

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 72 NO. 17

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2000

TWO SECTION

Friedland calls it quits

Superintendent's resignation becomes effective Sept. 1

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland made his resignation final at Monday night's meeting of the Springfield Board of Education.

After 15 years at the helm of the township's schools, Friedland announced his intention to resign Sept. 1 in a letter read by Business Administrator Ellen Ball. The board later passed a motion accepting Friedland's resignation.

The announcement surprised no one. Friedland first announced his intention to leave the district a year ago, giving the board a year's notice to find a replacement. But in June, a verbal agreement between Friedland and the Board of Education kept the superintendent in place beyond his contract's scheduled June 2001 termination date.

Friedland's June verbal agreement put the district's search for a new superintendent on hold. The board had brought in New Jersey School Boards Association Senior Field Representative Carole Larsen to help with the search. Larsen will meet with the



Gary Friedland

board again in early January to resume the project.

Board President Jacqueline Shanes told the public Monday evening that the district expects to have a new superintendent in place by July 1. In his letter, Friedland pointed out that his accrued vacation time might result in his departure by the time the new

superintendent comes on board.

In July, Friedland also announced his intention to create a Springfield Education Foundation, and to match funds, up to \$1,000, with donations given to the organization. On Monday night the foundation took its first big step with the board approving a motion to accept a gift of more than \$10,000 in stock shares from the Friedland family.

Friedland said at the time of his original announcement a year ago that he was not stepping down due to "dissatisfaction or lack of support from the community, staff or board." He stressed that he felt the district's major goals had been achieved and stated that he was "not officially retiring from the field of education." He later said he intends to teach at a higher educational level.

Friedland oversaw the district's deregionalization in July 1997, and has cited the infusion of technology, the reorganization of the district's administrative structure, preschool educational programs and the creation of "cutting edge" curriculum as among the highlights of his tenure.



Photo by Milton Mills

Mounting frustrations with their stalled negotiations over labor contracts drive Springfield police officers and firefighters to the Dec. 12 meeting of the Township Committee. After making public statements regarding their dissatisfaction, the group stormed out of Town Hall, denying the committee an opportunity to respond. Both factions' contracts expire Jan. 1.

Revived referendum to come

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

It ain't over 'till it's over.

The Springfield Board of Education has no intention whatsoever of giving up and letting its track and field rehabilitation project fall to the wayside. And if the turnout at the board's Monday night regular meeting is any indication, neither does the public. The \$3.4-million referendum to fund the project was defeated last week by township voters by a margin of 10 votes. Board members and supporters of the referendum believe that unusually high winds Dec. 12 injured the referendum's chances for success.

A power failure caused by high winds knocked out all power in the township at approximately 8:55 a.m. All 12 voting districts were squeezed into only two polling locations.

The standing-room only crowd turned up at Jonathan Dayton High School Monday night to hear the board members' feelings on the narrow defeat and to pledge their support for the continuance of the project.

The turnout boosted the spirits of Buildings and Grounds Chairman Richard Falkin.

"We on the board want to thank you," Falkin began. "We worked hard on this, but we got blind-sided. We

understand the importance of this project to both the kids and the community. As the national election itself showed, every vote does count."

In light of the referendum's defeat, board President Jacqueline Shanes presented the public with five options: conduct a special election on the referendum as soon as possible, which Shanes identified as March; conduct a fall referendum; revise the current referendum; create a new referendum to include improvements to the district's school buildings, as suggested by The Tarquin Organization, or modify the referendum to include the track at Meisel Park as a second question for voters.

Meisel Park has been a sore spot for the project's opponents. Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland has called the track at the county-owned facility "a disgrace." The fields are littered with goose droppings. According to Falkin, Dayton has not hosted a home track meet at Meisel in 10 years.

Shanes said a \$674,076 pledge by the state for the project had to be waived, and will have to be re-applied for at a later date, once a new strategy has been adopted. The board was scheduled to meet Tuesday night and last night to discuss its options.

Negotiations reach standstill

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

With the teacher contracts settled, Springfield residents can now expect to hear from their firefighters and police officers on the subject of labor.

Members of both the Police and Fire departments, frustrated over their stalled negotiations with the Township Committee, expressed their dissatisfaction by marching in support of the district's school teachers last week. The teachers returned the favor the following day, marching with both factions in front of the Municipal Building prior to the start of the Township Committee's regularly scheduled meeting.

Stephen Studlack, president of the Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 76, read a statement

'We feel they haven't bargained in good faith.'

— Stephen Studlack
PBA Local 76 president

before the Township Committee the same evening, calling a Dec. 4 counter-proposal from the township "cowardly, malicious, and unprofessional." Studlack was followed by Sgt. Steven Stockl, president of the Superior Officers' Association, who also read a statement, and several members of the Fire Department. Police and fire contracts both expire Jan. 1.

After reading their statements and making their off-the-cuff remarks, most of the police and fire

personnel headed for the exit, frustrating Mayor Clara Harelik and the rest of the Township Committee. Denied an opportunity to respond directly to their accusers, Harelik and committee members made their feelings known to the remainder of the audience. Harelik defended the township's bargaining efforts, while Deputy Mayor Steven Goldstein defended Harelik's work in the negotiations, criticizing those who left for disrespecting the mayor.

Harelik later called the remarks directed toward the Township Committee and township administrator during the demonstration "highly insulting," referring to them as "unprofessional, unbecoming of fire, police and township employees, and uncalled for."

"There's still a contract in See NO. Page 6

Flood control project launched at last at Springfield Municipal Building

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Anyone who's been on North Trivett Avenue lately has noticed that the Springfield Municipal Building is getting a little work.

The township has received a \$50,000 Revenue Sharing Grant from Union County for the building's flood-proofing. The balance of the \$71,000-plus project is being paid for by the township.

According to Township Administrator Richard Sheola, the difference will be made up by existing available funds, along with "some money earmarked from Tropical Storm Floyd."

Assaulted over a year ago by Floyd, the Municipal Building is currently

undergoing improvements to its basement window wells and outer stairs. The September 1999 storm, which caused the flooding of Van Winkle's Creek on Mountain Avenue, resulted in flood waters rushing down the basement's stairs and pouring in over the low window wells.

The storm damaged a number of Police Department offices located in the basement, including an evidence lab. Telephone switching equipment — which has since been located to a higher floor — along with the building's boiler, were both submerged under about 7 feet of bacteria-laden water.

Assistant Township Engineer Sam Mardini called the project "very involved work." He said the construction, which began about two weeks ago, is expected to last about another five weeks, depending on the weather.

Some window wells have been removed and are being rebuilt "from the foundation up," Mardini said. Another key problem, the basement's outer stairs, are being readjusted, with five or six upward steps to be added before the descent into the basement. A canopy also will be constructed on the north side of the building, to prevent water from entering the stairwell.

The improvements are not new to the building. Former Township Engineer Walter Kozub, who served the township from 1955 to 1985, told the Echo Leader earlier this year that both features were added to the building following its previous assault by flood waters in 1973. Kozub said the window wells had been built up to roughly 2 feet at that time, and that the raised step idea had also

See BUILDING'S, Page 6

Offices closed for holidays

Our offices will close at noon today and will remain closed until 9 a.m. on Tuesday in observance of the Christmas holiday. This newspaper will be published next week on Friday, Dec. 29.

For the convenience of readers and organizations wishing to submit news releases, letters to the editor and advertising, the following will be our schedule for the Dec. 29 edition.

• Lifestyle, including church and club news, etc. — today, noon.

• Letters to the editor — Tuesday, 9 a.m.

• What's Going On — Tuesday, 3:30 p.m.

• Display ads — Tuesday at noon for Section B and 5 p.m. for Section A.

• Sports news — Tuesday, 9 a.m.

• General news — Wednesday, 5 p.m.

• Classified advertising — Wednesday, 3 p.m.

• Legal advertising — Tuesday, 3 p.m.

Our offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. We will publish on Friday, Jan. 5. Deadlines for that edition are as follows:

• Lifestyle, including church and club news, etc. — Dec. 29, noon.

• Letters to the editor — Jan. 2, 9 a.m.

• What's Going On — Jan. 2, 3:30 p.m.

• Display ads — Jan. 2 at noon for Section B and 5 p.m. for Section A.

• Sports news — Jan. 2, 9 a.m.

• General news — Jan. 3, 5 p.m.

• Classified advertising — Jan. 3, 3 p.m.

• Legal advertising — Jan. 2, 3 p.m.

Our offices will reopen Monday, Jan. 8, and we will publish the next edition on Thursday, Jan. 11.

We wish our readers and advertisers a happy holiday season.

Town Planners are mailed

The Town Planner calendar sponsored by the Echo Leader is being mailed to all Springfield homes this week.

The calendar, sent for the third consecutive year to all Springfield residents, includes information such as town and school board meetings, recycling schedules, and events sponsored by community organizations.

The calendar is also supported by local advertising.

If residents have not received their calendar, one is probably on the way. Additional calendars are also available at the office of the Echo Leader at 1291 Snyvesant Ave., Union.

Eat and be merry



Photo by Milton Mills

Six-year-old Francela Chacon, and her brother Oscar, 4, spend a moment with jolly old St. Nicholas at the annual breakfast with Santa at St. James The Apostle School in Springfield. More than 200 students and parents filled the cafeteria on Dec. 9 to enjoy their breakfast with Santa Claus.

District's policies revisited

By Kirsten Matthew
Managing Editor

The Mountainside Board of Education Tuesday continued tightening some of the nuts and bolts that help keep the school district's policies secure.

Final approval of amended and new policies will become effective after their second reading at the board's next meeting, tentatively set for Jan. 2.

Several revisions were made to some of the district's four-year-old policies governing the use of school facilities. Smoking will now be prohibited on any school grounds, in addition to the prior stipulation banning smoking in any district building. Board member Richard Kress clarified that the policy prevents parents or employees from smoking at any time on school property, including at sporting events.

The board will now require all users of school facilities to present evidence of organizational liability in a minimal amount of \$1 million per single use, naming the Board of Education as an additional insured.

In addressing the issue of facility See NEW, Page 6

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

How to reach us:
The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Worrall Community Newspapers, an independent family-owned newspaper company. Our offices are located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

Voice mail:
Our main phone number 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to better serve our customers. During regular business hours a receptionist will answer your call. During the evening or when the office is closed, your call will be answered by an automated receptionist.

To subscribe:
The Echo Leader is mailed to the homes of subscribers for delivery every Thursday. One-year subscriptions are available for \$24.00, two-year subscriptions for \$43.00. College and out-of-state subscriptions are available. You may use MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover Card.

Missing newspaper:
If your Echo Leader did not get delivered please call 908-686-7700 and ask for circulation.

Back issues:
To purchase back issues of the Echo Leader please call 908-686-7700 and ask for circulation. Additional charges may apply.

News items:
News releases of general interest must be in our office on Friday afternoon to be considered for publication. The following week pictures must be black and white glossy prints. For further information or to report a breaking news story, call 908-686-7700 and ask for Editorial.

Story reprints:
For permission to reprint any item printed in the newspaper you must call Tom Canavan at 908-686-7700. All material is copyrighted.

Letters to the editor:
The Echo Leader provides an open forum for opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed double spaced, must be signed, and should be accompanied by an address and daytime phone number for verification. Letters and columns must be in our office by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. They are subject to editing for length and clarity.

e-mail:
The Echo Leader accepts opinion pieces by e-mail. Our address is Editorial@localsource.com. e-mail must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. Advertising and news releases will not be accepted by e-mail.

To place a display ad:
Display advertising for placement in the general news section of the Echo Leader must be in our office by Monday at 5 p.m. for publication that week. Advertising for placement in the B section must be in our office by Monday at noon. An advertising representative will gladly assist you in preparing your message. Call 908-686-7700 for an appointment. Ask for the display advertising department.

To place a classified ad:
The Echo Leader has a large, well read classified advertising section. Advertisements must be in our office by Tuesday at 3 p.m. for publication that week. All classified ads are payable in advance. We accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover Card. A classified representative will gladly assist you in preparing your message. Please stop by our office during regular business hours or call 1-800-564-8911, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To place a public notice:
Public Notices are notices which are required by state law to be printed in local weekly or daily newspapers. Public notices must be in our office by Tuesday at noon for publication that week. For more information, call 1-800-564-8911 and ask for the public notice advertising department.

Facsimile transmission:
The Echo Leader is equipped to accept your ads releases, etc. by Fax. Our Fax lines are open 24 hours a day. For classified please dial 201-763-2557. For all other transmissions please dial 908-686-4169.

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Visit our Web Site on the Internet called LocalSource online at <http://www.localsource.com>. Find all the latest news, classified, community information, real estate and hometown chat.

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THE ECHO LEADER (USPS #512-720) is published weekly by Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc., 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. Mail subscriptions \$24.00 per year in Union County, 50 cents per copy, non-refundable. Periodicals postage paid at Union, N.J. and additional mailing office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the ECHO LEADER, P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J., 07083.

Students earn Deerfield honor roll

The following Deerfield School students have been named to the honor roll for the first marking period. The requirement for honor roll is all B's. To attain the high honor roll, students must earn A's in all major and minor subjects.

Grade six High honor roll
Lauren Arrington, Amy DeGaetano, Nora Kinney, Veronica Thomas, Kevin Wharton, Brian Wyvrat and Matthew Zimmerman

Honor roll
Thomas Amalte, Salvatore R. Arpino, Natalie Bastle, Christine Bennett, Ashley-Liu Bief, Gregory Chibson, Joseph D'Antonio, Tom DeCristoforo, Robert Gilcrest, Lindsey Gilcrest, Claire Golomb, Peggy Henings, Mackie Hill, Andrew Hoydich, Reid Kelley, Gina LaGreca, Brian Lourenco, Sarah Magari, Melissa

Montagna, Francesca Montalvo, Justin or Norris, Samantha Panagos, Justin Quaglia, Gemma Richardson, Andrew Roska, Jacki Sokol, Renee Thompson, Christopher Venturo, Katherine Wagner and Benjamin Witt

Grade seven High honor roll
Joseph Baseli, Christopher Chan, Sarah Justice, Scott Foster, Andrew Gemmaro, Denise LaBrutto, Morgan Liss, Ana Lopez, Marissa Maselli, Kathleen Melnyk, Tess Perrin, Mary Jane Pjanowski, Jillian Richard and Josephine Thau

Honor roll
Hali Alpert, Massimo Arpino, Jonathan Avecllas, Julianne Boyce, Allyson Buckley, Linnea Buttermore, Katelyn Capodanno, Claire Eng, Karole Fritsenko, Noelle Gostyla, Lauren Hausner, Diane King, Jason Massa,

Joel Merrill, Lauren Palapano, Andrew Robertson, Joseph Robolotti, Raquel Rodrigues, Nicole Savatieri, Rachel Talbert, Michael Tate, Land say Thomas, Kara Uzzolino, Thomas Weakley, Catherine Wilson and Molly Zhang

Grade eight High honor roll
Julia Arpino, Louise Frustensky, Jessica Gelsino, Christine Giotta, Evan Kaplan, Alison McCurdy, Stacey O'Sullivan, Morgan Starkey and Lyndsey Thyman

Honor roll
Nicole Arpino, Brittany Benito, Phoushita Borsellino, Kate Checklin, Anthony DeRose, Ashley Force, James Hughes, Zachary Januk, Michael Kolanko, Jessica Landis, Freddy Mack, Glynis Philips, Joseph Pjanowski, Samantha Pingor, Molly Schmidt, Vera Souvorov and Matthew Taeschler.

STUDENT UPDATE

Seton Hall prep honors

Six Springfield residents and one Mountaintop resident achieved academic honors for the first trimester honor roll at Seton Hall Preparatory School in West Orange. Stephen Kress of Mountaintop, a sophomore, earned second honors. Earning first honors from Springfield were Thomas Keller, grade nine, and Robert Maul, grade 10. Earning second honors were Dean Chencharik, grade 10, and Kevin Dash, grade 12. Receiving commendation were Justin Stefanelli, grade 12, and Anthony Stivalo, grade nine. First honors comprises students whose grade point average is above 4.0, second honors, between 3.5 and 4.0, commended, between 3.0 and 3.5.

Honorable mention at St. Peter's for Scott

Springfield resident Daniel Scott was among the 328 students at St. Peter's Preparatory School in Jersey City recognized at a recent honors assembly for achieving first honors, second honors or honorable mention for the first marking period.

A freshman, Scott achieved honorable mention. Students receive first honors if they earn an overall grade of 90 or higher for the first marking period. Students receive second honors for overall grades over 85 and below 90 during the first marking period. Students receive honorable mention if their first marking period overall grade is above 80 and below 85 and they have a cumulative grade point average of 85.

Jennings earns honors

Springfield resident Thayer Jennings has been named to the honor roll at Mount Saint Dominic Academy, Caldwell, for the first quarter of the marking period. A senior, Jennings is the daughter of Mark and Jane Jennings of Springfield.

Springfield students enroll at Syracuse

Springfield residents Karen Bibbo, Adam Slater and Rachel Tisb have enrolled at Syracuse University for the 2000-01 academic year. The freshmen enrolled in the university's school of public communications, college of arts and sciences and school of management, respectively.

Something to sell? Telephone 1-800-564-8911.

Showing support



Photo By Milton Mills

Springfield resident Steven Stockl Jr. shows his support for his father, Sgt. Steven Stockl, at the Dec. 12 Township Committee meeting. The sergeant, who is the president of the Superior Officers' Association, read a statement on behalf of Springfield police officers, urging negotiations to resume.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the Echo Leader to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To give your community event the publicity it deserves, mail your schedule to Echo Leader, Attn: managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

Today
• Temple Beth Ahm, 60 Temple Drive hosts a townshipwide Hanukkah lighting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. on the temple grounds.

Monday
• Springfield and Mountaintop government offices will be closed in observance of Christmas Day.

Tuesday
• The Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will kick off its latest luncheon video series at noon with "Kramer vs. Kramer."
• Participants should bring a brown bag lunch to the performance. For information call (973) 376-4930.
• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive session at 7 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

Upcoming events Dec. 29
• The Springfield Recreation Department will sponsor a family night at the New Jersey Devils/Washington Capitals 7:35 p.m. game at the Continental Airlines Arena.

The bus depart at 6 p.m. from the Chisholm Community Center. The cost is \$44 per person. Interested residents can register with payment to "Township of Springfield" by Monday at the civic center, 30 Church Mall. Limited registration is available. For more information call the center at (973) 912-2227.

Jan. 1
• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for its reorganization meeting at noon in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

Jan. 2
• The Mountaintop Borough Council will meet for its reorganization meeting at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

Jan. 8
• The Springfield Board of Education will meet for an executive session at 7 p.m., followed by a conference meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the board meeting room at Jonathan Dayton High School, 125 Mountain Ave.

• The Mountaintop Board of Education will meet for a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the media center at Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave.

Jan. 10
• The Springfield Board of Health will meet for a regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

Jan. 11
• The Berkeley Heights Board of Education will meet for an executive session at 7 p.m., followed by a conference meeting at 8 p.m. in the Clausen Administration Complex, Berkeley Heights.

Jan. 15
• Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
• The Springfield Environmental Commission will meet for a regular monthly meeting at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

Ongoing
• The Springfield Recreation Department conducts blood pressure screenings the second Wednesday of every month at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall, from 1 to 2 p.m. It is open to all residents of Springfield. For more information, call (973) 912-2227.

• The Friends of the Springfield Public Library would like donations of used paperback novels. Also welcome are magazines within the last year.

• The fall and winter season at the Springfield Teen Center runs Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Fridays from 7 to 10 p.m. for Springfield residents or students between the ages of 12 and 17 years old.

IDs are required for admittance. Stop by the Teen Center on the second floor of the Chisholm Community Center, 100 S. Springfield Ave., to obtain a membership form.

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Project breathes life into the dead

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Editor's note: The following is the third article in a series about some of the area's various historical locations and incidents.

Near the Greene Shopping Center, just feet from Mountain Avenue, about 80 headstones belonging to Springfield's Revolutionary and pre-Revolutionary War citizens are obscured from the street's foot and car traffic by a simple stone retaining wall.

The cemetery, which sits on an incline, once sloped down toward Van Winkle's Creek and Mountain Avenue. Construction of Mountain Avenue in the late 19th century unearthed a number of bones, the discovery of which would later be acknowledged on one of the cemetery's monuments by the Sons of the American Revolution.

The cemetery's ownership has since passed from the hands of the sons to the daughters — the Daughters of the American Revolution. Although the grounds have seen their share of cans and bottles, which have since been easily picked up, the head-

stones have been seriously overgrown by a more obstinate problem: English and poison ivies.

The headstones, dating between 1727 and 1812, along with the ground itself, are gradually being cleared of their troublesome ivy by Springfield resident Mary Frances Napier. Napier took up the project as a result of her involvement in Springfield's Garden Club.

In 1997, a visitor to a Garden Club meeting inquired about the cemetery's condition. The query resulted in a dozen club members descending on the cemetery to clear away the accumulated can and battle debris.

"At the next meeting after the cleaning, we asked ourselves if we'd maintain this," Napier recalled. The answer contained one small obstacle: poison ivy.

Accustomed to coping with various contagions as a result of her career as a registered nurse, Napier volunteered in the spring of 1997 to remove the plant. But to get to the poison ivy, Napier had to first work her way through a layer of English ivy nearly a foot high — a task she's still at work on. Napier calls the ivy "too invasive

for such a little space."

Some of the headstones, which are carved from sandstone, are split in places. But removal of the ivy has revealed a sadder circumstance: more than two centuries of rain, snow and had have weathered a few markers to the point where their inscriptions are partially or completely obscured, leaving the grave's occupants unknown.

Not much is known about the dead buried at the location, although Napier speculated that the proximity of death dates for a number of members of the Sims family indicate the presence of an infectious disease. Four members of the family — William, Hezekiah, Mary, and an individual identified only as "P" — died within months of one another in the years 1727 and 1728. Mary and William both died at the age of 51. Hezekiah died at 20, and "P" at only 12 years of age.

Another pair of headstones mark the deaths of a mother and daughter in the 1730s. Abigail, whose exact year of death is obscured, seems to have died as the result of childbirth, at the age of 29, her namesake daughter,



Once entangled in an overgrowth of English and poison ivies, a Springfield cemetery which houses the Revolutionary and pre-Revolutionary War dead is experiencing a face lift from township resident Mary Frances Napier. With the aid of other Springfield Garden Club members, Napier's project is slowly revealing the lives of the township's earliest inhabitants.

connected to the Battle of Springfield.

While Napier continues to fight the battle of the ivy, gradually revealing the lives of the township's earliest inhabitants, the cemetery's small flight of concrete stairs has finally received a railing, courtesy of the township's Garden Club. But one

modern aspect — a pair of air conditioners belonging to an adjacent business, planted on the cemetery's grounds with the finality of a headstone, cannot be dealt with.

"I understand they had permission to do that," Napier said. "But I still find it offensive."

Staying warm



Photo By Milton Stalls

Mountainside resident Bud Mazzarella holds his five-year-old granddaughter, Melissa, at the annual community tree lighting ceremony outside Borough Hall Dec. 2. Children drank hot chocolate while Mountainside Girl Scouts led everyone in caroling.

Mullman assumes 2001 mayoral role

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

A familiar face will be taking on a familiar title when Springfield Township Committee member Sy Mullman assumes the role of the township's next mayor Jan. 1.

Appointed to the position by the Township Committee this month, Mullman will be replacing Mayor Clara Harelik. Committee member and former mayor Gregory Clarke will become Deputy Mayor, replacing Steven Goldstein.

Mullman is serving his third term on the Township Committee, having won re-election in 1999 over Republican challenger Florence Faraone. He last served as mayor in 1998.

"This is 'we,' not 'I,'" Mullman said of the mayoral position. "I just chair the meetings. We all work together."

Certain topics from his previous go-round as mayor — the new firehouse and labor negotiations with the Police and Fire departments — are issues Mullman will have to deal with once again. The firehouse, which will be constructed on the site of the former Schaeble Oil Building on Mountain Avenue, took a big step forward this year with the purchasing of the property, demolition, and hiring of an architect. Mullman referred to the firehouse project as a "major priority."

The stalled contract negotiations between the township and union representatives for police officers and firefighters are something Mullman hopes will get started again soon, with a quick settlement as a result.

Mullman described the township as having an earnest working relation-



Sy Mullman

ship with the Chamber of Commerce, and spoke of several recreational issues — including the goal of increasing membership at the community pool and making better use of the Chisholm Community Center — as two areas in need of improvement. Mullman also promised the continuation of the township's annual Take Pride in Springfield celebration, and referred to the efforts, recently under way, for downtown area improvements. A recent grant has been applied toward a study of the downtown region.

Mullman said that final decisions on committee appointments have not yet been made. However, he confirmed his own appointments to both the Public Safety Committee and the Recreation Committee.



SANTA'S HELPERS — Disabled students at the Millburn Regional Day School spend some time with Santa, above, and Andy the Clown, below, during a Christmas party hosted by the Millburn-Springfield Kiwanis Club earlier this month. Jonathan Dayton High School Kiwanis Key Club members assisted with the event.



EVENTS

Film series continues

The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will showcase a family film series. Exploring Family Dynamics, in its latest luncheon video program Tuesday at noon, with "Kramer vs. Kramer." This 1979 movie portrays the life of a father left to raise his son after his wife leaves him. Ted Kramer, played by Dustin Hoffman, copes with balancing career and family while Joanne Kramer, played by Meryl Streep, goes off to find herself. Just when Ted is discovering how fulfilling parenting can be, Joanne returns and wants her son back. Hoffman and Streep won Oscars, as did the film itself for Best Picture.

The series continues at noon Jan. 9 with "Howard's End." Participants should bring a brown bag lunch to the performance. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

For information, call the library at (973) 376-4930.

Red Cross hosts class

The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross will host a class called "CPR for the professional rescuer" at 9 a.m. Jan. 6.

This course is intended for individuals who are expected to respond to emergencies such as lifeguards, EMTs and nurses. However, the course is open to anyone interested in learning how to save lives.

The course emphasizes how to recognize and provide care for respirat-

ory and cardiac emergencies; how to perform one- and two-rescuer CPR on infants, children and adults; what to do in special rescue situations; ways to minimize the risk of disease transmission in emergency situations; and how to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease.

The fee for the course is \$60 per person and each participant will receive a pocket mask. Advance registration is required.

For more information, to register for the course or to find out about other American Red Cross classes, call the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter at (908) 232-7090 or stop by the Chapter House at 321 Elm St., Westfield.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Go back to the drawing board

Springfielders have spoken. In one of the narrowest vote margins in the township's history — a 0.85-percent difference — voters last week brought to a halt the school district's proposed \$3.4 million track and field rehabilitation project.

Dissent was hardly overwhelming. The 10-vote margin reflects a nearly equal show of support for improving the district's aging athletic facilities. In fact, many blamed the exceedingly low voter turnout — just shy of 13 percent — on the freak election day blackout, which closed four of six polling stations, forcing voters from 12 voting districts to requeue to two schools.

Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland vowed on election night that after "reviewing the matter," the Board of Education would more than likely restructure the referendum question and come back to voters with it at a later date. We encourage the school board to do just that.

It is essential that the county try to find more funding than the \$325,000 that was verbally promised to the district earlier this month by County Manager Michael Lapolla. A 20-year contract, dated Oct. 8, 1963, held the district responsible for any renovations or rehabilitations to the more than 40-year-old athletic facilities at Meisel Park. Now, such an agreement can only be said to be tacit, not binding, as no new contract was ever reinstated after its 1983 expiration.

The county should provide the full cost of the estimated \$1.6 billion-worth of renovation work needed at the county-owned park. Then the taxpayers of Springfield may be more inclined to understand their call to aid with the project. Such a scenario would decrease the issued amount of the bond by nearly half — a cost more residents may be willing to accept.

Springfield residents showed their support for the county's Open Space Trust Fund in November. In turn, the county should recognize its responsibility to redirect some of the expected \$5 million those funds will generate each year back into its park system, especially to the deteriorating Meisel Park.

The school board should go back to the drawing board. Work with the county, restructure the question and ask it again.

Season of lights

The season of lights is now nearing full glory. Riding through some town centers and neighborhoods seems almost a trip into a frozen fireworks display of color and scintillating dazzlement. The old-fashioned electrical strings of clunky red, blue, yellow and green bulbs, so reminiscent of the 1950s and '60s, have very recently been replaced by the tiny white pinpoint lights that everywhere swarm upon bushes, hang from roofs in mimicry of gutter icicles and lace sparingly and beautifully within the limbs of front-lawn Japanese maples and redbud trees. Christmas is upon us.

Tonight, the menorahs of Hanukkah will be lit in home windows and in larger displays throughout the community to begin their eight-day diurnal climb to complete luminescence. And next Tuesday, the red, green and black candles of Kwanzaa will be lit one by one each day during the seven-day celebration.

Everywhere at this time of year, we turn to light to represent the goodness and hope that is expressed in our beliefs. This is a time to recognize the commonality of all mankind and to reach out with warm and heartfelt greetings not only to family and friends, but also to acquaintances and even complete strangers.

And certainly, we express our wishes of peace and hope to you, our readers, with whom we enjoy a unique and very meaningful bond. Each week, we meet on these gray pages of ink and newsprint to exchange insights and ideas concerning the events, personalities and future of our community. We share news, stories, birth and wedding announcements and letters of concern and thanks. We cheer the same sports teams, follow the same elections and smile at the same photographs of our community's children in moments of accomplishment.

We live and work in the same neighborhoods, and after getting together every week throughout the year, we feel we know each other and that our holiday wishes are both natural and genuine.

May the light of the season shine into your lives and bring you all the hope and happiness that is possible in our world.

"All words are pegs to hang ideas on."
—Henry Ward Beecher
clergyman
1887



Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

IT'S HANUKKAH — Springfield children prepare to make believe as artist and educator Laurie Hardy of Youth Stages leads them through an evening of Hanukkah fun at the Springfield Public Library Dec. 7. Using props, costumes and homemade scenery, Hardy directed a creative dramatics workshop with a Hanukkah theme.

The good and bad as noted in year 2000

Next week's edition of the *Echo Leader* will feature our "Year in Review." This week it's my turn. Try not to get upset.

Good: The Springfield Board of Education setting its sights on fixing its track and athletic fields, so the district's kids wouldn't graduate with bad backs, like I did.

Bad: Township voters giving the referendum a thumbs-down by 10 votes.

Also bad: The wind on the day of the referendum vote, knocking out the township's power and squeezing all the voting districts into two locations. Boo, Mother Nature.

Good: The Mountaineers Board of Education deciding to reopen Beechwood School and renovate Deerfield School to accommodate the district's growing population.

Bad: Springfield not having flood insurance.

Good: Springfield finally getting flood insurance.

Good: Springfield doing flood-proofing work on its Municipal Building, even as we speak.

Joe's Place

By Joe Iugara
Staff Writer

Good: Mountaineers' Mayor, Robert Vighanti, losing his patience with landscaping businesses blowing leaves down the borough's sewers.

Good: Kembleworth resident Matthew Krieger cleaning Springfield's extraordinary French Richard's Cemetery — a pre-Revolutionary War graveyard — for his Eagle Scout Project.

Good: Mountaineers' infrastructure project. They have a good engineer there, and the work needs to be done.

Bad: Unhappy police and firefighters in Springfield. Let's get talking again about contracts.

Good: A teacher contract settlement in Springfield.

Bad: Springfield's Republicans refusing to participate in the League of Women Voters' Candidates Night for the fourth year in a row.

Good: New curriculum in Mountaineers. More class discussion, more group projects. Up and at 'em.

Good: A memorial for Ann Conti in Mountaineers.

Bad: Bally's Total Fitness on Route 22 East in Springfield, the 2000 record holder for most police blotter appearances. Things seemed to be getting better there for a while, but lately they've made a comeback.

Good: A Senior Focus grant for work on the Sarah Bailey Civic Center in Springfield. When I'm 100 years old, I'll need work too.

Good: Springfield teacher Frank Sanchez getting named Distinguished Humanities Teacher.

Bad: The Springfield Township Committee refusing to support the Million Mom March with a resolution. I'm sure they'll be happy I brought that up again.

Good: The Mountaineers Police Department getting another defibrilla-

tor for its police cars.

Bad: The Springfield Police Department not having any defibrillators at all.

Good: Springfield's Farmer's Market. Hopefully the township will have it again next year.

Good: The Springfield Police Department — with the help of a Mountaineers Police captain — capturing parole-breaker Pedro Aviles at Mount St. Mary's Academy in Watchung after Aviles allegedly broke into a pair of Springfield homes on the same day. Aviles was arrested a second time after he escaped from Overlook Hospital while having a leg injury treated. I guess he didn't need the crutches after all.

Good: The Buracker Report on the Springfield Police Department.

Good: Springfield delaying Royal Ahold — a.k.a. Stop and Shop — as best they could by changing the zoning in the store's proposed area.

Bad: James Segreto, Royal Ahold's lawyer, likening the proposed supermarket to a museum. Jokes like that keep me going all day.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Teachers were exercising rights

To the Editor:

As a parent of two students attending Springfield public schools, I take exception to your Dec. 14 editorial, "After-effects still linger," commenting on the recent picketing by Springfield teachers. I found your opinions to be divisive, speculative and unnecessarily dramatic.

You took the teachers to task for doing what labor unions sometimes have to do: taking their message to the community. Picketing is a valuable negotiation tool for professionals that have few other weapons at their disposal. Surely you would prefer peaceful picketing that doesn't occur during school hours, rather than more radical job actions that some other districts have endured, such as labor strikes.

Educators are no different from other professionals found in the private sector. I manage the work of computer programmers for a large corporation, and I assure you, the desire to negotiate the very best compensation package for oneself is completely normal and understandable. I've never accused any employee of a "Show me the money" mentality.

Your suggestion that children would perceive their teachers as working solely for the money was without foundation or evidence. I'd bet that children

understood that the teachers were simply exercising their rights by picketing. Like most of us, kids realize that their teachers deserve quality healthcare benefits and fair compensation.

Now that there is a settlement, my belief is that the teachers will remain committed to providing a quality education to our children, and that your imaginings about the future educational climate in Springfield are baseless.

And as the fireman and police face negotiations, I hope you show more objectivity and avoid inflammatory remarks when assessing those situations.

Chris Alfano
Springfield

Our policy on letters and columns

The *Echo Leader* welcomes submissions from its readers. Either letters to the editor or opinion pieces on any subject will be considered for publication on the opinion pages.

This opportunity also is open to all officials and employees of the township and borough and the County of Union.

The *Echo Leader* reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, content and style. Writers must include their name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.



Photo By Jeff Orrell

A SALUTE — Junior Vice Commander Sal Gibaldi of Springfield VFW Post 7683, left, and American Legion Post 228 Commander William Smith give the American flag a hearty salute during the Pledge of Allegiance during Pearl Harbor Day memorial services at Veteran's Memorial Park. Members of the VFW, American Legion, Springfield Elks Post 2004, Jewish War Veterans Post 273, Boy Scout Troop 73, Fire Department, Police Department and First Aid Squad joined in the services earlier this month.

Concerned about an issue facing the governing body or Board of Education in your town? Is your street in disrepair? Our readers can use our InfoSource hot line to speak out about any issue whether it is a question, comment, suggestion or opinion. That way, by telling us, you can tell everyone in town.

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

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LIFESTYLE



Christine and Mark Benedetti

Eng, Benedetti exchange vows

Christine Eng, daughter of William and Lucy Eng of Springfield, was married Sept. 3 to Mark Benedetti, son of Robert and Mary Benedetti of Clark. The Rev. John Gabriel officiated at the ceremony in St. Teresa's Church. A reception followed at the Maplewood Country Club.

Monika Eng served as maid of honor for her sister. Bridesmaids were Sandra Napolitano, sister of the bride, and Shawn Sabilla. Junior bridesmaids were Sra Starnio and Shannon Starnio. Flower girls were Kelly Intello and Stephanie Starnio.

Roger Benedetti served as best man. Ushers were James McFaddin, Eric Abvear, Chris Marrone, Duke Doshi and Michael Napolitano. Ring bearer was Steven Taraska.

The bride, who graduated from Kean University, Union, is employed as an associate editor by Edgell Communications, Randolph.

Her husband, who graduated from Rutgers University College of Pharmacy, Piscataway, is employed as a pharmacist by CVS, Hillsborough.

Internships available at newspaper

Internships are available at the *Echo Leader*. Responsibilities may include reporting, copy editing and photography and more. Get professional journalism experience while covering your hometown. For more information, call Mark Hrywna, regional editor, at (908) 686-7700. Ext. 328 or visit the office at 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union.

**We're asking
How do you feel about the election results?**



Andrew Chaplowitz

"Relieved. After the first 24 hours, there was a lot of suspense and excitement because it set a precedent in American history. The legal red tape left a bad taste. I voted for Ralph Nader as a protest."



Joseph Sarno

"I am disappointed that every vote did not count, but I think it will work out."



Rick Moro

"I was fine with it. I think it will work out very well."



Beth Gill

"I am just relieved that it's over!"

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Campbell assumes a new position

The New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network's Professional Education Manager Marilyn Campbell of Springfield recently assumed the presidency of the American Society of Minority Health and Transplant Professionals, an organization dedicated to the promotion of organ and tissue donation and transplantation among minorities.

Campbell won a national election among fellow ASMHTP members for

the presidency. She has served as the organization's secretary, board member and has been actively involved in the planning of many of its annual national meetings. With The Sharing Network since 1989, Campbell also has a long history with ASMHTP and is recognized as a charter member. She shares both organizations' dedication to educating the public about the need for minority representation in organ donation. Her one-year term as ASMHTP president will be served in a national advisory capacity for research and education on these

and other health-related issues.

Campbell received both a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Bachelor of Public Administration from Rutgers University, Newark. Campbell, who specializes in health administration, has also received certifications in cardio pulmonary resuscitation basic life support and critical care. In 1998, she was certified as a legal nurse consultant from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison.

Campbell, originally from the Caribbean island of Grenada, now resides in Springfield. She has two adult

daughters, a son-in-law and a 17-month-old grandson. Justin, who also resides in New Jersey.

Hausman trains in Japan

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Brett J. Hausman, son of Mary and Michael Hausman of Springfield, recently returned from a six-month deployment to Okinawa, Japan while assigned to Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, home based at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

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40th Anniversary in Business

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I have always respected my employees and they have been respectful to all our customers. We all get along like a family and we share this friendly atmosphere with our customers.

It is so much better to come to work and enjoy what you are doing. That brought me to where I am now, on Morris Ave.

I do love my work and I'm just as enthusiastic today as I was 40 years ago when I first began serving Springfield.

In honor of our 40th anniversary we will be announcing our celebration party at a later date.

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No dates set for more negotiations

(Continued from Page 1)
 place." Harelak added "We didn't leave the table, and we're still willing to negotiate. I'm not looking to break down negotiations. I'm still hoping for an amicable resolution." Harelak said she would like to see the situation resolved in a professional manner, with give and take.

Stadlack had a somewhat different perspective. "Ever since our first meeting in June, the township said they wanted to settle by the end of December," Stadlack told the *Echo Leader*. "We wanted to bargain in good faith. We've done everything to comply."

Of the Dec. 4 meeting, Stadlack said, "With only three items left, we assumed a settlement." At that meeting, Township Administrator Richard Sheola presented Stadlack with the township's counter proposal, which Stadlack deemed "iradicalous."
 It didn't acknowledge anything we agreed to in principle. We feel

they haven't bargained in good faith." No date has yet been set for the factions to meet again.

The Fire Department's negotiations predate police negotiations by six months. "We've been presenting what we'd like, and the township administrator keeps telling us he'll present it to the Township Committee," said Firefighter Frank Fiorelli, vice president of Firemen's Mutual Beneficial Association Local 57. "Then he tells us that there wasn't enough time at the meeting to present it. Twice he said that." Fiorelli said a request to sit down with the mayor has not yet brought an answer.

Fiorelli said negotiations actually date back to September 1999, when the association's president, James Beyer, began talking "both formally and informally" with Sheola. "There's no misunderstanding as to what our proposal is," Fiorelli said. "This is the last thing we wanted to have happen," he added.

Fiorelli said Beyer sent a letter to Sheola asking for an update on the situation, and received no response. Sheola said last week that the township is working toward setting up a mutually acceptable date to resume negotiations with the Fire Department.

Another union is currently in negotiations with the township. Deputy Tax Collector Theresa Stapleton approached the Township Committee at its last regular meeting on behalf of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, reminding both committee members and the public that "we're a viable union and want to be recognized." Sheola acknowledged the negotiations with AFSCME, which represents about 40 clerical and public works employees, pointing out "that we're continuing to review each other's proposals and we'll meet again this week and again in mid-January."

Building's flood history lengthy

(Continued from Page 1)
 been incorporated. A later renovation resulted in the removal of those improvements. Madrim recommended a return to the stair and window well features during an appearance before the Township Committee last year.

The building has been through its share of trauma since the Sept. 16 flood. Police Department operations were relocated to the Sarah Bailey Civic Center on Church Mall, plunging the township into a state of emergency from which it did not emerge until the department's return Jan. 18. The Crime Prevention and

Traffic Division, along with the Detective Division, were relocated, respectively, to Jonathan Dayton High School and the Girl Scout Building on Caldwell Place. All divisions returned to the Municipal Building in January.

The flood also resulted in the shift of the police records room to the building's second floor. The police locker room, formerly located in the basement, took the records room's first-floor space.

Additional headaches resulted when an anonymous call, reporting a foul odor, made to the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health Program in Trenton, resulted in an

inspection of the basement. The ensuing report described "visible microbial contamination" in some areas of the basement.

An Edison-based firm hired to clean the basement as a consequence of the report was later fired by the township for improperly mixing a cleaning agent, causing an odor and sending three township employees to the hospital to have their eyes washed. The company was fired and the basement was later cleaned by another maintenance company in time for the Trenton-imposed deadline.

New policies added

(Continued from Page 1)
 use by the public, board member Peter Goggi informed his colleagues that dog feces have recently become a problem on school grounds. Dumping is prohibited on school property.

"People are walking their dogs and not collecting after them with the proper pooper-scooper tools," Goggi said.

The board also fashioned a new computer policy that closely aligns itself with the district's strategic plan. Developed in conjunction with the board's Technology Committee, the policy outlines safety procedures and guidelines for Internet access. Effective after the new year, all students and guardians will be required to sign an agreement annually prior to using the school's computers.

In the board's commitment to maintaining a safe learning environment, one of the regulations on the policy agreement states, "I will not agree to meet with someone I have only communicated with online with-

out my parents' approval and participation."

The board also initiated a half-dozen new policies to complement the intent of the district's master plan, strategic plan and five-year long-range facilities plan. Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller will now officially be responsible for all aspects of any remodeling, renovation or construction projects within the district.

Additionally, the board will annually review its facilities to ensure they support the district's educational needs. The review will include a demographic estimate of expected enrollments that assesses teacher-student ratios.

Another policy now conspires with this year's historic school construction legislation. To ensure that the district's facilities meet the future needs of the educational program, all existing school facilities also will be evaluated annually to determine the district's long-range facilities plan.

Helping the needy



In an ongoing effort to help the needy, members of Springfield's St. James the Apostle School student council, from left, Colleen Spadora, John Pflug, Danielle DePrimo and Joseph Liggins collect sandwiches from the entire student body on the last Wednesday of each month. The sandwiches are delivered to St. Joseph's Soup Kitchen in Elizabeth by the Social Concerns Committee at St. James Church.

CLUBS IN THE NEWS

Legion inducts officers

Springfield American Legion Post 228 conducted its annual holiday party Dec. 3 at L'Affaire in Mountaintop with 40 members and guests present.

Commander William Smith introduced the officers for the new year and Chaplain Warren Sim gave the invocation. Entertainment was provided by Freddie Barnett.

Commander William Smith and Vice Commander Ethel Smith gave gifts to all present, and Hazel Hargrove, president of the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 228, gifted the women in honor of the auxiliary's 50th anniversary.

Newcomers plan events

The Mountaintop Newcomers Club is a social organization whose purpose is to extend a friendly greet-

ing to newcomers in town, to help them meet other newcomers, and to do everything possible to make them feel welcome and part of the community. Membership is open to new residents of Mountaintop or established residents who have experienced a change in lifestyle, such as the birth of a child, or a change in employment or marital status.

For membership information, call Heather Pisano at (908) 389-0455.

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Springfield Podiatry Center

Dr. Nelson-Kelly received her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD and her podiatric medicine degree from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, New York, NY. She served as Vice-president of her academic class and as National Membership Chairperson for the Student National Podiatric Medical Association while at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Nelson-Kelly completed a rotating podiatric residency at Gouverneur Hospital, New York, NY and a completed podiatric orthopedic residency at the Veterans Hospital in East Orange, NJ. Dr. Nelson-Kelly is currently a member of the Tri-State National Podiatric Medical Association. She is currently one of the health professionals who responds to the numerous questions on the Foot.com website, "the world's most comprehensive foot health website."

Podiatry is the medical discipline concerned with the diagnosis, medical, surgical and mechanical management of disease and injuries of the foot. Some of the foot disorders we treat are diabetic foot care, wound care in the elderly, ingrown toenails, corns, and calluses. Also, we address problems of discoloration, pain, redness or swelling of the toenails and skin. At the Springfield Podiatry Center, we will evaluate nail pain and other circulatory complaints. Our office stresses the proper vitamin and dietary guidelines for healing of foot wounds. Many patients require surgical correction of bunions, hammer toes, neuromas and other foot ailments.

During this holiday season many people will be busy pounding the streets and spending hours on their feet shopping for that special gift. This is the time of the year when most people complain of heel pain. Heel pain can be the result of planter fasciitis, heel spur or a heel neuroma. Planter fasciitis is the inflammation of the planter fascia, which is the fibrous band of tissue that runs from the heel to the ball of the foot. This is usually very painful in the morning because the tissue tightens during periods of inactivity, generally while you are sleeping. Many people with flat feet (pronation) or high arches (convex) are common sufferers of this syndrome. Planter fasciitis is usually associated with a heel spur since the spur may result when the fascia tears near the heel bone.

A heel neuroma is less common, but also very painful. A neuroma is the inflammation and swelling of the nerve in the heel area. Common symptoms are pain, burning and possible numbness. All of these problems can be serious and should be treated by a podiatrist. The treatment options usually involve foot exercise and stretching, strapping, physical therapy, steroid injections, oral anti-inflammatory medications and orthotic devices.

Please take advantage of all of the services the Springfield Podiatry Center can provide you and your family. Contact Dr. Nelson-Kelly at (973) 379-1113 for your free foot consultation today. Your feet will thank you for the visit!

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Wanted for carjacking

Fire whips through leaf piles

Springfield
A fire at a county leaf composting facility in the Mountain Road area was caused by a compost turner Dec. 14.

The machine, described in a Fire Department report as "well-involved in fire," reportedly resulted from a diesel fuel leak in its engine compartment. The fire spread to several piles of leaves, but was extinguished with foam by firefighters. The operator of the compostor told firefighters he tried unsuccessfully to put the fire out with a dry chemical extinguisher. No injuries were reported. Mutual aid companies from Summit, Union, Westfield and Cranford assisted in the incident.

FIRE BLOTTER

- The department sent an engine to Union Township on a request from Mutual aid Saturday.
- Two medical service calls and a reported gas leak were handled by the department Friday.
- Two activated fire alarms, two medical service calls and a car fire on Route 78 West were answered by township firefighters Dec. 14.
- Calls reporting a smoky odor, a brush fire at a Mountain Avenue business, a downed power line on Fieldstone Drive and two medical service emergencies were handled Dec. 13.
- High winds resulted in a townshipwide power outage Dec. 12. The department's day began at 7:55 a.m. with a report of an arcing wire in a Rose Avenue tree and ended 25 calls later at 8:40 p.m. with a report of smoke in an Oak Ridge residence. Activated alarms and alarm-related problems resulted in 15 calls alone. Two downed power lines, along with a furnace problem at a Morris Avenue residence, a call for a water flow alarm at a Maple Avenue apartment, a pair of lock-ins and one lock-out were also handled by firefighters.
- The department answered six medical service calls Dec. 11.
- A lock-out sent firefighters to a Marcy Avenue residence Dec. 10.

Mountainside
• Borough firefighters used two pumps to remove seven inches of water from an Evergreen Avenue basement Sunday. The water resulted from heavy rain.
• A dog dish left on a stove caused a heavy smoke condition at a Poplar Avenue residence Friday. No injuries were reported.

Photos on exhibit

The beauty of the four seasons and the serenity of nature command the works of freelance photographer Kulbir Singh Bhalla of Red Bank.

His photographic work will appear in an exhibit called "In Praise of Monmouth Landscapes" at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., through Jan. 11.

The focus of this exhibit is the local landscapes found in scenic Monmouth County. All the photographs were taken within 10 miles of Middletown. Specializing in nature shots and portraiture, Bhalla has displayed his photographs in more than 30 exhibits throughout the state in the last decade.

Hours of the exhibit are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sundays hours are from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

For information, call (973) 376-4930.

Volunteers needed

The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., is sponsoring a volunteer homebound delivery program.

The library is seeking volunteers who are interested in delivering library materials to shut-ins this winter.

To become a volunteer, call the library at (973) 376-4930.

Police seek suspect for carjacking spree

Mountainside
A carjacking in the parking lot of a Route 22 restaurant Dec. 12 has the Mountainside Police Department on a manhunt.

According to Detective Lt. Todd Turner, the suspect, described as a slightly built black male with a medium complexion, with brown eyes and black hair, and approximately five feet 10 inches tall, approached a male driver and demanded that he surrender his vehicle at gunpoint. The suspect then fled east on Route 22 in the victim's 1998 White Ford Expedition.

Turner said that two other vehicles were stolen out of the lot at the same time, leading police to believe that three suspects were acting in concert. The other two vehicles — a red Mercedes convertible and a 2000 silver Acura — were later recovered in Newark by the Essex-Union Auto Theft Task Force. The Acura had been used in a robbery in East Orange. The suspect was reported to be wearing a black skull cap and a green and black jacket. Anyone with any information on the matter should contact Turner at (908) 232-8100.

• A man identified as Crist Colon, 18, of Plainfield was arrested by Borough Police Saturday and charged

POLICE BLOTTER

with hindering apprehension for providing false information to a police officer. He was stopped on Route 22 East for having fictitious plates. A man identified as Pablo Colon Jr., 22, was arrested later that day after a motor vehicle stop on Route 22 East for having a contempt warrant out of the borough.

• Union resident Phillip Price, 26, was arrested for driving with a suspended license Friday.

• Chandor Wooten was arrested in Newark at the Essex County Jail Dec. 13 on warrants totaling \$960.

• Piscataway resident Alexander Carvajal Angarita, 22, was arrested in his hometown Dec. 12 for outstanding warrants in the amount of \$535.

Springfield

• Macy's Furniture Store on Route 22 West reported the theft of three Italian import vans valued at \$525 Sunday.

• A Basking Ridge resident reported the theft of \$250 cash, a checkbook, credit cards, a driver's license and a cell phone from Zany Brany on Route 22 Dec. 14.

Let there be light



Photo By Milton Mills

Holiday lights and decorations abound on the home and lawn of a local residence on the Mountainside/Springfield border. Springfield Fire Chief William Gras has encouraged homeowners and business owners to contact the Fire Department at (973) 912-2265 with any questions regarding tree placement or any other holiday safety tips.

Westfield/Mountainside Red Cross chapter seeks volunteers

The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross, 321 Elm St., Westfield, is currently looking for people to become volunteers.

The Motor Works Program, which provides local residents with transportation to medical/professional appointments, is looking for drivers.

Drivers are needed Monday through Friday, and hours and days are flexible.

Clerical and data entry volunteers are also needed. Volunteers can do as little or as many hours/days as they would like. No previous experience is

needed, and training will be provided.

The Red Cross is also seeking individuals to instruct CPR, First Aid, babysitting and life guarding classes. Interested individuals should call Health and Safety Director Linda Johnson at (908) 232-7090 to find out more details or to set up an interview.

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Area houses of worship plan services and events for Christ's birthday

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

Area churches are making special plans for the celebration of Christmas, with sacred services, children's events, caroling and concerts scheduled.

Summit

• St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 587 Springfield Ave., will start Christmas Eve with a 4 p.m. worship service for children and their families, an informal communion service, geared for children eight years old and younger, but all are welcome. The Carol Choir and Alleluia Singers will perform, and the children will sing Christmas carols taught to them in Sunday School. Sister Laura Bernardo will give a meditation on the Christmas story, and nursery will be provided for infants.

At 5:30 p.m., Christmas Eve, the traditional candlelight service of Holy Communion will be conducted, with the Christmas Band featured. The Rev. Wayne Dreyman will bring the Christmas message. Also on Christmas Eve, at 9:30 p.m. Antonio Vivaldi's "Gloria" will be presented by the adult choir and chamber orchestra as a prelude to the 10 p.m. traditional

Christmas Eve service, with Holy Communion.

At 10 a.m. Christmas Day, the church will conduct an informal service of Holy Communion, with the singing of favorite Christmas carols. Nursery is not available at this service.

• Calvary Episcopal Church, 31 Woodland Ave., will conduct five services on Christmas Eve. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at both 8 and 10 a.m. Then at 4 p.m., a Christmas pageant and Eucharist are scheduled. Later on, at 10:30 p.m., a choral prelude will be followed by an 11 p.m. Festival Eucharist of the Nativity.

Christmas Day will be celebrated with an 11 a.m. Eucharist. On Christmas Day, a dinner is planned from 1 to 3 p.m. in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome. Volunteers are still needed to help the event go smoothly. Call Barbara Lee at 508-1137 to volunteer.

• St. Teresa of Avila Roman Catholic Church, 306 Morris Ave., will offer many special services and concerts to celebrate Christmas, with two evening Masses at 4 and 5:30 p.m. Dec. 23, and many Christmas Eve morning and evening Masses

The very word, 'Christmas,' literally means 'Christ's Mass,' or tribute to the birthday of the Christ Child, which reportedly took place two millennia ago on Dec. 24 after midnight in the town of Bethlehem.

begin at 7:30 a.m., with others celebrated at 9 and 10:30 a.m., along with a special 11 a.m. Spanish Mass in Memorial Hall.

On Christmas Eve, afternoon Masses begin at 4 p.m., followed by Masses at 6:30, 10 and 10:30 p.m., each with carols by the choir. Christmas Day Masses again begin at 7:30 a.m., then continue at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon, and 1:15 p.m. in Spanish.

Besides these traditional Christmas services, the children will give their own pageant Jan. 7 at both noon and 3 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

• The United Methodist Church of Summit, 17 Kent Place Blvd., offered warm cider and an unfolding Christmas Story on the church lawn Saturday and Sunday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Church members became the actors in the drama. Live animals, including a donkey, sheep and goats, were on

hand to bring realism to the pageant. This special event is performed one weekend a year, just before Christmas.

Christmas Eve services will be conducted at 5 and 11 p.m., both traditional family candlelight services.

The Moxvoldan Brass Quartet will perform at the 11 p.m. service. • The Central Presbyterian Church, 70 Maple St., will conduct Christmas Eve services beginning with a 10 a.m. service of lessons and carols. Two family services, at 4 and 5 p.m., will feature children's choirs, with child care available.

Traditional candlelight Christmas Eve services will be celebrated both at 8 and 11 p.m., with special Christmas music beginning at 7:30 p.m.

• The Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary, 543 Springfield Ave., will open its doors to the public for two special Christmas services, according to the Proress, Sister Mary Joseph. A traditional midnight Mass is planned on Christmas Eve, with carols. The doors will open at 11:30 p.m. for prayer and meditation. The second Mass will be at 8 a.m. Christmas Day. All are welcome.

• The Unitarian Church at 4 Waldron Ave., will conduct a 10 a.m. Christmas Eve service, featuring

Dicken's "Christmas Carol," with the Rev. Oren Peterson presiding at 6 and 8 p.m. respectively, there will be candlelight services, with carols, readings and poetry recitations.

Springfield

Area churches in Springfield are planning special services and musical events for Christmas.

• The First Presbyterian Church, 37 Church Mall, will offer 10:15 a.m. services Christmas Eve. Also on Christmas Eve, two candlelight communion services will be held, one at 4 p.m., which is the more informal carol service, and again at 10 p.m., with special choir music.

• Saint James the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, 45 S. Springfield Ave., will conduct the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 1 p.m. Saturday prior to the liturgies of Christmas. On Christmas Eve at 5 p.m., carols will be led by the Cherub Choir, Choristers and Contemporary Ensemble, followed by a Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Day, four Masses will be offered. They will be at 7:30, 9, and 10:30 a.m. and at noon.

• The Evangelical Baptist Church, 242 Shunpike Road, will conduct its traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7 p.m. Devotional thoughts will be brought by Vernon Pierre, a senior at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. All are welcome.

• Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 639 Mountain Ave., will conduct a family Christmas Eve service at 4 p.m. at Jonathan Dayton High School, 101 Mountain Ave. A candlelight service will take place at 7 p.m. at the same location. Child care will be provided at both of these services, and the

entire community is welcome.

• The Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall, will conduct a Christmas Eve service at 10:30 a.m. The traditional 7:30 p.m. candlelight service will also be offered, with carols, telling of prophecies of the Hebrew scriptures and the Christmas story. Candles will be lit to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

At 7:40 p.m. on Christmas Day, a service will be held to worship in the ancient style of the early church, with silent meditation, special prayers, in the style of the Christian Community of Taizé, France. Light refreshments will be served after this service, and all are welcome.

The church also needs singers for the music ministry at the Christmas services. Interested singers should call the church for information at (973) 376-1695.

Mountainside

• Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, 300 Central Ave., will conduct two Christmas Eve Masses, at 5 and 10 p.m.

Three Masses will be celebrated on Christmas Day, at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

• The Community Presbyterian Church, 1459 Deer Path, will conduct a choral program tonight at 8 p.m., Handel's "Messiah," and all are welcome.

On Christmas Eve, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service, the children of the parish will participate in a pageant, and at 5 p.m. the family candlelight service will begin. There will also be another more formal candlelight service at 11 p.m.

What's the meaning of Christmas?

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

The wondrous and holy season of Christmas is almost here, and area Christian churches are making exciting plans for special services in honor of the event. But the real miracle of Christmas first happened to a poor family from an obscure village 2000 years ago.

The very word "Christmas" literally means "Christ's Mass," or tribute to the birthday of the Christ Child, which reportedly took place two millennia ago on Dec. 24 after midnight in the town of Bethlehem. Christians believe this birth was the fulfillment of the prophecy from the Old Testament, especially the Book of Isaiah, when God promised a savior or messiah to be born in Israel.

The Christmas story, as it is called, is retold again and again in story, pageant and song in Christian churches all over the world at this time of year. Christians believe the prophecies were fulfilled, and that the baby, named Jesus, meaning "savior," was born to Mary, a young girl of about 16, who had been chosen by God for this purpose. With her was her espoused husband, the much older Joseph, a poor carpenter from Nazareth. Christians also believe in the miracle of the Virgin birth, and pay homage and honor to Mary because of this.

The common thread running through all the gospel stories is one of a poor and law-abiding couple, who traveled by camel many miles to meet the required Roman rule of registration for taxes in the land of the family origin. This was the "City of David," or Bethlehem, for both Mary and Joseph.

By the time they arrived, Mary was about to give birth, and the famous story goes on to say, "There was no room for them in the inn," but because of her condition, the owner let them stay in the stable with the animals.

According to tradition, there, in those humble surroundings, Jesus was born late that first Christmas Day, surrounded by the animals of the stable. This is why many Christian churches have live nativity scenes outside their sanctuaries, using real farm animals in displays of the scene from long ago.

According to scripture, Christmas may be so special because it is the story of poor people, chosen by God, who were temporarily homeless, who depended totally on God for help. They not only received all they needed, but civilization was so shaken by the event that even time itself began a new count after that date, as in A.D., or Anno Dominic, the "year of the Lord" in Latin, and also B.C., or "before Christ," in English.

Today Christmas is a time for gift-giving, and expensive gifts and parties. But the Christian doctrine focuses on the gift that God gave to humanity — Jesus — and the churches often despair of the materialism at this time of year.

Beautiful services and magnificent music are conducted, such as Handel's "Messiah," written especially for the Christmas story, and children's plays, where they dress up like Mary and Joseph and the angels; some pageants even have the children playing the animals in the stable. Many churches have their biggest turnout at this season.

Volunteers are sought for First Night

Still haven't figured out what you are doing this New Year's Eve? Join in for the eighth annual First Night Summit festivities by being one of the many volunteers who make this great event happen.

Admission badges for the big night went on sale Dec. 1 for \$10 and are still available at the Summit Chamber offices and local merchants.

The committee is actively recruiting volunteers and site managers for

the various events.

If interested in volunteering, contact Diane Gallo at the Summit Chamber Offices at (908) 522-1722 or e-mail the committee at info@suburbanchambers.org.

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*Annual Percentage Yield. When balance falls below \$1,500, a minimum monthly service charge of \$10.00 is imposed and no interest is earned. Three checks permitted per cycle. There is a penalty fee imposed for excess transactions. Rates subject to change without prior notice. †Annual Percentage Yield. When balance falls below \$1,000, a minimum monthly service charge of \$10.00 is imposed and no interest is earned. This account offers unlimited checkwriting privileges. Rates subject to change without prior notice. ‡When balance falls below \$2,500, a minimum monthly service charge of \$10.00 is imposed and no interest is earned. Three checks permitted per cycle. There is a penalty fee imposed for excess transactions. Rates subject to change without prior notice.

step into something more original.

ROMAN JEWELRY



Registration begins

Registration for the 2001-02 pre-kindergarten program in the Springfield Public Schools, as well as those children eligible for kindergarten in September 2001, not currently enrolled in the Walton School Early Childhood Center's pre-kindergarten program will be held on the following days.

- Jan. 11, last names A to E, 10 to 11 a.m. - 1 to 2 p.m.
Jan. 12, last names F to K, 10 to 11 a.m. - 1 to 2 p.m.
Jan. 16, last names L to Q, 10 to 11 a.m. - 1 to 2 p.m.
Jan. 17, last names R to Z, 10 to 11 a.m. - 1 to 2 p.m.

Registration will be conducted at the Edward V. Walton School Early Childhood Center. Parents are requested to call the school at (973) 376-1304 to confirm a date and time, or if necessary, to schedule an alternate registration session.

To be eligible for pre-kindergarten, a child must be a resident of Springfield, and be four years old on or before Dec. 1, 2001. Children entering kindergarten, must reach their fifth birthday on or before Dec. 1, 2001.

Down at the drive



Members of Cub Scout Pack 177 of Mountainside, from left in front row, Nick Barbera, Louis Loftus, Chris Whyte, BJ Giannone, Eric Whyte, Billy Storza, Kevin Storza, and, back row, Trevor Hain gather at the Community Presbyterian Church for the pack's annual food drive. The cubs collected thousands of pounds of food last month for the needy.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, N.J. RESOLUTION FOR AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO KELLER & KIRKPATRICK, INC. BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY. WHEREAS, the Township of Springfield is in need of contracting for engineering, and related services for replacement of the emergency generator at the Fisher Pumping Station within the Township of Springfield, County of Union, State of New Jersey...

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, N.J. PUBLIC NOTICE ASSESSMENT LIST IS READY Springfield, Tax Assessor, Edward Galante has announced that the assessment list for the 2000 tax year will be available for inspection by any tax payer on Thursday, December 28, 2000 at the assessor's office, room 203 of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Edward Galante Tax Assessor (\$5.75) U2761 ECL Dec 21, 2000

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, N.J. PUBLIC NOTICE In compliance with NJAC 19 12A-1.3 Please be advised that the Tax Assessor and members of the Tax Assessor's staff in the Top of Springfield are available to taxpayers and any member of the general public Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Edward Galante, CTA Springfield, Tax Assessor U2760 ECL Dec 21, 2000 (\$4.50)

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, N.J. PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that decisions were made at a public meeting by the Mountainside Planning Board on November 9, 2000 at the Mountainside Municipal Building, 1365 Route 22, Mountainside, NJ 07093. U2772 ECL Dec 21, 2000 (\$8.00)

Table with 2 columns: PUBLIC NOTICE and PUBLIC NOTICE. It lists various public notices including Planning Board Equal Notice and Township of Springfield Public Notice.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, N.J. Pursuant to the New Jersey Public Laws of 1975, Chapter 231, the Regular Meetings of the Township Committee are held in the Committee Room, Municipal Building, the Monday Work Shop Sessions are held in the Annex Building. The Meeting Dates for the year 2001 are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Month (JANUARY to DECEMBER), Day, and Time. It lists the schedule for Work Shop Sessions and Regular meetings for each month.

Large advertisement for Woodward Properties Realtors. Features the headline 'Happy Holidays! Our Best Wishes for Health and Happiness throughout the New Year.' and lists several realtors including Norman C. Lubeck, Robert Lubeck, George Bollman, Annemarie Cahill, Elizabeth Diecke, Grace Fiocco, Joe Grasso, Nancy B. Harmon, Jackie Jacovino, Annette Mackie, Faith Marshall, Jennifer Marshall, Yvonne Woodard, and Denise Zotti. Includes the phone number 908.598.0155 and website www.woodwardhomes.com.

OBITUARIES

John Lewis Dysart

John Lewis Dysart, 69, of Greensboro, Ga., formerly of Springfield, died Nov. 15 in Middle Georgia Hospital, Ga.
Born in Essex County, Mr. Dysart also lived in Bloomfield and Springfield before moving to Georgia. He was a programmer and production planner for Schering-Plough Corp., Kenilworth, and retired in 1972. Mr. Dysart also owned and operated J and J Sports Shop, Bloomfield. He was a 1962 graduate of Rutgers University of New Jersey. Mr. Dysart was an avid outdoorsman and golfer. He was a hunter safety instructor for the state of New Jersey. Mr. Dysart was a past committee member at Reynolds Plantation, Greensboro, and a former mentor at the T. T. Colby Elementary School in New Jersey.
Surviving are his wife, Joyce; a daughter, Carol Oskewald; two sons, Steven and David; and four grandchildren.

Lillian M. Hodapp

Lillian M. Hodapp, 85, of Springfield, died Dec. 14 in Railway Hospital.
Born in Toronto, Canada, Mrs. Hodapp lived in England and in East Orange before moving to Springfield 50 years ago.
Surviving are her husband of 60

years, Leonard J. Sr., a son, Leonard J. Jr., a daughter, Linda F. Buehler, a sister, Olive Rivers, six grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

Marilyn E. Blumhard

Marilyn E. Blumhard, 72, of Mountaineer, formerly of Springfield, died Dec. 16 in Genova-Fairfax Hospital, Fairfax, Va.
Born in Newark, Mrs. Blumhard was raised in Springfield and lived in Westfield before moving to Mountaineer in 1979. She was the office manager for Meeker Sharkey Insurance Co., Cranford, for many years and retired seven years ago. Before that, Mrs. Blumhard worked at Brown and Brown Insurance, Elizabeth, and at Carpenter Technology, Union. She graduated from Berkeley Secretarial School.
Surviving are a son, Christopher; a daughter, Cheryl Bozini; and five grandchildren.

Anna Kolthaus

Anna Kolthaus, 78, of Springfield, died Dec. 12 in Rumlins Specialized Hospital, Berkeley Heights.
Born in Newark, Mrs. Kolthaus moved to Springfield 50 years ago. She was a member of the Springfield Senior Citizens.
Surviving are a daughter, Christina R. Wich, and a sister, Clara Entz.

Genevieve Karpinski

Genevieve Karpinski, 76, of Summit, died Dec. 15 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.
Born and raised in Dover, Mrs. Karpinski moved to Summit 52 years ago.
Surviving are her husband, Walter, three daughters, Carol DiPano, Diane Homer and Karen, and a brother, Chester Olemski.

Dr. Ellis Mischel

Dr. Ellis Mischel, 82, of Maplewood, formerly of Summit, died Dec. 16 in Morristown Memorial Hospital.
Born in Stroudsburg, Pa., Dr. Mischel lived in Jersey City, Manhattan and Summit before moving to Maplewood five years ago. He was a board-certified psychiatrist in South Orange for many years. Dr. Mischel was a graduate of Louisiana State University, where he received his medical degree. He was a member of the American Psychiatric Association and the American Medical Association. Dr. Mischel served in the Army Medical Corps during World War II.
Surviving are two sons, Richard and Adam; a daughter, Elyse Cohen; and three grandchildren.

Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-864-8911.

Waiting for Santa



Photo By Barbara Kakkalis

Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association President Eric Evers points out the arrival of Santa Claus to his two-year-old son Patrick at the group's annual holiday party for children Dec. 10. Children gathered inside the Fire Department to enjoy the festive event which was sponsored by the FMBIA.

Reading group will meet on Jan. 10

"The Hours" by Michael Cunningham is the next selection for discussion by the Summit Free Public Library reading group at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 10 in the Ernest S. Hickok room, 75 Maple St.

The author of "At Home at the End of the World" and "Flesh and Blood" draws inventively on the life and work of Virginia Woolf to tell the story of a group of contemporary characters struggling with the conflicting claims of love and inheritance, hope and despair. The narrative of Woolf's last days before her suicide early in World War II counterpoints the fictional stories of Richard, a famous poet, and his lifelong friend, Clarissa, who strives to give a balanced and rewarding life in spite of the demands of friends, lovers and family.

The next title for consideration will be "Mr. Ives' Christmas," by Oscar Hijuelos Feb. 7. All of the program will be conducted in the library's meeting room and are open to the public. Prior registration is not required.

For information or directions, contact the reference department at 273-0350, ext. 3.

... on Earth

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - Holiday Services at 10 AM & 7 PM (Candlelight)

DIVERSE PEOPLE. DIVERSE BELIEFS. ONE FAITH.

- Caring, active congregation encourages you to live with faith.
- Religious education program teaches children all religions, emphasizing values and service.
- Service and church school, Sunday 10 AM.

www.holycross.org 770 Park Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10022

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF PLAINFIELD

Calvary Lutheran Church
108 Eastman St., Cranford
908-276-2418

The Rev. George W. Freyberger, Pastor
Jaye S. Newbold, Associate in Ministry

Find Your Way To Worship Services This Christmas.
December 24

9:30 a.m. Advent Service, Holy Communion
4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve Service
7:00 p.m. Family Service of Holy Communion
10:30 p.m. Candlelight Service of Holy Communion

December 25
9:30 a.m.
Christmas Service of Holy Communion

CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA
NORTH BROAD & KING STREETS • HILLSIDE
908-351-1515

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE
Sunday, December 24th
Mass of Midnight 12:00 Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday, December 25th
9:30 AM and 12:00 NOON

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE
Sunday, December 31st
8:30 PM

Prayer Vigil for the Passage to the Year 2001
11:00 PM
Followed by Mass at Midnight
12:00 Midnight

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Monday, January 1, 2001
Octave of Christmas
Mary, Mother of God
Mess 11:00 AM

CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

At Christmas, it's not the presents that matter. It's the presence of God who loves you dearly. Come share the miracle of Christmas with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

*Christmas Eve 4:30 P.M. Sunday School Worship
*Christmas Eve 7:30 P.M. Candlelight Communion
*Christmas Eve 11:00 P.M. Candlelight Communion
*Christmas Day 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship
*New Year's Eve 7:30 P.M. Candlelight Communion

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
2222 Vauxhall Road, Union, New Jersey
Sunday Worship 8 & 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:15 AM.
Rev. Donald L. Brand, Pastor
(908) 686-3965

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2000

CHRISTMAS EVE
Special Music, Pageant and Communion
Sunday, December 24, at 4:30pm
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
(Founded in 1706) • The Reverend Joe Parrish, Rector
61 BROAD STREET, ELIZABETH • Tel: (908) 352-1218
(In the heart of Historic Midtown Elizabeth on Broad Street, half a block south of East Jersey Street)

Come and experience the Joy of Christmas!!!
Organ & Trumpet, Angels, Wise Men, Shepherds, the Holy Family with the Baby Jesus, Christmas Carols
Free Parking in Municipal Lot on Jefferson Street behind Church

Christmas Still Real
★ Still Relevant at

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
301 Tucker Ave., Union
908-688-0714

CHRISTMAS EVE, Sunday, Dec. 24
10 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service
CHRISTMAS DAY, Monday, Dec. 25
9 a.m. Slovak 11 a.m. English

SUNDAY SERVICES
9:00 am Slovak
11:00 am English

Jesus Christ, A gift worth sharing

Take a break from the hustle & bustle...
Experience the Heart of Christmas
Special celebrations for YOU

REALLY Great Music • Uplifting REAL-life messages • REAL People like you

Christmas Eve Celebration

Sunday • December 24
4:00pm FAMILY WORSHIP 7:00pm CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Childcare provided at both services

Experience the real meaning of Christmas together!

While we are building on our site, all Sunday services are at 10am (except Dec. 24th) at Jonathan Dayton High School Auditorium, 101 Mountain Ave., Springfield

Holy Cross Lutheran Church • 639 Mountain Ave., Springfield
973-379-4525 • www.holycrosslch.org

Christ Church Summit
Invites You to Christmas Services:

Sunday December 24th
10:00 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service

5:00 p.m. Family Service Featuring the story of Christmas performed by the children of Christ Church

10:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols, beginning with a thirty minute organ recital

An Open & Affirming Congregation
561 Springfield Avenue, Summit • 908-273-5549
www.christchurchsummit.org

A 39-year employee



Photo By Milton Mills

Deputy Chief Thomas Murray spends some time with his one-and-a-half-year-old granddaughter Shaina after receiving an honorary service award from the city for his 39 years of service with the Summit Fire Department.

NEWS CLIPS

Offices closed Monday

City offices will be closed on Christmas Day. The public library will be closed on Sunday and Monday.

Garbage will be collected on Christmas Day, but the municipal disposal areas will be closed to the public.

Christmas Day is a parking meter holiday. No fees are required for any on-street meters and no permits or fees are required for parking in any daytime parking lot maintained by either the city or Summit Downtown Inc.

Tax list will be ready

Taxpayers may review real estate property tax assessments on or after Wednesday, when the proof copy of the 2001 Summit tax list will be available for inspection.

The certified final 2001 tax list will be available after Jan. 10. The assessor's office is always

open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays for inspection of the tax list.

Parking permits expire

Dec. 29 is the last day to renew resident quarterly overnight parking permits, which expire at midnight on Dec. 31. The new permits must be properly displayed in the vehicle on Dec. 31.

Overnight parking is prohibited on all streets and in all lots within the city limits, except for the following seven lots: Broad Street Parking Garage, Bank Street, Maple Street behind CVS, Park and Shop No. 3 on DeForest and Summit avenues, Park and Shop No. 4, located at street level at the garage, Sampson, next to the middle school, and the Chestnut Avenue East and West lots. Commercial vehicles may park overnight only in Park and Shop No. 4.

Permits may be purchased at the city clerk's office at City Hall for \$45

per quarter. If ordering a permit by mail, do not send cash.

Checks should be made payable to City of Summit and accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope. Be sure to identify your current lot. Since mail deliveries are delayed in this holiday season, and City Hall will be closed on Monday, allow extra time for receipt of your new permit before the quarter begins.

Tree collection to begin

Starting Jan. 2, Summit Public Works crews will collect Christmas trees placed at the curb. The service will continue through Feb. 2.

The trees are taken to the city recycling center and reduced to wood chips. Residents should remove tree stands and other metal objects that will interfere with the operation of the chipper. Trees should not be placed in plastic wrappers.

Residents wishing to drop off trees at the recycling center may do so from 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday

through Friday, and from 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Saturdays.

Wraths are not recyclable but will be collected at curbside on regular garbage collection days.

Permits are available

Superintendent of Public Works Paul Cascas is reminding residents that telephone books must be recycled as mixed paper collect at the Summit Recycling Center as part of the curbside recycling program.

The recycling center is open to residents only and the maroon combination parking permit and disposal area sticker must be displayed on your car. Permits, temporary permits and applications are available at the Summit Permit Center, 71 Summit Ave. For information call the center at (908) 522-0357.

Applications and temporary permits only are available at the city clerk's office at City Hall, 512 Springfield Ave. To reach the clerk's office call (908) 273-6400.



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ST. GEORGES AVENUE, RAHWAY
732-382-5300

CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24TH
4PM CHILDREN'S LITURGY
9:30 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS
10:00PM DIVINE LITURGY OF CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS DAY
10:00AM
DIVINE LITURGY

Evangel Baptist Church
242 Shunpike Road • Springfield
973-379-4351

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
DECEMBER 24TH
AT 7:00 P.M.

Christ
our
hope & peace

Come Worship With Us!

MOUNTAINSIDE CHAPEL

Christmas Eve Service
Sunday -- December 24, 2000 -- 7:00 PM

Our Sunday Worship Celebration
begins at 9:45 AM.
Worship Service at 11:00 AM
Please come and join us.

We are a Bible-believing church
inviting you to receive the grace and love that God
freely gives to all who place their faith in Christ.

1180 Spruce Drive
Mountainside
(908) 232-3456

Website:
<http://mountainsidemc.com/chapel>

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
OF AMERICA

Christ Lutheran Church
1359 MORRIS AVE. AT STERLING RD. • UNION
PHONE (908) 686-0188

CHRISTMAS EVE
8:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion

UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF SUMMIT
Kent Place Blvd. & DeForest Ave.
908-277-1700

Drive by and see
THE WREATH!
The biggest Christmas
Wreath in the world!
14 ft. wide, thousands of lights,
it's absolutely majestic!

Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve Worship Services
5:00 p.m. Service for Children
11:00 p.m. Traditional Service
of Carols and Candlelight

Where is the "PRINCE OF PEACE"?

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given...and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."
Isaiah 9:6

Scripture describes Christ as the Prince (or King) of Peace. Yet, one glance at our world shows us lack thereof. How can this be?

We are all too familiar with man's violence against man. Discrimination of lack of peace is often the root problem. Where is the Prince of Peace?

He does not reign in the hearts of those who ignore or reject Him. His reign is the hearts and lives of those who totally yield to His rulership. "The peace that passes all understanding" rests within surrendered life... Then you'll truly have a Merry Christmas.

Trinity Pentecostal Holiness Fellowship
Invites you
Sunday 11am
Sunday Evening 6:30pm

Midweek Service Wednesday 7:30pm
Cranford VFW Post 335
South Ave. E.

Rev. Frank Sforza • (908) 276-6244

First Congregational Church
1340 Burnet Ave.,
Union

10:30 am
Worship with Children's Pageant
7:30 pm
Family Candlelight Service with Brass

Rev. Linda Higgins (908) 688-4333

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
1212 KELLY ST. UNION, 908-688-1232

Mass Schedule
December 24th - Christmas Eve
5:00 PM Mass - Family Liturgy
7:30 PM Mass
12:00 Midnight Mass (Choir 11:30 PM)

December 25th - Christmas Day
7:30 AM Mass
9:00 AM Mass - Family Liturgy
10:30 AM Mass
12:00 Noon Mass

St. John's Lutheran Church
All are Welcome!

Christmas Eve:
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion with Carols
4:00 p.m. Family Service
5:30 p.m. Candlelight Service of Holy Communion
9:30 p.m. Vivaldi's Gloria presented by St. John's Choir
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service of Holy Communion
Childcare provided at all services until 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day:
10:00 a.m. Informal Service of Holy Communion

587 Springfield Avenue, Summit
908-918-2500

St. James the Apostle Church
45 South Springfield Avenue
Springfield, NJ 07081
Rev. Robert B. Stagg, Pastor

Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday December 24
8:30 am
10:30 am
12:00 noon

Monday December 25
7:00 am
9:00 am
10:30 am
12:00 noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation (confessions)
Saturdays 1:00-2:00 pm

For further information or directions please
call the parish office at 973-376-3044

AT THE LIBRARY

New releases available

The Summit Free Public Library 75 Maple St. has a select list of new releases available.

Fiction

Callie Carr "Killing Time" Robert Jordan "Winter Heart" Tim O'Leary "The Mark" Nora Roberts "Night Shield" and Jeanette Winterson "The Power Book"

Nonfiction

Stephen Ambrose "Nothing like it in the world" Stephen Ambrose "Avalanche Mt. Rancho" Peter Berns

From "The project of gold" Sarah Bradford "America's queen: the life of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis" Denis Clifford "Plan your estate"

James Dobson "Stories of the heart and home" Richard Galt "Rescuing Jeffrey" John Gray "Practical miracles" by Mary & Dennis Jewel "Christy" by the da Vinci Stephen King "On writing" Renee Newton "Rings" a gripping & emotional buying guide "Bill O'Reilly, "The O'Reilly factor" Cynthia Ozick "Quarrel & quarrel" essays" Peggy Sami "Witchcraft in America" and Alan Simpson "Alan Simpson's Workdays" ME books

Book lecture series

The library's popular book lecture series has begun a new round at the Summit Public Library, 75 Maple St. In addition, the library has introduced a new discussion series on Shakespeare and inaugurated a reading group. The 2000-01 programming season also includes the debut of a film series of film screenings, scheduled to take place in the spring.

The series continues throughout the season on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Four-voice selections and dates include: William Kennedy's "Honor" March 12, and Ernest Hemingway's "A Farewell to Arms" April 30

Videocassettes
"Anne of Avonlea" "Breaker Morant" "Judgment at Nuremberg" "Margie" and "My dog Skip" April 30

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST

EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCH (1815) 1000 N. 10th St. Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

METHODIST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (1815) 1000 N. 10th St. Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (1815) 1000 N. 10th St. Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH ANIM (60) Temple Drive, Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

LUTHERAN

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH (60) Mountain Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

ROMAN CATHOLIC

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHARON (1815) 78 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

METHODIST

THE SPRINGFIELD ISRAELI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, located at 40 Church Mall in Springfield, NJ invites ALL people of all ages and backgrounds to join us in our spiritual journey.

PENTECOSTAL-NON-DENOMINATIONAL

VISIONS OF GOD FAMILY WORSHIP (1815) 1000 N. 10th St. Springfield, NJ 07081
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 PM

Come and get it



Summit Mayor Walter Long helps prepare and serve Thanksgiving dinner for the community last month at Calvary Episcopal Church. The church will also host a free Christmas dinner on Christmas Day. For information call the parish office at (908) 277-1814.

City embarks on new permit process

The City of Summit has embarked on a new mechanical permit process. It is available to owners and contractors and is required for installation of furnaces, boilers, hot water heaters, gas piping and central air conditioning.

Calderone School of Music

Established 1975 Certified Teachers
Piano • Keyboard • Organ • Accordion
Strings • Woodwinds • Brass • Voice • Guitar • Drums
Lessons for the Learning Disabled
Kindermusik Classes for ages 2 to 7

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

A grid of 12 columns and 10 rows of small advertisements for various services including air conditioning, electrical work, landscaping, and moving.

Editor: J.R. Parachini
Union: 908-686-7700, ext. 319
Maplewood (Tuesdays): 973-763-0303

SPORTS

Union Fax: 908-686-4169
Orange Fax: 973-674-2038
Maplewood Fax: 973-763-2557

LOCAL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Oratory Prep bowlers roll

The Oratory Prep bowling team split its first two matches of the season in Mountain Valley Conference play.

On Dec. 4 the Rams lost to a powerful Railway team by an 8-0 count in the scratch and 6-2 in the handicap.

However, behind senior captain Steve Grey, Oratory bounced back to roll past Newark Central by a score of 8.5 to 7.5 on Dec. 6.

Grey bowled a 212 game as part of an outstanding 537 series to spark the Rams in their win over NC.

Grey, a four-year competitor, is joined on this year's Oratory squad by juniors Andrew Kleughen, Andrew Seguel, Albert Bahia and David Desiderio and freshmen Frank Magrini, John Quick, James Santomara, Stephen Wro/itiski and Robert Zwillich. The team is coached by Jack Horan.

Hot Stove League affair next month

The 65th Annual Hot Stove League Baseball Dinner, sponsored by the Union County Baseball Association, in cooperation with the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at L'Affaire Restaurant, 1099 Route 22 East, Mountaineer.

At the dinner, awards will be presented to local athletes who have distinguished themselves during the year and seven individuals will be inducted into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame.

The inductees include the late Howard S. Anderson of Summit, Tom Doolley of Cranford, Randy Guerra of Linden, Ray Maliosz of Elizabeth, Leo J. Spino of Elizabeth, Mike Szabo of Union and Raymond Thompson of Roselle Park.

According to James Iozzi, dinner chairman, the awards for Most Outstanding Male and Female Athlete of Union County, which will be presented that evening, will be announced soon, along with the name of the special guest speaker.

Proceeds from the dinner help fund the Union County Youth Baseball League for youngsters ages 8-15.

Started in 1945 with eight teams, the league now encompasses 16 teams in three divisions.

Tickets for the dinner are \$30 and can be purchased from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, County Administration Building in Elizabeth. Call 908-527-4910.

Kean to host indoor soccer

Kean University will be hosting an indoor winter soccer school for boys and girls ages 6-16.

The school, which will run six consecutive Fridays from Jan. 26 to March 6, is designed to teach basic and advanced skills.

The camp will be run by Kean University soccer staff and will include lectures and demonstrations by guest coaches.

The overall philosophy of the school is soccer success can be best achieved through the mastery of the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, heading and shooting.

To achieve this, each session will feature drills that will enhance the skills of the players and there will be a team tournament that will run through the course of the program.

The Friday night sessions will run from 6:30 to 8 at the university's east campus indoor facility.

The cost of the camp is \$89 per child. More information about the indoor winter soccer school for boys and girls may be obtained by calling Kean men's soccer coach Tony Ochrimenko at 908-527-2936 or 908-527-2435.

Baseball instruction classes available

New Jersey Baseball Academy will offer winter classes in hitting, pitching and baseball basics. Private lessons are also available.

Guests include Somerset Patriot hitting coach Doug Radziewicz, pitching expert Tom House, Milwaukee Brewer Al Hawkins and Seton Hall Prep coach Mike Sheppard, Jr. Call 908-686-6057.

Mountainside Elks standouts



Mountainside Elks Soccer Shoot winners include, first row from left, Amanda Filippone, Andrea Crincoli, Robert Dobler and Noah Vieira. Second row, from left, are Nicholas Vieira, Kimberly Schielke, R.J. Schielke, Christopher Filippone and Jeremy Accardi. Third row, from left, are Jason Vieira, Hugo Moras, Katlin Martin and Nicole Crincoli. Fourth row, from left, are State Chairman John Zelna, ER Chairman Robert Plummer, co-chairman Robert Britton and Lodge Chairman Robert Dobler. Finishing first were Joey Munoz, Amanda Filippone, Nicholas Vieira, Andrea Crincoli, Michael Riberio, Kimberley Schielke, Hugo Moras and Nicole Crincoli. Placing second were Robert Dobler, R.J. Schielke, Jason Vieira, Katlin Martin and Michael Bury. Coming in third were Noah Vieira, Jeremy Accardi, Christopher Filippone and Manny Sieira.

Talented Summit knows what it takes to triumph
Starker, James spark ice hockey team

By Jeff Wolfrum
Staff Writer

"We have a lot of talent and know what it takes to win," is the sentiment of Summit High School ice hockey coach Keith Nixon.

Coming off a 17-10-2 campaign last season, the Hilltoppers improved to 2-1-1 on Friday with a 4-2 win over a 2-0 Don Bosco Prep team at Sport-O-Rama in Monsey, N.Y.

"We had a letdown in the first game of the year, but in the third game we had a great period to end the game," Nixon said. "We're starting to learn and come around."

Nixon, in his 10th season at the helm, was a former goalie for Montclair High School and Ohio University.

"We have some explosive scoring and strong goaltending," Nixon said.

That comes in the form of junior forward Matt Starker and senior goaltender Richard James.

After scoring 21 goals and having 29 assists for 50 points a year ago, Starker has six goals in the team's first four games already this season. James, the starter this year, backed up Dana Henderson last season and had a 5-4-0 record with a 3.01 goals-against average.

Hilltopper roster includes 5 seniors, 9 juniors, 3 sophomores, one freshman

The Summit High School ice hockey team has every class represented this year.

The Hilltoppers have five seniors, nine juniors, three sophomores and one freshman. The Hilltoppers began the week with a 2-1-1 record after coming off a 17-10-2 campaign in 1999-2000 that included a lengthy run in state tournament play.

Summit won its second game last Friday when it defeated Don Bosco Prep 4-2 at Sport-O-Rama in Monsey, N.Y. Summit is scheduled to play at Bayonne tomorrow at 8:15 p.m.

- The following is Summit's 2000-2001 roster: No. 1 Dan Churchill, junior goalie, 6-0, 150. No. 2 Rob Schroeder, frosh defense, 5-10, 185. No. 3 Jeff Sparrow, senior defense, 5-9, 150. No. 4 Eric Lupton, soph defense, 6-0, 175. No. 5 Jim Hatfield, junior defense, 6-4, 235. No. 8 Kyle Kramer, junior forward, 6-2, 160. No. 9 Craig Oliver, junior forward, 5-6, 130. No. 10 Mike Santorius, senior defense, 5-9, 160. No. 11 Matt Bell, senior forward, 5-7, 150. No. 15 Keith Schroeder, junior forward, 6-3, 190. No. 16 Doug Kramer, junior defense, 5-10, 150. No. 18 Mike Nelson, senior forward, 5-8, 160. No. 19 Matt Starker, junior forward, 5-10, 170. No. 20 Todd Ward, junior forward, 6-0, 185. No. 21 Ned Hillenbrand, soph forward, 5-8, 165. No. 22 Max Tcheyan, soph forward, 5-4, 130. No. 23 Kenny Bogden, junior forward, 5-7, 135. No. 30 Richard James, senior goalie, 5-11, 180.

Many of the above players had outstanding seasons during the 1999-2000 campaign.

- Here's a closer look at how they performed: • Matt Starker: 21 goals, 29 assists for 50 points. • Keith Schroeder: 25 goals, 16 assists for 41 points. • Mike Nelson: 7 goals, 17 assists for 24 points. • Mike Santorius: 4 goals, 9 assists for 13 points. • Richard James: 5-4-0, 3.01 goals-against average.

time are senior Jeff Sparrow, a 5-9, 150-pound defenseman; juniors Todd Ward, a 6-foot, 185-pound forward and goalie Dan Churchill. Rob Schroeder is the lone freshman, a defenseman who stands 5-10, 185.

In losing seven seniors from last season, the coach expects a lot from the underclassmen.

"They're stepping in to big roles," Nixon said. "Now it's their turn to perform."

With the idea of playing defense first, the Hilltoppers will use this concept in setting up their offense.

"We want to create turnovers and score on mistakes by our opponents," Nixon said. "The only way you do that is by playing total team defense."

That also comes in the form of stressing discipline and staying out of the penalty box.

"We want the other team to take the penalty, so we can use our power play," Nixon said.

With road matches against Bayonne tomorrow and Toms River North next Thursday, the Hilltoppers have a very difficult schedule and face a lot of tough teams.

That list includes rival Westfield, a team that is no longer in their league.

"Our league schedule is really hard, so you must bring your 'A' game every night and play hard for 45 minutes," Nixon said.

Upcoming: Dec. 22 at Bayonne, 8:15. Dec. 28 Toms River North at Winding River, 5:00. Jan. 2 St. Joseph's, Montvale at Warinanco, 8:30. Jan. 4 Morris Knolls at Warinanco, 3:45. Jan. 6 Morristown-Bear at Twin Oaks, 1:00. Jan. 9 Montclair at Warinanco, 8:30. Jan. 13 St. Joseph's, Mont. at Sport-O-Rama, Monsey, N.Y., 5:00. Jan. 16 Toms River North at Warinanco, 8:30. Jan. 18 Christian B.A. at Warinanco, 3:30. Jan. 23 Bayonne at Warinanco, 8:30. Jan. 29 Paramus Catholic at Ice House, Hackensack, 8:00. Jan. 30 Don Bosco Prep at Warinanco, 8:30. Feb. 3 Montclair at Montclair, 6:45. Feb. 7 Clifton at Warinanco, 8:30. Feb. 13 Westfield at Warinanco, 8:30.

A milestone for Dayton skaters
Bulldogs reach .500 mark

The Dayton High School ice hockey team posted wins over Newark East Side and Mahwah last week to even its record at 3-3.

The Bulldogs have reached the .500 mark for the first time in their brief history.

Dayton's next scheduled game is Jan. 5 against Fair Lawn at the Ice House Arena in Hackensack. Dayton lost to Fair Lawn last Friday night at the Bridgewater Sports Arena in Bridgewater.

Dayton defeated East Side 5-1 at the Ironbound Rink in Newark Dec. 12 and then edged Mahwah 4-3 Sunday at the Ice House Arena in Hackensack.

High School Ice Hockey

In the win against East Side, Adam Cohen scored three goals and had two assists, while Brett Berger scored one goal and had three assists.

In the triumph over Mahwah, Cohen scored three goals again and had one assist, while Clay Boeninghaus also scored.

The Cohen-Berger-Boeninghaus line continues to excel for the Bulldogs as they have compiled 28 points in the four games they've been together.

Cohen, a junior co-captain, has seven goals and four assists for 11 points (7-4-11).

Boeninghaus, a junior, has three goals and six assists for nine points (3-6-9). Berger, a sophomore, has five goals and four assists for nine points (5-4-9). Sophomore goaltender A.J. Garcia continues to play well for Dayton as he had 21 saves against East Side. Sophomore first-year player Anthony Rodriguez also saw time in net.

Garcia came up big several times to earn the victory against Mahwah. Defensesmen Michael Rodriguez and Jared Preston added assists, while fellow defensesmen Eric Decker and Ross Kravetz played an inspired game.

Upcoming: Jan. 5 vs. Fair Lawn at Ice House in Hackensack, 7:30; Jan. 7 Nutley, 4:15; Jan. 11 vs. Newark Academy at South Mountain Arena, 5:15; Jan. 13 Ramsey, 9:15; Jan. 15 vs. Nutley at Montclair State University, 12:10; Jan. 17 vs. Tenafly at Twin Oaks, 6:15; Jan. 19 Northern Highlands, 9:30; Jan. 21 vs. Tenafly at Englewood, 7:25; Jan. 24 vs. Newark Academy at Twin Oaks, 7:45; Jan. 26 Mahwah, 9:30; Feb. 3 vs. Ramsey at Sport-O-Rama, Monsey, N.Y., 7:00; Feb. 5 vs. Northern Highlands at Sport-O-Rama, Monsey, N.Y., 6:15; Feb. 11 East Side, 4:15; Feb. 16 Governor Livingston, 7:15.

Minutemen hoop coach Wisniewski wins 400th

Last Saturday's Springfield Minutemen senior boys' basketball victory was a special one.

Springfield defeated New Providence 34-26 at Gaudineer Middle School, giving head coach Tom "Whisky" Wisniewski his 400th career victory.

Wisniewski, now in his 23rd season, saw his record improve to 400-97. Kevin Johnson paced the Minutemen with 18 points and nine rebounds. Point guard Mike Tiss scored six points, as did Robbie Shabat, who also grabbed 11 rebounds.

Guards Jesse Weatherston and Kenneth Suarez did their jobs, each grabbing five rebounds. Ross Kisowitz contributed four points.

In the junior game, New Providence prevailed by a 34-24 score. Jake Floyd had a big night as he scored 10 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and came up with five steals. Kyle Seely scored four points and grabbed four rebounds.

Stephen Suarez scored three points and his play on defense helped New Providence give up the ball four times. Jesse Galinkin scored two points, as did David Steinman and Danny Shabat. Adam Hirst scored one point.

Springfield teams were scheduled to play Scotch Plains yesterday and now have the rest of the holiday season off. Play will continue for the Minutemen with Suburban League games in January.

The Minutemen also held their annual fundraiser, the AJ Nittolo Shoot-A-Thon. As in the past, local residents and businesses were generous. The event was fun and a financial success.

Summit swimmers excel at Berkeley

Local swimmers from Summit, Cranford and Union excelled at the Berkeley Aquatic Club's dual-meet held Nov. 18 at its facility in Berkeley Heights.

Those outstanding swimmers were Andrew Nerby, Lauren Saunders, Sam Petersen and Andrew Peterson of Summit; Emily Aschenbach, Anna Dugan and Allison Schneider of Cranford and Eriel Argonza of Union.

For Summit, Nerby, age 7, finished the 100 individual medley in 2:02.38, the backstroke in 1:37.66 and the 100 butterfly in an excellent time of 1:49.63.

For Cranford, Aschenbach, 8, finished the 50 freestyle in 50.05 and the 50 backstroke in 58.91.

Dugan, 8, finished the 50 backstroke in 54.43 and Schneider, 8, finished the 50 freestyle in 47.39 and the 50 breaststroke in 57.85.

For Union, Argonza, 7, finished the 100 IM in 1:48.05, the 25 breaststroke in 29.79 and the 25 butterfly in a quick 21.89.

The Berkeley Aquatic Club is a United States Swimming organization and has locations in Union County in Berkeley Heights and in Morris County in Madison at Drew University.

More information about the Berkeley Aquatic Club may be obtained by calling 908-464-0574 or by checking its web site at www.berkeleyaquatic.org.

MYB registration in January

Mountaineer Youth Baseball registration will be held on the following dates:

- Saturday, Jan. 6 from 9 a.m. to noon.
- Monday, Jan. 8 from 7-9 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 11 from 7-9 p.m.

Children registering after the above dates will be placed on a team if space is available.

Registration will be held at Deerfield School in Mountaineer. Children ages 6-14 as of Aug. 1, 2001 are eligible to sign up.

Youngsters registering for the first time need to bring with them a copy of their birth certificate. Registration fees are as follows: \$85 first child, \$35 for T-Ball and \$25 for introductory to baseball.

All parents of children who participate are required to volunteer four (4) hours of time during the season.

More information may be obtained by calling Sandy Burdge at 908-232-4373.

YMCA hoops seeks players

The Summit YMCA Youth Basketball League is looking for players. Spaces are still available for boys and girls in grades 1-4 to compete in the winter league to volunteer four (4) hours of time during the season.

League dates are Sundays Jan. 7 to March 4. Practice and games will be played in the Y's new Hubbard gym, located at 67 Maple Street in Summit.

YOUTH basketball is an instructional league where children learn basic skills, build confidence, participate in games and have fun.

Parent volunteers are the coaches. The cost is \$72, plus a YMCA Youth or Family membership.

More information may be obtained by calling sports director Lori Zuchowski at 908-273-3330.



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