



# Union County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2000 - SECTION B

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## High five

At a past municipal swearing in ceremony, Freeholder Al Mirabella of Roselle Park raised his hand to take the oath of office. His young son Alex reached up to give his dad a high five, as was his normal process when the senior Mirabella's hand rose up.

For most reorganization meetings of public bodies, the celebration is more reserved than experienced by young Mirabella. But the meetings that take place during the first week of January are a milestone in setting the direction of our local government. Linden Council President Robert Bunk recalled his remarks last year when he reminisced about days past in Linden, and then expressed optimism for the future of his city, with their new economic plan in place.

## Left Out

By Frank Gapece

The past and future perspective technique in speeches is not unique to Bunk. The meetings combine the technical adoption of resolutions to keep the mechanics of government moving forward, with a little pomp and ceremony mixed in for the day. Setting the tone for the year, it allows the public official a little latitude in terms of waxing philosophically about the future of the community they have been picked to watch over.

But the burden placed on these local officials after the meeting is something that deserves our thanks and appreciation. They face a world where mandated costs by the state eat up to 80 percent of their budget. With many municipal offices protected by special interest legislation pushed by their lobby groups in Trenton, management prerogatives are few. Even municipal clerks gain lifetime tenure the day of their second appointment. Sweeping change is very hard to attain.

But it's a good bet that throughout Union County next week you will hear speeches touching on the need for more downtown parking, open space and holding the line on taxes. Citizens often want new and better services. As such it's also a good bet that we will be told that through new economy we can have more but pay less.

Also true even in local papers is the axiom, controversy sells. A split vote on the appointment of the municipal attorney or prosecutor is a guaranteed headline maker. A pet peeve of this author is that while the attorneys get banded around, the engineers who bill the big bucks but talk in another language usually get through the process unscathed. On the overriding number of issues unanimity is the course of the day.

The optimism of the new beginning is a positive thing for the community. Though I recall one

See GOVERNMENT, Page B2

## Freeholders moving forward while also changing direction

By Mark Hrywna Regional Editor

Democrats kept their hold on key positions within county government during 2000 while changing directions on several major capital projects, such as the juvenile detention center and the Venner complex, and focusing new programs on the county's senior population, including Senior Focus, Seniors in Motion and Senior Scholars.

### January

Celebrating yet another victory in countywide elections, the Board of Chosen Freeholders reorganizes and swears in Daniel Sullivan of Elizabeth as chairman and Alexander Mirabella of Roselle Park as vice chairman. Angel Estrada of Elizabeth also is sworn in to his first term. The freeholders open the year stressing their initiatives to focus on senior citizens with programs such as Senior Focus, Senior Scholars and Seniors in Motion. James LaCorte also is sworn in as the new county surrogate.

For the first time, the county budget surpasses \$300 million as the county manager introduces a \$302-million executive budget to the freeholder board. The tax levy remains the same as last year at \$150.1 million, the fifth consecutive year it has decreased or remained the same.

Following weeks of speculation, County Manager Michael Lapolla of Westfield announces his intentions to enter the Democratic primary for the

7th Congressional District seat, as incumbent Republican Bob Franks of Berkeley Heights will run for U.S. Senate.

### February

The freeholder board authorizes 40 new corrections officers to be hired, which will eventually bring the total number of officers to 330. Over-time pay in the Division of Corrections has increased over the last several years, from about \$4 million to over \$6 million last year.

The Division of Parks and Recreation is elevated to full department status with three divisions: Recreation and Maintenance, Golf Operations, and Administration and Special Events. Union County had been the only county in the state without a department of parks and recreation.

Sebastian D'Elia, a former public information officer for Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollage, is appointed to a four-year term as the UCLIA Board of Commissioners. His term expires January 2004. The freeholders also appoint Linda Hines of Plainfield to replace Cecil Sanders whose term expires in 2001.

### March

Union County Vocational-Technical Schools Superintendent Thomas Bistocchi approaches the freeholder board about expanding the Scotch Plains campus to accommodate a \$12-million addition need to bring the program from a shared-time basis to full-time. Stricter state requirements do not count vocational

credits toward the 110 credits needed for graduation. The schools expect to receive \$5 million in state funds, leaving more than \$7 million which they ask the freeholder board to contribute.

The county Democratic organization selects candidates for the line in June's primary. There are no surprises with incumbents Mirabella, Chester Holmes of Rahway and Deborah Scanlon of Union for freeholder, and Joanne Rapopoli of Union for county clerk. In the 7th District race, Lapolla gets the nod while millionaire Jon Corzine of Summit will run on the line for U.S. Senate. Republicans will run a similar freeholder ticket to last year with Al Dill of Summit and Wally Shackell of Cranford giving it another try. They are joined by Esther Guzman-Malcolm of Roselle who ran for sheriff in 1998.

The Princeton architectural and engineering firm of Ford, Farewell, Mills and Gatsch is awarded a \$592,000 contract by the freeholders to begin construction plans and specifications for the restoration of the Oak Ridge clubhouse. Estimates to restore the Homestead Farmhouse, one of the oldest structures in the county, range from \$1 million to \$3.6 million, depending on options presented before the board.

The deer management program in the Watchung Reservation begins its fifth year with 12 hunters and a goal of removing 18 deer, or as many as safely present themselves. During a two-day period, hunters remove 53

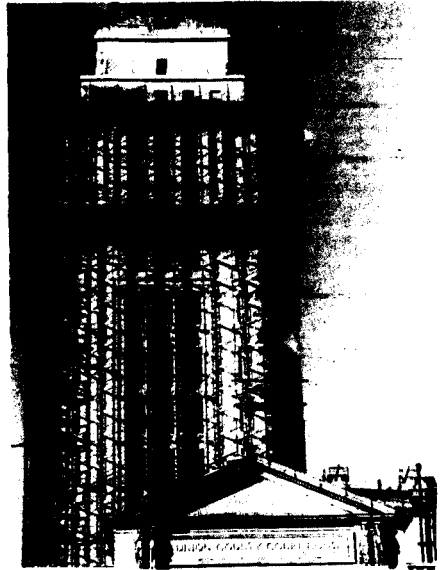


Photo by Jeff Grant

Renovations continued on the county courthouse during 2000. The \$20-million rehabilitation project began in 1999 and is expected to last four years.

deer from the 2,000-acre county park.

Freeholders study options for the newest county park, an 11-acre property at the corner of North and Morris avenues purchased from the Kean family for \$2.8 million. The board must decide between an active approach by building soccer and ball-fields, or more passive recreation.

### April

Assemblyman Joel Weingarten of Millburn carries the county GOP line in the 7th Congressional District primary. He defeats Thomas Kean Jr. of Westfield on a second ballot at the county's annual convention. Mike Ferguson of Warren, who earned the lines in Middlesex and Somerset, finished third followed by Patrick Morrissey of Westfield and Green Brook Mayor Patricia Walsh. Bob Franks of Berkeley Heights easily earns the nod, gaining 90 percent of the delegates. Essex County Executive James Treffinger and Murray Sabrin finished far behind while State Sen. William Gormley said he would not seek the nomination since it is Franks' home county.

A second Democratic freeholder line emerges to run with congressional candidate Maryanne Connelly of Fanwood and U.S. Senate candidate Jim Florio.

The freeholders award a three-year contract with Nature's Choice Corp. to take over operations of the county's compost facility in Springfield. The \$2.25 per cubic yard tipping fee for municipalities is eliminated, which is expected to generate significant savings for towns.

Citizens offer their input on a county Open Space Trust Fund during two public hearings on the topic. Residents advocate acquiring open

spaces to preserve wildlife for passive recreation while at the same time using open land to address a shortage of athletic fields.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders introduces the 2000 budget, a \$306-million spending plan that calls for \$150.1 million to be raised by taxes. Although the overall budget is up from \$288 million 1999, it is the first time the tax levy represents less than half of the budget. The tax levy is expected to decline in Elizabeth, Roselle, Roselle Park, Plainfield, Springfield, Union, Winfield and Linden.

A lawsuit against the county's residency requirement is dropped as part of a contract settlement with PBA Local 199, the union representing more than 300 corrections officers. The new contract, which runs from 1998 through 2001, includes average salary increases of 3.5 percent.

In an attempt to gain a more favorable line on the ballot, more Republican lines emerge in the primary race, two fielded by Mike Ferguson and James Treffinger.

Cranford resident Karen Cassidy, a Republican, is appointed to the Union County Superior Court.

### May

The freeholder board renews a contract with Correctional Health Services of Verona to provide healthcare services at the county jail at a cost of more than \$4 million. CHS started providing services for the county in October 1998 but freeholders have had concerns about change-orders totalling more than \$500,000 in 1999.

The county budget, at \$306 million, is approved unanimously. The

See BUDGET, Page B2

## 'Amahl and the Night Visitors'



Photo by Robert Hill

Rehearsing for 'Amahl and the Night Visitors' are, from left, John Halecky III of Mountainside as King Kasper, David Modero as King Melchior, Andrea Ford as Amahl's mother and Matthew Gullo of Roselle Park in the lead role as Amahl. The opera runs at the Theatre of St. Paul, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 83 Galloping Hill Road, Elizabeth, tonight and tomorrow. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Call (908) 351-0294 for more information and reservations.

### THIS WEEK'S PRE-OWNED SPECIALS:

<b>'97 JEEP WRANGLER</b> Vin #WV9S0677, 4 cyl., 5 spd., am/tn stereo, no a/c, 46,922 mi. <b>\$10,990</b>	<b>'97 HONDA CIVIC LX</b> Vin #FV1S2914, auto, 4 cyl., a/c, p/s/w/abs/mirrors/tyc, air, cruise, 1/60, 1/60, am/tn cassette, air bag, 32,449 mi. <b>\$11,990</b>	<b>'98 MAZDA 626 LX</b> Vin #W549291, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, a/c, p/s/w/abs/mirrors/tyc, air, cruise, 1/60, 1/60, am/tn cassette, 17,553 mi. <b>\$12,990</b>	<b>'97 TOYOTA RAV4</b> Vin #7049233, auto, 4 cyl., a/c, p/s/w/abs/mirrors/tyc, air, cruise, 1/60, 1/60, am/tn cassette, air bag, 67,284 mi. <b>\$14,990</b>	<b>'97 HONDA ACCORD</b> Vin #VW052737, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, a/c, p/s/w/abs/mirrors/tyc, air, cruise, 1/60, 1/60, am/tn cassette, dual air bags, 33,123 mi. <b>\$14,990</b>	<b>'98 FORD EXPLORER</b> Vin #WJ1T245, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, a/c, p/s/w/abs/mirrors/tyc, air, cruise, 1/60, 1/60, am/tn cassette, dual air bags, air bag, 41,002 mi. <b>\$17,790</b>
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 \$249 down, \$199 1st mo., \$249 2nd mo., \$249 3rd mo., \$249 4th mo., \$249 5th mo., \$249 6th mo., \$249 7th mo., \$249 8th mo., \$249 9th mo., \$249 10th mo., \$249 11th mo., \$249 12th mo.  
 \$249 1st mo. @ inception, total payment: \$1740/\$2494.75

**\$249 PER MO.**  
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 \$249 1st mo., \$249 2nd mo., \$249 3rd mo., \$249 4th mo., \$249 5th mo., \$249 6th mo., \$249 7th mo., \$249 8th mo., \$249 9th mo., \$249 10th mo., \$249 11th mo., \$249 12th mo.  
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# County budget surpassed \$300 million for first time ever

(Continued from Page B1) County portion of tax bills for residents in eight towns is expected to drop.

The county officially announces awards for its Senior Focus grants program, providing anywhere from \$100,000 to \$250,000 to municipalities for use to renovate or build senior centers.

**June**

• Council narrowly defeats Lapola for the Democratic nomination in the 7th District while Ferguson earns the nod from GOP voters. In the U.S. Senate race, Union County will be the place to where Frank and Cozime, both will run to Summit, earn the Republican and Democratic nominations respectively. The organizations candidates on the county level easily earn their parties' nominations.

• After 12 years of leadership under former State Senate President Frank

McDermott, the Union County Republican Committee, as expected, elects Ron Ferguson of Westfield, as its new chairman to a two-year term.

• Democrat Lisa Christal of Westfield is appointed to the Union County Superior Court.

• The Union County Alliance's Millennium Report, a follow up to its 1994 baseline assessment, indicates a brighter picture for the economy with growth in key areas, including employment, personal income and property valuation.

**July**

• The ad hoc committee formed to study an Open Space and Recreation Trust Fund recommends a dedicated tax of \$0.02 per \$100 of assessed value, which would generate \$5 annually for 10 years. The average household would pay \$38 annually.

• The freeholder board unanimously passes a resolution stipulating that it would pay municipalities \$150 for each gun they agree to destroy instead of sell or trade in. The resolution also prohibits any county-funded law enforcement agency from trading in or selling firearms that are being replaced.

• The president of PBA Local 199 threatens litigation with the county during a freeholder meeting over a stipulation in the union's recent contract settlement. Senior officer stipends and when they become effective are at issue. The union believes they should be in effect beginning in 1998 while the county contends it should be 2000.

County. The board unanimously approves a resolution placing on the Nov. 2 ballot a public question to implement a trust fund of 20 years \$100 of assessed value for 20 years. The Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund would raise \$4.89 million annually for two decades. The average household would pay an additional \$24 under the plan.

**September**

• The freeholders are presented with new plans for the Union County Police Headquarters and prosecutor's forensic lab at the Vennett Complex in Westfield. Architects, originally charged with renovations, propose constructing a new facility for about \$16 million, roughly the same estimate to renovate.

• The recommendation of the Wandering Reservation Deer Management Subcommittee to continue hunting deer is adopted by the board. Hunting will continue for an indefinite period of time until other methods become available.

• Connecticut Senator and Democratic Vice Presidential candidate Joseph Lieberman makes a campaign stop at the newly-constructed senior center in Union Township.

would construct another hospice center on a portion of unused land on the Rummels Hospital property in Berkeley Heights.

• The president of PBA Local 199, which represents more than 300 correction officers, assesses a public appeal to the freeholders and the county's negotiating team for implying that they were lying about a perceived discrepancy in the latest contract.

**November**

• Continuing their dominance in recent elections, Democrats easily sweep all four county seats up for election with Scanlon, Mirabella and Holmes, in addition to County Clerk Kappitt, winning re-election by wide margins. Voters also approve the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund by a 60 to 40 percent margin.

• The Union County Utilities Authority Board of Commissioners, by a 5-1 vote, recommends the county allow the construction of a barge-to-rail transfer station by Browning Ferris Industries to handle New York City's household waste. Residents and officials from Middlesex County, as well as Union County residents, pack the meeting room to oppose the project. The next night, freeholders introduce an amendment to the county's solid waste management plan that would include the facility. On the final day

of the month, the freeholder board listens to public input on the project for several hours before unanimously approving the plan.

• Freeholders decide to drop plans for a new \$20-million juvenile detention center under the Goethals Bridge in Elizabeth. Despite spending nearly \$3 million to date, including \$2 million to purchase the property, freeholders cite a declining juvenile jail population as a reason to not build a new facility.

• The UCLA Board of Commission-

ers appoints Charlotte DePhillips, who also serves as county Democratic chairwoman, as the new executive director of the UCLA at an annual salary of \$104,000.

**December**

• An ordinance requiring helmets to be worn by all children riding scooters on county property gains unanimous approval by freeholders.

• The board approves a \$26-million bond ordinance for a variety of capital improvements and capital equipment throughout the county.

## Government begins anew

(Continued from Page B1) newly elected Cranford official who was so fascinated with the budget process that he found a burning desire to explain its mullane workings to the citizenry with great frequency. Thankfully he quit after one term. His hard remembering specifics of the scores of reorganization speeches I have sat through over the years. But that is not important. What is important is that each year, with the reorganization government begins anew.

In vogue over recent years has been the establishment of citizen budget advisory groups. It becomes a little

tougher for critics to criticize if they are part of the process. In a positive vein, the anticipated appointment of Leo McMahon by the Township Committee of Cranford to their citizen group on the budget deserves praise. His tenacious study and advocacy of issues on local government in Cranford, without rancor, is being tapped into for the benefit of the community.

It makes me want to give somebody a high five.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS**  
IN RE: ESTATE OF CHRISTINE A. BEERS TO CHRISTINE A. BEERS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to appear upon the Court of the Superior Court of New Jersey, County of Essex, at 1139 Spruce Drive, Mountaineer, New Jersey 07092-0224, telephone number 908-232-8500, on the 11th day of January, 2001, at 10:00 AM, in a civil action, in which WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE LENDING, INC. and WAYNE D. BEERS, Jr. are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, AND BEERS, Jr. is the Plaintiff. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you. You shall file a copy of the Complaint with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex, 971 Trenton, New Jersey 08625, together with your check in the sum of \$100.00 representing the filing fee in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure. This action was instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing the mortgage of Plaintiff, BEERS, Jr., dated April 28, 1996, made by Wayne D. Beers & Christine Beers, Jr. to Wells Fargo Mortgage Access Corp. recorded on May 1, 1996 in Book 263 of Page 100 of the Union County, Page 0796 which mortgage was assigned on April 20, 1998 to Plaintiff, Wells Fargo Mortgage, Inc. by Assignment of Mortgage recorded on June 17, 1998 in Book 0310 of Page 010 of the Union County, Page 0627. Norwest Mortgage, Inc. is now known as Wells Fargo Mortgage Inc., plaintiff herein, and (2) to receive possession of and concerns premises commonly known as 457 Canby Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ 07060.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey Bar Association by calling 800-394-1101. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 1-800-352-4715. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling 1-800-558-1522.

IF YOU, CHRISTINE A. BEERS, are made party defendants in the foreclosure action because CHRISTINE A. BEERS is the Plaintiff's obligation and mortgage being foreclosed herein and because CHRISTINE A. BEERS is one of the owners or co-owners of the mortgaged premises being foreclosed herein and for any other reason, you may have an interest in or against the mortgaged premises.

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**October**

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# Mother Nature's powerful force 'darkens artist's soul' in UCC exhibit

From Jan. 19 to Feb. 22, "The Bound Brook Cycle," by artist David Ambrose, will be on exhibit at the Tomasulo Gallery, in the Kenneth McKay Library, on Union County College's Cranford campus. This exhibition is a reflection of Ambrose's experiences during and after Hurricane Floyd ripped through New Jersey in 1999.

This natural disaster flooded most of Bound Brook to the second floor level, running businesses, buildings, and the lives of many people, who are still recuperating from the experience

more than one year later. Although Ambrose's own studio was located in the middle of an area that flooded, he considers himself extremely lucky that he suffered no water damage.

For Ambrose, this exhibition of paintings and drawings is an expansion of the themes and techniques that he has worked with throughout his career, but since his experience with Hurricane Floyd, his post-flood work has become darker within the context of his imagery and techniques because, according to him, the flood had "darkened (his) soul."

Ambrose's artistic works consist of lace and crochet paintings, which, prior to the development of "The Bound Brook Cycle," were predominantly influenced by images, mostly photographs of old floor plans, of medieval or renaissance churches or cathedrals. Using the architectures of the churches and cathedrals as the basis for his art, Ambrose sews together crochet clothes and antimacassars, lace tablecloths and occasionally simple tiered circle skirts. He then dips these delicate fabrics into gesso in order to stiffen them, stretch

es them out, and paints over them. His overall color scheme on these works uses earth tones and flesh tones depict damage and erosion, decay and crumbling — in fact, time itself.

In comparison, Ambrose's works in "The Bound Brook Cycle" have an even darker overall tone, reflecting how, with flowing floodwaters leaving thick, dark residue on the land. Although the colors in these lace paintings are generally darker than his previous pieces, the colors are still rich and can be described as mysterious and compelling. On many paint-

ings the textures became denser with areas of color pooling or congealing into dusky pads.

Working in this darker palette during the past year, has brought Ambrose renewed interest and emphasis on drawing, and thus, he reestablished and reinstated several techniques from his past practices in his series of "Deluge Drawings." With the use of heavy duty staples he separates sections of dark watercolors of graphite. In fact, he creates a water motif with their use and the staple

barriers serve to reinforce the flood imagery he wants to depict.

The Tomasulo Gallery exhibit will debut Jan. 19 with an opening reception from 7 to 9 p.m. The gallery is located on the first floor of the McKay Library on the campus of Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. Gallery hours are from 1 to 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and Saturday. Evening hours are from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays. For more information, call the Tomasulo Gallery at (908) 709-7155.

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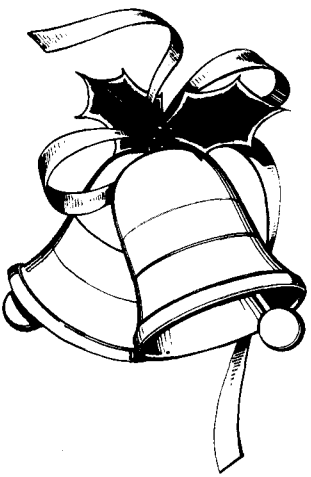
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Wishing Everyone A Happy and Safe Holiday Season

Linden Art Assoc. continues classes into the new year

The Linden Art Association, a non-profit organization for all ages, recently began its 40th year of weekly evening classes...

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

FRIDAY January 5th, 2001. (Snow date January 12th) PLACE: Redwood Lutheran Church...

SUNDAY

January 7th, 2001. EVENT: Saint Flea Market, Collectible Show, Buttons & Quilts...

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non-profit organizations. It is prepared and costs just \$20.00 for 2 weeks...

Paper Mill seeks awards evaluators

The Education Department of Paper Mill Playhouse is seeking qualified evaluators for its Rising Star Awards Program...

producers throughout New Jersey. Evaluators submit nominations in 21 performance and production categories...

music, theater or dance, have extensive work experience in one of these disciplines on a professional or academic basis...

Freeholders to exhibit winners in Merck show

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will present "Celebrating Excellence" works from the Merck 2000 Union County Juried Arts Show...

- Cranford: Rosemarie Gato, Darla Jill Jung and Paul Lachenauer. Hillsdale: Jay G. Smith...

Interested individuals should contact Lisa Cooney, education associate, at Paper Mill Playhouse...

Historical Society's guide makes state history easy

The New Jersey Historical Society has published a comprehensive guide to nearly 200 historical organizations, museums, historic sites and institutions across the state...

Each listing contains visitor information such as address, admission fees, hours of operation, information about collections, programs and publications, and e-mail and web site addresses.

The publication, "Centers for History," is available from The New Jersey Historical Society at 52 Park Place in Newark for \$2.50.

HOROSCOPE

For Jan. 1 to Jan. 7 ARIES (March 21-April 19): A new friendship or unusual acquaintance has the power to transform your life...

elder or authoritative figure. Assert yourself without doubt or fear. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make sure that your personal values are a true reflection of your self-worth...

Auditions are set for Equity theaters

The New Jersey Theater Group, the alliance of the state's professional Actors Equity theaters, will hold auditions Feb. 26 for non-Equity performers from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in New Brunswick...

Are you profiting from the families buying homes in your community? The valuable group of consumers spends more in the first six months in their new home than at any other time!

Advertisement for 'The New Wagon' featuring a photo of a woman and text about a business opportunity.

CHINESE crossword puzzle with grid and word lists for Across and Down.

REUNIONS section listing various school classes and their reunion dates and contact information.

Large advertisement for Solomon Schechter Day School of Essex and Union, Cranford Campus, and the JCC of Scotch Plains, featuring photos of children and text about preparing for first grade.



# DRINKING AND DRIVING

Drinking and driving is an all too familiar tragic occurrence during the holiday season. More people are on the road to holiday destinations, and more people are consuming alcohol as a part of their holiday celebrations.

## THE FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

There is an average of one alcohol-related fatality every 33 minutes.

Most children who are killed in crashes where alcohol is involved, die at the hands of someone they know.

Two out of three children who die in these crashes are actually riding as passengers in a drunk driver's car when they are killed.

The average American has a 30 percent chance of being killed or injured by an impaired driver during their lifetime. And while the number of alcohol-related fatalities are at an all-time low, impaired driving is still a leading cause of death for people under the age of 30.



## PLANNING A PARTY

As a host you want your guests to enjoy themselves. Here are a few pointers to ensure that your guests will have fun... and live to remember it!

- Invite guests who are compatible so that no one feels left out of the crowd. Lonely or unfriendly people often drink to excess.
- Plan lots of group activities - like party games.
- Prepare plenty of foods so guests will not drink on empty stomachs.
- Avoid too many salty snacks, which tend to make people thirsty and drink more.
- Offer a variety of non-alcoholic beverages for the designated driver and others who prefer not to drink alcohol.
- Do no push drinks!!! Drinking at a party is not mandatory for having a good time.
- If preparing an alcoholic punch, use a non-carbonated base like fruit juice. Alcohol is absorbed into the blood stream faster with a carbonated base.
- Ask guests to appoint a designated driver before the evening begins. This person drinks only non-alcoholic beverages to ensure that friends or loved ones get home safely.
- Be honest when inviting guests who are known to drink to excess. Tell them that drinking and driving is unacceptable at your party. Get their agreement to find alternate modes of transportation.

## OFFICE PARTIES

- Arrange for discounted or complimentary rooms when a party is held at a hotel so employees won't drive home impaired.
- Hire a shuttle or limousine service to provide transportation for those that have been drinking. Promote the designated driver concept and these alternate forms of transportation in party invitations.
- Do not push drinks!!!
- If you provide an open bar, be sure the bartender has had server training to prevent over-serving or serving guests under the legal drinking age.
- Hold a contest for employees to create non-alcoholic drink recipes. Serve the winner's drinks at the party.
- Schedule activities or entertainment to keep the focus away from drinking.

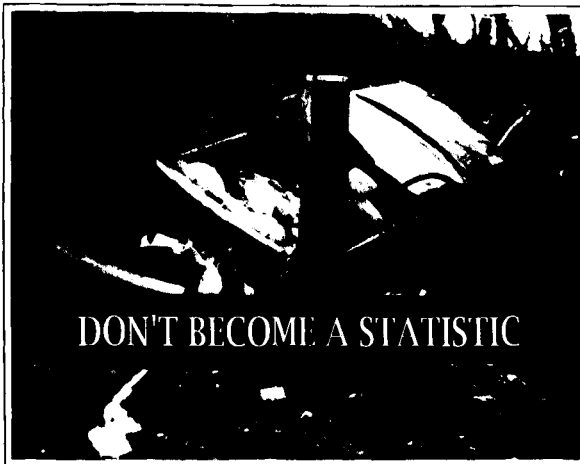
## DURING YOUR PARTY

- Never serve alcohol to someone under the legal drinking age, and never ask children to serve alcohol at parties.
- Don't let guests mix their own drinks. Choosing a reliable "bartender" will help you keep track of the size and number of drinks that guests consume.
- Never force a drink on a guest!!!
- Close the bar 90 minutes before the party ends and serve a great dessert treat with coffee. Remember, only time sobers someone who has been drinking.
- If, despite your efforts, some of your guests have had too much to drink, drive them home, arrange for a ride with another guests who is sober, call a taxi, or invite them to stay over.

## HOW TO SPOT A DRUNK DRIVER

These warning signs should be your signal to take down a license plate number and vehicle description to report to the proper authorities. Do not attempt to stop the vehicle.

- Wide turns
- Straddling lanes or driving on the center line
- Drifting or moving in a straight line at a slight angle to the roadway
- Driving with headlights off at night.



- Appearing to be drunk (i.e., eye fixation, face close to windshield, drinking in the vehicle)
- Driving below the speed limit
- Erratic braking or stopping without cause
- Slow response to traffic signals (sudden stop, delayed start)
- Nearly striking an object, curb, etc.
- Weaving or zig-zagging across the road
- Driving on the wrong side of the road or completely off the roadway
- Tailgating
- Accelerating or decelerating rapidly

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SEE SOMEBODY DRIVING DRUNK?

Report drunk drivers immediately to area law enforcement from a car phone or pay phone with the license plate number, description of the vehicle and the direction in which it was traveling.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

How do I approach one of my guests who has had too much to drink? I mean, I don't want to lose a friend.

The first time is the hardest, but your actions could save your friend's life or that of an innocent victim. Pull your guest aside and politely, but firmly, tell them that you cannot let them drive home because you care. Offer to let the guest spend the night, call a cab or ask another, sober guest to drive the intoxicated person home. How will I be held responsible if one of my guests is involved in a crash?

The laws vary from state to state, but you could be held responsible for the costs associate with the crash including medical bills and property damage and be sued for emotional pain and suffering.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO STOP DRUNK DRIVING?

- Be a responsible party host by following the tips in this article.
- Support measures to strengthen drunk driving and victims' rights laws by contacting elected officials.
- Tie a MADD ribbon to a visible location on your vehicle as a symbol of your commitment to drive safe and sober during the holidays and as a sign for others to do the same.
- Write letters to the editor of local newspapers expressing your concern over the drunk driving problem in your community.
- Get involved - become a volunteer for your local MADD chapter.

**This message is sponsored by these community minded businesses & organizations**

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908-709-3777

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Police Chief John Bryson  
Best Wishes For A Safe  
and Happy Holiday

**RAHWAY POLICE CHIEF EDWARD TILTON &**  
Rahway Police Department support all efforts  
reducing & eliminating accidents &  
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AUTOMOTIVE

Treat auto repairs like a checkup at the family doctor

Taking your car to a repair shop is like taking a loved one to the doctor. You need to properly communicate your vehicle's symptoms to get it running smoothly and back on the road...

• Describe symptoms precisely. Explain what you see, smell, and hear. Mention any driving conditions that seem to relate to the problem.

• Avoid technical jargon. If you use a word or phrase without understanding its meaning, you may lead the technician astray.

family doctor

of previous repair orders, or the car's maintenance log. • Read before authorizing. Look for specifics on the repair order such as a "check for" hesitation as the car starts up.

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NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY. SCOTT KELSEY MINOR BY GAL EULA F. KELSEY STEPHENAE KELSEY MINOR BY GAL EULA F. KELSEY MINOR BY GAL EULA F. KELSEY

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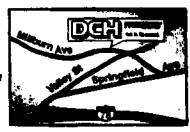


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<b>'97 TAHOE LT</b> Chevy 4dr Sport 4dr 4.8L V8, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$22,895. ASKING \$22,895.	<b>'96 QUEST MINI-VAN</b> Nissan 4dr Sport 4dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,777. ASKING \$13,777.	<b>'96 Dodge B250 HiTop Conv Van</b> Dodge 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,777. ASKING \$13,777.	<b>'96 Nissan Quest Mini-Van Blue</b> Nissan 4dr Sport 4dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,777. ASKING \$13,777.	<b>'98 Ford Explorer XLT 4dr Blue</b> Ford 4dr Sport 4dr 4.0L V6, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$17,995. ASKING \$17,995.	<b>'99 Jeep Cherokee 4dr Black</b> Jeep 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$15,888. ASKING \$15,888.
<b>'94 RUNNER SR5</b> Toyota 4dr Sport 4dr 2.4L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,990. ASKING \$13,990.	<b>'99 CHEROKEE SPORT</b> Jeep 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$15,888. ASKING \$15,888.	<b>'96 Pontiac Grand Prix GTP 2dr Black</b> Pontiac 2dr Sport 2dr 3.0L V6, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$17,995. ASKING \$17,995.	<b>'97 Acura 3.2 TL Premium SR3 Gray</b> Acura 4dr Sport 4dr 3.2L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$27,888. ASKING \$27,888.	<b>'98 Ford Taurus Wagon Green</b> Ford 4dr Sport 4dr 3.0L V6, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$15,888. ASKING \$15,888.	<b>'97 Acura Integra LS 3dr Silver</b> Acura 3dr Sport 3dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,995. ASKING \$13,995.
<b>'95 Cadillac Seville 4dr Black</b> Cadillac 4dr Sport 4dr 4.9L V8, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$22,895. ASKING \$22,895.	<b>'96 Nissan Maxima SE 4dr Pearl</b> Nissan 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,777. ASKING \$13,777.	<b>'97 Acura 3.2 TL Premium SR3 Gray</b> Acura 4dr Sport 4dr 3.2L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$27,888. ASKING \$27,888.	<b>'98 Honda Accord EX 4dr Teal</b> Honda 4dr Sport 4dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,995. ASKING \$13,995.	<b>'94 Olds Delta 88 4dr Teal</b> Olds 4dr Sport 4dr 3.0L V6, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$6,777. ASKING \$6,777.	<b>'97 VW Cabrio Convertible Blue</b> VW 2dr Sport 2dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,995. ASKING \$13,995.
<b>'97 Toyota Camry XLEE 4dr Gold</b> Toyota 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,777. ASKING \$13,777.	<b>'93 Acura Legend LS 2dr Teal</b> Acura 2dr Sport 2dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,990. ASKING \$13,990.	<b>'97 Acura 2.5 TL Premium SR3 Gray</b> Acura 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$27,888. ASKING \$27,888.	<b>'97 Acura 3.0 CL 2dr Burgundy</b> Acura 2dr Sport 2dr 3.0L V6, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$15,888. ASKING \$15,888.	<b>'99 Acura Integra GS 3dr Black</b> Acura 3dr Sport 3dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,995. ASKING \$13,995.	<b>'97 Acura Integra GS 3dr Teal</b> Acura 3dr Sport 3dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,995. ASKING \$13,995.
<b>'96 Lincoln Town Car 4dr Navy</b> Lincoln 4dr Sport 4dr 4.6L V8, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$22,895. ASKING \$22,895.	<b>'98 Acura Legend LS 2dr Teal</b> Acura 2dr Sport 2dr 1.8L 16V, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,990. ASKING \$13,990.	<b>'98 Acura 2.5 TL Premium SR3 Gray</b> Acura 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$27,888. ASKING \$27,888.	<b>'98 Acura 2.5 TL 4dr Emerald</b> Acura 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$27,888. ASKING \$27,888.	<b>'93 Jeep Grand Cherokee 4dr Silver</b> Jeep 4dr Sport 4dr 4.0L V6, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$15,888. ASKING \$15,888.	<b>'98 Nissan Altima GXE 4dr Black</b> Nissan 4dr Sport 4dr 2.5L I4, ABS, 150 Mile/Hour, 100,000 Mile Warranty. MSRP \$13,777. ASKING \$13,777.

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