

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD N.J., VOL. 75 NO. 12

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2003

TWO SECTI

Workers want mediation

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

Underscored by the issues concerning the current negotiations to renew Springfield's police and fire contracts, the union representing township employees appears equally frustrated and confused as to when the mediation will commence.

"People forget that we're going into our fourth year of negotiations, too," said Bob Maguire, secretary-treasurer and one of four members of the union's negotiating committee. "I've been on the negotiating committee throughout this entire process, and we used to meet on a more regular basis. I don't think we've had a meeting for about the last six months, though."

According to Maguire, the committee negotiates separately from the police and fire departments.

"We meet with the township administrator and the labor attorney that handles all the labor contracts within Springfield," he said.

The union consists of 40 members, including Maguire, who is the field manager in Springfield and works under Michael Tennaro, director of the Department of Recreation.

Other members of the union include employees in the Public Works Department, who maintain parks and vehicles, and plow snow, among other duties.

According to Maguire, approximately half of the union is made up of secretaries, all involved in administration.

"To be honest," he said, "it's so hard to get answers out of anyone. There's so many rumors flying around all the time. The Fire Department says one thing, the Police Department says another, and the town says another."

"Our question is, 'What's taking so long?'" he said.

Carol Lanni, a representative from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3084, said that they've been trying to get in touch with the mediator.

"We've just been unsatisfied with the offers presented to us," she said, "and we're always waiting on the mediator. I hope that it will be settled this time around."

Springfield's labor lawyer, Mark Ruderman, said the town has gotten the impression that AFSCME has decided to wait until the Police Department and Fire Department work their issues out.

"We've been trying to get together with them," he said, "but the last time, the mediator didn't show up."

Lanni added that the meeting in February was snowed out, and when it was rescheduled, the mediator did not show.

"As far as I know, this is supposed to be a 180-day process," Maguire said. "I understand there can be extensions, sure, but the town won't even tell me when we'll be meeting again."

Remember our veterans



Photo By Reena Rose Sibayan

A fresh wreath adorns the memorial on Veterans Day after the annual ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in Springfield Tuesday. This year, a number of schools in Springfield participated in the service to remember veterans.

Beechwood progress continues

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

The estimation now is that Beechwood School in Mountainside will be opening sometime after Thanksgiving, although no firm date has been set. The Board of Education gave an update on the school's progress at Tuesday night's meeting.

"We will be meeting tomorrow at the job site," said Gerald Schaller, chief school administrator. "We are confining with the plumbing and cabinet work — all the finishing touches," he said.

"Electricians are working, and painting needs to be done. These are last minute minor things, and obviously, we are moving ahead," Schaller added.

Schaller noted that once the district gets the ICO technical certificate of occupancy — they would be setting up visitations and plans for the Transition Committee.

"We have teachers that have begun planning on taking classes over there already," said Schaller. "We will have a bear on each classroom wall with the names of each child on it — Beechwood Bears, you know."

The bear has always been the school's mascot.

Board member Richard Kress said Beechwood looked

"beautiful" and unless there was some last-minute glitch which he did not anticipate — he estimated Beechwood would open soon after the Thanksgiving holiday, contrary to rumors that it would not open until after January.

It was announced that the paint for the Beechwood School gym would be donated by Sam Papparatto of International Painting Company — which includes both paint and labor. "We thank Mr. Papparatto sincerely for this gesture," said Schaller. Other board members voiced their appreciation also.

At a Mountainside Borough Council work session Monday night, Councilman Paul Mirabelli suggested sending the school board a letter to let them know that the borough's inspectors will be going to the school to make sure everything is up to code.

Mayor Robert Vighanti agreed, emphasizing that it would help them gain approval for opening Beechwood.

"I think they would welcome seeing the inspectors so that if anything is not up to code, they can fix it," said Vighanti.

"We're doing it to prevent a last-minute catastrophe," Managing Editor Brian Pedersen contributed to this report.

Committee form create Meisel plans

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

After the Springfield Township Committee was stunned by news from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders three weeks ago that the county was unaware of any push from Springfield to develop plans for a football field at Meisel Avenue Park, it was decided that something had to happen fast.

A nine-person committee was formed to put together specific plans that would please the town and seemingly be ideal for everyone's needs.

"I can't worry about yesterday," said Township Committeeman Sy Mullman, regarding his need to put aside the communication problems that have hindered past talks regarding the field. "I've got to worry about today and tomorrow."

Meisel Field, which is in the midst of a \$1-million remediation project to clear contaminated soil from the site and bring in new, clean top soil, has been closed to the public since September 2001, when environmental testing first began. It's been several years since students from Jonathan Dayton High School were able to use the track and football field. Currently, approximately six to 12 inches of soil is being removed from about 10 acres of the park.

"We've tried talking to them about every other week," said Mullman, referring to the freeholders, "and then the citizens go down there and they act like they have no idea what we're talking about."

After attending a recent Township Committee meeting, many Springfield residents were advised to go to the freeholder meeting and voice their concerns about the field there.

"We hadn't discussed plans for after the clean-up at all," said Freeholder Chairwoman Deborah Scanlon. "There was no indication of what was going to be done. No letter, no meeting, no phone call," she said.

"I'm pressing the issue now," said Mullman. "This is outrageous. It's not fair to the kids and it's not fair to the residents of the town."

"We were operating under the premise of putting a football field there," said Scanlon, "but we'd usually expect a letter or something. I'm all for it if they want a football field, but I'd like to hear it from more people

than just the few that were at the meeting."

Scanlon added that they still need to do planting at the park, and that the earliest date she sees as a start for major construction would be spring or summer.

According to Mullman, an architect was hired by Board of Education to help design plans for the field, and a nine-member committee will review plans and try to come to an agreement on what has been drawn up, or make changes.

The committee, which includes Mullman, Mayor Gregory Clarke, Jonathan Dayton High School Principal Charles Serson, Township Administrator Richard Sheola, and members of the township's school and recreation boards, will meet in closed session Monday at the high school.

"If the plans are approved of at that point, I plan on having a meeting with the county within the next 10 days," said Mullman.

At this point, Mullman added, the plans would be open for the public to view, as well.

The current plans that have been drawn up include two baseball fields, a playground, a six-lane track, a soccer field with a football field inside of it, bleachers, and a fieldhouse.

"We're also talking about having a walking track that surrounds the park," said Mullman.

Currently working on the park designs is PMK Group, a consulting and environmental engineering firm, founded in 1986, that has previous experience in Springfield. The project's staff consists of mechanical, electrical, geotechnical, environmental, and chemical engineers, scientists, geologists, hydrogeologists, and industrial hygienists.

Recently, members of the community have expressed feelings of increased concern with the lack of a usable football field and track within the township.

"I want it done within a year," Mullman said. "They have the power to bond it anytime they want."

Mullman added that it's somewhat of an advantage, in this case, that the referendum to renovate athletic fields was voted down, because now the county will pick up the whole bill for the project.

"It's time for action," he said.

New street in Mountainside will bear name of veteran

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor

Just in time for Veterans Day Tuesday, the Mountainside Borough Council announced plans to name new streets, one of which will be christened after a resident who was also a veteran of the Vietnam War.

The new street off New Providence Road near the Fire Department headquarters, where a subdivision is under way, will be named James T. Egan Jr. Court after a Mountainside resident who was born in Overlook Hospital in 1943.

According to the borough's resolution, Egan

was raised in Mountainside and passed by the place where the new street and New Providence Road intersect countless times in his life while he lived in the borough.

After graduating from Notre Dame in 1964, Egan joined the United States Marine Corps, completed Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Va., and was commissioned as a lieutenant. While a member of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment of the 3rd Marine Division, he served in South Vietnam.

The borough's resolution also details Egan's history of military service by revealing when

Egan's patrol was ambushed by the Viet Cong-North Vietnamese forces in 1966. At that point, his comrades established that Egan had been wounded in the ensuing battle and presumably captured. He has been listed as missing in action ever since, with his ultimate fate unknown.

"I would like for us to be able to contact the family and perhaps have a ceremony when the houses are done in the spring," said Mayor Robert Vighanti at the Borough Council work session Monday.

He said he would like to have a proper cere-

mony and invite the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the local American Legion Post and other groups.

"He may be the only man from Mountainside to have died while in Vietnam," said Vighanti.

Regarding the other street names, Vighanti suggested naming the new street at Mountain Avenue and Woodland Avenue after the first mayor of Mountainside. A subdivision of six new homes is under way at this location.

The third street to be named is a subdivision off Mill Lane, to be named Little Court.

No word on firehouse completion

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

The last time there was a date set for the completion of Springfield's new Fire Department headquarters, the town saw it miss the mark and it became unclear as to how quickly construction would progress.

Since that expected Aug. 29 opening failed, there has yet to be any other expected dates that would mark the completion of the building, which was contracted for construction in January 2002.

According to Springfield Fire Chief William Gras, the delay has been caused primarily by extensions given to the contractor, Silcon Inc., which has also worked in Springfield on the Chisolm Recreation Center, which houses the Summit YMCA.

"Nothing has been projected by Silcon," said Gras. "They have several items to complete for us before we move in and operate, but there isn't one key issue that stands out."

The new \$3.5-million facility will measure 26,000 square feet in comparison to the current Fire Department

building, which is 6,500 to 7,000 square feet. The new firehouse will feature bigger administrative offices, along with one for the Office of Emergency Management, which is currently stationed in the basement of the Sarah Bailey Civic Center on Church Mall.

"We're really looking forward to it," said Emergency Management Coordinator John Cottage.

"Everybody's anxious to get it finished and we're hopeful to be in there by the end of the year," he said. "There's a lot more that goes into it than just another office building and we want it to be at 100 percent before we throw the switch."

On top of having more space to work with for storage, the new firehouse will have room for the ladder truck, which has been sitting in the Road Department garage for about 15 years.

It will also have decontamination facilities, which, according to Gras, are usually standard in firehouses, but are not in the current building.

Gras said the facilities help the department workers clean themselves after being exposed to hazardous materials, including biological and toxic spills.

There will also be a vehicle exhaust removal system in the new building, which includes equipment that hooks up to exhaust pipes and draws the chemicals out of the building, unhooking automatically before the vehicle exits.

"Another major feature is the type of construction," said Gras. "It's non-combustible and it has sprinklers," he said, contrasting it to the Office of Emergency Management's current home, which is a combustible building that floods and was built "around the turn of the century."

"It has a full automatic fire alarm system and emergency power is set up for the entire building," said Gras. "With the emergency generator," he said, "we'll no longer have to worry about having our own emergency."

"This is something that's been going on for several years," said Gras.



Photo By Barbara Kobbalski

Springfield's new firehouse is almost complete, but no date has been set. The primary reason given for the delay has been the contractor, Silcon Inc., which has been granted extensions to complete the work, according to Fire Chief William Gras.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER
How to reach us:
The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Mountain Community Newspapers, an independent, family owned newspaper company.

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

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Todays

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in one of the library's meeting rooms.

Fridays

The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will continue its Our World Travel Video Series with "Indonesia French Polynesia" at noon.

Saturdays

Ch. Nixon Casino Night will feature professional dealers running all the games of chance during an evening of fund-raising from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at Lampsie Shrine, 78 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield.

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Monday

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

Tuesday

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

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Sunday

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This year's block grants earmark five areas

By Rick Klitich, Staff Writer
The annual Community Development Block Grant Program was presented at this week's Township Committee meeting, spreading out the possibility of \$192,000 over five areas of need.

Attention churches, social clubs
This newspaper encourages congregations, temples, social and civic organizations to inform the editors about scheduled events and activities.

Florida Seat Sale From Newark
USA 3000 \$59 One way taxes
St. Petersburg Clearwater Mon-Thurs Starts 09 Oct 2003

Ft. Lauderdale \$69 One way taxes
USA 3000 www.USA3000.com 1-877-USA-3000

Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child
Open House Saturday, November 15, 2003
9:00 a.m. Registration 9:30 a.m. Presentation

Some things never change... We've ALWAYS been cutting edge.
Our founder demanded more than a century ago that her schools "Meet the Wants of the Age"

'Into the Woods' opens

Springfield School in Mountaintop will present the popular Stephen Sondheim musical "Into the Woods" on Friday and Saturday of the month in the school's auditorium, 302 Central Ave.

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The right mortgage is right here.

Trust your neighbors at Kearny Federal Savings to help you choose the home loan that fits you best. Kearny Federal Savings offers a wide variety of mortgages and provides the best in personal service.

Retired auxiliary chief earns honor

By Rick Klitich, Staff Writer
When former Springfield Auxiliary Police Chief Harvey Taub was honored at the same town meeting that centered around the contract disputes of the police and fire departments, his dedication seemed to be temporarily overshadowed for the first time in 35 years.

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All ready to go



Mountaintop's new fire truck is all ready to go and enjoyed a debut during October's Fire Prevention Week, when it was on display at Deerfield School for the fire department's annual fire safety awareness program.

Firefighters help put out leaf fire

At 10:30 p.m. Sunday, a leaf fire was reported near the roadway at Coles Avenue. Approximately 10 yards of leaves were on fire and were reportedly put out by the Mountaintop Fire Department after a failed attempt to extinguish it by an officer.

Springfield Lions Club invites public to art auction

The Springfield Lions Club, in association with Rose Art Inc., invites the public to a Gala Art Exhibit and Auction on Nov. 14 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Harvard Street and Shunpike Road in Springfield.

MUSIC TOGETHER MUSIC & MOVEMENT PROGRAM FOR Infants • Toddlers • Preschoolers Parents & Caregivers

High Country Sports Rentals Seasonal SKI & SNOWBOARD LEASES NOW AVAILABLE TOP LEVEL NEW & USED EQUIPMENT

Squad responds to alarm

At 2:50 p.m. Nov. 2, firefighters responded to a South Springfield Avenue residence for an activated fire alarm.

FIRE BLOTTER

At 8:25 a.m. Nov. 3, the Fire Department responded to a Warner Avenue residence for a medical service call.

Police blotter

At 9:30 a.m. Nov. 2, a victim reported that her Fleet Bank ATM Visa card had been used sometime in the last week and a half. The amount charged to the card was \$2,200.99, spent at Circuit City, but the location of the store was unknown.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

A day to remember

For the 13th year, a wonderful tradition continues. At Children's Specialized Hospital, a pediatric rehabilitation hospital in Mountainside, employees from Schering-Plough Corp. in Kenilworth generously donated their time to make Halloween a little brighter and a little more joyful for the hospital's patients and their families.

On a recent day at the end of October, some 40 employees of the corporation turned the hospital's auditorium into a haunted house and catered a dinner, plus helped provide lots of festivities to help the patients celebrate the day in style.

Employees created hand-made decorations with the children, and provided face painting activities, musical entertainment, games, prizes and lots more.

This simple act of kindness gives a long way toward giving children a sense of happiness, particularly those who may not have parents with them that day. It's a way for the employees to spread a little joy and have some fun, sharing a strong connection with each other.



CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK — The fourth annual car seat safety program sponsored by The Edward V. Walton PTA in Springfield took place Oct. 21. Here, Union County Police Officer Sal Bove shows Pam and Shane Schwartz, 2, the proper way to make sure their child safety seat is ready to go.

Put it on the agenda

It may not be on their agenda for now, but Springfield Board of Education members should seriously consider discussing what they think should be done with the Baltusrol Top property off Tree Top Drive at an upcoming public meeting.

The school board owns the property and is not presently discussing the land, emphasizing the fact that they are in the middle of a superintendent search and concentrating on upcoming budget issues and getting the referendum completed.

But they should put it on their agenda, at least to have the opportunity to discuss it among themselves and also get some input from the public. They should take this action as a back-up plan in case remediation work at Mersel Avenue Field continues past the December 2004 completion date. Given how the county has handled Mersel Field in the past, it would be wise not to wait and see what will happen, but to think of what to do if Springfield doesn't get a usable football field at Mersel, and furthermore, to keep vigilant contact with the county.

This is not to say that a football field should definitely be put in place at the Baltusrol Top site. There's some drainage and topography issues, and the board needs to have the state Department of Environmental Protection perform a study of the site to determine if any wetlands exist. There are also some difficulties with access to the site as it is situated in a somewhat isolated section of Springfield. Some residents live near it, but it is far from being a centralized location. It's not close to any schools or any other athletic facilities in town.

It makes sense for the board to study this property now and think about what could or could not be placed there, to have a contingency plan in effect, rather than relying on the county to give Springfield what they think it deserves. It's been more than two years since Mersel Field was closed to the public for environmental testing—and four years since students from Jonathan Dayton High School were able to have a football field, track and stadium to use.

This is a sad fact that bears repeating. The students of Springfield deserve to have a football field, particularly in a town where sports are such a priority for youth and adults. The board needs to seriously consider the Baltusrol Top property to see if some kind of playing field could be placed there in case plans for Mersel Field fall through the cracks or get endlessly delayed.

It's not just a football field that needs to be replaced, but a fully redeveloped track and stadium. Since the county has the final say in what will be going at Mersel, it's imperative that some thoughts be discussed about what to do with the Baltusrol Top property.

This site has a lengthy history, but surprisingly little public discussion. Purchased by the school board for \$25,000 in 1960, the 10-acre site was lessened to 9.62 acres when the state purchased a portion of the land for \$3,500 in the early 1960s to make way for part of Route 78.

The site was originally planned for "future school uses," but no discussions have come forth since 1992. When a recommendation came forth from a school board committee to keep the property and not sell it.

The board did the right thing by holding onto it all these years, but the public's recent pleas for a football field show that a study or at least a discussion of the Baltusrol Top property is in order.

"The library is still the one and only place where the dictates of the First Amendment can be fulfilled and where society may eventually express its confidence in itself."

—Judith F. Krug, free-expression advocate 1976

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Enforce rules for issuing licenses

A letter to the editor appeared in your Oct. 30 issue of the *Echo Leader* from Diane Legrand, chief administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission in Trenton. She spoke of the new regulations regarding identification papers which are now required to apply for a New Jersey Motor Vehicle License. Perhaps she should observe and change some other rules also.

On page 17 of the current New Jersey Driver's Manual, it states that the written test of 30 questions can be given in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Rumanian, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, and Vietnamese. On the same page it also explains that if you cannot read in any language, you may arrange to have an oral test that is conducted in English or Spanish, or you may bring an approved interpreter of your language with you for this test.

I drive on Route 22 and other major federal and state highways as well as county and local streets. How can a person, who cannot read the many English traffic signs on those roads, particularly at traffic circles, and other dangerous crossings, operate a car or truck safely? This method of testing endangers the lives of other drivers as well as pedestrians.

To become a naturalized citizen, one is required to be able to read, write, speak, and pass a written test in English. Therefore, one should be able to pass the New Jersey driver's test in English. There has been documented incidents where drivers have killed people because they could not read or speak sufficient in English. Also, the ease with which some of the test takers were able to obtain driver's licenses from New Jersey and other states is unacceptable and still fighting for our public safety.

As a prudent measure of the safety of all persons and to strengthen our national security, there should be a national set of rules for the issuance of licenses to include an identical written examination and a standard driver-proficiency test observed by a qualified inspector. The tests should be administered solely under the strict control of each state motor vehicle department of the 50 United States.

This is a hazardous situation which should be corrected as soon as possible since any of us could be killed or mangled by driving certain vehicles. I am writing these comments for our federal, state, and local officials, asking for enforcement of present laws and the enactment of new laws. I am under the elected official will be the first to get such legislation on the state or federal levels.

Hazel Hardgrove
Springfield

Whose interest is being protected?

It is nice to see the *Echo Leader* take notice of the contract issue involving Springfield's unionized services. As I read your editorial, I was completely behind you for the first two paragraphs but as I read on I was puzzled by the author's lack of research and assumptions.

You stated how as an outsider it is difficult to draw a conclusion. The problem is you have failed to state any of the information provided by the unions over the past three years and you assume the committee is being truthful in their reasons for dragging out our negotiations. The largest, yet most logical, assumption is the committee has the best interest of the taxpayers at heart. Sadly, I do not see this as the truth.

The truth is the committee has been fighting a proposed schedule change for the Police Department that would reduce a serious overtime problem. For the last three years due to shortages of the supervisors ranks there is more than 1,600 hours of overtime for our sergeants annually. When you add up the cost of this overtime, it would be more than cover the difference in the committee's and the unions' raise proposals. Is this in the taxpayers' best interest?

During the time we have worked without a contract, the committee has called for two additional police covered school crossings, duties taken into account by the union when we proposed a new schedule. Our proposal had additional officers available during these hours for these posts. The committee fights our proposed schedule. Then suddenly... overtime. The cost—\$336,000 annually. This is looking out for the taxpayers' money.

Staffing, in general, has also been neglected. In 1990, the department was staffed with 43 sworn officers, the department is currently staffed with 38 officers, creating shortages, reducing services, and increasing overtime across the board. Where's the committee's commitment to the taxpayer here?

The committee, claiming the taxpayers' best interest, in 2000 hired two private consultants at a cost of over \$75,000 to review and recommend changes for the Police and Fire Departments. After more than three years, the committee has yet to follow up on their reorganization plan for the Police Department and they refuse to release the report on the Fire Department, which reflects poorly on the town. Whose interest is being protected here?

As far as the negotiations or compromise, you have to have two willing parties for this to happen. The committee never gave a formal proposal. It is not possible for one side to negotiate. We were at the table, presented our proposal and were simply turned away. The first time the committee made an offer to sit down as a whole with the unions was at the Oct. 28 Township Committee meeting. All it took to get the offer of face-to-face negotiations was a three-year standoff, a public outcry, and News 12 cameras rolling in the rear of the auditorium.

Whose interest, the taxpayers' or political interest, what is being served here? So, in the taxpayers' best interest, the committee has failed to act on staffing shortages, created more overtime, reduced services, placed blame on others, and failed to follow through with their own plans. They have also wasted money, they are claiming not to have to their labor attorney. The money wasted fighting the contract, could have been settled a long ago and left several thousand dollars to benefit Springfield instead of fattening the pockets of the town's labor attorney.

The program will feature the music of Christmas accompanied by a selection of readings taken from Celtic literature and Scripture.

Featured performers include the return of recording artist, Pipe Major Kevin R. Blanton on the Highland Bagpipes and Scottish Smallpipes, Celtic fiddler Paul Woshell, Metropolitan Opera star Mark Delavan and the Solid Brass ensemble.

The concert will celebrate its fifth anniversary in 2004 and Clan Currie is planning special guest performers to mark the occasion.

The Pipes of Christmas made its debut in 1999 and has since then played to sold-out audiences ever since.

Given the popularity of the program, a second concert was added in 2001 to accommodate the high demand for tickets.

Seating is limited and tickets will only be sold in advance of the concert.

No tickets will be sold at the door. All seats are \$25, \$20 if purchased before Saturday.

To purchase tickets, send payment, specifying name of evening performance, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to The Clan Currie Society, P.O. Box 541, Summit, NJ 07902-0541.

Tickets may also be purchased in downtown Summit at specialty menswear retailer, John Hyatt, located at 334 Springfield Ave.

Tickets are also now available for Clan Currie's third annual Burns Supper.

The dinner dance, commemorating the life and contributions of Scotland's immortal bard, will be held Jan. 24, 2004, at the Grand Summit Hotel.

For information on these events, call 908-273-3800 or e-mail the Society at clan.currie@gmail.com.

That same year, a fan club began an award-winning partnership with TV-36, Communities On Cable, by broadcasting concert highlights on Christmas Eve.

The last two productions were both recipients of the prestigious Telly Award for production excellence.

On behalf of the Ryan Patrick Faella Foundation, we would like to express our thanks and appreciation to everyone who contributed to the annual golf outing held at Sunburn Country Club on Oct. 20. Many family members, friends, donors and committee members all helped to make this event a great success. Because of their generosity, the foundation will be able to continue and even expand our scholarship program to worthy young people.

Through this program, more than \$10,000 in scholarships have been awarded to local youth over the last three years. They have done volunteer work in Appalachia and North Carolina, organized anti-drug programs and peer-counseling programs, and coached youth sports. These accomplishments are a loving memorial to Ryan's spirit, which lives on in all of us who love him. They are also a tribute to the loving and caring commitment of Mountainside.

Mary and Al Faella
Mountainside

Event raised our spirits, and Ryan's

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Mary and Al Faella
Mountainside

Let's hope it's just one election away

And there you have it. Proof that Union County has entered its demise into the dark ages. Possibly to be the next Essex or Hudson county with out-of-control politics. This Nov. 4 election was the turning point. All the local newspapers had articles about the patronage and waste in county government. Residents were mandating the newspapers with letters to the editors about how the freeholders lied, waste taxpayers money, voted themselves retroactive raises and patronage. The challengers when interviewed all stated one of their main platforms were to stop wasting taxes, end pay for play, end patronage. The incumbents who ran didn't mention any of those platforms because they are too comfortable doing the self-dealing. They had all the earmarks of finally straightening out our huge problem in our local government.

And the result is that the dark forces are in control again. Even to the point that a smug Charlotte DeFilippo, the county Democratic chairwoman and for who the freeholders created a full-time job at a salary of more than \$100,000, croaked that "it's clear, this government... continues to be what the people want." This is a scary thought and is the reason why the rest of the county is amazed and dismayed at how the dirty New Jersey politics just continue.

But let's be realistic. The results actually showed that only three towns out of 21 swung it for the freeholders. Linden, Elizabeth and Plainfield. Even in my little Garwood, a local bastion of Democrats, the total votes were for the new candidates, a close call but nonetheless different than the past election results for the incumbent Democrats, a sign that my neighbors are getting fed up with the freeholders.

The question is why did people vote for these freeholders, who proved to waste taxpayer money through uncontrolled spending—close to a billion dollars—and patronage. Their hundreds of programs they claim to benefit the residents should cost nowhere near that billion dollars. Some answers may be the weak candidates the Republicans field, voter ignorance, party line voting, voters who are getting the piece of the action, and of course the myriad of government workers who vote for their own jobs. Union County alone has 2,800 workers employed. These voters are showing the uncaring side toward their neighbors and the community.

And this is what it has come to. People that just don't care for their neighbors and communities out of greed, ignorance and selfishness. We all notice that Union County is deteriorating. May be we can wait it out until the freeholders and their cronies finish lining the pockets of their friends and relatives, and then move on. I will always cherish my county even through these dark times and hopefully in the near bright future. We can only hope its one election away.

Our policy on letters and columns

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

Writers must include their name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

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 editorial@thelocalsource.com. Please include your town name.

ARE WE LOSING OUR FREEDOMS BECAUSE OF TERRORIST FEARS OR IS GOVERNMENT BEING OPPORTUNISTIC AND GRABBING MORE AND MORE POWER?

DYFS situation far worse than mere emergency

My 14-year-old son is 5-foot-7 and weighs 140 pounds. He isn't big for his age. On a Saturday night, I fed him and his friends an endless supply of pizza, chicken wings and potato skins. They watched the Yankees suffer as they alternately yanked, groaned and chewed.

Seven noisier teenage boys, full of life and junk food, sprawled around our den. Gallons of lemonade disappeared, along with Halloween-decorated cupcakes.

On the morning of Oct. 26, I read with absolute horror and profound sadness about four adolescent boys who gnawed on window sills, ate wallboard instead of pizza and rummaged in a trash can for food.

Neighbors admit noticing the painfully emaciated boys, even watched them cut grass with scissors. Workers for the state Division of Youth and Family Services allegedly visited their home 18 times without noticing or intervening to protect the boys.

Given the responsibility for children in New Jersey, the workers from DYFS have failed so miserably that, perhaps, prosecutors will consider charging them with child endangerment. How can we begin to trust that the other 14,300 children in foster care are safe?

Special Deputy Human Services Commissioner Glenn Maguire wonders if "we're dealing with negligence, indifference or gross incompetence."

It frankly doesn't matter. We are

Point Of View

By Linda Van Fossen

dealing with vulnerable children. Does anyone care? The same newspaper that reported this outrageous story devoted several pages to the candidates in the upcoming state legislative elections.

These politicians noted property taxes, the environment, homeland security and rising health care costs as issues to define their candidacy. Not one mentioned the safety of our children or the debacle that is DYFS.

Gov. James McGreevey is "shocked and angry" again. Initially, no comment came from the presidentially silent Human Services Commissioner Greenwood Harris. Then, she is quoted as planning to send out 7,000 letters to DYFS staff reiterating the importance of child safety. Finally, Harris acknowledged that she has a staffing problem.

I thought little Fabem Williams made that clear in January. I'm really wondering how the

assemblyman feels who told me in August that the media and I pick on DYFS. Does he feel?

The travesty at DYFS is well beyond a state of emergency. When will the bureaucrats leave their offices in Trenton, get out into the field and stay in the trenches until they are convinced that the children are safe?

Investigations and outside panels will never fix the tragedy. Only inspired leadership will provide the courage, commitment and caring necessary to rebuild and despoiled DYFS has lost its heart, lost its soul.

Tonight I watched with tears on my face as my strong healthy son devoured his turkey and potato dinner with a teenager's gusto. He weighs 100 pounds more than that other 14-year-old boy.

Linda Van Fossen is executive director of the Counseling Centers for Human Development.

Clan Currie concert returns in December

The Pipes of Christmas, Clan Currie's popular holiday concert returns to Summit Dec. 20 at Central Presbyterian Church in Summit.

Performances will be held at 2 and 8 p.m. This program is made possible through the support of The Classic Music of Scotland.

The program will feature the music of Christmas accompanied by a selection of readings taken from Celtic literature and Scripture.

Featured performers include the return of recording artist, Pipe Major Kevin R. Blanton on the Highland Bagpipes and Scottish Smallpipes, Celtic fiddler Paul Woshell, Metropolitan Opera star Mark Delavan and the Solid Brass ensemble.

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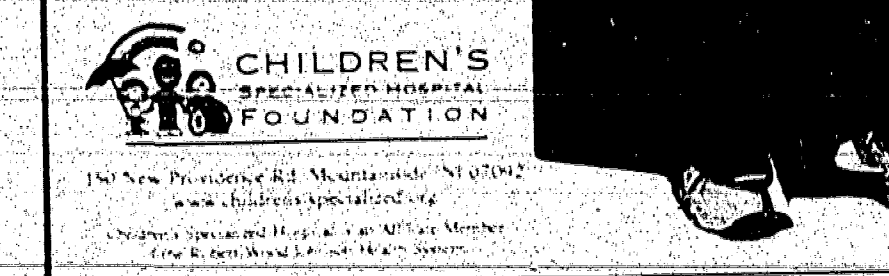
The last two productions were both recipients of the prestigious Telly Award for production excellence.

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Groundbreaking day



Kathy Lyons, director of SAGE Home Care, dons construction wear for Halloween and shows her willingness to participate in the demolition of the building at 290 Broad St., Summit, in preparation for the construction of SAGE's new headquarters on the site. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new headquarters are scheduled for Dec. 3 on the site.

Holiday house tour set for Dec. 11

The Reeves-Reed Arboretum Holiday House Tour offers a chance for participants to visit six houses decorated for the holidays.

On the Dec. 11 tour, holiday lovers can enjoy a variety of decorations. More information about the tour is available on the arboretum's Web site, www.reeves-reedarboretum.org. For information, call 908-277-1100. Tickets will be available for \$25 at The Garden Shop, 165 Hobart Ave.

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Incoming president named

SAGE Solutions, an eldercare service organization with headquarters in Summit, has announced that Mary Anne McDonald of Summit was elected incoming president of the SAGE Board of Trustees, effective Jan. 1, 2004.

The election of new officers took place at the SAGE annual meeting, held recently at the SAGE Spend-A-Day Adult Health Center in Berkeley Heights. McDonald will replace outgoing President Thomas V. Inglesby of Summit.

McDonald has been a member of the SAGE Board of Trustees since 1997, serving most recently as vice president. Currently, she serves on all board committees and is chairwoman of the Quality Assurance Committee. "I look forward to SAGE's continuing vital service to our community through our outstanding programs and employees. As more elderly women retain their independence, SAGE finds new ways to help them meet that goal through programs for the elderly and their families. It is a privilege to be a part of SAGE," said McDonald. McDonald has worked since 1966 as General Counsel at Kessler Reha-



Thomas V. Inglesby, M.P. current president of the Board of Trustees of SAGE, welcomes incoming president Mary Anne McDonald. Both Inglesby and McDonald are longtime residents of Summit.

Central Park Jogger will speak

The Women's Resource Center in Summit offers a program featuring Trisha Mehl, the Central Park Jogger from 7 to 9 p.m. Dec. 2 next to the center's new location at 57 New England Ave. in Christ Church.

There will be a fee of \$20 for members and \$40 for nonmembers. Call the center at 908-273-7253 to register or for information about this or similar programs visit the Web site at www.womensource.org.

As part of their "20 Years of Impact" year-long celebration, the Women's Resource Center will be offering a variety of special programs and services to women and girls in the community. This celebration is the first following the sexual assault in 1983 that central Park Jogger recently discussed her efforts and the journey of a young woman who turned an experience of horror into a well-earned and almost certain triumph into what has been called an extraordinary healing and triumphant life.

Even today, more than a decade after the attacks, the incident is still in the news. As Trisha tells her story, the headlines were once again focusing on her brutal attack. Scuffling new information about the crime has emerged, but because of the nature and severity of her head injuries, she still remembers nothing. In her inspirational talk, she will tell who she was — a well-educated and rising young woman on Wall Street — and who she is now.

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Thank You



To My Summit Neighbors

I want you to know how honored and humbled I am that you have elected me to serve as the next Mayor of Summit. You have my word I will work tirelessly to improve our community and earn the faith you have placed in me. On behalf of my wife, Suzanne, and all the many volunteers that worked on my campaign — our heartfelt thanks.

I want to thank my opponent, John Maher, for his many years of dedicated service to Summit. We have all benefited from John's commitment and hard work, and I hope he will continue to join us with his energy and ideas.

I want to congratulate our new Council members, Frank Macrocce, Diane Klatt and Andy Lark. I have no doubt each of them will make outstanding public servants, and I look forward to working closely with them on your behalf.

I also want to congratulate George Fucini, Peter Suzuki and Steve Coffin for the energetic campaigns they ran. Each has contributed to the new marketplace of ideas we're enjoying in Summit, and it is my hope they will all find meaningful ways to contribute to make our town the best it can be.

Now it's time to get to work. Already I'm receiving invaluable advice from my good friend, Mayor Walter Long. Walter has been one of the outstanding leaders in Summit history, so if you see him around town, please be generous with your thanks and appreciation.

Finally, I ask that you be generous with your ideas and advice for me, too. Summit only works as well as we work together, and in the coming weeks I'll be drawing on the ideas and energies of many of our neighbors. If you have any thoughts on ways we can improve how city government operates — anything at all — give me a call or drop me a line. I can be reached at jordlanglatt@aol.com or at 908-273-2881. Thanks again for your votes and your good wishes.

Sincerely,
Jordan Langlatt

Dr. Miller Honored as One of Best Dentists in USA

The Doctors & Staff of Livingston/Short Hills Dental Associates warmly congratulate R. Craig Miller, DMD, MAGD, on being honored by his peers and voted into the 2004-2005 edition of The Best Dentists in America.

The publication is based on an in-depth, peer review survey in which over 9,680 leading dentists throughout the country cast their votes on the abilities of other dentists in their specialties. The Best Dentists in America, published by Woodward & White Inc., is a definitive guide to excellence in the dental profession for both the profession and the public.

Dr. Miller, a graduate of Lehigh University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, completed his General Practice Residency at the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. He has completed various post graduate implant programs including a maxi-course in oral implantology and "Implantology — Surgical and Prosthetic Treatment" both associated with the New York University Dental School, New York City. He is a clinical teaching attending at the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and on staff at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston.

Dr. Miller is an active member of the Academy of Restorative & Esthetic Dentistry, the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. He is a Fellow of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists and a Master of the Academy of General Dentistry — the foundation of Dr. Miller's practice is cosmetic & implant dentistry.

For further information, contact LSH Dental Associates at (973) 533-6700 or aSmileDr4u@aol.com, located at 22 Old Short Hills Road, Suite 206, Livingston, NJ 07039 or visit the website LSHDental.com.

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Center marks 20th with housewarming

The Women's Resource Center begins their 20th anniversary year celebration with an open house.

The "Founding Mothers" of the Women's Resource Center had an idea 20 years ago when they envisioned a multifaceted organization for women that would include a variety of programs for women of all ages and stages of their lives.

Join the Center for a House Warming "Drop-In" Party from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday. Bring an office supply as a "house warming" gift and be entered in a random prize drawing that evening.

Please note that this is a date change from what was printed in "The Source Fall 2003."

The Women's Resource Center opened its doors in the fall of 1983 and in the early years, staff consisted of two women working on a part-time basis.

The center staff has grown to two full-time and five part-time women. Twenty years after its beginnings, in-space provided by the Calvary Episcopal Church, the organization has moved to its own home at 57 New England Ave. in Summit next to Christ Church.

In the previous program year it served more than 4,700 women and girls compared to the hundreds served in the early years.

The needs of women and girls are met through the wide variety of programs and services including legal consultations, financial planning, support groups, personal growth workshops, older women programs, literary and genealogical career support groups, Girl project programs and more.

The Pathways cancer support groups are free, as were the past 9-11

programs, and the rest are provided at a fraction of their real cost.

If you cannot attend the open house, but would like to contribute in

some way, call 908-273-7253 for more information or visit the Web site at www.womensource.org.

Evening of poetry reading set

The Women's Resource Center will host an evening of poetry reading at their new location at 57 New England Ave. in Summit next to Christ Church.

"Poetry Readings from the River of Life with Jane Rawlings and Madeline Tiger" will take place at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 27 and the fee is \$5 for the program.

To register or for information about these or similar programs, call the center at 908-273-7253 or visit their Web site at www.womensource.org. Funding for all poetry programs has been made possible in part by the N.J. State Council on the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural & Heritage Affairs.

A subscription to your newspaper keeps your college student close to hometown activities. Call 973-763-9411 for a special college rate.

Learning to 'write right'



Summit High School English teacher Lili Arkin spends time with student Julia Bushe polishing a paper that she has brought to the new SHS Writing Chapter. The center, which is known as "Write Right," has been funded by a grant from the Summit Educational Foundation. Both Arkin and Carol Rogers-Shaw are available throughout the day to help students with their writing.

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SAGE seeks donations for needy seniors

Most people want to make the holidays special for children, but often the needs of the elderly are overlooked. Because they may be homebound, separated by distance from family members and financially unable to buy even simple clothing and household staples, many older people in the Summit community go without the most essential items for living.

SAGE, a not-for-profit eldercare organization with headquarters in Summit, hopes to help these seniors with its second annual "Essentials for Seniors" drive.

SAGE will collect basic items from Saturday to Dec. 15 at several loca-

tions where collection bins will be displayed. Items needed include towels, razors and shaving cream, new bed sheets, new basic clothing articles such as undershirts, socks, shirts, sweaters, size extra large, slippers, gloves and hats, household paper goods, and gift certificates to area supermarkets.

Items preferably unwrapped should be brought to the following locations: Summit Medical Group, 120 Summit Ave., Summit, Hilltop Bank, 385 Springfield Ave., Summit, Summit Housing Authority, Summit City Hall, SAGE headquarters, 50 Delaware Ave., Summit, Summit Medical Group, Watching Office, 40

Sterling Road, Watchung. SAGE Spend-A-Day, 550 Springfield Ave., Berkeley Heights, Baxter Healthcare, 85 Spang Street, New Providence and New Providence Internal Medicine, 1252 Springfield Ave., New Providence.

The "Essentials for Seniors" drive was conceived by SAGE HomeCare Director Kathy Lyons.

"We in HomeCare see how dependent older people can be on the goodness of the community," said Lyons. "Thanks to the tremendous support and generosity of the community last year's 'Essentials for Seniors' drive was a success and benefited many older people in Summit

and surrounding areas. We are confident that our community will continue to support the needy elderly by supporting this drive." For questions or information about "Essentials for Seniors," call SAGE HomeCare at 908-273-8300.

SAGE is a private not-for-profit charitable organization that serves as a major community resource.

Miss Jacobs is a graduate of Meled Ammit, Jerusalem. She is a department administrator at CSM in Jerusalem. A December wedding is planned.

LIFESTYLE

Howard, Jacobs to marry

Sharon and Bill Moesch of Springfield and Delaware Township, Pa., announce the engagement of their son Joshua Howard of Jerusalem to Yaelle Jacobs, daughter of Evelyn and Arthur Jacobs of Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel.

Mr. Moesch, a graduate of The Wardlaw Hartridge School studied Internet Business and Technology (Chapman College in Burlington, Vt. He is a sales manager for an international telecommunications company in Jerusalem and has his own internet company.

Miss Jacobs is a graduate of Meled Ammit, Jerusalem. She is a department administrator at CSM in Jerusalem. A December wedding is planned.

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

'4 Voices' exhibit to open

The works of Barbara Bullock, Curlee Raven Holton, Edward Hughes and Leticia Johnson will be presented in an exhibition titled "Four Voices" at the Kent Place Galleries at Kent Place School on Norwood Avenue in Summit, Monday through Dec. 19.

Each collection demonstrates aspects of social, aesthetic and personal themes arising in recent African-American art. They also speak of the variety of styles and ideas in contemporary art as a whole. The artists' voices are presented to foster insight, appreciation and inspiration within the community.

Bullock is an acclaimed artist whose animal paintings and collages reflect African, Brazilian and Caribbean influences. Bullock absorbs the nature of her African heritage and expands on it throughout all her projects.

Internationally recognized printmaker, educator and lecturer, Holton focuses on the uncertainties pertaining to human identity and culture as presented through traditional African-American cultural imagery. Her work investigates the meaning of community and self as well as the process of finding one's place in the world.

The art of Edward Hughes combines collage, scrap materials and painting. Geometric shapes in strong colors play against textures and against marks which reveal the artist's hand. Symbolic representations of chickens and hearts are visually woven into Hughes' compositions.

Johnson's mixed media art uses clay, color and a vocabulary of images. Her work encompasses, for instance, faces and figures derived from African sources, and the shapes of inner city dwellings. These forms include various types of freely improvised, creative, irregular and spontaneously made buildings and objects such as shacks and sheds, specifically as found within an African-American context.

A reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 21 in the gallery.

The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public.

The Kent Place Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by appointment with Judy Lapides, director.

For more information, call 908-273-0900, ext. 332.

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Fleet Bank & Bank of America are merging. Yeah. It's a Big Deal. And there are more NJ bank mergers predicted. For NJ banking customers, here's what's in store at all these newly merged mega-bank stores...

- IMPERSONAL Service PLUS
- Merger Transition Glitches Galore
- Merging of 2 Computer Systems
- Merging of 2 Corporate Cultures
 - Confused Tellers
- Longer Lines • More Waiting
- New Check Books (again)
- New Account #'s (again)

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- Merger Transition Glitches Galore
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 - Confused Tellers
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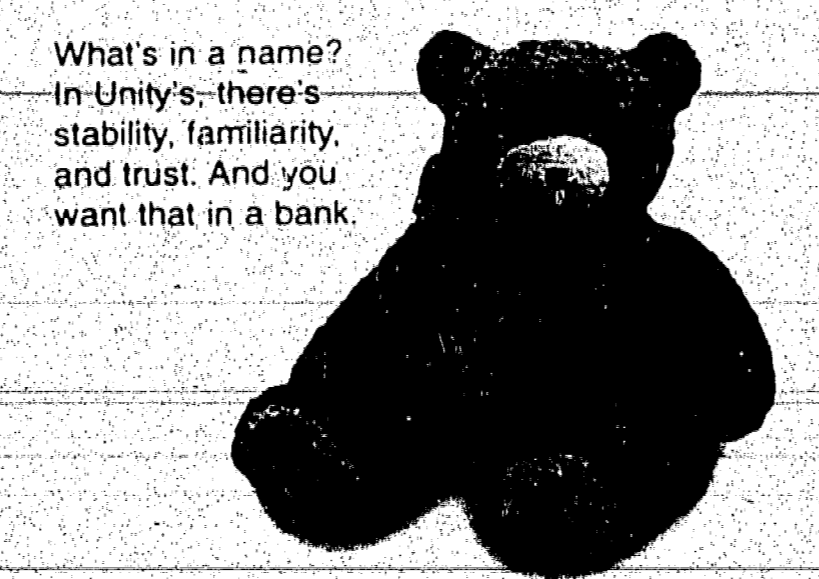
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OBITUARIES

Keith Newman

Keith Newman, 50, of Springfield died Nov. 1 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Newark, Mr. Newman lived in Bridgewater before moving to Springfield four years ago. He was an information technology manager at D'Astagnan Co., Newark, for 10 years.

Surviving are his wife, Lali; his mother, Ruth Newman, and two sisters, Kim and Barb.

Janet Cudlipp

Janet S. Cudlipp, 95, of Lee's Summit, Mo., formerly of Springfield, died Oct. 27 in John Knox Care Center, Lee's Summit.

Born in East Orange, Mrs. Cudlipp lived in Short Hills and Springfield before moving to Missouri. She also had maintained a summer residence in West Point, Maine, and a winter residence in Mount Dora, Fla. Mrs. Cudlipp was a graduate of Syracuse University. She was an elementary school teacher and later a real estate agent, both in New Jersey. Mrs. Cudlipp sang in the choir at Christ Church, Short Hills, and was a member of the Short Hills Club and the Morris County Golf Club.

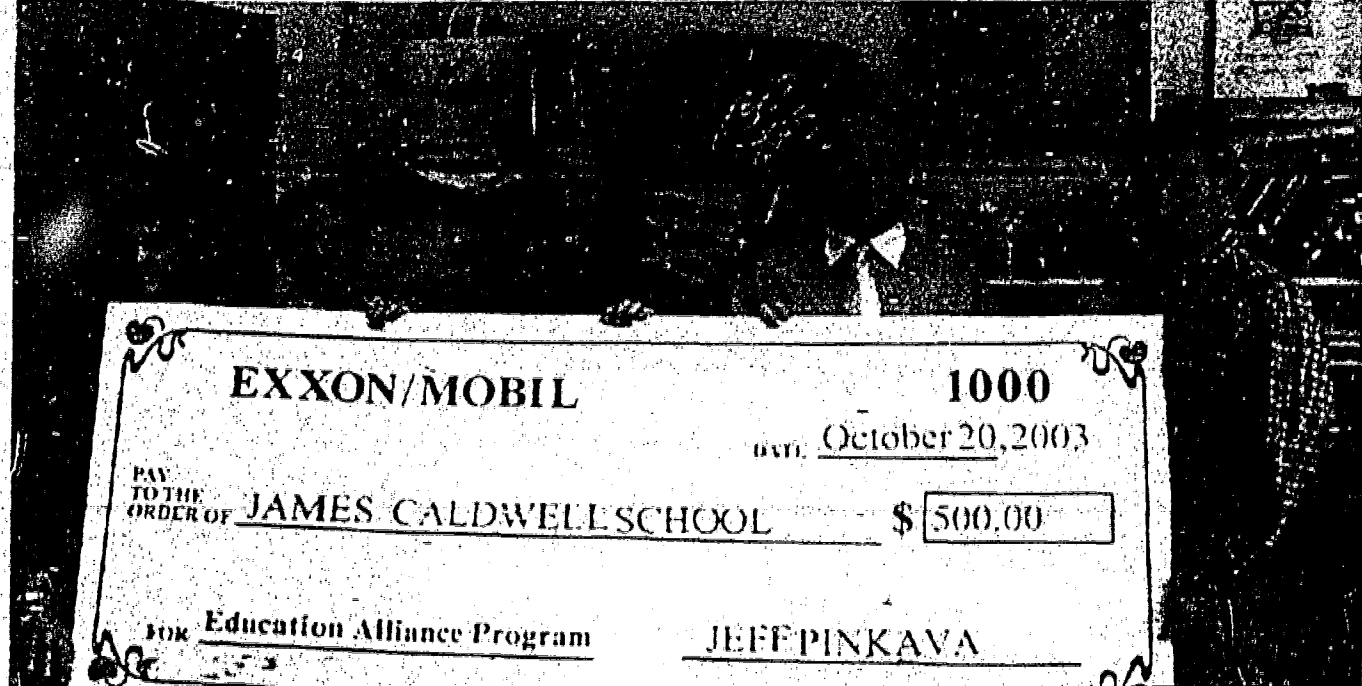
Surviving are her husband, Charles; a daughter, Lorrie Dykas; two sons, Norman and Brian Chester; a stepdaughter, Judith N. Rose; two stepsons, Charles W. and Andrew Readie; two sisters, Catherine Sullivan and Joan Corea; and 16 grandchildren.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST
EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH 242 Shoreline Rd., Springfield, 9:30 AM. Bible Study for all ages. Nursery through Senior Service. Sunday School at 10:30 AM. Worship Service and Holy Communion at 11:30 AM. WIVES' (Women's) Fellowship at 1:30 PM. Prayer Service at 7:30 PM. Women's Bible Study at 7:30 PM. Men's Bible Study at 8:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 9:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 10:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 11:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 12:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 1:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 2:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 3:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 4:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 5:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 6:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 7:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 8:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 9:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 10:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 11:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 12:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 1:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 2:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 3:30 PM. Men's Prayer Service at 4:30 PM. Men's Fellowship at 5:30 PM. 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STUDENT UPDATE

Springfield girl performs in Neil Simon play
Junior Anna Grushchinsky of Springfield is among the cast of Neil Simon's 'The Good Doctor'...



The James Caldwell School in Springfield was the recent recipient of the 2003 Exxon-Mobile Educational Alliance Grant...

2003 grant enhances science

The James Caldwell School in Springfield was the recent recipient of the 2003 Exxon-Mobile Educational Alliance Grant...

Hagenbush earns Youth of the Year award

Stacey Hagenbush of Springfield, a senior at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains was named Youth of the Year for Union County...

Events

Dayton High presents 'A Streetcar Named Desire'
Jonathan Dayton High School's drama department presents its fall production of 'A Streetcar Named Desire'...

Referendums fuel talk of secession

Union County who are dissatisfied with county government. 'I've had discussion with Union County towns - Springfield, Summit and New Providence - and quite frankly they'd be more than happy to join Millburn and create their own county'...

Jewish seniors sponsor lecture series on history

The Jewish Seniors of Springfield is sponsoring a fall winter lecture series, 'Topics in American History'...

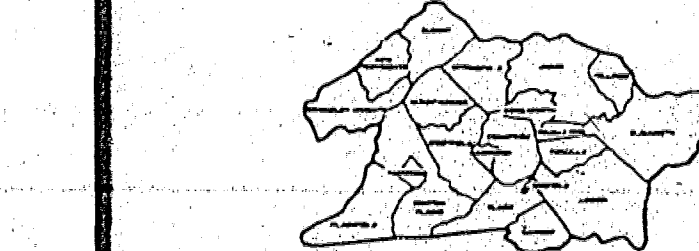
FREE HAM or TURKEY ENTRY BLANK form with fields for name, address, city, phone.

WIN Your Thanksgiving Ham or Turkey! Ad featuring various local businesses and their contact information.

Referendums fuel talk of secession. Article discussing the political implications of local referendums in Essex County.

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2003 - SECTION B

Union County

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Repaving projects under way for 2003

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer. More than 12 miles of county roads are slated to be resurfaced in 11 towns in the coming weeks.

Decision on new site delayed

Plans to announce the location for a new Union County Juvenile Detention Center have been pushed back from mid-November until at least mid-December...

County Seat

By Mark Hrywna Regional Editor. It's a far cry from the campaigning adults were waging before last week's general Election...

Referendums fuel talk of secession

Union County who are dissatisfied with county government. 'I've had discussion with Union County towns - Springfield, Summit and New Providence - and quite frankly they'd be more than happy to join Millburn and create their own county'...

Vo-tech expansion delayed until February

Unforeseen electrical problems have pushed back the completion date for the expansion of the Union County Vocational-Technical School in Scotch Plains from next month until mid-February.

The UMDNJ building came after the rest of the campus and there were electrical lines underground that we didn't know were there.

The \$14-million expansion will allow the vocational-technical high school to make the transition from a shared-time program to a full-time facility.

COUNTY NEWS

Senior outreach services

The Union County Division on Aging in the Department of Human Services will bring its Outreach Services Program for Senior Citizens to two locations this month...

Free flu shots for seniors

Rumrills Specialized Hospital of Union County, 40 Watching Way, Berkeley Heights, will offer Union County residents who are 60 years of age or older free influenza immunization...

These residents who are 60 years of age or older free influenza immunization today between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. No appointment is necessary...

Those interested are invited to the first floor multipurpose room at Rumrills Hospital.

Today, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Union Baptist Church, 1088 E. Grand St., Elizabeth, 908-353-0538

Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bethel A.M.E. Church, 241 Hillton Ave., Union, 908-664-0765

Both of these locations are in "congregate nutrition sites" in the Meals on Wheels Program. If any senior citizen attending the outreach services presentation on these dates wants to have lunch also, they should call the site in advance to make a lunch reservation.

Union County representatives will be available to help residents complete the necessary applications for a multitude of program, including gas and electric support, pharmaceutical assistance, home energy assistance, Supplemental Security Income, and counseling on health insurance for Medicare enrollees.

For more information on the Outreach Services Program and other programs offered by the Union County Division on Aging, call the division's toll-free number at 1-888-250-8226.

Nugent dance Saturday

The Joseph Nugent Sr. Association of Union County will sponsor its 50th anniversary dance Saturday at St. Hedwig's Church Hall, 1400 Newark Avenue, off Bayway Avenue, in Elizabeth from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Founded by Joseph Nugent Sr. in 1933, the Nugent Association is the oldest independent Irish-American organization in the state.

The Willie Lynch Show Band will provide entertainment. Admission is \$20, which includes beer, wine, coffee, cake and tea. There will also be a cash bar.

This year the following people will be honored: Inman of the Year, Les Sargent from Cranford; Irishman of the Year, Jane Kelly of Somerset; Nugent's Finest, Jack O'Connor Memorial Award, Lt. Dave Maul of Elizabeth; Nugent's Bravest, Retired Fireman Pat McCowan of Elizabeth; and the Great Sheridan Memorial Community Service Honoree, Tom Callahan of Montclair.

For information, call Maureen Dowling at 908-206-9107 or Kevin Dowling at 732-594-1763.

Scouting for Food set

Boy Scouts, Wergals and Club Scouts from communities throughout Somerset and Union counties will be collecting food for the benefit of local food banks in Scouting's annual Food Turn called Scouting for Food. After more than 10 years, this community service by the Scouts has become an important part of the food-supply picture in many communities food banks.

On the weekend of Saturday, parents-supervised Scouts and Club Scouts will distribute specially marked bags, or descriptive requests to homes in their assigned neighborhoods and will pick the bags up on the following Nov. 22. Homeowners are asked to fill a bag with nourishing, non-perishable, non-glass food products that can be stocked at food pantry, and to put the bags out in a visible place for pickup before 9 a.m. on the pickup Saturday, or as directed in a note with the bag.

The Scouts will return to the same homes they visited previously to take the bags to a local food pantry, such as a church or a community facility. The food will be used to prepare Thanksgiving baskets and to serve needy families through the winter.

The Scout units participating in the food drive at this time are part of the Elizabeth Park-based Patriots' Patriotic Council, DSA.

UCLSA talks subpoenas

UCLSA, the association for legal professionals, will meet Tuesday at Gate 7, 2333 Morris Ave., Union.

Following a social gathering at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m., the guest speaker will be Angela Chirchello of Unatented Subpoena. Chirchello will discuss the preparation, laws, rules and methods of the serving process in New Jersey, the United States and internationally. Cost is \$25 for dinner.

For more information regarding reservations, call Reservations Chairperson Judy Reed at 908-355-4892.

For information on membership, call UCLSA Vice President Christine Peoples at 732-680-1174 or 908-527-4555.

Community blood drives

The Blood Center of New Jersey and the Iron County Chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor the following blood drives:

Tuesday, 2 to 7:30 p.m. American Red Cross chapter house, 205 W. Jersey St., Elizabeth.

Friday, 3 to 7 p.m. Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.

Monday, 3 to 7 p.m. Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.

Nov. 22, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., First Baptist Church of Union, Colonial Avenue, Union.

Nov. 23, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Knights of Columbus, 1014 Teanette Ave., Union.

Nov. 25, 3 to 8:30 p.m., Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad, 875 Raritan Road, Clark.

Nov. 26, 3 to 8:30 p.m., Cranford Alliance Church, Retford Avenue and Cherry Street, 2 to 7:30 p.m., Country Inn and Suites, 1000 Glimcher Realty Way, Elizabeth.

For more information, call the Blood Center at 908-652-5663, ext. 140, or the Red Cross at 908-355-2500.

Sell it with a classified ad, 1-800-564-8911.

UNION COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

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MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Unions donate toward 'Project Lifesaver'

Two unions representing Union County sheriff's officers donated the cost of two wireless transmitters for the county's landmark 'Project Lifesaver' program.

Through 'Project Lifesaver,' sheriff's officers can use state-of-the-art technology to help locate individuals with Alzheimer's disease, autism and other disorders, who wander from home and become lost and endangered.

Each wireless transmitter costs about \$285 each, plus about \$15 monthly for batteries and maintenance.

"We are continuing to seek alternate funding that will help both families in need and concerned taxpayers," Sheriff Ralph Froelich said.

'Project Lifesaver' was launched in Union County last month. The program uses a watch-sized transmitter to track and locate individuals who have been reported missing or lost. The transmitter, battery-operated, transmitter can be tracked on the ground or in the air over several miles. Each device has a unique radio signal that can broadcast 24 hours a day.

The Sheriff's K-9 Search and Rescue unit, headquartered in Summit, is equipped with receivers to enable them to quickly locate those in need.

Business community and civic organizations interested in being sponsors of concerned families can call Froelich at 908-527-4450.

Child care agency receives \$800K grant

The Union County Association of Child Care Providers with Community Coordinated Child Care of Union County as the lead agency, has been awarded the Early Learning Opportunities Grant by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The \$800,000 grant, which will match money from the United Way of Greater Union County and in-kind support from the County of Union, will fund projects focusing on improving the quality of child care throughout the county.

This grant means the 14,500 children in child care in the county can have access to better prepared teachers and providers, improved programs and informed parents," said Pat Menham, executive director of UCC.

The new programs under the ELOF grant will take early childhood services to the next step, allowing us to expand the success of Project Improve to more child care centers and focus on early literacy for low-income children in self-selected care homes.

The grant will fund three interrelated programs: Project IMPROVE will provide intensive training, technical assistance and materials to child care centers. An early learning project will bring early literacy activities and books to parents and self-selected child care providers. The grant will also support the ongoing work of the Union County Association of Child Care Providers focusing on meeting the goals of the Child Care Plan 2005.

Debraan Scanton, chairwoman of the Union County Board of Chosen Trustees, lauded the award, noting that the projects stem from collaborations built into Union County Child Care Plan 2005.

"This award reflects the strength of our Child Care Plan 2005 as well as CCA's professional ability to organize and implement a multi-faceted action plan to improve the overall quality of child care in Union County," Scanton said. "We are very proud of our collaboration with UCC and we will continue to provide in-kind support to further our mutual goals on behalf of children and families."

Sandy Erwin, chief operating officer of the United Way of Greater Union County, stressed the importance of the ELOF grant and how it will address a critical need by improving child care programs in the community.

"In today's world, it's vital for working parents to have access to safe, quality early care and education for their children," said Erwin. "Studies have shown that children who do not get quality early care and education before they reach school age may lag behind in their ability to learn and may have difficulty keeping up with their classroom peers."

Millburn mayor talks about new county

(Continued from Page B1) really take a look at how effective county government really is and how necessary it is.

I long said it's a good thing that so many communities are voicing their dissatisfaction with county government and it should prompt legislators to approve a bill by state Sen. Thomas Kean Jr. R-Iron, that calls for a nine-member commission to study the effectiveness of county government.

"I'm amazed the other legislators haven't jumped on it, whether they be Democrats or Republicans, and start to look at this as a \$450,000,000 dollars and make things more efficient," he said.

Marks said Scotch Plains has never really talked about seceding from Union County.

However, Marks said if the Essex County municipalities were successful in seceding, Scotch Plains might have to evaluate its position in Union County and see what its options are.

"I'm not so sure where we'd go. We do border Middlesex County and Somerset County and I don't know whether they'd be willing to have us or not," said Marks. "But I don't think we're going to be talking about any of that in any seriousness anytime in the near or distant future."

Freshfield's Nicholas Scanton, who last week defeated Marks for the District 32 State Senate seat, said he cannot see municipalities leaving their counties and forming a new county unless there's a constitutional amendment, which he said is not likely.

These municipalities are going to continue to pay property taxes on any county they go to," said Scanton.

Linden's Class of 1993 set to reunite Nov. 29

Linden High School Class of 1993 will hold its 10th-year class reunion from 7 to 11 p.m. Nov. 29 at Sunoco Pavilion, 300 Roselle St., Linden.

Ticket price is \$68 per person. Addresses of classmates are needed. For information, call New England Reunions, 877-600-6094 or visit www.newenglandreunions.com.

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*Call the Administrative Office at 973-642-0133

if you would like to try a Hip-Hop or Flamenco class on Friday evening, November 21 or for other information and curriculum brochure. The School also offers Music, Dance and Visual Arts instruction.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tomlin 'and company' fill the house at UCAC

Laugh Track

By Bill VanSant, Associated Editor

Hitting the stage with the energy of an Amtrak Metroliner, famed comedian Lily Tomlin filled the cavernous Union County Arts Center in Rahway last Friday with uproarious laughter and star power to spare.

Despite her six-plus decades, Tomlin bounded about the stage, using her body with a finesse an athlete would envy, whether by flexing her physical language to morph into character, or simply jumping downstage to thank the audience for their enthusiastic welcome.

Performing "An Evening of Classic Lily Tomlin," the well-loved actress-comedian brought along a list of co-stars, all characters she's created over the course of her career. Stepping back to her days as a "Gladys" on "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In" in the early 1970s, others drawn from her award-winning one-woman show, "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe."

And all were endearing, funny and surprisingly human, despite their larger-than-life personalities.

Tomlin's performance can be described as "stream of consciousness" — sometimes she was just talking to a theater full of people, sometimes she was big lady, Fred, talking to herself, sometimes she was Fred, trying to get a conference call with world leaders.

However, her wanderings in and out of character didn't distract or confuse, it was all variations on one mind.

Tomlin discussed her fears and worries, such as whether or not drugs have made artists more creative than they really are. She confided her regret of releasing her hit album "Lily" to Mackie creation, and her role in the Academy Awards. She shared "how" her mother told her as a child, "Only tramps get their ears pierced."

"Enough is enough," and "The people in Washington wouldn't be there if they didn't know what they were doing."

So complaints here, especially if the Union County Arts Center keeps bringing such high-caliber performers to Rahway and sharing them with audiences?

Appearing Sundays at the Union County Arts Center will be Kenny Rogers. For information, see the "Concerts" listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page B6.



Lily Tomlin

Other times, she shared memories of her childhood, such as the very funny, very touching tale of Miss Sweeney, her second-grade teacher. "I didn't think of myself as the teacher's pet," she said. "I just had nothing in common with a bunch of illiterate 7-year-olds."

The entire performance had more the feel of an evening hanging out with a friend who happens to be riotously funny. Her rapport and repartee with the crowd was as easy and natural as if we were all old friends. This was particularly evident in the post-show "Question and answer" period, during which addressed questions written on index cards.

Perhaps the high point of the show was the world premiere of a new piece of material, "Ernestine," who now calls herself a "Global Communications Visionary," on a conference call with President George W. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Alternating between jobs at their political decisions and offering her own solutions, our gal at the switchboard zeroed in on the humor and lunacy of the current situation. The routine, read from notes she held, was on target, so much so that not everyone in the audience found everything entirely funny. But when comedy is careful, it's not funny either, and Tomlin was brilliant in this new bit.

Another "drawn from life" moment was her recollections of being a waitress at the Howard Johnson's in New York City, allegedly the career she always wanted despite never quite getting her big break. "I knew I was gonna have to settle for stardom," she

seriously lamented. "And some day, I'm going back — just as soon as I finish this gig on 'West Wing'."

Obviously, Tomlin's material was often somewhat surreal, such as Judith Beasley's take on a war-torn suburbia. But somehow, it was also real at the same time, thanks to Tomlin's unique ability to tap into universal truths despite the outlandishness of the comic situations.

And it's those truths that are at the heart of what makes Tomlin so funny. Example: "People who write self-help books should provide proof that they've actually helped themselves."

How can you argue with that logic while you're laughing at it?

And laughter was a big part of the night, not just in the audience's reactions but in her material as well. While delivering an anthropological dissertation, she pointed out that "right after we laugh, we first learned to reflect on ourselves." Of course, she then went on to add, "I personally think we developed language because of our deep, inner need to complain."

No complaints here, especially if the Union County Arts Center keeps bringing such high-caliber performers to Rahway and sharing them with audiences?

Appearing Sundays at the Union County Arts Center will be Kenny Rogers. For information, see the "Concerts" listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page B6.

'The Crucible' in Summit is powerful

Between February and September, 1692, more than 100 people were jailed in the town of Salem, Mass. on charges of practicing witchcraft.

Of those 100 were eventually convicted and hanged, and one was pressed to death for refusing to plea to charges.

That most Americans today are aware of these events, seen by historians as a last gasp on American soil of the witchcraft hysteria that periodically swept Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries, can be credited entirely to Arthur Miller and his renowned play, "The Crucible," currently being presented at the Summit Playhouse through Nov. 22.

"The Crucible" is really a story of two historical acts. The play is set in late 17th-century New England, a time when the Puritan theocratic experiment in the New World found itself sorely tested by the trauma of Indian wars, religious dissension and a native-born generation ready to question the rigid social norms set up by the colony's founders. Its subject and inspiration, however, was the anti-Communist "witch hunts" of the late 1940s and early 1950s, when prominent American artists and intellectuals became scapegoats to a fear of spreading worldwide communism.

Despite its political subtext, Miller wisely conceived his dramatic retelling as much as an examination of timeless social tensions and relationships as he did an object lesson on the dangers of mass hysteria, which only serves to increase its impact as a demonstration of the latter, every generation will recognize the chilling theme of the play in the tragedies.

Skilfully tackling another important but non-leading role is Tracy King as Tituba, the Parris' slave from Barbados. King plays her part with subtle pathos while avoiding the slip into caricature that is the danger of this role. Jillian Moseman offers an effective interpretation of accuser Mary Warren, while Rick Brown, as

the Rev. John Hale, draws the most possible out of a character meant to represent establishment cowardice. His deliberately stilted reading of the role, which seems a bit over-the-top at first, assumes its full power near the end of the play when his character returns to Salem, after having fled the town in disgust, to confess his sins of capitulation.

Anchoring the production is the excellent work of Jeff Maschi and Jamie Gedeon as John and Elizabeth Proctor. Maschi grabs hold of his character from the first line and is utterly convincing throughout as an independent-minded farmer who becomes overwhelmed by events that he has helped to create. He plays Proctor's struggle with morality and personal redemption in such a way that a statement made of him by Brown's character, "From the beginning this man has struck me true," seems both profoundly right and bitterly ironic. In the play's climactic scene, Proctor railing against duty, authority and fate, turns the play's earlier use of the theme of "naming names" — a clear reference to McCarthyism — into a statement of principled allegiance to conscience. "How may I live without my name? I have given you my soul, leave me my name!" a line infused by Maschi with a sense of furious yet noble desperation. Gedeon, on the other hand, manages to bring to what is initially a fairly flat "wounded wife" role a level of understated authenticity that makes her, finally and unexpectedly, the most moving performance of the production.

"The Crucible," presented by the Summit Playhouse Association, runs through Nov. 22 at the Summit Playhouse. For more information, see the "Theater" listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page B8.

For free ad advice call 973-763-9411.

Exhibit shows off Italian 'Faces'

Photos on paper of Italian stone and marble sculpture made from handmade paper will be on exhibit at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library through Dec. 4. An artist's reception will be held Saturday, from 1 to 4 p.m.

"Italian Sculptural Images" is the subject of photographer Ron Brown's current exhibit. Public art is a dominant feature of the urban Italian landscape. Images in sculpture and other forms, on both a grand and small scale, are omnipresent. The photographs in this exhibit, taken in Rome, Florence, and Venice, portray the aspect of the public personality of Italy. They convey the rich artistic ambience which form part of the every-day life in these old cities, represent historic values and heritage, and present a sense of place that includes living in history and living through art.

These works build on my interest in structure, as something which can ground experience, and form, as a visual articulation of beauty and ideas," says Brown. He adds, "The gray tonal scale of silver prints is well-suited to capture the texture and feeling of works made from marble to stone."

Complementing this photography exhibit is "Embedded Presence," an exhibit by Pat Feeney. Murrell's flax handmade paper sculpture. The show explores the human body as a personification for man's spirit, a celebration of man's essence in the ancient sense of veneration of the soul. Emphasis is on the fragility yet endurance of humankind, alive in handmade flax paper body wrappings.

The graphic immediacy of the paper sculpture simulates fluted or gravid skin, where the outer gold paper layer has been scored or cracked, showing an inner black core. These "remnant boxes" continue Murrell's consideration of the "re-sacralization of the human form. They push the concept of handmade paper body wrappings as, by relief, remnants into three dimensional remnants of broken men," she says. The remnant boxes are mounted against the wall on bamboo platforms.

Brown, a fine arts photographer, has shown widely in New Jersey and, recently, in New York City.

Murrell has numerous works in public and private collections, and has participated in a variety of solo and group exhibitions. She has taught graduate lithography at the Pratt Institute and currently is teaching printmaking and papermaking at the McCarter School of Art in Plainfield.

The Donald B. Palmer Museum is located in the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. Hours of the exhibit are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday hours are from 1 to 3:30 p.m. For information, call 973-376-4930.

'Having Our Say' earns deserved revival at UCC

Editor's note: The Theater Project's current production of "Having Our Say" is an encore of the company's production in April and May of this year; the encore presentation features the same actors and artistic staff. The following review appeared in the May 1, 2003 edition of Worrall Community Newspapers.

As close to perfect as theater can get, "Having Our Say" at the Theater Project at Union County College is a thorough delight from beginning to end.

The two-character play, which originated at the McCarter Theater in Princeton before earning Tony Award nominations on Broadway, takes place in the Westchester County home of Sadie Delany, 103, and her 101-year-old sister, Bessie. As the two maiden ladies prepare a meal for guests — us, the audience — they regale us with tales of their century-plus years on Earth.

The play began life as an article for The New York Times by Amy Hill Heath, covering the sisters' 100-plus years. It was this article that caught the attention of playwright Emily Mann at McCarter. Being a true story, actual

people pop up as the sisters relate their fascinating tales — W.E.B. DuBois, Eleanor Roosevelt, Paul Robeson and Booker T. Washington were counted among their acquaintances and admirers.

Clearly an "actors' piece," the show stars Tamela Aldridge and company regular Daaimah Talley in twin bravura performances. Both actresses — decades younger than their characters — deliver a master class in theater craft as they take on the roles of the aged-but-not-too-informed sisters. Their body language is integrated into the emotional context of their roles, as is their use of their voices.

However, the real highlight of their work lies in the total believability of their characters. Whether in the subtle nuances they've woven through the characterizations or the complexity of their relationship, Aldridge and Talley create a complete reality in the Roy Smith Theater on UCC's Cranford campus.

Perhaps the greatest work is achieved outside the confines of the scripted dialogue. A wordless apology following a spat in Act II is breathtaking, as was the actresses' handling of a stray carrot last Saturday night — fussing over the rotting root vegetable was handled as seamlessly as Mann's dialogue which they'd been rehearsing for weeks.

In addition, the physical life of the characters is buffed to a high polish. Particularly notable is the second act wherein the actresses busy themselves preparing a party meal in the kitchen, talking to us and each other the whole time.

Presented in three acts, the first primarily provides history of the family in the Deep South, with the second covering the sisters' years as young women in Harlem and the third focusing on the latter years of their lives and careers. The set design by Fred Kinney and Carl Spataro beautifully uses the Project's "actor's point of view" setup, allowing for a parlor, kitchen and dining room, with only one set change. The use of cherry and mahogany wood adds a warmth to the visual that makes the setting even



Jeff Maschi commands the stage as John Proctor in 'The Crucible' by Arthur Miller, currently being presented at the Summit Playhouse, while Jillian Moseman, as Mary Warren, cowers. 'The Crucible' runs through Nov. 22.

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Tamela Aldridge, seated, and Daaimah Talley recreate their roles in 'Having Our Say' at the Theater Project. For the first time in the theater's history, a production has been given an encore in the same season.

Barbershoppers to salute Berlin

The Rahway Valley Jerseyaires Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America Inc. (SPEBSQSA) will present its 50th annual show, "The Melody Lingers On," a barbershop style music featuring all-time favorite songs by Irving Berlin.

The concert will take place Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the Rahway Middle School, Westfield Avenue between Madison Avenue and Kline Place, Rahway.

Despite his simple beginnings as a Russian immigrant working as a singing waiter and song-plugger in the lower east side New York City, Berlin became the world's foremost songwriter. Incredibly, he never learned to read or notate music.

"Despite his simple beginnings as a Russian immigrant working as a singing waiter and song-plugger in the lower east side New York City, Berlin became the world's foremost songwriter. Incredibly, he never learned to read or notate music. During his career, Berlin wrote more than 3,000 songs, and 1,500 of them were hits, such as "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Always," "God Bless America," "White Christmas" and many more popular songs. Berlin also produced 18 stage productions on Broadway and 16 films that featured his music.

The show will feature the Rahway Valley Jerseyaires Chorus directed by Doug Brown and assisted by Chris MacVicar, who will direct the "Very Large Quartet" in song.

The featured quartet in the show is Moonlighting with tenor Tom Walsch, lead Doug Brown, bass Chris MacVicar and baritone Ed Ringel, plus the Happy Medium quartet, with tenor George Schwandt, lead Steve Honick, bass Ray Walker and baritone Ken Friedlander, and the Brown-eyed Girls quartet from Edison featuring tenor Ken Thomas, lead Amanda Nagy, bass Doris Marino, and baritone Megan Blasler. "I will sing to songs, 'My Guy' and 'I'd Like to See You Go' and I'm Happy."

Tickets are \$15 for evening and afternoon reserved seating, \$12 for general admission, \$10 for senior citizens, and \$5 for children younger than 12 years. Discount tickets are available for the afternoon performance only.

For information and reservations, call 732-941-1850.



Featured in the Rahway Valley Jerseyaires concert of barbershop music this weekend will be the quartet Moonlighting, featuring, from left standing, baritone Dan Meyer, lead Gregg Burdash, tenor Bob Briston and, seated, bass Steve Kirsch.

Tickets are now on sale for annual presentation of 'Nutcracker' at the Paper Mill

Paper Mill, The State Theater of New Jersey will play host to New Jersey Ballet's 33rd anniversary production of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker."

Bring the entire family to this perennial tale of holiday enchantment on stage for 10 performances only from Dec. 19 to 28.

The cast of 100 dancers from around New Jersey also features the

renowned Paper Mill orchestra, starring soloists Michael Anania, the Sugar Plum Fairy, toy soldiers, an enormous Christmas tree, the villainous Mouse King and, of course, Clara and her brilliant Nutcracker Prince.

Tickets are priced at \$24 to \$54 and can be obtained by calling 973-736-4343 stopping by the box office on Brookside Drive in Millburn or buying directly online at the theater's Web site, www.papermill.org. Amex, Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.

also note that some performances this year, Dec. 26 to 28, are held the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Tickets are on sale now by calling 973-736-4343.

Hailed as the premiere "Nutcracker" in New Jersey, this production by the state's leading dance company features a cast of more than 200 children from New Jersey in alternating casts.

lavish sets by Paper Mill's award-winning resident scenic designer, Michael Anania, and the renowned Paper Mill orchestra.

"The Nutcracker" Performance schedule: Dec. 19 at 8 p.m.; Dec. 20 at 2 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 21 at 1 and 6 p.m.; Dec. 22 at 2 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 23 at 2 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 24 at 3 p.m.; Dec. 26 at 2 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 27 at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Dec. 28 at 1 and 6 p.m.

There is no performance on Christmas Day, Dec. 25.

For information and reservations, call 973-736-4343 or buy directly online at www.papermill.org.

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Bellisima Pizza is aptly named

Translated from Italian, the word "bellissima" means "beautiful." And, beautiful is exactly the way the delicious pizzas are made at Bellissima Pizzeria in Roselle Park.

A convenient location on Newa Westfield Avenue, only minutes from I-476 off the Garden State Parkway, Bellissima Pizzeria offers a warm, friendly atmosphere to go along with the competitive menu.

On a recent visit, I was hard pressed to choose between pizza - the house specialty - and one of the entrees, so I had to choose and sampled both. The slice of pizza, generously topped with five slices of mushrooms, featured a crisp crust that nicely complemented the sauce, cheese and toppings.

For an entree, I chose the stuffed anchovies, and was soon enjoying this delicious selection. Served deep a choice of spaghetti or ziti, topped for spaghetti, the dish features five large shrimp and a rich, creamy, herb-infused sauce and cheese. The shrimp was delicately breaded and well firm and fresh, while the flavor of the sauce burst in the mouth, a combination of tomatoes and seasonings, all balanced perfectly. The dollop of ricotta cheese was well, with the mozzarella that was generously mixed in with the dish.

The atmosphere is very homey, with a "family feel" feeling in the establishment, which will mark its third anniversary this coming March. When I visited at mid-afternoon, there was a bustling atmosphere with diners stopping in for a bite.

In addition to the selections I enjoyed, the menu at Bellissima Pizzeria is check full of tempting choices, not the least of which are 13 varieties of specialty gourmet pizzas - everything from pizza with a Korean twist to the Italian classic, garlic and fresh basil. The Pizzeria's "Cranberry" combination of ricotta cheese, sausage, green onions, mushrooms, ham, pepperoni, mozzarella and Romano cheese.

Also featured are a variety of entrees featuring shrimp, chicken, veal, eggplant, steak, and an assortment of seafood. The breaded pasta dishes are the gem of the menu, and homemade sausage for the more carnivore, such as the baked pasta with sausage, shells, mozzarella, mushrooms, and homemade sauce.

Diners will also find an assortment of hot and cold sandwiches, subs, salads and side dishes.

Among the special attractions at Bellissima Pizzeria are the "buy five and get the sixth free" deal on pizzas, as well as off-site catering, including subs of 3 to 30 feet in length.

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ACROSS

1 Kicked in
6 Lady of Seville
10 Practical jokes
14 On the at large
15 Mild oath
16 Jai
17 Wanted to be alone
18 In "Grand Hotel"
19 Cancer, for one
20 Large ferret
21 Unkempt
23 Silem curve
24 Precedes off and on
25 Star of "Elephant Boy"
26 Moll
27 Slam off the top
31 Land of the rising Sun
34 Erich Kastner's boy detective
35 Ferret
37 Army division
38 Brought by a
39 Raggedy Ann, for one
40 Fortune teller's start
41 Escribore and roll-top
42 Joined the Marines
43 The ramparts
45 New Jersey capers
46 ABA member
47 R.R. stop
50 Old Testament book
53 Emdina kin
55 Eager
56 1890s woman
58 Kenyan ox
59 Nimbus
60 Can be past, present, or future
61 Land of the leprechauns
62 Narcs
63 Politician Kefauver

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2 A Day in Hollywood
3 Movers and shakers
4 Renaissance family
5 Buster Keaton's expression
6 Passed out cards
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12 Inflated
13 Along With
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16 Photographer's request
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18 Stick in the middle
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33 Little brat
34 Backs off
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44 Director Premierer
46 Poetic, on "Happy Days"
47 Task
48 To the point
49 Place Van Gogh painted
50 Jimi Hendrix hit
51 Composer of "Ain't She Sweet?"
52 Mongolian desert
53 Ready and willing companion
54 Iron and Bronze
57 Beatles' song, "The Walrus"

ANSWERS on Page B13

What's Going On?

CRAFT

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
November 22nd, 23rd 2003
EVENT: 25th Annual Craft & Holiday Show
PLACE: Caldwell College Student Center, 9 Ryerson Ave. (off Bloomfield Ave.) Caldwell, NJ
TIME: 10AM-5PM
PRICE: Free Admission and Parking. Refreshments available all day. For more information call 973-228-2855 or 973-228-1453
ORGANIZATION: Friends of Caldwell College, Caldwell College

OTHER

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
November 15th, 16th, 2003
EVENT: Holiday Bazaar Craft Sale
PLACE: Women's Club of Maplewood, 60 Woodland Rd., Maplewood, NJ
TIME: 10AM-5PM
PRICE: Free Admission and Parking. Refreshments available all day. For more information call 973-228-2855 or 973-228-1453
ORGANIZATION: Friends of Caldwell College, Caldwell College

OTHER

FRIDAY
November 14th, 2003
EVENT: Holiday Demonstration Night
PLACE: Hannah Caldwell School Gym, 1120 Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ
TIME: 6pm-10pm
FEATURE: Pampered Chef, Tupperware Party Light, Mary Kay Home Interiors and much more. Hope to see you for information call Lisa O'Reilly 908-531-7104
ORGANIZATION: Hannah Caldwell Elementary School PTA

BAZAAR

SATURDAY
November 15th, 2003
EVENT: Holiday Bazaar Craft Sale
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TIME: 10AM-5PM
PRICE: Free Admission and Parking. Refreshments available all day. For more information call 973-228-2855 or 973-228-1453
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Arts Guild goes 'Face to Face' with next exhibit

The third exhibit in the sixth season at the Arts Guild of Rahway is "Face to Face: Environmental Portrait Photographs."

The exhibit will be on display from Wednesday through Dec. 12. There is an opening reception on Nov. 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free.

"Environmental Portrait Photographs" is a term used to describe the style and concept of artists who photograph their subjects within their own settings. Rather than dissociating their subjects from their contexts, as is done in many conventional and contemporary photographs, the artists featured in this show present their subjects in their own environment, whether it be physical, domestic or of social construct. The outcome of the environmental portrait, then, becomes more intimate and sincere for both the artist and the subject. In the words of the curator of "Face to Face," Nancy O'Brien, environmental portraiture possesses the ability of "depicting a person's story. I love being face to face."

The artists featured in the exhibit are Michael Creem, Ellen Denato, Nancy O'Brien, Harvey Stein, and John Wyatt. Creem has been a photographer for more than 50 years, and has regularly exhibited his abstract, landscape and portrait photographs for the past eight years. In 1998, he co-founded the New Jersey Photographers Forum with fellow artist Nancy O'Brien.

Denato is a photographer who focuses on the process of creating a portrait, capturing the life and role of the artist within the framework of her portraiture.

Like Denato, O'Brien is also inspired by the personal story of her subjects. As a photographer, O'Brien draws not only her technical skills, but more importantly, her observational ability in order to capture both the physical and emotional sides of her subjects.

In a similar manner, Stein relies on a strong attention to detail in his portraits of twins, where the differences between two seemingly identical beings are made more distinct to the naked eye.

Wyatt's photographs of heavily tattooed men and women explore the human development of his subjects on the chosen "environment" of their own tattooed skin photographed over a period of years.

Schiffer Book Publishing Co. recently published "Under My Skin," a book of Wyatt's photographs. "Under My Skin" features 24 black-and-white photographs that "display both tattoos and the outstanding characters of men and women who wear them and artists who apply them. Many of the people were photographed over two decades, revealing the evolution of art on their bodies throughout time." This book enables the subjects to tell their individual stories about their lives and experiences with tattooing. Wyatt will be present for a book signing and sale during the opening reception of "Face to Face" on Nov. 21.

"Face to Face: Environmental Portrait Photographs" is sponsored by Merck and Co. Inc.

The Arts Guild of Rahway is a not-for-profit arts organization located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway. Gallery hours are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday, 1:30 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Appointments are available for school visits and groups. For more information, call 973-381-7511, send e-mail to artsguild1670@earthlink.net, or visit www.rahwayartsguild.org.

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'Saigon' is missing half the story's heart in presentation at NJPAC

The story is as old as any cliché. A soldier goes to a bar, meets a girl and falls in love because she's not as lawless as the rest of the bar girls. Duty calls, and he leaves her. She has his baby. Three years later, he comes back with his American wife, and wants the baby, but not her. She kills herself.

John Lafter Long turned it into a musical in 1960, inspiring a successful play. On a world tour, Pacino saw it and made it the basis for his grand opera, "Madama Butterfly." French songwriter Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg took that old plot, and added technical pizzazz to cover up the spitting, aging story's seams, and got a smash Broadway show.

In a reduced scale, that version of the story appeared last week for several performances at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

The result was a mixed bag. Not having seen the Broadway show, this review will not be comparing the two, but taking it, as it presents itself, as a new experience for the audience. Not that "Madama Butterfly" redone can ever be a new experience. Imagine that opera, stripped of its grand aria-sonnets, colorful Japanese background, the belief in honor and saving face. Instead, see a young prostitute, Kim, in a sleazy nightclub, add a pimp, called The Engineer, who engages the buying and selling of dames. Mix in flashing lights, overworked, claustrophobic sets, people running back and forth across the stage, stopping to throw in a line, songs amplified to take out the heart of their performers; a famous, computerized helicopter taking off, and you've got one face of "Miss Saigon."

The other face has effective scenes and a very relevant theme. "How do other countries, especially Third World countries, see America?" From Act I, when the bar girls sing "The Movie in My Mind," one answer is evident with lines like, "He takes me to New York. He gives me the dollar bills. Our children laugh all day. And eat too much ice cream. And life is like a dream."

Act II has the man's view of America, sung by The Engineer and chorus in the song "The American Dream" with these lyrics: "Name what you want and it's there. The American Dream. Spend and have money to spare. The American Dream. Live like you haven't a care. The American Dream." Meanwhile, images of America's wealth, past movie stars like Bette Davis, the Statue of Liberty are flashed on a screen behind the singers.

And what do Americans think of the hero, Chris, tells us, "Christ, I'm American, how could I fail to do good? All I made was a mess just like everyone else in a place full of misery that I never once understood!"

Jon Jon Briones as The Engineer, won the night with his comic relief

as well as the consequences of those images. To a backdrop of pictures of children the girls left behind, a song titled "But Don't" is sung that describes these children as the "dust of life," continuing, "War isn't over when it ends. Some pictures never wash away from the faces of the children. The ones we left behind."

More pluses: the visually shocking dance scenes of North Vietnamese soldiers celebrating and another with a papier-mâché dragon defeating a paper tiger with an American flag on it. The most popular technological treat is a computerized helicopter supposedly flying in to get the Americans out, while leaving the South Vietnamese stranded. That visual accompanied by the recorded sound of several helicopters made believable that an actual helicopter was flying overhead.

Major pluses: the singing by the principals Jennifer Paz in the lead role of Kim, and Allen Gillespie as the hero, Chris. Both demonstrated clear, strong voices and acting of a musical stage level, which means it could have stood more shading. The high point is the music, especially "I'd Give My Life for You."

Jon Jon Briones as The Engineer, won the night with his comic relief

the heart of "Miss Saigon" which, after a while, leaves the show with a tawdry center. There should be more grandeur, more emotion in such a successful, musical presentation. You walk away impressed by the tricks, the staging, the songs, but without a tear in your eye. Rather, with a question in your mind: Is that all there is? There's a lot there, but not there! The creators of "Les Misérables" had their heart in that one, and only half a heart in this, their follow-up. But, hey, you can't argue with success.

Or can you?

Arboretum uses nature in decor

At Reeves-Reed Arboretum, people can learn to pass up poinsettias, and put hold on the holiday.

This year they can trim a wreath with natural dried lichens and berries, or learn to make fragrant swags and centerpieces the English way, with herbs and aromatic plants.

Renowned British floral designer Sylvia Bird, AIFD, will talk about the ancient origins of decorations such as the garland and the wreath, and she will discuss the traditional use of herbs and plant material such as laurel, olive and bay. She will teach four workshops. In each one she will demonstrate three designs. Participants may create one decoration to take home.

On Wednesday, Bird will concentrate on centerpieces using fragrant herbs, pine and traditional flowers. She will also demonstrate wreaths to place of hanging.

On Nov. 20, Bird will demonstrate swags and garlands for doorways, mantels, or chairs, as well as topiary trees with cinnamon sticks, aromatic spices and fruit. Each day she will teach one afternoon class, from noon to 2:30 p.m., and one evening class, from 6 to 9 p.m. The fee for each class is \$94, including the cost of materials.

In the first week of December, Caroleen Lydon will put a modern spin on traditional wreaths by decorating it with peppercorn, pomegranates and evergreen lichens. The Natural Holiday Wreath class will be held Dec. 3, 7 to 9 p.m., and Dec. 6, 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. The fee for this class is \$56, all materials included.

To register for English holiday decorations or the natural holiday wreath class, call 908-273-8787, ext. 10.

Bill VanSant, Editor

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Restoring vital connections.

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The beginning of a new era for Lower Manhattan.

On November 23, Governor McGreevey and Governor Pataki will proudly reopen the World Trade Center PATH station, restoring PATH service ahead of schedule for tens of thousands of commuters to Lower Manhattan.

As PATH service to the World Trade Center resumes, let's take a moment to reflect on an historic milestone in the recovery of the region: the opening of the first public facility on the World Trade Center site since September 11, 2001.

With PATH service restored, we have the foundation for future development on the site, including the most important element of all — a memorial to all of our unforgettable heroes.

For more information, visit the Port Authority Web site at www.panynj.gov.

WORLD TRADE CENTER PATH STATION

James E. McGreevey Governor, State of New Jersey
George E. Pataki Governor, State of New York
Anthony R. Cicco Chairman, Port Authority
Joseph J. Seymour Executive Director, Port Authority

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill VanSant, Worral Community Newspapers, 463 Valley St., P.O. Box 153, Maplewood, NJ 07040. Faxes may be sent to 973-683-2557.

Stepping Out

ART SHOWS

COLLECTOR'S EVENING will be sponsored by the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit on Nov. 22, from 8 p.m. to midnight. The event includes a champagne reception, wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert. NJCVA is located 68 Elm St. Summit. For information, call 908-273-9121 or visit www.njcva.org.

MARCEL TRUPEA RETROSPECTIVE will take place through Friday at EDGEART Gallery in Rahway. Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. EdgeArt Gallery is located at 1571 Irving St. Rahway. For information, call 732-669-0112 or send e-mail to EdgeArt@edgeart.com.

RICO LEBRUM: RECONFIGURING THE HUMAN FORM will be on display through Friday at EDGEART Gallery in Rahway. Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. EdgeArt Gallery is located at 1571 Irving St. Rahway. For information, call 732-669-0112 or send e-mail to EdgeArt@edgeart.com.

REILLY PAINTS UP THE TOWN will be on display through Nov. 13 at Swann Gallery in Springfield. Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Swann Gallery is located at 793 Waterlump Ave. Springfield. For information, call 973-756-1707.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL in Mountaintop will exhibit the works of Lois Heene, Ernie Barbara Zietlich, and the Rahway Valley Arts Association to support the center's November 2003 fund-raising event. The exhibit will be on display at the Arts Guild of Rahway through Dec. 2. Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Arts Guild of Rahway is located at 1670 Irving St. Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511 or send e-mail to artsguild1670@earthlink.net or visit www.rahwayartsguild.org.

QUESTION OF IDENTITY will be on display through Dec. 13 at the Union County Public Library in Cranford. Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Union County Public Library is located at 1000 Morris Ave. in Cranford. For information, call 908-451-5450.

ITALIAN SCULPTURAL IMAGES "Rome, Florence, Venice" photographs by Ron Brown will be on exhibit at the Donald B. Plumber Museum in Springfield. Free Public Library through Dec. 4. Artistic reception will take place Saturday from 11 to 4 p.m. Gallery hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Springfield Free Public Library is located at 66 Mountain Ave. Springfield. For information, call 973-376-4930.

FACE TO FACE "Environmental Portrait Photography" will be on exhibit at the Arts Guild of Rahway from Wednesday through Dec. 13. An opening reception will take place Nov. 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. The Arts Guild of Rahway is located at 1670 Irving St. Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511 or send e-mail to artsguild1670@earthlink.net or visit www.rahwayartsguild.org.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN DEUTSCH will be on exhibit through Dec. 15 in the new gallery space in the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St. Elizabeth. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. For information, call 908-558-2550. NJ Relay users dial 711, or send e-mail to culturalinfo@unioncountynj.gov.

111 FIRST STREET, works by Edward Fausti, will be on exhibit at the Tomasso Gallery in Kenneth Mackay Library at Union County College, Cranford, from Friday through Dec. 18. An opening reception will take place Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. Gallery hours are Mondays to Thursdays, and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m., and Tuesdays to Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m. UCC is located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call 908-709-7155.

TEAROOMS, TEMPLES AND CEREMONIAL SPACES, works by artist Francis DeMasi Mucicco, will be on exhibit at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit through Dec. 29.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN INTERESTS meets the second Thursday 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.

MYSTERY READING GROUP meets the second and fourth Thursdays 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.

CLOAK AND DAGGER READING GROUP meets the second and fourth Thursdays 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.

CLASSICS BOOK CLUB meets the second Tuesday 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.

WOMEN 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 Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

EDISON ARTS SOCIETY WRITERS CIRCLE meets the second 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.

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CONTEMPORARY TAPESTRY, works by Archie Brennan and Susan Martin Maffei, will be on exhibit at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit through Jan. 4. Gallery hours are Mondays to Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The New Jersey Center for Visual Arts is located at 68 Elm St. Summit. For information, call 908-273-9121 or visit www.njcva.org.

BOOKS
AUTHOR CHICKIE ROSENBERG will present at the New Book Store on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 4 p.m. Sign copies of her new book, "Showboarding for Women: A Guide to the Betty Shrod Grant Award." The New Book Store is located at 1000 Morris Ave. in Cranford. For information, call 908-233-3505 or visit www.newbookstore.com.

UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY Book Discussion Group will meet the third Wednesday of each month, with the next meeting on August and December. The group will discuss "Antirealist" by Jan Egan. The group will meet at 111 First Street, Union County College, Cranford. For information, call 908-709-7155.

RAHWAY VALLEY JERSEYAIRES will present "The Melody Lines On an Evening of Music by Irving Berlin" on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 8 p.m. at the Union County Public Library in Cranford. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$10 for seniors. For information, call 908-451-5450.

ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS will appear in concert Sunday at 8 p.m. at the Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$9 to \$19 for adults. For information, call 908-451-5450.

THE SANGHERS NEWARK will appear in concert Sunday at 8 p.m. at the Union County Public Library in Cranford. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$10 for seniors. For information, call 908-451-5450.

THE KINGSTON TRIO will appear in concert Sunday at 8 p.m. at the Union County Public Library in Cranford. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$10 for seniors. For information, call 908-451-5450.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH in Summit Plains will sponsor its annual Yuletide Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All Saints' Church is located at 559 Park Ave. Summit Plains. For information, call 908-422-8047.

FLAMENCO VIVO CARLOTTA SANTANA will perform in Wilkins Theater at Kean University on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for the general public, \$19 for senior citizens, \$15 for students and children. Kean is located at 1000 Morris Ave. Union. For information, call 908-737-7469.

DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM will perform Nov. 29 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 30 at 3 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$16 to \$69.

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SINGLES
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 908-869-7571.

THEATER
SHAKESPEARE THEATRE OF NEW JERSEY will present "Othello" through Nov. 23. Shows are Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$29 to \$43. The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey performs at the F.M. Kirby, Shakespear Theatre on the campus of Drew University, 36 Madison Ave., Madison. For information, call 973-408-5600 or visit the Web site at www.shakespearnj.org.

THE RAINBOW EXPERIENCE of Westfield will present "Othello" from Saturday to Nov. 23. Shows are Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Westfield, 908-233-3944 and Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. at the United Church of Christ in Plainfield, 908-755-8658. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors and children younger than 12.

THE PLAYHOUSE ASSOCIATION OF SUMMIT will present "The Color Purple" by Arthur Miller through Nov. 22. Shows are at 8 p.m. today, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. The Playhouse Association is located at 10 New England Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-2192 or visit the Web site at www.summit-playhouse.org.

PAPER MILL: THE STATE THEATRE OF NEW JERSEY will present "The Sound of Music" through Dec. 14. Shows are at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets are \$30 to \$67.

THE WAITING ROOM, 1433 Irving St. Rahway, at the corner of Lewis Street, presents Open Mike Night every Wednesday night. For information, call 732-815-1042.

THE WASHINGTON AVE. PUB. 704 Washington Ave., Linden, will present karaoke and the 100-Proof Duo Band every Saturday night. In addition, Thursday is Ladies Night. For present, karaoke and the 100-Proof Duo Band every Saturday night. In addition, Thursday is Ladies Night. For information, call 908-925-3707.

THE ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE will present "Play It Again" by Woody Allen from Nov. 21 through Dec. 21. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens, \$2 for children. The Elizabeth Playhouse is located at 1100 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. For information, call 908-503-0077 or visit www.elizabeththeatre.com.

REEVES-REED ARBORETUM in Summit will sponsor a workshop on outdoor decorations made of food for animals on Sunday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Fee is \$20 per family. Reeves-Reed Arboretum is located at 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-8777, ext. 16 or visit www.reeves-reedarboretum.org.

BILL VAN SANT, Editor
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age Joes
Nov. 28, Not in the Order No. 29 Night Train
The Back Porch is located at 1505 Main St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-6544.

CROSSROADS, 78 North Ave., Garwood, presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts as well as football-themed nights.
Every Monday, Open Mike Night, Happy Hour all night.
Every Tuesday, Jazz Jam, all p.m. are \$2.

Every Wednesday, Hi-Fi Wednesday, GL O with DJs and musicians, Corona, Cuervo, Margaritas, \$2 all night.
Every Thursday, All domestic beer, \$2 all night.
For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit www.1xroads.com.

EAT TO THE BEAT of coffeehouse in Rahway will feature appearances by musical artists. Eat to the Beat is located at 1465 Irving St. at East Cherry Street, Rahway. For information, call 732-381-0505.

MOLLY MAGUIRE'S IRISH PUB formerly Casual Times in Clark will present entertainment in the coming weeks. Tuesdays are Ladies Nights, and Sundays feature NFL games and \$2 drafts.
Saturday, Skydog, 10 p.m.
Sunday, Joe Finn, 4 p.m.
Nov. 22, Bandy Boys, 10 p.m.
Nov. 26, DJ Boy, 9 p.m.
Nov. 29, The Pal Roddy Band, 10 p.m.
Nov. 30, Mickey Perry, 4 p.m.
Dec. 1, Sequoia, 10 p.m.
Dec. 7, Traditional Irish Session, 2 p.m.
Dec. 13, Stronger Than Dirt, 10 p.m.
Dec. 14, Bandy Boys, 4 p.m.
Molly Maguire's is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call 732-398-6511.

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 Watson Ave., Summit. Featured will be an "open mic" forum of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for future dates.
For information, call 908-928-0127 or send e-mail to info@secondsatursdays.org.

TAVERN IN THE PARK in Rose Park will present Teddy Malek in "An Evening of Frank Sinatra" on Nov. 19 at 9 p.m. Tavern in the Park is located at 147 W. Westfield Ave., Rose Park. For information, call 908-241-7430.

VAN GOGH'S EAR, 1017 Sylvania Ave., Union will present a series of musical events. Tuesdays are Ladies Nights. A variety of musical genres will be featured. Open from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured rock performer. Open mic participants sign up at 7:30 p.m. and 10 to 11 p.m. on Tuesdays.
Nov. 23, The Michele Florio Trio, 8 to 9 p.m.
Nov. 25, Jeremy Mangini, 8 to 9 p.m.
Nov. 26, The Dave Pittenger Band, 9 to 10 p.m.
Nov. 30, X Marks the Spot, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 2, Open Mic, 8 to 9 p.m., Matt Mead, 9 to 10 p.m.
Dec. 7, The Son Lewis Trio, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 9, Breaking Laces, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 14, The Joe Knipes Quartet, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 16, Open Mic, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 21, Shusmo, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 23, Blue Music, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 28, The Gony Johnston Band, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 30, The Establishments, 8 to 9 p.m.
Get Roy, 9 to 10 p.m.
Nov. 23, The Dave Pittenger Band, 9 to 10 p.m.
For information, call 908-810-1844.

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Nov. 28, Not in the Order No. 29 Night Train
The Back Porch is located at 1505 Main St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-6544.

CROSSROADS, 78 North Ave., Garwood, presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts as well as football-themed nights.
Every Monday, Open Mike Night, Happy Hour all night.
Every Tuesday, Jazz Jam, all p.m. are \$2.

Every Wednesday, Hi-Fi Wednesday, GL O with DJs and musicians, Corona, Cuervo, Margaritas, \$2 all night.
Every Thursday, All domestic beer, \$2 all night.
For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit www.1xroads.com.

EAT TO THE BEAT of coffeehouse in Rahway will feature appearances by musical artists. Eat to the Beat is located at 1465 Irving St. at East Cherry Street, Rahway. For information, call 732-381-0505.

MOLLY MAGUIRE'S IRISH PUB formerly Casual Times in Clark will present entertainment in the coming weeks. Tuesdays are Ladies Nights, and Sundays feature NFL games and \$2 drafts.
Saturday, Skydog, 10 p.m.
Sunday, Joe Finn, 4 p.m.
Nov. 22, Bandy Boys, 10 p.m.
Nov. 26, DJ Boy, 9 p.m.
Nov. 29, The Pal Roddy Band, 10 p.m.
Nov. 30, Mickey Perry, 4 p.m.
Dec. 1, Sequoia, 10 p.m.
Dec. 7, Traditional Irish Session, 2 p.m.
Dec. 13, Stronger Than Dirt, 10 p.m.
Dec. 14, Bandy Boys, 4 p.m.
Molly Maguire's is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call 732-398-6511.

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 Watson Ave., Summit. Featured will be an "open mic" forum of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for future dates.
For information, call 908-928-0127 or send e-mail to info@secondsatursdays.org.

TAVERN IN THE PARK in Rose Park will present Teddy Malek in "An Evening of Frank Sinatra" on Nov. 19 at 9 p.m. Tavern in the Park is located at 147 W. Westfield Ave., Rose Park. For information, call 908-241-7430.

VAN GOGH'S EAR, 1017 Sylvania Ave., Union will present a series of musical events. Tuesdays are Ladies Nights. A variety of musical genres will be featured. Open from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured rock performer. Open mic participants sign up at 7:30 p.m. and 10 to 11 p.m. on Tuesdays.
Nov. 23, The Michele Florio Trio, 8 to 9 p.m.
Nov. 25, Jeremy Mangini, 8 to 9 p.m.
Nov. 26, The Dave Pittenger Band, 9 to 10 p.m.
Nov. 30, X Marks the Spot, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 2, Open Mic, 8 to 9 p.m., Matt Mead, 9 to 10 p.m.
Dec. 7, The Son Lewis Trio, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 9, Breaking Laces, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 14, The Joe Knipes Quartet, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 16, Open Mic, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 21, Shusmo, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 23, Blue Music, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 28, The Gony Johnston Band, 8 to 9 p.m.
Dec. 30, The Establishments, 8 to 9 p.m.
Get Roy, 9 to 10 p.m.
Nov. 23, The Dave Pittenger Band, 9 to 10 p.m.
For information, call 908-810-1844.

THE PLAYHOUSE ASSOCIATION OF SUMMIT will present "The Color Purple" by Arthur Miller through Nov. 22. Shows are at 8 p.m. today, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. The Playhouse Association is located at 10 New England Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-2192 or visit the Web site at www.summit-playhouse.org.

PAPER MILL: THE STATE THEATRE OF NEW JERSEY will present "The Sound of Music" through Dec. 14. Shows are at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets are \$30 to \$67.

THE WAITING ROOM, 1433 Irving St. Rahway, at the corner of Lewis Street, presents Open Mike Night every Wednesday night. For information, call 732-815-1042.

THE WASHINGTON AVE. PUB. 704 Washington Ave., Linden, will present karaoke and the 100-Proof Duo Band every Saturday night. In addition, Thursday is Ladies Night. For present, karaoke and the 100-Proof Duo Band every Saturday night. In addition, Thursday is Ladies Night. For information, call 908-925-3707.

THE ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE will present "Play It Again" by Woody Allen from Nov. 21 through Dec. 21. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens, \$2 for children. The Elizabeth Playhouse is located at 1100 E

NEWS CLIPS

Holidays, music and kids
Fiona Murray, artistic director for the Play Away Studio, has put together a four-week program of music and art.

UCC seeks new plays
There are still a few openings for the monthly playwrights' workshop at The Theater Project, Union County College's professional theater company.

Chorale plans its season
The Summit Chorale has announced its 2003-04 season. "Alleluia, Rejoice, and Sing A Holiday Resurrection" Musical director Garth Nair will present holiday favorites.

Maple St. Summit
Brahm's Requiem... Nair's gala farewell concert at 8 p.m. on May 1, 2004, at location to be determined.

once a month
The network would also like to hear from producers with features and shorts longer than 20 minutes.



'Oldwick,' a 32-by-40-inch oil painting by John Reilly, exemplifies the artist's ability to capture the personality of a place in his work.

Artist captures a sense of place in his paintings

He walks the streets to get the feeling of the place and then "Reilly Paints Up the Town." Artist John Reilly's resulting oil paintings are mounted for his solo exhibit through Nov. 30 at Swain Galleries in Plainfield.

'Nothing in my work is exact or precise like a photograph.'

Reilly, who lives in California, traveled through and observed various towns and cities along New Jersey's so-called "corridor" between and including New York City and Philadelphia.

Theater explores history
The Union County Arts Center located in the downtown section of Scotch is announcing its plans to reach into the local community for archival material related to the theater's rich history.

Film-makers are sought

The New Jersey Movie Makers Network is looking for state-based independent producers with short-run features that they would like to screen.



The Calderone School of Music welcomes to the staff Professor Christian Buechler, a bassoon and contrabassoonist specialist, performing with many New York and New Jersey symphony orchestras.

Healthy Living

Senior Care offers options for elderly

Senior Care Activities Center offers caregivers of elderly individuals a structured, entertaining and safe environment with interesting social activities and companionship.

Hospice of New Jersey provides compassion

Hospice of New Jersey, based in Bloomfield and Toms River, provides compassionate and specialized care for the terminally ill.

HEALTH

KidsPeace intends to assist with fostering

Now is your chance to make a difference in a child's life by calling KidsPeace New Jersey and opening your heart and your home to a child in need.

Volunteers are needed for Cornell Hall program

Cornell Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a 177-bed long-term care facility located in Union, is requesting volunteers for the Silver Spoons program.

Hospice seeks volunteers

Volunteers are needed from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 to 5 p.m., especially during weekends and holidays.

Bill VanSant, Editor

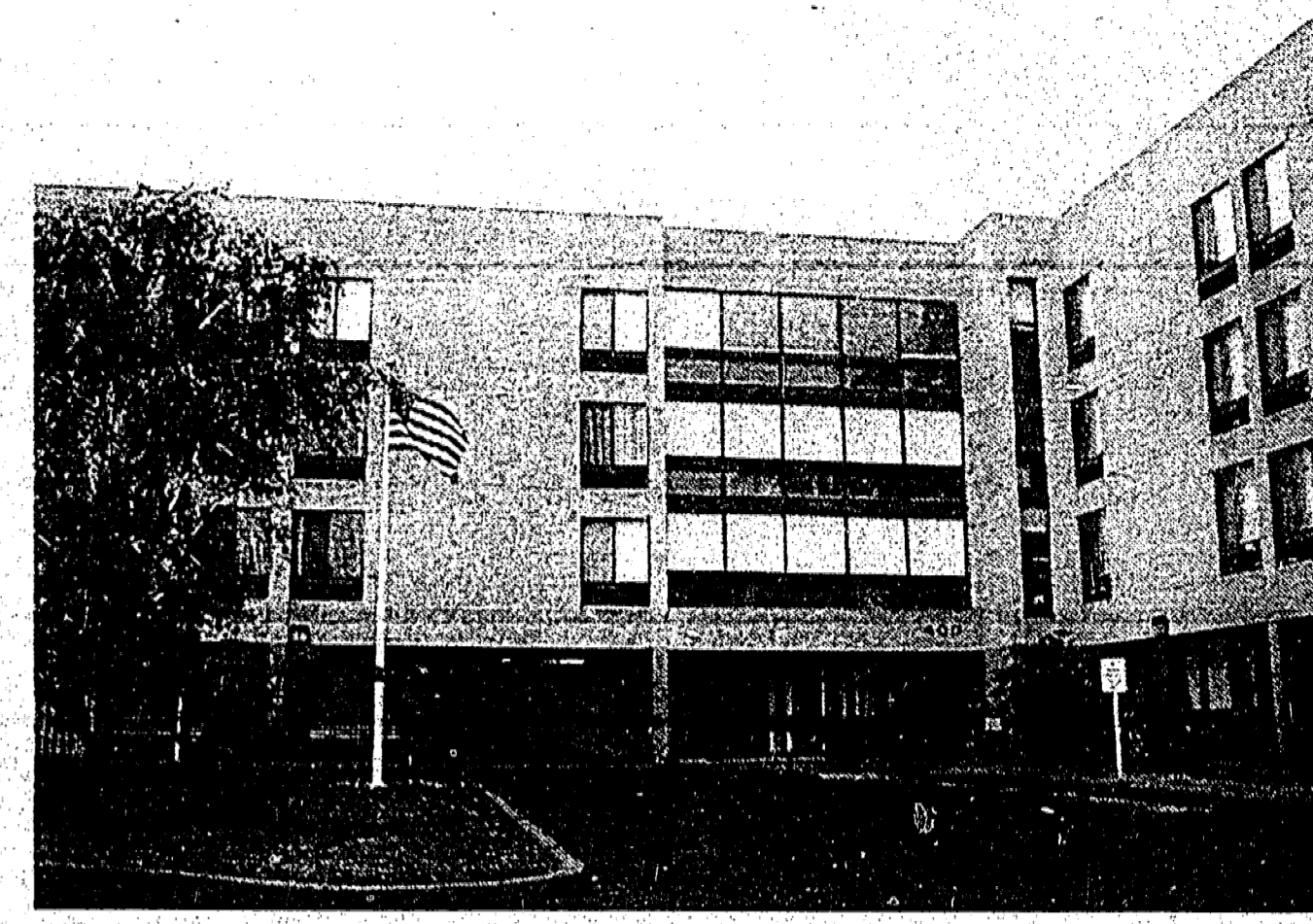
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Hospice of New Jersey, the first licensed hospice in New Jersey, proudly offers comprehensive care focused on aggressive management of physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

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Delaire Nursing and Convalescent Center in Linden recently earned the Gold Seal of Approval for health-care quality from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health-Care Organizations.

Delaire earns Gold Seal accreditation

Delaire Nursing and Convalescent Center, located in Linden, has achieved the Gold Seal of Approval for health-care quality. Skilled Nursing Facility accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations.

Healthy Living

PUT BACK PAIN BEHIND YOU

Advertisement for DOCTORS CARE Pain Management & Rehabilitation Center. Features a large image of a hand holding a back and text: 'New Medical Breakthrough Treats Herniated and Degenerative Discs without Surgery! Scientifically Proven. Physician Guaranteed!'

Advertisement for DORSON HOME CARE. Text: 'Do you or a loved one need HOME CARE? We are here for you! Call DORSON HOME CARE. We provide: Skilled Nursing Care, Home Health Aides, Homemakers, Baby Nurses, Live-In's Hourly.'

Advertisement for CHIROPRACTIC FOR BETTER HEALTH. Text: 'DR. DONALD ANTONELLI CHIROPRACTOR - FULL LENGTH MIRROR-BLUES. A healthy mind in a healthy body is a universal ideal that we all try our best to achieve. But a glance in a full-length mirror may tell a different story.'

Advertisement for 'Let Us Be Thankful' Thanksgiving. Text: 'Thanksgiving is a day of family and togetherness. Share it with those you love and give thanks for the rich bounty of the past year. May the next bring even more abundance to you all.'

Advertisement for Gentle Dental of Roselle, p.a. Text: '50% off bleaching! All phases of dentistry done including BRACES. Complete family dentistry. Want white teeth and straight teeth - call us.'

Advertisement for Are You Lonely? Don't Spend The Holidays By Yourself! Text: 'Many people who live alone can go days without talking to another person. Our pleasant home may be a welcome solution when independent living becomes difficult and living with family is impractical.'

Advertisement for Delaire Nursing & Convalescent Center. Text: 'Celebrating Our 20th Year of Service to the Community. Delaire Nursing & Convalescent Center. A Family of Caring. Providing Comprehensive Healthcare, Long Term Care, Assisted-Type Living, Respite Care, Hospice Care.'

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At top speeds, BMW bike owns the road

By Jerry Garrett
Copley News Service

The K1200G is exactly the kind of bike I've been trying to convince BMW to let me have for about two weeks, to ride around Germany.

Riding on a road such as der Schwarzwaldhochstrasse — the Black Forest "High Road" — would be perfect. Breathtaking scenery, with off-camber and increasing radius 100-mph turns to match.

So far, however, BMW can't see how sending someone from my hometown, San Diego, to Germany would help them sell vehicles. I tell them, I'll have to test the K1200G1 on a nearby highway.

The K1200G1 loves to unwind a road when it starts to get all knotted up.

In a class full of outstanding bikes like the Honda ST1300 and Yamaha FJR1300, the BMW is not the fastest bike to ride. But it is the most comfortable bike to ride.

To ride the streets of a great parkway, you need a great power, fuel-injection, suspension, excellent tires, strong engine and advanced brakes.

On fuel economy and range, however, we had to start looking for a regular 20 mpg after just 170 miles and getting only 38 mpg. A lot short of the Honda's 40 mpg, to cite an example. OK, so the ST1300 has a 7-gallon tank to the K1200G1's 5-gallon tank.

And after a bit longer than 170 miles we were stopping to see if there wasn't some way to adjust the BMW steering position to have a little more seat-of-the-bird whiff.

The K1200G1 is the third BMW offering in the heavyweight sport-touring category, joined between the R1100RS and the sporty K1100RS.

It's a "tourer" that lacks the trunk of a truck and has added saddlebags to make it a "tourer." All are powered by the same six-cylinder, 1171-cubic-centimeter, four-valve, dual-injector engine.

There is a "definite price bump" to the BMW from others in the class, but

things like heated seats and grips, electric windshield adjuster, adjustable seat position and pegs, electronic cruise control and ABS brakes are value-added features.

Even after six full-model years, no one else in motorcycling has been able to come up with better brakes than BMW's servo-assisted, partially linked FVO-ABS system.

There is a reason the California Highway Patrol won't use anything else.

It's important to remember that application of the front brake automatically brings in a measure of linked rear braking. Application of the rear brake activates only the rear brake.

Going back to a "normal" bike after riding the BMW, it will surprise you how much more lever effort is needed to reach the full giddyup. At 6000 rpm, the G1 might seem like a handful to twist, but to mention handle, once under way, though, at even the slowest speeds, concerns about the bulk and seemingly high riding position melt away.

Passenger accommodations are comfortable enough, but not in the same class as the plush LT, with its trunk-mounted reclining backrest.

Lighting is improved in the new models, although running at night and in inclement weather already was a K-Series strong suit. Wind and rain protection is similarly class-leading.

Since the basic K-Series bikes have been around awhile now, there's a school of thought that says, "Wait. Something new must be in the pipeline."

And there is a temptation to hold out for that rumored K1300 or whatever it will be. But would you cry if a K1200G1 suddenly appeared in your garage? I think not.

It might not be the King of the Cloverleaf, but it still rules in the Black Forest.

Dimensions
2003 BMW K1200GT
Engine: DOHC four-valve per cylinder, 1171 cc water-cooled inline-4
Fuel capacity: 5.4 gallons, premium unleaded
Fuel mileage: 36 mpg
Transmission: six-speed, single six-plate clutch
Suspension: Front: BMW Telelever fork, rear: BMW Paralever single shock with adjustable compression damping and spring preload
Brakes: Front: dual 120mm discs, dual four-piston calipers with ABS, rear: single disc, two-piston caliper with ABS
Tires: 120/70ZR17, rear: 150/55ZR17, on cast aluminum wheels

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Murcielago looks fast, even standing still

By Mark Maynard
Copley News Service

In a highway landscape of trucks, vans and sedans, the Lamborghini Murcielago appears as if it is just visiting Earth on its way to another galaxy.

This \$2,810,000, 575-horsepower, two-seater race transducer is the replacement for the Diablo and is the fiercest of the heavyweights in the racing hall.

I like its predecessors, though, the Murcielago is remarkably free of trademark Lamborghini excesses.

There is no big wing on the back, the instrument panel is concise and uncluttered with analog gauges, and the broad swaths of leather in the cabin and across the sample dashboard are a tasteful alternative to the excessive gimmicks of carbon fiber and metallic trim.

A new Lamborghini doesn't come out very often.

The Diablo had a life cycle of 14 years that the Murcielago will be followed by a convertible version, an automatic transmission option and a steering wheel controls — and a smaller V10-powered model in '04.

Trust parent company Audi for the fortified budget.

Shoppers in this supercar segment will appreciate a level of Italian hospitality not frequently found in such an exotic.

With its aluminum body panels, curving start-up profile, tires, Formula 1 driving position and trunk too small for golf clubs, the Murcielago isn't much of a grocery getter.

But it could be a daily driver. It is easygoing at sub-supersonic speeds, and even at high revolutions per minute it wags like the Concorde.

A modest turning radius of 31.2 feet gives this 15-foot-long sports car surprising maneuverability in tight quarters, but it rides so low that the driver stares into the license plate of the car ahead.

With the special fairs attention to narrow streets, the mirror has a power fold feature, and the gullwing-style doors open by pivoting upward. Not a bad idea on this side of the pond, either, but remember to duck or guard your head — when lifting a leg over the door sill and dropping into the seat.

It's perhaps not the best car choice for a first date. Ladies in skirts must

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Sports • Monday noon
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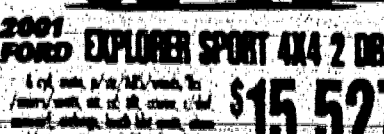
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2003 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER EXT LT 4 DR
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2001 AUDI A8L QUATRO 4 DR
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