

# Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 73 NO. 31

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2002

TWO SECTIO

## Local Realtors hope for Springfield school budget to pass

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

Local Realtors say that one of the biggest concerns of young couples looking to purchase a home in Springfield is the quality of education the school system provides.

"Towns such as Summit, Livingston, Short Hills, New Providence and Berkeley Heights, they all have very good school systems and it makes their prices go up quite a bit," said Ronald Sharpe, president of Century 21's Springfield office. "One of the biggest things that contributes to the price in a town is the school system."

Last week, the Springfield Board of Education unanimously approved the 2002-03 proposed school budget, a \$24.6-million spending plan with \$22 million to be raised through local property taxes, to be placed on the ballot at the April 16 Board of Education election.

"We're hoping that it's going to pass," said Robbi Usdin, sales associate for Prudential New Jersey Realty based in Millburn. "By putting money into educa-

tion it increases property value in Springfield."

If voters approve the \$22,025,430 that will be raised via taxes, it would mean an annual tax increase of \$170 for the average home in Springfield assessed at \$157,000.

The 2001-02 school budget was \$23,755,673. The 2002-03 budget represents an increase of \$801,773, or 3.38 percent.

"I think it's good for the school budget to go up a little bit higher, to spend a little bit more money on the school budget, to get the school system up to rate with other areas around Springfield. I think it will be better for the prices in town," said Sharpe.

When a young couple comes to look at a house in Springfield, they look at the school system and ask for a report. "It's very important that we have half-day pre-K and full-day kindergarten, which Springfield offers and some of the surrounding towns do not," said Usdin.

New people moving into a town want to know that new and good things are happening in the school system.

"We provide them with a school report on the full academics of the school, what courses they have, what year the different programs start, such as languages, certain science programs, certain math programs," said Sharpe.

Last April, the 2001-02 school budget of \$23.3 million with a local tax levy of \$20.8 million was defeated by 19 votes. A total of 1,050 voted yes to support the budget while 1,069 voted no.

As a result of the defeat, the Township Committee determined that \$31.471 should be cut out of the budget.

"I didn't see much of it, but I did see some frowning upon the faces of some new people moving in when they heard that the budget didn't pass," said Usdin. "People definitely want to hear that it passed and that people are putting money back into education."

Last year, when the budget didn't pass, Sharpe noticed that there was a lot of talk. "People were upset about that," he said.

This year the market seems to be better, explained Usdin, and she sees higher prices on the homes in Springfield.

## Mullman is sole candidate

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

The deadline for candidates to file for the one vacant seat on the Springfield Township Committee is Monday. Incumbent Sy Mullman plans on running once again.

"People from the outside feel that Springfield is a great place to live," said Springfield Democratic Chairperson Marcia Forman. "Houses do not stay on the market very long when they're put up for sale. People are looking for a reasonable, attractive place to live with a good school system and Sy is a part of that."

Mullman has served on the committee for nine years and has lived in Springfield for 26 years. He has served as mayor twice and deputy mayor once.

"We're going to continue running the town in an efficient manner as I believe we have done," Mullman said. "We're expanding our programs and we haven't had a tax increase in three of the last four years on the municipal level. So I think our fiscal management is quite good."

Mullman was the committee member who found the Schaible Oil Co. property, at the corner of Mountain and Tooker, where the new firehouse is being erected.

"He really cares about Springfield," said Forman. "From his early years he was involved in town activities, helping the children in the various athletic activities. He has extended that to include all ages in all areas."

Mullman is also very committed to the Take Pride in Springfield Program and the Chamber of Commerce.

Forman said due to the efforts of Take Pride in Springfield, the town, as a whole, has been looking better over the last few years.

"He cares for Springfield and he is a tireless worker to help improve the town," said Forman.

Springfield Republican Chairperson Bill Ruocco was not available for comment by press time.



Photos By Barbara Kokkalis

AN 'EGGXELLENT' EVENT— Springfield resident Caitlynn McTernan, 14 months, looks long and hard and discovers some hidden eggs during the Easter Egg Hunt at Chisholm Community Center Park in Springfield on Saturday. At left, Isabella Wide, 3, of Springfield gives a warm hug to her new friend, the Easter Bunny.

## Borough gives Atlantic A+ for call coverage

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

Four months after Mountainside entered into an agreement with Atlantic Ambulance Corporation, a division of Atlantic Health Systems, to provide emergency medical coverage to residents on weekdays between 4 a.m. and 4 p.m., borough officials report that they couldn't be happier.

Atlantic is a not-for-profit organization that, in addition to providing the borough with coverage, also provides it with monthly reports, outlining the organization's response time and the medical procedures they used. So far, Atlantic has answered 56 calls in Mountainside, with an average response time of 4.1 minutes.

Atlantic handles the borough's emergency medical services during the weekday 12-hour shifts from 4 a.m. to 4 p.m., when most volunteers are not available. Atlantic houses personnel and emergency medical vehicles in Mountainside.

Richard Donovan, director of transportation services for Atlantic, said one of the requirements that a borough or township must meet, when contracting Atlantic, is that a place be provided to house an ambulance and personnel.

Atlantic's ambulance is housed at 1271 Route 22, the old Mountainside Firehouse, which is now the property of Overlook Hospital.

A section of Overlook's paramedic

unit has been housed there for the past 20 years, which covers sections of Springfield, Mountainside, Union and Westfield.

"That was the paramedics," said Donovan. "They don't transport. What we've added now is an ambulance, which is a fully equipped New Jersey state-licensed, full-size ambulance."

Atlantic has two crew members at the site to provide coverage.

"If it's a more advanced call then you end up with paramedics, you have four people. If someone is seriously injured or ill and it's life-threatening, then instead of just doing the transportation, you have the paramedics with the experience and skills and tools.

It's always a team approach, whether it's the volunteers or the paid guys," said Donovan.

Atlantic was contracted to supplement Mountainside's volunteers. They were not contracted to replace them.

"You got volunteers that are from the community, they live in the community, they know the community, and they provide a service," said Donovan.

The volunteers still cover 108 hours a week. Atlantic only covers 60 hours.

"As long as there's still a volunteer organization and the town nurtures it, I would find it very hard to say that we

See SQUAD, Page 2.

**Spring ahead**  
Readers are reminded to push their clocks forward one hour before retiring to bed Saturday in anticipation of Daylight Saving Time, which begins Sunday at 2 a.m.

## Recovering addicts share stories of loss & long road to redemption

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

On the morning of April 13, 1992, Alec Martineau's 6-year-old son sat at the kitchen table and ate his usual scrambled egg breakfast. He put on

his little green Ninja Turtle backpack and headed off to school.

He never came home. A drunk driver rode into the school zone doing 40 miles per hour and made a turn.

There was a crash.

Martineau is the facility director for Daytop, an adolescent substance abuse program based out of Mendham. He, along with Steve Adubato, an anchor on PBS, were the hosts of a drug and alcohol awareness forum which took place at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield March 27. The forum, sponsored by Schering-Plough Corp., featured young recovering addicts who shared their experiences with Dayton students.

"My message is to reach one person," said Julia, 19, a recovering addict who, with the help of Daytop, has been clean and sober for five and a half months. "If one person gets my message today and manages to stay sober the rest of their life, that's all that matters to me."

Julia, along with three other teenagers, warned the Dayton students of how easy it is to start off with the mindframe of only using socially acceptable drugs and then suddenly becoming swept up in harder drugs. She started using drugs when she was 12. It escalated from there. By Julia's junior year in high school, she was shooting heroin.

Daytop is a drug-free community. "It's a place where people live," said

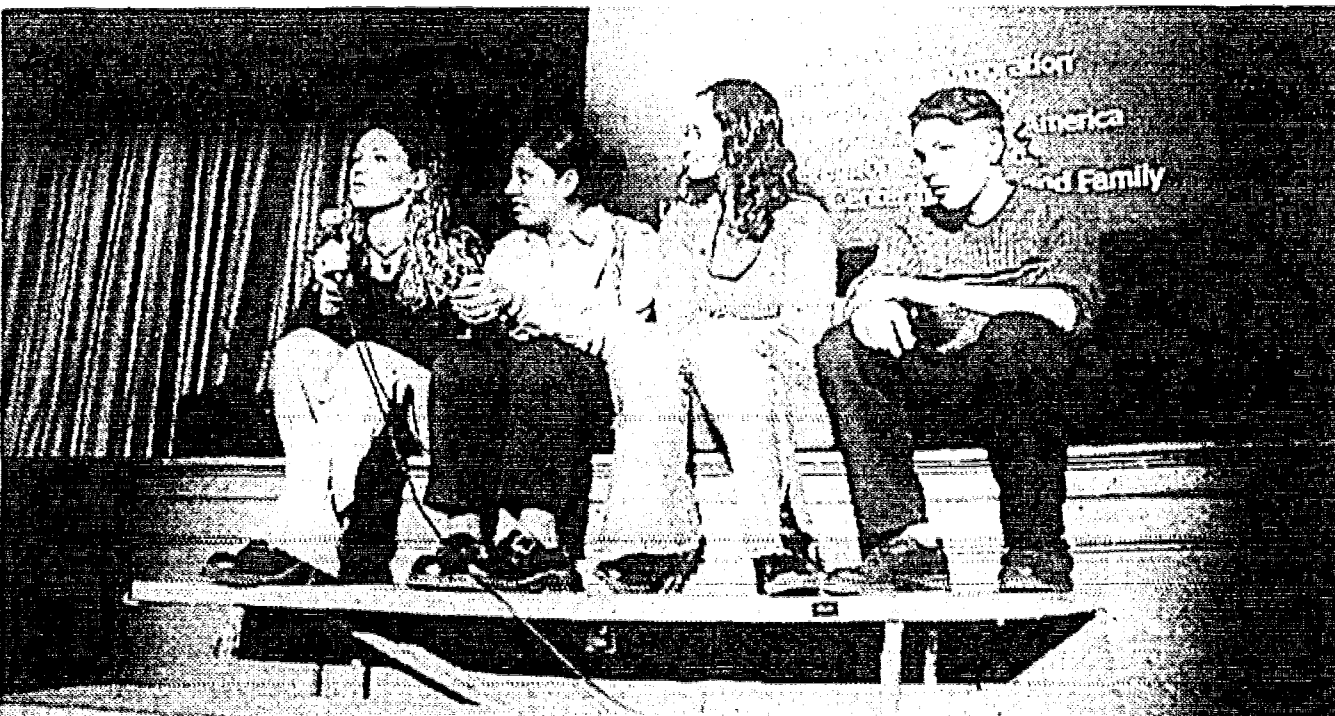


Photo By Jeff Grant

Several recovering addicts who got help through Daytop, an adolescent substance abuse program, came to share their experiences with students at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield March 27 for a video-taped series titled 'Fighting a Fatal Addiction.' From left, are Julia, Francesca, Jackie, and Josh.

Martineau. "It's a place where people get sent to; a place where people get sanctioned to by judges, by courts, by family members. It's a place where you don't get to go home every night. It's not a fun place to be."

Daytop is a last resort. "When I was 9, I started smoking

cigarettes and drinking alcohol," said Josh, 17, who has now been sober for five and a half months. He soon moved onto marijuana, which eventually led to cocaine when Josh was a freshman in high school.

By his sophomore year, Josh had dropped out of school.

Segments of the Daytop drug awareness forums have been taped at Union County high schools for a three-part public television series titled, "Fighting a Fatal Addiction." A videotape of the series, accompanied by a teacher's guide to substance See ADDICTS, Page 2



Photo By Jeff Grant

Listening to Josh's tragic experiences with drugs proves to be a troubling, but enlightening exercise for fellow recovering addicts Julia and Jackie.

### Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

**How to reach us:**  
The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Almond Community Newspapers at 1221 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at 908-686-7700 for advertising information.

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The Echo Leader provides an open forum for readers to express their views on local and national issues. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and include a return address. The editor reserves the right to edit and shorten letters.

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## Squad handles majority

Continued from Page 1  
would have to increase our services," said "Dannovino." Obviously if the squad for some reason was unable to respond at certain time periods, we would try to help out."

Borough Administrator and Police Chief James DeHove said that the firemen squad is more than satisfied with Advance's coverage and that there are no plans to ask for additional hours from them.

However, if additional hours are eventually needed, DeHove is confident that the squad will be able to handle them.

DeHove said that the squad's performance has been excellent, and that the firemen are very professional and hard working. He also mentioned that the squad has been instrumental in many community events and fundraisers.

The squad's success is a result of the hard work and dedication of the firemen, as well as the support of the community and the Borough Administration.

## Addicts hope for recovery

Continued from Page 1  
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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 even the publicity it deserves, mail your schedule to Echo Leader, Attn: managing editor, P.O. Box 3108, Union, NJ 07083.

**Monday**  
• The Springfield Board of Education meets for a conference session in the Media Center at Jonathan Dayton High School at 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
• The Mountain Side Borough Council meets for a work session at the Borough Hall, 1335 Route 22 West at 8 p.m.  
• Cosmopolitan, an all-women, burlesque harmony quartet, will give a special performance at the Mountain Side Public Library, Constitution Plaza at 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call 908-233-4115.

**Wednesday**  
• The Mountain Side Planning Board will meet in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 1335 Route 22 West at 8 p.m.

**Thursday**  
• The Springfield Free Public Library 66 Mountain Ave. continues its Spring International Film Festival with "Fanny Hill" at noon and 7 p.m. The film describes the life of one of the most celebrated opera singers of his day in 18th-century Europe. For more information, call 973-376-4939.

**Friday**  
• St. James the Apostle School at South Springfield Avenue in Springfield hosts their annual Fish 'n' Chips/Basket Bonanza, catered by Apple's of Kearny. Eat-in/take-out will be 5:30 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 973-376-5194.

**Saturday**  
• The Springfield YMCA celebrates the 11th annual YMCA Healthy Kids Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 100 Springfield Ave. Activities include first aid demonstrations, fire safety, healthy eating hints, face painting and more. For more information, call 973-467-4333.

## Bachus arrested for burglary on Sunday

Springfield  
On Sunday at 11:00 p.m., Peter Bachus, 31, of Berkeley, was arrested for burglary. He was charged with breaking into a home on Route 22 East near Cornell Parkway, where he stole a television, a stereo, and other items. Bachus was arrested by police officers who were patrolling the area.

On Monday at 1:34 a.m., an All-Summit Police reported that a burglar had broken into a home on Hillside Avenue. The burglar stole a television, a stereo, and other items. The police are currently searching for the burglar.

On March 26 at 8:44 p.m., Sandy Vargas, 31, of Berkeley, was charged with driving with a suspended license. Vargas was driving on Route 22 East near Cornell Parkway, where she was stopped by police officers. Vargas's license was suspended because she had not completed her probation.

On March 27 at 9:10 p.m., a New York State Trooper reported that a burglar had broken into a home on Hillside Avenue. The burglar stole a television, a stereo, and other items. The police are currently searching for the burglar.

On March 27 at 9:10 a.m., they answered a medical service call at a Hillside Avenue residence. At 9:39 a.m., they responded to a medical service call at a Mountain Avenue residence. At 9:59 a.m., they responded to a medical service call at a Mountain Avenue residence. At 10:10 a.m., they responded to a medical service call at a Mountain Avenue residence.

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## Borough Republicans seek single ticket

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer  
Borough Council incumbents Keith Turner and Paul Mirabelli plan on seeking re-election, while the Democratic Party doesn't plan on putting anyone on the ballot, as Monday's deadline approaches for candidates to file for the two open seats.

"We decided upon our own reflection that we do our best work when are out in the audience," said Mountain Side Democratic Chairperson Michael Kraser. "The local budget problems that will arise in the next couple of months, there will be a lot of close watching and we intend to be out there monitoring what the local government plans on doing about it."

Kraser says he expects to see a tax increase, not only in Mountain Side but in every community within the state.

## Springfield resident starts Newcomers Club

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer  
Springfield residents who are new in town, or longtime residents who want to get to know new people, can now be part of Springfield's first ever Newcomers Club.

"I've been living in town for a while and we bought a house last August," said Newcomers Club President Simone Miller. "We saw in the newspaper that Mountain Side had a Newcomers Club and they were very active, but it's restricted to Mountain Side. So instead of complaining about it, I started one in Springfield."

In February, Miller hosted the first meeting in her home. Fifteen people turned out for the event.

In March, the Newcomers Club had its second meeting at the Sarah Blaylock Civic Center and 15 different people came.

"Because we're so brand new, people can expect to get whatever they want out of the club," said Miller.

"They're a part of building it from the ground up." If a vast majority of the people who attend the meetings are new parents, then many of the Newcomers Club's activities will center around young children.

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## Models in the making



Making some final adjustments to their eyes and makeup before the start of the Model United Nations program are Marie and Nancy Chen, both 16 and students at Governor Livingston High School. The program was conducted March 22 in the Elizabeth City Council Chambers.

## Donations needed for lobby sale

Beginning today, the Friends of the Springfield Free Public Library will accept donations for its lobby sale to benefit the library. Donations of jewelry, glassware and china, small appliances and kitchen items, linens, artificial flowers, tools, toys and furniture that can be carried out, are welcome. No books or clothing will be accepted. Items should be clean and in generally good condition.

Donations may be dropped off at the library Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; and Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. The lobby sale will be held April 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. On April 14, the sale hours will be 1 to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call 973-376-4930.

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# MS Walk set April 21

(Continued from Page B1)

This year's MS Walk covers eight different routes in seven counties including Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic and Sussex. The walk accounts for almost 40 percent of the funds raised annually to benefit the services provided by the Greater North Jersey Multiple Sclerosis Chapter. Walkers must raise a minimum of \$50. Last year, the average walker raised \$200 or more.

Currently there are more than 400 registrants for this year's walk in Cranford, and another 300 expected. Throughout northern New Jersey, more than 6,200 participants are expected.

For more information, or to register, visit [www.mswalk.org](http://www.mswalk.org) or call 201-261-WALK9255.

## College for Kids workshop on Saturday

Union County College's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services has more courses available in its College for Kids program.

"Chemical Magic" will be offered at the Cranford campus beginning on April 13. Additional science workshops include "Sumo Robot" on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Cranford campus, 1033 Springfield Ave. Kids will build their own sumo robot that can be controlled to assail and overpower its opponent or retreat to prepare for battle. An infrared sensor beam is emitted when detecting an opponent.

Beginning on May 4, kids crazy about dinosaurs can start "Diggin for Dinosaurs, Rockin Rocks and Chrystall Creations." Kids will learn about the sciences of archeology and paleontology as they excavate and assemble complete skeletal replica from "fossilized" rock. Dig for Tyrannosaurus Rex, Triceratops, Stegosaurus, Velociraptors and more.

The Division of Continuing Education and Community Services is also offering sports camps this spring and summer. The spring camps in both tennis and golf begin April 20 on the Cranford campus. The sports camp is for kids aged 7 to 12. Tennis camp is from 9 to 10:15 a.m. and golf camp follows from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m.

For more information on any of the programs, call Dale Mann, director of Lifelong Learning, Division of Continuing Education and Community Services, at 908-709-7048 or e-mail at [munn@ucc.edu](mailto:munn@ucc.edu).

For directions to the college, call 908-709-7000 or visit [www.ucc.edu](http://www.ucc.edu).

## Scholarships available for students studying law

The Union County Legal Services Association, the association for legal professionals, is sponsoring its annual Helen D. Hansen Memorial Scholarship Award.

Applications are available by calling Scholarship Committee Chairwoman Mary Lou Einhorn at 908-241-0611 or Vice President Helena Gowork at 908-527-4506 or 908-289-7356. Applications are available to Union County residents who are full-time students pursuing a law-related or criminal justice career.

The scholarship is in the amount of \$500 and the winner may be eligible to participate in the NJALS scholarship program, the state affiliate, for an additional \$1,000.

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## COUNTY NEWS

### United Way call to action

United Way of Union County has issued an urgent communitywide call to action to meet the growing needs of local health and human services.

Massive job layoffs in the area, the economy's downturn and the ongoing needs on Sept. 11 have made this a time of crisis for thousands of neighbors, according to Elisse Glennon, chief executive officer.

The food pantries at First Baptist Church in Cranford, St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth, Elizabethport Presbyterian Center, and the Salvation Army in Elizabeth have all experienced at least a 50 percent increase in the number of clients during the past month.

In addition, the Salvation Army's soup kitchen in Elizabeth has been serving more than 1,500 meals per month since Sept. 11, a staggering increase over its normal 1,000 meals per month.

United Way of Union County's First Call of Help information and Referral hotline has also received numerous calls from local people in need of rental assistance due to job layoffs. Recent statewide and national surveys have also revealed a tremendous increase in demand for services at homeless shelters and mental health agencies.

"The caring people of our community were there to meet the immediate needs of families directly affected by the tragic events of Sept. 11," said Glennon. "Now, more than ever, we need to focus support on meeting critical needs at our local food pantries, homeless shelters and other personal and family-crisis centers."

UWUC's communitywide call to action is focused on:

- Replenishing supplies at local food pantries and homeless shelters.
- Expanding current services that offer grief, trauma, domestic violence and career counseling to those who have lost their job, sense of security, independence or homes.
- Replenishing services at local day care centers and crisis centers that responded immediately and efficiently to the tragic event.
- Expanding current services for seniors working to maintain independence and those struggling to regain self-sufficiency.

To support the United Way's communitywide call to action, send your tax-deductible donation to United Way of Union County, 33 W. Grand St., Elizabeth, 07202.

For more information, call 908-353-7171.

### Senior outreach services

Union County's Division on Aging in the Department of Human Services welcomes elderly Union County residents to another Outreach Services Program that offers seniors information and help with applications for a variety of important government assistance programs.

Union County representatives will

be available today from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Garwood Firehouse, 415 South Ave., Garwood, to offer information and provide assistance in completing the necessary applications for a multitude of programs. Seniors can learn about and apply for gas and electric support, pharmaceutical assistance, home energy assistance, Supplemental Security Income, counseling on health insurance for Medicare enrollees, and SHARE Food Program.

Staff members from the Division on Aging and the Division of Social Services will conduct private interviews on request. A bilingual staff person will be present.

For more information on the Outreach Services Program and other programs offered by the Division on Aging, call the division's toll-free number at 1-888-280-8226.

### Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey has scheduled the following blood drives:

- Sunday, noon to 3 p.m., Evangel Baptist Church, 242 Shunpike Road, Springfield.
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## CRT to get nostalgic with 'Grease'

The Cranford Repertory Theater is gearing up for its spring musical with D.A.s, poodle skirts, leather jackets and one word: "Grease."



Performances for "Grease" will be Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. April 12 to 20 and Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. April 14 and April 21. All performances will be at the Orange Avenue School auditorium in Cranford.

This production of "Grease" features a diverse cast from all over New Jersey under the direction of Frank Andrews. The cast stars Michael Bellina of Union as Danny, Kimberly Apudula of Piscataway as Sandy, Evan Schupak of West Orange as Kenicke and Robyn Bloom of Rahway as Rizzo. Union County residents featured are Jen Hanselman of Linden as Mary, A.J. Meeker of Linden as Roger, Stephanie Pearl of Cranford as Jan, Nuno DeSouza of Linden as Doody, Janelle Cumberbatch-Smith of Plainfield as Fremby and Laura Scott of Union as Miss Lynch. Out-of-county actors are Jeff Don as Sonny, Jodi Zeicher as Cha-Cha, Eric Brenda as Eugene, Howard Whitmore as Johnny Casino and Teen Angel, Samantha Hahn of Metuchen as Patty Simcox and Todd Aikens as Vince Fontaine.

Most recently, director Andrews has directed "Forever Plaid" and "Bye Bye Birdie" with Stagecrafters which garnered him two Perry Award nominations for Outstanding Direction of a Musical. Other directorial credits include "Joseph...," "Annie," "Olivier," "Grease," "Bye Bye Birdie," "Peter Pan," "Little Shop of Horrors," "Into the Woods," "Snoopy" and "Oklahoma!" Plays-in-the-Park fans in Edison will recognize Andrews from productions of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," "Guys and Dolls," "Gypsy," "Me and My Girl," "West Side Story," "Anything Goes," "Annie Get Your Gun," "Bye Bye Birdie," "Sweet Charity" and "My Fair Lady." For CRT, Andrews has directed "The Wizard of Oz" and has been featured in "Joseph..." and "Once Upon a Mattress," not to mention the Cranford Showstoppers. He has also been a featured performer in the Miss and Mrs. America Pageant Systems, and is the recipient of the 1997 A.C.T. Award for Best Actor in a Musical for "Oklahoma!" at the Sayreville Main Street Theater Company.

The choreographer for "Grease" is Kristen Baldoni, a veteran of many CRT productions as both a performer and assistant choreographer. "Grease" will be Baldoni's debut as a choreographer. Additional technical support will come from lighting designer Mark Riley, costume designer Terri Rodd and set designer Tony Smith.

"Grease" had it's world theatrical premiere on Broadway in 1972, and has triumphed throughout the world, both in acclaimed theaters and in countless school productions. In 1979, "Grease" took over the record as the longest-running show in the history of Broadway, and the hit film starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John proved to be the highest-grossing movie musical to date.

## Local black history on exhibit

An exhibit titled "Little Known Black History Gems of Union County: John Shippen and the Shady Rest Golf and Country Club" is on display in the Union County Freeholders' Gallery through April 13. The multi-media exhibit is comprised of photographs, documents, books, paintings and well-prized mementos illustrating a little-known segment of Union County black cultural and social history.

John Matthew Shippen Jr., 1879-1968, was a black American on record as the first African-born golf professional to play in a U.S. Open Championship. He finished fifth in the second Open Championship held by the U.S.G.A. in 1896. Shippen is buried at the Rosedale Cemetery in Linden. Thurman S. Simons, a Scotch Plains resident and chairman of the John Shippen Foundation, spearheaded the effort to purchase and place an inscribed granite headstone at the gravesite as a tribute to Shippen's achievement.

Shippen held the position of greens keeper and head pro at Shady Rest Golf and Country Club in Scotch Plains, the first documented black-owned country club in the United States, from 1931 to 1964.

The Freeholder's Gallery is located on the sixth floor of the Union County Administration Building, Elizabethtown Plaza at Rahway Avenue, Elizabeth. The exhibit may be viewed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

After April 13, the exhibit will travel to several other locations in New Jersey and other states. For information, contact foundation Chairman Thurman P. Simons at 908-322-2986.

Time will tell, but that is perhaps the most dramatic question to arise from this year's lengthy and mostly banal Academy Awards ceremony from the new, stunning theater designed by New York architect David Rockwell.

Did anyone but me notice that

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with a lot of fun songs and dancing in between.

The Cranford Repertory Theater Company is a nonprofit, non-sectarian community theater group which serves central New Jersey. It was founded to not only produce top-rate community theater productions, but also to make a contribution to the community and strive to make a difference, both artistically and philanthropically. At the end of every performance, donations are collected for an outreach that has been chosen specifically for that particular production. This year's campaign will benefit the Cranford Fund for Educational Excellence.

Tickets for "Grease" are \$12 for reserved seats; general admission for adults is \$10 with a special senior citizen and student price of \$8. Tickets are available in Cranford at Tony's Cafe and Cindi's Book Barn; in Westfield at the Town Book Store; and in Garwood at Cindy Smith Dance Studio. For information, call CRT at 908-272-1704 or 908-276-4487.

almost the only aging actresses on hand were English. While Dame Judy Dench, Helen Mirren and Maggie Smith were there demonstrating that older women can indeed still act — and draw audiences, presumably — the American movie industry continues to be obsessed with young nubile maidens dressed either like they just arrived from the gym or the bordello. To finish this thought, where were some of the great American film actresses or actors for that matter: Meryl Streep, for example.

Speaking of fashions, which I think I was, this was the year of Nicole Kidman. She not only looked grown up and stunning, but she acted, acted and acted in two terrific movies — one, "Moulin Rouge" was the best and most creative of those nominated, I think. Ms. Kidman is too much the exception in these days of media hype. The crossover between movies and television promotion is so strong now it overwhelms us with overwhelming talent.

Best line of the evening was Ms. Goldberg's when she said even Ingrid Bergman would be depressed by "Iris," a moving British film from BBC starring three award-nominees: Judy Dench, Kate Winslet and Jim Broadbent — who deservedly won — about author Iris Murdoch's decline from youth to aged incapacity. Most gracious moment went to Woody Allen, who explained that he was not the right choice to introduce the post-Sept. 11 New York City film tribute. He focused momentary attention on fellow directors Martin Scorsese and Mike Nichols, which was a far cry from the continuous bleating of award winners of "I, I, I..." combined with

## Brubeck entralls crowd in arts center concert

Jazz giant Dave Brubeck strode onto the stage of the Union County Arts Center in Rahway March 22 with a joyous energy that belied his age of 81.

He then proceeded to pour that energy directly into a tango- and swing-rhythmed "St. Louis Blues." Along with three other highly accomplished players, he continued to enrapture the full house of jazz fans for the next two hours.

Brubeck's distinctive, now familiar, sound was forged out of the experimental Jazz Workshop Ensemble he founded with his fellow students at Mills College in California in the late '40s. Later, that sound was further polished during his collaboration with drummer Joe Morello, double bassist Eugene Wright and also saxophonist Paul Desmond. The Dave Brubeck Quartet quickly achieved an overwhelming popular success. Their experimentation with unusual time signatures and harmonic progressions produced tunes — like "Blue Rondo a la Turk" and "Take Five" — which have become jazz standards in the ensuing years.

As a composer, Brubeck has written and recorded several large-scale works including two ballets, a musical, an oratorio, four cantatas, a Mass, works for jazz combo and orchestra and many solo piano pieces. In the last 20 years, he has organized several new quartets and continued to appear at the Newport, Monterey, Concord, and Kool jazz festivals.

Brubeck apparently isn't cowed by working with musicians whose prowess at their instruments is equal, if not superior, to his own. Bobby Militello, the quartet's tenor saxophone player, dumfounded the audience at UCC, leaving them breathless with his fast, intense and uncannily soulful solos. The applause was so loud after

## And All That Jazz

By Gordon Wiener  
A&E Correspondent

some of Militello's outings that it took at least two or three measures before one could again hear Brubeck's solos, which commonly followed Militello's.

Both Brubeck and Militello had a playful chemistry with each other, as well as with drummer Randy Jones and the quartet's newest member, bassist Michael Moore, making eye contact and giggling while they played around with key signatures and motives. But these were clearly inside jokes because, to the audience, every note sounded meticulously planned and inevitable, all thoroughly exploring the "middle of the road" before straying to the "outside" with an edge and an impulsiveness that makes the Brubeck sound so satisfying.

The audience was treated to several tunes from the quartet's latest album, "The Crossing," and was later privileged to hear what were described as "works in progress" for an upcoming recording. At the concert's erstwhile end, someone in the audience shouted out, "Take Five!" Brubeck knowingly winked and nodded. The quartet then launched into a rendition of this signature tune, the mood of which was as far removed from that of the original recording as one could get without making the melody unrecognizable. Drummer Jones took his only extended solo of the evening, while Militello became red-faced and heavily perspired performing a solo that I can only describe as apoplectic.

## Oscar ceremony raises dramatic questions

### On the Arts

By Jon Plaut

self-serving thanking of parents, spouses and partners, agents and even lawyers.

Finally, to turn back to content, I did not object to "A Beautiful Mind" winning the award for Best Picture because it did show mental illness from the inside, which is a rare achievement, and Russell Crowe was really quite exceptional, no matter how nasty or churlish he might be personally. But the script of "A Beautiful Mind" did dumb-down the book, from which the movie was taken, by leaving out fact about John Nash's life which were inconvenient to the uplifting and rather sentimental story director Ron Howard was telling for the mass audience. I preferred the rather more complicated and challenging directorial art and craft of Robert Altman in "Gosford Park."

Jon Plaut is a resident of Summit.

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55 Bum chaser  
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58 Italian noble family  
59 Alehouse  
60 Summer cooler  
61 Actor Minoe

See ANSWERS on Page B10

# What's Going On?

**FLEA MARKET**  
SATURDAY April 6th, 2002  
EVENT: Flea Market  
PLACE: Connecticut Farms Church, 375 Seminole Ave., Union  
TIME: 9am-3pm  
PRICE: Free Admission. For more information call: 908-686-1051  
ORGANIZATION: Mission Projects of The Presbyterian Women of Connecticut Farms Church

**RUMMAGE SALE**  
SATURDAY April 6th, 2002  
EVENT: Rummage Sale  
PLACE: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 739 Seminole Avenue, Rahway  
TIME: 9am-1pm  
PRICE: Free Admission. Items sold individually, or by the bag at \$5 (small), \$10 (medium), \$20 (large).  
ORGANIZATION: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

**AUCTION**  
THURSDAY April 11, 2002  
EVENT: Annual Spring Auction  
PLACE: Christ the King Church Hall, 411 Rutgers Ave. & Bloy St., Hillside  
TIME: Doors open at 6:15pm  
PRICE: Admission is \$5. Tickets may be purchased prior to the event at the school or the factory or will be available at the door. Coffee & cake will be served, with a light menu available for purchase. Sorry one under the age of 18 will not be admitted. For more information call: 908-686-6740 or 908-686-0722. Tables can be reserved for groups of 10 or more.  
ORGANIZATION: Christ the King Church HSA

**OTHER**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY April 12th & 13th, 2002  
EVENT: Family Portraits  
PLACE: Roselle Catholic High School, 1 Raritan Road, Roselle  
TIME: Call to Reserve Your Time  
PRICE: \$5 per Family. For more information call Judy Durr 908-245-8648, Tina Jagan 908-241-7407 or Joan Carroll 908-688-0595  
ORGANIZATION: Roselle Catholic Mother's Club

**Bill Van Sant, Editor**  
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**Musical Club to present Wednesday recital**

The Musical Club of Westfield will present an afternoon recital Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield.

Edna Borchers, program chairman, has announced a program featuring a Westfield High School string ensemble, plus vocal and instrumental soloists.

The Westfield High School students will perform the program by performing Sonata No. 2 in G Major, Op. 36 by Johannes Brahms. Featured are Rosemary Topan and David Louie playing violin, Elizabeth Madresh and Alex Leong on viola and Carl Baron and Justin Tamman on cello.

Mezzo-soprano Barbara Kraus, accompanied by Marie-Danielle Mercier on the piano, will sing "The Time for Making Sons Has Come" by James H. Rogers and "I Love All Graceful Things" by Eric H. Thiman. George Toenes on the clarinet will join the accompaniment for the "Parto, Parto" aria from "La Clemenza di Tito" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

# Liberty Hall opens for season, announces calendar of events

Spring is here and the gardens of Liberty Hall in Union are hinting of the beauty to come. The buds on the flowers are ready to burst open in a show of color and the hundreds of daffodils that have greeted every spring for many generations are ready to delight visitors once again.

Liberty Hall Museum, a National Historic site, opened for its regular season Wednesday and welcomes those who wish to step back in time. The home of New Jersey's first governor, William Livingston, and ancestral home of seven generations of his family, Liberty Hall gives visitors an opportunity to experience more than 200 years of history.

The museum is open for regular visits Wednesdays to Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the last tour at 3 p.m. Tours are guided, beginning every half-hour and a visit takes approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours. An admission is charged and no reservations are required.

Afternoon Teas are held each Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. on the glass porch overlooking the formal parterre garden. Advance reservations are required for tea; call 908-527-0400.

Liberty Hall at 1003 Morris Ave., Union, is directly across from Keen University. Visit the Web site at www.libertyhall.org or call for a calendar of special events, which include craft workshops, seasonal events and more. Persons interested in volunteering at the museum are also encouraged to call.

Guests are invited to visit this magnificent 23-acre landscaped property and tour the historic mansion with professional guides who will share stories and history of the seven generations of the Livingston/Keen family who have called Liberty Hall home for more than 200 years. This is a completely furnished intact family home with a large collection of American antiques, furnishings, portraits, ceramics, textiles, memorabilia and more. Also available is a picnic area and gift shop.

**Regular offerings**

- Guided tours: Wednesdays to Sundays, April to December, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the last tour at 3 p.m. Call 908-527-0400 for further information.
- "Tea is Served": Every Wednesday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- Formal afternoon tea, reminiscent of those served by Mrs. Keen in the 1930s will be held on the glass porch that overlooks the beautiful parterre garden. Guests will be treated to delicious tea sandwiches and pastries while hearing the charming stories of Liberty Hall.

\$22 per person, reservations required, payment in advance, call 908-527-0400.

**Special events 2002**

- April 12: The 100th Anniversary of Our Founder's Birth. Celebrate the anniversary of Mary Alice Barney Keen's birth, the visionary and protector of Liberty Hall. From the spirited Livingston women who protected their cherished home, to Mary Alice Barney Keen, who devoted her life to its preservation in the 20th century, the women of Liberty Hall have always been very important. Visit their home and hear the stories of these beautiful and remarkable women. Mothers will be given a free flower or seedling from the garden and admitted at half of the general admission price. Afternoon tea will be served. Additional fee.
- May 18: Civil War Encampment. Liberty Hall has been witness to much strife over its long history. Join Civil War re-enactors as they bring the turbulent days of America's war to brother and sister. Meet Mr. Lincoln and learn about the war from his perspective.
- June 16: Tools of the Trade. Over the centuries, the estate has felt the influence of the Livingston/Keen men and the many employees who labored on the property. On Father's Day, the men and machines will take the limelight and the farm equipment, engines and machines will be the focus. Because dads are so important, they are invited to visit at half of the general admission price and will be given a small token to take home.
- Saturdays in July and August: A Child's View of History. Children will be given a special tour focusing on the lives of the children who have lived at Liberty Hall. Each room will have different objects for them to touch and the tour will end with a hands-on activity and outdoor games.
- July 6, 13, 20 and 27, and Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, and Sept. 1 and 3 p.m. Recommended ages: 7 to 12. Weekends in late September and early October: Apple Harvest Time. Depending on the readiness of the crop, guests may pick their own apples to bring home. Call to check on the availability of the apples.
- October 26 and 27: Pumpkin Patch Weekend. A safe, family-oriented way to celebrate Halloween. Children and their families can find and carve pumpkins, make scarecrows and go for a hayride.
- Friday and Saturday evenings in December: "From St. Nicholas to Santa Claus". Visitors will experience Liberty Hall gaily decorated and illuminated by candlelight. The evening tours celebrate five different styles of Christmas: the Dutch tradition of St. Nicholas of 1774, English Twelfth Night of 1800, "The Night Before Christmas" of 1848, a Victorian Christmas of 1899 and a World War II holiday of 1942. Museum staff in period clothing will help uncover the origin of many of the rich traditions of the holiday season.
- Dec. 7, 13 and 14, 20 and 21. Dec. 7, 14 and 21: Gingerbread House Workshop. Children are invited to visit Liberty Hall and create their own gingerbread house. Two sessions, 10 to noon and 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

## Ars Vitalis salutes NJ composers in concert

Ars Vitalis: The New Jersey New Music Forum at Keen University will feature the music of five highly regarded New Jersey composers at its next concert Wednesday.

The program includes works by Joseph Turrin, Raymond Wojcik, Barbara White, Patrick J. Burns and Matthew Halper.

"The concert will introduce the audience to the allure, drama and impact of the art of contemporary music composition," said Artistic Director Matthew Halper, a professor in Keen's Music Department.

Ars Vitalis will be held Wednesday. A pre-concert discussion with the guest composer will begin at 7:15 p.m. in Wilbur Theater, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. The concert will follow at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

The invited performers are Philip Smith, trumpet; Sharon Roffman, violin; Geoffrey Burleson, piano; Allison Brewer Brantley, piano; Beth Robinson, harp; Laura George, flute; Michelle Michaelis, violin; Christine Terhune, viola; Ted Hoyal, cello; and the New Jersey Saxophone Ensemble.

Turrin of Clifton, has been recognized with major commissions from many of the world's leading orchestras, chamber ensembles and soloists. These include the New York Philharmonic Commission of "Hemi-

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United Way of Bloomfield...

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6:30 - 8:30 PM  
Thursday, April 18, 2002  
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\*Equal or lesser value

**SEAFOOD & STEAKHOUSE**  
Monday through Thursday  
Buy 1 Lunch or Dinner  
Receive 2nd Lunch or Dinner

**Lunch Specials**  
\*All Lunch Specials are served w/soup of the day or house salad

- Eggplant Parmigiana w/whole of pasta \$7.95
- Cheese Ravioli Parmigiana \$7.95
- Homemade Baked Lasagna Parmigiana \$8.95
- Fried Filet of Sole Sauté w/French fries \$6.95
- Penne w/Chicken & Broccoli in a Pink Vodka Sauce \$8.95
- Rigatoni w/Sundried Tomatoes and Broccoli Rabe in a Garlic Wine Sauce \$7.95
- Caesar Salad w/choice of grilled chicken, tuna or broiled salmon \$5.95
- Bacon & Cheese Omelet w/French fries \$6.95
- Steak sandwich on French bread w/onions, peppers and mushrooms \$7.50
- Served w/French fries
- Reuben Sandwich w/corned beef, sauerkraut, Russian dressing & Swiss cheese, served w/French fries \$7.95
- Caesar Salad w/choice of grilled chicken, tuna or broiled salmon \$7.95
- Cheese Salad w/choice of grilled chicken, tuna or broiled salmon \$7.95

**Soups**  
Soup of the Day \$1.75  
Lobster Bisque \$2.25

**Salads**  
House Salad \$4.25  
Caesar Salad \$4.95  
Greek Salad \$5.45

**Sautees**  
Chicken Scampi \$8.95  
Chicken Francise \$8.95  
Chicken Marsala \$8.95  
Chicken Saute \$8.95  
Veal Scalloppini Marsala \$12.95  
Jumbo Shrimp & Chicken Scampi \$8.95

**Land Lover's Delight**  
English Cut Prime Rib of Beef \$13.95  
Prime Sirloin Steak (12 oz) \$14.95  
Sliced London Broil \$11.95  
Top Sirloin (12 oz) \$10.95  
Broiled Pork Chops \$9.95  
Sautéed Gaius Liver \$9.95  
Broiled Chopped Sirloin Steak (16 oz) \$9.95

**Seafood Specialties**  
Broiled Filet of Sole \$11.95  
Broiled Sea Scallops \$13.95  
Broiled Salmon Fillet \$11.95  
Broiled Stuffed Filet of Flounder \$12.95  
Broiled Stuffed Shrimp \$12.95  
Broiled Shrimp Scampi \$12.95  
Broiled Seafood Combination \$14.95  
Fried Filet of Sole \$10.95  
Fried Sea Scallops \$13.95  
Fried Shrimp Scampi \$13.95  
Fried Seafood Combination \$14.95

**Dinner Menu**  
Italian Style Pasta Specials  
Served with Garlic Bread and Salad

- Rigatoni with Shrimp \$17.95
- Penne with Chicken \$13.95
- Rigatoni with Sweet Sausage \$14.95
- Bowlie Pasta with Eggplant \$11.95
- Angel Hair with fresh tomatoes and basil in garlic sauce \$11.95
- Chicken Alfredo \$13.95
- Veal Parmigiana \$13.95
- Boneless Breast of Capon Ala Parmigiana \$11.25
- Jumbo Shrimp Ala Parmigiana \$13.95
- Veal Scalloppini Ala Marsala \$13.95
- Chicken Francise \$11.95
- Jumbo Shrimp & Chicken Scampi \$13.95
- Calves Liver \$12.95
- New-York Sirloin Steak (14 oz) \$17.95
- Filet Mignon (9 oz) \$17.95
- Queen Cut \$14.95
- King Cut \$16.95
- Surf & Turf \$24.95
- Broiled Beef Kabob \$15.95
- Roast Leg of Lamb \$14.95
- Broiled Spring Chicken \$10.95
- Sliced London Broil \$14.95
- Broiled Pork Chops \$13.95
- Broiled Filet of Sole \$13.95
- Broiled Scallops \$14.95
- Broiled Shrimp Scampi \$14.95
- Broiled Halibut \$14.95
- Broiled Stuffed Shrimp (4) \$15.95
- Broiled Combination Seafood Platter \$19.95
- Broiled Twin Lobster Tails (6 oz) \$24.95
- Fried Jumbo Shrimps or Scallops \$13.95
- Fried Seafood Combination \$15.95

All Entrees Served with Garlic Bread and House Salad, Choice of Linguini or Rice Pilaf or Potato & Vegetable. Children's Menu Available, Lunch or Dinner. \*not to be combined with any other offers.



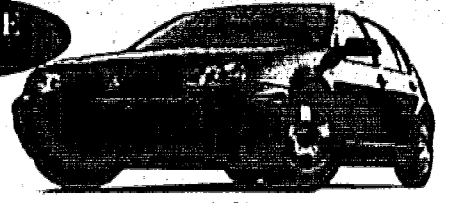
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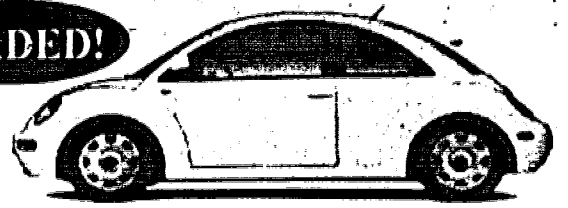
NEW 2001 VW  
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**\$17,788**  
Buy for  
VIN #14058233, Stk #EV10773, 2 DR, 5 spd., 4 cyl. turbo, p/s/ABS/winds/lcs/mirrs/trunk, am/fm cass, a/c, tilt, cruise, fog lights, r/def, tint gls, int wprs, fr mats, cloth bkts, alarm, dual air bags, moonroof, alloys, keyless entry, Moonsoon sound, MSRP: \$20,400.

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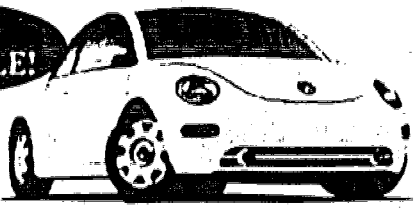
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**NEW BEETLE GLS**  
**\$17,888**  
Buy for  
VIN #2M410668, Stk #EV20087, 2 DR, auto, 4 cyl., p/s/ABS/winds/mirrs/lcs/trunk, am/fm cass, a/c, tilt, cruise, r/def, tint gls, int wprs, fr mats, cloth bkts, alarm, dual air bags, moonroof, alloys, keyless entry, MSRP: \$19,600.

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NEW 2001 VW  
**NEW BEETLE SPORT**  
**\$17,988**  
Buy for  
VIN #1M481433, Stk #EV10757, 2 DR, 5 spd. turbo, 4 cyl., p/s/ABS/winds/mirrs/lcs/trunk, traction ctrl, am/fm cass, a/c, tilt, cruise, r/def, tint gls, int wprs, fr mats, leather bkts, alarm, fog lights, dual air bags, moonroof, custom whls, keyless, Moonsoon sound, heated seats, MSRP: \$20,900.

2 AVAILABLE!



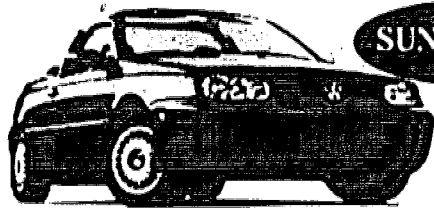
NEW 2002 VW  
**JETTA GLS 1.8T**  
**\$19,488**  
Buy for  
VIN #2H064608, Stk #EV20340, 4 DR, auto, 4 cyl. turbo, p/s/ABS/winds/lcs/mirrs/trunk, traction ctrl, am/fm cass, a/c, tilt, cruise, r/def, tint gls, int wprs, fr mats, cloth bkts, alarm, dual air bags, keyless entry, MSRP: \$21,275.

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Buy for  
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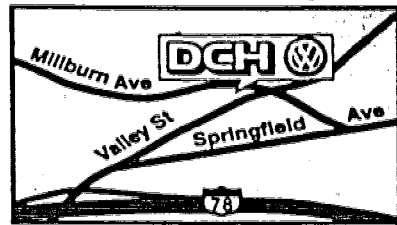


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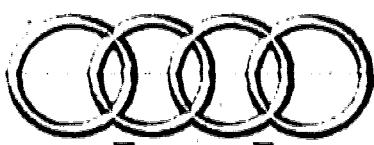


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