

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 75 NO. 02

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

TWO SECTION

Survivor of suicide bombing lives to tell

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

Sarri Singer is a survivor. At just 29, she has been through a horrendous experience — and not only has she made it out alive, she is talking about it and facing the future.

She told her moving story at the Orthodox Congregation Israel in Springfield at a breakfast meeting Aug. 28s hosted by the Senior Set women's group. Singer was wounded in a recent suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem, and she is fortunate to be alive.

A former Lakewood resident, Singer is the daughter of N.J. State Sen. Robert Singer, a Republican out of Ocean County. Both her father and brother, assisted by Gov. James McGreevey, flew to Israel when they learned she had survived, to be at her side in the hospital.

Purported to be the worst suicide bombing to date, it was perpetrated by an Arab bomber, dressed as an Orthodox Jew who died in the bombing.

On Aug. 28, Singer was accompanied by her mother, Judie Singer, and the Orthodox congregation reception hall was packed with an estimated 150 people from around the area to hear her moving story. It was also televised on News 12 New Jersey.

Before Singer's telling of her story, Bernice Smilowitz, chairwoman of the Senior Set, gave the young girl's purpose for it.

"Sarri is here to raise money for the Israel Emergency Solidarity Fund," said Smilowitz. "This fund offers support to Israelis who have been wounded or have lost a loved one from the suicide bombings in Israel."

Now for Singer's story. "It probably all goes back to Sept. 11," Singer began, "because I worked in an office in Battery Park, and that day, I just missed being a victim. After that I decided that no one is safe

anywhere, and that I might as well follow my heart and go to Israel where I could help."

She found a job as an administrator in a small girls' school, Baer Miriam — and that job still awaits her return. "In over 18 months there, I had never had a problem taking a bus, and always thought I would be OK," she said.

On the morning of June 11, she had been running late, so she ended up taking a cab part of the way, but took the bus at a transfer stop, which she felt would actually be faster because of the traffic.

"The bus was very crowded so I was standing at the back door — actually in the middle of the bus — when two seats opened up, I sat down in a seat near the window," Singer said.

She recalls that young people were on the bus, and one girl stood to let a senior sit down, and many stood in front of her.

"Suddenly, I felt a huge sort of shock wave hit my feet. I had closed my eyes as the blast came. The roof of the bus caved in in front of me — I could not open my eyes but I know that I was screaming very loudly."

The screaming probably saved her. Rescue teams were outside by then and they heard her.

"A man pulled me out through the bottom of the bus, which had been blown away. I couldn't feel anything, but my legs were hurt and I still have the bruises."

She said she kept wondering about the people on the bus with her, whether they had gotten out alive and where they went.

Obviously in shock, she was aware she could not hear very well. At the hospital later, she found out that both her eardrums had been blown out.

At the hospital, she did not want them to call her parents right away.

"But I found out that all of the people who sat and stood around me



Sarri Singer, 29, of Israel, talks about being the survivor of a recent suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem at the Orthodox Congregation Israel in Springfield. The event was hosted by members of the Senior Set women's group.

Photo By Barbara Kukkalis

did not survive the attack," Singer said. "Most in the back of the bus were not as badly injured. Those standing did not make it — including the girl who stood to give her seat to the senior."

Singer said, "I personally think that if I had not sat down, I would not have made it. They would not let me watch television nor did I see a newspaper at first. They just made me rest, and I had one surgery on my ear, and will need another soon on the other ear — but otherwise, I am fine."

She knew the numbers well now. "There were 77 killed and over 100 injured, some very severely. Also, the bus caught fire right after I was pulled out," said Singer.

The young woman was passionate in her cause. "The message I want to leave with you is, I think that Americans need to start realizing that if we don't do something about this, there will be no place left for our children and our grandchildren."

Singer said further that it's not just Israel's problem and that we live in a false sense of security here in America. She thinks that Sept. 11 was just the beginning.

She feels we cannot tell Israel to hold back, and when she said this, applause came forth.

When she took questions from the audience, one person asked her if she was going back to her job and apartment there. She said she would be

back to work by Wednesday.

A woman in the audience asked Sarri's mother how she felt about that. Judie Singer said sadly, "I was told I should hide her passport."

Nevertheless, Singer is returning. "She is not committing to 'alayah' yet — which means making a permanent decision to stay there. That is still to be decided."

Her courage is obvious, however. One woman pointed this out, and said, "I commend you, you are an inspiration to us all."

After a standing ovation, checks were handed to her. According to Smilowitz, more than \$1,000 was raised that morning, with "more to come."

Meis cleanup begins

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor

Two years after its closure by Union County for environmental testing, remediation work is now under way at Meisel Avenue Park in Springfield.

The park will reopen for the public's use by fall 2004, according to county officials, with the clean-up efforts expected to be finished by the end of this year. Matrix Environmental of Florham Park will perform additional groundwater and soil monitoring at the park for the next two years.

In July 2001, the county submitted a \$730,000 clean-up plan to the state Department of Environmental Protection. The cost for the county to perform the remediation is \$1 million.

"The field will be remediated and then we will work with the town and the Board of Education on preliminary design plans for the park," said John Salerno, a spokesman for Union County.

The area includes Meisel Pond, the softball and football field, and the running track formerly used by Jonathan Dayton High School. The park was closed after hazardous materials were discovered in the soil. Under the cleanup plan, known as Phase II, a section of 10 acres of contaminated soil will be excavated and disposed of offsite. Salerno said he did not know where the soil would be dropped off.

The soil is being removed from a depth of 6 to 12 inches deep and is being replaced by clean soil.

As far as what will go in the remediated area is concerned, Salerno said county officials are not at the stage to decide what will go there, or whether the track will be rebuilt.

In a prepared statement, Frederick Chester Holmes, liaison for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, said the county has received the engineer's recommendations for the clean-up and the Department of Environmental Protection has concurred with their remediation plan. Charles Sigmund, Union County director of Parks and Recreation, and Dan Bernier, director of the Division of Park Maintenance, are also both actively involved in overseeing the project.

"We just found out that work was taking place when we saw the bulldozers there," said Walter Mahler, Springfield superintendent of schools.

At the most recent Board of Education meeting, resident Lawrence Lefkowitz expressed disappointment about the length of time it took for the county to clean up the site.

"It's a shame that we haven't gone after the county," said Lefkowitz. "This has gone on for too long."

Lefkowitz criticized the school board for what he described as their lack of action in contacting the county about the field.

"We have no cooperation internally or externally for this," said Lefkowitz. He wondered why, having from the board approached the county, the state education commissioner or state senators about the status of Meisel Avenue Park.

Board member Irwin Sablosky said the board's main objective was to get the contamination cleaned up.

"People on this board did take action to see that it was moved along and it has," said Sablosky. "Now we have to deal with this going forward."

Between May 2001 and April 2002, Matrix conducted surface soil, subsurface soil and groundwater tests at the park. Until 1970, the site housed the American Chemical Company.

Deerfield School opens, but Beechwood gets delayed

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

When asked directly, Gerard Schaller, Mountainside's chief school administrator said, "Yes, school will open Sept. 4 — right here at Deerfield, but not at Beechwood as yet."

He was speaking at a rather mixed up meeting of the Mountainside Board of Education on Aug. 28, which angered about seven mothers and two teachers who were waiting more than an hour to gain access to the meeting.

Short staffed, the Board of Education had just a quorum present. President Peter Goggi was traveling with his job. Richard Kress is in the hospital, and Mary Beth Schaumberg was

on vacation. This left board member Sally Rivieccio sitting for Goggi as president, and Raymond Hagggar, Pat Knodel and John Perrin as the four present members.

Parents arrived at 6:30 p.m. and after a few minutes were asked to leave for the closed session, which did not reconvene until after 9 p.m. Among the issues discussed was resignation of Deerfield School Principal Priscilla Church.

As it turned out, Church had requested to leave almost right away, which would have been Friday, but that was denied by the board, as she had not given the required 60-day notice. When the meeting finally resumed, it was announced she would

be on staff until Oct. 3.

The parents waiting to go into the meeting were visibly upset. One said, "What is happening here?" First, Dr. Schaller is leaving, and now Mrs. Church. From a parent's perspective, this is very upsetting.

Another mother agreed, and said, "I so appreciated her performance and his enthusiasm. Now to lose both of them is a big disappointment. I hope these positions can be filled quickly, with people who are equally capable."

Once inside, Rivieccio went quickly to public comment, and these two mothers voiced their comments once again at the meeting. One, Pauline Genakos, said, "I am a little concerned that Mrs. Church has

resigned, do you realize we have had five principals in three years? Something is wrong here."

Rivieccio replied, "As for Mrs. Church, this was her choice and we just found out about it."

Schaller also replied to this, adding that he was surprised as well. "I was taken back also when I heard she was going to resign," said Schaller. "She is going to a major district where there is more room for advancement for her, so I do understand. But I feel like I am losing my right arm."

Schaller quickly added, "I cannot fault her in any way. We had a very good working relationship."

Genakos said, "It is just not a good thing at this time. Everything is happening."

Well, people don't stay anymore — not in the smaller school districts, board member Patricia Knodel said. "We are just a stepping stone."

Schaller said they needed volunteers for the search committee, and Genakos immediately said she would be happy to volunteer, as did another mother.

Schaller detailed the building situation at Beechwood, but would give no date for the reopening.

"Things are moving forward and there are no problems. But I cannot say when it will be completed."

Teachers contract approved, but union OK pending

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor

Signaling an end to the teachers contract negotiations for the Springfield district, the Board of Education ratified an agreement that was negotiated between the board and the Springfield Education Association, the district's teachers union.

The move came about at the board's Aug. 25 meeting, but the terms of the negotiations cannot be revealed until the union ratifies the contract, which is expected to occur Wednesday.

The contract, if approved by the union, will be for the period of July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2006.

Jacqueline Shanex, board member and chairwoman of the Negotiations Committee, said if the union does not ratify the contract, then the board and union are back to negotiations. But she remains hopeful that they will agree.

"I think it went very well," said Shanex regarding the negotiations. "It will foster a strong working relationship between the union and the board."

Walter Mahler, superintendent of schools, agreed that the negotiation meetings were positive.

"It was the first time we entered into something called win-win, where we didn't have an attorney for the board or a representative from

the NJEA at the table," said Mahler. "We just met face to face, meaning the board and the teachers."

At the Aug. 25 meeting, Board President Larry Levee and board member Linda Duke gave their thoughts on finishing the negotiations.

"I would like to thank all who worked so diligently to accomplish this," said Duke. Being a teacher in another district, she said she knew how hard it can be to reach this point.

"I would like to congratulate everyone who worked so hard," said Levee. "It was a fair deal."

Terri Craddock-Ponce, president and chief negotiator for the Springfield Education Association, said their teachers contract is always retroactive, beginning at the end of each school year, which is July 1.

She said the negotiations were positive and the union consulted with an NJEA representative only when the union needed advice, and to compare and make sure they were in line with other districts.

"Also for legal advice, to make sure the wording is not harmful, and to make sure the legalese is right," Craddock-Ponce said. Earlier this year, at the time of the passing of the last school budget, some of the issues raising concerns in the teachers contract included salaries, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment.

Annual state report shows drop in Mountainside's crime index

By Marc Lightdale
Staff Writer

The results of the uniform crime report, a state police issued document released each year, came out for Mountainside. In general, crime was down or remained constant.

Police Chief Borough Administrator James Debbie shared his thoughts about what could have kept these numbers in check.

First of all, there were no murders in Mountainside, but there was one

rape, also there were four robberies in 2001 and two in 2002, seven aggravated assaults in 2001 and eight in 2002.

"Crimes of murders and rape are pretty difficult for us to prevent, but certainly armed robberies are a major thing to prevent," said Debbie. "One of the armed robberies was the Echo Queen Diner where the person was caught two weeks after the robbery."

He said officers are out on the major roads, with high visibility.

"We have introduced a semi-marked police car to help capture the people involved with road rage," said Debbie. "If an officer sees this, he can stop this before it gets out of hand. We keep the fully-marked cars out there for the high visibility."

In 2001-02, Mountainside's crime index went from 145 to 122. Debbie said it was a good job his men were doing, with high visibility on the highway, keeping down the burglaries and preventing stolen cars along the

Route 22. Violent crime remained stable in both 2001 and 2002 at 11. However, there was a precipitous decline in nonviolent crime from 134 to 111.

Debbie did not find this surprising. He said the borough's arrests, complaints, and summons are up, and the nonviolent crimes, including identity theft have increased across the board.

He said the borough's officers have reached out to senior citizens and the three churches in town, and explained things to watch out for.

The crime rate per 1,000 went from 22 to 18, while the violent crime per 1,000 rate remained at 1.7 and the nonviolent crime rate went from 20.3 to 16.8.

"I'm happy with the reduction and will strive to continue," said Debbie.

As for the Loews Cinema, Capt. Richard Osieja said there are increased police patrols, since it is the largest parking lot on Route 22. Because of the availability of transportation, it is easy for thieves to steal

a car as opposed to driving into a residential area. Loews hires off-duty police officers every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night. Osieja said.

"We do have a presence there," Osieja said.

Osieja said that for aggravated assaults, it depends on where they occur or how they occur, and these are not something he is overly concerned about, since incidents could often be a routine fight.

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Voice mail: Our main phone number, 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to better serve our customers...

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Postmaster please note: The ECHO LEADER (USPS 522-720) is published weekly by Worral Community Newspapers, Inc. 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the Echo Leader to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings.

Sunday

The Springfield Presbyterian Church conducts its Sunday School Kick-off at 9 a.m. in the church's Parish House at 37 Church Mall in Springfield.

Monday

The Springfield Board of Education meets in the media center at Jonathan Dayton High School on Mountain Avenue at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

The Our Lady of Lourdes Rosary Altar Society welcomes members to an evening of wine, cheese and crackers, 50-50 raffish, door prizes and a baby picture guessing game. Festivities begin at 8 p.m. in the Our Lady of Lourdes Auditorium, 300 Central Ave. in Mountainside.

Wednesday

Today is the entry deadline for the Parks of Springfield Tournament announced by Springfield's informational Web site, Springfield-Online.com. Entry forms are available online at SpringfieldOnline.com or at local shops and restaurants that display the tournament poster on their windows.

The tournament is open to all school-age children, as individuals or as part of their own teams. Students are invited to find the history behind the many parks around town. Out of the 16 parks in the town, 12 are named after memorable people. The challenge is to find out what makes them special. Prizes will be awarded.

For information, call Lance Freedman at 917-747-6096 or go to SpringfieldOnline.com.

The Mountainside Borough Council meet for a work session in the conference room of Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East at 8 p.m.

The Springfield Township Committee meet for a regular meeting in the committee chambers of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave. at 8 p.m.

The Mountainside Board of Education meet in the Deerfield School Media Center, 302 Central Ave. at 8 p.m.

Thursday

The Springfield Board of Health meets at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex Building, 20 N. Fifth Ave.

The Springfield Garden Club meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Presbyterian Church Parish House at 37 Church Mall in Springfield. All are welcome. For information, call 973-376-3436.

Friday

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield Free Public Library meet in one of the library's meeting rooms.

The Association of Job Training takes place at the Hethfield House on Constitution Plaza at noon. Speaker Don Ivesa will present stories and experiences of American veterans. For reservations, call Genevieve at 908-232-3626.

Saturday

The Mountainside Planning Board will meet in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East at 8 p.m.

Sunday

The Mountainside Borough Council will meet for a regular session in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East at 8 p.m.

The Springfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet in the committee chambers of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave. at 8 p.m.

Sept. 10

The Church Community of Our Lady of Lourdes, 300 Central Ave. in Mountainside, will host their first "Welcome Back Picnic." The festivities will commence at the conclusion of an outdoor 11:30 a.m. Mass celebrated on the field behind the church.

For information, call 908-232-1162.

DWI checkpoint yields arrests

Mountainside The Mountainside Police Department in conjunction with the Union County Police Department ran a DWI checkpoint on a road between the hours of 9 p.m. and 4 a.m.

POLICE BLOTTER

vehicles driving through the property in order to avoid the checkpoint. William McGietting, 26, of Winfield Park was arrested for possession of marijuana. He was transported back to headquarters where he was processed and released with a complaint for possession less than 50 grams and one for drug paraphernalia.

Elizabeth was arrested on Route 22 East at the DWI checkpoint, brought to headquarters for processing and then released. His blood alcohol level was 0.11 BAC. He was issued a summons for reckless driving.

Jermaine Boyd, 24, of Plainfield was arrested for contempt of court after being stopped on Route 22 West. It was later found that Boyd had an outstanding warrant out of Somerset in the amount of \$300. He also had a second warrant out of Somerset.

Francisco Gomez-Santana, 34, of Bridgewater was arrested for driving while suspended and arrested for contempt of court in another township.

Gomez-Santana was stopped during a DWI road check on Route 22 East and Globe Avenue. An investigation revealed the individual's license was suspended and he had several active warrants, 12-15 a Saturday.

Springfield Unidentified individuals cut a hole through a barbed wire fence at Double Auto Body on Springfield Avenue. The subject was driving when investigated. The incident happened at 12:00 a.m. Saturday.

Guillermo Gomez, 29, of Bound Brook, was stopped for failure to maintain a lane and also for driving on a flat tire. The investigation revealed the subject was driving when investigated. The incident happened at 12:00 a.m. Saturday.

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Police seek witnesses to officer's crash

Mountainside Borough Police Chief James J. DeBbie has asked the public for help in the investigation of a fatal motor vehicle accident involving Capt. Todd Turner of the Mountainside Police Department.

A signboard, which was found by their department from the New Providence Police Department is currently stationed at the intersection of Wyoming and Cherry Hill Road where the accident occurred. Ask for any witnesses who may have information pertaining to the investigation to call either Capt. Richard DiStasio, Detective, Capt. Kenneth Capomano or the Mountainside Police Department at 908-232-8100.

Windmills will need city's OK

By Marc Lightdale Staff Writer

Springfield Township Committee Chairman Sy Mullman has been spearheading an effort to bring windmills to the Houdaille Quarry in Springfield as an alternative source of electricity, but needs input from Summit to move the project forward.

According to Mullman, the structures would be approximately 300 feet tall, 22 stories high, and would provide a new source of power that would lessen the chances of power brownouts and blackouts.

Springfield Mayor Gregory Clarke is waiting to see the \$25,000 feasibility study before even considering the issue. He added that stopping the reactivation of the Rahway Valley rail line is the number one issue right now.

Committee member Roy Hirschfeld disagreed. "It would be a good idea because we are trying to find ways to cut energy costs, produce clean air and energy, we should at least do a feasibility study," said Hirschfeld.

Township Committee member Clara Harelak said that the committee is still waiting to find out if it's feasible to put windmills in the quarry. Harelak is not convinced it's feasible for this location.

Obviously, it's an improved form of energy," Harelak said. State Sen. Thomas Kean Jr., R-Union, must wait until November but will attempt to pass legislation allowing for the use of windmills on the quarry but not requiring their use.

The state Department of Transportation granted a lease to Union County for 99 years regarding the quarry, and that it can only be used for compost activity and recreation. The wind turbine would be completely precluded by the terms of the lease.

Since it was granted by legislation, it would need to be amended by legislation. But first, Kean said there must be agreement between Summit, Springfield, and Union County before any legislation moves forward.

For the feasibility study, Community Energy Inc., a Pennsylvania company, that uses turbines, has demonstrated an interest in the project. The costs of the feasibility study would be figured into the price of the whole project.

"If this is put together the way we originally talked about, there is absolutely no risk to the taxpayers of Springfield," Mullman said. "It will be a separate entity because people can buy bonds."

Because the property abuts Summit, the township of Springfield is setting up a meeting with Summit Mayor Walter Long said he received a letter from Springfield regarding the windmills and turned it over to the city's Buildings and Grounds Department, which in turn, sent it to the Utility Advisory Committee.

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A rich history



Welcoming back students for the start of another school year at the Thelma L. Sandmeier Elementary School in Springfield is a portrait of the woman the school was named after, hanging in the hallway of the school. Formerly an English teacher, Sandmeier had also been principal of the Florence M. Gaudineer Middle School and the Edward V. Walton Elementary School for many years.

Springfield's report shows crime decline

By Marc Lightdale Staff Writer

One crime is too many for Springfield Police Chief William Chisholm, who would like to see "zeros across the board" and an elimination of crime. However, regarding the annual Uniform Crime Report that was recently released from the state police, Chisholm commented on some of the factors for the decline of crime in the town.

"Any decrease in crime, we are happy to see," said Chisholm. "It's based on many factors. There are so many factors, the economy changes affect crime, how people perceive people in the streets, and road rage affects crime."

In 2001, the crime index total for Springfield was 406 and in 2002 it was 357. Chisholm attributed the decline to a variety of factors, the number of crimes reported, the number of crimes committed and the number of crimes prevented through patrol.

"They were prevented by the officers on the street," Chisholm said. "The violent crime rate went from 11 in 2001 to 13 in 2002. Chisholm said any crime is worthy of concern. You have 13 violent crimes in a population of approximately 14,500 or daily population of 40,000 people per year," he said.

The robberies went up from 7 in 2001 to 8 in 2002. Chisholm said that, most of the robberies in town are opportunity type things, like purse snatchings.

"It's like a murder, it's something you can't predict will happen but it may happen," said Chisholm. "We need information and safety tips but it does not prevent the one instance that may take place. Hopefully, cautious people will have less crime."

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Summer = high call volume for local EMS

During the month of July, the Springfield First Aid Squad call volume was at a higher than normal level with a total of 119 responses.

Most calls were for respiratory problems, including respiratory distress as well as neurological ailments,

falls, eye injuries, diabetic, weak-kneed, altered mental status, seizures, burns, electrical, behavioral, spinal, bleeding, abdominal pains and other illnesses.

In addition, 12 automobile accidents occurred during this period

where the patients were transported to local hospitals via squad ambulance, one was on Route 78, eight were on Route 22 and six were in town.

Also, 28 patients refused medical aid. Also during this period the squad provided mutual aid to Union, twice.

For membership information in the Springfield Volunteer First Aid Squad, call 973-376-0400.

Trustees meetings The Board of Trustees of the Springfield Free Public Library, 60 Mountain Ave., will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursdays of the month in one of the library's meeting rooms.

Dates of the meetings are Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13 and Jan. 8.

When the needs of older adults change, it's important to meet those needs. Spring Meadows Summit is proud to offer an expanded assisted living service to meet the changing needs of older adults.

Residents enjoy an independent lifestyle in the privacy of their own apartments, assisted by Spring Meadows' specially trained staff through a variety of supportive services.

Spring Meadows 41 Springfield Ave. • Summit, NJ 07801 Adjacent to Branch Park • 908-522-8852

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Welcome To Our Office: Dr. Aurora B. Dorneo, MD FAAP. RightStart. Available for Last Minute School Physical. For an appointment call Tel: 973-912-5100. We're Located at 649 Morris Avenue, Springfield. Visit our website www.rspeds.com. At RightStart Pediatrics, we participate in many managed care plans. Call our office manager for more details. We have evening & weekend hours so you can schedule around your busy day.

Buried With Bills? Get Out From Under With A Home Equity Credit Line From THE bank. Variable Rate Income Check Home Equity Line. First Year fixed at 3.74% APR. Variable Rate No Income Check Home Equity Line. First Year fixed at Prime + 0.50%. Two Step Income Check Home Equity Line. First 5 Years fixed at Prime + 0.50%. Get out from under now. Dig out fast by visiting any of our 15 convenient branches serving New Jersey. Or call toll free 1-877-4SI-BANK for an application.

SpringfieldOnline.com. Living * Learning * Playing * Shopping. a practical guide to everything in & around Springfield, NJ. Under New Ownership. COMING IN SEPTEMBER Fall Fun. We Grow Over 60,000 Mums of Assorted Colors. Buy Direct From The Grower. Pumpkins • Gourds • Corn Stalks • Hay Bales • Jersey Apples • Cider. WAYSIDE GARDENS. 54 Morris Turnpike, Summit • 908-273-7022.

A Supportive Yet Independent Lifestyle. Three Meals Daily. Scheduled Entertainment & Activities. Weekly Transportation. Weekly Housekeeping & Personal Laundry. Fitness Center with Licensed Trainers. Respite Care Available. Assistance with Bathing, Dressing & Grooming. Emergency Call Systems. 24-Hour On-Site Nursing Staff. Medication Reminders Administration. Much More!

1st Anniversary Special. Nobody else pays this much interest on a Statement Savings Account. 2.13% APY. \$100,000 Minimum. CHOOSE THE DEPOSIT LEVEL THAT'S BEST FOR YOU. DEPOSIT LEVELS RATE APY. \$ 100 - 9,999.99 1.00% 1.01%. 10,000 - 24,999.99 1.25% 1.26%. 25,000 - 49,999.99 1.50% 1.51%. 50,000 - 99,999.99 1.75% 1.76%. 100,000+ 2.10% 2.13%. Rate guaranteed to March 1, 2004. Interest paid on individual and business accounts from day of deposit to day of withdrawal on entire balance. (APY) Annual Percentage Yield reflects principal and interest on deposit for full year. For complete details or to open your account call 908-653-1800. Mail to: Enterprise Bank, 490 Boulevard, Kenilworth, NJ 07033 • Att: New Accounts. Type of Account: Individual Joint Business. Please open a Statement Savings Account in the name(s) indicated below. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$.

COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Plea for sanity

As the campaign season gets under way for the November election in Springfield, it's important for politicians on both sides of the aisle to remember a few things before stepping into the proselytizing ring. One of these is the need to downplay the excesses of the campaigns. Sure, politicians and their campaign staff may be eager to spread the word about themselves and the platform they represent, but do we really need 30 lawn signs in one location reiterating this fact?

Members on both sides would be wise to realize that, yes, sometimes less is more. In campaigns both past and present, would-be voters have been deluged with stickers, signs, pencils, pens, T-shirts, mugs and just about any other piece of merchandise that can fit a politician's name on it.

While the focus of campaigns should be the local and national issues directly impacting the town, the trend in recent campaigns has been both direct and subtle mud-slinging, and slick sound-bites masquerading as genuine debates. Let's hear honest and specific opinions on the issues. Let's see politicians refuse to give in to the need to blast their opponents. Let's see real people talking about real issues, things that actually matter to the people they are supposed to be serving — politicians who actually have something meaningful to say.

Democratic candidates for the Township Committee are current Councilman Roy Hirschfeld and former Board of Education member Kenneth Engenbaum. Republican candidates are Victor Ranopipi and Harold Pollock.

It's up to each politician and campaign worker to downplay the silliness that can often consume and define campaigns. They are the only ones who can restore respect and legitimacy to the election race.

So here's to a spirited, fair and exciting fall campaign full of surprises and debates on real issues. We can only hope that this plea for sanity will be answered.

What's your opinion about this subject? Call us at (908) 686-9898, or send E-MAIL to editor@summitobserver.com. Use our InfoSource Hotline to express your opinions about this and other local issues. Responses will be published next week.



We will remember

"The past 10 days have been a tedious, sad, shocking experience for the Mountainside Police Department, the Turner family and our entire community," said Mayor Robert Vigilanti at a recent borough council meeting.

He was referring to the tragic death of Capt. Todd Turner, 42, a life-long resident of Mountainside who was struck by another vehicle as he was driving east on Wyoming Drive in Mountainside. The driver of the other vehicle, Ivan Andriek, also of Mountainside, allegedly did not stop for a stop sign.

As an area with a 25-mile per hour speed limit, it's shocking to see how easily someone can be seriously injured or even die in an accident while traveling at apparently low speeds.

Mountainside's mayor officers, along with Police Chief James Debbie and Mountainside Police Department, gathered at the University Hospital Trauma Center in Newark prior to Turner's death to conduct a special ceremony promoting Turner, a lieutenant, to the rank of captain.

At the Borough Council meeting, Vigilanti acknowledged the dedication Debbie showed in staying by Turner's side and offering help to the Turner family during their time of need. Debbie helped by supporting his officers and working endless hours going back and forth to the hospital to check on Turner's condition. Vigilanti thanked both Debbie and Capt. Richard Osejka for working hard to coordinate with state and county law enforcement agencies as the investigation continues. While in mourning themselves, they also showed support for Turner and his family, and the mayor thanked them both for rising to the occasion when duty called.

As Vigilanti stated, it's just not natural to lose someone so young.

Our hearts go to the family, friends, co-workers and everyone who came into contact with Turner throughout their lives. We will remember him always.

"No substantial famine has ever occurred in a country with a democratic form of government and a relatively free press."

—Amartya Sen, Indian economist, 1998



ETCH-A-SKETCH — Keith Drake sketches the face of Abraham Lincoln on an Etch-A-Sketch. The image is projected onto a TV screen so children could watch him work during a special program at the Springfield Free Public Library.

Photo By: Renee Rose Salazar

Remember what happened to my Uncle Bob

Editor's note: The following letter was originally sent to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Dear board members: Do you remember my Uncle Bob?

When my Uncle Bob was 5 years old, he was playing ball in an open lot on Losker Avenue in Springfield. The ball went flying down the lot toward the embankment of the Rahway Valley Railroad. Bob took off running. As he neared the embankment, he fell and tumbled down onto the tracks.

Just then, his brother, John heard the train whistle blow. He ran as fast as he could and jumped down the embankment to help his little brother. The engineer didn't see little Bobby fall onto the track. Maybe he was looking for the whistle. Just as John got to his brother, the train did too.

John grabbed on to Bob with all of his might. He pulled and pulled as the train ran over Bobby.

John managed to somehow pull Bobby out from under the wheels of the freight train.

He put Bob on his shoulder and ran for home. The engineer never stopped the train.

Do you remember my Uncle Bob?

He had his sixth birthday in the hospital.

Do you remember my Uncle Bob?

He went to James Caldwell School on Mountain Avenue in Springfield.



By Karen Lee Wentz

He was the little boy in the wheel chair.

Do you remember my Uncle Bob? They named a street after him in Springfield. They called it Walter Avenue, not Bob Street or Robert Lane.

Please remember my Uncle Bob. Stop the train.

All of this took place in the 1930s in the heart of the Great Depression. The railroad slowly became extinct and by the end of the 20th century had completely disappeared in Springfield. The rails and bridges were removed, county roads and local streets were paved. Trees had grown in the old right of way. Houses were built very close to the line with no separation from the township that the line would not be reopened.

Song birds, deer, and wild turkeys now inhabit the track and land outside our park and playground windows. Next to our parks and playgrounds, there are lots of the towns along this disused, 20th century relic.

It is my belief that citizens of the towns and cities of this county are the assets of the county. We are capable of coming up with 21st century solutions to our county's problems. We do not need to haul hazardous waste and garbage out of our own county. Other solutions must and can be found for managing waste.

Flammable and toxic products still travel through the county on rail lines that have survived.

We should not be spending state and county taxes to further starve the county and state to the detriment of the citizens.

The towns along this non-profitable abandoned line are the bedstomms and play grounds of our biggest assets. We the People.

Do not waste our money. Stop the train.

Do not terrify us. Stop the train.

Do not drive us out of our homes. Stop the train.

Do not expect us to vote for you. Stop the train.

Do not put our children at risk. Stop the train.

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WHAT? WHY?

HERE'S A CHANCE for all readers to share their answer to questions presented in this column. We will publish responses a week later. Send comments or suggest another question to WHAT and WHY, P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083 or e-mail to editor@thelocalsource.com. Please include your town name.

Echo Leader
Published Weekly Since 1929
Incorporating the Springfield Leader and Mountainside Echo

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

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Publisher
Tom Canavan
Editor in Chief
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HAVE THE SALARIES FOR SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS FINALLY REACHED THE TOP LIMIT? DO YOU THINK \$160,000 PLUS THAT JOB IS AN EXCESSIVE SALARY FOR THESE?

Following is the schedule we will adhere to in the Nov. 4 General Election: Letters to the editor; Political letters; and those of endorsement will be accepted up to and including the issue of Oct. 23 for candidates. Letters will be printed or appear as excerpts at the editor's discretion. Endorsement letters containing more than 250 words will be edited for length, regardless of how many candidates they endorse. Letters without telephone numbers will not be considered for publication.

RELIGION

Sunday School Kick-Off set for this Sunday

The Springfield Presbyterian Church will conduct its Sunday School Kick-off on Sunday at 9 a.m. at the church's Parish House at 37 Church Hill.

The morning begins with a time for teachers, parents and children to enjoy breakfast. A short program of music and introductions will follow. Teachers will have brief class time to introduce the children to their room and curriculum. The church invites children from age 3 through senior high to register and learn all about Jesus.

The children's program continues during the worship service at 10:15 a.m. with children's church for children ages 5 through fifth grade, and a carefully supervised nursery for younger children and infants.

The religious school offers programs from pre-K through grade 10. The curriculum, which encourages spoken Hebrew in the classroom, teaches the traditions, values and pride of the Jewish heritage, as well as the skills needed to lead a Jewish life. The student-teacher ratio averages 10:1.

The synagogue is located at 67 Kent Place Blvd. For fall registration materials and information, call Sidney David at 908-273-2800 or ema@havellie.com.

Welcome Back! picnic planned at Our Lady

On Sept. 21, the Church of Ladies, 100 Central Ave. in Mountainside, will host a first "Welcome Back" picnic. The festivities will commence at the conclusion of an outdoor 11 a.m. Mass, which will be celebrated on the field behind the church.

All past, present and future parishioners and their families are welcome to attend.

Why "Welcome Back"? According to Fr. Lads of Lourdes' Rev. Pastor, the Rev. John McElroy, "The Welcome Back theme was chosen for a number of reasons."

To catch up with one another after summer vacation to reacquaint with some of the parish regulars who have been gone for awhile, and to celebrate my return to our Lady of Lourdes Church.

The picnic will include food, music, entertainment, children's games, and lots of meeting and greeting. All those who have been or would like to be affiliated with Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Mountainside are encouraged to attend.

Tickets are on sale after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday before Sept. 20. Tickets can also be obtained at the parish office located at 100 Central Ave. or call 908-273-1162.

Children prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5 and over, children under 5 are free. A family ticket is \$30 maximum. No tickets will be sold the day of the picnic.

Temple officers: committee chair, people, Rafi Golan; School teachers, members of the Membership Committee, Cantor, Avy Danieles; and Rabbi Joshua Goldstein will be present to speak about Shalvat Shalom and its programs.

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SJCC Religious School encourages Jewish pride

The Summit Jewish Community Center Religious School is welcoming new students to be part of the Jewish experience. Current non-Jewish families of first-year students entering grades K-2 may enroll their children in school without waiting the synagogue during the first year. The Summit Jewish Community Center has been a fixture in the community for more than 75 years.

The religious school offers programs from pre-K through grade 10. The curriculum, which encourages spoken Hebrew in the classroom, teaches the traditions, values and pride of the Jewish heritage, as well as the skills needed to lead a Jewish life. The student-teacher ratio averages 10:1.

The synagogue is located at 67 Kent Place Blvd. For fall registration materials and information, call Sidney David at 908-273-2800 or ema@havellie.com.

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Havin' a ball



St. James the Apostle's first Girl Volleyball Clinic began on Aug. 26 at St. James the Apostle School/Parish in Springfield. Coach Patricia Dolinsky, who is also the school's new principal, is looking for girls in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades to join and have some fun. Call their office at 973-376-5194. With Dolinsky are from back left, Kayla Kearney, Nisha Mathew, Sarah-Rae Bugayong, Christina Quow, Ashley Hughes, Brittany Orman, Madeleine Lawlor, Courtney O'Reilly, Deona McLean, Caitlin Quagliato and Nicole DiPino.

CLUBS IN THE NEWS

'Mums' the word at Springfield Garden Club

The Springfield Garden Club will meet at 7:15 Wednesday in the Presbyterian Parish House at 37 Church Mall in Springfield. Guest speakers Louise and Bud Hauser will talk about "Chrysanthemums." Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. For information, call Faith or Ted at 973-376-3436.

Evening Group meets

The Presbyterian Women Evening Group of the Springfield Presbyterian Church will host a regular meeting at the Parish House, 37 Church Mall, on Sept. 17, at 7 p.m. Plans for the rummage sale to be held in October will be finalized. All women of the church are invited to attend the meeting.

Foothill Club welcomes veterans speaker

The Foothill Club luncheon will be conducted at the Hethfield House at 1000 Sept. 11. The speaker will be the Rev. John "Jack" who does "Interviews with Veterans." The club will hear stories and

Mountainside Newcomers collect school supplies

The Mountainside Newcomers Club Community Affairs chairman Kara O'Keefe is collecting back-to-school items for the needy children in Union County. Consider donating pens, pencils, notebooks, folders, crayons, markers, paper or other items. Backpacks, new or used, also are an item highly in need. The Mountainside Newcomers Club is a social organization dedicated to providing a friendly greeting to new members, to help them meet others and to extend a welcome to the community. For membership information, call Susan Buchner at 908-928-9291.

First Aid Basics course offered

The Westfield Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross offers a First Aid and First Aid for the Elderly course from 6 to 10 p.m. The class teaches participants how to check the condition of conscious and unconscious victims and how to recognize and care for life-threatening bleeding, sudden illness and injuries. The course is offered at the Chapter House, 12 Elm St., Westfield. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For information or to register, stop by the Chapter House, call 908-232-0900 or e-mail: jmc@redcross.org.

INTERMARRIED? Explore PATHWAYS

CHILDREN AND PARENTS Jewish heritage experiences for intermarried families, twice monthly. PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PARENTS Songs, stories and crafts, with Judaic themes, once monthly. MARRIED/ENGAGED/DATING COUPLES Let's talk! discussion groups on intermarriage issues. PARENTS OF INTERMARRYING AND INTERMARRIED Discussion group on interfaith family issues. "ALL IN THE JEWISH FAMILY" A Community Forum on Intermarriage Sunday afternoon, Oct. 26. All classes start in the Fall.

Group examines Aristotle

Once a month, the Great Books Discussion Group meets to examine the great books of our civilization. The fall selections range from essays to fiction. The group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Springfield Free Public Library, 100 Mountain Ave. at 10 a.m. Aristotle's "Politics" will be the topic of the Sept. 24 discussion. This work looks at the purpose of the individual and the community and the proper place authority holds over the former in the latter. For information, call 973-376-4939.

The next two discussions will be "Dostoevsky's 'Notes from the Underground'" on Oct. 16 and "Psalms" from the Bible on Nov. 20. The Great Books compilation can be purchased for \$20 at the Circulation Desk.

Livingston, Cedar Grove, Chatham, Summit, Scotch Plains. Our 27th Year EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER 1-800-762-9378 www.oscprep.com

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A fair share

Housing needs are back again on the front burner. Come Oct. 6, the state will be changing the rules regarding low- and moderate-income housing. Mayors, lawyers and builders will be checking their mail for the State Register which will set out the proposal. Couple this with the increased portion of income spent on housing and the subject is very important. Early reports say the state will scuttle the requirements of the past 25 years of each town being required to provide "a fair share" of low- and moderate-income housing. Under the auspices of the Council of Affordable Housing, a formula seemingly from NASA was developed. Opponents say that after all the litigation, very little housing was actually built.

Left Out

Under the new plan, for every 10 new units of housing, one unit must be low and moderate income. A new wrinkle is the requirement that for every 30 new jobs, a new unit of low and moderate housing must be included. A two-year moratorium will give everyone time to figure out the new system. It is already obvious to local mayors, if you don't grow you don't need to worry anymore about low-income housing requirements.

Getting high at home

Police officers pick up two 13-year-old girls huffing spray paint on the street corner. The girls are intoxicated — high from inhaling the gasses in the aerosol spray paint can. "Most of this will look like the person is drunk but you won't smell any alcohol on them," said John Kruger, a certified addiction counselor and prevention specialist. "One of the girls asks an officer how he knows what they are inhaling. The officer brings the girl around the car, cracks the mirror and tells her to look at herself. The girl's face is covered in paint. 'We may laugh a lot but she is also going into her lungs,' said Kruger. Kids are getting high in their homes and classrooms not only by using street drugs but also by using everyday household products. One of the primary depressants kids get involved in besides alcohol are inhalants. Inhalants are anything that comes in a pressurized aerosol can — from spray paint to air fresheners. Kids are huffing — or inhaling the gas propellants that release the aerosol products into the air. 'The gas happens to be propane and butane,' said Kruger, explaining that these flammable gasses are found in cigarette lighters and gas grills. 'Those are things that are not intended to be in your body.' The Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse, an autonomous arm of Prevention Links, and the Union County Committee Against Hate, sponsored a drug prevention workshop on Aug. 27 at The Westwood in Garwood for parents and educators. 'The program is mostly an informative program that talks about all the prevention that can be done but at the same time it also talks about what is sold over the counter and how the out-



A number of common household products can be used by anyone looking to get intoxicated.

Getting high at home

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer

Police officers pick up two 13-year-old girls huffing spray paint on the street corner. The girls are intoxicated — high from inhaling the gasses in the aerosol spray paint can. "Most of this will look like the person is drunk but you won't smell any alcohol on them," said John Kruger, a certified addiction counselor and prevention specialist. "One of the girls asks an officer how he knows what they are inhaling. The officer brings the girl around the car, cracks the mirror and tells her to look at herself. The girl's face is covered in paint. 'We may laugh a lot but she is also going into her lungs,' said Kruger. Kids are getting high in their homes and classrooms not only by using street drugs but also by using everyday household products. One of the primary depressants kids get involved in besides alcohol are inhalants. Inhalants are anything that comes in a pressurized aerosol can — from spray paint to air fresheners. Kids are huffing — or inhaling the gas propellants that release the aerosol products into the air. 'The gas happens to be propane and butane,' said Kruger, explaining that these flammable gasses are found in cigarette lighters and gas grills. 'Those are things that are not intended to be in your body.' The Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse, an autonomous arm of Prevention Links, and the Union County Committee Against Hate, sponsored a drug prevention workshop on Aug. 27 at The Westwood in Garwood for parents and educators. 'The program is mostly an informative program that talks about all the prevention that can be done but at the same time it also talks about what is sold over the counter and how the out-



John Kruger, a certified addiction counselor and prevention specialist, holds one of a number of household items that teens sometimes use to get high.

side media presents their products," said Coalition Coordinator Sandee Moroso, explaining that often times companies gear their advertising campaigns toward teenagers rather than adults. The presentation, "What's Hot & What's Not: For Adults Only," showed participants how kids can get high without ever leaving the house, how they can get high in the classroom undetected, and what to look for. "I'm hoping to show you not only what's being done but how it's being done — what to look for, what to look for in the classroom," said Kruger. "Kids, realistically, could be using it right in the classroom and you would not even know." More than 1,000 different household products are commonly abused. Some of the most abused products include glues or adhesives, nail polish remover, marking pens, paint thinner, spray paint, butane lighter fluid, gasoline, propane gas, typewriter correction fluid, household cleaners, cooking sprays, deodorants, fabric protectors, whipped cream aerosols and air-conditioning coolants. "Warning signs that kids are using household products to get high include drastic changes in the child's personality, rapidly dropping grades, new friends, lack of money when they would normally have money, general apathy and an argumentative personality when the child is normally very easy going.

Historic preservation master plan released

Union County's Historic Preservation Master Plan, released last week, identifies historic sites within the county for preservation and possible acquisition. "We're hoping that in conjunction with the municipalities that we can preserve as much of our history as possible," said Freeholder Alexander Mirabella. The historic preservation plan recommends that the county acquire the Helcher-Ogden Mansion, the Bonnell-Price House and St. John's Parsonage, each located in Elizabeth, as well as the Doesecher's Mill site in Cranford or secure the protection of it through a local ordinance. The mill was built in 1737 and is the last mill on the Rahway River. Plan was designed to assist historic properties within Union County to preserve, protect and stabilize the properties that are very important to the history and heritage of the county, the state of New Jersey and the country at large," Michael Yessenko, vice president of the Union Township Historical Society, said. The historic master plan is the third component of "Open Space, Preservation, Recreation and Historic Trust Fund," which county voters approved in 2000. The fund assesses an annual levy of 1.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value for 20 years. "We're happy to get this piece of it off the ground," said Mirabella. "It's a way for the county to preserve our history." In addition to funding the acquisition or stabilization of historic sites through the Open Space, Preservation, Recreation and Historic Trust Fund, the county is hopeful it will receive funding from various grants, including the New Jersey Historic Trust Fund. The state's Historic Trust Fund administers five historic preservation grant programs: the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund Program, which provides competitively awarded matching grants for capital preservation projects and grants for historic site planning management projects; the Revolving Loan Program, which offers low-interest loans for preservation, restoration, rehabilitation and acquisition of historic properties; the Emergency Grants and Loan Program, which provides small grants and loans for emergency repairs and stabilization of historic structures; the Preservation Easement Program, which ensures the preservation of privately owned historic properties in perpetuity through the use of deed restrictions; and the New Jersey Legacies Program, which encourages gifts of historic properties that are resold with protective easements. "To obtain a copy of the master plan, contact the Office of the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund at 908-558-2278.

Other suggestions from the master plan include encouraging certain sites to develop permanent exhibits relating to particular events and people important in the county's history, such as First Presbyterian Church in Elizabeth, the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth, Elizabeth Public Library, Caldwell Parsonage and First Presbyterian Church of Connecticut Farms in Union and the Cannon Ball House in Springfield, among others. Some of the essential sites that should be preserved according to the master plan include: Elizabeth Broad Street, East Jersey Street, Elizabeth Avenue and Pearl Street, Berkeley Heights - Littell-Lord House, Clark Dr. Robinson Plantation, Hillside: Woodruff House, Plainfield: Plainfield Friends Meeting House, Rahway: Abraham Terrill Tavern Merchants and Drivers Tavern, Scotch Plains: Stage House Inn, Westfield: Miller-Cory House. "The Historic Preservation Master

County council appointed

By Mark Hrywna Regional Editor

A prominent Hudson County Democrat will lead the county's Law Department. Effective this week, Robert Barry of Jersey City is the new county counsel for the Board of Chosen Freeholders at an annual salary of \$125,000. Barry is a partner with the Union City law firm of Brownstein, Booth and Barry. The firm has worked with Union County in the past, advising on some issues involving Morris-Tanenbaum & Fine Railway as well as solid waste issues with the Union County Utilities Authority. The firm also is legal counsel to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. Except for almost four years when he was county counsel for Hudson County, Barry has been with the law firm for the past 22 years. To become county counsel, Barry had to dissolve his partnership. The all-Democratic Board of Chosen Freeholders unanimously approved the appointment, 6-0, during its meeting last month. In addition to the appointment, the freeholder board approved a waiver to the county's residency requirement. County Manager George Devaney said the county pursued Barry for the position of county counsel. "When you're looking at top-level people, there are times you have to consider that they can't always relocate their lives," Devaney said, adding that his board also considered the fact that Barry was earning much more money in his private practice than he will as county counsel. "There are no other county department heads who have residency waivers. Admitted to the bar in 1974, Barry said he has always enjoyed public sector work and was fortunate to have the opportunity arise. Barry's annual salary is slightly higher than the previous two county counsels, the late Jeremiah O'Dwyer who earned \$123,340 and former Freeholder Carol Cohen whose annual salary was \$119,650 before resigning in late 2001 to become an administrative law judge.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

Table with multiple columns listing various services such as ADDITIONS, AIR CONDITIONING, CARPENTRY, CHIMNEY SERVICE, CLEANING SERVICES, CLEAN UP, CLEANING, DRIVEWAYS, ELECTRICIAN, FLOORS, GUTTER CLEANING, SPACE AVAILABLE, HANDYMAN, LANDSCAPING, MASON CONTRACTOR, MOVING, PAINTING, ROOFING, RUBISH REMOVAL, WANTED TO BUY, WATERPROOFING, and SPACE AVAILABLE. Each entry includes a business name, address, phone number, and a brief description of services.

Advertisement for Newark Bears vs. Somerset Patriots baseball game. Includes details about the game on Sept. 4th at 7:05 PM, ticket prices, and information about the Newark Bears baseball team.

Advertisement for Real Family Fun! featuring Newark Bears vs. Somerset Patriots. Promotes a special family fun pack for \$20 for any 2003 home game, including tickets, food, and parking.

COUNTY NEWS

AC bus trip for UCLA

On Sept. 14, UCLA, the association for legal professionals, will sponsor a bus trip to the Sands Casino in Atlantic City.

The bus will depart from the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth, at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 7 p.m. There will be an additional pick up at the Cheesequake Service Area on the Garden State Parkway. The cost is \$21, with a \$13 return from the casino on arrival.

For information or reservations, call Helen Gowork at 908-289-7356 or 908-527-4587.

The proceeds from this fund-raiser will help benefit UCLA's Annual Scholarship Program and Legal Education Fund. Each year, UCLA awards a scholarship to a Union County resident who is pursuing a law-related career. In addition, UCLA sponsors monthly legal education seminars for its members and guests.

Volunteers sought

The YWCA of Eastern Union County, 1131 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth, is seeking volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, call Lynn at 908-355-1500, ext. 18.

Women business owners host dinner meeting

The New Jersey Women Business Owners Association Union County Chapter will host a networking and

dinner meeting on Tuesday from 6 to 9 p.m. at L'Affaire restaurant, Montclair.

The topic will be "Creating a Personal Relationship Marketing Plan" with speaker Marlene Waldock, host of a weekly television business talk show, NJ Business on News 12, and the 2003 Business Women of the Year.

Cost of the dinner is \$30 for members with advance reservation, \$35 for non-members and walk-ins.

For information, call Lori Bierman at 973-761-7146, or e-mail lbierman@bellatlantic.net.

Special waste collection

The County of Union will sponsor a recycling event Sept. 13 so Union County residents can get rid of unwanted computers and electronic equipment, household special waste, and old automobile tires in an environmentally proper manner. The collection will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at E-Recycle Technologies, 600 Mountain Ave., New Providence.

All residents of Union County are eligible to participate at no cost.

Pre-registration is not required for this special Saturday collection.

All residents need to do is drive to the site with their household special waste, computers and other electronic equipment, and automobile tires. Workers at the site will unload the vehicles.

There is a limit of eight automobile tires without rims per household. This is a household recycling event. No businesses.

Household special waste includes oil-based paint and varnish, antifreeze, aerosol cans, pool chemicals, carwaxes, pesticides, herbicides, solvents, thinners, fire extinguishers, motor oil and oil filters, gasoline, batteries, thermostats, unbroken fluorescent bulbs, and mercury switches.

Only materials in original or labeled containers will be accepted. Latex, water-based paint and empty cans will not be accepted. They should be disposed of with the regular garbage. Leftover latex paint can be air-dried or, to hasten the drying process, kitty litter and newspaper can be added to hasten the drying.

Electronic equipment that will be accepted on Sept. 13 includes computer monitors, hard drives, modems, keyboards, CPUs, mice, printers, scanners, speakers, televisions, VCRs, fax machines, telephones and circuit boards.

Computer monitors and televisions are the source of a considerable amount of lead — about 5 pounds per screen.

Up to 95 percent of most electronic appliances can be recycled. This is a responsible way to keep hazardous heavy metals out of the environment.

Refrigerators, washers and dryers, microwaves, and air conditioners will not be accepted.

A complete list of the materials that will be accepted on Sept. 13 is available at the Union County Bureau of Environmental Services Web site at www.uci.org/oeem.

The household special waste collection will be rain or shine, for Union County residents only and not for businesses. Proof of Union County residency is required.

Halfway to St. Patrick's Day fund-raiser Sept. 14

The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee Inc. will sponsor its Halfway to St. Patrick's Day fund-raiser Sept. 14 from 2 to 8 p.m. at the Union Knights of Columbus, 4034 Jeanette Ave., Union.

Admission is \$10 and includes beer, soda and hot dogs, with music by Round the House and Bagpipers.

For more information, call Gene Sully at 908-413-7620, Cathy Zabita at 908-820-8792, or Debbie Capasso at 908-413-5253.

Two sides set to square off

(Continued from Page B1) The growth industry also coming to an end is those who battle against fair share numbers. Department of Community of Affairs Commissioner Susan Bass Levin said, "Town officials did risk-benefit analysis and determined it would cost less to ignore the obligation and risk a builder taking them to court." Those who advocate for the poor are gearing up to battle against the new system. It looks like the builders who want to build and team up with minorities who want more housing opportunity will square off against the anti-growth groups. It's like moving to pause after a period of stalling.

We want your news

Your organization should be getting the publicity it deserves and we would like to help. We have a publicity handbook which explains how to tell your story.

We would like to publicize your club, church, sports, school news etc. If you have an idea for a picture of story, please let us know.

If you'd like a handbook, call (908) 686-7700 and one will be mailed to you.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT OSPAC pulls out the stops for day-long jazz festival

By Bill VanSant Associate Editor

In the Oscar-winning film "Chicago," Catherine Zeta-Jones locks things off by betting out "And All That Jazz."

Kate Baker of West Orange could well be singing the same tune these days.

Baker, herself a jazz singer who's performed locally and toured Europe, is the executive director of the Oskar Schindler Performing Arts Center in West Orange and, in that capacity, is putting the finishing touches on the Jazz and World Music Festival, scheduled for this Saturday. Her goal is to make the event an annual celebration.

"This has grown really fast in the last year," Baker said last week of the festival's offerings on the hill overlooking the State-of-the-Art Amphitheater under a bright summer sky.

Crystal Lake sparkled off to the right, creating an idyllic atmosphere for the festival, creating an idyllic atmosphere for the festival, creating an idyllic atmosphere for the festival.

Just completing its first full season of programming, OSPAC is putting the finishing touches on the long-anticipated musical event.

Beginning things at 12:30 p.m. will be an act dear to Baker's heart: the OSPAC All-Star Student Big Band, led by Ed Palermo. The ensemble features young musicians who

won't be going to college or they go back to school, so it's something to inspire them to keep practicing and keep working on their music, too," she said.

While Baker describes the workshop as the "jewel in the crown" of OSPAC's first season, the work on Saturday's jazz festival began nearly a year ago.

"We started planning everything last fall," Baker said. "That's when we started to write our grants. I started to come up with the idea for the acts, and everything that we wanted to do for the jazz festival."

Developing the concept was easy; winning the pool of talent was not.

"We have so many jewels right here in West Orange," she continued. "These are recording artists on major labels. We want to show off how great our town is, and what we have in this area, in New Jersey. We've got world-renowned acts coming in here. These people play internationally."

Also scheduled to appear throughout the day Saturday are the band Brasil & Co., the Renee Rosnes Quartet, Dave Samuels and the Caribbean Jazz Project, vocalist Melissa Walker, the Dave Stryker and Steve Slagle Quintet, the Jon Faddis Group, and the Grammy Award-winning Trio de Paz, which will close the day.

The name of another vocalist on the bill might be familiar: Baker, herself. The jazz singer will appear with guitarist Vic Juris, pianist Xavier Davis, drummer Quincy Davis, and bassist Jay Anderson.

In addition to the musical performances throughout the day, Baker has arranged for 10 craft vendors to display their wares along the path leading to the plaza overlooking Crystal Lake. On the plaza, visitors will find clowns, face painters and beach ball giveaways, among other things.

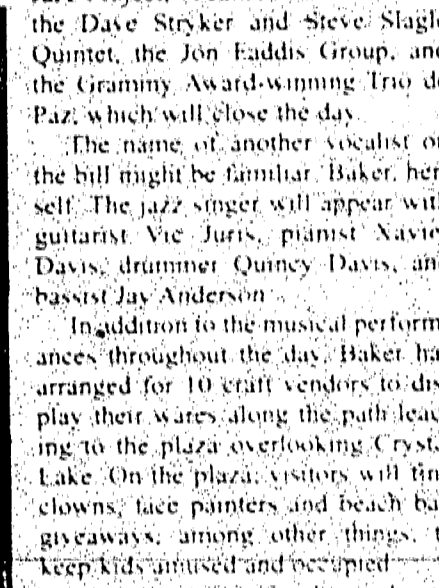
"We have music for the avid jazz lovers," she said. "And the other peo-

Ride NJ TRANSIT to... Union County Board of Freeholders presents Jersey JAZZ by the Lake. Chris Botti, Oleta Adams. Saturday, Sept. 20, 2003, 12:30 pm to 9:00 pm. OLETA ADAMS, CHRIS BOTTI, NESTOR TORRES, JEFF GOLUB, RICHARD REITER SWING BAND. Free Admission. NOMAHEGAN PARK, SPRINGFIELD AVE., CRANFORD NJ. Logos for TRANSIT, verizon, NJ, ELIZABETH CENTER. PLEASE HELP OUR FOOD DRIVE. Canned and non-perishable food items will be accepted for the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. EVENT INFORMATION 908-436-2900



Vic Juris

winning the pool of talent was not. "We have so many jewels right here in West Orange," she continued. "These are recording artists on major labels. We want to show off how great our town is, and what we have in this area, in New Jersey. We've got world-renowned acts coming in here. These people play internationally."



Dave Samuels

ple can hear some of the music, walk around the lake, they can see the crafts, and mingle. So we have a lot of those different elements for people to enjoy." Leaving no detail overlooked, even the weather has been taken into account in the event of yet more rain. The Jazz and World Music Festival will take place Sept. 14.

Crowd-pleaser

Walking down the hill toward the stage, Baker looked around and commented on the crowds that have attended the various acts this year, which have ranged from the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra to the folk-funk trio Groovetory to the Catskill Puppet Company.

"We've had about 1,000," Baker said, adding that the grounds could easily accommodate 1,500 audience members. "Each event draws completely different, it depends on what the event is."

The diversity of acts has also drawn an equally diverse range of interest, spanning beyond the borders of both West Orange and New Jersey.

"Our mailing list is from South Jersey, Connecticut, people are coming from Manhattan," Baker listed. "It's pulling from Asbury Park, it's pulling from Hasking Ridge, Livingston, all over."

Also benefiting OSPAC's audience base is the fact that, during the

summer, West Orange's Theater Under the Stars presents two musicals in the space formerly located in Pegan Park. UT S added in the initiative to get OSPAC off the ground, it still performs its fall, winter and spring shows at the Pleasantdale Presbyterian Church in West Orange. Baker believes that OSPAC picks up audience members from among those attending UT S shows.

Wearing several hats, Baker's responsibilities go beyond lining up the various acts, and extend into the business aspects of OSPAC.

"It's coordinating everything, from the PR, to the budget," she said of her position.

While Baker is the sole administrator of the facility, and in some ways "a staff of one," there is a paid technical staff. She's also aided by quite a few others, about whom she blushes.

"I have great interns," she said. "We've got a great sound guy, we've got great tech guys, we've got volunteers that are terrific." OSPAC recruited the interns this year from Montclair State University. "And this year, we're going also to get more



Kate Baker

from Seton Hall University." Other volunteers and interns handle such aspects as videotaping the performances and other visual elements.

"We've got Steve Longo, who did all our graphic designs" and all our posters," she continued. "And then we have George Kopp and Wendy Robinson, who did all our photography."

For its inaugural season, the performing arts center extended its outreach, thanks to its Web site, www.ospac.org, administered by Web master Wendy Figueroa.

"I supply her with the information and she runs with it," Baker said. "That's how we do it. We do it through volunteers and people who care about seeing this place go."

"That's how things work with a team."

The Jazz and World Music Festival will take place Saturday from 12:30 to 9 p.m. at the Oskar Schindler Performing Arts Center in West Orange. Suggested donation is \$5. For information, call 973-669-7385 or visit www.ospac.org.



Melissa Walker

Union Sports Arena GRAND OPENING WEEKEND September 6th and 7th. See former NJ DEVILS players take on our home All-Star team in a benefit game to support the family of a local youth hockey referee whose daughter has recently been stricken with cancer. 2:30 pm Sunday, Sept. 7 (\$10 Admission). Kids 9 and under: Skate with the Pro Devils after the game. (Pre-Registration is required. For more information, call 908-687-8610 or visit our website.) Buy one Public Session Admission Get one FREE ONLY WITH THIS COUPON. Regular Public Skating Single Admission \$6 per skater. (Does not include Skate Rental fee of \$3.50. Expires October 31, 2003.) The Coolest Place in Union County! 2441-A Route 22 West, Union, NJ. (Behind Pizza Hut & Best Buy) Call 908-687-8610 or Fax 908-687-8924 www.unionsportsarena.com

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BACK TO SCHOOL

A.T.D. Dancer is ready for autumn

The A.T.D. Dancecenter is known for its quality of education in dance and the performing arts. Located at 989 Stuyvesant Ave. in Union, the studio begins its 22nd season continuing to give their students the opportunity to develop poise, grace, a sense of rhythm and self-confidence, all of which are important in the nurturing of a well-rounded dancer.

and the Caribbean. Past performances include Russia, Italy, California, Carnival Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Dance Festival in Mexico and the halftime shows at the Miami Orange Bowl, Giant Stadium and the Woman's World Cup Soccer. They have attended almost every state and national competition and have received numerous awards including scholarships, high scores, studio spirit, over-all best performances, best choreography and several cash prizes. During the first week of August 2003, they flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico and boarded the Carnival Cruise Ship Destiny. They will be performing three shows choreographed by the faculty of A.T.D. in the Palladium Lounge while traveling to the islands of St. Thomas, St. John, Martinique, Barbados and Aruba.



Receiving their five-year awards at A.T.D. Dancer in Union are Rusnel Amarante, Ashley Egoavil, Anna Izarri, Karina Rodriguez, and Liana Valentin. A.T.D. Dancer is about to begin its fall classes.

Art undergoes 'Renaissance' at studio in Bloomfield

Renaissance Art Studio will begin its eighth year Sept. 22. Artist Debra M. Clark created a place where art classes spark the imagination of every student by challenging them to try new media and different techniques. Creative expression is an important part of each person's learning process. Art classes help develop fine motor skills as well as a love for the arts. Artists, both young and old, come to the studio to create each day. Each class allows for individuality and creative expression.

Classes are held weekly from September through June with a student exhibit in June at the Oakside Mansion. Students also exhibit their work in the Rose Gallery located in the front of the studio. Drawing and Painting, for 8-11 years old, 9 to 11 years old, 11 to 13 years old, Art and Music, for 8-11 years old, Creative Kids, 5-year-olds, Art's Love Together, 3- and 4-year-olds with moms or dads, Adventures in Art, 4-year-olds,

Magical Fairy Art, 6 to 11 years old, Authors and Illustrators, 7 to 11 years old, Home, Scholars, Drawing and Painting, 6 to 8 and 9 to 11 years old, Wizard's Art Workshop, 6 to 8 and 9 to 11 years old, Really Reading and Painting, 4- and 5-year-olds Open Studio Art, 6 to 8 and 9 to 11 years old, Creative Kids, 5-year-olds, Art's Love Together, 3- and 4-year-olds with moms or dads, Adventures in Art, 4-year-olds, Photography Basics, 7 to 11 years old, Architecture for Kids, 7 to 11 years old, plus Pottery, Sculpture, Ceramics, Beginners' Basic Drawing, Pottery, and Ceramics. Classes are held once a week.

Variety of programs make Linden's LaDanse 'more than a studio'

LaDanse School of Performing Arts in Linden is celebrating 26 years of "Dance Excellence." Founded in 1978 by Tina Kicket, the studio has grown not only in enrollment and studio size but in commitment to the community. "We've always been more than just a dance studio," states Susan. "We're like one big, happy family with everyone encouraging each other. Former students bring their children to the studio because they feel that sense of family, tradition and values, not to mention the excellent dance instruction. Our students and their families are actively involved in community functions and are simply rewarded by the joy of being together."

Part of the success of the studio is due to the excellent staff. All of its instructors are fully trained and qualified to teach. Susan said, "with many of them coming in from New York City. Joining the staff this year will be Suzanne Osterberger, certified by the Alvin Ailey Dance Center and current instructor at Steps in N.Y.C., and Lynn Gray, currently on the faculty of Steps in N.Y.C., Kristen Puckett on staff of the American Tap Dance Foundation in N.Y.C. and Tito Ponce, performing Arts Academy, and Tom McKee, hip-hop dancer. Daniel Vaniska is currently performing on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line.

For further information and a free brochure, call 908-662-0887. Registration for fall classes will be held Sept. 4 and 5 from 4 to 5 p.m. and Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. "We invite everyone to come from all over the nation. Former student Daniel Vaniska is currently performing on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line. For further information and a free brochure, call 908-662-0887.

KEAN UNIVERSITY Continuing Education in partnership with CONDENSED CURRICULUM INT'L is offering an affordable, short term course in Medical Billing-Coding starting Sept. 30th. Textbooks Included, Job Placement Assistance. Provided Through Condensed Curriculum Consentive Eve Hours (7:30-9:50 pm). To register call 908-737-5840. Add'l information call 800-441-8748.

La Danse School of Performing Arts, 10 North Wood Avenue, Suite A - Linden. ANNOUNCES REGISTRATION FOR FALL CLASSES. Ballet • Tap • Jazz • Acro • Hip Hop • Lyrical. Creative Movement for Tots • Pointe • Combo Classes • Boys Classes. Competition Teams • Aerobics • Gymnastics. CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th.

GIVE US A SHOT!!! Mix'em Up Bartending School. 2 Week Class Days & Evenings. Nat'l Job Placement • National Certification. Hands-On Training Night Club Setting. Low Tuition Payment Plans. \$4500 OFF Reg. Tuition with ad. 3 LOCATIONS: LINDEN - VERONA - FLEMINGTON. 1-800-925-MIXX (6499).

50th ANNIVERSARY Registers Now. New Jersey School of Ballet. Ballet • Jazz • Tap. CLASSES FOR ALL AGES AND LEVELS. Open Classes & Intensive Program. Livingston • Morristown • Somerville. 973-597-9600 or 908-526-2248.

PREPARATORY CENTER FOR THE ARTS MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY. For almost 30 years the Preparatory Center has been providing comprehensive musical experience for all ages. Class, Lesson & Ensemble Opportunities. Private lessons on ALL instruments: Suzuki Violin, Cello, & Piano. Music Composition, Music Theory, Choir Classes. Jazz Improvisation Ensembles, Theory and Musicianhip Classes. WALK-IN REGISTRATION FOR FALL SEMESTER 2003. Thursday, September 4, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Friday, September 5, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday, September 6, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Where: Memorial Auditorium Lobby, Montclair State University Campus.

Legislation to preserve historic buildings will benefit college

New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey came to Felician College's scenic, tree-lined Rutherford campus July 30 to sign two historic preservation bills. HB 2629 and 2638 — for new laws that provide more than \$11 million to 60 historic sites throughout New Jersey, including \$750,000 earmarked toward supporting the renovation of the 134-year-old castle that serves as a

majestic centerpiece to Rutherford and the Felician College campus. Among those in attendance were Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs Susan Bass Levin, State Senators Henry McNamara and Paul Sarlo, Felician College Trustee and former Senator Anthony Scardino Jr., Rutherford Councilman Bruce Bartlett, New Jersey Meadowlands Commission Executive Director Robert Ceberio, Felician College president, Sister Theresa Mary Martin, and Felician College chairman of the Board of Trustees, Albin Obal.

Built in 1836 with brownstone from the Belleville quarries and modeled after a French chateau, the castle was constructed on the foundation of a modest two-story home built by a newspaperman Lloyd Tomkins in 1800. When renovation is complete, the castle will serve as a campus center to meet the needs of the student body.

\$5.00 Off any new class. Try a New Class at the South Orange-Maplewood Adult School. New Classes: Beautiful Beaded Necklace & Earrings, Feng Shui, eBay-Bidding & Buying, Beat the College Competition, Frida Kahlo, Self-Publishing, Grabbing the Headlines, Glass Painting, Keepsake Albums, Global Political Update, U.S. Military Strategy to 1861, Women & the Arts, Break into Voice-Overs, Career Management, Inclusion, Protecting Your Assets, Write a Small Business Plan, Fantasy Illustration (grades 5-9), The Artist Within, Get to Know Your Sewing Machine, Return to Knitting, Sewing w/Knits, Delicious Hors D'oeuvres, Fast & Fabulous Cooking, Gourmet Cooking w/Wild Edibles, Piano III, Bones for Life, Bellydancing-Advanced, Open Gym-Basketball/Volleyball, Surf Fishing 101, West African Dance, Yoga, Keeping Balance.

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2003/2004 Registration Now Open. Become A Serious Triple Threat! front & center for performing arts. CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 8, 2003. Performing Groups: Musical Theatre Groups, Dance Teams, Cheer Dance Team. Auditions: Sept. 5 & 6, 2003. Parties & Events. CALL TODAY! 973.258.1123.

Bayley-Ellard Catholic High School. Come See What We've Done... New and Improved Campus! New Renovated Gymnasium! New User-Friendly Web Site! OPEN HOUSE Sunday, Sept. 14, 2003 3:00 pm.

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Table of public notices for WORRAL NEWSPAPERS, listing names, addresses, and contact information.

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Table of public notices for WORRAL NEWSPAPERS, listing names, addresses, and contact information.

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Advertisement for 'Are You Having An Event? And Would Like To Let Every One Know Place Your Notice In What's Going On'. Includes contact information for Worrall Newspapers.

New Jersey Unclaimed Property Claim Form. Includes instructions and fields for name, address, and contact information.

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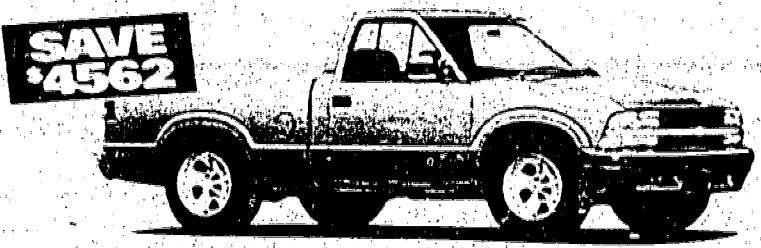


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