

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD N.J., VOL. 75 NO. 40

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2004

TWO SECTIO

Status of pond rehab unknown

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

As Springfield awaits word on a \$1.1 million Green Acres grant that Union County applied for months ago, plans for the remediation of Meisel Avenue Park appear to be on schedule.

However, there has still been no word on what may become of Meisel Pond, which was a concern for some residents in the colder months of the year, and may be more problematic as the weather heats up.

The algae-filled pond causes minor flooding along Cottage Lane property and has also been referred to as a risk for West Nile Virus.

County officials have maintained that there is a master plan for the pond, as with other bodies of water in the county, and that Meisel Pond wouldn't be far away from improvement.

While several phone calls to the county's public information offices regarding the progress on Meisel Pond have not been returned over the past two months, Springfield Mayor Clara Harelik said she recently spoke with county officials who told her that there appears to be one little area they're doing "follow-up on" but were not more specific.

In the colder months of the year, residents noted that it would not be as much of a problem, as the field is frozen or snowed over. At a public

meeting in February at Jonathan Dayton High School, those who spoke urged that the county look into the matter before the seasons change and the pond becomes hazardous, attracting even more animals and insects, including disease spreading mosquitoes and birds.

"I have made inquiries to the county manager as to whether or not it could be moved up on the list," said Harelik of the push to get the pond cleaned up as soon as possible.

Freeholder Mary Ruotolo explained at the public meeting that there is only so much money in the budget, and that the proper work for each body of water has to be done one site at a time.

At the time, Ruotolo said that Echo Lake was currently being worked on, as it was "number two" on the list of bodies of water that needed attention.

The total cost of the Meisel project is slated to be \$2.2 million, as the county hopes to get half of that money through the Green Acres grant.

The Green Acres program was approved by voters in 1998 and advocates that \$98 million per year for 30 years and up to \$1 billion in bonding be set aside for land preservation and park development. The money is financed through the state's sales tax.

Regardless of whether or not the money is received through the grant,



Photo By Keena Rose Sitavan

No word has been forthcoming from Union County officials on what may become of the stagnant Meisel Pond, which was a concern for some residents in the colder months of the year, and may be more problematic as the weather heats up. The algae-filled pond causes minor flooding along Cottage Lane property and has also been referred to as a risk for West Nile Virus.

the project will go through with commitment and support from the county.

Right now, all parties involved with the park's redevelopment are patiently waiting to hear word from the state as to whether or not the grant will be awarded. Timelines concerning the park's progress and completion have not been offered because

Green Acres funding takes at least three months for review and approval. Although it has been more than three months since the grant was applied for, it is uncertain as to when a decision will be made.

With state Department of Environmental Protection permits necessary prior to construction, the time

frame would also be extended approximately 90 more days before the project goes out to bid.

The park has been closed since August 2001, when it was discovered that the ground soil was contaminated with arsenic, lead and an insecticide at levels exceeding residential standards.

Odd detector in school

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor

A strange, mysterious odor detected by parents, teachers, students and faculty and staff at Beechwood School in Mountainside roughly two weeks ago raised safety concerns among residents at Tuesday's Board of Education meeting.

Hoping to discover the source of the smell, the school board decided to approve a series of mold air sampling and air quality tests, and odor treatment and odor control applications in specific areas of the school.

The mold air sampling and air quality tests will be performed specifically in four classrooms. Two hallway samples will be taken along with a sample outside the building.

The tests will be performed today, at a cost of \$410. The ozone treatment and odor control tests are expected to be performed Saturday and Sunday in the HVAC ducts for the same four classrooms at a cost of \$800 per treatment, with the amount not to exceed \$1,600. All the tests will be performed by Enviro Techniques Inc.

Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller said he first noticed the smell about two weeks ago, when the air conditioning units were turned on in the school, which houses students from pre-kindergarten through second grade.

He described the odor as a "misty type of dampness" and said the administration is investigating where it is coming from and what could be causing it. He said it was suggested that it could be a dead animal somewhere within the infrastructure of the building, although this is unlikely.

Schaller said for now, the students have been temporarily moved out of the affected classroom and into other air-conditioned rooms. He added that using ozone treatments is a safe and common practice since it is a non-toxic chemical.

"Ozone is very commonly used as a liquid or gas, it has the ability to not only disinfect, it also has the capability of oxidizing organics very well," said board President Peter Goggi.

School Business Administrator Paul Vizzuso said the school board is expected to know the results of all the testing within the next 10 days.

Richard Oseja, a Mountainside resident and captain of the Police Department, asked if it was possible the smell could be the result of mildew behind the Sheetrock of the walls of the school.

Goggi said the walls were opened during the renovation work at the school, but not since then. He said the board will know more since the air samples and other tests are done.

Resident Suzanne Streeter asked if the school board would consider moving all of the children in the affected classrooms into another class.

"I think they should be moved out now," said Streeter. "Nobody likes to be an alarmist but I feel we should know."

She asked if any testing had shown that what they were breathing in was harmful.

Schaller said the children could be moved to other classrooms since the building had the capacity, and if necessary, all of the children could be moved out of all four classrooms.

The main classroom where the odor has been emanating from is teacher Megan Schwengel's room.

The classrooms of teachers Gail Anderson, Kimberly Lasch and Dana Peterson will also be tested.

Hard work pays off for Springfield gymnast

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

After a decade of accomplishments and perfection on the mat, 14-year-old Jonathan Dayton High School student Andie Sablosky reached the highlight of her gymnastics career.

On May 16 in Houston, the high school freshman and lifelong Springfield resident took first place overall in the Level A State Championships of the Jersey Optional Gymnastics Association for her age group.

The only thing that made this year's two-day event different from last year's, in which she also came

away with a first-place medal for the overall competition, was that Sablosky broke the state record for floor exercise with a score of 9.7.

"Once I landed, that was unbelievable," said Sablosky, who has competed in every state championship since she became eligible at age 8. "I drilled it into the ground."

The competition features gymnasts from ages 8 to 18, but Sablosky rose from level C, which is considered a beginner status, to an advanced level A years ago, and she has shown that age is simply a number. The previous record was held by an 18-year-old,

who earned a 9.5 at last year's competition.

"You want your child to be healthy and you want your child to be happy," said Alyssa Sablosky, Andie's mother. "Everything else is just the cherry on top."

The lifelong gymnast is also a member of the Jonathan Dayton High School gymnastics team, which had 16 meets over three months at the beginning of the school year. In the five conference meets, which feature a wider range of schools, Sablosky placed third all-around in the Union County Conference, second all-around

in the Northern Hills Conference, and fifth all-around in the Northern Section I competition, which just barely qualified her to travel to Rutgers University for the New Jersey State Inter-scholastic Athletic Association competition. There, she won a 12th-place medal on the vault.

Sablosky also placed first in the uneven parallel bar exercises, one of four scored events that included the record-breaking floor exercise score and added up to a total winning score of 36.925.

The best part about being a gymnast, Sablosky says, is being able to do all the things that other people cannot do.

'You know when you go into a meet, that if you need a good score, she's going to get it.'

— Stan Dobrydnio

"It's like floating through water sometimes," described Sablosky, adding that watching tapes in slow motion reaffirms that notion. "Working so hard for something and then getting it is amazing."

The hard work Sablosky speaks of may be an understatement. In order to fit in an average of 16 hours a week of practice, the flipping freshman has had to cut out other activities from her schedule, such as the sports she played when she was younger.

She also leaves high school a little early each day, excused from a study hall period, to go to Sargent's Elite school in Westfield, a well-known establishment that trains and teaches some of the best and brightest gym-

nasts in the area.

"I support other things," said Sablosky. "Most gymnasts get hurt outside of the gym."

Stan Dobrydnio, who is Andie's current coach, has seen her talents grow since she was just beginning, and said that the best word to describe her is "gamer."

"You know when you go into a meet, that if you need a good score, she's going to get it. She's just so dependable," said Dobrydnio, adding that the young star is right on track for a full scholarship to college.

If there is a downfall to the sport that she loves, Sablosky says that it's the danger involved.

"You don't really think about that, though," she said. "There's a right way and there's a totally wrong way," she said, noting that it's important to stay focused on the specific techniques.

"It's unbelievable to watch," said Irwin Sablosky, Andie's father, who is also the president of the Springfield Board of Education. "The level of maturity that she's reached is unbelievable," he said, adding that seeing her competing can be truly inspirational at times.

Sablosky said that she doesn't have just one influence, explaining that her entire gymnastic career has been developed by a "support system," consisting of coaches who she doesn't even see much of anymore, to her family, including her older sister and younger brother, who help out during competitions in any way they can.

While she's already started thinking about colleges that she may attend and compete with, Sablosky is just building her resume for right now.

"It's a whole new level," said Sablosky of women's gymnastics and how far she could improve her skills in the coming years. "Women are slowly but surely putting in men's skills. The sky is the limit."



Photo By Keena Rose Sitavan

After a decade of accomplishments and perfection on the mat, 14-year-old Jonathan Dayton High School student Andie Sablosky reached a new gymnastics milestone when she took first place overall in the Level A State Championships of the Jersey Optional Gymnastics Association for her age group. Here she is with proud coach, Stan Dobrydnio at Sargent's Elite in Westfield.

Springfield's fire protection rating will be improved

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

Two months after many Springfield residents received a letter notifying them that their home fire insurance premiums will be increased due to a negative assessment of the Fire Department by Insurance Services Office, Mayor Clara Harelik announced a return to the previous rating of a 4.

ISO, which develops certain information that is used by the insurance industry to establish rates, had given Springfield's Fire Department a rating of 10, the worst on a scale of 1 to 10. Since the rating was given, Harelik has spearheaded an effort to fight what she considered an "unjustified" rating.

"She really took the bull by the horns," said Committeeman Steven Goldstein of Harelik's

determination to resolve the matter and change the rating. "She really singlehandedly got that 10 to a 4."

"I don't think anybody here could imagine the effort put forth," said Committeeman Harold Poltrock, who went on to say that her "perseverance and steadfast refusal to accept anything but success" should be recognized.

In a circular that ISO is now sending to insurance companies for which it develops Public Protection Classification codes, the company states that the rating of a 10 was given due to an "insufficient number of firefighters available to respond to structure fires, as well as possible delays in the receipt and dispatch of fire alarms."

The letter goes on to say that ISO has since verified that the township has hired addition-

al firefighters to be available for response as of May 3, and also placed into service an enhanced fire alarm dispatching process, thereby improving fire protection within this municipality, among other enhancements.

"I didn't know what to expect," said Harelik, who had met with ISO and helped give the company a tour of the new Fire Department, which they hadn't seen prior to branding the department with the poor rating. "All indications said the new rating would be a 6. We proved our case, though."

Harelik had said after that meeting with ISO that the number would drop, but that a 4 could be hard to reach.

"We met the criteria," she said. "The things we did to improve made a difference. We were able to paint the proper picture for ISO."

Among the notable improvements were the hiring of four additional firefighters, which occurred two weeks ago, and the installation of a new centralized communications system in the firehouse.

"We corrected their misinformation," said Township Attorney Bruce Bergen, explaining that the rating is given based on specific, surveyable points. "It's statistical in a sense."

Harelik added that ISO was very cooperative in terms of working at the new information presented to them.

Harelik has sent a letter to the Department of Banking and Insurance asking for assistance and cooperation regarding the change in rating, as the 10 was never substantiated in the first place. Harelik states in the letter that technically, Springfield never regressed to a class 10.

Harelik said that it is important for residents to understand that the previous rating of 10 was to go into affect beginning June 1. After fighting the rating, ISO decided that the rating would be changed back to a 4, effective Sept. 1. Therefore, any resident who will be renewing their policy between June and September may be expected to face a rise in premiums. While Harelik hopes that it isn't necessary, she urges those citizens whose insurance renewals fall in this time period to contact their insurance companies and make them aware of the situation.

In her letter to the Department of Banking and Insurance, she explains that while ISO believes it is obligated to provide insurance carriers with lead time to change the rating, this is "inherently unfair to policy holders."

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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.

Monday: To mark Memorial Day, members of the Mountainside community are invited to take part in a ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park...

Tuesday: Mountainside Free Public Library, Constitution Plaza, will offer Storytime Theatre for 5-year-olds to participate in storytelling activities...

Wednesday: The Springfield Planning Board will meet on the second floor of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave., at 8 p.m.

Thursday: To mark Memorial Day, members of the Mountainside community are invited to take part in a ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park...

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1-800-UNIONCENTER www.uncb.com

Breast cancer drive pulls into JMK dealership in Springfield

Readers will be able to help the fight against breast cancer when the Light of Life Ultimate Drive for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation comes to the area on June 8...

Firefighters respond to Rt. 24 vehicle accident with injuries

At 12:33 a.m. May 16, Springfield firefighters responded to Route 24 East for a motor vehicle accident with injuries.

At 1:40 a.m. May 17, firefighters responded to a Park Place apartment complex on an investigation of an arcing light switch.

At 8:42 p.m. May 17, firefighters responded to a South Maple residence on a leaking hot water heater.

At 4:18 p.m. May 19, a victim had her wallet taken out of her purse while shopping at ShopRite.

At 10:15 p.m. May 19, a car parked on Route 22 East was broken into and a laptop computer, work bag and CDs were among the items stolen.

At 11:45 p.m. a woman reported that her pocketbook was stolen from the top of her car while it was parked on the lot of Elcho Plaza.

At 6:10 p.m. May 19, a suspect shopping at ShopRite was caught trying to steal three DVDs that had a combined total value of \$37.93.

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Mayor, council upset regarding state-mandated budget increases

By Rick Kitchin Staff Writer At the May 15 public hearing regarding the Mountainside municipal budget, Mayor Robert Vigilanti announced the adopted amount to be \$4,000,000, which calls for a \$75 annual tax increase for the average homeowner in Mountainside...

Vigilanti has maintained that the most increases in the budget are coming from the state, as its control over municipalities forces increases in the budget that would otherwise not be so apparent.

"I get a little upset when the state says that we need to find a way to lower per-capita taxes," said Vigilanti, "and then they place new bills upon us which we must pass on to you."

Vigilanti described three major increases, including the state mandated increase for support of the borough's library, which went up approximately \$49,000 without a needs assessment study.

The state concluded the costs based on a standard formula. "Due to restraints that the state puts on us," said Councilman Keith Turner, "we worked very closely with the

department heads on establishing the budget." Turner added that while New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey keeps saying that he doesn't want to raise taxes, he does other things to shift the burden.

The Police and Firemen's Retirement Fund, for example, has become the borough's responsibility after several years of the state taking care of it. The pension fund calls for more than \$38,000 this year, and will increase by that amount each year for the next four years, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars that used to be the state's responsibility.

"The state is continually shifting the burden of things that they have been paying for," said Turner. Vigilanti also brought up the almost \$74,000 increase for the new recycling contract, which the borough had only one bid that they had to accept.

Councilman Glenn Mortimer said that the state should look into helping municipalities by creating more competition for recycling contracts. "Senior citizens at the meeting have legitimate gripes," said Mortimer, adding that taxpayers are pay-

ing more now than they ever have had to before. "We're lucky that we're developed," said Mortimer of the borough, explaining that an increase in the borough's population would have a huge impact on taxes in the long run.

Besides standard increases in the salaries of township employees, the main increases were handed down by the state. If not for those increases, the borough's budget would have increased by \$2,523 instead of more than \$161,300.

"The mayor and council do our best to control our taxes," said Turner, "and as it's getting finalized, our hands are tied." Turner said that the state could have increased the borough of the mandates sooner than they did.

"We used last year's budget as a base," said Mortimer, "to determine our priorities. Many things are out of our control." Along with the pension plan that only the policemen benefit from due to the fact that the Fire Department is made entirely of volunteers, the budget for insurance is composed of \$411,000 for the group insurance plan for employees, \$57,000 for workers' compensation and \$150,000 for miscellaneous insurance costs.

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Let me help you



Seven-month-old Jimmy Rubin wants to help his sister Sabrina, 2 1/2, color her frog puppet during the Toddler Time program at the Mountainside Free Public Library.

Springfield pool sets registration procedures for upcoming season

The Springfield Community Pool has established 2004 registration procedures. Springfield residents must register for a season membership. Springfield residents are also prohibited from entering the pool site as a daily guest.

Members are asked to bring or mail in the following to the Recreation Office: Completed 2004 application form, 2003 pool photo I.D. card, Personal check or money order, cash is unacceptable.

Proof of residence, i.e., valid driver's license or voter registration card. A photocopy is acceptable for mail-in registration only. For mail-in registration only, include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

New applicants must register in person in order to take a photo I.D. and produce the proper proof required for the desired class of membership. Any adult or child without a valid photo I.D. will be charged an additional \$10 for a new card.

In person or mail-in registration is accepted at the Springfield Recreation Department, 30 Church Mall, Springfield, NJ 07081. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

Special registration dates and times are from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday and from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday. Pool hours are weekends, Saturday, Sunday, and Mondays, as well as June 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Starting June 26, weekend holiday hours will be 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Week days, the pool is open from noon to 8 p.m.

Membership application information includes the following: Permanent residents, husband, wife and all unmarried children under 18 and including the age of 22 who reside within the same household.

Family (caregiver) - A caregiver should be someone who provides special care to an individual within the family and the caregiver must be 16 years or older. The caregiver must provide proof of age as well as verification of employment signed by both the employer and employee.

Joint membership will be available to any two persons residing in the same household. One member must be an adult. Individual - Any permanent resident between the ages of 21 and 61 and not a member of a family group.

Senior citizen - Any permanent resident who is 62 years or older. Proof of age is required for new members.

Registration: A child must be 4 years of age by Dec. 1 and not older than 13 years of age by Dec. 1. Camp dates are Monday through Friday, June 21 to Aug. 13. The camp is an eight-week program.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

A smart move

One of the complaints among Mountanside residents regarding the proposal for the borough's new community center is there are no set costs, or even estimates given to the public.

Since the costs are unknown at this time, a suggestion was made at a recent Borough Council meeting by Mayor Robert Vigilanti to put a question on the November election ballot asking residents if a community center should be built in Mountanside. The question could contain a specific amount of money for the cost of the project.

While the referendum item would be non-binding, it would allow the mayor and council to see what the public really wants. This is a good way to weigh public opinion. A copy of the costs involved with the project would be sent to residents before the election, consisting of facts and figures, so residents can be more informed about what the project will entail in terms of taxes and annual costs.

If nothing else, discussions about the community center have sparked a renewed interest in Borough Council meetings, judging from the increased public attendance and participation. This is where people can become most informed about the community center, simply by attending and asking questions, reading the *Echo Leader* or watching the meetings on TV-35.

With a burgeoning youth population and increased programs for seniors, the current facility in Borough Hall is simply too small to meet the demands of a growing population. Regardless of whether public opinion says "yes" or "no" on the community center in November, Mountanside needs a larger, centralized place for people to go for their recreational needs, and a community center is the answer.

Putting the center to a public vote is a smart way to see if the people of Mountanside feel the same way.

Increase FD staff

The recent hiring of four new firefighters for the Springfield Fire Department may be good news for the township, but it points to a disparity between the fire departments of Springfield and nearby Mountanside.

Even though both towns are nearly the same in geographic size, Springfield's population is more than double that of Mountanside's and still, Mountanside has more firefighters on staff. With 42 members, Mountanside has an all-volunteer fire department, while Springfield has a paid staff of 25. Despite Mountanside's volunteer squad, the borough sees a need for the 42 members. Springfield should have 20-25 firefighters, which is too low for a town with a population of 14,430 people, compared to Mountanside, which has 6,600.

The township was wise to act upon the recommendations of the long-delayed InData report, a study that called for, among other things, more manpower to be added to the department. The four new probationary firefighters, hired at a salary of \$28,993 each, represent a positive step forward for the department, but more firefighters are needed.

Remember the fallen

Monday is Memorial Day, when we remember those who have sacrificed their lives fighting for the principles on which the United States was founded. We may hold these truths as self-evident, but when they have been called into question, our soldiers have been willing to give everything to see these values upheld.

First organized in 1865 by a druggist in Waterloo, N.Y., as a social gathering to honor the patriotic dead of the Civil War by decorating their graves, what was then known as Decoration Day was officially recognized by Gen. John A. Logan, commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, on May 8, 1868. In 1971, Memorial Day was made a federal holiday, to be observed the last Monday in May.

This holiday is a time to remember all soldiers who have fought and died to defend an ideal to which we pledge our allegiance, whether in any of the wars of the past century or those being fought in Iraq and Afghanistan today. Some may be family or friends, while others we may not know personally, but they all fell under the flag of liberty. They deserve our respect and remembrance.

We urge residents to make this Memorial Day more than just a day off from work. They should attend local parades and events to cheer for these heroes, past and present; visit graveyards to lay flowers; call on relatives who have served valiantly and show them they are not forgotten; fly the flag and be proud of what it symbolizes. We must remember the fallen and cherish the freedoms for which they died.



Photo By Kevin Rose/Starline

GET DOWN — Steven Mandel, a senior at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield dances to the electric slide with Ruth E. Primis, a senior bus driver during the senior citizen prom, hosted by the Volunteer Club of Jonathan Dayton High School. The event gave high school seniors the chance to meet and dance with senior citizens in the township.

County setup aids powerful politicians, not public

Everyone concedes that there is duplication of effort by state, county and municipal governments. These same people point out how extraordinarily expensive this duplication is.

Yet, nothing changes. Why? It's money. We're all stakeholders in the system. But that's not all I believe that the present system serves the interests of powerful, entrenched political operatives.

These operatives come from both political parties. In Morris and Hudson County the power rests with the Republican Party. In Hudson, Essex and Union counties the Democrats call the shots. In Union County the Board of Freeholders is comprised of nine Democrats and no Republicans. If the powerful political operatives within the Democratic Party choose you to run for freeholder, you will be elected.

A freeholder is one of the best jobs in the state. The position offers salary, expense account, car and driver and out of state conferences in lovely to visit places. The only requirement for service is an innate understanding of delinquency and fealty. Fortunately, this hasn't presented any problem to the current complement of freeholders.

The political operatives not only select who runs for the chosen board of freeholders, they also decide who

can give up to nine days of pay and get 15 extra days of vacation. Seniority and benefits aren't jeopardized and the county is expected to realize \$100,000 in savings. That's how Union County Manager George DeSanay and the freeholders want to spin this giveaway. The county will realize \$100,000 in savings, and aren't our freeholders doing a wonderful job?

Stop and think about this for a moment. This program is only possible because there are far too many people doing far too little work. When county workers don't show up for work, nobody will miss them. Last year more than 200 employees took advantage of this program and, at the same time, their fellow citizens. I expect even more to go so this year.

Frankly, it is embarrassing that Union County has any program that encourages government employees not to show up for work. More embarrassing, an incentive has been attached to ensure that even more workers don't show up. What became of a day's pay for a day's work, or even a day off without pay?

This is just one more example of government patronage and featherbedding at its very worst. What the political operatives are doing is trading jobs to ensure control. When Rudolph Giuliani became mayor in New York City in 1993 patronage was a political reality and costs for services were out of control. In his book "Leadership," he writes "Assigning too many people to a task significantly reduces the quality of performance. It's tempting to think, 'There's no harm in having more of us needed' but staff hanging around uselessly encourages others to do likewise. Oversupplying personnel is of course supported anywhere with a heavy union presence, but this is no benign thing."

As taxpayers, we all pay just a little bit more so that political operatives can use patronage to retain power. In fact, New Jersey residents pay more in taxes per person than do the residents of any other state in our nation.

Politicians and elected officials talk about the need to reform the way we are taxed. They've talked about reform for years. Gov. McGreevey recently endorsed a constitutional convention to address the inequities of our tax system.

I've heard the talk and seen the posturing but I've come to doubt that there will ever be significant reform. No one wants to bell the cat.

Marc Kelley is a frequent contributor to this newspaper. He can be reached at mkelley@ecps.net.



Town Crier
By Marc Kelley

gets the legal work for the county, and also underwrites the bonds. That's power. It only one party held power in all 21 counties the other party would be quick to detail the abuse within the system and make the case for change.

As it is, no one wants to upset the applecart. It's like two cats and a saucer of milk. If they're willing to share, they do just fine. If they fight and the milk spills, one or maybe both, lose.

After the political operatives gain power, retention of power becomes the goal. The political operative decides who gets what services and who get which jobs. This is why county government has become a patronage mill. This is especially so in Union County.

A recent example of how the system works was evident in a piece written by Josh Zaitz of Worrall Community Newspapers. He reported that our county was permitting employees to purchase vacation days. These work-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Heavy street traffic spells trouble

To the Editor: The Springfield Township Committee at this point has an opportunity to do something about what has become one of the biggest safety issues in our community.

The problem I am talking about is the heavy volume of county traffic that goes through our residential neighborhoods every day. The population of Union County has been increasing over the past decade, and as a result, so has the volume of traffic going through our town. During rush hour especially, our main roads have become jammed that drivers stuck in traffic look to make their commute shorter by cutting through our residential neighborhoods. Evergreen Avenue and Smithfield Drive are prime examples of this. Looking to avoid the light at Mesel Avenue and Milltown Road, many drivers turn onto Evergreen, which turns into Smithfield which leads to Milltown Road which then leads into the Township of Union.

At certain times of the day, we have so much traffic that one would think that Evergreen and Smithfield were not a couple of local municipal streets, but two main county roads. Plain and simple, this should not be permitted to continue. Local roads should not be absorbing trans-county traffic. It destroys the quality of life in the neighborhood, and most importantly it is dangerous.

The more traffic that is going through a neighborhood, the higher the probability that an accident will occur, and when I talk of Evergreen Avenue, I am not talking about something that could or might happen. I am talking about things that have happened. Back in the late 1970s, a woman was struck and killed on Evergreen by a truck. In the early '90s, a girl was hit by a car, but thankfully not killed.

Most recently, on April 30, a car driving down Evergreen on the way to Union went up a curb, hit a tree and flipped over. Luckily, the driver was not seriously hurt, but what concerned the residents in our neighborhood was that if anyone had been walking on the street or sidewalk at that time, they would have been hurt badly or even killed.

My concern is that more and more young families are moving into the area, and as a result there are a lot more children around. Given the history of Evergreen Avenue, it is inevitable that another accident will occur. I fear that when this happens, the result will be the death of a child. So my question to the Township Committee is this: Are you going to ignore this problem, which is by no means unique to Evergreen Avenue and Smithfield Drive, or are you going to want for a tragedy to occur before any action is taken to remedy it?

The death of one child by a car accident may not seem as tragic as the deaths of thousands on Sept. 11, 2001, but try telling that to the child's parents.

Daniel Burke
Springfield

I won't stop until Temple Drive is safe

To the Editor: I would just like to take a moment of your and the Springfield residents' time in an effort to thank the many town residents who knocked on my door to give

me a "thata buy" and advised me to keep fighting for what I believe in, some of my advocates were from the temple congregation.

I would like to give particular gratitude to the following individuals: Senator Thomas Kean Jr. Assemblyman Eric Munoz M.D. and Assemblyman Jon M. Brammick, all of the 21st Legislative District of New Jersey.

One day after my letter to the editor appeared in the *Echo Leader* I received a copy of a letter sent to Springfield Mayor Clara Harelak from the above three gentlemen requesting the mayor to review the "speeding/speed bumps" situation and provide them with her comments. Again, I appreciate all the kind words and kudos, I will not give up until Temple Drive is a safe street.

"There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more important in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things."

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*, 1532

Mike Del Visco
Springfield

Our rec facilities are below average

To the Editor:

I am the parent of a sixth-grade child who participates in the Springfield Recreation Department's Youth Soccer program. On Saturday, I attended a soccer game in which my child was playing at the Jonathan Dayton High School soccer field located directly behind the school and adjacent to the rear parking area. I was shocked to find the field in a deplorable and substandard condition and was embarrassed that children from a neighboring town — Cranford — saw the lack of attention that our Board of Education and Township Recreation Department places in the needs of our children.

What I found at the soccer field was that the grass was several inches high and appeared to have not been cut for several weeks. In addition, there were ruts in the field which made it dangerous for the 11- and 12-year-old children who were using it. Garbage was also strewn about and overflowing onto the ground from the waste receptacles, creating a situation that invited vermin.

Finally, the field was covered in weeds which is typical of a field that has never been cared for with any type of appropriate field management program. The condition of the field was shocking and unacceptable. Having participated in the interschool soccer league as a parent, I was able to see the efforts of other towns in the surrounding area and how well their facilities are maintained. Springfield's recreational facilities and grounds are below average and would receive a flunking grade.

What excuses can our elected officials come up with next? Were they looking to save the costs of proper field management for the sake of the budget and to the detriment of our children? Does a child need to get hurt before someone addresses the deplorable state of the field conditions?

Perhaps the Board of the Education and the Township Committee can avoid finger pointing and take responsibility by addressing a problem that has been long in the making and never corrected — the deplorable conditions of the township's fields.

David H. Stein
Springfield

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Annual gala benefits arts center

On Saturday, April 24, the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit hosted IMAGES 2004, "A Glitterarty Party," its 23rd annual gala to benefit the center's education and community outreach programs at the Hilton Short Hills.

Nancy Y. Taylor, vice president and general manager of Neiman Marcus Short Hills, served as Corporate Chairperson of IMAGES 2004.

The evening featured dining, dancing to the music of The Party Dolls, art adventures, live and silent auctions and "Access to Art 2004," a video presentation of the center's programs.

Guests were welcomed by Eric Pryor, president of the NJCVA, Sue Welch of Summit, chairwoman of the Board of Trustees for the NJCVA, and Taylor.

The New Jersey Center for Visual Arts is a nationally accredited educational institution located at 68 Elm St.



Getting ready for a 'Glitterarty Party' annual gala to benefit the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts, are from left, Joe and Janan Weber, NJCVA President Eric Pryor, and Marite and Joe Robinson of Summit. Janan and Marite were co-chairwomen of the gala.

Hospital plans golf outing in Summit

Children's Specialized Hospital has announced a special partnership with WB11 Care for Kids Fund for its 15th annual golf classic, to be conducted Monday, June 14, at Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit. The event will benefit both children's Specialized Hospital and WB11 Care for Kids, a fund of the McCormick Tribune Foundation.

Since its inception in 1991, the WB11 Care for Kids has granted more than \$5 million to outstanding non-profit organizations in the tri-state area that address the unmet needs of children and their families. The McCormick Tribune Foundation matches donations to the WB11 Care for Kids fund at a significant percentage making even more money available to impact the community.

Nick Buccella of Summit, Marite and Barry Gross of Summit, will serve as chairmen of the planning committee, members include: Ed Baer, Perry Hall, Bill C. Doman, Doug Dyer, Kevin H. Joseph, L. Annelli, Paul L. Lutz, George Lazo, Roy Landreth, Bob Parkinson, John Moore, and executive members Philip Salemi, III and Alexander Gougonis.

For information, call the Foundation at 908.301.7474.

A show of support



Chris and Beth Welsh of Summit show their support for Reeves-Reed Arboretum by attending the annual Garden Evening plant auction on May 14. More than 125 people attended, bidding on plants and garden decorations in silent and live auctions.

Volunteers help weed out invasive plants

Aliens are resourceful and powerful invaders. They grow their own helicopter wings to find their offspring far afield. They reproduce profusely, sometimes spawning 7,500 young. They protect themselves by growing barbs. They run underground. They can destroy the infrastructure, infiltrating sewer pipes and breaking up roads.

The mere mention of their names, names like "dandelion" and "mile-a-minute weed" makes horticulturists shudder. New Jersey has roughly 2,100 native plant species. These plants and New Jersey's annual life evolved to coexist, keeping each other in check.

By contrast, some of the 1,300 plant species that have been brought here since the Europeans arrived have no natural predators. Such plants move aggressively into the landscape, in many cases taking over the territory of the native plants.

"The wooded area of Union County College's Cranford campus is surren-

dering to Oriental Bittersweet. And the Watchung Reservation has many invasives the list would fill a page," said Thomas M. Umbrella, an adjunct professor at Union County College.

Mile-a-minute weed is new in New Jersey — it was only reported here in 1994 — but it's spreading throughout the United States as rapidly as its name implies. It can be seen at Watchung Reservation, with its nasty thorns and aggressive growth.

Volunteers and horticulturists at Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit will diligently to repel invasive aliens from the grounds of the 12.5-acre arboretum.

The public is invited to a special morning dedicated to eradicating invasive plants planned for Saturday, June 12. From 10 a.m. to noon, volunteers will weed after which they will sit down to a pizza and home-baked desserts.

For information about invasive alien plants or about the weeds, call 908-273-8787.

Girls' Leadership Institute aims to bolster self-esteem

Kent Place School in Summit aims to teach girls and young women to be leaders in their schools, their local communities and in the world.

The Girls' Leadership Institute at Kent Place, a five-day, four-night, residential summer enrichment program for middle school-age girls entering seventh and eighth grades, has openings for the 2004 program, which runs July 25-29. Through workshops, discussions and hands-on experiences, the institute allows girls to experience a supportive environment that fosters personal growth and self-confidence.

Participants have the opportunity to refine skills, discover new interests, develop self-awareness and bolster their self-esteem. They will also meet other girls with similar interests and aspirations, make new friends and have fun.

"Research has shown that girls this age are particularly vulnerable to a decline in self-esteem," said Institute Director Christine Clemens. "Each girl who attends the Institute will explore and develop her own unique leadership style through a broad range of hands-on activities," she added.

Issues that are important to girls' development, such as self-expression and communication skills, are incorporated and addressed throughout the program. Participants will also take part in the physical challenges of a rope course to develop teamwork and risk-taking skills, and will meet women role models who, as guest speakers, will share their personal and professional histories.

Under the direction of Clemens, and Kent Place Middle School teacher, and Elizabeth Woodall, Kent Place Dean of Students, the Institute is designed to teach leadership skills that strengthen girls' confidence and self-esteem.

The program aims to inspire each participant to discover her own voice and set her own goals. Girls have an opportunity to take risks and hone their decision-making skills, to work independently and in collaboration with fellow participants, and to relax and enjoy the camaraderie of their peers in this environment.

They will reside and work with high school and college-age women who have been trained in leadership skills.

Kent Place School estimates the cost of educating each participating woman to leadership level through the Girls' Leadership Institute summer program, conducted in the school's campus in Summit.

For information, call Elizabeth Woodall at 908-273-8787. For online registration, visit www.kentplace.org.

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

David Worrall
Publisher

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Editor in Chief

Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor

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Spiritual events planned

Gumilla Norris, spiritual director, meditation teacher, poet, and author of "Becoming Bread" and "Being Home," will be the keynote at "From Yearning to Trust" Saturday, June 12 at the Interweave Center for Wholistic Living, 31 Woodland Ave. in Summit.

The day, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., will also feature workshops by Norris, Interweave director Robert Corn Morris, and four other presenters, and a light buffet lunch. The fee is \$70 for those registering by June 1, \$95 after group rates are available.

"From Yearning to Trust" will focus on the insights and practices, ancient and modern, that can lead to spiritual maturity, supporting one's life and service to others. In her morning workshop, "Remembering Love," Norris will use guided meditation to invite participants to recall the love, meaning and support they have been given throughout their lives.

Other morning workshops include "Finding Your Own Spiritual Path" with Episcopal priest, psychotherapist, and karate black belt Jim Wankle, and "How to Find an 'Adult Faith'" with Interweave director Robert Corn Morris. After lunch, participants will have a choice of three workshops: "Perils and Pitfalls of Growing Up Spiritually" with English professor and shamanic studies teacher Lib O'Brien; "Spirituality of Justice and Peacemaking" with Episcopal priest Sandy Wilson, national president of the Union of Black Episcopalians, and "Family Spirituality" with Interweave assistant director Lisa Green.

Interweave is a community learning center teaching skills for wholistic living that strengthen well-being, deepen spirituality, and promote the common good. Registration for the June 12 event is by phone at 908-277-2120 or online at www.interweave.org.

Speaker describes Pakistan life

Summit Area Old Guard member David Wilson will speak on his working experience in Pakistan at the Tuesday meeting at the New Providence Municipal Center, 360 Elkwood Ave. at 10 a.m. He will discuss his 20 years of YMCA service in Pakistan, an Islamic republic.

Retired men are invited to attend meetings of the Summit Old Guard Tuesday mornings. A coffee hour starts 9:15 a.m. followed by a 10 a.m. business meeting. Old Guard members participate in sports, bridge, hikes and trips, plays, concerts and other events.

For information, call Earl Gilkey at 908-464-2450 or log on to the Website at www.summitoldguardhomestead.com.

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SENIOR NEWS

AARP luncheon set... AARP will conduct its year-end luncheon meeting at noon on Monday, June 21 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Eagle Rock Road, Haverhill.

Senior van makes stops... The Mountside Senior Van is providing transportation services on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Mountside seniors ages 60 and older. It is available for trips to doctors, dentists, shopping, hairdresser appointments, etc.

MARS meets Tuesdays... The Mountside Active Retirees meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at Borough Hall.

Overlook supporters plan benefit... More than 175 Overlook Hospital supporters attended a gala friends cocktail party, April 2, to kick off Overlook Performances 2004, an event benefiting Overlook Hospital to be conducted Sept. 18 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

More than 1,000 guests are expected to attend the September event. In keeping with the theme "Laughing, Nature's Best Medicine" the evening will feature a performance by a comedian, a cocktail reception, seated dinner and dancing. Lifetime Achievement Awards will be given to four recipients whose contributions to Overlook have been noteworthy for community service, medical service, volunteer service and corporate service.

Annie Charles Jones and Timothy Jones, of Summit, are serving as Great Performances 2004 Gala chairpersons. Dolores Hope, wife of the late comedian Bob Hope, is serving as honorary gala chairwoman. For tickets and information, call 908-252-2840.

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

Seniors enjoy steppin' out



Recently, a group of senior citizens in Springfield enjoyed a dinner and show at the Festa in Woodbridge. From front left are Leo Kraemer, Roseanne Citro, Marie Camp, Eleanor Potito, Theresa Melici and Natalie Albright. From back left are Mirella DeMartino, Marie DelMauro, Nik Vituollo, Josephine Zentz, Gloria Vituollo and Mary Anne Librizzi.

Matthew Saraka

Matthew John Saraka, 41, of Neesham Station, formerly of Mountside, died May 17 at home. Born in Rahway, Mr. Saraka lived in Mountside before moving to Neesham Station 13 years ago. He was an accountant with the Pillar of Fire Ministries in Zarephath for two years. Previously, Mr. Saraka was an accountant for Littman Jewelers and Potomac Stationing. He was a graduate of St. Francis College, Loretto, Pa. Mr. Saraka was a member of the Men's Group of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Three Bridges. He was a former basketball, soccer and baseball coach in Branchburg Township.

Surviving are his wife of 14 years, Debra, two sons, Travis and Christopher, his parents, Judy and John Saraka, a sister, Michelle Mampello, and two brothers, Michael and the Rev. John Saraka.

Margaret Mintz

Margaret A. Mintz of Hollywood, Fla., formerly of Springfield, died May 17 at home. She was the widow of the late Milton Mintz, and the mother of Asher Mintz, both former publishers of the Irvington Herald, the Vailsburg Leader, the Union Leader, the Springfield Leader, the Mountside Echo, the Kenilworth Leader, the Sector of Roselle and Roselle Park and the Linden Leader, which were purchased in the fall of 1982 by Walter Worrall and integrated into Worrall Community Newspapers.

Born in Guttentberg, Mrs. Mintz lived in Irvington and Springfield before moving to Hollywood 12 years ago. She was vice president of the Irvington Herald Inc. and the Suburban Publishing Corp., both of Union, before retiring.

Mrs. Mintz was a member of the Hadassah in Hollywood, the Fl Okin Cancer Relief Fund of New Jersey, the Sisterhood of Congregation Ahavas Achim B'nai Israel of Irvington, the Daughters of Israel Auxiliaries of West Orange, the United Family of Irtzok Engel, the Light for Sight in Florida and the National Council of Jewish Women in Florida.

Surviving are a son, Asher, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Joseph Zutkis

Joseph A. Zutkis, 83, of Mountain-

OBITUARIES

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Surviving are a son, Asher, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Joseph Zutkis

Joseph A. Zutkis, 83, of Mountain-

Jack Rubinfeld

Jack Rubinfeld, 83, of Mountside, died May 23 at home. Born in Detroit, Mr. Rubinfeld lived in Springfield for 17 years before moving to Mountside 10 years ago. He was a self-employed interior designer. Mr. Rubinfeld owned and operated Design for Interiors in Springfield for 25 years and retired in 1996. He attended Cooper Union College and the Pratt Institute, both of New York City.

Mr. Rubinfeld was a past president of the New Jersey chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. He was a member of B'nai B'rith in Springfield and Monroe Township. Surviving are his wife of 14 years, Phoebe, two sons, Michael and Paul, a stepson, Howard Turner, and five grandchildren.

Dr. Walter Reiter Jr.

Dr. Walter A. Reiter Jr., 80, of Wayne, Maine, formerly of Summit, died May 19 at home. Born in Summit, Dr. Reiter moved to Wayne in 1966. He was vice president and medical director of underwriting for Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co., New York City, and New York City, retiring in 1986. Previously, Dr. Reiter had a private medical practice. He served in the Navy's Medical Service during the Korean War.

Dr. Reiter attended Wesleyan University, where he received bachelor's and medical degrees. He was instrumental in establishing a lake monitoring program in Wayne. Dr. Reiter served as lake monitor for 13 years. He also was involved in the Kennebec Land Trust and served as host for a workshop about invasive species.

Henri Leighton

Henri Leighton, 86, of Plainfield, formerly of Summit, died May 21 at home. Born in Memphis, Tenn., Mr. Leighton lived in Vicksburg, Miss., New York City, and Summit before moving to Plainfield in 1984. He was owner and operator of the "Beautiful Things Shop," Scotch Plains, with his late wife, Paula, from 1973 until he retired in 1996. Prior to that, Mr. Leighton operated a jewelry shop on midtown Manhattan, where he sold some of the jewelry he crafted. Mr. Leighton received a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Mississippi in 1948. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II as a cryptographer.

Grace MacMaster

Grace P. MacMaster, 95, of Tallahassee, Fla., formerly of Summit, died May 14 in the Tallahassee Memorial Health Care Center. Born in East Orange, Mrs. MacMaster lived in Summit for 68 years before moving to Tallahassee in 1981. She was a teacher and director for grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

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AT THE LIBRARY

Video explores the secrets of Stonehenge

The Springfield Free Public Library, 60 Mountain Ave., presents its "Longitude Video Series," "James Back in Time," on Tuesday afternoon.

This story of the British Isles in prehistory covers the hunters and farmers who eked out a living in the land and Stonehenge, the magnificent structure which has become a symbol of those dark and mysterious times.

Completed in the year 128 AD, Hadrian's Wall at the edge of the Empire, built on the orders of Emperor Hadrian, marks the northern border of the Roman Province of Britain.

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Mountainside offers summer recreation activities

The Mountainside Recreation Department offers the following upcoming activities and programs for the summer.

Community Pool: Summer will soon be here and pool memberships are still available for 2004.

Multi-Sport Camp: Multi-sport camps for children and adults are available.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE: Notice of sale of real estate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that public hearing will be held on the 27th day of May, 2004.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: Public hearing on zoning application.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Regular Meeting of the Board of Adjustment of the Township of Springfield.

ADVERTISE

Book group gets into life of 'John Adams'

The Good Books Discussion Group of the Springfield Free Public Library, 60 Mountain Ave., will meet on June 8 at 7 p.m. to discuss "John Adams" by David McCullough.

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Stories come to life with spring programs

Mountainside Public Library, Constitution Plaza, will offer spring reading programs for children.

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GLHS science team takes top honors

For the fourth year in a row, Governor Livingston High School's extracurricular science team, 'Project HomePage,' has taken top honors in a nationwide Internet-based science fair.

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Alumni Game for a good cause

Bringing players from the past together for a good cause.

The focus of the Dayton High School Alumni Hockey Game is to be played June 11 at 7 p.m. at South Mountain Arena in West Orange.

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SPORTS



The Dayton High School baseball team, sparked by the play Joe Fumagueri (No. 37 at left), had an outstanding 16-9 season this year under first-year coach Chris Loeffler.

GL boys', sparked by Carmody, win first section championship

A number of talented public high school area athletes will make their presence felt at this weekend's group track and field competition at Egg Harbor after advancing out of sectional competition that took place last weekend at various sites around the state.

The season comes to a close Wednesday, with the annual Meet of Champions at South Plainfield.

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SPORTS NUMBERS

Phone: 973-763-0700 Fax: 973-763-2557

Dayton baseball can reflect back

Many positives for Bulldogs

SPRINGFIELD - Reflect back on a lot of positives. That's what Dayton High School baseball coach Chris Loeffler can do after guiding his team to a 16-9 mark in his first season at the helm.

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Professional Directory advertisement for Attorney, Chiropractor, Mortgage, and Piano Tuning & Repair.

To Advertise in This Directory Call 800-564-8911

COUNTY NEWS

Mothers & More
On Wednesday, the Union County...
Lara Brasky, a certified swim instructor...

Evening hours for surrogate Wednesday
Union County residents with questions about their last will and testaments...

Occupational Center to mark 45th anniversary
The Occupational Center of Union County will hold a champagne reception to celebrate its 45th anniversary...

WPC meet & greet
The Union County Women's Political Caucus will host a meet and greet cocktail reception...

Antique Center of Red Bank
150 Dealers in Three Buildings
All Specialties
One Daily 11:55am-12:55pm

For more information, contact Union County Women's Political Caucus President Brenda King at...

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NJ's Largest Antique Complex
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9-17 Division Street
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150 Dealers in Three Buildings
All Specialties
One Daily 11:55am-12:55pm
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

NJ Ballet serves fitting tribute to its 45 years

The prima ballerina coquettish, demure, enticing, defiant and delicate...
The New Jersey Ballet Company at the Wilkins Theater at Kean University in Union...

Not every act was a pas de deux, there were soloists, and there were more than two dancers at a time in various phases of passion and emotion...

Another outstanding excerpt from "Spartacus," choreographed by Yuri Goronovskii, with music by Aram Khachaturian, offered some dramatic...



The drama of 'Spartacus' — as well as the Soviet style of dance — is brought to life by Julia Vorobyeva and Konstantin Dourne. The pair appeared in the New Jersey Ballet Company's presentation Saturday night.

music by Cesare Pugni. There was a Spanish flavor to "Don Quixote," with Nola, who is very good, and Davydov, who is new to the company and very promising...

Camp program uses Shakespeare to teach

The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey is currently accepting applications for its Junior and Senior Corps, a summer theater program designed for students ages 11 through 17.

Now in its 12th year, the program enables young people to experience, first-hand, the excitement of the professional theater world while gaining valuable performance skills...

The Junior Corps
Do you have a youngster who is a natural performer? Is your child creative and full of exciting ideas but could use some help in developing self-expression skills?

The Senior Corps
The Senior Corps is designed for older students, ages 15 through 17, who have shown an aptitude for performance or a strong interest in classic theater.

Special seminars provide all members of the Junior Corps and the Senior Corps with the unique opportunity to work with the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's professional company of artists.

Liberty Hall looks to the past for future events

Liberty Hall Museum is celebrating its fifth season with many special events.
Opened in 2000, the museum preserves the 225-year-old home of the Livingston and Kean families.

Liberty Hall Museum is open to all ages and offers a variety of special events.
The gift shop has many items at a variety of prices including tea sets, children's toys and games.

Bill VanSant, Editor
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NJ ARCH
The one-stop resource for those touched by adoption.
Contact the Warm Line
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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS DIRECTORY CALL A SALES REPRESENTATIVE AT 800-564-8911

To be listed call 908-686-7700

County offers funding for history, arts through grants programs

Do you need funds for a history, arts or humanities project? The Union County Board of Freeholders offers history, arts and humanities grants to individuals, organizations, community arts groups, schools, libraries and other nonprofit organizations that wish to present history-related and cultural programs to apply for funding through one of Union County's grant programs.

The purpose of the grant programs is to provide funding opportunities to county business organizations and community arts groups interested in developing and presenting the county's rich history and multicultural arts assets through public presentations," said Freeholder Deborah Neuman.

The Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs in the Department of Economic Development administers the county's three grant programs — History, Arts, and the HERALD grant programs.

"We are pleased to offer both Special Project and General Operating support grants," said Freeholder Chester Holmes, chairman of the Union County Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board. "History organizations, community art groups and other nonprofits are eligible to apply for funding."

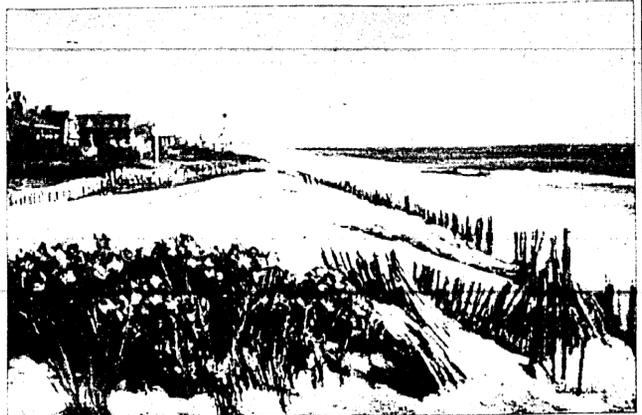
The History Grant Program provides grants to nonprofit history groups, house museums, historic sites, libraries, schools and organizations with collections or programming relating to Union County and local history. The program is made possible by a general operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, Division of Cultural Affairs, in the Department of State.

The Arts Grant Program awards grants to organizations that demonstrate a high degree of professionalism in an expressive or producing arts project and general operating support grants.

In recognition of the importance of culture and the arts to the economy and the quality of life for Union County citizens, the Union County Board of Freeholders established the innovative HERALD History, Education, Arts, Reading, Thousands Grant Program in 1995. This pioneering grant program provides funding for nonprofit organizations, historians, individual artists and scholars producing or sponsoring projects related to history, the arts and humanities.

To request an application and guidelines for any of the grant programs, or information on other programs and services, write to the Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, NJ 07201, call 908-588-2554, Relay users dial 711, or send e-mail to cech@co.uz.net.

Stop and smell the 'Roses'



Princeton resident Paula Kolojeski's painting titled 'Beach Roses — Bay Head' is included in Children's Specialized Hospital's May art exhibit. The hospital will exhibit the work of Kolojeski, Dario Scholts of Elizabeth, and Lisa Brown of Watchung. For information, see the 'Art Shows' listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page B10.



18th Annual
RENAISSANCE KINGDOM
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Over twenty shows per day providing entertainment for all ages.

Weekends
June 5-27
11am - 6pm

Located at the Tulip Springs section of the South Mountain Reservation
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Shakespeare Theatre kicks off season with 'Love's Labour's Lost'

The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey opens its 42nd season with William Shakespeare's comedy "Love's Labour's Lost," directed by Brian B. Crowe.

In the royal court of Navarre, four earnest young men "swear off" worldly temptations in favor of academic pursuits. Their foolish "ivory tower" ideals quickly unravel at the hands of four clever young ladies. Shakespeare's delightful tale is a hilarious ode to the journey of growing up that exposes, with great affection, the follies, infatuations and desperate yearnings of youth.

Performances are Tuesdays through Sundays, June 8 through 27, at the company's Main Stage in Madison.

Madison Night
June 8 is Madison Night. Madison residents are invited to visit The Shakespeare Theatre box office between noon and 7 p.m. on that date for a special "pay what you wish" offer: show proof that you're a resident of Madison, New Jersey — driver's license, utility bill, etc. — and name your own price for tickets to that evening's 7:30 p.m. performance. Seating is subject to availability.

"Know the Show"
On June 17, the Shakespeare Theatre presents a new program called "Know the Show." From 7 to 7:30 p.m., director Brian B. Crowe will present an insightful pre-performance talk, which will provide fascinating information and an expert's perspective on "Love's Labour's Lost" and the Shakespeare Theatre's production. General admission is \$5 for the general public, \$4 for subscribers. Tickets to the 8 p.m. performance may be purchased separately.

Lorsaking earthly delights is the branch of David Furr as Ferdinand, King of Navarre. His numerous classical theatre credits include the title role in "Hamlet" and Grimo in "The Taming of the Shrew" at the Malama Shakespeare Festival, Borneo in "Romeo and Juliet" and "Bohannon" in "The Comedy of Errors" at the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival.

Joining the King in his vow to swear off women is Betwone, played by Thomas M. Hammond, who appeared in the title role of the Shakespeare Theatre's acclaimed 2002 production of "Pericles." His classical stage credits include "Cymbeline" at the Lucille Lortel in New York City and the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford, England, and Sir Peter Hall's "Troilus and Cressida," "Macbeth," "Richard II" and "Richard III" at Theatre for a New Audience in New York. Hammond also appeared as John Proctor in the PBS documentary on Arthur Miller and Elia Kazan, "No One Was Left Behind," and as Tom Buchanan in "The Great Gatsby" in PBS' "American Masters" series.

As the Spanish Knight and Braggart Don Armado in Eric Rothman's "The Merry Wives of Windsor," he has delighted audiences as Dogberry in last season's "Much Ado About Nothing." Among his film and television credits are "The Fisher King" and "Law & Order."

Catalyn Korolkova returns for her fourth season with the company to portray the swift-minded Princess of France. Korolkova appeared as Desdemona in last season's "Othello." She has also appeared at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey as Irina in "Three Sisters," Light and Mother Told in "The Blue Bird" and Olivia in "Twelfth Night." Off-Broadway credits include Athena in "The Odyssey" and Olga in "Three Sisters" with the Theater Company. She can be currently seen on NBC's "Third Watch" in the recurring role of Linda "Pygmalion," as cast as Rosaline, the Princess's secretary attendant. Previous company credits include "Pericles" and "Much Ado About Nothing" on the Main Stage, as well as leading roles with Shakespeare LIVE!, the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's educational touring company. Off-Broadway, she appeared in the Mint Theater's highly acclaimed production of "Fair and Wide."

Joining out the cast are Ames Adams as Holofernes, Benjamin Faltus as Dumaine, David Lubert as Costard, Duncan Hazard as Sir Nathaniel, Greg Jackson as Boyet, Molly McCann as Moth, Kelvin O'Brian as First Lord, Margy Olsen as Jaquenetta, Erin Parlin as Maria, Troy Scatena as Longaville, Brian Schulz as Anthony, Dull Monsieur, Marcade and Laura Simms as Katherine.

About the director
Directing "Love's Labour's Lost" is Shakespeare Theatre resident artist Brian B. Crowe. Now in his ninth season with the company, Crowe's directorial credits include "The Tempest" and "The Comedy of Errors" on the Main Stage, and the 1999 world premiere of his original script, "Wonderland," and "What Was I and There?" on the Other Stage. As the company's director of education, he has directed numerous Shakespeare LIVE! touring productions, as well as seven in-school residencies projects throughout New Jersey.

Preview performances of "Love's Labour's Lost" are at 7:30 p.m. on June 8 and at 8 p.m. on June 9 and 10, offering the thrill of seeing a work in progress before the show officially opens. Preview tickets are \$26 to \$30.

Beginning June 11 and continuing through June 26, regular performances are Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. and Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. excluding a sold-out Opening Night at 7 p.m. on June 12, Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., beginning June 13, and June 13 and 20 at 7 p.m. A special weekday matinee is offered June 23 at 2 p.m. Regular tickets range from \$34 to \$48, with substantial discounts for groups of 10 or more.

The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's Main Stage is located in Madison at 36 Madison Ave., on the campus of Drexel University. Parking is free. For information, call 973-408-5600 or visit www.ShakespeareNJ.org.

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HEALTH

Glassman to lecture at NYU this summer

Richard M. Glassman, Ph.D., M.D., is a prominent neuroscientist and a leading expert on the neurobiology of aging. He will be giving a lecture at NYU on the neurobiology of aging. The lecture is titled "The Neurobiology of Aging: A Molecular and Cellular Approach." The lecture will be held on June 10, 2004, at 7:00 PM in the Tisch Student Center, Room 100. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Program focuses on obesity in society

Each year in the United States more than \$50 billion is spent on weight-loss products and services. Despite this huge amount of money, very little research has been done on the causes of obesity. A new program, the Obesity Study, is being launched at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. The program is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases. The program will focus on the causes of obesity and how to prevent it.

Diabetes support

Diabetes is a chronic disease that affects millions of people in the United States. It is a leading cause of blindness, kidney failure, and heart disease. The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey has a Diabetes Support Program. The program provides support and resources for people with diabetes. The program is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

KidsPeace intends to assist with fostering

KidsPeace is a national organization that provides support and resources for foster parents. The organization is currently seeking foster parents in the New Jersey area. Foster parents are needed for children who are in need of a safe and loving home. KidsPeace provides training and support for foster parents. The organization is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Volunteers sought

Atlantic Hospice, serving terminally ill patients and their families in Essex, Union, Morris, and Somerset counties, is recruiting volunteers. Volunteers are needed to provide support and resources for patients and their families. The organization is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Hospice offers care with compassion

Hospice of New Jersey, based in Bloomfield and Toms River, provides compassionate and specialized care for terminally ill patients. The organization provides support and resources for patients and their families. The organization is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Stroke survival is key

Stroke is a leading cause of disability and death in the United States. The key to survival after a stroke is to receive treatment as quickly as possible. The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey has a Stroke Program. The program provides support and resources for people who have had a stroke. The program is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Dorson offers aide training

Dorson Home Care offers training for home care aides. The training is designed to help aides provide the best possible care for their clients. The training covers topics such as patient care, safety, and communication. The training is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Exercise program set for stroke patients

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the availability of an exercise program for stroke patients. The program is designed to help stroke patients improve their physical health and quality of life. The program is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Confident smiles

Nancy Holly DDS of Roselle wants to share a simple fact: your smile is among your most important physical attributes. The effect of a sparkling, confident smile on personal, social, and business relationships has been proven to be crucial. Dr. Holly is a member of the American Dental Association and the New Jersey Dental Association. She is also a member of the American Association of Endodontics and the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Volunteers needed for Cornell 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. The program provides support and resources for residents who need help during mealtimes. The organization is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Non Surgical Removal of Herniated Discs

Dr. Wayne Heischlaeker, Dr. Steven Shane, Dr. Randolph Kahn, Dr. Edward Novik, and Dr. Michael Wilcenski offer a non-surgical approach to the treatment of herniated discs. The procedure is minimally invasive and has a high success rate. The procedure is performed at the Vein Center. The center is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

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Historically a variety of disc decompression techniques have been utilized on over 500,000 patients during the past 30 years. While medical science agrees that disc decompression to relieve pain is a valid concept, the best method to relieve pressure in the disc has been widely discussed. While medical science agrees that disc decompression to relieve pain is a valid concept, the best method to relieve pressure in the disc has been widely discussed.

The ACCUCARE MEDICAL GROUP had already been performing COBLATION NUCLEOPLASTY on the lower back with high success rates. Very recently the technology has further developed to allow the procedure to be performed on the smaller discs of the cervical spine (neck). The medical staff at AccuCare was eager to transfer this success to their patients with chronic neck and high back pain. They were the first interventional pain medicine practice in the tri-state area to perform this new procedure on the cervical spine. To date, AccuCare has performed more CERVICAL COBLATION NUCLEOPLASTIES than virtually any other practice in the United States. Their success ratio to date is in excess of 93% based upon the standard analog pain scale.

Judy F., Age 29, Virginia
When she first came to AccuCare, she was screaming, crying and throwing up from the burning pain and tingling sensations that were shooting from her neck, shoulder and rib cage, down through her arms into her fingers.

"I was taking a combination of five or six medications including percocet, oxycotin, morphine and an anti-depressant, but the pain was so severe, I just couldn't eat. I went from 115 pounds to 70."

By the Judy found AccuCare, she had seen more than 12 doctors - six in Virginia, one in New York, orthopedists, vasculars, chiropractors, surgeons.

And she'd had her share of usual treatments - cortisone shots, physical therapy, massage therapy, acupuncture and surgery. But nothing worked. In fact, things kept getting worse and worse.

After COBLATION NUCLEOPLASTY Judy's pain was greatly reduced and she was able to return to a more normal lifestyle. "Not only is COBLATION NUCLEOPLASTY successful," says Gabriele Jasper M.D., "it is also minimally invasive and safe. No incision, no sutures, no general anesthesia and essentially minimal recovery time. The procedure usually takes about 30 minutes and the patient walks out of the office an hour later with a Band-Aid on their back. They are requested to temporarily restrain from strenuous physical activity but may resume to full activity levels within one week."

Gaunelle Jasper M.D., interventional pain physician and board certified Anesthesiologist says "There are studies that show patients are at least 80% better after the procedure. I have seen patients get off the procedure table with an immediate and significant reduction of pain. Some of these patients had been experiencing chronic back pain for a long period of time."

AccuCare Medical is structured to span the entire spectrum of pain medicine with seven medical board certifications held between our four member physicians. These certifications include not only Pain Medicine but also Electrodiagnostic Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. AccuCare has its own state-of-the-art facility, and our doctors also enjoy privileges in eight of New Jersey's finest hospitals and surgery centers where they treat the full range of today's most debilitating pain syndromes.

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OUR PATIENTS SPEAK:

Brad B., Age 36, Virginia
"People thought I was crazy to drive from Virginia to these guys, but I quickly proved them wrong." I had a previous neck fusion and was still having pain. I couldn't work-out without pain and my fingers were constantly numb.

"My Brazilian Jiu Jitsu instructor told me that AccuCare had fixed the herniated discs in his wife's neck so I made an appointment and headed for New Jersey."

"It's a month after Coblation and now the pain in my neck is gone and my fingers aren't numb anymore."

Nicole C., Toms River, New Jersey
"I was in Pain every day. It started between my shoulder blades and went all the way down my arm," says Nicole, adding that she had seen many doctors and tried almost every treatment out there - anti-inflammatory drugs, botox, epidurals, cortisone shots. "Usually I'd get about two weeks relief, then the pain would come back." It was when Nicole's neurologist suggested surgery that she finally drew the line. "Surgery was not an option for me. I have two young kids, I teach gymnastics and I just can't take off three to six months to recover. I already felt like my life was consumed by doctors and procedures so I decided to hold out until something new came along."

Something did - CERVICAL COBLATION NUCLEOPLASTY. When my lawyer first told me about it, Coblation was not yet approved for necks. Then one day he called to say AccuCare was doing it on necks - and I found out I was a perfect candidate!

"The difference is tremendous. The pain was gone immediately. The doctors sent me home with a Band-Aid on my neck and pain medication but I never took it. There was no general anesthesia and no lost work time, the whole procedure took about 15 minutes and an hour later I was in my car and on my way home - pain free! A few days later I went back to work. That was over 3 months ago. Today Nicole still can't believe it. It's almost to good to be true."



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Exercise program set for stroke patients

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the availability of an exercise program for stroke patients. The program is designed to help stroke patients improve their physical health and quality of life. The program is led by Dr. Robert M. Luster, Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Tener of ERA Westfield to Circle of Excellence

Carole Tener, a top-producing sales associate from the Burgdorf ERA Westfield office, has earned the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence Sales Award...

Summit ERA wins NJAR bronze awards

A total of five sales associates from the Burgdorf ERA Summit office have earned the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence Sales Bronze Award in 2003.

The NJAR Bronze Achievement Award recipients are Dolores Cronberger, Susan Finn, Tom George, Zella Goldenberg, and Mary Jo Herr.

These Bronze Award recipients are a daily reminder of what every Realtor should be!

These Bronze Award recipients are a daily reminder of what every Realtor should be! said Joanne Tedesco-Klond, vice president and manager of the Summit office.

The award-winning sales professionals can be reached by phone at 908-522-1800, or by visiting the Burgdorf ERA Summit office located at 401 Springfield Avenue.

Founded in 1958, Burgdorf ERA is the top-producing ERA real estate firm in dollar volume nationally with 16 offices and more than 700 sales associates in New Jersey.

The ERA real estate network includes 2,700 independently owned and operated offices in the United States and in 65 countries.

Burgdorf ERA is a member of the NRI family companies NRI Inc., the nation's leading residential real estate brokerage company, is a subsidiary of eMandant Corp.

Kim Cannon, Lori Dahl, and Madeline Diab from the Burgdorf ERA Summit office have earned the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence Sales Award, Gold level, for the production of over \$15 million and 25 units minimum in 2003.

Cannon, a real-estate professional and 11-year real-estate producer, has earned the NJAR Circle of Excellence Sales Award, Gold level, for 2003.

RE/MAX Your Choice opens in Springfield

RE/MAX Your Choice Realty, a new RE/MAX franchise in Springfield, hosted a grand opening on May 5.

The new office is owned and operated by Alexander "Alex" Santos, a broker owner with six years of real estate experience. RE/MAX offers full real estate services in Springfield, Union, Millburn, Kenton, Westfield, and Cranford.

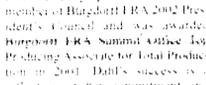
RE/MAX is on the cutting edge of the real-estate industry, and Alex Santos, with RE/MAX, our associates can offer a higher standard of services to my clients.

"We are delighted to be a part of the RE/MAX Your Choice Realty team in Springfield," said Santos. "I have been a member of RE/MAX since 2001. During his career, Santos has been a member of the New Jersey Association of Realtors' Circle of Excellence, bronze level, in 2001 to 2003.

"I am a daily reminder of what every Realtor should be!" said Joanne Tedesco-Klond, vice president and manager of the Summit office.

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Let's Ask Jill



by Jill Guzman

CHOOSING A BROKER

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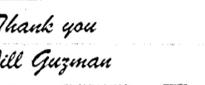
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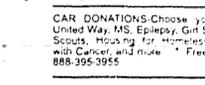
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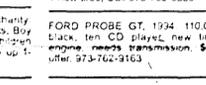
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JILL GUZMAN REALTY, INC. 76 ELMORA AVENUE, ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY 07202 908-353-6611

ing on May 5. The new office is owned and operated by Alexander "Alex" Santos, a broker owner with six years of real estate experience. RE/MAX offers full real estate services in Springfield, Union, Millburn, Kenton, Westfield, and Cranford.

Let's Ask Jill



by Jill Guzman

CHOOSING A BROKER

In all walks of life, we the consumers are faced with making decisions which are safest, which college offers the best curriculum, which doctor can alleviate our pain.

Real estate is no exception. When it is time to sell a home, we seek assistance. Choosing a Realtor is one of the most important decisions as it will decide the financial and emotional securities of our families.

The professionals at Jill Guzman Realty are achieving honors and distinctions year after year. They offer personal service, true knowledge of market value, and a marketing program to enhance your home together with honesty and integrity.

CAVEAT EMPHOR - let the buyer beware. Watch out for letters and correspondence that state there is a buyer waiting for your home. Let's be realistic. Has the buyer been inside your home? Has the buyer seen your home? Be on the alert for super discounts that promise very little commissions.

PS: The professionals at Jill Guzman Realty are achieving honors and distinctions year after year. They offer personal service, true knowledge of market value, and a

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CONSTRUCTION SALE!

WORK ON OUR NEW FORD SHOWROOM IS PROCEEDING!
 in the meantime we're working out of a construction trailer and space for inventory is at a premium,
EVERY NEW FORD-FOCUS, TAURUS, EXPLORER, FREESTAR EVEN EXPEDITION HAS A CONSTRUCTION DISCOUNT THIS WEEK!

NEW 2005 FORD ESCAPE LTD 4WD

VIN #5KA61771, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS/winds/lks/mirrs, cd, sunroof, leather, MSRP \$28,635. Includes \$1000 customer cash rebate. RCO for 36 mos. w/ 3.5% APR w/ \$1495 down. Optional final (39th) balloon pymt \$15,472. Tot pymts \$10,982.

\$289 PER MO FOR 36 MOS

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<p>NEW 2004 FORD FOCUS LX</p> <p>VIN #4W127668, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s/b/air/fm stereo, air bags, alarm/sec sys, MSRP \$15,875. Includes \$3000 factory rebate.</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION SALE! DISCOUNTED PRICE!</p> <p>\$10875</p> <p>SAVE \$5000 OFF MSRP!</p>	<p>NEW 2004 FORD RANGER XL</p> <p>VIN #4T1A13154, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/mirrs, split seats, air bags, MSRP \$18,280. Includes \$3000 factory rebate.</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION SALE! DISCOUNTED PRICE!</p> <p>\$12895</p> <p>SAVE \$5385 OFF MSRP!</p>	<p>NEW 2004 FORD EXPLORER XLS 4WD</p> <p>VIN #4U1B4733, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, cd, cruise, roof rail, MSRP \$29,680. Includes \$3000 factory rebate & \$1000 FMCC bonus.</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION SALE! DISCOUNTED PRICE!</p> <p>\$21995</p> <p>SAVE \$7685 OFF MSRP!</p>	<p>NEW 2004 FORD EXPEDITION XLS 4WD</p> <p>VIN #4LA08974, V8, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS/winds/lks/mirrs, cd, cruise, alarm/sec sys, MSRP \$35,305. Includes \$3000 factory rebate.</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION SALE! DISCOUNTED PRICE!</p> <p>\$26395</p> <p>SAVE \$8910 OFF MSRP!</p>
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CONSTRUCTION DISCOUNTS ON EVERY USED CAR & TRUCK ON THE LOT!!

<p>'94 FORD TAURUS GL VIN #2J27396, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, dual air bags, 39,848 mi. 1 OWNER!</p> <p>\$1995</p>	<p>'02 SATURN SL2 VIN #2J273202, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, cruise, 18,349 mi.</p> <p>\$9995</p>	<p>'02 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 S VIN #2J273202, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, lth, sunr, 43,334 mi.</p> <p>\$13,995</p>	<p>'03 TOYOTA CAMRY LE VIN #3U73413, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS, air bags, 20,600 mi.</p> <p>\$15,995</p>
<p>'97 CHRYSLER SEBRING LXT VIN #VE052117, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS, sunroof, cd, dual air bags, 106,736 mi.</p> <p>\$4495</p>	<p>'00 MAZDA MPV VIN #XJ271449, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks/mirrs, 52,397 mi.</p> <p>\$9995</p>	<p>'04 CHEVY IMPALA VIN #4910735, V6, auto w/OD, a/c, power steer/ABS, air bags, 13,500 mi.</p> <p>\$13,995</p>	<p>'99 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL VIN #XV643746, V8, auto, a/c, power steer/brks, cruise, air bags, 41,993 mi.</p> <p>\$16,995</p>
<p>'96 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4WD VIN #TUA37234, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b, the, sunroof, air bags, 63,340 mi.</p> <p>\$5995</p>	<p>'02 MAZDA 626 VIN #2S280969, V6, 5 spd, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, cd, cruise, 22,714 mi.</p> <p>\$10,995</p>	<p>'02 FORD E-150 CARGO VAN VIN #2H8B3645, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, 25,451 mi.</p> <p>\$14,295</p>	<p>'02 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT VIN #2J77077, V6, 5 spd, a/c, p/s/b, dual lops (soft & hard), large wheels, 29,910 mi. EXTRA CLEAN!</p> <p>\$16,995</p>
<p>'99 HONDA ACCORD LX VIN #XCC00848, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS/winds/lks/mirrs/crs, cd, cruise, alarm/sec sys, 73,164 mi.</p> <p>\$6995</p>	<p>'00 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS VIN #XJ271449, V8, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS, winds/lks/mirrs/seats, crss, cruise, alloys, 43,108 mi.</p> <p>\$10,995</p>	<p>'03 FORD E-150 CARGO VAN VIN #3H89126, V6, auto, a/c, power steer/brks, air/fm stereo, 14,944 mi.</p> <p>\$15,995</p>	<p>'01 FORD EXPLORER SPORT TRAC 4WD VIN #1UA43260, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS/winds/lks, cruise, alloys, 44,145 mi.</p> <p>\$16,995</p>
<p>'02 PONTIAC SUNFIRE COUPE VIN #2J278655, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS, cd, sunroof, dual air bags, 22,445 mi.</p> <p>\$8995</p>	<p>'02 FORD TAURUS SES CERTIFIED, VIN #2A259259, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS, winds/lks/mirrs/crs, cruise, alarm/sec sys, 20,693 mi.</p> <p>\$11,995</p>	<p>'03 JEEP LIBERTY VIN #3W567258, V6, auto, a/c, p/s/b/winds/lks, crss, air bags, alloys, 7042 mi.</p> <p>\$18,995</p>	<p>'01 FORD F-150 FX4 CREW CAB VIN #1XK20711, V8, auto, a/c, p/s/ABS, air/fm stereo, dual air bags, 57,634 mi.</p> <p>\$22,995</p>

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THIS AD IS A COUPON-AND IT MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. Prices include all costs except for taxes, licensing, NY fee, and registration. Offers cannot be combined. All rebates and discounts go to dealer. *RCO-Real Car Option, customer retains title of the vehicle for the duration of term. At the end customer can choose to return the vehicle in good cond OR to purchase the vehicle by paying final balloon pymt or financing it. Customer has 10,500 mi/yr @20¢ average and is responsible for amount and excess wear & tear. All finance offers subject to primary lender approval and must be financed thru dealer. Credit may affect down payment and/or APR rate. We're not responsible for type errors. Cars sold as-is. Photos are for illustration purposes only. Ad prices valid 1 day after publication.

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UP TO 60 MOS ON SELECT 2004 MODELS available on all new 2004 Chevy except Aveo, Malibu, SSR & Colorado to well qualified buyers by GMAC. 0% in lieu of rebates.

<p>New 2004 Chevrolet AVEO SPECIAL</p> <p>VIN #48172594, 5th #2839, 4 DR, 1.6L DOHC 103HP, eng, 5 spd, manual, a/c, p/s/b, cd and MP3 playback, MSRP \$11,990.</p> <p>\$89 \$134 \$157 \$3956.70</p>	<p>New 2004 Chevrolet AVALANCHE 1500</p> <p>VIN #4G101835, 5th #2086, 2WD, V8, auto, 6.800 lb GVW, in-dash 6-disc cd player w/Bose speakers, 1st seat audio ctrlr, MSRP \$34,285.</p> <p>\$235 \$373 \$397 \$14,742.55</p>
<p>New 2004 Chevrolet MALIBU</p> <p>VIN #4F211036, 5th #C3192, 4 cyl, auto, MSRP \$19,475.</p> <p>\$99 \$144 \$167 \$7984.75</p>	<p>New 2004 Chevrolet TAHOE LS 4WD</p> <p>VIN #4J253677, 5th #C3010, V8, auto, 17" 5-spoke alum whls, full power equip, lugg rk crossbar, liftgate, MSRP \$39,525.</p> <p>\$298 \$346 \$369 \$20,157.75</p>
<p>New 2004 Chevrolet IMPALA</p> <p>VIN #49245384, 5th #C2520, 4 DR, 3.4L V6 eng, auto w/OD, am/fm stereo CD, MSRP \$22,405.</p> <p>\$127 \$172 \$195 \$8962</p>	<p>New 2004 Chevrolet TRAILBLAZER LS 4WD</p> <p>VIN #42298797, Vortec 16, auto w/OD, 5750 lb GVW, p/heated mirrs, lugg rk, keyless entry, theft deter sys, full power equip, MSRP \$31,720.</p> <p>\$149 \$238 \$282 \$20,300.80</p>
<p>New 2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX LS 4WD</p> <p>VIN #56015003, 5th #D5017, V6, auto, cd w/MP3 plyr, lugg rk crossbars, 16" alum whls, trailing pkg, MSRP \$22,955.</p> <p>\$149 \$239 \$284 \$14,461.65</p>	<p>New 2004 Chevrolet SUBURBAN 1500 4WD</p> <p>VIN #4G244674, 5th #C2994, V8, auto, cargo net, trailer pkg, lugg rk cross bars, MSRP \$41,835.</p> <p>\$342 \$389 \$413 \$21,361.35</p>

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\$2500 Factory Rebate or 0% APR For 60 Months*



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\$4000 Factory Rebate or 0% APR For 60 Months*



2004 GMC ENVOY

\$4000 Factory Rebate or 0% APR For 60 Months*



2004 GMC ENVOY XUV

\$5000 Factory Rebate or 0% APR For 60 Months*



2004 GMC CANYON

\$2500 Factory Rebate or 0% APR For 60 Months*



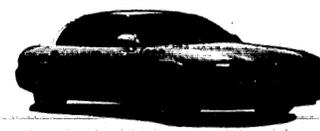
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2004 GMC SAVANA

\$3500 Factory Rebate or 0% APR For 60 Months*



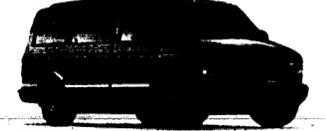
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4 cyl. 5 spd man. p./str./brks. air, cd. S1k#40611. VIN#48156561 MSRP \$11,990. Price Includes \$1000 Factory Rebate.

35 MPG!

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\$5500 UP TO CUSTOMER CASH

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SAVE OVER \$3125 OFF MSRP

\$16,331

BUY FOR

NEW 2004 CHEVROLET IMPALA 4 DR

6 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks, air, cd. S1k#40944. VIN#49709807. MSRP \$22,655. Price Includes \$3000 Factory Rebate.

SAVE OVER \$5100 OFF MSRP

\$17,531

BUY FOR

NEW 2004 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LS 4X4 4 DR

6 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cd, security sys. S1k#40852. VIN#42359153. MSRP \$31,930. Price Includes \$3000 Factory, \$1000 Truckfest Bonus Cash & \$500 Value Certificate Rebates.

SAVE OVER \$7375 OFF MSRP

\$24,531

BUY FOR

NEW 2004 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS 4X4 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks, air, cd, 4 airbags, security sys, 3rd row seat pkg. S1k#40877. VIN#45267241. MSRP \$41,520. Price Includes \$3000 Factory, \$1000 Truckfest Bonus Cash & \$500 Value Certificate Rebates.

SAVE OVER \$9875 OFF MSRP

\$31,631

BUY FOR

NEW 2004 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN LS 4X4 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, running bds, 17" whls. S1k#40708. VIN#45202602. MSRP \$43,060. Price Includes \$4000 Factory, \$1000 Truckfest Bonus Cash & \$500 Value Certificate Rebates.

SAVE OVER \$11,125 OFF MSRP

\$31,931

BUY FOR

SUMMER PRE-OWNED SAVINGS!

2000 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD BLACK BEAUTY

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, leath. 31,966 mi. S1k#4192. VIN#7C281183.

\$19,931

2003 DODGE RAM QUAD-CAB 4X4 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks, air, cass, cd, security sys. 16,501 mi. S1k#50025H. VIN#35107426.

\$25,231

SEATLINER & COVER INCLUDED

2003 CHEVROLET SILVERADO EXT-CAB 71 4X4 2DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, leath, security sys. 22,487 mi. VIN#3179341.

\$27,331

ONSTAR

2001 CHEVROLET PRIZM 4 DR

4 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks, air, cd. S1k#40714. VIN#1G1J13142.

\$6931

SPRING STARTER

1998 HONDA CIVIC LX 4 DR

4 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks, air, cass, cd, moonr, leath. 48,846 mi. S1k#5432. VIN#W6808131.

\$8131

2001 CHEVROLET MALIBU 4 DR

4 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks, air, cd, security sys. 31,729 mi. S1k#5447. VIN#1G1J14887.

\$9731

2001 FORD FOCUS WAGON 4-DR

4 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks, air, cass, leath, moonr, security sys. 22,373 mi. S1k#40754A. VIN#1G1J18258.

\$8931

2001 NISSAN ALTIMA SE 4 DR

4 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, moonr, sec sys. 28,797 mi. S1k#40871A. VIN#1G1J18342.

\$12,331

1999 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 2 DR

6 cyl. auto. p./str./brks, air, cass. 54,064 mi. S1k#40856A. VIN#1J40P73137.

\$13,531

HARD & SOFT TOPS INCLUDED

2000 LINCOLN LS 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, leath. 45,417 mi. S1k#5457A. VIN#1Y1Y1263.

\$15,531

SILVER WINNER

2002 NISSAN XTERRA 4X4 4 DR

6 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, security sys. 13,145 mi. S1k#5457A. VIN#5N1BA04E.

\$18,531

2003 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4 2 DR

6 cyl. 5 spd man. p./str./brks/winds/lks, air, cass, cd, moonr, security sys. 11,137 mi. S1k#5447. VIN#1J40P25185.

\$19,831

HARD & SOFT TOPS INCLUDED

2000 HONDA ODYSSEY EX 4 DR

6 cyl. auto. p./str./brks/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, moonr, security sys. 22,758 mi. S1k#40851A. VIN#1G1J18258.

\$20,531

FAMILY FUN

2001 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, security sys. 28,384 mi. S1k#40871A. VIN#1G1J18342.

\$20,931

GOLD RULES

2002 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LT 4X4 4 DR

6 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, security sys. 31,483 mi. S1k#40852. VIN#1G1J18342.

\$22,531

MOVE ANY TRAIL

2001 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 4X4 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd. 33,618 mi. S1k#40852. VIN#1G1J183308.

\$27,531

FIT THE FAMILY

2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS 4X4 4 DR

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, security sys. 25,343 mi. S1k#40877. VIN#45267241.

\$26,531

2002 LINCOLN SC430 CONVERTIBLE

8 cyl. auto. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, security sys. 8,882 mi. S1k#5457A. VIN#1Y1Y1263.

\$52,931

ALL THE FUN

2004 CADILLAC CTS-V 4 DR

8 cyl. 6 spd man. p./str./ABS/winds/lks/seat, air, cass, cd, moonr, leath, moonr, leath, security sys. 4,492 mi. S1k#40852. VIN#1G1J18342.

\$49,931

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