Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 74 NO. 20 THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2003 TWO SECT S

Borough looks back on prosperous 2002

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor

Promising to continue keeping a watchful eye on the expenditure of Mountainside's tax dollars, Mayor Robert Viglianti gave residents a commitment to finding and securing funds for the construction of a community center, enlisting the help of the Borough Council and using sources that would not involve digging into taxpayers' pockets.

The announcement was one that focused on one of the main future goals of the borough as they conducted their annual reorganization meeting on Jan. 2 and one which largely recounted the accomplishments made in 2002.

"All of us are proud of Mountainside," said Viglianti. "However, none of us can survive on past accomplishments. We must all move forward and keep up with the times."

With the increase of younger people, families and children moving into the community, Viglianti said Mountainside is in need of a facility that will house the borough's growing recreational and athletic needs. The Borough Council and Engineer will start immediately searching for grants from all levels of government, the private sector and from individuals to get funding for the construction of the center. Their goal is to get the center completed within the next two to three years.

"We are constantly seeking revenues from areas other than from the local tax rolls," said Viglianti.

2002 saw some examples of this action, including the securing of over $275,000 for the installation of lights on the fields at Borough Hall and Deerfield School.

The Police Department also received some grant awards for the purchase of new hi-tech equipment. With the installation of patrol car laptops, officers were able to enter a license plate and perform a simultaneous check six databases across the country in less than 15 seconds to see if a driver or vehicle is wanted anywhere in the world.

A unique fingerprint identification system was also secured with a grant. The system has the capability to electronically transfer scanned fingerprints to Trenton and Washington, D.C. simultaneously confirming the identity of the printed person within 10 minutes.

Due to the lack of volunteers, the Mountainside Rescue Squad had to come before the Borough Council in 2002 and explain that they could no longer provide emergency medical services during the weekday hours of 4 a.m. to 4 p.m. To alleviate the situation, the borough contracted with Atlantic Healthcare to provide ambulance service during the hours the squad was unavailable.

For the first time, the Department of Fire Prevention began a Toys for Tots program in 2002, with over 200 toys collected so far to be given to the United States Marine Corps for distribution to the needy children in the local area. The Fire Department also received 10 new members in 2002, but the mayor emphasized that new volunteers are still desperately needed for both the Fire Department and Rescue Squad.

Also in December 2002, the council authorized the borough clerk to advertise for bids for a new fire truck, after receiving a report from a fire consultant outlining the needs of the Volunteer Fire Department.

Many roads throughout the borough were repaved, curbed and otherwise improved in 2002, as well as undergoing major drainage and sewer work through the use of bond funds. Internal television inspection and cleaning of sanitary sewers were also completed with funds from the bond.

Also at the meeting, Councilmen Keith Turner and Paul Mirabelli were sworn in by Municipal Judge Bart A. Barre, with their families standing alongside them during the ceremony. Turner has served as council president for three years and as councilman for 12 years. Mirabelli has been councilman for six years and council president for one year.

Councilman William Luke, who has served on the Borough Council for two years, was elected council president.

Giving his praise for the Borough Council, Viglianti emphasized that they have all put in countless hours of dedication to the community.

"This will be the beginning of my 25th year as an elected official in Mountainside, but I can tell you with complete honesty that the people sitting up here are some of the most dedicated people to serve," said Viglianti. "They are all dedicated individuals who I believe have a deep love for the town."

Returning his praise, Councilman Keith Turner thanked the other councilmen for all their years of service and in particular, Viglianti, who just completed his 15th year as mayor.

"No one sitting up here this evening, or in past years according to my memory, has put in more time and more hours than the man sitting to my right," said Turner. "He's made it a better place to live."

Reflecting on his years of service, Viglianti reiterated his promise to build a community center in Mountainside.

"I've enjoyed it," said Viglianti. "We're going to build a first-class community center. We will get it done."

Photos by Bob Heinrich

Councilman Keith Turner gets sworn in by Municipal Judge Bart A. Barre at the Mountainside Borough Council reorganization meeting Jan. 2. Turner has served 12 years as a councilman, and three years as council president. Standing proudly by his side are his family members, including wife Susan and sons Dylan and Logan.

'We're going to build a first-class community center.'
— Robert Viglianti

Happy to be sworn in as councilman once again is Paul Mirabelli, who has served six years as councilman and one year as council president. Showing their support is his family, led by daughter Melissa, sons Luke and Paul, and wife Laura.

FD s 2002 not t[illegible]l

By Joshua Zaitz
Staff Writer

Last year the Springfield Fire Department answered 1,237 alarms, which is slightly lower than the amount of alarms they answer in a typical year. However, Fire Chief William Gras said the lower number is a good thing and attributes it to the Fire Department's commitment to educating the public about fire prevention.

Through public education, we've obviously been making a difference," said Gras. "Our fire losses are down and the reason why this is happening is not only through our code enforcement but also through our public education."

In 2002, the Fire Department educated nearly 3,000 people on fire safety, including students in Springfield's schools, adults, senior citizens, and local businesses.

The Fire Department went to various groups to speak on the importance of fire safety, giving tips on how to make homes and offices better protected against fires.

In addition, the department also designated October as Fire Safety Month, where they went to the township's schools with their fire safety trailer, and educated the students.

"We don't believe in fire prevention week. We make a month out of it," said Gras.

Last year, the department continued its training in dealing with weapons of mass destruction. They were instructed on how to handle different toxic agents and chemicals that could be used.

"We continued our training to handle instances that we're not familiar with," said Gras. "This is a whole new arena for us." The department also concentrated on live burn training for structural firefighting and flammable liquids.

Firefighters were also trained to use the Mark One Injector Pen, a device containing medicine which fire personnel carry in case they are exposed to certain harmful chemicals. Firefighters can inject the pen into their leg, countering the effects of those chemicals.

"It goes right through your gear, right through your clothes," said Gras. "It's a self-propelled device that you just jam yourself with and then it will drive a needle into you and automatically inject the substance."

In 2002, the department replaced its 1974 Hahn Pumper with a 2002 Emergency One Pumper. The new pumper holds 750-gallons of water, carries two different types of foam, carries medical and firefighting equipment, and is fully equipped for motor vehicle extrication.

Last May, six members of the Fire Department were honored with Unit Awards, recognizing their efforts in a combined operation in which they performed with extraordinary presence of mind and good judgment.

Deputy Fire Chief Donald Schwerdt, Capt. John Pyar, and firefighters Joseph Pepe, Frank Fiorelli, Michael Bilotti, and Stewart Jurczak received the unit awards for their heroic actions on Feb. 16, when a 24-foot refrigerated box truck skidded off Route 24 West, blazing through the

See SPRINGFIELD, Page 2

Report shows what will be spent on each school

By Joshua Zaitz
Staff Writer

As the Jan. 28 referendum ballot for school expansion approaches, Springfield Superintendent of Schools Walter Mahler presented a comprehensive breakdown as to what will be done to each of the district's schools and how much of the $19-million spending plan, with a local share of close to $15-million funded by taxpayers, will be spent on each school.

The state is providing the school system with $3,918,980, roughly 21 percent of the total $18,918,888 expansion project.

If the referendum is approved by voters, homeowners will pay approximately $165 per year for 20 years for the average home in Springfield assessed at roughly $160,000.

School officials have said that the district is in desperate need of expansion, as classrooms are already overcrowded and enrollment is projected to increase.

Springfield is a very exciting place to live and it's a very desirable town to raise a family," said Mahler. "Therefore, we are getting more than our fair share of new people moving in."

Of the total cost of the expansion project, construction and renovation done at Edward V. Walton School will cost the most, a total of just over $11-million. A little over $9.5-million will be funded by taxpayers, with the state contributing just over $1.5 million.

New construction at Walton will consist of the addition of 23 classrooms, including special education facilities as well as gifted and talented facilities. An occupational and physical therapy room, as well as the installation of toilets, stairwells, an elevator, storage facilities, and mechanical facilities as dictated by state code will also be constructed.

Heavy renovations will be completed at Walton, including the conversion of two classrooms to create a library, the conversion of a multi-purpose room to create a kitchen, music room, stage, lobby, conference room, toilets, and storage, a renovation of the existing CST/guidance room and principal's office to a nursing station, the conversion of the present substandard library to a faculty room, and the conversion of the present nursing station to a guidance/CST office.

Other changes at Walton include the doubling of the available parking spaces, the addressing of the drainage problem, replacing the existing roof, upgrading the electrical service, preplacing the corridor windows, and replacing an existing boiler.

New construction and renovation to Thelma L. Sandmeier School will be the second most costly, a total of just over $2.6 million, with the state funding slightly over $400,000, leaving a local share of just under $2.2 million.

Construction at Sandmeier will include storage areas for music and art, and a media center with an office, conference room and bathrooms. Renovations at the school will include the conversion of the present library into a music room, the conversion of the present special education room into an art room, and an expansion of the teacher's work room/dining area.

Additional parking will be added to the facility, as well as the carpeting of classrooms with loose tiles, and the replacing of the gym roof.

Upgrades to Jonathan Dayton High School will cost a total of slightly under $2.5 million, with the state funding approximately $920,000, leaving a local share of a little more than $1.6 million.

All of the school's science classrooms will be remodeled. The boilers and roofing will be replaced. The electrical service will be upgraded. The auditorium's lighting, carpeting and seating will all be improved. An ADA-compliant bathroom will be constructed in the nursing station.

Construction at Florence M. Gaudineer Middle School will cost a total of approximately $1.7 million, with the state funding roughly $600,000, leaving a local share of just over $1 million.

The school's four science classrooms will be renovated. All classroom windows will be replaced. The vice principal's present office, bathroom will be converted into an ADA-compliant bathroom.

Construction at James Caldwell School will cost the least, with a slightly less than $900,000 total, of which the state will fund just over $300,000, leaving a local share of approximately $570,000.

The conversion of a classroom at Caldwell will develop an improved main office, guidance office, conference and nursing center. Three first-floor classrooms will be converted into a library, and the existing library will be converted into two classrooms.

Worries surface over rescue delays if raiload goes through

By Joshua Zaitz
Staff Writer

With Springfield's new firehouse scheduled to be completed in April, township officials are concerned that the Fire Department's rescue efforts will be delayed if the Rahway Valley Railroad railroad line is reactivated and trains are blocking traffic along Mountain Avenue.

"What are you going to do if you have a fire and you're trying to get a firetruck past the railroad and there's a whole train sitting there?" asked Mayor Gregory Clarke.

The new firehouse is being erected on the corner of Mountain and Tooker avenues. The railroad tracks cross Mountain Avenue on the west side of the firehouse.

"Naturally a lot of our alarms — we will be turning right as we exit the firehouse and the train track is right there," said Fire Chief William Gras.

In Springfield, a portion of the railroad tracks start on Route 22, then cut across Meisel Avenue, lead onto Mountain Avenue, weave their way through residential properties behind Tooker Avenue, and then cross over Shunpike Road by the Summit border.

"There's a lot of unknowns at this point but, sure, there's no question if there is a train on the street — I don't know what speed these things travel — there's a lot of unknowns but it is possible that a train could cause a delay," said Gras.

Gras said that if the railroad was reactivated, he has no idea as to what the trains' time schedules will be, during what hours they will be operational.

"There's no question that if there is a train there, blocking Mountain Avenue, it is conceivable that this could cause a delay," said Gras.

The county plans on installing traffic-controlled traffic lights on Mountain Avenue, to stop traffic when firetrucks pull out of the new fire station. "I don't see how that will have any control over a train," said Gras. "We don't have plans on the controlling of a train. I don't think that's feasible either."

If the railroad is reactivated, Springfield does not have any plans to construct a second fire post, on the west side of town, in case a fire occurs there and the Fire Department is delayed in responding due to a train crossing Mountain Avenue.

Gras said that if the railroad is reactivated, the Fire Department would sit down with whomever will be operating the trains and come up with an emergency procedure.

"If it happens, we're going to have to do our best to avoid or eliminate the delays," said Gras. "We will do our best."

Last December, the Springfield Township Committee joined together with other municipalities that are opposed to the reactivation of the Rahway Valley railroad line by passing a resolution approving legal action against the Morristown and Erie Railway Inc., when and if necessary.

"We fired off that resolution indicating that we would help out with any legal approach to the problem," said Clarke.

Union County's contract with Morristown and Erie Railway states that the county can deny the railway company from reactivating the railroad line if the municipalities through which the tracks run oppose it.

Local municipalities affected by the possible reactivation include Cranford, Kenilworth, Roselle, Roselle Park, Union and Summit.

Clarke said that approximately 10 years ago, there was also talk of reactivating the railroad line.

"There were hearings where the public was invited to come in and talk about the need for a railroad through Springfield and Summit," he said.

The mayor said that because the hearings were done in an open fashion, citizens were able to voice their opinions and concerns, which ultimately led to the railroad not being reactivated.

"This time the approach was quite different and it's gotten so far down the road that it's going to be very difficult to deal with," said Clarke.

'If it happens, we're going to have to do our best to avoid or eliminate the delays. We will do our best.'
— Fire Chief William Gras

Rego gets awarded

Among the activities that the James Caldwell Elementary School PTA in Springfield hosts every year there are the PTA Reading Club and the PTA Science Fair programs that not only support high academic standards and enhanced curriculum but also involve the students, the school administrators and faculty, the parents and the James Caldwell School community.

On Dec. 4, 2002 at the New Jersey PTA Convention in the Taj Mahal hotel/casino in Atlantic City, the PTA President, Gloria P. Rego accepted the 2001-2002 NJPTA Outstanding Local PTA Education Excellence Award in the name of the James Caldwell School PTA for these two PTA programs.

In December 1999 at the New Jersey PTA Convention in the Bally's Hotel/Casino in Atlantic City, the Edward V. Walton School PTA was given the 1998-1999 President's Foundation for Student Success Award, Parent/Family Involvement program. Walton school is an early Childhood Center that houses Pre-K, Kindergarten and Early Special Education Children. This award was given to Gloria P. Rego who was then the 1998-1999 PTA President in the name of the Edward V. Walton School PTA for two different activities.

The PTA had also donated four puppet stages and four multicultural families puppet sets. To introduce these stages and the puppets, Sharyn Banks, Alice Kerr, Debbie Lee and Rego had put together a multicultural skit which was presented to the Kindergarten students in four different presentations. The goal of this skit was to make children understand that although we have different backgrounds, color and may speak English with an accent, we are all Americans and we are not different.

Borrowing the phrase "It Takes a Whole Village to Raise a Child" as president of Walton School PTA, Rego wanted to have something that will accentuate this phrase. She asked Lee who was a PTA member and an extraordinary quilter to make this possible. On this quilt she created some of the houses of this "village" represent a classroom designed and painted by the students; other houses represent the principal's, secretary's, nurses, guidance's and PTA offices. From top to bottom, in the center of the quilt there is a child's silhouette, Lee's daughter, in representation of the child raised by the whole village.

On two different occasions, Rego as PTA President of James Caldwell and Edward V. Walton Schools has demonstrated her commitment to enhance the children's education.

COUNTY NEWS

A call for working cars

Looking to get rid of your car? Not happy with dealer trade-in values? Community Access Unlimited, a non-profit social service agency, is in desperate need of cars in good working condition for adults with developmental disabilities and disadvantaged youth.

Along with helping individuals in need, you may also qualify with the IRS for a tax deduction.

If you are interested in donating your car or would like to learn more about the program, call 908-354-3040, Ext. 272.

Opportunities with RSVP

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Union County is highlighting several opportunities open to people who have specific skills and some available time: computer training, a program designed to enable individuals with disabilities to gain basic computer skills; advocates for seniors in a new program designed to protect against Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse; various placements to tutor/teach children and adults basic reading and math skills. In addition, people with bilingual ability are sought to help support various community efforts.

If you are interested in participating in any of these programs, or if you have other volunteer opportunities that you are particularly interested in, call the RSVP office at 908-354-3040, Ext. 369. If you are 55 and older, you are invited to become a member of RSVP and receive the benefits that this federal volunteer program provides.

Surrogate's office hours

Union County Surrogate James LaCorte has updated his schedule of evening office hours. As the county surrogate, he is responsible for probating wills and appointing executors, administrators, guardians and trustees of decedents' estates, among other constitutionally mandated duties.

LaCorte is available — by appointment — to meet during the evening with residents who have matters pending before the Surrogate's Court. Appointments must be made at least 48 hours in advance. The updated schedule of evening office hours is as follows:

• Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave., first Monday of the month.

• Rahway Recreation Center, 275 Milton Ave., second Tuesday.

• Union Township Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Ave., third Wednesday.

• Summit City Hall, 512 Springfield Ave., fourth Thursday.

The Surrogate's Court can be reached at 908-527-4280.

Brochure highlights history of county center

A History of the Union County Courthouse Complex," a brochure highlighting the rich history of Union County's center of law and government, is now available at the County Clerk's offices in Elizabeth and Westfield.

The area in and around the courthouse complex has been the site of many key moments in Union County history, including Revolutionary War skirmishes and reviews of troops for many American conflicts. The alleged murder of Hannah Caldwell, wife of the Rev. James Caldwell, the "Fighting Parson," by British troops nearby inspired the Union County seal.

"For more than 330 years, a government building has been located at Broad Street and Rahway Avenue in Elizabeth," County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi said. "Construction of the present courthouse began in 1903 and the building has seen many additions and improvements since, including a modern, two-story entrance opened in 2000."

Visitors are welcome at the courthouse. School or organizational tours can be scheduled through the Union County Clerk's office by calling 908-527-4787.

The brochure is available at the County Clerk's main office at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth and the annex at 300 North Ave. East, Westfield.

'Volunteer of the Month'

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is accepting nominations to honor local volunteers for their services as part of a new program. The "Volunteer of the Month Program," is expected to encourage and reward outstanding volunteers for their service to the many organizations and agencies within Union County. These organizations depend on volunteerism to respond to a variety of community needs.

Freeholder Alexander Mirabella said the freeholder board is proud to recognize volunteers. "I am pleased to announce that the county is starting a Volunteer of the Month Program. We realize the significant efforts volunteers make to help others in all of our communities."

"This is our way to thank volunteers in Union County who have demonstrated an unusual level of commitment," Freeholder Mary Ruotolo said. "When we offer our most sincere appreciation for the time they spend making our county a better place, we hope it will encourage others to volunteer too."

Freeholder Chairman Lewis Mingo Jr. said the Union County Volunteer Services initiative has taken on even greater importance as citizens through the nation look for ways to make a difference. The program is recruiting new volunteers, from senior citizens to high school students, who are interested in serving their communities in Union County.

Citizens interested in volunteering, organizations seeking volunteer opportunities, for more information or to get a nomination form for the "Volunteer of the Month Program," call Susan Pepper, coordinator of Volunteer Services, at 908-527-4200.

Annex office open late

The Union County Clerk's Westfield Annex, 300 North Ave. East, will be open two nights a week for the added convenience of residents who need its services. The annex is now open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The annex provides ABC identification cards, county identification cards, passports, photography services, swearing in of Notary Public, and clerk certificates.

The office has been busier than ever in recent months, as security concerns have increased among local businesses, airlines and government offices. Since the tragic events on Sept. 11, the clerk's office has had a 100 percent jump in requests for photo identification cards over last year's figures.

The County Clerk's Westfield Annex can be reached at 908-654-9859. The main office in Elizabeth can be reached at 908-527-4966.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
COUNTY OF UNION, NJ

[illegible]

The year 2003 Meeting Dates are as follows

JANUARY [illegible]

FEBRUARY [illegible]

MARCH [illegible]

APRIL [illegible]

MAY [illegible]

JUNE [illegible]

JULY [illegible]

AUGUST

[illegible] Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
[illegible] Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
[illegible] Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.
[illegible] Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
26th Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
26th Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

[illegible] Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
[illegible] Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.
22nd Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
23rd Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
23rd Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

13th Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
14th Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
14th Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.
27th Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
28th Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
28th Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

[illegible] Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
11th Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
11th Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.
24th Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
25th Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
25th Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

8th Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
9th Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
9th Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.
22nd Monday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
23rd Tuesday	Workshop Session	7:30 p.m.
23rd Tuesday	Regular	8:00 p.m.

Any changes or additions to this calendar will be announced pursuant to the New Jersey Public Meetings Act.

KATHLEEN D. WISNIEWSKI, RMC, CMC
Township Clerk

Jan. 9, 16, 2003 U4580 ECL ($165.00)

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 2, 2003.

Judith E. Osty
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 12-2003

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside requires the services of an Attorney as Borough Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, such services constitute professional services within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2; and

WHEREAS, the nature of such legal services will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside that Rocco DiPaola, Esq. be and he hereby is appointed to perform the services of Borough Public Defender as may be required and which the Borough Public Defender's salary shall be set by [illegible]

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in an appropriate newspaper within ten days hereof.

U4564 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($14.00)

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 2, 2003.

Judith E. Osty
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 11-2003

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside requires the services of an attorney to serve as Borough Prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, such services constitute professional services within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2; and

WHEREAS, the nature of such legal services will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside that Frank P. Sahaj, Esq. be and he hereby is appointed to perform such services of Borough Prosecutor as may be required and which the Borough Prosecutor's salary shall be set by Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that James De Rose, Esquire be and he hereby is appointed Alternate to perform the services of Borough Prosecutor in the absence of Prosecutor Frank P. Sahaj.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in an appropriate newspaper within ten days hereof.

U4563 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($15.00)

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 2, 2003.

Judith E. Osty
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 10-2003

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney is required to perform services for the Borough beyond the scope of the services upon which his salary is based; and

WHEREAS, such services constitute professional services within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2; and

WHEREAS, the nature of such legal services will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside that John N. Post, Esq. the Borough Attorney be and hereby is appointed to perform such legal services as may be required by the Governing Body and which are beyond the scope of the services upon which the Borough Attorney's salary is based, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in an appropriate newspaper within ten days hereof.

U4562 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($14.25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

TAKE NOTICE that on the 21 day of January at 7:30 p.m. a hearing will be held before the Springfield Board of Adjustment at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey, on application #2003-1 regarding the application of Mario & Paola Schiavone for a variance or variances or other relief so as to permit addition & deck which violates rear yard set back & lot coverage on the premises located at 504 Mountain Ave., Springfield, NJ and designated as Block [illegible], Lot [illegible] in the Township of Springfield Tax Map.

The application, plans and surveys are on file in the Annex Building, 20 North Trivett Street and available for inspection between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Mario & Paola Schiavone
Applicants

U4571 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($10.50)

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 2, 2003.

Judith E. Osty
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 15-2003

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer is required to perform services for the Borough beyond the scope of the services upon which his salary is based; and

WHEREAS, such services constitute professional services within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2; and

WHEREAS, the nature of such Engineering services will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside that Michael Disko, Borough Engineer be and he hereby is appointed to perform such engineering services as may be required by the Governing Body and which are beyond the scope of the services upon which the Borough Engineer's salary is based; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in an appropriate newspaper within ten days hereof.

U4561 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($14.25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 2, 2003.

Judith E. Osty
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 13-2003

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside is required, by the terms of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4, to engage a Registered Municipal Accountant to be the Official Borough Auditor and Financial Advisor; and

WHEREAS, such services constitute professional services of such a qualitative nature as will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside that the accounting firm of Suplee, Clooney and Company be and it hereby is appointed as Official Borough Auditor and Financial Advisor for the term of one year commencing January 1, 2003.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in an appropriate newspaper within ten days hereof.

U4565 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($14.00)

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 2, 2003.

Judith E. Osty
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 14-2003

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside finds it necessary to engage an Insurance Agent to analyze the Borough's insurance program and assist in the development of a viable and cost effective insurance program; and

WHEREAS, such services constitute professional services of such a qualitative nature as will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside that the Insurance Company of Benninger, Tansey and Company be appointed as Borough insurance agent and advisor for a term of one year commencing January 1, 2003.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in an appropriate newspaper within ten days hereof.

U4566 ECL Jan. 9, 2003 ($14.00)

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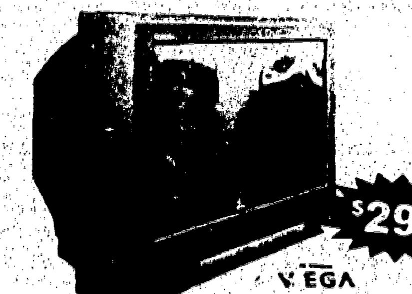

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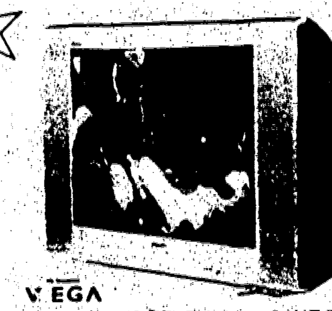

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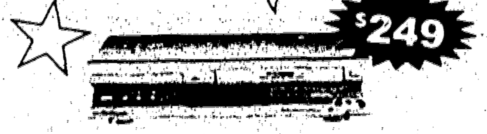

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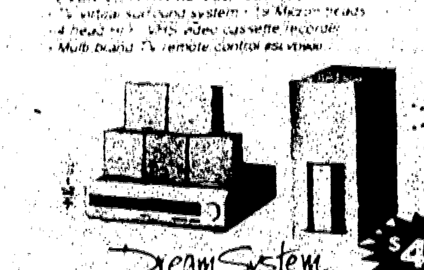

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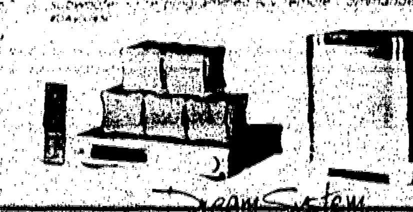

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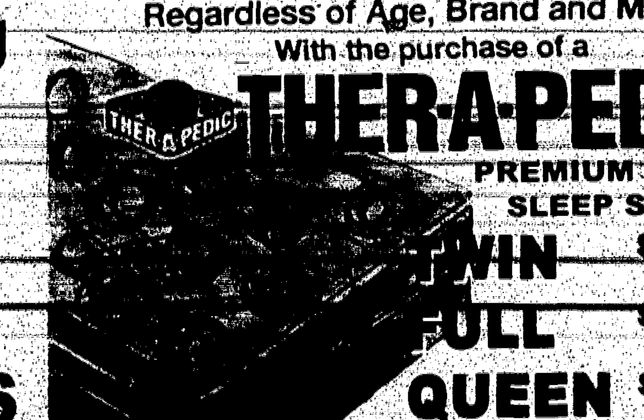

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OBITUARIES

Edna Minette

Edna Minette, 87, of Springfield died Dec. 30 at home.

Born in Lyndhurst, Mrs. Minette lived in East Orange before moving to Springfield.

Surviving are three sons, Samuel, Martin Jr. and Raymond; a daughter, Linda Lashigian; a sister, Nancy Ciccone; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Libby Rubin

Libby Rubin, 79, of Marlton, formerly of Hillside and Springfield, died Jan. 2 in the Care One Marlton.

Born in Newark, Mrs. Rubin lived in Hillside and Springfield before moving to Marlton four months ago. She was a secretary for Dr. Klosk in Newark and Millburn for 28 years before retiring. Mrs. Rubin was a member of the B'nai B'rith, Hadassah and the Sisterhood of Temple Sha'arey Shalom, all in Springfield.

Surviving are three daughters, Phyllis Marnaz, Judith Florek and Carol Spinelli; a sister, Lillian Emerman, and five grandchildren.

Lilly Gottlieb

Lilly Gottlieb, 77, of Mountainside died Dec. 31 at home.

Born in Vienna, Austria, Mrs. Gottlieb lived in Cuba before coming to Mountainside 40 years ago. She was past president of Jewish Family Services Center of New Jersey, served as chairwoman of the re-settlement committee for Russian Jews and was a life member of Hadassah and the National Council of Jewish Women.

Surviving are two sons, Dr. Peter Gottlieb and Michael, and six grandchildren.

Mary Chiaramonte

Mary Anne Chiaramonte, 38, of Randolph Township, formerly of Union and Springfield, died Dec. 20 in St. Clare's Hospital, Dover.

Born in Orange, Mrs. Chiaramonte lived in Union and Springfield before moving to Randolph Township in 1999. She had been a systems analyst with Prudential-Aetna in the Borough of Roseland for 18 years. Mrs. Chiaramonte was a parishioner of Resurrection Parish, Randolph Township.

Surviving are her husband of 11 years, Jeffrey; a son, Christopher F.; a daughter, Julie A.; her parents, Frank and Frances Erickson; two sisters, Debbie Christian and Michelle Cherecco, and a brother, Frank Erickson.

Angelo Sarnelli Sr.

Angelo A. Sarnelli Sr., 82, of Roselle Park, formerly of Springfield, died Jan. 2 in Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth.

Born in Lima, Ohio, Mr. Sarnelli lived in Springfield before moving to Roselle Park 49 years ago. He was a pipefitter with Carpenter Steel Co., Union, for 30 years and retired in 1970. Mr. Sarnelli was a Fourth Ward councilman in Roselle Park during the 1950s. He was a member of the Holy Name Society at the Church of the Assumption, Roselle Park, and the United States Steelworkers Union Local 2399, Union.

Surviving are three sons, David D., Angelo A. Jr. and Nicola A.; a sister, Louise Leone, and five grandchildren.

Eleanor Leuthauser

Eleanor Leuthauser, 87, of Bridgewater, formerly of Summit, died Dec. 20 in the Somerset Medical Center, Somerville.

Born in Maplewood, Mrs. Leuthauser lived in Millburn, Summit, Warren Township and Bedminster before moving to Bridgewater 13 months ago. She was a member of the Somerset Art Association and a volunteer at the Somerset Medical Center, Somerville.

Surviving are a son, Charles; a daughter, Jane; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Niels A. Svendsen

Niels A. Svendsen, 94, of Keansburg, formerly of Summit, died Dec. 28 in Bayshore Community Hospital, Holmdel.

Born in Denmark, Mr. Svendsen lived in Perth Amboy, Summit and Toms River before moving to Keansburg in 2001. He was a line supervisor with Jersey Central Power & Light for 33 years and retired in 1969. Mr. Svendsen was a Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He was a member of the Cathedral of the Air in Lakehurst and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8745 in Whiting. Mr. Svendsen was a member of the Ocean Beach Seniors of Toms River and Lavallette.

Surviving are his wife of 72 years, Irene; two sons, Frank L. and Neil A.; a daughter, Mary Lou Opitz; a sister, Valborg Reinholdt; 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Elinor C. Haupt

Elinor C. Haupt, 69, of Casey Key, Fla., formerly of Summit, died Dec. 25 at home.

Born in Brooklyn, Mrs. Haupt lived in Summit and Salisbury, Conn., before moving to Casey Key. She was a high school English teacher in Maplewood and then in Somers, N.Y., where she also coached the women's tennis team. Mrs. Haupt was a graduate of Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa., and received a master's degree in education from Yale University. She was president of the Somers Library Association, the Casey Key Library Association and the Swarthmore College Alumni Association. Mrs. Haupt also was treasurer of the Twin Lakes Association in Connecticut and editor of its newsletter.

Surviving are her husband of 44 years, N. Harkness Jr.; two sons, William H. and Richard T.; a brother, H. Theodore Meyer; a sister, Doris Meyer, and four grandchildren.

William K. Osmun

William K. Osmun, 64, of Biloxi, Miss., formerly of Glen Ridge, whose brother, Barry, is the city of Summit solicitor, died Jan. 1 at home.

Born in Newark, Mr. Osmun lived in and was raised in Glen Ridge. He also lived in Westfield and Montclair before moving to Biloxi 10 years ago. He was president and owner of R.V. Osmun Inc. in Belleville, a company founded by his father, Richard V. Osmun, in 1946, which engages nationally in the sales of industrial machinery. It is now located in Biloxi. Mr. Osmun attended the University of Oklahoma and served in the Army National Guard.

Also surviving are his daughter, Kelly Osmun; her mother, Gayle Osmun; a sister, Denise Fronaphel, and four other brothers, Richard, Michael, Jeffrey and Peter.

Arabelle Evans

Arabelle Evans, 87, of Basking Ridge, formerly of Summit, died on Jan. 1.

Born in Munday, Ohio, Mrs. Evans lived in Summit for 30 years before moving to Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge. She graduated magna cum laude from Ohio University, Athens, in 1935. Mrs. Evans was a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta and was the Nine Holers at the Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield. She also was a Girl Scout leader and director of Youth Fellowship at the First Methodist Church in Delmar, N.Y.

Surviving are a daughter, Jill Farris; four grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Brenda Stiles

Brenda Stiles, 49, of Summit died Dec. 25 at home.

Born in Goldsboro, N.C., Mrs. Stiles lived in Summit for 12 years. She was a flight attendant for Continental Airlines and, before that, People Express for the past 20 years. Mrs. Stiles was a graduate of Appalachian State University at Boone, N.C.

Surviving are her husband, Scott; two stepsons, Chadd and Jarrod; her parents, Catherine and William Bryant; a brother, William L. Bryant Jr., and a grandchild.

Ralph Galeano

Ralph Galeano, 93, of Summit died Jan. 4 in Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County, Berkeley Heights.

Born in Comme Di Taormina, Provincia Di Messina, Italy, Mr. Galeano moved to Summit in 1957. He worked as a machine operator for Automatic Switch Co., Florham Park, for 15 years and retired in 1975. Mr. Galeano was an Army veteran of World War II. He served with the Battery 221st Field Artillery Battalion.

Surviving is his wife, Carmella.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news:
Church, club and social - Thursday noon
Entertainment - Friday noon
Sports - Monday noon
Letters to the Editor - Monday 9 a.m.
General - Monday 5 p.m.

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LOCAL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Three outstanding athletes who distinguished themselves on and off the baseball diamonds of Union County will be inducted into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame during awards ceremonies Feb. 9.

Fred Cole of Roselle, William Giglio of Linden and Ramon Ortel of Elizabeth will be honored at the 67th Annual Union County Baseball Association Hot Stove League Dinner at the L'Affaire Banquet Center on 1099 Route 22 East in Mountainside.

The program begins at 1 p.m.

The special guest speaker at the awards luncheon will be former Kansas City Royals and New York Yankees slugger Steve Balboni.

Known primarily for his ability to hit the long ball, Balboni totaled 181 home runs over the course of 11 major league seasons.

From 1981 through 1993, Balboni played primarily for the Yankees and the Royals, but also had stints with the Seattle Mariners and the Texas Rangers.

Balboni blasted 36 home runs in 1985 and helped the Royals win their only World Series that season.

Balboni was born in Brockton, Mass. in 1957. Brockton is also the hometown of the great, undefeated heavyweight boxer Rocky Marciano.

Balboni now resides in Berkeley Heights.

"We're very pleased to have Steve Balboni speak again at our Hot Stove Dinner," said Freeholder Chairman Deborah Scanlon of Union Township, who also serves as the liaison to the county's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

"His son plays in our league and Steve is a big fan of the Fall Teen League. This year the awards dinner will be held on a Sunday afternoon for a change, so we hope more families will be able to attend and enjoy the ceremonies."

Tickets for the dinner are $35, with proceeds going to help fund the Union County Summer Youth Baseball League for youngsters ages 8-15 and the newer Fall Teen League.

Organized in 1945, the Youth Baseball League reached a new high in participation last summer.

Union County Baseball Association Hall of Famers include Hillside's Phil "The Scooter" Rizzuto, Jake Wood of Elizabeth, Willie Wilson of Summit, Mountainside's Jeff Torborg, Al Santorini of Union Township and Reggie Hammonds of Scotch Plains.

In addition to the new Hall of Fame inductees, the Hot Stove League Baseball Dinner will also honor a number of young athletes and local baseball teams for their recent achievements.

Tickets to the 67th Annual Union County Baseball Association Hot Stove League Dinner on Feb. 9 are available for $35 and may be obtained by calling 908-527-4910.

The dinner is sponsored by the Union County Baseball Association, in cooperation with the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation.

Began week undefeated

As of Monday, there were four undefeated teams remaining in Union County boys' and girls' basketball.

On the boys' side, the unblemished squads included North 2, Group 2 schools Roselle (4-0), Summit (3-0) and Governor Livingston (3-0) and North 2, Group 1 school Brearley (3-0).

On the girls' side, undefeated at the beginning of the week were North 2, Group 4 school Elizabeth (7-0), North 2, Group 3 squad Scotch Plains (6-0), North 2, Group 2 school Johnson (4-0) and North 2, Group 1 squad Dayton (4-0).

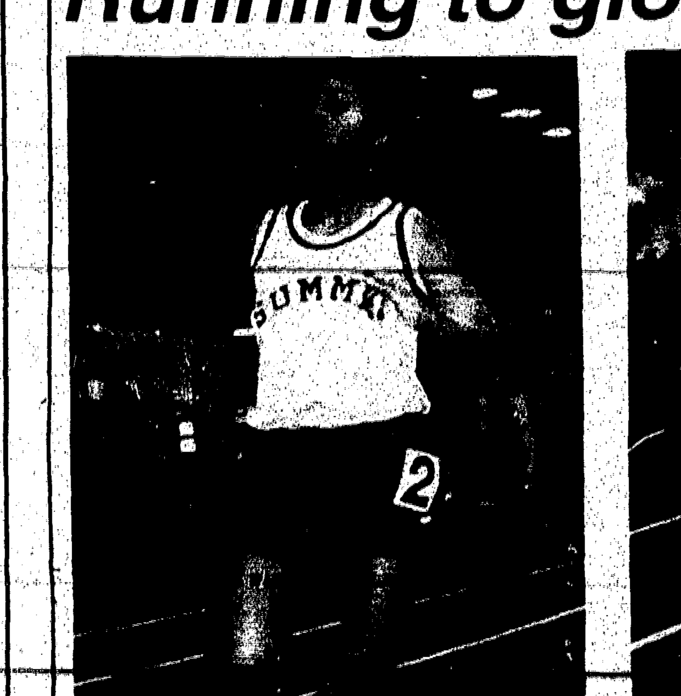
The Roselle boys are defending North 2, Group 2 champions and are coming off a 25-2 season in which the Rams reached the Group 2 state championship game.

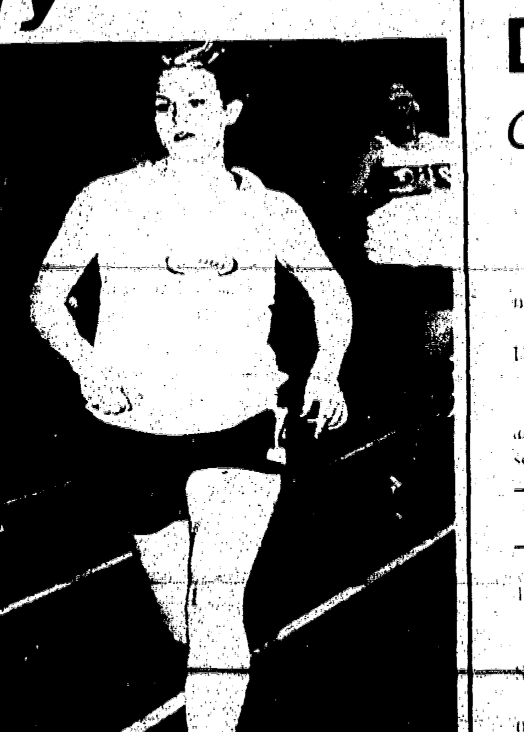
Roselle won a holiday tournament at South Brunswick, Brearley and Summit at home and Governor Livingston at Roselle Park.

The Elizabeth girls are coming off a 17-7 season and are seeking to win the Union County Tournament for the first time since 1997.

Dayton was 17-5 last year and Johnson is off to one of its best starts in years under first-year coach Steve Kaelblein. The Bulldogs captured the Saddle Brook Tournament and the Crusaders the Roselle Park Tournament.

Running to glory





Photos by Bill Allen/NJ Sport/Action

Summit High School winter track standouts Latoya Simpson, left, and Liz Sigler starred for the Hilltoppers at the Iron Hills Conference-Hills Division meet held last Saturday night at Drew University in Madison. Simpson won the 600-meter run in an ipressive time of 1:48.98, while Sigler was fourth in the 300-meter run in 46.99. Teammates Caroline Mannaerts and Tory Morgan also excelled, Mannaerts placing second in the 1,600-meter run in 5:26.64 and Morgan finishing third in the 3,200-meter run in 12:35.26.

Dayton hockey ices W. Hills

The Dayton High School ice hockey team continued its winning ways Monday, defeating Watchung Hills 9-4 at Warinanco Rink in Roselle.

The Bulldogs improved to 4-1-1 with the victory. Apparently, three losses suffered in the Cron Tournament last month don't count against Dayton's record.

Senior Andrezj Moczydlowski paced the Bulldogs with three goals and one assist, while co-captain Brett Berger had two goals and one assist and senior co-captain Ross Kravetz one goal and one assist. Also scoring for Dayton were sophomore Steven Mandel, Rob Carroll and junior David Sklar.

In Dayton's 7-4 win over Pequannock last Saturday night at Floyd Hall Arena in Montclair, it was Kravetz netting three goals and Mandel two. Berger had one goal and three assists.

Sophomore Paul Leokumovich assisted on two goals, while Moczydlowski and sophomore Cory Berger had one assist each.

The Berger-Kravetz-Moczydlowski line accumulated 18 points in Dayton's third and fourth victories.

The Bulldogs are also receiving solid efforts from their talented defensive unit of seniors Eric Decter and Jared Preston, sophomore Justin McElroy and freshmen Matt Parman and Carroll.

Goaltender Mike Rodrigues stopped 23 Panther shots in earning the win against Pequannock.

After a 1-4-1 start, the Bulldogs reeled off three straight wins as of Tuesday. First came an 11-1 win over East Side at Ironbound Arena in Newark.

Dayton outscored three opponents by an impressive 27-9 margin.

The Bulldogs were scheduled to skate against Livingston yesterday and Saturday are scheduled to face East Side at 8:35 p.m. at Twin Oaks Ice Rink in Morris Plains.

The inter-conference game against East Side is also Student-Alumni Night and all present and past students are welcome to attend.

2002-2003 CENTRAL CONFERENCE-BLUE DIVISION: Dayton, Montclair-Kimberley Academy, West Orange, Newark East Side, Governor Livingston, Passaic Valley, Livingston.

Summit blanks Millburn

Summit improved to 3-8 after blanking Millburn 4-0 Monday night at South Mountain Arena in West Orange.

Marshall Harden scored two goals and goaltender Pete Britt made 15 saves for the shutout. Max Tcheyan and Mike Tammaro also found the net for the Hilltoppers.

GL began the week 4-1-1

Governor Livingston entered play in January with a 4-1-1 record after topping Madison 6-1 on Dec. 26 at Mennen Arena in Morris Township.

Anthony Intermeola scored three goals and Kyle Weltman two. Weltman scored eight goals in a 10-0 win over Livingston on Dec. 23 at South Mountain.

Summit Seals make a splash

The Summit Area YMCA Seals swimming team sent 22 athletes to the 16th annual Holiday Classic meet held Dec. 13-15 at Rutgers University. More than 1,600 swimmers from 55 teams from New Jersey and other east coast states competed in this three-day meet.

Many events in this highly competitive meet had more than 100 participants. Summit Seals swimmers Laura Alito, Brian Wilson and Kevin Wilson combined to set 10 Seals team records.

Alito broke two of her own 13-14 girls' Seals records, clocking 1:00.2 in a preliminary round of the 100 butterfly and 2:21.56 in the 200 butterfly.

Kevin Wilson, 11, set a Seals record in the 11-12 boys 200 breaststroke, finishing in 2:53.22.

Brian Wilson broke a total of seven 13-14 boys' Seals records, several of which were his own. Wilson shattered the two-minute mark in the 200 individual medley, clocking 1:59.45 and set a team record in the grueling 400 IM, finishing in 4:18.09.

In both the 50 and 100 freestyle events, Wilson set records of 22.56 and 48.47. Wilson's time of 52.97 set a team record in the 100 butterfly, as well as his time of 2:00.57 in the 200 butterfly. Wilson set his final team record in the 100 backstroke, finishing in 54.64.

Individual events: The 13-and-older groups swam preliminary rounds, with the fastest 16 times competing in finals. The 12-and-younger groups swam their events as timed finals. The top 16 finishes in all age groups were awarded points.

In the 10-and-younger group, Christy Thew swam a personal-best time of 1:13.86 in the 100 freestyle and a 31.53 in the 50 freestyle.

Thew clocked a 36.21 in the 50 butterfly to place 31st and was followed by Megan Carlato in 40.60. In the 50 backstroke, Thew clocked a 37.83 to finish 38th.

In the 11-12 girls' group, Georgina Grant finished 19th in the 50 butterfly in 30.73. She was followed by Emily Tato in 31.61. Grant clocked a 27.96 in the 50 freestyle.

In the 100 IM, Grant finished 25th with a 1:09.46, followed by Amanda Grywalski in 1:13.59. Grywalski, 11, swam personal-best times of 1:12.19 in the 100 backstroke, 1:02.64 in the 100 freestyle, 2:18.33 in the 200 freestyle, 37.51 in the 50 breaststroke and 1:20.99 in the 100 breaststroke.

In the 11-12 boys' group, Kevin Wilson's record-setting 200 breaststroke time of 2:53.22 was good for a 15th-place finish. In both the 50 and 100 breaststroke, Wilson finished 18th with times of 37.38 and 1:20.37.

Justin Louie placed seventh in the 50 butterfly with a time of 29.12. He was followed by Wilson, who placed 21st in 31.94.

In the 50 freestyle, Louie placed eighth in 26.40, followed by Wilson's 28.29 and Michael McGetrick's 29.03.

In the 100 IM, Louie placed seventh in a time of 1:07.25, followed by McGetrick 33rd in 1:13.42.

In the 13-14 girls' group, Alito smashed her own 200 butterfly mark by 7.81 seconds. She clocked in in a winning time of 2:21.56.

In the 100 butterfly, Alito finished sixth after breaking her own team record in the preliminaries. Alito also posted a sixth-place finish in the 50 freestyle, clocking 25.44.

She swam personal-best times of 1:04.51 in the 100 backstroke for 19th place and 56.71 in the 100 freestyle for 22nd.

In the 13-14 boys' group, Brian Wilson set team records in all seven individual events in which he swam. Wilson won gold medals in the 50 freestyle with a time of 22.56, the 200 IM in 1:59.45, the 400 IM in 4:18.09 and the 100 freestyle in 48.47.

Wilson earned silver medals in the 100 butterfly in 52.97 and the 100 backstroke in 54.64. In the 200 butterfly, he finished second in the preliminaries in 2:00.57.

In the 15-and-older girls' group, Jenn Pflug placed 13th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:08.76 and was 22nd in the 200 breaststroke in 2:29.09. Sandy Zach placed 27th in the 50 freestyle in 25.61.

In the 100 and 200 breaststroke events, Zach clocked a 1:12.91 and a 2:36.76. In the 100 and 200 freestyle, Zach clocked a 58.51 and a 1:59.95.

In the 100 backstroke, Jaci Zocca placed 25th in 1:02.29, followed by Lisa Maus in 1:04.46. Zocca clocked a 2:16.69 in the 200 backstroke, while Maus did a 26.30 in the 50 freestyle.

In the 15-and-older boys' group, Richard Guerard placed seventh in the 200 freestyle in a time of 1:43.25 and was ninth in the 500 freestyle in 4:42.11. Guerard placed 16th in the 100 backstroke in a time of 56.77 and was 22nd in the 200 IM in 2:00.32.

Guerard also placed fifth in the preliminaries of the 200 backstroke in 1:57.15. Danny Kim placed 10th in the 100 butterfly in a time of 53.09, was 27th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:03.95 and was 39th in the 100 backstroke in 57.00.

In the 100 freestyle, Kim clocked a 50.22, followed by Stephen Kress in 52.95. Matt Petersen finished 28th in the 200 breaststroke in 2:20.84 and was 31st in the 100 breaststroke in 1:04.67.

Relays: The team of Guerard, Kim, Petersen and Brian Wilson placed sixth in the boys' open 200 medley relay in 1:40.87.

In the boys' open 400 freestyle relay, the team of Guerard, Kim, Wilson and Kress finished eighth in a time of 3:19.01.

Alito, Pflug, Zach and Jaci Zocca placed 14th in the girls' open 200 medley relay and was 23rd in the 400 freestyle relay.

Athletes excel on Dunn Center stage

Gov. Livingston captures title

By Jeff Wolfrum
Staff Writer

ELIZABETH — To have a good showing.

That was the theme for many local girls at the Union County Relays Monday night at the Dunn Sport Center.

One team that excelled was Governor Livingston. Led by senior Megs DiDario, the Highlanders won their first-ever girls' title.

GL took the crown with 46 points, followed by Westfield with 38.5.

In the distance medley relay, GL won with a time of 13:53.2. DiDario anchored a team that consisted of freshmen Chrissie Sidie and Meredith Talbot, sophomore Chrissy McCurdy and junior Cara Abitante.

Union County Girls' Relays

The Highlanders also took top honors in the two-mile relay with a time of 11:07.9. Sidie anchored a team of Kait Anders, Jen Hauser and Laura Lynch.

Westfield was second at 11:09.0 and Cranford third at 11:09.5.

"I went out real fast because I knew I had to catch the girls ahead of me," Sidie said. "I tried to pass them in the last two laps."

Linden, which finished third with 26 points, was bolstered by its fine performance in the 880-yard relay. The team of Tanaya Lampley, Caitlin Brennan, Reem Saadeh and Pia Ruth clocked in with a winning time of 2:02.3.

Elizabeth and GL tied for second in the event in 2:03.5.

Saadeh, a sophomore, took the baton in third place, 20 meters behind front-running Elizabeth. However, that lead quickly evaporated as Saadeh moved into second place and handed to Ruth just a few strides behind the Elizabeth anchor.

Ruth raced into the lead on the first lap to bring Linden home first.

"Reem really helped us by getting out in front to give us a chance at the lead," Ruth said. "I then got out in front and held on for the win."

Cranford, which finished fourth with 24 points, won the shuttle hurdles event with a time of 34.6. The team consisted of Khristelle Manuyag, Jennifer Nist, Jill Humphries and Terri Van Horn.

"We didn't have a team compete in the last three events, so we dropped from third to fourth place," Cranford coach Ray White said. "However, the girls did a wonderful job in the events that they did participate in. I'm very proud of their effort."

Sparked by twin sisters Michelle and Lizzell Cintron, Elizabeth took fifth-place honors with 23 points.

The Cintrons helped Elizabeth capture the team shot put event by combining for a 79-7 mark. Lizzelle had a personal-best throw of 39-11 and Michelle threw 39-8. Lizzelle's previous best was 39-8 last spring.

"It seems that Lizzelle and Michelle take turns in placing at the event," their father Louis Cintron said. "Lizzelle was just at her best today."

Also delighted with his team's fine showing was Union head coach Bill Sorianno. The Farmers placed sixth in the competition with 20 points.

"We scored 20 points this year compared to one point last year," Sorianno said. "So, we've come a long way."

Johnson placed seventh with 17 points, followed by Scotch Plains with 15 and Kent Place with 14.

Kent Place captured the team high jump as Porcha Dobson and Schuanne Capel combined for a 9-2 mark. Johnson and Linden tied for second in the event with a mark of 8-10.

In the one-mile relay, Linden placed second at 4:52.4. Westfield took top honors with a time of 4:41.3.

Westfield also captured the top spot in the sprint medley relay with a 4:37.8 clocking.

Roselle Catholic placed 10th with 11 points, followed by Roselle with 10.5 points and New Providence with three.

TEAMS: 1-Gov. Livingston 46, 2-Westfield 38.5, 3-Linden 26, 4-Cranford 24, 5-Elizabeth 23, 6-Union 20, 7-Johnson 17, 8-Scotch Plains 15, 9-Kent Place 14, 10-Roselle Catholic 11, 11-Roselle 10.5, 12-New Providence 3.

800-YARD RELAY: 1-Linden (Tanaya Lampley, Caitlin Brennan, Reem Saadeh and Pia Ruth) 2:02.3, 2-Elizabeth and Gov. Livingston 2:03.5, 4-Westfield 2:05.2, 5-Roselle 2:06.8, 6-Union 2:10.1.

ONE-MILE RELAY: 1-Westfield (Jessica Lee, Jennell Carter, Annie Onishi and Emily MacNeil) 4:41.3, 2-Linden 4:52.4, 3-Elizabeth 4:54.6, 4-Roselle 4:54.7, 5-Union 4:55.2, 6-Roselle Catholic 4:57.6.

TWO-MILE RELAY: 1-Gov. Livingston (Kait Anders, Jen Hauser, Laura Lynch and Chrissie Sidie) 11:07.9, 2-Westfield 11:09.0, 3-Cranford 11:09.5, 4-Johnson 11:41.8, 5-Kent Place 11:42.7, 6-Scotch Plains 11:51.1.

SPRINT MEDLEY RELAY: 1-Westfield (Ja'Net Tiller, Jennell Carter, Annie Onishi and Emily MacNeil) 4:37.8, 2-Gov. Livingston 4:44.8, 3-Scotch Plains 4:55.5, 4-Union 5:01.5, 5-Roselle Catholic 5:08.9, 6-Kent Place 5:16.6.

DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY: 1-Gov. Livingston (Chrissie Sidie, Cara Abitante, Meredith Talbot and Megs DiDario) 13:53.2, 2-Cranford 14:12.2, 3-Westfield 14:25.3, 4-Scotch Plains 14:26.0, 5-Union 14:26.3, 6-Kent Place 15:37.2.

SHUTTLE HURDLES: 1-Cranford (Khristelle Manuyag, Jennifer Nist, Jill Humphries and Terry Van Horn) 34.6, 2-Gov. Livingston 35.6, 3-Union 36.8, 4-Roselle 36.9, 5-New Providence 37.8, 6-Linden 38.1.

TEAM HIGH JUMP: 1-Kent Place (Porcha Dobson and Schuanne Capel) 9-2, 2-Johnson and Linden 8-10, 4-Union and Governor Livingston 8-6, 6-Westfield 8-2.

TEAM SHOT PUT: 1-Elizabeth (Michelle Cintron and Lizzell Cintron) 79-7, 2-Roselle Catholic 64-7, 3-Johnson 64-1, 4-Scotch Plains 61-9, 5-Union 60-4, 6-New Providence 55-8.

Summit boys', Dayton girls' were among an elite group

The Summit High School boys' basketball team and the Dayton girls' basketball squad were undefeated as of Tuesday, only two of eight teams in Union County that could have made that claim.

As of Tuesday, the only boys' teams undefeated were Roselle (4-0), Summit (3-0), Governor Livingston (3-0) and Brearley (3-0).

The only undefeated girls' teams were Elizabeth (7-0), Scotch Plains (6-0), Johnson (4-0) and Dayton (3-0).

The Summit boys', sparked by the play of the Reid twins — Dwight and Dwayne — were scheduled to play at Mendham Tuesday night in Iron Hills Conference-Hills Division play.

The Dayton girls', sparked by the play of sophomore Cristin Zavocki, were scheduled to host defending Union County Tournament champion Roselle Tuesday. Two of Dayton's five losses in a 17-5 season last year came to the Rams.

St. James hoop team impresses

The St. James CYO basketball team excelled in the first St. James Holiday Tournament held at The Sports Academy in Millburn.

The 5th grade team finished first, with Danny Dubeau winning MVP honors.

The 6th grade team also placed first in their division, with Nick Garciano being named the MVP.

The 7th and 8th grade team finished second, falling to Kenilworth in a hard-fought final. Steven Siracusa was named MVP.

The 4th grade team played in the Rahway Pee-Wee Tournament at St. Mary's in Rahway. St. James finished 3-2 and advanced to the semifinals before being eliminated.

Anthony Frichetti, Kevin Kirk and David Wightman played well for St. James.

AT THE LIBRARY

Group gets into meaning of justice

Once a month, the Great Books Discussion Group meets to examine the great books of civilization. The winter selections range from essays to fiction. The group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., at 10 a.m.

David Hume's "Of Justice and Injustice" is the subject of the Tuesday book discussion. Part of Book III of "A Treatise of Human Nature," this essay asks whether justice is a natural or artificial virtue. "A Treatise of Human Nature" 1739-40, Hume's comprehensive attempt to base philosophy on a new, observationally grounded study of human nature, is one of the most important texts in Western philosophy.

The next two discussions will be Tocqueville's "The Power of the Majority" on Feb. 20 and Sumner's "Individual Freedom" on March 20.

The Great Book compilation may be purchased for $20 at the Circulation Desk. The discussion group welcomes new members. Participants are invited to come to any or all of the discussions.

For information, call 973-376-4930.

Video offers help with stuttering

"Stuttering" is a frustrating and embarrassing problem for millions of people, but it can be especially tough on teenagers.

Now some new help is available at the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield, in the form of a video designed specifically for teens who stutter.

"It's meant to encourage teens to tell them that there is hope out there," said Professor Peter Ramig of the University of Colorado at Boulder. Ramig is one of three nationally recognized experts appearing in the video produced by the non-profit Stuttering Foundation of America.

The video features students from junior high school through college talking about their experiences with stuttering and what they found to be helpful.

The students talk openly about the ridicule they faced from classmates and how their stuttering made them feel about themselves.

"We emphasize the embarrassment and frustration factor and believe teens will relate to that," adds Ramig. He appears in the video along with speech-language pathologist Barry Guitar of the University of Vermont and Hugo Gregory of Northwestern University. The three experts answer questions about stuttering, refute myths and misconceptions and present examples of therapy sessions showing how stuttering can be reduced.

"More than three million Americans stutter, yet stuttering remains misunderstood by most people," said Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation. "Myths such as thinking people who stutter are less intelligent or suffer from psychological problems still persist despite research refuting these erroneous beliefs."

The 35-minute video "Do You Stutter? Straight Talk for Teens" is being distributed free of charge to public libraries nationwide. For information, call the Stuttering Foundation of America, P.O. Box 11749, Memphis, TN 38111-0749 or call toll-free at 1-800-992-9392.

January programs offer fun for all

A mime show will be at the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Jan. 27 for all ages. Middle schoolers are especially welcome.

Known to delight audiences throughout the country, Robert Rivest's unique silent art brings a range of characters to life using only movement and light. A former student of Marcel Marceau and M. Decroux, Rivest has directed and acted in award-winning cable television specials.

The show will be from 7 to 8 p.m. Register at the Youth Services desk by calling 973-376-4930, Ext. 232 or by e-mailing helenkay@springfieldpubliclibrary.com.

The library continues January children's programming for toddlers and young children, as follows:

• Break Time will be offered for middle schoolers after school on Wednesdays this month. Kids, grades five to eight, are invited to chill for an hour after school in the meeting room from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. this Wednesday, as well as Jan. 22 and 29.

• The Mother Goose Group promotes the enjoyment of language through nursery rhymes, simple stories, songs and activities for toddlers ages 1½ to 3 years old and their parent or caregiver. Plan to stay and play afterward. The program will be conducted on Jan. 16 and 23, from 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. No advance registration is necessary.

• P.J. Storytime, which invites kids to come in their pajamas, is scheduled for today and Jan. 23 from 7:30 to 8 p.m. Intended for children ages 3 and older, the programs include stories and a simple project. The theme of today's program is "A Popcorn Evening." The theme of Jan. 23 is "Get Ready for the Chinese New Year." Parents are welcome. Pre-registration is required.

All the above programs will be conducted at the Springfield Public Library. For information, stop by the Youth Services Desk, or call 973-376-4930, Ext. 232.

Used books needed

The Mountainside Public Library, Constitution Plaza, is seeking donations of used paperback novels. Fiction and bestsellers in good condition are always welcome for the lobby's trading shelves.

The Mountainside Public Library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Library in search of used paperbacks

The Friends of the Springfield Public Library would like donations of used paperback novels. Also welcome would be magazines within a year's date and costume jewelry.

For information, call 973-376-4930.

Residents can now get vaccine

The Westfield Health Department will be offering the pneumonia vaccine to residents of Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Roselle Park, Springfield and Westfield.

The clinic will take place on Feb. 27 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in The Westfield Municipal Building located at 425 E. Broad St., Westfield.

• Who Should Get the Vaccine?

All adults over 65 years of age, anyone who has a long-term health problem, anyone who has a condition that weakens the immune system, or is on medication that weakens the immune system. It is also recommended that Alaskan Natives and certain Native Americans get vaccinated.

• Who should not get the vaccine?

Usually only one dose of this vaccine is needed. If you are age 65 and older and received your initial dose before age 65 and more than five years ago, then a second dose is recommended. If you received the vaccine after age 65, then no vaccination is recommended. There are other situations that may require re-vaccination. If you are unsure whether or not you should receive the vaccine, call the Health Department or consult your Primary Care Physician.

Anyone interested in receiving the pneumonia vaccine must call the Westfield Regional Health Department by Feb. 11 at 908-789-4070 to register for the clinic. The department is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The vaccine will be free of charge to all residents in the above mentioned towns who are pre-registered. If you have Medicare, Horizon BCBS or Aetna Insurance Coverage, have your card available at time of registration; you will not be billed.

PTA sponsors pancake breakfast

On Feb. 1, the Mountainside PTA will sponsor its annual Community Pancake Breakfast in the Deerfield School Cafeteria at 302 Central Ave. From 8:30 until 11 a.m., take a break from the winter doldrums and join family, friends and neighbors for this old-fashioned community event. All are welcome to attend this fun and friendly feast. Door prizes will be awarded. The snow date will be Feb. 8.

The menu options are: Adult Portion — 4 pancakes, 2 sausages, fruit and beverage for $5. Smaller Portion — 2 pancakes, 1 sausage, fruit and beverage for $3.50, and the Bagel Breakfast: bagel, fruit and beverage for $2.50.

Ticket purchase forms are available at Deerfield School, the Mountainside Library and Borough Hall. The deadline for ticket requests is Jan. 29. For information, call Teri Schmedel at 908-301-0147, or Carol Goggi at 908-789-9420.

Two county golf courses closed for winter

Golfers are known to take to the links whenever they can. Rain, heat or even snow does not deter the most dedicated "duffer." However, the change in seasons does bring schedule adjustments to Union County's three public golf courses.

The county seasonally alters course hours according to the change in daylight hours, but this year the county will close Ash Brook Golf Course in Scotch Plains and the front nine at Galloping Hill in Kenilworth for the winter season.

With the recent improvements made to Ash Brook and Galloping Hill, the county decided to close those courses. The closure will continue until March 1, weather permitting.

Eighteen regulation holes will continue to be available throughout the winter at Oak Ridge Golf Course in Clark, and 18 holes at Galloping Hill Golf Course will also be operational, weather permitting. Determination of playability will be made by the supervising greenskeeper of the course in question. Winter hours of operation at both courses, through March 1, will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Golfers are reminded that even if they are not playing a round of golf during this time period, all the courses are open for identification card purchases and renewals.

Beginning Jan. 2, golfers should renew their ID cards at one of the courses. Early renewal will help avoid delays in the spring when everyone wants to take to the links.

All ID cards purchases in 2002 will be deactivated by the golf course computerized photo ID system on Dec. 31. It is important for golfers to keep these cards and bring them when renewing for 2003.

When purchasing a new card or renewing last year's card, golfers must show proof of Union County residency with two forms of identification: a driver's license and either a current annual lease, tax, utility or credit card bill, or a bank statement. Non-residents who own property in Union County may also purchase ID cards upon providing a current tax bill showing the address, lot and block number of the property. All ID card renewals or purchases must be done in person.

For more information about Union County's winter public golf schedule or identification card purchase, call the Department of Parks and Recreation at 908-527-4900.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Glassman begins work at Harvard

Ronny Glassman of Mountainside will begin postdoctoral studies at Harvard University this spring. He will continue his full-time practice in clinical hypnosis without interruption, as he will attend class entirely online. His classes will also allow him to maintain his status as a board-certified and registered hypnotherapist with the American Board of Hypnotherapy.

Educated at Columbia, Rutgers and NYU, Glassman is no stranger to academia; he's held faculty posts at several colleges. He's currently an adjunct professor at DeVry College of Technology in North Brunswick, and is a former NYU adjunct instructor.

Glassman specializes in the use of therapeutic hypnosis to treat weight issues, addictions, habits and phobias among other concerns. Having a reputation that extends well beyond New Jersey, many of his patients travel to his Mountainside office from as far away as Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta.

An author and researcher, Glassman speaks to community and civic groups free of charge. He is a volunteer advisor to the Dean's Committee of Livingston College, Rutgers. He and all three of his brothers graduated from Rutgers University.

When asked how it feels to have completed graduate degrees at Columbia, and now start classes Harvard, Glassman said: "My father was born on a dirt floor in Russia during the Pogroms. Mom grew up in the back of a retail store in downtown Passaic, the city where I, too, was raised. I'm pretty darn fortunate to be where I am. I think about that everyday. It's a great opportunity and I don't take it for granted even for a moment."

Registration opens for Pre-K

Registration for the 2003-04 prekindergarten program in the Springfield public schools, as well as those children eligible for kindergarten in September who are not currently enrolled in the Walton School Early Childhood Center prekindergarten program, will be conducted on the following days:

• Friday, last names beginning F to K, 10 to 11 a.m. or 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
• Monday, L to Q, 10 to 11 a.m. or 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
• Tuesday, R to Z, 10 to 11 a.m. or 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Registration will be at the Edward V. Walton School Early Childhood Center. Parents are requested to call the school at 973-376-1304 if necessary to schedule an alternate registration session.

To be eligible for prekindergarten, a child must be a resident of Springfield and be 4 years old on or before Dec. 1, 2003. Children entering kindergarten must reach their fifth birthday on or before Dec. 1, 2003. Parents are requested to bring the following materials to the registration: child's birth certificate, current immunization records, and two proofs of residency: one a New Jersey driver's license, and the second a utility bill, lease, contract or similar document.

A child's registration will be officially processed if both age-appropriate vaccines and proof of residency are submitted at the time of registration.

Obituary policy

Obituary notices submitted by local funeral homes or families must be in writing. This newspaper cannot accept obituaries by telephone.

Obituary notices must be typed and include a telephone number where writer may be reached 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call (908) 686-7700.

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'Year of the Family'

Freeholders announce programs for 2003

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

Ushering in the "Year of the Family," Freeholder Deborah Scanlon began her tenure as chairman Sunday, detailing five initiatives for 2003. In addition to welcoming a new chairman, the nine-member all-Democratic Board of Chosen Freeholders swore in three freeholders elected in November: Angel Estrada, who will be the new vice chairman, and Nicholas Scutari and Rick Proctor.

Scanlon announced the county's acquisition of the 13-acre Esposito Farm in Clark for $5.45 million, which will play a part in one of the initiatives announced, a children's museum of Central New Jersey.

The Esposito Farm is the second land acquisition through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund since it was enacted by voters in 2000. Last year, the county closed on a 63-acre property in Summit, purchased from New Jersey American Water Company.

"Working with the residents, we will reach out to the community to determine the needs and wants for the future recreational use of this property," she said. The county will provide $1 million as "seed money" for the museum, which will be operated six days a week by a nonprofit organization.

Other initiatives for 2003 included a new grant program from the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; the expansion of the child seat safety program; a new freeholder committee on homeland security and a mobile literacy and workforce training program.

Union County plans to provide at least $500,000 to municipalities to maintain historic and cultural sites, dubbed "Preserve Union County," with money coming from the trust fund.

Scanlon also announced that three historic buildings in Elizabeth will be acquired by Union County: the Bonnell House, the Belcher-Ogden Mansion and St. John's Parsonage. The buildings, which played "important roles during the events leading up to the founding of our nation," will be given to the county at no cost, she said.

Union County LEAP — Literacy and Excellence for All Program — will utilize a $500,000 federal grant to retrofit a trailer that will be used to provide literacy and customized workforce training as a one-stop center throughout the county.

The child seat safety program has conducted some 18,000 inspections at the county police headquarters in Westfield. The county plans to seek grants to purchase and distribute child seats to families in need, Scanlon said.

Photos By Joseph Sorrentino

Angel Estrada began his second term as a freeholder Sunday calling on the federal government to provide more funding for local first responders those on the front lines.

The committee on homeland security will coordinate efforts of the Sheriff's Office, Prosecutor's Office and County Police, as well as the development of a bioterrorism response plan and smallpox vaccination plan.

"Our goal is not to expand government, but to create a task force that takes advantage of technology and emergency management to meet this new threat," Scanlon said. "We can maximize security by eliminating duplication of efforts, improving coordination and combining our different functions."

The committee will be led by Freeholders Rick Proctor and Chester Holmes. Proctor, a health officer, was sworn in to his first full term Sunday and made emergency response a key campaign platform. Holmes is a retired Rahway police officer and owns a security and private investigation company.

Freeholders Mary Ruotolo and Lewis Mingo also will serve on the new standing committee, the board's [illegible]

During his remarks, Estrada blasted the federal government for not providing more money for emergency response locally.

"Not a penny has arrived since Sept. 11 for individuals who are on the front lines fighting terrorism and preparing and responding to emergencies."

"The amount of money it will take to do this is tremendous," Estrada said.

Nicholas Scutari of Linden started his third term as freeholder, being sworn in by state Sen. Joseph Suliga, as wife, Karolina, holds the bible.

Deborah Scanlon of Union will lead the freeholder board as chairman in 2003.

Changing times

Left Out

By Frank Capece

The ceremonial aspects of the swearing-in of the chairperson of the freeholder board for 2003 were predictable. Deborah Scanlon of Union took the oath as the bible was held by a portion of the grandchildren and her husband Patrick.

The family is obviously never far from her thoughts. She even called her remarks "Year of the Family." But it was her "first initiative," the establishment of a Freeholder Committee on Homeland Security, which got my special interest.

Scanlon set it out saying: "As each day goes by, our sense of urgency grows. So does our need for planning, training and staffing. Times have changed. And the threat facing our country and our county are different than what we faced just a few years ago."

The subject of homeland security does get a lot of notice. The port, refineries, airport and proximity to New York City conjure up a lot of scary ideas. Scanlon said the committee will expand development of a bioterrorism plan and develop a smallpox inoculation plan.

But just her clear plan to move forward is important. Standing outside the courtroom ceremony, Sheriff Ralph Froehlich looked me straight in the eye and said: "Maybe I will ruffle some feathers, but all we have gotten from the federal government has been lip service. They have been often unresponsive in planning and responding to our need to plan."

It raises an interesting problem. In the day's ceremonial remarks, U.S. Sens. Frank Lautenberg and Jon Corzine and Congressman Donald Payne acknowledged the concern with the danger to Union County. But between our officials stated goals and implementation something akin to a snafu develops when it comes time to get results.

It's why I like Scanlon's appointment of fellow Freeholders Chester Holmes, with lifetime experience in law enforcement, and Rick Proctor, with public health skills, to administer the effort. Something about a grandmother keeping a close eye comes to mind.

Security needs are being taken seriously in Trenton. Over the weekend, Gov. Jim McGreevey unveiled a new $2.5-million emergency response center in Lawrence. Brig. Gen. Glen Rieth of the National Guard said, "We can talk to any point in New Jersey from High Point to Cape May in a secure and non-secure means." The governor said, "We're the only state in the nation with a bioterrorism reponse team available 24 hours a day."

"While we strive to keep our community safe from unforseen threats, we will continue to protect our children in everyday life," Scanlon said.

It still unnatural to think about smallpox, homeland security and as Scanlon said, "The stark realities of our changing world."

Still, in the changing world, the vision of the caring and smart grandmother taking charge with a plan was comforting.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

Designs for Sept. 11 memorial completed

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

Preliminary designs have been released and fund-raising will begin this month for Union County's memorial to local victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

County officials hope to kick off the fund-raising effort this month with letters to the business community, soliciting contributions to cover the costs.

"I think it will be well received; people want to donate to such a worthy cause," Freeholder Alexander Mirabella, a member of the Sept. 11 memorial committee, said.

The freeholder committee also includes Chester Holmes and Lewis Mingo and Rick Proctor, who will chair the committee this year.

Approximately 60 people from Union County were killed in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. The county's memorial committee includes about a dozen citizens appointed by mayors of towns who were affected by the Sept. 11 attacks.

The preliminary designs for the monument incorporate two beams from the original World Trade Center, which the county acquired from New York City in September. The beams, measuring seven feet and weighing more than 1,000 pounds, will be featured prominently in the memorial, within a pentagon-shaped brick area, which will pay tribute to the attack on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

A granite block inscribed with the names of all Union County victims will appear in front of the pentagon.

There also will be an "eternal flame" that will be lit during public events at the park in honor of Flight 93, which crashed in Pennsylvania on Sept. 11, 2001 after passengers stormed the cockpit of the hijacked airplane. A semi-circle of trees will set the monument apart from the rest of the field at Echo Lake Park in Mountainside.

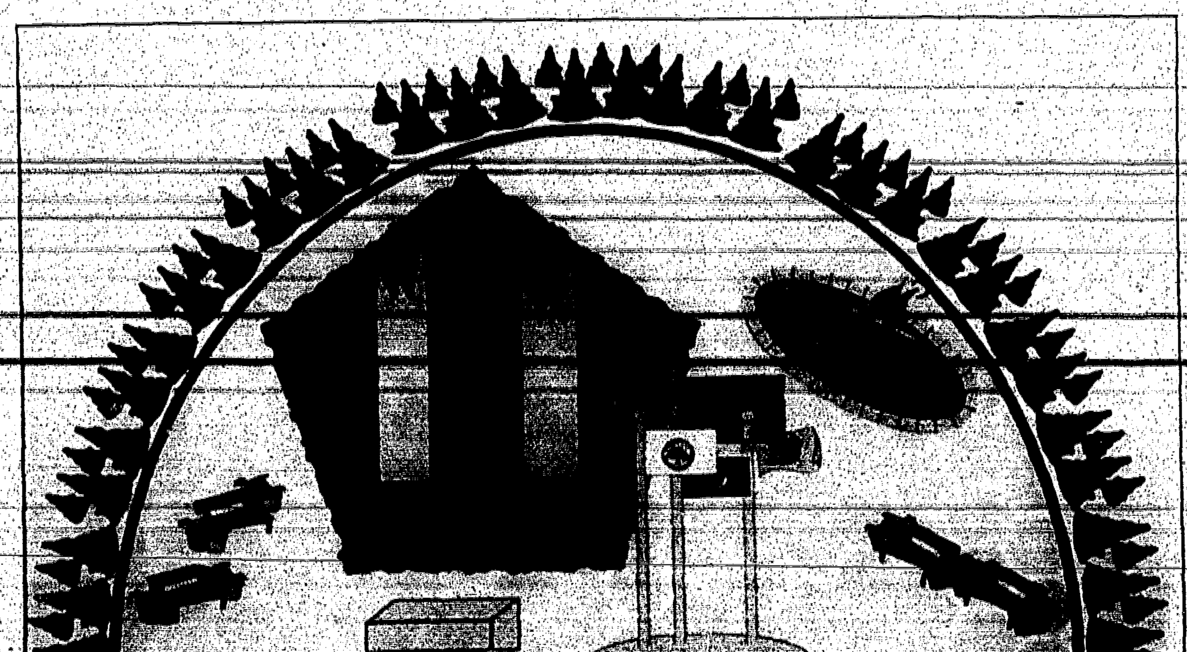
The committee has been working with an artist and the design was generated after members walked the site last fall.

Overall costs for the memorial are expected to be finalized later this month when the committee meets.

Mirabella said he hopes final designs will be completed shortly, with fund-raising continuing until the memorial is dedicated by Sept. 11, 2003. The design for the eternal flame still must be finalized.

The county has done some work in house, he said, while others "have stepped up" and donated services, such as landscaping. There also will be some costs in site preparation.

Union County sponsors its annual free summer concert series at Echo Lake Park and thousands of citizens turned out for a candlelight vigil at the site to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the attacks.



Two beams acquired from the original World Trade Center will be the centerpiece of the county's Sept. 11 memorial at Echo Lake Park in Mountainside, along with an eternal flame.

UCIA executive director awarded 4-percent pay hike

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

The Board of Commissioners of the Union County Improvement Authority last month approved a 4-percent salary increase for its executive director.

Charlotte DeFilippo, who also serves as chairman of the Union County Democratic Committee, will earn $114,650 this year.

UCIA Chairman Walter Boright said commissioners have been very pleased with DeFilippo's performance as executive director. "Production has grown tremendously."

Boright said the improvement authority plans to issue its first ever annual report this year. "People will be very surprised" by the activity within the last two years.

DeFilippo was appointed to a five-year term as executive director of the UCIA in November 2000 at an annual salary of $104,000. The board renews her contract on an annual basis, Boright said. A former municipal clerk in Hillside, DeFilippo also has experience as a consultant specializing in municipal bonds.

The improvement authority helps with low-interest financing for public projects.

Wayne Smith, who was the last Republican to serve on the all-Democratic Board of Commissioners, said the improvement authority provides a valuable service to the county; however, he added that a six-figure salary for the director is far too much. He served on the board until 2001, when his term expired and his seat was filled by a Democrat, giving the party all nine seats.

Republican-controlled boards did not do as much as the current authority, but they had part-time help and contracted out for work, which was paid for through the project's financing, Smith said.

"There's more activity but it certainly doesn't warrant what goes on there," Smith said, adding that half the executive director's salary might be excessive.

"If you knew the function of the director of the improvement authority and what they did day to day, it's a shame for them to be paid that amount of money.

"Considering who the executive director is, it's just another political form of payback," Smith said.

The position of full-time executive director was established in 1999 and filled by Doug Placa, a former chief of staff to state Sen. Raymond Lesniak and executive director of the county Democratic Committee. Prior to that, the UCIA had a part-time financial administrator. The move to a full-time post, officials had said, was to bring more activity and projects through the county.

Among the major projects the UCIA is undertaking is an office building in downtown Plainfield that will house county and state offices, in addition to retail space. The project was held up because environmental groups had filed litigation against the development of the downtown Park-Madison site.

The UCIA also is handling a multimillion-dollar project in Morris County.

Irwin among club's Board of Directors

When it comes to doing something positive that will impact the future of our children, you need to look no farther than Chris Irwin, a dedicated board member, loving husband and father, successful businessman, and, of course, an advocate for children everywhere.

Irwin has been a board member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Union County for 10 years. He has served as a member of the executive board of the club in the capacity of treasurer, and most currently a member of the Facilities Committee and vice president of Board and Volunteer Development. Irwin also demonstrates his enthusiasm for Boys and Girls Clubs by serving as chairman of the second annual Director's Cup Golf Challenge, organized by New Jersey Area Council of Boys and Girls Clubs.

Irwin is the principal of CT Associates, an independent representative [illegible] manufacturers of corporate, hospitality and educational furniture. He establishes, distributes and handles marketing sales and technical support for his clients throughout the New York New Jersey metropolitan area.

He also is the president of Educational Furniture Inc., a design and manufacturing company with distribution worldwide primarily to schools and libraries.

Irwin received a BBA degree from Parsons School of Design and a MARC from the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He has been active with the New Jersey Council for the past three years, where he served as treasurer and currently as a vice chairman and member of the Marketing Committee.

"Chris is a dedicated member of our board and an advocate for the youth in Union County and of New Jersey," Russell [illegible], chief executive officer of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Union County, said.

Other new Board of Directors officers include Chairman Robert P. [illegible], Vice President [illegible], Ray Heller, Vice President of Resource Development Paul Vallo, Vice President of Risk Management James A. Brown, Vice President of the Board & Volunteer Development Edward Palmieri and Board Secretary Teresa Palenda. Other board members include George Clark, Evon [illegible] Clark, the Rev. Howard Bryant, Carl Lagarin, Stephen Patros, Joseph Starkey Sr., Sister Ann Demo, Marlene Perkins, Lucas Newton, Walter Henderson, Rick Wagner, Stephen Hart, Sharon Pato and John [illegible].

For more information about the Board of Directors and the programs provided by Boys and Girls Clubs of Union County, call 908-[illegible].

Chris Irwin

COUNTY NEWS

NJAWBO free seminar

The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners' Women's Business Center will offer its two-hour "Are you an Entrepreneur?" seminar in Union County. "Are you an Entrepreneur?" is an overview program for those exploring the possibility of starting a new business. The seminar touches on issues of personality, business knowledge, experience, and the proper time, place and financing for opening a new business.

The classes will be at the Small Business Development Center in Kean University, East Campus, 215 North Ave., Room 242, Union, from 9 to 11 a.m. on Jan. 17. The seminar is free and is open to all of those who wish to attend.

The Women's Business Center is partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership and Corporate Sponsor Fleet Bank.

For registration and information, call the Women's Business Center at [illegible]

Deadline extended for Women of Excellence

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Commission on the Status of Women are accepting nominations for the 13th annual Women of Excellence Awards. The deadline for nominations is Friday.

"We are searching for women who demonstrate superior qualities in many areas, including uncommon courage, leadership, artistic skills and volunteerism," said Freeholder Deborah Scanlon, liaison to the Commission on the Status of Women and new chairman of the freeholder board for 2003. "The freeholders know the importance of recognizing and commending women who have made outstanding contributions of have a personal or professional achievement. These women are examples of excellence for girls or other women to emulate."

The commission is bipartisan and dedicated to supporting and acknowledging the achievements of Union County women. Categories for the award include business, entrepreneurship, government, health care, journalism and public relations, law enforcement and community service/volunteerism.

Nominees for the award must live [illegible]. To submit a nomination, contact Joan Abitante at 908-[illegible] and send a cover letter, resume and biographical statement about the woman to Joan Abitante, 522 [illegible] St., Roselle, 07203.

of business, health, real estate, food preparation, leisure activities, art, dance, music, ESL, College for Kids and for Seniors.

On the same evening, Union County College's CISCO Regional Academy will provide a presentation on its program beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the Cranford campus. This will cover how to become a Cisco Certified Network Associate.

For more information, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Massage therapy course

Anyone interested in becoming a massage therapist can begin training at Union County College. One of its newest certificate programs, massage therapy, takes one full year to complete. The program is open to full-time students, and the courses to be taken this spring are Human Biology, Fundamentals of Massage Therapy, Massage Therapy I, Kinesiology for Massage Therapists and clinic I. Registration for the spring semester is currently under way.

The mission of the program is to [illegible] with a competent [illegible] understanding of the structure and function of the human anatomy, knowledge of the indications and contraindications for therapeutic massage and the assessment tools to determine when it is appropriate to refer to clients or other health care practitioners. Students will gain the abilities to design an appropriate treatment plan utilizing professional skills with an appreciation of the ethical responsibilities of a massage therapist/client relationship.

Becoming a massage therapist can open the door for many job opportunities. Many massage therapists open their own offices or home-based businesses. They are also an important adjunct to treatments offered by medical doctors, physical therapists, rehabilitation centers, hospice centers, professional athletic teams and chiropractors. In addition, corporate wellness programs, spas, resorts, cruise ships and athletics also offer many employment opportunities.

For more information on the Massage Therapy Program, call Andrea Mariani, program coordinator, at 908-791-4416.

Local PTAs honored

The New Jersey PTA had its 102nd annual convention at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City on Dec. 2-4. Three local units took home four awards:

- Hannah Caldwell School — Safety Award.
- Hannah Caldwell School — Environmental Award.
- James Caldwell School — Educational Excellence.
- Bloomingdale Avenue School — Parent/Family Involvement.

Each award recipient submitted an essay detailing programs run during the 2001-02 school year along with flyers, publicity, etc., demonstrating compliance with requirements and standards put forth by NJ PTA.

Awards were presented at the banquet dinner on Dec. 4, which signifies the closing of convention.

Open house Jan. 21

The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education will host an open house on Jan. 21 from [illegible] p.m. on the college's Cranford campus at 1033 Springfield Ave. [illegible]

The open house offers an opportunity for the community to come and learn about the various non-credit certificate programs offered in the areas of computers such as Microsoft Office User Specialist and Oracle Certified Professional. Others include Human Resource Management, Electronics Technician, Computer Aided Floral Design, Customer Service, Wireless Networking, Substitute Teacher Specialist and Medical Office Coding Specialist. Individual courses are also available in the areas

Korean War vets meet

The Union County Korean War Veterans Association will have its regular business meeting at Rahway Yacht Club, 1706 Paterson St., Rahway, on Wednesday.

Lunch will be served at noon and the meeting will follow. Events for 2003 will be discussed.

EDUCATION

Child care certificate program available

The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education will be offering Part II of "Child Care: The Foundations," a course in the Children's Care Giver Certificate Program beginning on Jan. [illegible] at Roselle Park High School and St. Hedwig's School in Elizabeth. The course is being offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays in [illegible] at Roselle Park High School and [illegible] at St. Hedwig's School until [illegible] Feb. 25.

By taking this course, one will become more knowledgeable and better qualified as a child care professional. Topics covered include growth and development of children, general health care, nutrition, educational activities and play, and child safety standards.

The cost of the course is [illegible] for each section. Part II begins on Feb. 25 and runs until March [illegible].

To register for the course or for more information on all the certificate programs offered at Union County College, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Open house Saturday

Union County College will host an open house for its Paramedic Program on Saturday on the college's Plainfield campus, 232 E. Second St., [illegible] a.m. to [illegible] p.m.

The event is an opportunity for those interested in becoming a paramedic to learn about the program offered at UCC, including the course work involved, tuition and the time commitment. Coordinators from sponsoring hospitals will be on site to discuss prerequisites, clinical rotations and to schedule interviews.

For more information about the program or directions to the Plainfield campus, call the Office of [illegible] Recruitment at 908-709-7[illegible] or visit the web site at www.ucc.edu.

EMT, CPR classes

Union County College's Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education will be offering two [illegible] during the spring semester that [illegible] the necessary training to be [illegible] emergency rescuer. [illegible]

[illegible]

The course consists of lectures and practice sessions dedicated to the care and handling of basic life support patients as well as all kinds of medical, trauma and environmental emergencies. Upon successful completion, one can take the state exam. To enroll, students must have a current "Healthcare Basic Life Support" through the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers or the New Jersey State Safety Council. This class will meet Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the college's Plainfield campus also.

The cost is $[illegible] and a copy of the BLS/CPR card must be submitted with registration.

For more information or to register for either course, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Spring semester coming

Spring is already in the air at Union County College. UCC will open its doors for the spring semester Jan. 22. Registration for those classes will continue through Jan. 28 at the college's Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield campuses.

Students can sign up for courses from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Fridays and 9 a.m. until noon on Saturdays. For those wishing to start their spring semester a little later, a large menu of classes will also begin on Feb. 10 with registration for those continuing until Feb. 12.

UCC offers standard credit courses in more than 50 degree, diploma and certified programs that include accounting, American Sign Language deaf studies, architecture, business, communications, computers, biology, chemistry, criminal justice, engineering, fine arts, liberal arts, allied health, nursing and more.

All distance education courses are the equivalent of their traditional on-campus counterparts. They cover the same subject matter, carry the same credit, and are taught by highly qualified UCC faculty.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Promoter finds his passions make for a perfect 'blend'

By Bill VanSant
Associate Editor

In Meredith Willson's popular Broadway musical, Professor Harold Hill is known as "The Music Man."

Here in Union County, that title could arguably go to Ahrre Maros.

The Summit native and Westfield resident is the driving force behind two of the county's up-and-coming concert series: Coffee With a Conscience, alternating between Springfield and Westfield, and Second Saturdays in his hometown of Summit.

The 45-year-old Maros' musical roots date back to the '70s when, as a member of the Summit Unitarian Church's youth group, he was exposed to the communal experience of coffeehouses.

"When I was 15, 16, I'd go to these youth group retreats," he said. "And Saturday nights there was always a coffeehouse."

Maros' own early attempts at performing, though viable, where not as strong as his skills at recognizing talent in others. "I always knew who the real talents were. I had an ear for it," he said. "I was never quite that good, but I knew what was good. And that was my passion all through high school."

Following his youth in Summit, Maros moved to Berkeley in the San Francisco area. There, he found himself immersed in the coffeehouse scene.

"At Berkeley, I did something called the 'First and Third' Friday Night Open Mike Coffeehouse," he said. The venture gained the attention of singer-songwriter Chuck Brodsky, who brought not only his own act to First and Third but other talent as well.

"So Chuck comes and brings all of his musician friends," Maros recalled, "some of the best that Berkeley and San Francisco Bay area had to offer at the time."

First and Third was also a fund-raiser for local causes, something Maros continues today with his New Jersey series.

Full of beans

It was also in California that Maros would find his eventual trade: coffee roaster. "I spent a lot of time in cafes in Berkeley," he said. "Every block has two of them, at least. There was one place called Pete's Coffee and Tea that had the best coffee in the area."

Maros was struck not only by the quality of freshly ground coffee, but by the overwhelming popularity of the establishment, commenting that the line of customers often went out the door and the wait was sometimes 20 minutes or more. Having performed various odd jobs, including chimney sweep in top hat, Maros had found a trade that spoke to him in the days before Starbucks. On the east coast, "I had to go to Macy's to buy fresh-roasted beans," he said, "or I'd have to go to New York to Zabar's to buy good quality beans." Heading back east, he sought funding and soon opened his own establishment in Cranford in 1989.

"I'm a coffee roaster," he said. "I roast coffee, and I have for 13 years." Maros is the proprietor of Ahrre's Coffee Roastery in Westfield, and the former owner of his original shop in Cranford and The Common Ground in Summit. After opening the Cranford location, Maros found himself wanting a little bit more. "The dream was to open a cafe with the live entertainment, the art exhibits, the whole deal," he said. "It took two and a half years after I opened my first store before I finally found just the place in Summit." It was at The Common Ground that Maros combined his two loves.

"We had live entertainment there every night." The acts varied between rock 'n' roll, blues, jazz, poetry, folk and the obligatory Open Mike Night. "Fridays and Saturdays, we'd try to do something with broad appeal."

"That was one of things along the way for me that got me more involved in music production, in music event production."

However, Starbucks opened a Summit location not far away which soon put The Common Ground out of business. The cafe's closing, though, did not signal the end of the popularity of Maros' musical offerings. According to the organizer, submissions continued to come in from prospective acts, prompting him to find a new venue for his musical offerings.

Maros then began an informal coffee house series at the Summit Unitarian Church, featuring local and regional talent. However, the church underwent renovation, closing the space to such use.

It was after Maros opened his current Westfield location that the opportunity to help promote a new series presented itself.

The Emanuel United Methodist Church in Springfield approached the coffee roaster with a request to donate coffee to a concert the church was sponsoring. Maros found the request to be appealing to more than his coffee sense.

"The minister at the Methodist church in Springfield wanted to start a coffee house series and needed somebody to donate coffee," he said. "And one of my customers was a member of that church and recommended that they ask me."

It was through this contact that Maros became involved with the venture being undertaken by the Springfield Methodists.

"They called and I jumped at the chance and I brought the coffee and served it myself at the very first Coffee With a Conscience event," he said.

Following that first concert, Maros soon found himself on the inner circle, helping to plan and organize upcoming concerts. Coffee With a Conscience is now in its third season. In hoping to attract audience members, the committee contacted the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, which wanted more than to attend; representatives wanted to start their own series. It was Maros who advised that the two churches combine resources and co-sponsor the series, alternating venues on a monthly basis.

Each church provided a list of local charities, with one cause appearing on both lists, the New Jersey Food Bank. Each month, the proceeds benefit these charities, hence giving a Conscience to the Coffee.

Hometown venture

Once the Summit Unitarian Church was completely renovated, the minister approached Maros to resume his musical offerings. Second Saturdays began not as a chance to showcase folk celebrities, but as an opportunity for local artists to flex their muscles in a professional venue. For the original Open Mike Night in August, Maros attracted associates from his coffee house work as well as his ventures onto the musical stage. The first night was, as Maros describes, "coffee house meets musical theater."

The subsequent Second Saturdays bookings eventually morphed into a venue for local open mike talent as well as "star" attractions. Now, every few gigs, the open mike is tiered off to make room for bigger names. "The Open Mike Nights raise enough money to pay for the professional concerts," he said. Maros, who has been the recipient of Union County HEART Grants to help subsidize his ventures, commented that the result was two factions of Second Saturdays audiences: the coffee house crowd and the those who want to see a star.

While Coffee With a Conscience benefits a handful of local charities, Second Saturdays has a pet cause: the Keith Knost Special Needs Fund, which aids a former Summit resident and friend of Maros who was paralyzed from the chest down in an accident two years ago. The funds [illegible] expenses associated with his rehabilitation. [illegible] Knost is the son of a former [illegible] of the Summit Unitarian Church.

[illegible] new talent is among the most appealing aspects of the concert-promotion endeavor for Maros. He spoke of seeing Bob Malone, who will appear this weekend at Second Saturdays in Summit, at a club in Hoboken. Malone was opening for Chris Barron of the Spin Doctors and appeared on stage looking like a grizzled [illegible] guy.

Then Malone began to play and blew the crowd away. According to Maros, Barron then said, "Wow! I have to follow that?"

"Bob Malone [illegible] Chris Barron packed [illegible] out," Maros recalled of that night in Hoboken.

Malone will be appearing this weekend with Jessica Owen at Second Saturdays Coffee House at the Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave., on the corner of Springfield Avenue. Tickets are $12. For information, call 908-928-0127, or send e-mail to info@secondsaturdays.org.

Appearing at Coffee With a Conscience Jan. 18 at Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall in Springfield, will be folk duo Commonbond. Tickets are $12. For information, call 908-232-8723 or visit www.coffeewithconscience.com.

A self-proclaimed "Renaissance man," Maros is in an enviable position: combining his passions and, at the same time, reaching out to his neighbors — reaching out with the chance to enjoy quality music and with the offer of a helping hand.

Joining Ahrre Maros, center, at a Coffee With a Conscience concert last spring are Jean Bratman, left, and Dan Pelletier, who appeared as a double bill in the monthly concert series. Folk duo Commonbond will appear Jan. 18 at the Emanuel United Methodist Church in Springfield.

> *'I'm a coffee roaster. I roast coffee, and I have for 13 years. The dream was to open a cafe with live entertainment, art exhibits, the whole deal. It took two and a half years after I opened my first store before I finally found just the place in Summit.'*
>
> *— Ahrre Maros*

Singer-songwriters Bob Malone, left, and Jessica Owen will be the featured artists at Second Saturdays Coffee House in Summit this weekend.

Folk duo Commonbond will appear in the Coffee With a Conscience Concert Series Jan. 18 at the Emanuel Methodist Church in Springfield. The series is in its third season.

Owen, Malone to appear

Appearing Saturday in the Second Saturdays Coffee House Series in Summit will be Jessica Owen and Bob Malone.

Jessica Owen hales from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, but now makes her home in New Jersey. Her captivating voice and enthralling stage presence have been winning her high accolades in the form of awards, showcases and press, both in Canada and the United States. She is a compelling songwriter with an unmistakable ability to draw the listener into her explorations of life and the human experience. In the same vein as storytellers Ani DiFranco and Sarah McLachlan, Owen's beautiful voice journeys through her unforgettable melodies and powerful acoustic guitar playing. Whether it's an infectious groove or a heart-breaking confessional, Owen always delivers with exquisite style and honesty.

"Bob Malone walks on stage, sits down at the keyboard, grins ear to ear and blows the audience away," according to series promoter Ahrre Maros. "Everyone is instantly attracted to Bob's powerful voice and blend of musical styles, but he also manages to fill the room with fun energy. He is considered heir to the legacy of Professor Longhair and Dr. John."

Malone grew up in New Jersey, now lives in Los Angeles, but tours extensively. He has developed a unique combination of a finely tuned sense of songcraft and a gutsy, bluesy, soulful delivery.

It has been said that Malone is "an almost encyclopedic compendium of blues and roots piano styles," and as a scribe, he's in John Hiatt's league.

For information, call 908-928-0127.

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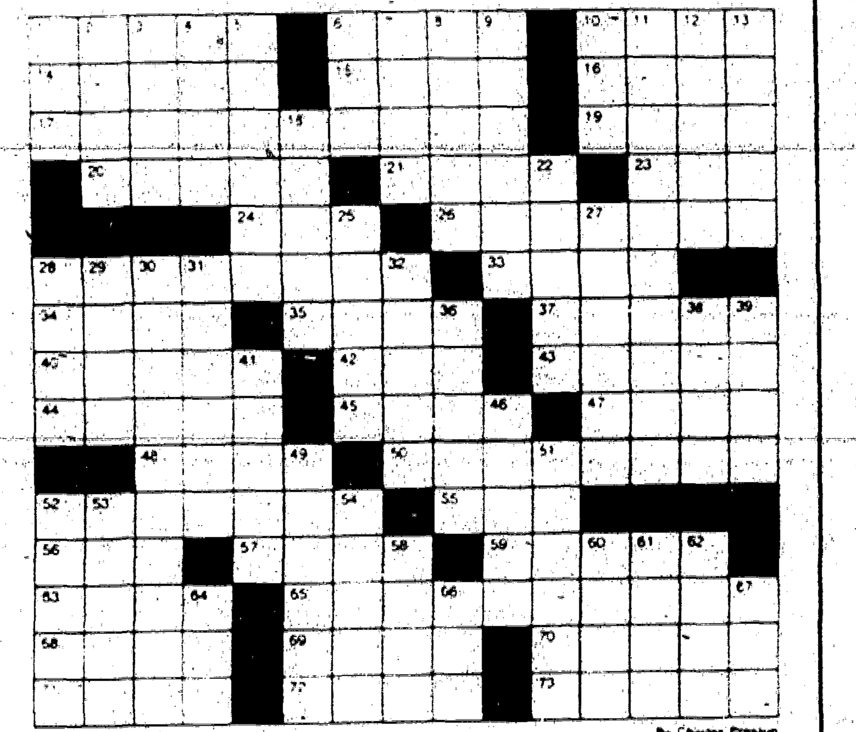
KIDS STUFF EXTENSION 3350	RECIPES EXTENSION 5290	WEATHER EXTENSION 1790

SOUNDS FISHY



ACROSS

1 Eastman product
6 Guinness
10 Lasting effect
14 Corpulent
15 Showroom model
16 Shakespearean villain
17 Flatiron parts
19 Diagnostic test
20 Delight
21 French extremity
23 School org
24 Due preceder
26 Italian painter
28 Toll road
33 Run rampant
34 Russian range
35 They're against
37 Song-and-dance man
40 Stratum
42 Menu item
43 Steeple
44 Methuselah's father
45 American dramatist
47 Hideaway
48 Units of measure
50 Bean variety
52 Heavenly bodies
55 Malay gibbon
56 Cuckoo
57 Bristle
59 Celebratory speech
63 Token
65 Orchestra member
68 Wild goat
69 Kazan
70 Holdup
71 Singer James
72 U.S. illustrator
73 Took an oath

DOWN

1 Ring coups
2 Reed instrument
3 Wooded area
4 Offshore
5 Maintained
6 [illegible]
7 Latvian
8 Islamic chief
9 Share top billing
10 [illegible] the world
11 Mountain range of central Europe
12 Marble
13 Palace resident
18 Soviet premier
22 Sagas
25 African ruminant
27 Sensationalism
28 It can be tall
29 Polish lancer
30 Faint glimmer
31 Reunion members
32 Giving the once-over
36 American sculptor
38 Western U.S. state
39 Pianist Peter
41 Flightless birds
46 Sister of Clio
49 Game show host
51 Incubates
52 Artificial gem
53 Eastern church member
54 Old hat
58 Hindu month
60 Once more
61 Storage building
62 Ivan or Nicholas
64 FDR's brainchild
66 Sr.'s bête noire
67 Nautical rope

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE — By Charles Preston

See ANSWERS on Page B12

What's Going On?

AUCTION

FRIDAY
January 17th, 2003

EVENT [illegible]

PLACE [illegible]

TIME [illegible]

PRICE [illegible]

ORGANIZATION [illegible]

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non profit organizations. It is prepaid and costs just $20.00 for 2 weeks for Essex County or Union County and just $30.00 for both Counties. Your notice must be in our Maplewood office 463 Valley Street by 4:00 PM on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at 170 Scotland Road, Orange, 266 Liberty St., Bloomfield or 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. For more information call [illegible]

NJPAC welcomes Cincotti to Chase

[illegible]

HOROSCOPE

Jan. 13-19

ARIES (March 21-April 19): [illegible]

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): [illegible]

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Concentrate [illegible] routine. Let your hair down and have some fun. [illegible]

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): [illegible]

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): [illegible]

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Take a long look at your finances, and don't [illegible]

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): [illegible]

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Offer your services to someone in need and what you give comes back [illegible] prosperity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): [illegible]

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): [illegible]

Also born this week: Robert Stack, [illegible]

If your birthday is this week, [illegible]

A subscription to your newspaper keeps your college student close to hometown activities. Call 908-686-7753 for a special college rate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
Docket No. F-18998-96

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, to:
FLOYD D. WATSON, JR.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED [illegible] Wachovia Bank, N.A. as Custodian for Plaintiff and What's Your Beef II, et al. are Defendants [illegible]

This action has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing a Tax Sale Certificate dated November [illegible] made by the Collector of Taxes of the City of Plainfield and State of New Jersey to What's Your Beef II c/o Iggy Magoos recorded in the Union County's Register's office on August 9, 1994 in Book 5414 of Mortgages at page 299 to recover possession of and concerning real estate located at 254-256 Third Street, Plainfield, New Jersey, Tax Lot 5 Block 308.

The City of Plainfield sold said Tax Sale Certificate to Arapaho Capital Corporation by Assignment dated August 22, 1994 and recorded in the Union County's office on October 7, 1994 in Mortgage Book 777 at page 263. Then assigned to Arapaho Capital Investment Corporation recorded in the Union County Register's Office on [illegible] 1995 in Book 823, Page 41. Further assigned to First Fidelity Bank, N.A. Custodian by assignment dated February 29, 1996 recorded in the Union County Register's Office on April 18, 1996 in Book 869 Page 11. First Fidelity Bank, N.A. Custodian changed its name to First Union National Bank, N.A. and is now known as Wachovia Bank, NA, as Custodian.

You, Floyd D. Watson, Jr. are hereby joined as a party defendant because of the following judgment: Floyd D. Watson Jr. v. Iggy Magoos Knockers Judgment No. J-309865-95 filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey date entered November 15, 1995, type of action: [illegible], Union, debt of 17,500.00 plus costs.

You may contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County in which this action is pending by calling (908) 353-4715. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County in which this action is pending by calling (908) 354-4340.

DONALD F. PHELAN, CLERK
Superior Court of New Jersey

DATED: January 2, 2003
U4678 WCN Jan. 9, 2003 ($67.50)

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Ori & Forelli will lead annual photography workshop in Italy's Tuscany region

Nancy J. Ori of Berkeley Heights and Chip Forelli of New York, well-known artists and educators of photography, will lead a group of photographers into Tuscany, an area of Italy worthy of examination and discovery.

Participants will focus on the countryside and villages, with an emphasis on architecture, documentary, portrait and landscape photography. History, art, architecture and the opportunity to make incredible photographs await each participant. The workshop fee of $1,995 includes tuition, shared accommodations, transportation during the workshops, breakfast, dinners and tours. The workshop given May 17 to 24 is designed for all levels of experience in photography.

Working with the craft of black-and-white as well as color photography, Ori and Forelli offer a challenging workshop within the inspirational atmosphere of Tuscany. The goal of this workshop is to encourage personal vision and growth through instruction, interaction and self-motivation. While technique is an integral part, it is not the main concentration of this workshop. Focusing on spontaneity and instinct, participants will be motivated to push themselves creatively and go beyond previously ventured avenues.

The workshop will begin in Berkeley Heights long before your trip to Italy when all workshop participants will be invited to meet each other at a weekend afternoon gathering for orientation. A vital part of this meeting will be the sharing of images for discussion and a chance to develop new friendships. Then, after traveling to Italy in May, the second part of the workshop will begin with camerawork and discussions in the picturesque countryside and street life throughout Tuscany visiting cities such as Lucca, Pisa, Siena, and San Gimignano, to name just a few.

Both single and shared accommodations are available at a private estate outside of Lucca, which will be the home base for the workshop. The property is a wine and olive oil estate. It is quite picturesque with a shepherd family who also make exquisite ricotta and pecorino cheese. "Our personal cook will prepare breakfasts and dinners each day. Lunch is on your own. And several nights, we will be delighted by tastings of local wines, olive oil, balsamico and cheeses. The dinners give us the opportunity to experience truly regional dishes and wine in the privacy of this country estate," Ori said. Lucca is located in the foothills of the Garfagnana Mountains where Leonardo da Vinci and Michaelangelo personally oversaw the quarrying of their marble.

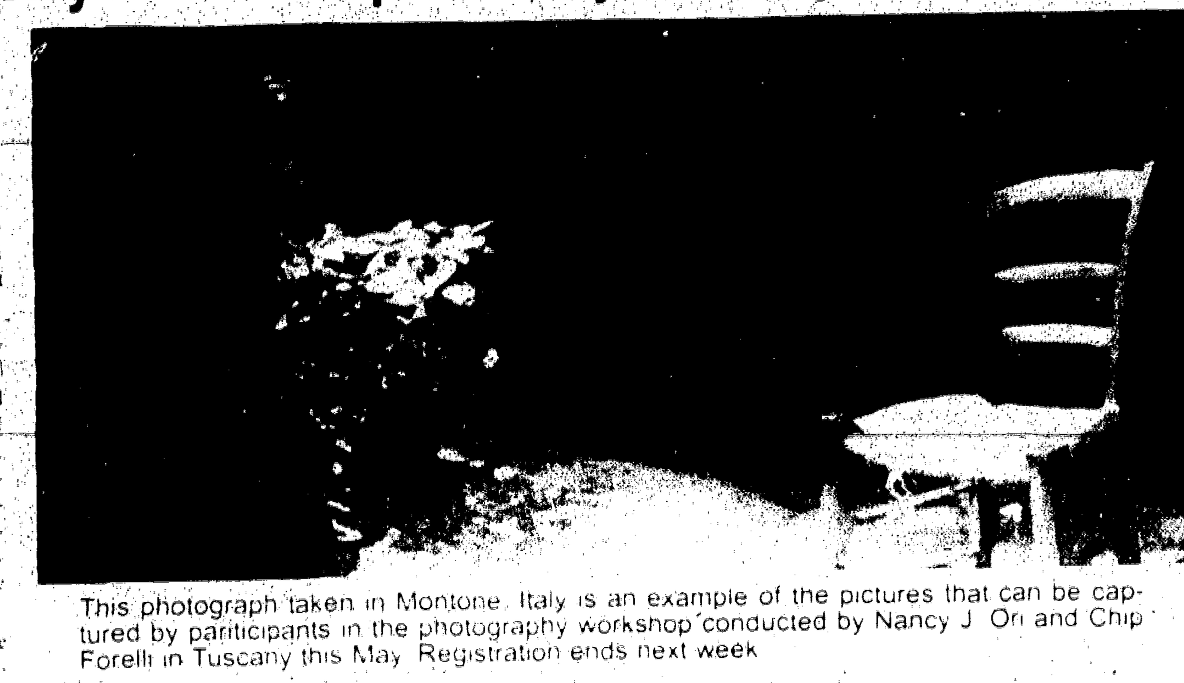
Both Ori and Forelli enjoy the structure of a well-organized workshop yet like the freedom to stop along the way when an interesting photographic opportunity presents itself. The evening sessions will involve discussions answering many photographic questions from the daily working sessions and orientation for the next day of photographs.

Ori finds working with photographers at all experience levels to be quite rewarding and gives special emphasis to beginners. She and Forelli have desinged the workshop around providing an opportunity for all participants to exchange experiences while learning. They have a casual style, enjoying simplifying sophisticated photographic techniques and love to see students grow in creativity through the process. "The participants enthusiasm constantly reminds me of how magical the photographic process really is and helps me look at my own work with a fresh view," said Forelli.

The instructors, Nancy Ori and Chip Forelli, have more than 30 years experience each as professional photographers and instructors and are widely exhibited fine artists. Ori is founder and director of the New Jersey Photography Forum at the Watchung Arts Center and the Heritage Photography Workshop Series held each year in Cape May. She has also become an experienced teacher through years of affiliation with the Ansel Adams Workshop in California, and in New Jersey at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit, the Summit Area Community Schools, Peter's Valley Craft Education Center in Layton, Somerset Art Association in Bedminster and the Watchung Adult School in Watchung.

Chip Forelli is a master of beautifully crafted, black-and-white landscape prints where man's mysterious presence frequently hovers. He has successfully blended a career incorporating print sales, teaching at the International Center of Photography, the N.J. Media Center Photography Workshops and the Cape Cod Photography Workshops with photographing for prestigious advertising and corporate clients. Forelli believes in achieving a balance between creative sensibility and skill in craft and feels that through the visual world, especially by photographing nature, [illegible] sense of exploration, discovery and a [illegible]

For information and registration, contact Ori [illegible] at 908-790-8820. The deadline for registration is Jan. [illegible]



This photograph taken in Montone, Italy is an example of the pictures that can be captured by pariticipants in the photography workshop conducted by Nancy J. Ori and Chip Forelli in Tuscany this May. Registration ends next week.

JCC to present 'Broadway Kids' shows

JCC MetroWest will present the immensely popular "Broadway Kids" for two performances Jan. 26 at [illegible] and 4 p.m.

This Showtime for Families presentation will take place at the Maurice Levin Theater at the JCC of MetroWest New Jersey, 760 Northfield Ave., West Orange.

Wholesome, child-oriented entertainment, "Broadway Kids" is the perfect introduction to the joys and wonders of the Broadway musical. Featuring the brightest young stars on Broadway today, this gifted ensemble will perform a sampling of songs from some of America's best-loved musicals such as "Annie," "The Sound of Music," "Les Miserables," "The Lion King" and more. Just like Broadway, "Broadway Kids" is always changing, adding new talent and new musical numbers to a fully choreographed, staged production of music and dance.

A phenomenon in family entertainment, "Broadway Kids" has been featured on network television in such shows as "Live With Regis and Kathy Lee" and "The Rosie O'Donnell Show." Their best-selling recordings include "The Broadway Kids Sing Broadway," "The Best of Broadway," "Sing America, Sing Broadway," and "Best on Broadway."

Tickets are $20 for JCC members, students and senior citizens, and $25 for the general public. Tickets are available by calling the MetroWest box office at 973-736-3200, Ext. 253, or at www.ticketweb.com.

Community Dining Guide II

Jose's Mexican Cantina is a trip 'south of the border'

Brightly decorated, with hanging chili peppers, traditional sombreros and Spanish music, customers feel as though they are visiting southern Mexico when they step into Jose's Mexican Cantina in New Providence.

The ambiance is as authentic as the cuisine. "We don't serve anything else," said Manager Daniel Zepoda.

Families, many of whom have become regulars since the restaurant's opening 14 years ago, can look forward to a special children's menu that is currently under consideration. But there already are enough options for the entire family.

Customers can eat at the cantina 20 times without repeating an appetizer. The "botanas" range from traditional nachos and quesadillas to scrumptious baby shrimp sautéed in fresh garlic, paprika, cilantro and Pasilla chiles. The shrimp is served with toasted garlic bread to mop the remaining spices.

Overwhelming flavors are presented with the entrees, which include choices from enchilada and burritos to barbecued jumbo shrimp marinated in Oaxaca style, to tender, marinated beef steak topped with sautéed sweet peppers and onions to a variety of vegetarian options.

Perhaps the most popular item is the fajitas that arrive sizzling and are marinated with a perfect blend of spices, peppers and onion. The flour tortillas are light and add to the delicious chicken or beef.

Jose's Mexican Cantina is located at 24 South St., New Providence. Reservations are preferred for more than six people, especially during the more popular Friday and Saturday nights. For reservations and directions, call 908-464-4360. Three years ago another location, with the same menu, opened in Warren at 125 Washington Valley Road. Call 732-563-0480.

All major credit cards are accepted. Jose's Mexican Cantina does not have a liquor license, but patrons are invited to bring their own.

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1-800-564-8911

New season of movies will begin in Filmmakers Symposium series

Filmmakers Symposium director Chuck Rose, right, welcomes Derek Luke, star of 'Antwone Fisher,' to a recent screening. A new series of screenings will be kicked off Feb. 17 at the Loews Mountainside

'Family' series continues at UCAC with 'Sarah Plain and Tall' Feb. 2

'Ella' and 'Louie' take center stage in 'Jammin' With Pops' at Arts Center Jan. 24

CAREER AND EDUCATION

Far Brook School will welcome parents

Cisco course is offered at UCC

Bill Van Sant, Editor
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WORRALL NEWSPAPERS

NJPAC will commemorate sixth annual Martin Luther King event

Davis, Norwood and Walker to be among the performers

Dorothy Norwood

Ossie Davis

Alberta Walker

Exhibit at NJCVA will explore Ross' 'Landscapes and Dreamscapes' this month

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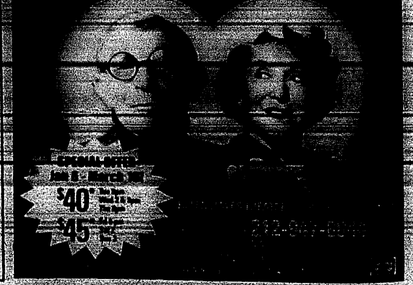

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A Year at a Glance

2003 CALENDAR

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ART SHOWS

NJCVA FACULTY EXHIBITION will be on display through Wednesday in the Palmer Gallery at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit.
Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays [illegible] 4 p.m. and Saturdays [illegible] 4 p.m. Tours are available [illegible] request. NJCVA is located at [illegible] Elm St., Summit. For information, call 908-273-9121 or visit www.njcva.org.

MIXING MEMORY AND DESIRE, the works of Carol Alter, will be on exhibit through Thursday in the Donald B. Palmer Gallery at the Springfield Free Public Library [illegible]
Gallery hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays [illegible] to 8:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays [illegible] to 4:30 p.m.; and Sundays [illegible] p.m. Springfield Public Library is located at 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. For information, call 973-376-4930.

SEASONAL AND DIVERSITY ART will be on exhibit through Jan. 12 at the Diversity Art Gallery in Clark.
Gallery hours are Sundays 1 to 3 p.m. or by appointment. The Diversity Art Gallery is located in the Union County Baptist Church, 4 Valley Road, Clark. [illegible]

WORLDS, the works of [illegible] St. George, will be on exhibit through Jan. 19 at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library.
Gallery hours are Mondays [illegible] and Saturdays [illegible] The Les Malamut Art Gallery is located in Union Public Library, 1980 Morris Ave. in Friberger Park, Union. For information, call 908-851-5450.

PAINTER SABINA UNGEHEUER and photographer Pawel Dec will have their work on exhibit Jan. [illegible] through [illegible] at the Skylands Art Gallery at the Polish Cultural Foundation in Clark. An opening reception will take place Jan. [illegible] from [illegible]
Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays [illegible] and Saturdays [illegible] The Polish Cultural Foundation is located at 177 Broadway, Clark. For information, call 732-382-7197.

SEARCHING FOR IDENTITY, photographic works by Rosemarie Geiber and Neal Korn, will be on exhibit Jan. 12 through Feb. 7 at The Gallery at the Arts Guild of Rahway. An opening reception will take place Jan. 12 from 1 to 4 p.m.
Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 1 to 4 p.m. and Thursdays 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. The Arts Guild is located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511 or send e-mail to ArtsGuild@earthlink.net.

CONSUMER REPORTS will be on exhibit Jan. [illegible] through Feb. 20 at the [illegible] Kenneth [illegible] the Cranford Campus [illegible] County College. An opening reception will take place Jan. [illegible]
[illegible] Mondays through [illegible] Tuesdays and Saturdays [illegible] Fridays [illegible] located at [illegible] Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call 908-709-7155.

AUDITIONS

WESTFIELD COMMUNITY PLAY-
ERS will conduct auditions for "Dr. Cook's Garden" by Ira Levin Monday and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the WCP Theater, 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield. Being sought are three men (20s to 30s, 50s and 60s) and two women, 40s [illegible] Show dates are March 8 to 22. For information, call 908-232-9568.

BOOKS

BOOKS BY WOMEN ABOUT WOMEN meets the first Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

THE 'LORD OF THE RINGS' READING GROUP meets the first Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

EDISON ARTS SOCIETY WRITERS' CIRCLE, led by Cheryl Racanelli, meets the second and fourth Monday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

CLASSICS BOOK CLUB meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN INTERESTS meets the second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

MYSTERY READING GROUP meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION BOOK GROUP, a monthly reading group featuring staff members' favorite books, meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

JEWISH BOOK LOVERS meets the third Monday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

SHAKESPEARE OUT LOUD Reading Group meets the third Friday of the month at [illegible] at Barnes and Noble [illegible] read a Shakespeare play [illegible] Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

WOMEN'S READING GROUP meets the last Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

CLASSES

NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR VISU-
AL ARTS in Summit will offer its fall 2002 classes and workshops in the coming months. Offerings are Black and White Master Class through Feb. 15, The Art of the Clay Monoprint, Watercolor Mobiles, Beginning Drawing, Beginning Painting and Children's Clay Class. NJCVA is located at 68 Elm Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-9121.

COLLECTIBLES

THE WESTFIELD STAMP CLUB meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Westfield Municipal Building, East Broad Street, Westfield. For information, call 908-233-3045 or send e-mail to 8605@comcast.net.

CONCERTS

COFFEE WITH A CONSCIENCE Concert Series of Westfield and Springfield will present musical performers each month through June at two locations in Union County.
Jan. 18: Commendbond, Springfield.
Feb. 15: Eric Schwartz, Westfield.
March 15: Dan Cris presents, Springfield.
April 19: Amy Carol Webb, Westfield.
May 17: Kevin Brody, Springfield.
June 21: Groovebilly, Westfield.
All concerts begin at 8 p.m. Westfield concerts are at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 E. Broad St.; Springfield concerts are at Springfield Emanuel Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall. Suggested donation is $12 with proceeds benefiting various local charities. For information, call 908-232-8723 or visit www.coffeewithconscience.com.

THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC will appear in concert Jan. 10 at 8 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are $16 to $77.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

PIANIST PETER CINCOTTI will appear Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in The Chase Room at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are $36.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

FRED HO AND THE AFRO-ASIAN MUSIC ENSEMBLE will present "Voice of the Dragon: Once Upon a Time in Chinese America" Jan. 18 at [illegible] Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are $31.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY in Westfield will present Bach's "St. John Passion" Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, Mountain Avenue at East Broad Street. Tickets are $[illegible] for adults, $10 for students and seniors. For information, call 732-381-0394.

UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER in Rahway will present "Doo Wop Reunion III" featuring Charlie Thomas' Drifters, The Orlons and Cuba Chance and The Earls Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $[illegible] to $[illegible]. UCAC is located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-499-8226 or visit www.ucac.org.

ANDRE PREVIN with bassist David Finck will appear in concert Jan. 19 at 2:30 p.m. in Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are $46.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

BARNES AND NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, will present musical performances throughout the year. All concerts are from 8 to 10 p.m. in the cafe section. For information, call 973-376-8544.

CRAFTS

THE HARVEST QUILTERS of Central New Jersey meet the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Cozy Corner Creations Quilt Shop, Park Avenue in Scotch Plains. For information, call 908-755-7653.

DANCE

SUMMIT FOLK DANCERS will sponsor evenings of international dance throughout the year at The Connection for Women and Families, 79 Maple St., Summit. Sessions are alternate Fridays from 8 to 10:30 p.m. Dates in early 2003 are Jan. 10 and 31 and Feb. 14 and 28. Admission is $2 or $12 for half the season; workshops are $5. For information, call 973-467-4278.

Y-SQUARES, a local square dance club, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Frank K. Hehnly School, Raritan Road, Clark. Fee for each lesson is $4. For information, call 908-298-1551, 732-381-2835 or 908-241-9442.

DISCUSSION

SENIORS DISCUSSING SCIENCE will meet monthly at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 300 North Ave. East, Westfield. For information, call 908-456-3647 or send e-mail to science4seniors@aol.com.

JOURNAL WRITING GROUP, led by professional life coach Jami Novak, meets the fourth Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

WRITERS' WORKSHOP will meet every other Monday at Barnes and Noble in Springfield, 240 Route 22 West. For information, call 973-376-8544.

FILM

ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY will sponsor a series of free film classes at the Main Branch. All films begin at 10 a.m. The Main Branch is of the Elizabeth Public Library located at 11 S. Broad St., Elizabeth. For information, call 908-354-6060.

HOBBIES

THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC meets at 295 Jefferson Ave., Union, behind Home Depot on Route 22 East. The club is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. For information, call 908-964-9724 or 908-964-8808, send e-mail to TMRCInc@aol.com or visit www.tmrc.com.

KIDS

TRAILSIDE NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER in Mountainside will sponsor "Owl Prowl" Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Admission is $5 per person. Trailside is located at 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside. For information, call 908-789-3670.

UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER in Rahway will present "Jim West's Dinosaurs" Jan. 19 at 3 p.m. as part of UCAC'S "For the Kids" series. Tickets are $10. UCAC is located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-499-8226 or visit www.ucac.org.

BARNES AND NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will sponsor Tales for Tots Preschool Storytime Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. and the Kids Writing Workshop Saturdays at 10 a.m. For information, call 973-376-8544.

POETRY

POETRY OUT LOUD! will take place at Barnes and Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

OPEN MIKE POETRY NIGHT takes place the second Sunday of every month at 7 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

RADIO

TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION will meet at 8 p.m. the first and third Mondays of the month at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church on Old Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. For information, call 908-241-5758.

SINGLES

DINNERMATES and Entrepreneurs Group invites business and professional singles to dinner at a local restaurant, wine and mingling is at 8 p.m.; dinner is at 9 p.m. Two age groups are available. For information on dates and locations, call 732-822-9706 or visit www.dinnermates.com.

INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years old, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for discussion and continental breakfast at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield. Donation is $2. For information, call 908-889-5265 or 908-889-4751.

THEATER

PAPER MILL, The State Theatre of New Jersey, will present "Blue," starring Leslie Uggams, Wednesday through Feb. 9. Shows are at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays; 7:30 p.m. Sundays, with matinees on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.
Paper Mill is located on Brookside Drive. For information, call 973-376-4343 or visit www.papermill.org.

THE THEATER PROJECT at Union County College will present "Golden Oldies" by Marjorie Asher Cocchiola Jan. 12 at 3 p.m. as part of the Staged Reading Series. The performance will take place in The Commons on the Cranford Campus, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. Admission is free. For information, call 908-659-5189.

VARIETY

LOS PLENEROS DE LA 21, of "Three Kings Day Celebration," will be presented by the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark Saturday at 2 p.m. in Victoria Theater. Tickets are $19 for adults, $10 for children.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

LIVE JAHEIM featuring Stahi, The Intruders and Nappy Roots will be presented Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ritz Theatre in Elizabeth. Tickets are $45 to $50. The Ritz Theatre is located at 1148 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. For information, call 732-392-8563.

THE NEW SHANGHAI CIRCUS will perform Jan. 11 at 2 and 7 p.m. in Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are $19 for adults, $10 for children.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER in Newark will present its annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. in Prudential Hall, with a pre-performance reception at 5 p.m. in The Chase Room. Tickets are $29 for adults, $16 for children.
NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

SECOND SATURDAYS COFFEEHOUSE will take place the second Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit. Featured will be an "open mike" forum of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Donations are suggested to cover expenses. Talent is sought for future dates. For information, call 908-273-3245.

THE BACK PORCH in Rahway will present Open Mike Nights every Tuesday at 9 p.m. and karaoke every Thursday night. The Back Porch is located at 1535 Main St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-6544.

EAT TO THE BEAT Coffeehouse in Rahway will feature appearances by musical artists. Eat to the Beat is located at 1466 Irving St. at East Cherry Street, Rahway. For information, call 732-381-0505.

NJ Symphony diversifies the offerings in its annual Winter Festival

Throughout January 2003, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will present its sixth annual Winter Festival titled "American Roots Festival."

This season's three-week festival will focus on three identifiable influences on the development of a unique American musical voice at the turn of the 20th century, namely, the influences of the black slaves of the South, the American Indians of the West, and the Transcendentalist writers of the Northeast. The festival will feature 11 full-orchestra concerts statewide of works demonstrating a brilliant cross-section of styles and sources that mirror the American experience itself, as well as educational collaborations and forums and ancillary events designed to explore the various facets of the American musical and artistic heritage. Also featured will be programs on the "History of Jazz" Jan. 24 in Princeton, and a piano marathon titled "The American Piano," Jan. 22 in Newark.

The NJSO's Winter Festival has been declared an "exceptionally creative enterprise" by the American Symphony Orchestra League not only for its revolutionary approach to programming, but also for the numerous ancillary and outreach events that surround the festival each year.

Building on the successes of last year, the "American Roots Festival" will present several ancillary events focusing on these three named influences and will collaborate with several organizations in presenting numerous [illegible] and outreach events. This year's ancillary events are co-sponsored by The Newark Museum, and will be held at the Billy Johnson Auditorium within the museum.

Kicking off the festival was "American Roots Sampler" Jan. 8 with keynote speaker Clement Price, vocalist Nmon Ford, pianist Stephen Mayer, and the NJSO Chamber Players. That program intimately explored the African-American influences on the emerging American voice of the mid- to late-19th century. On Jan. 18, the influences of the Native Americans will be examined in a three-hour "Festival Interplay," and is made possible through the New Jersey Council on the Humanities. Featured in this interactive, immersion experience will be composer Curt Cacioppo, the Montclair State University Chorus and the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers. The final event at The Newark Museum will be a vocal recital by Nmon Ford Jan. 26. Ford's participation in the festival is made possible through the Marilyn Horne Foundation. Tours of The Newark Museum's exhibit "Picturing America" will be available throughout the festival, and particularly with events occurring at the museum.

Once again, outreach to area schools and higher education institutions will play an important component of the NJSO's Winter Festival. This year, four education institutions — Montclair State University, Columbia High School in Maplewood/South Orange, and Newark's Science High School and Metropolitan High School — will be visited on several occasions by various participants in the festival.

Taking a much greater role in the conceptualization and design of this year's festival — the NJSO's first non-composer-centric festival — has been renowned music scholar Joseph Horowitz, the festival consultant and humanities coordinator. Horowitz has served in this capacity for the past five years, and is responsible for all of the humanities and outreach efforts of the festival.

Collaborators in the "American Roots Festival" include The Newark Museum, the American Symphony Orchestra League, the New Jersey Council on the Humanities, the Marilyn Horne Foundation, Montclair State University, Columbia High School, South Orange, Maplewood, and Metropolitan High and Science High schools, Newark.

Financial support for the "American Roots Festival" has been received from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey Council on the Humanities, Bloomberg, IDT Corporation, and the Marilyn Horne Foundation.

Following is a full listing of the "American Roots Festival" performances and activities.

New Jersey Symphony Orchestra
American Roots Festival
January 2003

• American Roots Festival: American Beethoven
Saturday at 8 p.m., Prudential Hall, The New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark.
Sunday at 3 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
Anne Manson, conductor; Alan Feinberg, piano; and Daniel Tisman, actor.
Ives, "From the Housatonic at Stockbridge." Ives, Emerson concerto for Piano and Orchestra; Beethoven, Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67.
Tickets: $72, $56, $50, $33, $19.

• Festival Prelude: Feinberg plays Ives "Emerson" from Concord Sonata.

• American Roots Festival: Jubilee
Jan. 17 at 8 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
Jan. 18 at 8 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
Jan. 19 at 3 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
David Alan Miller, conductor, and Marcus Roberts, piano.
Gottschalk, "Night in the Tropics," R.O. 225, Johnson, "Yamekraw," Joplin, "Treemonisha" Overture; Still, "Africa," and Gershwin, "Rhapsody in Blue."
Tickets: $72, $56, $50, $33, $19.

• Festival Prelude: Marcus Roberts and The Montclair State University Chorus, Ken Hamrick.

• Festival Interplay: The Indianists
Jan. 18 from 2 to 5 p.m., Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum, Newark.
Thunderbird Dancers, Benjamin Pasternack, piano, The Montclair State University Chorus, Curt Cacioppo, composer, Holly Connor, guest speaker, and Joseph Horowitz, host.
An afternoon of interaction and immersion including Native American song and dance, concert works by Dvorak and others. Presentation of 19th-century depictions of American Indians, and — to close — guided tours of permanent American art galleries at The Newark Museum.
This program is made possible in part by a grant from the New Jersey State Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Arts.
Tickets: $15.

• American Roots Festival: Harry Partch Concert at Montclair State University.
Jan. 19 at 7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium, Montclair State University, Upper Montclair.
Newband, Artist Ensemble-in-Residence, and Dean Drummond and Stephanie Stann, executive directors, Harry Partch Institute.
Partch, "Two Studies on Ancient Greek Scales," "O Frabjous Day," "The Letter," "Ring Around the Moon," and "Castor and Pollux;" Drummond, "The Day the Sun Stood Still;" and Steven, "O to Make Dreams True," world premiere.
Tickets: $20 and $15 available by calling 973-655-5112.

• American Roots Festival: The American Piano
Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
Alan Feinberg, Steven Mayer, Benjamin Pasternack, Marcus Roberts, pianists, Joseph Horowitz, host.
Heinrich, "The Dawning of Music in Kentucky," 1820; Mason, "Silver Spring," 1858; Gottschalk, "The Banjo," op. 15; MacDowell, "Concert Etude;" Beach, "Dreaming" and "The Hermit Thrush at Eve;" Griffes, "Sonata;" Ives, "The Celestial Railroad," and "The Alcotts" from Second Piano Sonata "Concord, Mass., 1840-60;" Farwell, "Pawnee Horses" from "Mesa and Plain," Op. 20, and "Navajo War Dances 1 and 2," Op. 102; Busoni, "Indian Diary No. 1;" Joplin, "Maple Leaf Rag;" Morton, "New Orleans Blues;" Johnson, "Carolina Shout;" Waller, "Ain't Misbehavin';" Tatum, "Tiger Rag," and Gottschalk, "Souvenir de Porto Rico," Op. 31, 1857, and "Night in the Tropics," arranged for two pianos.
Tickets: $20.

• American Roots Festival: The Melting Pot
Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
Jan. 24 at 8 p.m., Prudential Hall, NJPAC, Newark.
Gerhardt Zimmerman, conductor, and Andrew Watts and Benjamin Pasternack, pianists.
Dvorak, Suite in A major, Op. 98b, "American;" Busoni, "Indian Fantasy" for piano and orchestra, Benjamin Pasternack, piano; Chadwick, "Jubilee" from Symphonic Sketches, and MacDowell, Piano Concerto No. 2, Op. 23, Andre Watts, piano.
Tickets: $72, $56, $50, $33, $19.

• Festival Prelude: Busoni's "Indian Diary No. 1" with Benjamin Pasternack and the Dvorak American Suite, piano version, with Joseph Horowitz.

• American Roots Festival: Vocal Recital with Nmon Ford
Jan. 26 at 3 p.m., Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum, Newark.
Nmon Ford, baritone, and Mitchell Cirker, piano.
A vocal recital including songs by Americans — Gershwin, Bernstein, Berlin and Kern — and traditional spirituals, plus music by Liszt, Brahms, Wagner and French composers influenced by American jazz.
This concert is presented by the NJSO in association with the Marilyn Horne Foundation, and is performed without the NJSO.
Tickets: $15.
For information, call the NJSO at 800-255-3476 or visit www.njsymphony.org.

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Spectator Leader • Gazette Leader
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West Orange Chronicle • East Orange Record
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E.O.E

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Re/Max experiences year of growth

Re/Max of New Jersey reached a milestone this month as its associate population exceeded 2,000. The real estate company has experienced a tremendous growth since the late 90s and has doubled its membership in the last four years. The first nine months of 2002 resulted in the largest increase in the company's membership as 300 associates made the move to Re/Max.

"We attribute this success to the quality of services we offer to our associates," said Jeff Snyder, co-owner of Re/Max of New Jersey. "Other associates in the industry see how successful Re/Max agents are and they are now making the move."

The number of Re/Max offices across the state has also dramatically increased during the last five years. Seventy new franchises have been added to the region since 1997, bringing the number of individual offices from 80 to 150.

"At Re/Max we stay on the cutting edge of technology, providing everything from client contact software to Internet marketing and training. As we help make the buying and selling process more efficient, we continue to gain market share," said Steve Goldberg, vice president of Re/Max of New Jersey.

Earlier this summer, Re/Max of New Jersey unveiled redesigned features to its Web site, www.remax-nj.com. Referred to as the "Supersite," it offers an extensive array of services for buyers and sellers through personalized Web pages created for each affiliated associate and office throughout the state.

Searching for homes on the Supersite returns data on every Re/Max property listed for sale throughout the state. In addition, listing information from competing broker offices is provided through a cooperative Internet Data Exchange, or IDX. Mandated by the National Association of Realtors and provided by most Multiple Listing Services in the state, this broker reciprocity program eliminates the need to search for homes on more than one Web site.

"In an industry that continues to consolidate, Re/Max thrives while other companies are forced to merge in order to survive. It can only get better for our owners and agents," said Goldberg.

Final figures for the year 2001 show a closed sales volume in excess of $5 billion, a 24-percent increase over 2000. The region closed 27,081 sales transactions, a 13-percent increase for the year.

To contact Re/Max of New Jersey in Moorestown, call 800-828-7065.

Re/Max of New Jersey, based in Moorestown, is a privately owned and operated division of Re/Max International. The Re/Max franchise network, now in its 30th year of consecutive growth, is a global real estate system operating in 41 countries. About 4,300 independently owned offices engage 76,000 member sales associates who lead the industry in professional designation, experience and production while providing real estate services in residential, commercial, referral, relocation and asset management.

The first nine months of 2002 resulted in the largest increase in the company's membership.

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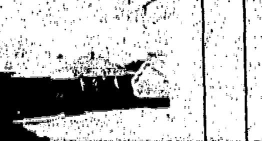

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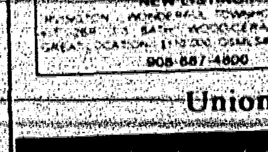

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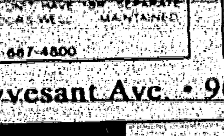

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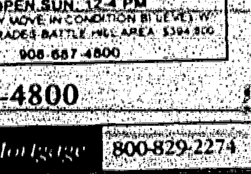

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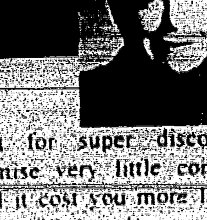

by Jill Guzman

CHOOSING A BROKER

In all walks of life, we the consumers are faced with making decisions, which car is safest, which college offers the best curriculum, which doctor can alleviate our pain. Real estate is no exception. When it is time to sell a home, we seek assistance. Choosing a Realtor is one of the most important decisions as it will decide the financial and emotional securities of our families. Just as we confide in our doctor for many, many years, we must trust our Broker.

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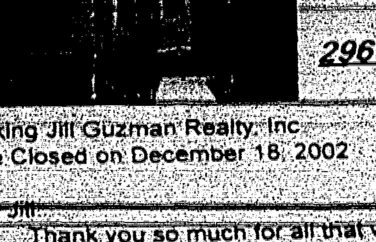

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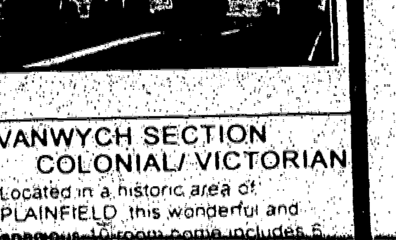

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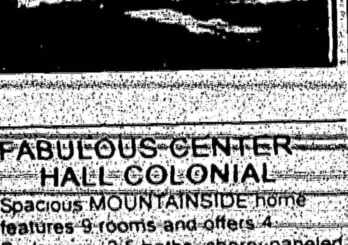
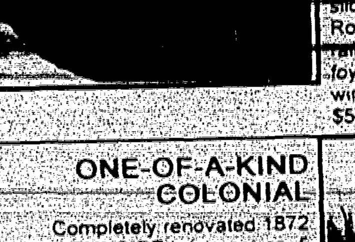
Located in a historic area of PLAINFIELD, this wonderful and spacious 10-room home includes 5 BRs, 2.2 baths, Master BR with frpl and walk-in closet, EIK, Formal DR w/china closet, LR w/frpl, Library w/fireplace, first floor laundry, pocket doors, deck, enclosed and open porches, patio and much more. $379,900

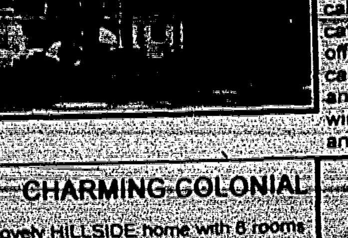
CHARMING & SPACIOUS RANCH
Maintenance-free exterior home in KENILWORTH features 6 rooms and includes 3 Bedrooms, 2 updated baths, Eat-In Kitchen, Living Room, basement Recreation Room and storage room. Central Air Conditioning and fenced yard. Great starter home. $239,000





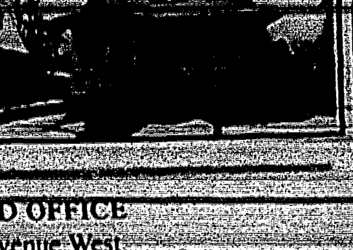
FABULOUS CENTER HALL COLONIAL
Spacious MOUNTAINSIDE home features 9 rooms and offers 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, cherry paneled Family room with fireplace and sliding doors to brick patio, Living Room and Dining Rooms with chair railing and ... foyer with dentil molding, 6 over 6 windows and private wooded lot. $549,900

ONE-OF-A-KIND COLONIAL
Completely renovated 1872 MOUNTAINSIDE home set on .5 acre, features 7 rooms and includes 2 Bedrooms, 2 full baths, Family Room with fireplace, Galley Kitchen, newer front stone wall and walk, rear brick patio, beamed ceilings, barn/corn crib/shed. Pristine home perfect for artist or craftsman. $595,000



LOVELY AND SPACIOUS COLONIAL
Amenities abound in this spectacular 9-room MOUNTAINSIDE home that includes an in-ground pool w/cabana, stained glass window and cathedral ceiling in dining area. Also offered are 4 BRs, EIK with cherry cabinets and Corian counters, FR and Den w/fireplace and picture window, LR w/fireplace, hdwd flrs and CAC. $624,900

CHARMING COLONIAL
Lovely HILLSIDE home with 6 rooms, 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath, large Eat-In Kitchen, Living Room, Dining Room, enclosed front porch, part finished basement, 2-car garage, chestnut woodwork, hardwood floors and aluminum siding. $189,900



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welcome home

Be prepared for dangers of winter

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is encouraging every[illegible] take preventive measures to [illegible] their safety and reduce the risk [illegible] damage to property.

[illegible] Safety Pack president [illegible] Spillane said "Today in the United States [illegible] families and [illegible] prepared to handle [illegible] that occur. With a little preparation, families and companies can insure their safety and [illegible] through their [illegible]."

Preparing your family

• Assemble a disaster supply kit. Store drinking water, canned no-cook food, a non-electric can opener, first aid kit, battery-powered radio, flashlight and extra batteries where you can [illegible] in the dark. [illegible]

[illegible]

• [illegible] the nearest hospital [illegible] disabled [illegible]

[illegible] to protect your lungs from extremely cold air.

Preparing your home

• Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic. Insulate walls and attics and apply caulk and weather-stripping to doors and windows.

• Winterize your house, barn, shed or any other structure that may provide shelter for your family, neighbors, animals or equipment. Clear rain gutters, repair roof leaks and cut away tree branches that could fall on a house or other structure during a storm.

• [illegible] newspapers and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather [illegible] freezing.

• [illegible]

Preparing your car

• Keep cars and other vehicles fueled and in good repair. Winterize your car. Check [illegible] systems, tires, [illegible] flashers, exhaust, heater, brakes, defroster and tires. Ensure that your car has adequate antifreeze, windshield washer fluid and oil and check regularly throughout the season.

• [illegible] emergency kit in your car that includes [illegible] flashlight, batteries, water, [illegible] extra [illegible]

• Every vehicle should have a pet [illegible]

storm watch do so in daylight. Don't travel alone. Keep others informed of your schedule and route, and stay on main roads. Avoid driving during a winter storm warning or blizzard warning.

Preparing for your commute

• Put together a personal safety pack that contains packaged water with a five-year shelf life, heat packs, light source, rain wear, emergency blanket and personal care items. Personal safety packs that contain these items should be small enough to carry in a brief case, and be light weight. Personal safety packs can be purchased for a low cost. Purchasing a personal safety pack is more convenient than trying to assemble one on [illegible].

Winter weather terms

Know the terms used by weather forecasters that you clearly understand the risk to your family and your [illegible] including:

• Winter weather advisory. Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous, especially to motorists.

• Winter storm watch. Be alert; a storm is possible.

• Winter storm warning. Take action. The storm is occurring or will soon occur in the area.

• Blizzard warning. Snow and strong winds combined will produce blinding snow, near zero visibility, deep drifts and life-threatening wind chill. Seek refuge immediately.

• Frost/freeze warning. Below freezing temperatures are expected.

Personal Safety Pack provides no cost seminars to the public and corporations and is a supplier of emergency preparedness supplies to families, communities, organizations and businesses of all sizes. For more information, contact Personal Safety Pack at 908-889-7900 or PersonalSafetyPack@hotmail.com.

Robert Spillane is president of Personal Safety Pack and a certified emergency program manager.

In Kearny, Weichert Commercial Brokerage has a 94,000-square-foot building located on Sellers Street available for sale

Weichert offers commercial properties

The five industrial properties offered for sale are owned by Miller Industrial Properties.

Weichert Commercial Brokerage Inc. has been selected as exclusive broker to market five investment properties in Central Jersey, announced company President John G. Udell. The assignment is being lead by David M. Fisher, senior vice president and branch office manager of Weichert Commercial's Central Jersey Regional office located in Piscataway.

The five industrial properties offered for sale are owned by Miller Industrial Properties, a prominent owner of industrial real estate with a portfolio of properties in the Hudson, Essex and Union county marketplace. Fisher has represented their real estate interests for the past five years.

In Kearny, a 94,000-square-foot building located on Sellers Street is available for sale. It feature 16- to 24-foot ceilings and 16 tailboard load ing doors. This investment property is fully occupied by two tenants. In Union, Fisher is marketing two buildings for sale on Burnet Avenue. A 50,000-square-foot building is leased to a single tenant until Jan. 31, 2006, and a 32,472-square-foot building is leased to a single tenant until Jan. 31, 2005. In Newark, a 26,000-square-foot building is offered for sale. The property is fully leased until March 31, 2005, and features two exterior tailboard doors, one interior tailboard door and access to ports and major highways. An additional 80,000-square-foot building in Union is under contract.

Recent transactions completed by Fisher include representing Burnet Industrial Park in leasing 38,000 square feet of industrial space on Burnet Avenue in Union to Central Jersey Warehouse. Fisher also leased 4,630 square feet of office space in Union to an advertising company, sold a 3,200-square-foot office building in Newark to an investor and represented Ramco in the sale of their 29,999-square-foot warehouse building in Hillside.

Weichert Commercial Brokerage Inc. has sold and leased over a billion dollars of commercial property and the Company's 90 sales associates have closed more than 2,000 transactions in recent years. Weichert Commercial is an affiliate of Weichert Realtors, the largest independent real estate company in the nation with 10,000 sales associates in over 200 offices. For information about Weichert Commercial, call 973-267-7778 or visit the company's Web site at www.weichertcommercial.com.

New look to the Burgdorff Web site

[illegible] Web site [illegible] Burgdorff browsers [illegible]

[illegible] In addition, [illegible] property searches [illegible] their personal [illegible]

[illegible] Reeves, president of Burgdorff [illegible]

[illegible] their primary residence, and the emotional and financial commitment can be overwhelming. The Internet helps with this process. In fact, Internet buyers become savvy consumers who spend half the time in their physical property search after educating themselves on the Internet.

[illegible] believe that the most outstanding feature of the new Web site is the way it bridges the gap between the computer and virtual communication. We know that effective communication is extremely

[illegible] clients. Therefore [illegible] communication [illegible] first impression that an Internet consumers has of us.

[illegible] inquiries on properties [illegible] responded to within 10 minutes [illegible]

[illegible] with meaningful [illegible]

[illegible] A novel feature is the ability to ask [illegible] President, the consumer will receive a response from the president [illegible] years of experience in the real estate business.

"Choosing an agent is never easy, but burgdorff.com endeavors to make that process as informative as possible. Burgdorff sales associates are listed with biographical information, professional accomplishments, individual photos and, most importantly, with commentary given by previous clients."

Other features of the site include mortgage payment estimates for each property, a direct link to ERA Mortgage for pre-approval status, a real

[illegible] buyers and sellers, a description of the company's offices and management team, and an explanation of Burgdorff's award-winning relocation services.

The site, burgdorff.com, is an integral component of our ongoing commitment to our clients to provide the very best tools to meet their needs. [illegible] present the latest [illegible] applications on our [illegible] includes Reeves.

Founded in 1958, Burgdorff ERA is the top producing ERA real estate firm in dollar volume nationally, with 15 offices of 700 sales associates. The ERA real estate network includes [illegible] independently owned and operated offices in the United States and in 28 countries. NRT Incorporated, the nation's leading residential real estate brokerage company, is a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation — NYSE:CD.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news:

Church, club and social: Thursday noon

Entertainment: Friday, noon

Sports: Monday, noon

Letters to the Editor: Monday 9 a.m.

General: Monday 5 p.m.

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15 YEAR FIXED	5.50	0.00	5.60	FEE
1 YR JUMBO	2.45	0.00	3.47	$ 295
Purchase Specials · Quick Close				
Columbia Bank				
30 YEAR FIXED	6.50	0.00	6.53	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.38	0.00	5.42	FEE
1 YR ARM	4.00	0.00	3.68	N/P
Call for jumbo mortgage rates				
[illegible]				
30 YEAR FIXED	5.88	0.00	5.88	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.25	0.00	5.29	FEE
30 YR JUMBO	6.13	0.00	6.13	$ 0
Close at home. No Broker Fee! No App Fee!				
[illegible] 1751				
30 YEAR FIXED	5.38	3.00	5.65	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	4.88	3.00	5.34	FEE
5/1-30 YR	4.88	0.00	4.48	$ 350
15 year fixed is biweekly				
[illegible] Bank				
30 YEAR FIXED	5.88	0.00	5.91	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.25	0.00	5.31	FEE
5/1-30 YR	5.25	0.00	5.29	$ 395
Bridge Loans; Construction Financing OPEN 7 DAYS				
Investors Savings Bk				
30 YEAR FIXED	6.00	0.00	6.08	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.38	0.00	5.49	FEE
5/1-30 YR	5.00	0.00	4.35	$ 350
Loans to $1.5 million dollars Percentage down varies on jumbos				
Kentwood Financial				
30 YEAR FIXED	5.88	0.00	6.00	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.38	0.00	5.50	FEE
30 YR JUMBO	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
20 Year Fixed 5.625% 0 points 5.75 APR				
Lighthouse Mortgage				
30 YEAR FIXED	5.63	0.00	5.63	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.00	0.00	5.02	FEE
30 YR JUMBO	5.75	0.00	5.77	$ 375
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30 YR JUMBO	6.13	0.00	6.18	$ 395
www.loansearch.com				
Synergy Bank				
30 YEAR FIXED	6.13	0.00	6.17	APP
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10/1-30 YR	6.00	0.00	5.43	$ 125
Union Center Nat'l Bk				
30 YEAR FIXED	6.13	0.00	6.12	APP
15 YEAR FIXED	5.38	0.00	5.37	FEE
5/1-30 YR	4.75	0.00	5.95	$ 350
Low/Mod Program Available				

Rates compiled on January 3, 2003

N/P – Not provided by institution

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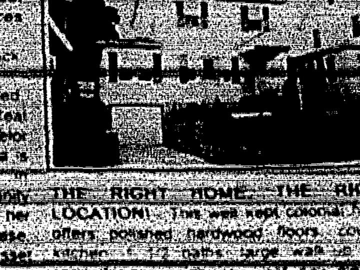

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BMW introduces Mini Cooper

By Mark Maynard
Copley News Service

Sir Alec Issigonis altered British history with his sketch on a napkin of a small but sporty, fuel-efficient four-passenger family car.

That Greek-born engineer who lived in Turkey, was the designer of the first mini, formally the Morris Mini-Minor.

Now an evolved, re-creation of that squat little car is finding a fresh place in history as BMW revives the brand and the car.

Issignois little car was an idea of necessity brought on by the 1956 Suez oil crisis. England needed a car that was small in traffic, fuel efficient and large enough to hold four adults.

With its front-wheel drive, flat floor, tiny tires and stamped fenders with exposed seams, the crude econobox would go on to sell more than 5.3 million units in its lifetime.

The Mini was everyman's car — a family car and a sports car. And so it will be here as BMW continues the DNA with modern materials and safety features.

The new Mini Cooper will be sold in two models in North America. The standard 115-horsepowered Cooper starts at $16,850, including the $550 destination charge, and comes with a five-speed manual transmission, 15-inch tires and many comfort features.

The supercharged 163-horsepowered Cooper S starts at $19,850 and comes with a stiffer supension, six-speed manual gearbox and 16-inch run-flat tires.

More people learned to drive in a Mini in England than in any other car but fewer than 2 percent of Americans were aware of what a Mini was.

The first Mini went on sale in the United States 35 years ago for $786.75. Fewer than 10,000 were sold here between 1960 and 67, yet somehow, there are 12,000 known to exist.

True to its British roots, the new Mini is being built in Oxford, England, in the old Morris factory, which has been cranking out cars since 1927.

Evolution, not retro

The Cooper name comes from racecar builder John Cooper, who turned the car into a tenacious rally winner. In 1961, the Mini Cooper model debuted, followed by a Cooper S. The new Mini continues the association with performance.

When you see it, you recognize it as a Mini and something that makes you smile," says Kevin Phillips, Mini product manager.

But it is not a retro car, he insists; it is the evolution of the original.

"The car is a bulldog," Phillips says, "low to the ground, tugging at the leash of the world."

The wheel base is longer than a Z3 roadster, the chassis is 50 percent stiffer than the BMW 3-Series and it stands as tall and as wide as a 3-Series, but it is the shortest new car in America.

The body shape starts small in the back and the greenhouse widens to the front. Short but wide, it looks like a two-seater but it carries four, including a 6-foot-4 male in the back with a 6-foot-4 male in the front seat, says 6-foot-4 Phillips, who can perform the size test without mussing his hair or wincing while folding long legs into the back seat area.

The 1.6-liter four-cylinder engine is not about horsepower but exhilaration, Phillips says.

Its physical dimensions make it a high performer. With tires pushed out to the four corners, the stubby shape has no extra weight swinging around, which lets it go extremely fast through a slalom course.

The 2,524-pound Mini will scoot to 60 mph in 8.5 seconds and has a top speed of 124 mph. The Cooper S will do 0-60 in 6.9 seconds and has a top speed of 135.

The standard model can be ordered with a continuously variable — automatic — transmission, which is at its optimum rpm at all times to keep acceleration strong. It won't win any stoplight races, but there are six ratios that stimulate moving through the gears.

Driver-adaptive, the transmission gives longer upshifts and quicker downshifts to more aggressive drivers. There are sport and manual modes. Because there are no gears, the CVT is half the weight of an automatic transmission and even increases the fuel economy, Phillips says.

The Cooper S is sold only with the six-speed manual.

The front-wheel-drive configuration created a suspension-design challenge for the engineers. The four-wheel independent chassis uses a multilink setup in the rear, similar to what is used on a rear-drive car. MacPherson struts in front with equal-length drive shafts limit torque steer and a 63/37 weight balance front to rear is key to front-drive balance.

Despite its subcompact size, the car's body is very rigid, improving crash resistance, absorbing impacts instead of jolting them through the cabin.

Even the base model comes with six air bags. Front bags, seat-mounted side bags, and a BMW head protection system for A-pillar to C-pillar for front to rear coverage. Child seats hook up with the Latch ISO FIX system.

Though the original Mini was cheap and built to stay that way, the new Mini Cooper is technologically advanced.

It has an I-Bus electrical system for plug-and-play ability for Xenon headlights, CD changers and more.

Electric-hydraulic Power Assist Steering has its own motor, not a belt pulling power from the engine. The steering ratio is 2.8 turns and the turning circle is 34.9 feet, which is a little broader than a 3-Series sedan.

The electronic throttle gives immediate response and optimum air-to-fuel mixture.

Plus, there is no mechanical linkage and a hole intruding into the cabin. Electronic safety aids include ABS, EBD — electronic brake distribution — and CBC — corner brake control — to modulate brakes from side to side.

Standard equipment includes a six-speaker in-dash CD with cassette, air conditioning, automatic climate control and pollen filter, 50/50 split folding rear seatback, one-touch down windows and central power locking.

Take your pick of 12 colors with contrasting roofs and mirrors in white, black or body color.

See MINI, Page B16

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Mini Cooper has BMW style

Continued from Page B15

Wheels can be white or silver, and the base seven-hole wheel designs can be switched at no charge to an eight-spoke wheel with all season tires. A 16-inch wheel option comes with run flat tires, which can be driven flat for 80 miles at 50 mph.

There are 14 different interior possibilities, including sport seats.

And the Mini comes with a four-year/50,000-mile warranty and free scheduled maintenance for three years/36,000 miles.

Design

"The things you forget are styled; the things that are remembered are designed," says Gert Hildebrand, the Mini Cooper design chief, who was explaining the cuddly charm of the new car he did not help design.

Brought on board in the last year, Hildebrand will guide the staff of six in Munich, Germany, who will help shape the Mini's future. Future plans could include a speedster convertible, woody or a pickup.

"The original Mini design wasn't about cool; it was about function. It was engineered — not designed for a long life cycle," Hildebrand says.

"A teaspoon and toothbrush are hard to design because they are used every day, and if they weren't designed well you would throw them away," he says.

Nor could the Mini be thrown away. "It is a classless car that communicates with all people," Hildebrand says.

Among the new designs are several features.

The hood is an industry first using one large sheet of metal of varying thickness that is stamped to accommodate the curves and angles.

The exhaust tip looks like a beer can, because it is. The designers had forgotten to include the finisher on the clay model, so sitting around after work one evening, sharing a six-pack, a designer took a beer can and stuck it into the clay. It looked too good to change.

The speedometer in the center of the instrumental panel goes back to the rally days so the navigator could monitor average speed, fuel, etc. A big round tachometer is right in front of the driver.

Toggle switches are another new car innovation. Before the government hand-wringers would OK the switch design, safety loops had to be designed between each switch so they don't punch holes in body parts in the event of a crash. The row of six switches operates locks, windows, fog lights and other options, so other them all to avoid a blank plastic plug in place of a toggle.

Final words

Beneath the British icon, the new Mini Cooper is a desirable four-cylinder car well endowed with the BMW performance ethic.

Big V-8 power has its place, but there's an indescribable pleasure in driving a four-cylinder BMW, manipulating power through a well-machined gearbox and feeling the suspension work with the undulations of the road.

All that enjoyment is in place in the Mini.

Its engine is small but responsive and requires frequent gear changes to keep the revs in the power band.

Unlike the old Mini or even the PT Cruiser and VW's New Beetle, the new Mini Cooper isn't an everyman's car. It's an everyman's sports car, and those who appreciate a taut suspension will appreciate the Mini.

The ride is so firm that it can be an intense drive on the interstate, not the kind of car I would pick for a cross-country adventure.

When news of the Mini first came out, I was ready to put my money down.

But after testing one for a few hundred miles, I've decided that if I'm going to get jostled and make lots of shifts, I would rather have the supercharged Cooper S. And the aero kit, the driving lights, maybe a roof rack, and...

Mark Maynard is driving in cyberspace at mark.maynard@uniontrib.com.

BMW Mini Cooper

Mini Cooper pricing

MSRP: [illegible] including $550 destination charge

Stand-alone options

Xenon headlights with power washers, $500

Navigation systems, $1,600

Metallic paint, $440

Leather upholstery, $1,250

CVT transmission, $1,250

Park Distance Control, $300

Eight-speaker Harmon Kardon sound system, $550

Dynamic Stability Control, $500

Option packages

Premium package, $1,250, includes multifunction steering wheel with cruise control, panoramic sunroof, automatic air conditioning with air filter and onboard computer.

Sport package, $1,250 includes Dynamic Stability Control, rear spoiler, 16-inch five-star alloy wheels and performance 225/55R 16-inch run flat tires, sport seats and fog light.

Cold weather package, $500 includes rain-sensing wipers and heated seats, mirrors, washer jets and windshield.

Dealer-installed accessories

Parts installed at the time of purchase and installed by the dealer carry the full new-vehicle warranty. Parts added by the dealer after the purchase are covered for the balance of the warranty or one year from the date of installation, whichever is longer.

Beyond the usual tool-rack systems, license plate frames, seat covers, trunk nets or floor mats, there are some unique Mini modifiers, such as U.S., Union Jack or checkered flag roof graphic, $180; a waterproof and removable decal.

Bonnet stripes, white or black, $79.25 each.

Aero kit, sold by the piece or complete set, which includes the front and rear aprons, side skirts, radiator grille top, grille bumpers and license-plate carrier. All parts come primed and ready to be painted by the dealer. The whole kit cost $1,200 but does not include the cost of painting or installation.

The new Mini Cooper is a desirable 4-cylinder car well endowed with the BMW performance ethic.

Mini Cooper a new venture for BMW

By Mark Maynard
Copley News Service

As the newest division of BMW, Mini is the first step outside of the company's well-established line. The strategy continues next year with the debut of the new Rolls Royce, as BMW assumed ownership Jan. 1.

One company, three brands and an enviable span of opportunity to reach almost all ages and incomes around the world.

The Mini Cooper and Cooper S cover the so-called entry level segment of $17,000 to $24,000. BMWs fill the mid range of $24,000 to $70,000-plus.

And, says BMW President Tom Purves, Rolls will fill the $200,000-plus jewelry end of the business.

"We need to build more small cars for all sorts of reasons, but we need to be true to our brand. And there is a limit to how far down in size we can go, and when you get down to that size you need front-wheel drive."

On sale in Europe since July 2001, the new Mini has been a maxi success and dealers worldwide are asking for more cars.

The estimated U.S. allocation is 20,000 to 25,000, and that might grow as another shift is added to the Oxford, England factory. The majority of cars arriving at dealers are the standard Cooper, but Mini expects the Cooper S to represent about 50 percent of sales.

"BMW is being aggressive about identifying its offspring as its own brand. And it is a phenomenon of marketing and sales."

The marketing challenge is to redefine the brand along the lines of Swatch, Apple computer or Harley-Davidson, says Mini chief Jack Pitney, who moved over from the BMW side.

In preparation Mini hired a young woman away from the New York fashion scene to develop Mini lifestyle accessories. Pitney expects the Mini brand to make more money on lifestyle accessories than BMW does on motorcycles.

Selling a car that is available in such small numbers is also a challenge to the BMW dealer, who has to build a separate showroom of at least 2,000 square feet. "It must be exciting and colorful to distinguish Mini from any other brand on the market," Pitney says.

There will be 70 Mini stores in the United States. Fifty showrooms opened in March, and 20 more are in the process.

While the Mini has its own platform and engine, it does use some BMW components beneath the skin, such as the electrical system from the 3 Series. "Those parts are field-proven and work well," Pitney says.

"For the dealer, the investment has already been made, such as for diagnostics," he says, "and with slight modifications, BMW dealers can serve Minis."

Other showroom exclusives include Mini-dedicated — not BMW — employees.

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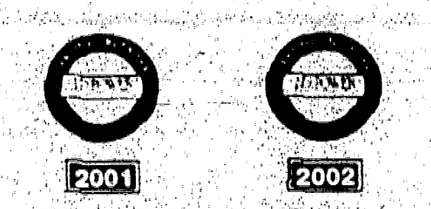

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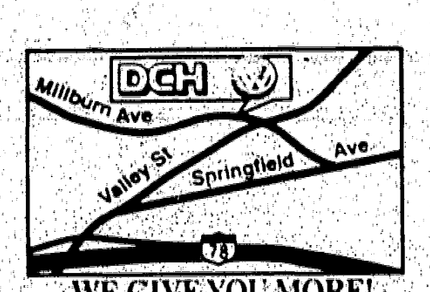

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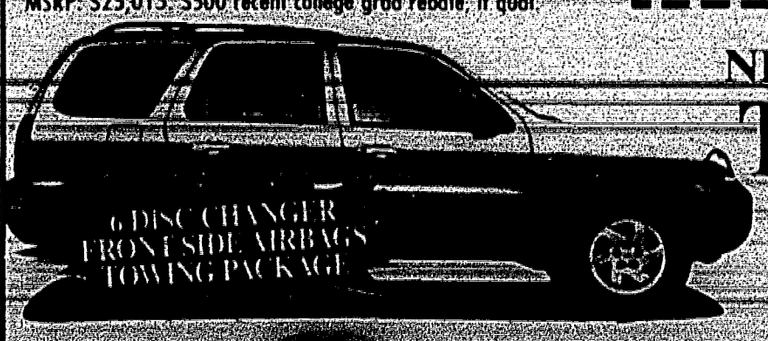

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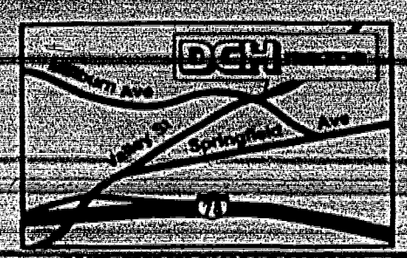

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