct. 24: Ginny Johnston Oct. 29: Ginny Johnston Band Oct. 31: Al Madison Van Gogh's Ear is located at 1017 Sunnyside Ave. in Union Center. For information, call (908) 810-1844.

THE WAITING ROOM in Rahway will present musical entertainment during October. The Waiting Room is located at 1431 Living St. in Rahway at the corner of Lewis Street. For information, call (732) 815-1042.

WESTFIELD COMMUNITY PLAYERS will present "The Last Night of Ballyhoop" by Alfred Ury Oct. 20 to Nov. 4. Shows are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets are \$12. The WCS Playhouse is located at 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield. For information, call (908) 232-1221. For information on groups and benefits, call (908) 232-9568.

VARIETY
THE BACK PORCH in Rahway will present Open Mike Night every Tuesday at 9 p.m. The Back Porch is located at 1505 Main St. in Rahway. For information, call (732) 361-6465.

INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years old, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for discussion and continental breakfast at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St. in Westfield. Donation is \$2. For information, call (908) 859-5269 or (908) 889-4751.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST WRITING WORKSHOP will be sponsored by Barnes and Noble of Springfield Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West in Springfield. For information, call (973) 378-8544.

FESTIVALS
10TH ANNUAL AUTUMN FESTIVAL will be sponsored by the Cranford Chamber of Commerce Oct. 8 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. near the train station in downtown Cranford. The rain date is Oct. 15. For information, call (908) 996-3036.

FILM
ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE will sponsor a series of free film classics at the Main Branch in the coming weeks. All films begin at 10 a.m.
The Main Branch of the Elizabeth Public Library is located at 11 S. Broad St. For information, call (908) 354-6600.

FOOD & DRINK
TASTE OF THE TOWNS, featuring 42 of the area's restaurants, will be sponsored by the Union County Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Oct. 16 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Pantages Renaissance — Gruffy's — Restaurant in Scotch Plains. Tickets are \$35 if purchased in advance, \$45 at the door; proceeds will benefit charities and scholarship programs in the greater Elizabeth area. For information, call (908) 355-500.

KIDS
UNION RECREATION Department will sponsor family crimes classes for children between the ages of 7 and 12 at the Recreation building, 1120 Commerce Ave., Union, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For information, call (964)-4828.

POETRY
OPEN MIKE POETRY NIGHT will take place at Barnes and Noble in Clark Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. Open Mike Poetry Night is sponsored the second Sunday of every month in the Music Department. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call (732) 974-1818.

POET ROBERT CREBLEY will appear at Union County College Oct. 11 to give a poetry reading. The read-



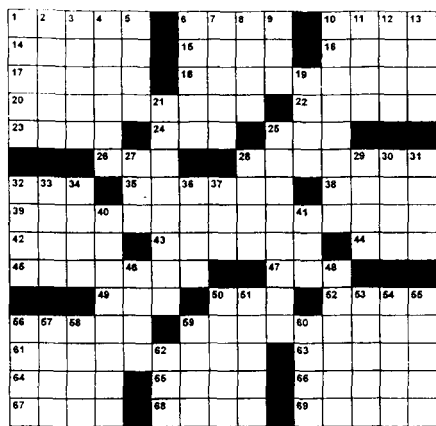
THIS CERAMIC PIN was created by Nancy Bundy and Bob Paris of Pompano Beach, Fla., who are among the juried professional fine artists, crafts people and photographers at the 14th annual Fall Fine Art and Crafts show at Nomahegan Park in Cranford Oct. 8. For information, see the "Crafts" listing on this page.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

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SELF-INTEREST



ACROSS

- 1 Cremona violin makers
- 6 House Sp.
- 10 Religious observance
- 14 Electrical unit
- 15 Heraldic bearing
- 16 Heric bones
- 17 Air
- 18 Preceding
- 20 Began again
- 22 Pries
- 23 Danish weight
- 24 Superlative suffix
- 25 Nasser's bailiwick
- 26 Irish exclamation
- 28 Snarcs
- 32 West of Hollywood
- 35 To some extent
- 38 Sleep; prefix
- 39 Self-told tales
- 42 White; prefix
- 43 Black Sea port
- 44 New; prefix
- 45 Shells
- 47 Explosive
- 49 Ovid's art
- 50 Contend
- 52 Biblical verb
- 56 Theater
- 59 Smoothing agent
- 61 Noets
- 63 Winged
- 64 Ladd
- 65 Rake
- 66 Of course; L.
- 67 Revolvers, for short
- 68 Incline
- 69 Fall flower

DOWN

- 1 Ahead
- 2 Puzzles
- 3 Got up
- 4 Hindu books
- 5 Thought
- 6 Egyptian Christians
- 7 Arrest; Fr.
- 8 Vehicle
- 9 U.S. Army in Europe
- 10 Candy stick; var.
- 11 Region in south Greece
- 12 Emlead
- 13 Labels
- 19 Of the body; abbr.
- 21 Got-togethers
- 25 Not savored
- 27 Adam's —
- 28 Goes wrong
- 29 Money unit
- 30 Sword
- 31 Fair-to-middling
- 32 Ale
- 33 Musician Leopold
- 34 Small case
- 36 Whale groups
- 37 Era
- 40 Eight-sided figures
- 41 Spider, e.g.
- 46 Russian city
- 48 Greek philosopher
- 50 Uncertain
- 51 Put in
- 53 Separated
- 54 Seven; it
- 55 Cornerer
- 56 Mark
- 57 Story
- 58 Bedouin
- 59 Elkhst
- 60 South American rodent
- 62 Gershwin

See ANSWERS on Page B13

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY
October 15, 2000
EVENT: GIANT FLEA MARKET CRAFTS & COLLECTIBLES-INDOORS & OUTDOORS
PLACE: Belleville High School, 100 Passaic Avenue, (off Joralemon Street), Belleville, NJ
TIME: 9:00am - 5:00pm
PRICE: Over 100 quality dealers selling a variety of unique merchandise! For information please call 201-997-9535
ORGANIZATION: BHS Football

SATURDAY
October 7th, 2000
EVENT: BIG INDOOR FLEA MARKET
PLACE: Roselle Catholic High School, Raritan Road, Roselle, NJ
TIME: 9:00am - 4:00pm
ORGANIZATION: Roselle Catholic High School

FRIDAY
October 6th, 2000
EVENT: Flea Market
PLACE: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 134 Prospect Avenue, Irvington, NJ
TIME: 9:30am - 12:30pm
PRICE: New and used clothes, shoes, records, housewares, books, etc. Call 973-374-9377 for more information.
ORGANIZATION: Redeemer Lutheran Church

RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY
October 7th, 2000
EVENT: Rummage Sale
PLACE: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 739 Summit Avenue, Railway
TIME: 9:00am - 1:00pm
PRICE: Used clothing, shoes, toys, household items, sold by the bag or individually
ORGANIZATION: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

What's Going On is a paid directory service for advertising in the paper and on-line. It's just \$29.99 for 2 weeks for 2 issues. You can also pay just \$40.00 for both. Your notice must be in our mailbox at 100 Valley Street by 4:00 P.M. on Monday for publication in the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at 179-88 Highland Road, Orangeburg, SC 29111, Bloomfield or 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, NJ 07086 for advertising on-line.

NJ Choral Art Society welcomes new singers

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

Jersey Inc. now in its 37th year, is a non-profit community chorus dedicated to the study and performance of great choral works. It sponsors a "Messiah" Sing in early December and concerts in January and May. For more information, call (908) 232-2455.

Wreath demonstration at Robinson house

Walk back 310 years to a time when Dr. William Robinson came to New East Jersey and bought 747 acres of land along the west branch of the Rahway River and renamed the branch "Robinson's Branch."

Of special interest for the day, Dorothy Wilkenson, a local artist, will demonstrate hand-made wreaths of dried herbs and flowers.

HOROSCOPE

For Oct. 2 to Oct. 8

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The story of your love life reads either love at first sight or flight at first sight. Buckle your seat belt and prepare for a wild ride.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): It's OK to change your mind or plans. Just make adjustments in your schedule to accommodate co-workers or other family members.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Boredom sets the stage for wasted time and low energy. Explore a more creative routine, and express yourself with enthusiasm.
CANCER (June 22-July 22): Your emotions tend to flow from one extreme to the other. Avoid obsessing over someone or something over which you have no control.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A good sense of humor comes in handy when dealing with a large group or variety of people. Leave your audience laughing and wanting more.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The focus is on your personal finances this week. A raise or promotion is in the

works and could be your ticket to increased prosperity.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Step into the spotlight and take part in a very popular social activity. Enjoy the attention that goes along with being the life of the party.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Spending time with family members is enriching, as well as emotionally fulfilling. Show your appreciation with a unique or unusual gift.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A long-range goal is finally within reach. Don't slow down or consider giving up the fight until you have won the battle.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You're called upon to prove your worth in a professional setting. Use all of the skills and talents you have to help create your success.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The pressure is on in a heated discussion or philosophical debate with your peers. Find the courage to stand strong and speak your mind.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take emotional conflict or changing tides in stride this week. When all is said and done, you'll find yourself in the winner's circle.

exploring educational opportunities involving foreign travel or other cultures during the coming year. Old attitudes and habits are in need of being replaced with something new. Getting away from your normal routine will help relieve stress and tension and provide you with enough space to redefine your goals. A close personal

relationship is subject to scrutiny. If it's not meeting your current needs, let it go.

Also born this week: Groucho Marx, Chubby Checker, Pancho Villa, Waclaw Havel, Carole Lombard, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Jesse Jackson.

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9:00 - 9:30 Coffee and Registration;
9:30 - 10:15 Information Session; 10:15 - 11:00 Tours.
For more information, please contact the Admission Office.

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(908) 273-0900 - www.kentplace.org

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www.sdsfessexandunion.org

West Orange Campus
OPEN HOUSE
October 11, 2000
9:30 am

Cranford Campus
OPEN HOUSE
October 12, 2000
9:30 am

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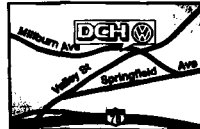
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4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/w/ABS/steering, sun/roof, alloy, 1/60, dual air bags, 38,877 mi. VIN #F179133.</p> <p>\$9977</p> | <p>'99 FORD CONTOUR
4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/w/ABS/steering, sun/roof, alloy, 1/60, dual air bags, 25,571 mi. VIN #F179133.</p> <p>\$10,477</p> | <p>'97 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER
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VIN #F0920775, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/w/ABS/steering, sun/roof, alloy, 1/60, dual air bags, 41,999 mi.</p> <p>\$8977</p> | <p>'97 TOYOTA COROLLA
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VIN #F0920775, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/w/ABS/steering, sun/roof, alloy, 1/60, dual air bags, 34,083 mi.</p> <p>\$16,995</p> | <p>'98 FORD EXPLORER XLT
VIN #F0920775, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/w/ABS/steering, sun/roof, alloy, 1/60, dual air bags, 29,477 mi.</p> <p>\$16,995</p> |
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