

## Teachers bridge language barrier

By Joan M. Devlin  
Staff Writer

It was as busy as a beehive Monday night all throughout Evangel Baptist Church on Shunpike Road in Springfield, as the English As a Second Language classes were in session once again, taking place in six large classes.

The camaraderie was evident; everyone seemed to know each other, and greeted each other mostly in English, but sometimes in Spanish. "This is our fourth year," said Ursula Berty, who heads the program for the church, "and it is very active."

Even though the former pastor, the Rev. Frederick Mueckie, had retired, the board of the church decided to continue with the popular program. More than 90 percent of the people attending the ESL classes are Hispanic, and mostly from Costa Rica, and more than 90 percent live in Summit. "They are all registered, and nearly all come from Summit, since we are so close, although there are a few from Millburn, Springfield and Union. Only a few are members of the church; most are Roman Catholic," said Berty.

There is no proselytizing; everyone is welcomed with open arms and perhaps this is why they keep coming back. Helping teach the classes are the Rev. Richard Hines, pastor of First Baptist Church of Millburn, and his wife, Marilyn, who were leading the advanced class on Monday night.

The minister displayed the two important books used to teach English. "There are four levels of textbooks; each level has a text book and a workbook; everything is written in English," he said. Both books had pictures with the words, like language classes in schools.

"They keep them, of course, take them home to do homework assignments, and are tested from the

books," said Hines.

Each level of the books gets harder and deeper into tenses and the classes are all intense. There are six teachers, and six assistant teachers for the classes. Some are actually schoolteachers in their day jobs, but not all.

All of the teachers work as volunteers on a one-on-one basis in the classes with great patience.

The ESL program follows the school year, running from September to May. "Most of the people who come work very hard during the day at all sorts of jobs. They all set Monday night apart to come and learn English properly. Because we care they care very much also," she added.

On a tour of the church, it was noted that all six classes were pretty full.

Hines introduced a young 18-year-old, Fabian Garzon, recently from Ecuador, who was in the elementary class for his first night. He could understand, but not express himself yet in English. When asked if he felt comfortable in the class, he said, "Yes, I am learning here," as the minister told him what comfortable meant.

Down the hall, the advanced class of 20 people was in full swing, with one of the teachers, Maria Hughes of Summit, serving as one of the teachers. The students were mixed in age, from people in their 20s to 60s, with a larger assortment of nationalities. All spoke very well and spirits seemed high.

"I am a member of this parish, also, and have been teaching here since the beginning — it is very rewarding," said Hughes.

When break time began, one of the students, John Jimenez, came over to say "We have second name for city of Summit: 'Little Costa Rica,'" he said, smiling. However, in



Photo By Reena Rose Sibayan

The Rev. Richard Hines, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Millburn leads an advanced English as a Second Language class at the Evangel Baptist Church in Springfield. The ESL program follows the school year, running from September to May.

the advanced class in which he was a pupil, Berty said there were also Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Polish and Italian people who had been with them for at least three years, and were all doing well.

Across the hall from the main classes were the children's rooms. Students are allowed to bring their children, ages 4 and older only, at no cost, and they too, learn English and have snacks and fun. Teenagers from the parish and adults serve as the babysitters. There are about 85 registered adults, and about a dozen children this year.

From the beginner class to the advanced class, it usually takes at least two to three years of sessions. "Every person is special and learns at

their own pace," Berty said. Berty herself sort of fell into the task, and loves it.

She has a master's degree in finance, and was working at that, but was not happy.

"I just knew that something was missing in my life, although I didn't know exactly what. After coming to church, I was asked to do some substitute teaching, and I actually found myself — I loved it. It is wonderful to work with those who are so willing to learn; these people are wonderful to me."

Now, besides overseeing the program, she teaches the advanced class from time to time, with Hines and Evelyn Kovach. Hines said he even does private tutoring when necessary,

and said it was "great fun."

As to a registration cost, for the first years, there was none, but people started dropping out the last half of the year, so they now charge a \$25 registration fee, "only as an incentive, to keep the students in the program. This money is then refunded when they graduate, even if they have attended only 75 percent of the time," said Berty.

The success of the classes spreads by word of mouth. "They fill up almost immediately when we begin," said Berty. "Students are referred by others who have learned here."

"It is safe to say that more than English is learned here; we have a lot of Christian love, and they know it," said Berty.

## Contract close to settlement

By Rick Klittich  
Staff Writer

Shortly after a Nov. 9 Board of Education meeting in which Mountainside teachers, who have been working without a new contract since June 30, appeared in red shirts to signify displeasure with contract negotiations, it appears likely that mediation may not be necessary after all.

According to Jeannette Maraffi, a music teacher and president of the Mountainside Education Association, a tentative settlement has been reached, although there are still some items that must be agreed upon.

While the main issues have been worked out, she said, nothing has been ratified.

Board of Education President Peter Goggi, who has also been involved with the negotiation process, said that with the tentative agreement, mediation seems unlikely.

Still to be worked out, however, are salary guides, which stipulate the increases that accompany different steps in a teacher's career.

"This should be a done deal," Goggi said. "I don't expect any mediation."

Goggi is part of a negotiating team that includes fellow board members Patricia Knodel and Ray Hagggar, along with Board Secretary Paul Viz-zuso and Board Attorney David Rubin.

Maraffi is joined by a New Jersey Education Association representative, four teachers and one secretary from the district.

The group represents teachers, secretaries, assistants and custodians in the Mountainside School District.

"As usual, the staff has been very professional," added Goggi. "This is just one of the activities we have to engage in and I'm glad to come to an agreement."

## Wet insulation cited as source of mysterious odor at Beechwood

By Joan M. Devlin  
Staff Writer

The source of the mysterious smell at Beechwood School has finally been identified. The news was announced at the Mountainside Board of Education meeting on Nov. 23, as Sean Reilly, director of product development for Home Health Science Inc., explained how bacteria from wet insulation caused the strong odor.

At its last meeting, the school board commissioned Reilly to supervise the removal of wet insulation at Beechwood School. Approximately 22 feet of wet insulation was removed Nov. 11 from the main air conditioning unit

that served four classrooms that had the odor. There had been more than 58 feet of wet insulation.

After removing the cover, Reilly said a distinctive, foul odor issued forth and the crew took samples of that. "The putrid smell was overwhelming," said Reilly. "When that was completed, that crew left, and I was then authorized to continue to look at all other air conditioning units on the roof of the school."

He said that every other system has some water in it. These other sources had spots here and there; he reported on all the findings.

"The Board of Education asked me to identify what is growing," said Reilly. "We took six

samples, tested for mold and bacteria. The wet insulation grew so much bacteria that you couldn't even count it. However, no mold was found at all. We then re-incubated them, to be sure, and the conclusion is, there is absolutely no mold situation — it has got to be associated with bacteria."

He said that back at the lab, they came up with two dominant types of bacteria; one very putrid. "It is our opinion that it is this particular type of bacteria eating into the glues in this situation."

Reilly explained the bacteria would get in on the "returns" with the odor given off by the purification sources being sucked up and

recirculated into the classrooms served by the air conditioner. "In other words, the huge percentage of the putrid smell was in the air ducts in the classrooms."

He said the wet insulation had to come off. Reilly isn't totally finished yet; he will be probing three more areas.

"When you go there now, the smell is gone," said Board of Education member John Perrin. "It is wonderful that we found it."

Perrin reported further that after receiving Reilly's report, the Facilities Committee, headed by Perrin, decided to go ahead and commission LEW Corporation, an environmental testing company, to still do a full-scale investiga-

tion of the odor problem. They began dismantling the RTU 2 unit on Nov. 22 at a cost of \$10,500.

Parent Gary Whyte questioned why it took so long and he said it seemed to him the school board had been "going in a circle" around the problem.

Reilly assured Whyte that the conclusion was that there was no contamination of the air in the classrooms, just the smell. "We were looking for microbiological spikes, as we call it, and when we tested these samples, they were next to zero for mold. But the insulation was full of bacterial contamination — we had to take it down to find this out."

## Africa trip yields insights

By Rick Klittich  
Staff Writer

While most teachers use their two-month summer break from school to relax and prepare for the following year, Barbara Trueger, head of the Springfield School District's Discovery Program, continued educating — in South Africa.

Trueger was named a Fulbright Scholar by the Fulbright-Hays Group Abroad Program, which is awarded through the U.S. Department of Education, giving her the chance to join 13 other educators in a trip to observe one of the poorest and deprived school systems in the world.

"The whole focus of the trip was comparing the 50th anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education and their 10th anniversary of democracy, post-Apartheid," Trueger said.

While the group looked to apply what they learned about South Africa's education to complete projects for Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Trueger proposed that her project could be done while the visit is taking place. After teaching in the Cape Town public school system last summer as a doctorate candidate, her intent for this next trip to South Africa was to integrate her last experience with the creation of staff development workshops and family advisory meetings.

"The thrust of all the workshops



Photo By Reena Rose Sibayan

Barbara Trueger, head of the Discovery Program at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield displays a photo album and quilt she brought back from a trip to South Africa this summer on a Fulbright Scholarship, where she took part in various workshops.

was the importance of school, family and community," Trueger said, "for the improvement of student learning."

The trip, which lasted from late June to the end of July, began with traveling and partnering with four universities to observe teaching techniques and also speak with professors and graduate students. This experience led to the eventual workshops that Trueger would conduct at elementary schools, which were set up on rural

farms and lacked any technology seen in more wealthy nations.

Trueger conducted two parent workshops in the evenings, allowing all the parents of one school and many from another to attend after their work days were complete. According to staff present at these workshops, Trueger said, the turnout is much less for the one parent-teacher conference conducted each year, and none ever respond to any questions raised.

"Several teachers said to me, 'All these years, we never knew the parents cared,'" Trueger said.

Trueger discussed ways to become involved in their children's schooling, specifically with reading and writing, as many of the adults themselves are illiterate. By the end of it all, each parent shook hands with Trueger or hugged her.

"It was the most beautiful experience," Trueger said.

## Township applies for improvement grants

By Rick Klittich  
Staff Writer

In conjunction with the federal and state Community Development Block Grant program, Springfield will be seeking four grants to be funded by New Jersey.

The annual applications are chosen for submission to the state, which annually receives money from the federal government in order to fund community improvements. Since 1990, when the program began, Springfield has been the recipient of about \$1 million in grant money.

Springfield Assistant Engineer Sam Mardini specified what the township would be asking for at the last Township Committee meeting.

Money will be sought for improvements to Salter Street, which falls under the low- or moderate-income bracket that allows grants to go toward certain areas of town. Housing and Urban Development regulations stipulate which property or service can receive funding.

According to Mardini, improvements will be made to curbing and sidewalk areas of the street, and there will be a complete repaving of the road, as well. The estimated cost of the project is \$92,500, and the township will ask for \$69,375, or 75 percent of the total.

"Should we receive the grant," Mardini said, "we should start preparing for construction in November next year. Then, construction can start the following spring."

An elevator will also be installed in the Chisolm Community Center to help senior citizens use the second floor. Currently, an elevator transports people between the first floor and the basement, but certain senior meetings that sometimes get moved could convene in a possibly more convenient fashion in the second floor room that has temporary dividers that split the room into thirds, when necessary. This project, Mardini estimates, may cost upward of \$120,000. The township will look for \$80,000 in grant money, or 66 percent.

To continue the senior citizen bus service, in which the county helps fund the driver's salary, Springfield will ask for \$12,000.

The final application, submitted by the public library, will go toward architectural changes that will be made to the story room, thus making it accessible to everyone, including those who are handicapped. About \$42,350, or 85 percent of the estimated \$50,000 it will take to fund the improvements, is being sought by the township.

Mayor Clara Harelik, who is one of two representatives from Springfield who handle the applications for the program, said that block grants are important to take advantage of.

"I find the grant program to be very worthwhile to Springfield," she said.

**Welcome to the ECHO LEADER**

The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Worrall Community Newspapers, an independent, family-owned newspaper company. Our offices are located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

**Voice Mail:** Our main phone number, 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to better serve our customers. During regular business hours, a receptionist will answer your call. During the evening or when the office is closed, your call will be answered by an automated receptionist.

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

**e-mail:** The Echo Leader accepts e-mails, news releases and opinion pieces by e-mail. Our e-mail address is: [Editorial@theecholeader.com](mailto:Editorial@theecholeader.com). E-mail must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. Advertising is also accepted by email under certain guidelines at [ads@theecholeader.com](mailto:ads@theecholeader.com).

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

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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

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

**Tuesday**

- The Foothill Club luncheon will be conducted at noon at B.G. Fields Restaurant in Westfield. The program will be one of the club's annual fund-raising "A Christmas Boutique" with new and newly new items for sale. New members are guests as always welcome.
- For a reservation, call Genevieve at 908-232-3626.

**Saturday**

- Deerfield School in Mountainside will be conducting its annual holiday craft workshop from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Mountainside P.T.A., the holiday craft workshop will take place in the school gymnasium, 700 Central Ave.
- All children are invited. Prices range from \$1.50 to \$5 per craft.
- For information, call Sheila Hiberson at 908-233-6150 or Lori Palladino at 908-301-9116.
- Adults and children of all ages are invited to discover what materials animals use to make their homes from 10 to 11 a.m. as part of "Animal Homes," an Outdoor Adventures program at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside.
- Hike the green and orange trails with a park naturalist to search for nests, burrows and other animal homes and hideouts. The fee for this program is a suggested donation of \$1 per person.
- Call 908-789-3670 for more information.

**Sunday**

- The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Recreation will present a holiday tree lighting and nature craft show at Watchung State, 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside. The event will be rain or shine.
- The craft show opens at 11 a.m. and other activities begin at noon. Santa's arrival will take place at 1 p.m. and the tree lighting finale is at 5 p.m.
- Activities include a visit with Santa Claus, petting zoo, Watchung Mounted Drill Team demonstrations, Lead-line horse rides, K-9 Unit demonstrations, Union County Police children's fingerprinting and bomb squad robot, holiday singers, barn tours, and the tree lighting.
- Suggested admission is an item of dry or canned food, or a new unwrapped toy to be distributed through local charities.
- The Springfield Historical Society will host a Christmas open house from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Historic Cannon Ball House, 126 Morris Ave., Springfield.
- The society is requesting that anyone with photos or maps of Springfield locations which no longer exist, prominent citizens, or descendants of early settlers call 973-376-4784 or come to the open house. Refreshments will be served. For information, call 973-376-4784.

**Monday**

- The Springfield Board of Education will meet in the instructional media center of Jonathan Dayton High School, 139 Mountain Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**

- The Springfield Board of Health will meet in the Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave., at 6:30 p.m.

**Upcoming Dec. 9**

- The Mountainside Planning Board will meet in Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East, at 8 p.m.
- Dec. 13
- The Springfield Township Committee will meet for a workshop session in the Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

**Man arrested for third degree theft**

**Springfield**

Jerry Siebbins Jr., 48, of Newark, was arrested at Comp USA on Route 22 East Nov. 26 at 12:09 p.m. for third degree theft by deception, credit card fraud and possession of suspected credit cards.

On Sunday at 6:30 p.m., it was reported that the global positioning system of a car parked in the Bed, Bath and Beyond lot on Morris Turnpike was stolen. The estimated value of the unit is \$1,500.

An Edison resident's car was broken into at Bed, Bath and Beyond on Morris Turnpike Sunday at 6:45 p.m. The driver's side window was broken and a leather pocketbook, worth \$280, was stolen.

A vehicle parked on Briant Park Drive was reportedly stolen at 7:35 a.m. Monday.

According to reports, it appeared the ornaments had been cut with a knife. The ornaments, a snowman and a soldier, were damaged beyond repair.

Newark resident Samuel McElachern, 24, was arrested on Route 22 West Monday at 3 p.m. after being stopped for having no front license plate.

He was found to be driving with a suspended license.

Galen Caughron, 29, of Newark, was arrested on Route 22 East Sunday at 3:37 p.m. after being stopped for having fictitious plates. It was later revealed that his registration was suspended.

Joseph Dragos, 31, of New Providence, was arrested for driving while intoxicated on Sheffield Street at 11:54 p.m. Saturday. Dragos was involved in a motor vehicle accident.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

Carlie Dyraspatas, 19, of Flemington, was arrested Nov. 24 at 4:21 p.m. for tampering with public records and careless driving on Springfield Avenue.

At 12:28 p.m. Nov. 23, a 2002 Pontiac and a 2004 Jeep Liberty were damaged at Jonathan Dayton High School during a juvenile fight in the parking lot.

**Mountainside**

Sometime between 11 and 11:30 p.m. Saturday, a Long Meadow residence reported that unknown suspects had slashed two holiday blow-up ornaments that had been on her front lawn.

According to reports, it appeared

**Firefighters respond to oven fire**

**Mountainside**

On Friday at 9:02 a.m., firefighters responded to a Darby Lane residence for an oven fire. The flames were quickly extinguished by using a dry chemical extinguisher and smoke was exhausted from the residence with fans and open windows.

At 5:23 a.m. Nov. 26, firefighters responded to a report of a vehicle fire at a Route 22 West restaurant parking lot. The minor fire, which was started by the accumulation of dry leaves on the hot engine manifold, was quickly extinguished.

On Nov. 26 at 5:08 a.m., firefighters responded to an activated fire alarm located at the Watchung Stables. The fire officers determined that a local electrical power surge activated the alarm.

On Nov. 22 at 1:34 p.m., firefighters responded to an activated Central Station alarm at a New Providence Road residence. The alarm was accidentally activated by the painting

**Fire Blotter**

contractor using a heat gun to remove paint from the walls.

**Springfield**

On Nov. 24 at 10:03 p.m., firefighters responded to Route 24 East for a motor vehicle accident with injuries.

At 5:34 p.m. Nov. 26, firefighters responded to a South Springfield Avenue condominium complex for a medical service call.

Firefighters responded to a Janet Lane residence for an activated carbon monoxide detector at 7:04 p.m. on Nov. 25.

Firefighters responded to a Route 22 West business for a person locked in a store at 12:33 a.m. on Nov. 25.

At 3:37 a.m. Nov. 25, firefighters responded to a Route 22 West business for a person locked in the store.

At 7:28 a.m. Nov. 25, firefighters responded to Route 24 East for a motor vehicle accident with injuries.

**Editorial deadlines**

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

**Synagogues mark start of Hanukkah**

**By Joan M. Devlin Staff Writer**

Beginning Tuesday night at sundown, it will once again be time to celebrate the Jewish family holiday called Hanukkah — the "Festival of Lights," which runs for eight days.

In English, the word Hanukkah literally means "dedication," and it is the celebration of a miracle which happened in 165 B.C., when the tribe of Maccabees triumphed over the Hellenistic Syrians in a revolt.

After the battle reclaiming the Temple Mount, the temple had to be purified and rededicated, but there was only one jar of sacramental oil, enough for one day. Miraculously, that oil burned for eight days, thus the eight days of Hanukkah, with candles being lit each day.

The menorah is the special candleholder, with the center candle called the Shammash, the one used to light each of the others. It will be lit every night, with prayers and thanksgiving, in Jewish homes and synagogues.

Gifts are given to children, and it is a fun time for them at this holiday season. There is no sadness as in other Jewish holy days, and the different synagogues in Springfield honor the day in different ways, but always with joy.

Temple Beth Ahm, a Conservative synagogue at 60 Temple Drive, with Rabbi Mark Mallach officiating, will begin the holiday on Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon, when the Religious School students will invite their parents and grandparents to the Hanukkah Enlightenment Fair.

The children plan to make each night of Hanukkah special; they will sing songs, have special food, and will be collecting school supplies to send to a settlement in Israel.

On Friday, there will be a 5:45 p.m. menorah lighting to begin the annual Hanukkah party for the whole congregation. After which food and games will be offered at the temple with a special surprise skit. The entire family is invited.

Also there will be a special early Family Shabbat in celebration of Hanukkah on Dec. 10, at 6 p.m., with dinner to follow the service. It is requested that reservations be made for this event; the cost is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children. Call Marlene Berman by Friday to make reservations, at 908-518-0821.

Congregation Israel, an Orthodox synagogue at 339 Mountain Ave., with Rabbi Chaim Marcus, is planning a Sunday morning Hanukkah party at the Shul, for all children, ages 3 through 11, beginning at 10 a.m. The charge is \$4 per child, and reservations are requested.

Candlelighting will be conducted each night of Hanukkah in keeping with tradition.



Preschoolers Jacob Billinson, 4, and Sarah Cohen, 4, help Rabbi Mark Mallach of Temple Beth Ahm in Springfield light the menorah for the start of Hanukkah.

**Cannon Ball House opens for holiday tour**

The Springfield Historical Society will host a Christmas open house on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Historic Cannon Ball House, 126 Morris Ave., Springfield.

The house, built circa 1741, was the home of the family of Dr. Jonathan Dayton and during the Revolution was operated by his widow Rezzah as a tavern stop on the main road between Elizabeth and Morristown where George Washington and his army were at Jockey Hollow.

Located in the heart of the fighting during the Battle of Springfield on June 23, 1780, the house was hit by an American cannon ball which lodged in the wall and gave the house the name by which it has been known for many years. Seven rooms are open to the public and several will be decorated in colonial style for the holiday.

The society is requesting that anyone with photos or maps of Springfield locations which no longer exist, prominent citizens, or descendants of early settlers call 973-376-4784 or come to the open house on Sunday.

For information, call 973-376-4784.

**Springfield mayor speaks Wednesday**

The Congregation Israel Senior Set will have an annual Hanukkah meeting and party on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in Congregation Israel, 339 Mountain Ave., Springfield.

A brunch with traditional holiday foods will be served. The cost is \$5 per person. The story of Hanukkah will be presented by members of the Senior Set. The guest speaker at the meeting will be Mayor Clara Harelik who will discuss current issues that impact the Township of Springfield.

Harelik is currently completing her sixth year on the Springfield Township Committee. She recently was re-elected to a third, three-year term. She has served two terms as mayor and two terms as deputy mayor. In addition, Harelik serves as a chairwoman for and serves on many township and county committees. She is an attorney with her own law practice in Springfield.

Harelik also is a mediator and hearing officer for the state Department of Health, Early Intervention Procedural Safeguards Program for children.

**Walton School registration dates**

Registration for children eligible for the 2005-06 prekindergarten program in the Springfield public schools, as well as for those children eligible for kindergarten in September, who are not currently enrolled in the Walton School Early Childhood Center prekindergarten program will be conducted on the following dates:

- Jan. 13, last name beginning with A-E from 10 to 11 a.m. or 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.
- Jan. 14, last names beginning with F-K from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.
- Jan. 18, last names beginning with L-Q; 10 to 11 a.m. or 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.
- Jan. 19, last names beginning with R-Z; 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.

Registration will be conducted at Edward V. Walton School, Early Childhood Center, 601 Mountain Ave., Springfield. Parents are requested to call the school at 973-376-1305, if necessary, to schedule an alternate registration session.

To be eligible for prekindergarten, a child must be a resident of Springfield, and be 4 years old on or before Dec. 1, 2005. Children entering kindergarten must reach their fifth birthday on or before Dec. 1, 2005. Parents are requested to bring the following materials to the registration:

- Child's birth certificate
- Current immunization records
- Two proofs of residency
- New Jersey driver's license
- Utility bill, lease or contract

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

**Mountainside couple welcome triplets**

**By Joan M. Devlin Staff Writer**

A young couple who live in Mountainside and work together in Summit at Overlook Hospital just had their first babies — their first three babies, that is.

Kathleen Boreale gave birth to triplets — two girls and a boy — on Nov. 22. The mother and babies are doing fine, and the prognosis is excellent for all of them.

"We expected three babies after my last ultra-sound," said Boreale, "so it was not such a shock to my husband, Tim. Although he was kind of quiet for a few days," she added, laughing.

Boreale is in Morristown Memorial Hospital and said during a telephone interview that she should be home by today. "So should the babies, although we are not sure of that yet," said the new mom.

Bridget Ann weighed in at 5 pounds, 10 ounces; Devon Brady weighed 4 pounds, 15 ounces, and James Edward, weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces. The proud mom carried the three babies for more than eight months, a good length of time for triplets, according to her doctor, Robert Steer of Morristown Memorial Hospital, a part of the Atlantic Health System.

"Although we both — Tim and I — work at Overlook, I had to go there for our doctor. I had gone in for a last minute check-up, and guess what? I stayed on, luckily and the babies were delivered by C-section that day," said Boreale.

She works as a nurse practitioner at Overlook, while Tim is a computer technician there as well. As far as she knows, there are no other triplets in her family, said Boreale.

The maternal grandmother, Grace Mayer, lives in Union and paternal grandparents live in Florham Park. "I am sure we will have plenty of company I hope," said the new mother.

Speaking with the brand new grandmother, Mayer said she was simply overwhelmed.

"Naturally I am so excited, and I am taking a vacation to be there to help Kathleen next week. These are my only grandchildren; in fact the triplets are the only grandchildren on both sides." Mayer said her daughter was a very organized, competent person, so she was sure she would be able to handle it, and that Tim, the father, was also very happy and helpful.

"Kathleen is wrong, though — we have three sets of twins on my side of the family, but no triplets; still it is hereditary. Yes, we all have our Christmas presents already," said Mayer.

The new mother said she and Tim got to hold and feed the babies for the first time this day, and it was a real thrill. The babies are still in the Intensive Care Unit at present, and will be going home straight from there when the doctor decides they are ready to do so. So far, though, they are thriving, and gaining each day.

On the day before Thanksgiving, Kathleen was sure she and Tim would be spending a quiet day at the hospital, and maybe get to feed their three new arrivals once again. "We are very thankful they are doing so well," Kathleen said.

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# COMMUNITY FORUM

## EDITORIALS

### Shop locally this holiday season

December is the season of holiday shopping. There are parties, of course, and the huge family dinners to prepare. Homes must be decorated, both inside and out, with garland, lights and maybe even figurines. Greeting cards are crisscrossing the country. And the presents! Few are those individuals who don't participate in the annual gift exchange.

It is indeed a season of shopping. And for this year, we may suggest that you make several trips downtown to see what our local merchants have placed on sale for these special days.

These are the familiar retailers with whom we have dealt all year. They know our town, know our schools and know our neighborhoods. They are the professionals who also know their markets, and their choices of what to display this year may be exactly what you are seeking.

Remember, too, that these are the establishments where your family routinely shops and dines.

Gift certificates to a local restaurant, a service center or gift shop, or perhaps even a membership to a local fitness club might be the perfect gift. Maybe something as simple as seven free rentals at the nearby video store would be just the right thing for the youngster who is not yet of driving age.

One more point. The town soon will be "dressed" for the occasion. Holiday lights, festive music and colorful decorations should make the district that much more attractive. This might be an excellent time to walk the aisles of a new store that has recently opened but which you haven't yet taken time to visit.

Make an afternoon of it. Plan to stay for lunch. Invite a friend. The downtown district never looks so good as during the holidays, when stores are filled with new merchandise and the December magic is circulating in the air.

This season, we urge you not to miss it.

### Festival of lights

As we approach the winter solstice, which signifies the first day of winter, the holiday season is upon us with feelings of good spirit and camaraderie. With much of the same commonality, the Festival of Lights, or Hanukkah, begins Tuesday evening and runs through Dec. 14.

Following the annual tradition, in Jewish homes and temples and synagogues throughout the country, menorahs are lit to celebrate the eight-day diurnal climb to complete luminescence.

The festival was instituted by Judas Maccabee in 165 B.C. to celebrate the purification of the Temple of Jerusalem.

It had been desecrated three years earlier, when Antiochus IV Epiphanes, king of Syria and overlord of Palestine, dedicated the temple to the worship of the pagan god Zeus Olympius and forbade the practice of Judaism. When Judas Maccabee recaptured Jerusalem three years later, only a one-day supply of nondesecrated olive oil could be found for the rededication, but the small quantity burned miraculously for eight days. Jews commemorate this event by lighting candles for the eight nights of Hanukkah.

But Hanukkah is more than just a time for ceremony; it is a festive family occasion, with special foods and songs. Each evening, after the candles are lit, children usually receive small gifts of money, known as Hanukkah gelt. Foods that have been fried in oil, such as latkes, or potato pancakes, and doughnuts, commemorate the miracle of the oil. Sweet foods are also popular, and children may receive chocolate coins in place of Hanukkah gelt.

Songs also play an important part in the festivities and remind each family of the events that are being remembered and celebrated.

Hanukkah is a reminder that peace and hope may be found even from war.

When humanity puts aside its suspicions and embraces the difference of our various cultures, then trust and good will can find a place to grow and spread. The Festival of Lights reminds us that, whatever our culture or beliefs, our faith in God will help to unite us and that, through this faith, anything is possible.

As our Jewish readers celebrate this holiday, may God bless them with solidarity and peace.

"The fundamental precept of liberty is toleration."

— Calvin Coolidge  
30th U.S. President  
1925

### Echo Leader

Published Weekly Since 1929  
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and Mountsides Echo

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**SPECIAL VISIT** — For the week of Nov. 15 through Nov. 19, children in Mountsides celebrated National Children's Book Week. Appearing this year at Beachwood School was special guest Anne Abernathy Roth, center, better known to her young fans as 'Miss Anne.' She warmed students' hearts with her award-winning stories and songs in her program titled, 'Fun For Little Ears.' All of the authors' books have been awarded a place on the National Accelerated Reader program, which is used in schools to promote reading. Children also had the opportunity to have Miss Anne's books and tapes autographed.

For information, call Chapter President Iris Segal at 973-376-0516.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### In short, we all need each other

Why do we eat turkey on Thanksgiving? What does pumpkin pie have to do with the pilgrims? What in the world is a cornucopia? Thanksgiving time often brings questions like these to the minds of our young people. While these questions are interesting and their answers interesting as well, we all know that the real meaning, the spirit of the holiday, is so much more.

To address the spirit of the holiday, my seventh grade social studies students took part in a conversation guided by a principle set forth by William Jennings Bryan. Bryan, who served as United States Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson, said, "On Thanksgiving Day, we acknowledge our dependence." At first glance, this quote should seem insignificant, at the very least, innocuous. Truthfully, there is not a lot that Bryan said in his professional career that I agree with. However, I believe that Bryan hit on a truth that we, in our busy lives, often overlook. It is this idea, or truth, of social interdependence, that the seventh grade have used as the lens, by which, to view the 2004 Thanksgiving holiday.

In our society, we often focus on the triumphs of the individual. Success is defined as goals attained, challenges bested, and opponents conquered. In many ways, our social system reflects the basic tenets of a meritocracy, where achievement or ability determines social status. In fact, our schools and communities often sanction these types of social competitions. Consider our present academic grading systems, or try-outs for a particular sports team or club, as examples. To be sure, I am not arguing for, or against, this type of social system. However, I do believe, as Bryan did, that achievement is more than an individual accomplishment. It is, in fact, much more intricate than that.

This year, the seventh-graders at Deerfield will focus on how all of our individual achievements actually stem from the contributions so many others have made to each of us. As such, successful individuals are actually products of supportive communities of people, both large and small, and without that support, success would be unattainable. Thus, we find ourselves forever ingrained to the efforts of others. This common dependence, in effect, fosters an indivisible spirit of the community.

As I am urging my students to acknowledge our dependence on each other and the greater community, I think it fitting that we all pay tribute to those who have thanked to those special individuals who contributed to the richness in our lives directly, it makes good sense to identify all of the ways we, as a community, rely on each other.

While competition and personal success will always have a place in our culture, the need to acknowledge and encourage innate human interdependence is undeniable. In short, we need each other, as well as our students, need to remember that.

Joseph Ricca Jr.  
Seventh grade social studies teacher  
Deerfield School  
Mountsides

#### Battle strategy shows no exit plan

The Battle of Fallujah will undoubtedly go down in history as one of the most brutal, most fierce and most destructive which the world has ever witnessed. More than 50 American military persons have been killed, and thousands of Iraqi fighters as well as civilians have lost their lives.

The city of Fallujah has been reduced to rubble as both sides tried to destroy each other by blowing up houses and buildings — sometimes with the excuse of the possibility of booby traps — leaving the city with no water, electricity or any semblance of the daily routines of ordinary life.

Fallujah had a population of between 250,000 and 300,000 — about the same amount as those of Newark, Buffalo, N.Y., and Raleigh, N.C., as per 2002 surveys — and no one knows if all of these people have left the city or if some are still hiding within its confines. President George W. Bush and his administration says that reconstruction will be done by the United States with estimates of about \$100 million for Fallujah alone.

The Bush administration had no exit plan when this war began and still does not have one. A victory in Fallujah has been declared by the American generals. Sadly, there is strong evidence that Iraqi uprisings will continue from city to city, and more cities will be targeted to pieces for the rebuilding costs will be paid by the American government and its people. The theory that Osama Bin Laden is trying to bankrupt the United States will have advanced another step toward that goal.

With the absence of a military presence, there will be a good opportunity for new homes and other necessities to be built and created in order to establish a viable economic situation for Iraq so that its people can thrive and prosper.

Hazel Hargrove  
Springfield

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### Eisenberg named Woman of the Year

Betty Eisenberg has been chosen as Woman of the Year 2004 by the Springfield chapter of Hadassah. She will be honored at the northern New Jersey regional annual Myrtle Wreath Awards brunch on Sunday, from 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Venetian in Garfield, a life member of Hadassah.



Eisenberg

### Michelle's artwork aids Cancer Society

Tara Michelle, a resident of Springfield for the last 20 years, was recently included in a poetry and art collection published by Voices Literary Magazine titled "Spirit of Strength."

This collection contains the work of 18 poets and artists. One dollar of every issue sold is being donated to the American Cancer Society.

Having dealt with cancer in her family as a child, Michelle felt that her work fit the theme of the issue well.

### EVENTS

#### Foothill Club luncheon

The Foothill Club luncheon will be conducted today, noon, at B.G. Fields Restaurant in Westfield. The program will be one of the club's annual fund-raisers "A Christmas Boutique" with new and nearly new items for sale. New members are guests are always welcome. For a reservation, call Genevieve at 908-232-3626. The Foothill Club is committed to serving the community of Mountsides.

#### Christmas party planned at Our Lady

The Rosary Altar Society, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 300 Central Ave. in Mountsides invites members and guests to their Christmas party on Monday at 8 p.m.

The Rosary and Novena will begin at 7 p.m., followed by an induction of new members.

Those who will be attending are asked to bring finger food and/or desserts. There will also be a musical program for your enjoyment. All are welcome.

#### Holiday tree lighting, craft show planned

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Recreation will present a holiday tree lighting and nature craft show Sunday at Watchung State, 1160 Summit Lane, Mountsides. The event will be rain or shine.

The craft show opens at 11 a.m. Other activities begin at noon. Santa's arrival will take place at 3 p.m. and the tree lighting finale is at 5 p.m.

Activities include a visit with Santa Claus, petting zoo, Watchung Mounted Drill Team demonstrations, Lead-horse rides and more.

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### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

The collection is available in online bookstores such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble and others.

**'Dodgeball' author returns to Springfield**  
Dodgeball is everywhere these days. The sport's resurgence has spawned a video game, a cable television show and a major motion picture. Now there's a humorous middle-grade children's novel that takes aim at Dodgeball!

After a little more than a year of work, the "Spirit of Strength" poetry collection will be available in paperback. A sample of the collection is available at <http://www.twittersway.org>.

The collection is available in online bookstores such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble and others.

Repla is returning to Springfield on Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. to read and sign copies of her new book at Barnes & Noble Bookstores, 240 Route 22 west. This will be her only New Jersey appearance.

The new book has already garnered national attention and its popularity is growing.

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AT THE LIBRARY

NJ Symphony Orchestra performs
A quartet from the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will perform at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., on Sunday at 2 p.m.

Civil War saga continues video series
The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its Luncheon Time video series, "Box Office Hits," on Tuesday at noon.

Book group examines murder mystery
The Good Books Discussion Group of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. will meet tonight at 7 p.m. to discuss "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" by Mark Haddon.

Program highlights spiritual dances
"Dance, Rhythm and Vibration with the Universe: A Celebration of Spiritual Rhythm and Dance," will be presented on Dec. 11, from 1 to 4:30 p.m., Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave.

Film festival continues
The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its Fall International Film Festival on Dec. 16, with "The Man Without a Face" at noon and 7 p.m.

Public notice
Public notice is hereby given that an Ordinance entitled General Provisions, Board of Health was introduced, read and passed on the 19th day of November, 2004.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTY OF UNION, N.J.
RESOLUTION FOR AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO KEY CONSULTING FOR GSI WRITING SERVICES BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Committee of the Township of Springfield, County of Union, N.J.
Regular meeting held on November 23, 2004

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Spring Meadows Assisted Living Residence
Capital Senior Living has been a tradition for seniors all over the country. Spring Meadows Summit, a Capital Senior Living community, opened its doors in November, 2000.

OBITUARIES

Edward O'Brien
Edward P. O'Brien, 42, of Summit died Nov. 21 in Flemham Park.
Born in Newark, Mr. O'Brien lived in East Orange before moving to Summit this year. He was a machinist at National Manufacturing, Chatham. Mr. O'Brien was a member of the Madison Elks.

Rose Bloomfield
Rose Bloomfield, 91, of Summit died Nov. 23 in the Compassionate Care Hospice at St. Clare's Hospital, Dover.
Born in Boston, Mass., Mrs. Bloomfield lived in Brookline and Chelsea, Mass., before moving to Summit this year. She was a tax examiner for the Internal Revenue Service, Andover, for 35 years before retiring at the age of 75.

Constance Chambers
Constance L. Chambers, 95, of Ocean Grove, formerly of Summit, died Nov. 20 in the Manor by the Sea Nursing Home, Ocean Grove.
Born in Brooklyn, Mrs. Chambers lived in Maplewood, Summit and Madison before moving to Ocean Grove eight years ago. She was a member of the Women's Group at United Methodist Church, Summit, and was a founder of Positive Singles Ministry. Mrs. Chambers was a member of the Rose City Songsters in Madison.

Dr. Stephen Fischl
Dr. Stephen J. Fischl of Summit died on Nov. 26.
Born in New Jersey, Dr. Fischl lived in Newark and Boston, Mass., before moving to Summit. He was a cardiologist with a private practice and an attending staff cardiologist at Overlook Hospital, Summit, Morris-Town Memorial Hospital earlier, at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Dr. Fischl was a clinical associate professor of medicine at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Mary Ann Zotti
Mary Ann Zotti, 91, of Berkeley Heights, formerly of Summit, died Nov. 18 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.
Born in Shenandoah, Pa., Mrs. Zotti lived in Summit most of her life before moving to Berkeley Heights two years ago. She was a seamstress for Mattan Co., Newark, for many years before retiring. Mrs. Zotti was a member of the Amalgamated Clothing

OBITUARIES

Olga Coto
Olga Coto, 71, of Summit died Nov. 24 at home.
Born in Cuba, Mrs. Coto settled in Summit in 1968. She worked in the quality control department of Novartis Pharmaceutical Co., Summit, for 10 years before retiring nine years ago.
Surviving are a son, Julio; two brothers, Carlos and Hector Gayoso; five sisters, Nilda Rodriguez, Mila, Mirella, Yolanda and Ofelia Gayoso and two grandchildren.

Katharine Wood
Katharine Day Wood, 85, of Andover, Mass., formerly of Summit, died Nov. 18 in the Hospice House, Reading, Mass.
Born in New York City, Mrs. Wood lived in Summit for many years before moving to Andover recently. She was a volunteer at Overlook Hospital, Summit, for 40 years. Mrs. Wood was a "Master Aunty," and she served as chairperson of the Summit TWIGS hospital auxiliary organization at Overlook Hospital. She also volunteered for Meals-on-Wheels. Mrs. Wood was a member of the choir, a deacon and a member of the Women's Association at the Central Presbyterian Church, Summit.

Maureen Brinkmann
Maureen J. Brinkmann of "Blue Bell, Pa., formerly of Summit, died Nov. 19 in the Abington Memorial Hospital, Abington, Pa.
Born in Dublin, Ireland, Mrs. Brinkmann lived in Murray Hill and Summit before moving to Pennsylvania two years ago. He was a preschool teacher at Elkwood Playschool in Summit for many years. Mrs. Brinkmann was a volunteer for the TWIGS at Overlook hospital, Summit. Surviving are two sons, Charles A. and John Kevin, and three daughters, Maureen McCormick, Patricia Kinch and Lisa K.

Frances Ludd
Frances Ludd of Mountainside died Nov. 26 at home.
Born in Hillside, Mrs. Ludd moved to Mountainside many years ago. She was an administrative worker at Crown Brokerage, Cranford.
Surviving are a son, Robert, two daughters, Adrian Sturling and Patricia Warren; a brother, Joseph Vasilauskas, and a sister, Barbara England.

Concert showcases music of redemption

The music of Calvary Choral's December concert explores the process of waiting for God to redeem God's people. A collection of anthems ranging from plainsong chants to music by an Italian composer better known for his comic operas... The music of Advent will be performed at 4 p.m. on Dec. 12, at Calvary Episcopal Church, 31 Woodland Ave., Summit. Admission is free, donations are encouraged. For information, call 973-277-1547.

Summit Choral conducts Community Messiah Sing

Summit Choral's annual Community Messiah Sing will be conducted on Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. Sponsored jointly by the Choral and Central Presbyterian Church, the event will take place at the church, 70 Maple St., Summit. Admission to the concert is free and open to the public. Conducting will be by Richard Garrin, the Choral's new music director. Garyth Nair, the Choral's music director emeritus, and by Noel Werner, minister of music at Central Presbyterian Church in Summit. The accompanist will be Richard Frey of Hanover, Pa. In the event of severe snow, the sing will be postponed to Dec. 15.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST
EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - SERVING CHRIST IN THE 21st CENTURY - 242 Shunpike Rd., Nersing, Rev. Frederick Mackey, Sr. Pastor, Sundays, 9:30 AM Bible Study for all ages - Nursery through Seniors: Spanish Sunday School 9:30 am and 5:30 pm. 10:30 AM Worship Service and Nursery care - 5:30-7:00 PM AWANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11; 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery care. Wednesdays: 7:15 PM Prayer, Praise and Bible Study; Junior/Senior High Ministry, Active Youth Ministry, Wide-Range Music Program, Ample Parking, Chair Lift provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-5387.

METHODIST
SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (SEUMC) - is a faith community ignited by God's love for all people. Join us for Sunday worship which begins with the congregational at 10:15 AM when children exit for Sunday School. Express God's compassion through outreach activities. Beginning and experienced vocalists and musicians are invited to participate in the music ministry led by professional musicians Ginny Johnston and Dan Kristic. Bible study, prayer, youth group and fellowship events enable all to grow in their faith. SEUMC is located at the far back end of Church Mall, near the intersection of Morris and Mountain Avenues, Springfield, Call 973-376-1699 for more information.

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Space Available
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Fill This Space To Help Your Business Call 800-564-8911

Concert series kicks off

"Thirty Minutes for Thirty Years" is the theme of the Advent 2004 and Lent 2005 Brown Bag Concert Series at Central Presbyterian Church.

The half-hour, free concerts have featured all kinds of musical entertainment — and sometimes, dancing in the aisles — from harp to Dixieland.

All Brown Bag Concerts are in the church sanctuary at 70 Maple St., across from the Summit Library.



Adrienne Pavur and Noel Werner rehearse for their Christmas concert on the Schantz pipe organ at Central Presbyterian Church in Summit on Friday for the start of the Advent 2004 and Lent 2005 Brown Bag Concert Series.

Bank announces Summit Shopping Spree winners

Somerset Hills Bank President and CEO Stewart McClure, Jr. and Summit Branch Manager Sally Schwartz announced today the winners of the Summit Shopping Spree, just one of the celebratory events included in the Grand Opening of the Bank's newest branch in Summit last month.

Winner of the \$1,000 Grand Prize is Ron Freeman. The other winners are Audrey Hanaway, whose name was picked to receive the \$500 second prize.

into the new Summit branch, coincidentally, all of the winners are residents of Summit.

SUMMIT OBSERVER - ECHO LEADER

RECREATION

Pilates class aims to improve strength. Members of the Summit YMCA can enjoy a new approach to conditioning using elements of Pilates style exercise techniques.

YMCA offers short-term winter memberships. The Summit Area YMCA will offer short-term memberships to college students during winter vacation.

Program teaches rules of proper etiquette. The Mountaineer Recreation Department is sponsoring the Manners Matter workshop for boys and girls ages 7 to 12 on Dec. 13, from 3:45 to 5:45 p.m.

SUMMIT OBSERVER - ECHO LEADER

SPORTS

Editor: JR Parachini. Can be reached in Maplewood at 973-763-0700.

THIS IS H.S. FOOTBALL

By JR Parachini Sports Editor. Nine teams finished over .500, two at .500 and nine qualified for the state playoffs.

Florence (11-0) won the section last year and has a 23-game winning streak. Among those 22 wins is a victory over visiting New Providence 7-3 in last year's semifinals.

After losing to Union on Thanksgiving or the holiday weekend eight consecutive years from 1991-1998, Scotch Plains has now won on the holiday six years in a row.

Scotch Plains defeated Union three straight years from 1999-2001 and has now bested Elizabeth three years in a row from 2002-2004.

Roselle Park defeated Roselle for the second straight year, downing the Rams 35-6 behind a stand-out performance by senior running back Elliott Fidali.

Roselle Park now leads the county's second-longest holiday series by 44-38-5 count. The 48th consecutive game in the series is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 24, 2005 at Arminio Field in Roselle.

Plainfield blanked visiting Westfield 40-0 at Hub Stine Field in the 100th meeting between the two clubs on Thanksgiving.

It was the most one-sided victory for Plainfield in the series since a 30-0 victory in 1917.

Plainfield did well to end the season with a three-game winning streak to finish at 5-5. Summit also won its last three to conclude 5-5.

Cranford won eight games for the second consecutive season and is 22-9 in the past three years. That includes a 1-3 playoff record.

Brearley won nine games for the second time in three years. The Bears are now 24-7 under head coach Scott Miller, including a 1-3 playoff mark.

The most improved teams this year were Rahway, Linden, Roselle and Governor Livingston. Last year, Rahway was 2-8, Linden 2-8 (with only one win on the field), Roselle 2-8 and GL 4-6.

Unbeaten county teams at home included New Providence (6-0), Brearley (5-0), GL (5-0), Elizabeth (5-0) and Rahway (5-0).

WEEK TWELVE GAME: NJSIAA Final (I) Central Jersey, Group 1 Saturday, Dec. 4, 1 p.m. 4-New Prov. at 2-Florence.

WEEK ELEVEN SCORES: THANKSGIVING Thursday, Nov. 25 (8) Scotch Plains 13, Elizabeth 12 Linden 13, Union 0 Plainfield 40, Westfield 0 Cranford 38, Kearny 0 Rahway 14, Johnson 6 Brearley 33, Hillside 0 Roselle Park 35, Roselle 6 New Prov. 19, Gov. Liv. 7.

WEEK TWELVE PICK (I) Florence over New Providence Last week: 7-1 This year: 94-35 (729) UNION COUNTY 1. Elizabeth (9-2) 2. New Providence (10-1) 3. Linden (7-4) 4. Rahway (8-3) 5. Cranford (8-2) 6. Scotch Plains (6-5) 7. Brearley (9-2) 8. Plainfield (5-5) 9. Union (4-6) 10. Gov. Livingston (6-5)



Former Dayton High School standout ice hockey player Brett Berger is now displaying his talents for the Rutgers Scarlet Knights. He netted a game-winning goal in overtime to lift Rutgers past St. John Fisher.

Berger making mark at Rutgers Nets OT goal to lift hockey team

Brett Berger made his mark on Dayton High School ice hockey team by graduating as the school's all-time points and assists leader.

Berger excelled in games played against St. John Fisher University of Rochester, N.Y. two weekends ago.

In the first game, a 4-4 tie, Berger had two assists and his line of Rob Saphow at left wing and Lou Taranto at right wing scored all four goals.

Berger scored in overtime to give Rutgers a 7-6 victory the next day. Rutgers fell behind 3-2 midway through the third period before Berger wristed a shot over the Cardinal goalie's shoulder to tie the game at 3-3.

After exchanging several more goals, the teams headed into overtime tied at a score of 6-6. Only 35 seconds into the extra session, Berger took the faceoff, skated down a defenseman and deked the St. John Fisher goaltender to score and give Rutgers the overtime win.

During the two weekend games, Berger had two goals and three assists for a total of five points. As of that point in the season, Berger had four goals and seven assists for 11 points.

Rutgers competes in the Division I ECHA Conference along with Villanova, West Virginia, Towson, Navy, Delaware, Lehigh, Rhode Island and Quinnipiac.

Zavocki taking her basketball prowess to Lafayette College To be given chance to prove herself right away

By Jeff Wolfgram Staff Writer. Springfield resident Cristina Zavocki can really focus on basketball in her senior season.

That's because the Dayton High School four-year starter has signed a letter-of-intent to attend Lafayette College next season.

Zavocki chose the Easton, Pa. school because of the wonderful time she had there on a recent recruiting trip. "I spent two days there and got to meet the coaching staff and the players," Zavocki said.

"Lafayette head coach Tammy Smith informed me that I can come in and make an impact on the team because she thinks that I can have a positive influence," Zavocki said.

Based on Zavocki's past success, it's hard not to believe that good things await her at the college level.

The Dayton play of Zavocki is one of the main reasons why Dayton is coming off one of its greatest seasons ever. The Bulldogs went 21-6 in 2003-2004, captured their first conference championship since 1977 and reached the Central Jersey Group 1 final for the first time.

Despite dropping a 60-41 decision to top-seeded Middlesex at West Windsor-Plainsboro North High School in the championship game, the second-seeded Bulldogs received a strong outing from Zavocki, who pumped in a team-high 10 points.

However, it was Dayton's 71-59 triumph over visiting seventh-seeded Keyport in the quarterfinals that Zavocki really made her mark as she pumped in a career-high 32 points.

"We lost five seniors from last year's team," Zavocki said. "We're going to need to work hard to get back to that level."

"I really haven't thought about going over the 1,000-point mark," Zavocki said. "It will be a nice accomplishment, but my main focus is just going out and winning."

Lafayette, an NCAA Division I-AA school that participates in the Patriot League, goes up against the likes of Lehigh, Army, Colgate and Navy. Lehigh, Lafayette's No. 1 rival, is the school her older sister Mary Alice attended after much success at Columbia High.

"It should make for a great family rivalry," Zavocki said. "My sister jokes that she will root for me, but not when we play Lehigh. She's never going to wear the school color of maroon either."

Eight of the best high school ice hockey teams in New Jersey will compete in the 22nd Annual George T. Cron Tournament beginning Monday at 6 p.m. at Wanaranco Ice Skating Center in Roselle.

Summit, once again, is one of the schools involved. One more team is needed to complete the tournament schedule.

Interested high schools may call 908-298-7849 for more information. Wanaranco rink, located in Wanaranco Park, is a facility of the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation.

The first round schedule is as follows: Monday: Westfield vs. West Essex, 6 p.m. Morris Knolls vs. TBA, 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Cranford vs. Summit, 6 p.m. Mendham vs. Old Bridge, 8:30 p.m.

The second round will commence Thursday night. The next evening of competition will be Dec. 13.

Summit ice hockey vs. Cranford Monday in the Cron Tournament

Both Summit High School varsity basketball teams are scheduled to compete for 2004-2005 seasons Dec. 17. The boys' team will take on the girls' team from Morris Hills.

The boys' are coming off one of their best seasons ever. Summit reached the Group 2 championship game after winning North 2, Group 2 and the Hills Division. The Hilltoppers finished 24-5 overall and 17-1 in the Hills.

The girls' won't be out of the playoffs until after the boys' defeated Morris Hills 59-36 in Rockaway. The girls' were defeated by the Scarlet Knights 55-20 in Summit.

The girls' swimming team is scheduled to compete for the first time Tuesday afternoon against Governor Livingston.

Summit Boys' Basketball: Dec. 17 Morris Hills, 7 p.m. Dec. 20 at Weequahic, 7 Dec. 22 at West Essex, 7 Jan. 4 Dover, 7 Jan. 7 at Parsippany Hills, 7 Jan. 11 Chatham, 7 Jan. 14 at Mendham, 7 Jan. 18 Hanover Park, 7 Jan. 21 at Parsippany, 7 Jan. 25 at Morris Hills, 7 Jan. 27 Weequahic, 7 Feb. 1 West Essex, 7 Feb. 3 at Dover, 7 Feb. 8 Parsippany Hills, 7 Feb. 10 at Chatham, 7 Feb. 15 Mendham, 7 Feb. 17 at Hanover Park, 7 Feb. 22 Parsippany, 7. Summit Ice Hockey: Dec. 3 Middletown South, 3:45 p.m. Dec. 9 at Chatham, 7 p.m. Dec. 14 at Kearny, 3:30 Dec. 16 at Livingston, 3:30 Dec. 16 at Westfield, 3:30 Dec. 21 at Eastside, 3:30 Dec. 21 at Union, 3:30 Dec. 23 at Plainfield, 3:30 Dec. 23 at Verona, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 23 at Westfield, 7:45 p.m. Dec. 23 at Bernards, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 23 at Johnson, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 23 at Verona, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 23 at Westfield, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 23 at Westfield, 7:45 p.m. Dec. 23 at Randolph, 5:45 p.m. Dec. 29 Parsippany Hills, 7 p.m. Dec. 31 at Hanover Park, 7 Dec. 22 Weequahic, 7 Dec. 22 West Essex, 7 Dec. 28-30 Millburn Tournament Dec. 4 at Dover, 7 Jan. 4 at Parsippany Hills, 7 Jan. 11 at Chatham, 7 Jan. 14 at Mendham, 7 Jan. 18 at Hanover Park, 7 Jan. 21 at Parsippany, 7 Jan. 25 at Morris Hills, 7 Jan. 27 at Weequahic, 7 Feb. 1 at West Essex, 7 Feb. 3 at Dover, 7 Feb. 8 at Parsippany Hills, 7 Feb. 10 at Chatham, 7 Feb. 16 at Mendham, 7 Feb. 17 at Hanover Park, 7 Feb. 22 at Parsippany, 7. Summit Girls' Basketball: Dec. 17 at Morris Hills, 7 p.m. Dec. 20 at Weequahic, 7 Dec. 22 West Essex, 7 Dec. 23 UCT Relay vs. Millburn Tournament Jan. 4 at Dover, 7 Jan. 7 Parsippany Hills, 7 Jan. 11 at Chatham, 7 Jan. 14 at Mendham, 7 Jan. 18 at Hanover Park, 7 Jan. 21 at Parsippany, 7 Jan. 25 at Morris Hills, 7 Jan. 27 at Weequahic, 7 Feb. 1 at West Essex, 7 Feb. 3 at Dover, 7 Feb. 8 at Parsippany Hills, 7 Feb. 10 at Chatham, 7 Feb. 16 at Mendham, 7 Feb. 17 at Hanover Park, 7 Feb. 22 at Parsippany, 7. Summit Winter Track: Dec. 17 at TBA, 3:45 p.m. Dec. 18 Liftar Invite at Drew, 9 a.m. Dec. 19 at Bish. Laughlin Inv., 8 p.m. Dec. 23 at Holiday Relays, 4:30 p.m. Dec. 27 DeSchriver Inv. at Drew, 9 a.m. Dec. 29 Pasarelli Inv. at Drew, 9 a.m. Dec. 31 Valentine Inv. at Drew, 9 a.m. Jan. 3 Polar Bear-Drew, 4:30 p.m. Jan. 3 UCT Relay at Elizabeth, 6 p.m. Jan. 7 Iron Hills Champs-Drew, 4:30 Jan. 8 Hispanic Games-Armory, 9 Jan. 9 Group 2 Relays-Princeton, 9 Jan. 12 at Millburn, Caldwell, 3:45 Jan. 16 Group 2-Princeton, 9 a.m. Jan. 22 New Bal. Games-Armory, 9 Jan. 24 UCT Meet at Eliz., 6 p.m. Jan. 24 at Randolph Shot Put Invite, 5:45 p.m. Feb. 2 at NJ Met. Champ, 4:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at Last Chance Invitational, 4 p.m. Feb. 19 Hall Fame Invite-Armory, 4 Feb. 27 MOC at Princeton University, 11 a.m.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

Table with multiple columns listing services such as ADDITIONS, AIR CONDITIONING, GARAGE DOORS, KITCHEN, ROOFING, etc. Each entry includes business name, contact information, and a brief description of services.



Edith Koerner, Charlotte Jacobs and Eleanor Keller of Union are ready to serve six hearty soups and platters of holiday cookies at the Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church Holiday Boutique on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



The Rev. Elaine Wing, Jane Reilly, Sharon Santiago and Dan Crisci of Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church display seal adoption materials as part of the church's 2004 Alternative Holiday Giving Fair.

### Church's holiday shopping events help share in spirit of giving

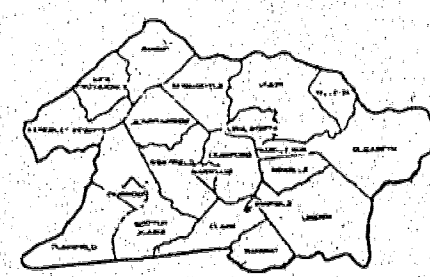
Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall, will offer a "one stop shopping experience" on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Affordable gifts, indoor and outdoor decorations, soups — to eat in or take out — and platters of homemade cookies will be available. Shoppers can choose from six hearty soups for lunch or to take home in convenient half-pint sizes, all for \$1.50 per pint. Assorted cookies will be sold in decorated platters, ready for gift giving or serving at a holiday party.

The church is also inviting all shoppers to purchase an alternative or living gift for someone on their holiday shopping list this year. The church's Alternative Holiday Fair runs through Dec. 21. Nine diverse charities have been selected for this year's fair with donations beginning at \$1. A holiday card and explanation for each recipient is given with every donation made to a charity at the fair. "The seal adoption caught our attention as something new, related to our state and fun for

folks of all ages," explained Sharon Santiago and Dan Crisci, co-chairpersons of the church Outreach Ministry Team. The Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine rescues and rehabilitates stranded whales, dolphins, seals and sea turtles. Each seal can cost the center close to \$1,500 to rehabilitate. An adoption certificate and photo are provided as part of the \$25 adoption gift. Animal lovers do not have to stop with the marine mammals. The fair also provides an

opportunity to give honey bees, chicks, ducks and a share of a pig in someone's honor through the Heifer Project International, HPI. Heifer assists low income farmers in the United States as well as abroad. Eight charities help needy children, adults and families living in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky, as well as Paterson, Union County and Liberia. Children and families in New Jersey affected by HIV/AIDS, children of parents who are in New Jersey prisons and persons affected by

the 2004 hurricane season also are helped by monetary gifts to the fair. For information, or a 2004 order list, call the church office at 973-376-1695, or visit the fair table following Sunday worship at 10:15 a.m. Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church is located at 40 Church Mall, at the far back end of the street, near the intersection of Morris and Mountain avenues in Springfield. For information on either of these holiday events, call 973-376-1695.



# Union County

WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2004 - SECTION B

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- Entertainment
- Classified
- Real Estate
- Automotive

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### Political Will

The Wednesday afternoon before Thanksgiving Frank Guzzo leaned back in his chair at his second-floor office in the county Administration Building to reflect on the new focus on neglect of the state's mentally ill youth. As the county's Director of Human Services, he got to respond to publicity generated by the state's Office of the Child Advocate over the sick kids who languish behind and in the "space of reform."

The impetus was a year-long study that found a quarter of the state youth held in overcrowded detention centers are mentally ill and don't get needed treatment. Hardly earth-shattering, though tragic for those who deal with the problem yearlong.

### Left Out

State Child Advocate Kevin Ryan made the rounds of press and TV telling the story. Not coincidentally Ryan even found time to talk about his own reappointment chances.

In Union County the report concludes the current juvenile facility "is substantial and acceptable." Ryan less-than-subtly threatens he "intends to monitor the county's progress carefully and to take other steps as necessary and available by statute if significant progress is not forthcoming." The verbiage in the press was hot and heavy. *The Record* said, "the child advocate report points a shameful picture that no one in New Jersey should feel comfortable about." *The Home News-Tribune* wrote, "The State needs at the very least to require counties to hire well-trained mental health professionals to work in all the detention centers, clinicians who can assess and treat the children while they are awaiting permanent placement." *The New York Times* wrote, "with no where else to go, they're packed behind bars."

Missing among the selective outrage is the problem facing Guzzo and other county officials — the cost. The outrage was silent as to the incredible difficulty in citing a facility in an accepting community. If the City of Linden hadn't stepped up to the plate with a site, you wonder what would have happened as the county plans a new facility.

Most difficult is the maze of state-inspired regulations as to location and sites which might be OK in Hunterdon County but are downright impossible and add huge dollars to any urban facility. Even the \$10.5 million set aside by the county for local acquisition, demolition and design may not be enough. In regard to the current substandard facility located over a garage in Elizabeth, Guzzo in a rare unguarded moment says, "I'd like to meet the guy who planned that in 1968."

Ryan said he doubted if there was the political will to complete the reform. Such a shame Ryan pulled that punch. It's not a political will deficit. Rather, what Ryan skirts is citizens don't share his concern. Talk about property tax relief, locating a new freight line or giving some department head a raise and you'll see political will and indignation. The truth for advocates is the tragedy of their kids isn't high on the radar of people who pay the freight. Add to that efforts by the county, including the depopulation of the current facility and an exciting program to use video conferencing are of little interest to opinion makers.

So Guzzo and other county officials endure threats by the advocate and the oversight Juvenile Justice Commission, as well as their own concern to give the kids the care they need. They move forward even though the overwhelming majority of the constituents don't approve. Seems like Guzzo and friends should be doing the lecturing on political will. An attorney, Frank Capece is a resident of Cranford.

## State threatens action on new youth jail

By Anna Kreymann Staff Writer

The Office of Child Advocate is urging Union County to launch its five-year-old promise to build a new detention center "within the next 60 days" or else.

In their complete report, the OCA describes the George W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center, located on the top of a parking garage in Elizabeth, as being a "substandard and unacceptable facility."

"The OCA strongly recommends the county take immediate, significant and affirmative steps to launch its proposed construction project within the next 60 days," the report, released last week, states. "OCA intends to monitor the county's progress carefully and to take other steps as necessary and available by statute if significant progress is not forthcoming."

County officials said they are making progress toward the new detention center, but added that it may not be realistic to put the shovel in the ground within 60 days.

"It didn't take the report to have the

county move on with the building of the new detention center," said Frank Guzzo, director of Union County Human Services. "We are well on our way, we have cited the facility and purchased it."

He added that the new facility, which will be at least 65,000 square feet, "is not like an office building, it requires specific implementation of designs."

"We had to explore the relationship between how kids move and the square footage number," Guzzo said. "The state requires at least 40,000 square footage for detention facilities, according to Guzzo."

"One of the reasons why it takes so long to build a detention center is because 80 percent of the type of land that's needed is already used up and becomes very hard to find," he said.

Guzzo added that the county is unaware of what the cost will be for the new, 80-bed facility. "We're building for the future," he said. "We don't want to find out the day of completion that we don't have enough room to house all of the kids."

The county has purchased a 4-acre site in Linden, off Routes 1&9, for \$4.3 million. According to the \$17 million contract with RicciGreene Associates, the design development phase is scheduled to be completed by February with the bidding and award phase scheduled for next summer, and construction tentatively scheduled to begin in August and finish in November 2006.

The county's goal is to accommodate fewer youngsters than the maximum capacity to ensure that overcrowding will not be an issue.

OCA's year-long probe confirmed that detention centers across the state have common, festering problems of "overcrowding and untreated mental and behavioral needs."

"The state needs to do their job as well as the county," Guzzo said. "The Juvenile Justice Commission approved our plans for the new center. There needs to be more communication between the OCA and the JJC."

The Juvenile Justice Commission seeks to improve mental health matters and overpopulation in detention

centers across the state by partnering with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

According to JJC Executive Director Howard Beyer, the hiring of physicians, nurses and other personnel, and through relationships with area treatment centers, the JJC will begin providing "in-house" health care services for juveniles starting in January.

"The JJC is not a mental health agency, nor is it a child welfare agency," he said in a written statement. "However, the reality is that young people with mental health issues are sometimes inappropriately placed and end up in county detention or state-run juvenile justice facilities. Through our partnership with UMDNJ, we are strengthening our ability to identify their needs and address them. It is, simply put, the right thing to do."

Guzzo said that construction for the new detention center will hopefully begin in the new year, "but we cannot predict any environmental problems that may occur to push that date back."

"There is a shortage of concrete and steel," Guzzo said. "It is not readily available and that is the type of materials that we need to construct the building."

Salam Ismail, chairman of the United Youth Council Inc., a youth advocacy group in Elizabeth, said the only way to guarantee a new detention center is if the state takes over and builds one.

The state Office of the Child Advocate initiated its investigation into Union County's detention center following a 17-year-old boy's suicide last year.

"The county's persistent violation of state laws and regulations, suggests a fundamental disregard of basic human rights, led directly to the conditions that allowed Edward Sinclair's suicide," OCA's initial report stated.

Sinclair hanged himself with a bedsheet he attached to a broken sprinkler head in a room at the Gerald W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center in Elizabeth, on May 10, 2003. He was arrested for failing to appear in court for allegedly stealing a bicycle.

## Guns for butter

Incentives offered for turning in firearms

By Anna Kreymann Staff Writer

This holiday season residents are exchanging guns for gifts.

Handguns and rifles are being wrapped in brown paper bags, tied with colorful string and handed to Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow in exchange for \$50 worth of food or sporting goods.

In the one month since its inception, the gun surrender program has put roughly 20 weapons into police custody that will be destroyed and melted down into manhole covers and wire fasteners.

"I'm pleased that residents are responding to our offer of free groceries or sports merchandise and the chance to get rid of a dangerous weapon," said Romankow.

Last year, about half of the murders in the county were committed with guns, while in 2002, 10 of the 15 murders were shootings and eight of 18 in 2001 involved guns.

"By surrendering the guns, people will ensure that they will not be used in the commission of a crime," said Romankow. "Often guns are inherited from family members, while others are purchased. Many of these guns can become the reason of an unfortunate accident."

The Prosecutor's Office arrested

about 500 people on weapons charges, of which almost 150 charged were youth, so the prosecutor said the goal of this program is maximizing safety and minimizing arrests.

"The office successfully prosecuted about 200 people on gun charges two years ago," Union County Chief of Detectives Robert Buccino said.

According to Union County Manager George Devanney, the program is the perfect way to reduce crime without using local tax dollars.

The funding comes from a state grant of \$23,000 to combat gun violence, "so it is really costing very little to rid homes and neighborhood streets from weapons," said Romankow.

He added that New York City officials tried a similar program several years ago and received more than 10,000 guns.

County officials said Romankow could have used the grant for billboard advertising to promote strict gun law enforcement, "but he decided to take a more aggressive stance by actually offering a surrender program."

The county is accepting firearms from citizens in good will, said Union County Police Chief Daniel Vaniska. "We know there are citizens who have guns in their homes somewhere and have been looking for a safe way to



Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow is offering \$50 gift certificates for food or sporting goods in exchange for any firearms. So far the Prosecutor's Office has collected 20 weapons. The last day to turn in a weapon in exchange for a gift certificate is Dec. 18 at the Save-A-Life-Today Office, 511-513 W. Sixth St., Plainfield, or call 908-753-3112 for free pickup. this year will be Dec. 18 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Save-A-Life-Today Office, 511-513 W. Sixth St., Plainfield, or call 908-753-3112 for free pickup. The program will continue in the spring.

## Smoke-free legislation likely not going anywhere

By Anna Kreymann Staff Writer

Many business owners in Union County are bringing a breath of fresh air into their establishments by putting a No Smoking sign on the door.

According to Ruth Boonjy, spokeswoman for the Summit-based New Jersey Group Against Smoking Pollution, more and more food establishments are becoming smoke-free.

"We have an online list of thousands of restaurants and bars throughout the state that have decided to keep cigarettes out," she said. "Every town in Union County has about 20 food places that do not allow smoking."

A recent survey conducted by Zagat's, critics on dining, has shown that roughly 80 percent of Garden State residents are non-smokers and about the same amount of businesses are too.

"We have been in the hospitality business since 1981 and we have been a smoke-free establishment since 1994," Josephine Deal of Joe's Pizzeria and Restaurant on Springfield Avenue in Summit said in a letter to NJ GASP. "It will be very difficult to get the smoke out the door."

Deal added that making her restaurant free of cigarettes has been her best business decision ever because "nobody no longer have filthy ash trays, nor do the plates have butts all over them."

"Even though many of my employees smoke, they are happy being able to eat without the smoke in their face," Deal said.

Joe's Pizzeria and Restaurant is still in business and according to Deal it is "booming more than ever." She said she hopes lawmakers will help to keep smoke out of "people's food."

There is legislation that has been introduced that would prohibit smoking in indoor public places and workplaces.

Boonjy said that although she hopes the law is passed, she realizes that because of the many loopholes in New Jersey's law on smoking that it will be very difficult to get the smoke out the door.

State law allows smoking in certain spots in public places, "so it will be hard to overturn those laws," she said.

Governing bodies in Garwood, Hillsdale, Union, Kenilworth and Westfield have passed resolutions urging approval of the smoke-free bill.

Union Township officials said that people deserve to relax in places where they do not have to worry that they might get lung cancer.

"Local governing bodies, organizations and businesses throughout the state are asking for local and state smoke-free air laws to protect employees and the public," Boonjy said. "The governments and other entities have passed 35 resolutions asking for state legislation to restore local government authority to enact smoke-free air laws."

States like New York, California, Florida, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, South Dakota, Utah, and Idaho are all ahead of New Jersey in making public places and workplaces free of air pollution.

If the smoke-free law is not passed in New Jersey, state residents will continue breathing the

fumes from nicotine sticks like Marlboro and Parliament in private schools, doctor's offices, child care centers, nursing homes, taxis, charter buses, bowling alleys and dance halls, according to Boonjy.

New Jersey's Smoke-Free Air Act, S-264, was introduced in January and referred to the Senate's Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. The measure's prime sponsors are John Adler, D-Camden, and Thomas Keane Jr., R-Union. Among the co-sponsors is Sen. Nicholas Scutari, D-Union.

According to NJGASP Executive Director Regina Carlson, the smoke-free law is lagging in the Garden State. "New Jersey is just a black hole, so far behind the eight ball." She doesn't expect the bill to be voted on this year.

"It takes about 30 minutes of cigarette smoke exposure to get heart disease," Boonjy said. "Do we really want to take that chance? Why not make this bill stronger by telling our legislators that we care about our health and want to pass a law to assure a longer and better quality of life."

To find a smoke-free dining experience or to advertise becoming one, go to www.njgasp.org.

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COUNTY NEWS

Tree lighting on Sunday

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will sponsor the annual holiday tree lighting and nature craft show Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in rain or shine at Watchung Stable, 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside.

UCLSA holiday party

UCLSA, the association for legal professionals will have its annual holiday party Dec. 14 at RG Friends Restaurant on Springfield Avenue in Westfield. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. There will also be a \$10 grab bag gift exchange along with a collection for UCLSA's charitable cause, cystic fibrosis.

Mothers & More has open meeting Dec. 15

The Mothers & More group will meet Dec. 15 for an open forum meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Westfield YMCA, 220 Clark St.

'Women of Excellence' nominations available

Nominations are now available for the 13th annual "Women of Excellence" awards program sponsored by the Union County Commission on the Status of Women.

Prepress, design certificate available

The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education of Union County College will be offering courses this month on how to prepare design jobs for printing. The courses are part of the certificate programs in Prepress and Print Media offered by the college.

Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey will sponsor the following blood drives:

UCC trip to South America in January

Are you ready for a vacation? Join Union County College on a trip to Argentina and Uruguay from Jan. 4-16. The vacation includes three nights in Montevideo and seven nights in Buenos Aires for a total of \$1,950, based on a double occupancy room.

Gun surrender program

A unique gun surrender program that will allow Union County residents to turn in handguns and rifles in exchange for certificates good for up to \$50 for food or sports equipment has been launched in an effort to remove dangerous weapons from homes and neighborhoods.

Tree sought for rotunda

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County Division of Building Services are searching for an evergreen tree to decorate the Courthouse Rotunda for this year's holiday season.

Community musical club shines in music and scholarships

The Musical Club of Westfield has always had quite a following. So much so, in fact, that George Toenes and his wife have of the club even when they lived in the South.

Havens to sound the echoes of Woodstock in local performance

Richie Havens really dislikes the music production process known as "overdubbing." Can you blame him? The fact that he used less equipment at a critical occasion might just have contributed to the development of his own fame.

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HOLIDAY PUPPET SHOWS
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The Square Yard, 341 Springfield Ave.
Info and Tickets: 908-522-1700
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Luna Stage dusts off a classic play with stellar performances
By Ruth Ross Correspondent
Although the company is best known for new plays and world premieres, the current production of Henrik Ibsen's "Ghosts" proves that the folks at Luna Stage can perform the classics very well, thank you.
This old warehouse of modern drama classes is rarely performed nowadays, but director Jane Mandel found the play timely "because family or societal secrets continue to bring destruction to the most innocent victims."
In our era of frankness, it's difficult to understand the scandal that surrounded "Ghosts" at its opening and subsequent performances. This tale of love, betrayal and hypocrisy inexorably unfolds as ghosts from the past haunt the living. On the eve of opening a foundation hospital commemorating her respected husband, Helena Alving is forced to reveal his degeneracy and the real state of her marriage in the face of her beloved son's deteriorating physical condition and his plans to wed the maid Regina.
As Mrs. Alving, Mona Hennessy struggles mightily to contain her fear as "the sins of the father are visited on their children." To her credit, Hennessy never overplays her previous attachment to the clueless Pastor Manders, with whom she sought refuge as she fled her husband's torment at living in such a restricted world of faith and morality yet is evident in the constant wringing of her hands. Her final heart-rending scream reverberates off the walls of the black box theater.
Was there ever a minister so obtuse as Manders? Kenneth Boys plays him so well that one has to refrain from getting up to throttle the man. He's so wrong-headed on everything, but one never has the feeling that he's malicious. Frankie Paison's carpenter, Jacob Engstrand, is part naïf and part master manipulator, and Bethany Butler is appropriately impressed with her French phrases and girlishly infatuated with the handsome Oswald Alving, played so touchingly by Michael Aquino. From the moment Aquino enters, we're aware that something is wrong with him. As his mother peels away the lies about his father, we—

It's that time of the year to be merry, even if you're somewhat harried
The Art of Laughter
By Helen Argers
because everything here is perfect together.
But here's a general tip for harried housewives: stuff the turkey with a fruit cake. That way you get the main course and dessert over in one. But the answer is no stuffing. That not only lessens the risk of bacterial contamination but concurrently demonstrates your innate delicacy. For sticking stuff up the turkey's private parts is something to be done only by a licensed doctor or police strip searcher.
On to holiday home decorating tips. What about replacing pictures of your family in Santa suits instead of the same old Santa photos? Aren't you tired of that old man with his white beard staring at you?
Let's face it, no matter how jolly old St. Nick is said to be, with his red nose he looks like a reformed drunk heading for your Christmas punch. And if he suddenly came down your chimney, without all that advanced publicity and spin, you'd run and call 9-1-1.
What really wins us over is his red velvet and white fur suit. In business attire, we'd demand his ID. But, hey, he's wearing his ID. Who else could get away with that outfit? So we open our dampers and invite him down our chimneys. More, we even put out milk and cookies for him. Although with that red nose, he obviously prefers something stronger and gives the milk and cookies to his reindeers, using as an excuse that he's on a low-carb diet. But fat or slim, he's the official spokesperson of the season. His "Ho-Ho-Ho" sets the jolly tone. So, yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.
Actually, there are a lot of Santa Clauses — on every street corner ringing their bells, on television selling cell phones. And every one of them knows whether Virginia has been naughty or nice. So you'd better watch out or you'll get a large lump of

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child endangerment and arrest the parents. Or at least order them to follow the girl with a fine extinguisher. Of course, we have our own holiday punishments — such as forcing children to sit on store Santas' laps, seeing "The Nutcracker" for the 13th time, or "A Christmas Carol" — straight or musical versions — for the 20th. Or being forced to learn all the lyrics to "The Twelve Days of Christmas."
No, no, the worse is thinking of gifts for those to whom you'd rather give coal. Why not really give a piece of coal and tell them it's a paperweight?
Of course, some people early Christmas too far such as really cutting the fruit cakes you get with all those hard green things inside that stick to your teeth. Scandinavia, for instance, goes way over the line. Every eldest daughter is dressed in a long white gown and plopped on her poor little head is a wreath with large candles — LIT UP! Balancing those, she goes from bedroom to bedroom bringing St. Lucia's holiday wishes. In the United States, the authorities would call that

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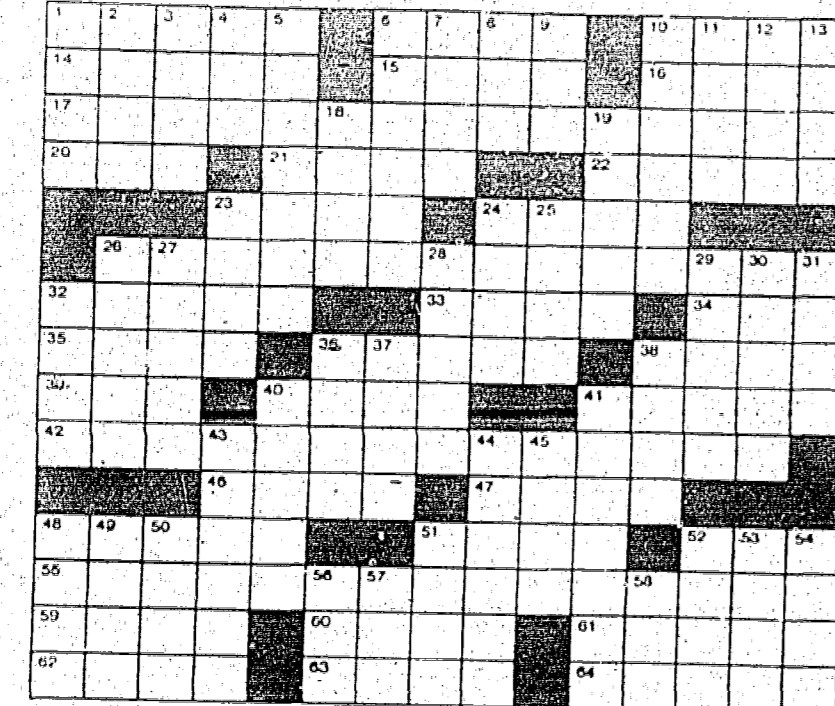
ACROSS

- 1 Title
- 6 Pant
- 10 Mata
- 14 Heavenly hunter
- 15 Wild disorder
- 16 Yerve
- 17 Elia Fitzgerald
- 20 Yentl actress Irving
- 21 Kentucky Derby winner, \_\_\_ Ridge
- 22 Musical composition
- 23 Trick
- 24 Pate de gras
- 26 Patti Page
- 32 Concede
- 33 Microwave
- 34 Word with fish or small
- 35 Corrode
- 36 Guess out
- 38 \_\_\_ dieu: kneeling bench
- 39 Addams Family member Cousin
- 40 Ars longa, \_\_\_ brevis
- 41 Condemns
- 42 Botto Midler
- 46 March 15
- 47 Brickyard race, for short
- 48 Purview
- 51 Oklahoma Indian
- 52 Egyptian cobra
- 55 Boby Yinton
- 59 Kent's coworker
- 60 Indolent
- 61 Instrument
- 62 Arama
- 63 Indigent
- 64 Pours

DOWN

- 1 Couch
- 2 Compact
- 3 Blithe
- 4 \_\_\_ Alamos
- 5 Give for safekeeping
- 6 Carved

SING SING



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By Charles Preston

- 7 Verdi opera
- 8 Popular legume
- 9 End of page abbreviation
- 10 \_\_\_ Pryne
- 11 Felipe, Jesus or Matly
- 12 "The Fountainhead" author
- 13 "Come Back, Little Sheba" author
- 18 Italian actress Virna
- 19 Pretend
- 23 Lease
- 24 \_\_\_ Easy Pieces"
- 25 Waffle items
- 26 Vagally
- 27 Waste maker
- 28 Heights
- 29 60s do's
- 30 Fairy tale brothers
- 31 Looks at
- 32 Courage, in a sense
- 36 Submarine command
- 37 Elevator pioneer
- 38 Nosegay
- 40 The V of VCR
- 41 18th Century French writer/philosopher
- 43 It can be Big or Little
- 44 This or that
- 45 JKL followers
- 48 French WWII battle site
- 49 Nigh neighbor
- 50 Wine prefix
- 51 Birthplace of Sonja Henie
- 52 Jean Cocteau's "L'Heurtebise"
- 53 Trick
- 54 Writes
- 56 Sass
- 57 Words of great import
- 58 Anger

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE B10

# What's Going On?

## FAIR

**SATURDAY**  
December 4th, 2004  
EVENT: "Peppermint Boutique" Craft Fair  
PLACE: Mother Seton RHS, Valley Road, Clark  
TIME: 9AM-5PM  
PRICE: Free Admission  
ORGANIZATION: Mother Seton Parent Guild

## FLEA MARKET

**SATURDAY**  
DECEMBER 4TH 2004  
EVENT: Flea Market  
PLACE: 140-144 Bloomfield Ave., Montclair, NJ  
TIME: 8am-4pm  
PRICE: VENDORS WANTED. For more information call 973-673-7975 or 973-746-5914 or 973-678-8339  
ORGANIZATION: Bright Hope Baptist Church.

## SATURDAY

December 4th, 2004  
EVENT: Holiday Jewelry and Giftware Sale  
PLACE: New Eyes for the Needy, 549 Milburn Avenue, Short Hills, NJ  
TIME: 10am to 3pm  
PRICE: Free Admission - Antique and costume jewelry, watches, silver, crystal and porcelain at reasonable prices. For information call 973-376-6903  
ORGANIZATION: New Eyes for the Needy

## SUNDAY

December 5th, & 19th, 2004  
EVENT: Flea Market  
PLACE: St. Mary's High School, 237 South Broad Street, Elizabeth  
TIME: 8am-3pm  
INFORMATION: Over 100 tables of bargains. Limited space. For more information call 908-352-4350  
ORGANIZATION: St. Mary's High School

## FLEA MARKET

**SATURDAY SUNDAY**  
December 4th, 5th, 2004  
EVENT: 2 Day Giant Flea Market: Craft & Collectible Show  
PLACE: Bellevue High School, 100 Passaic Avenue, Bellevue, NJ (off Joralemon Street)  
TIME: Saturday Dec. 4, 9AM-4PM Outdoors, 4PM-10PM Indoors  
Sunday Dec. 5, 9AM-5PM In & Outdoors  
DETAILS: Pictures with Santa indoors Saturday 5-8PM & Sunday 11AM-3PM  
New merchandise, gifts, crafts, collectibles, garage and tag sale section  
Free mini Trick Tray for customers indoors Saturday night & Sunday  
Drawing held Sunday at 3PM  
For information call 201-997-9535  
ORGANIZATION: Sponsor by BHS SEppo & Celebration Graduation

## OTHER

**SATURDAY**  
December 4th, 2004  
EVENT: Holiday Jewelry and Giftware Sale  
PLACE: New Eyes for the Needy, 549 Milburn Avenue, Short Hills, NJ  
TIME: 10am to 3pm  
PRICE: Free Admission - Antique and costume jewelry, watches, silver, crystal and porcelain at reasonable prices. For information call 973-376-6903  
ORGANIZATION: New Eyes for the Needy

## SUNDAY

December 5th, 11th, 18th, 2004  
EVENT: Dickens Village  
PLACE: Ricatlon Square, Maplewood Village  
TIME: 10:30am-4:00pm  
PRICE: FREE - Horse & Wagon Ride, Photos with Santa, Caroline miniature houses open for viewers, Petting Zoo  
ORGANIZATION: Maplewood Chamber of Commerce

What's Going On is a directory of events for non-profit organizations. It is prepared and costs \$20.00 (for 2 weeks) for Essex County, Union County and just \$30.00 for Bergen County. Your notice must be in the Magazine Office (483 Valley Street) by 4:00 PM on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at our other offices: 222 Liberty St., Bloomsfield or 1224 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. For more information call 800-564-8911

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## Dec. 6 to 12

**ARIES**, March 21 to April 19: Avoid making a judgment call during a crazed or insane moment. Keep your head and get all of the correct facts before voicing your opinion.  
**TAURUS**, April 20 to May 20: It is time to get aggressive with your investment plans. Do not procrastinate or delay a bid for a promising new stock.  
**GEMINI**, May 21 to June 21: A close relationship explodes with

## HOROSCOPES

excitement. Play up the romance and woo your partner with a variety of surprises.  
**CANCER**, June 22 to July 22: Your patience tends to wear thin. Excuse yourself from a tedious task or refuse to wait for a co-worker who continuously holds you back.  
**LEO**, July 23 to Aug. 22: Children will play an important role in your life. Plan for periods of time spent together this week filled with sporting or other entertaining activities.  
**VIRGO**, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Avoid losing your temper and in doing so, losing control of an emotional situation. Do your best to stay calm and candidly talk about your feelings.  
**LIBRA**, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Play it smart, pay attention and think before you act this week. One incorrect or immoral move in the wrong direction could spell disaster.  
**SCORPIO**, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: You have a tendency to spend more money than you make. Work to turn this habit

around or be willing to accept the long-term consequences.  
**SAGITTARIUS**, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: Your peers or contemporaries are in dire need of direction or motivation. Follow your heart and step up to take on a leadership role.  
**CAPRICORN**, Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: Pay attention to an important message from your subconscious mind. Meditate and discover the core of ideas that form your beliefs.  
**AQUARIUS**, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: Utilize your strengths. If your birthday is this week, communicate your ideas with power and conviction and really get your point across during the coming year. Your focus or mental discipline is very strong and will lead you to some highly intellectual triumphs. Do not hesitate to travel or explore previously uncharted terrain. Play a steering or pioneering role and get a new project off the ground with tremendous success. Also born this week: Teri Garr, Emily Dickinson, Kirk Douglas, Lee J. Cobb, Louis Prima and Dave Brubeck.

## 'Wonderful Life' in Cranford

Join the actors as they recreate the Lux Radio Theater circa 1947 and enjoy all the laughs and thrills as a musician and one extremely over-worked sound technician prepare for the great broadcast of the story made famous in the Frank Capra film, "It's a Wonderful Life."  
"So much of what we do is adult oriented," said artistic director Mark Spina, "and we wanted to do something the whole family could enjoy for the holidays. "It's a 'thank you' to our patrons for their support over the last ten years." This year marked The Theater Project's 10th anniversary.  
"It's a Wonderful Life" brings together many of the professional actors who regularly appear with The Theater Project, such as Gary Gior, Rick Delaney and Daanah Talley.  
"It's a Wonderful Life's" director, Liz Zazzi, has been named one of New Jersey's outstanding actors; she has acted and directed with most of the state's professional companies.  
"It's a Wonderful Life" can be seen on Sunday at 3 p.m. at The Theater Project, Union County College's Professional Theater Company, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford.  
A \$10 donation is suggested for adults, children are admitted free. For reservations, call 908-659-5189.

## Auditions set for Agatha Christie play

Director Maurice Moran of West-field Community Players, is holding auditions for the Agatha Christie murder mystery, "Witness for the Prosecution."  
The open casting call is for Dec. 12 and 14 at 7 p.m. in the WCP Theater at 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield.  
The show opens at 8 p.m. on March 5, and continues March 11, 12, 18 and 19.  
For audition scripts and other information, call Linda Giaditta at 908-232-8934.  
In this classic Christie tale, a wealthy middle-aged spinster is touchingly helped, and subsequently charmed, by an engaging but impetuous young man.  
"Since he is her only visitor on the night that she is discovered bludgeoned to death, he becomes the prime suspect.  
His fate depends on the testimony of his German wife — the witness for the prosecution.  
In a riveting series of increasingly dramatic scenarios, we are swept back to the 1950s in this clever and complex tale of murder, deceit and betrayal that represents Agatha Christie's writing for the stage at its most accomplished.

The principal cast requirements are as follows:  
Leonard Vole, the accused, actor in his 30s.  
Romaine Heilger Vole — actress must be in her 30s, a foreign woman of "great personality, but very quiet" with German and Cockney accents.  
Janet Mackenzie, Scottish housekeeper — actress must be in her 50s or older; actor must effect an accent.  
Sir Wilfrid Roberts, Queen's counsel — actor must be in his 30s or older.  
Mr. Meyers, Queen's council — actor must be in his 30s or older.  
Greta, Sir Wilfrid's typist — 30s or older.  
Carter, chief clerk — 30s or older.  
John Mayhew, solicitor — actor must be in his 30s or older.  
Inspector Hearne — must be 30s or older.  
Dr. Wyatt, police surgeon — must be 30s or older.  
Thomas Clegg, Scotland Yard forensic assistant — must be 30s or older.  
Henry's other woman — blonde, must be late teens, early 20s.  
Various jurors, guards and bartenders are also needed.  
Note that several roles will be doubled.

## Theatre Alliance wins state award

The New Jersey Theatre Alliance, the consortium of professional, not-for-profit theaters in New Jersey, has been awarded the Governor's Tourism Award for the Arts for the online ticketing program, njArtsTix.org.  
The award was presented to the New Jersey Theatre Alliance for demonstrating that it is "instrumental in advancing New Jersey Arts and promoting the quality and diversity of New Jersey's arts community."  
Joining then-Gov. James E. McGreevey and Nancy Byrne, director of the Office of New Jersey Travel and Tourism, in presenting the Arts Award at the gala luncheon attended by tourism professionals from across the state was Nina Stack, director of arts marketing and external affairs for the New Jersey State Council of the Arts. NJTA Executive Director John McEwen and Director of Marketing Dee Bilbia accepted the award on behalf of the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.  
Under McEwen's leadership, NJTA has developed innovative programs that serve the arts community and the theatergoing public. Flagship programs include www.njArtsTix.org, the nation's first statewide discount ticketing Web site for the performing arts, and AT&T Family Week at the Theatre, a statewide week-long festival of free and discounted tickets for young people and their families that takes place during the first week of March, along with many other audi-

**K.T. PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS**  
**BABES IN TOYLAND**  
A Christmas Musical  
Tickets \$10.00  
Show Time - 4PM  
Saturday, Dec. 11  
McMullen Auditorium  
Academy Bldg.  
College Ave.  
St. Elizabeth  
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FOR RESV. CALL:  
908-996-0662  
(Use code: BABES)  
Bring A Camera For Photos With Santa And The Nursery Characters After The Show!

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## 'A Christmas Carol' at UCAC

The Union County Arts Center is will present the Charles Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol," on Sunday at 3 p.m.  
This charming version follows closely to the original, complete with the four spirits — Marley's ghost and the spirits of Christmas past, present, and future. Famed British comedic actor Micky O'Donoghue joins the cast as Scrooge along with local theater students appearing in various roles.  
Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by calling at 732-999-8226, online by visiting the Web site, www.UCAC.org, or in person at the box office located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. Group discounts are available. Handicapped accessible seating is available.  
The theater is conveniently located within walking distance of the New Jersey Transit train station. Exit 135 off the Garden State Parkway, and Exit 12 off the New Jersey Turnpike.

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Nearly 2,000 Trees to Choose From!  
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908-231-8847 (Mon. - Fri.)

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Free netting for easy transport  
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**CHATHAM**  
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We specialize in old fashioned Christmas trees (fragrant, rugged & real) & FRESH, HANDMADE WREATHS!  
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White Pine - \$25.00  
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Weekend of November 27th  
Weekend of December 4, 11, 18  
Directions From Rt. 78 - West to Exit 24  
North on 523 to Oldwick, Continue North  
on 517, 3 miles to Sawmill rd., left 1/2 mile to  
Plantation, Opposite School.  
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IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT  
SUN., DEC. 5<sup>th</sup> 10 PM EARL JAM  
SAT., DEC. 11<sup>th</sup> 10 PM IRISH SESSI'UN  
SUN., DEC. 12<sup>th</sup> 10 PM OVER THE LIMIT  
SAT., DEC. 18<sup>th</sup> 10 PM JOE FINN  
SUN., DEC. 19<sup>th</sup> 10 PM STRONGER THAN DIRT  
SAT., DEC. 25<sup>th</sup> 10 PM BANTRY BOYS  
SUN., DEC. 26<sup>th</sup> 10 PM CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS  
FRI., DEC. 31<sup>st</sup> 10 PM MICKEY PERRY  
SAT., JAN. 1<sup>st</sup> 10 PM NEW YEARS EVE D.J. BILLY  
SUN., JAN. 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 PM REWIND  
IRISH SESSI'UN  
Sundays  
Join Us For Brunch  
From 11am - 3pm  
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Happy Holidays  
From your friends at Cafe Z  
Wishing you a very happy, healthy Holiday filled with love, laughter, friends and family. Thank you for your patronage and friendship throughout the year. We consider Cafe Z our home away from home and you our extended family. We hope you feel the same!  
Open Christmas Eve 1:00 - 8:00  
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Join the fun. Call for details & Reservations.  
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FROM \$44<sup>95</sup>  
Regular A La Carte Menu starting at \$12.<sup>95</sup>  
Lunches From \$6.<sup>45</sup>  
Children's Menu \$5.<sup>95</sup>  
**Every Friday Night 5-11:00pm**  
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HALF PRICE 8 yrs old or under  
MEDITERRANEAN SEAFOOD BUFFET  
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Every Sunday 11:00am - 3:00pm  
Omelet Station, Array of Seafood, Carving Station, Buffet & Beautiful Salad Bar  
\$19<sup>95</sup> per adult  
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**New Years Eve**  
Full Course Prime Rib Dinner  
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Champagne Toast, Hats & Noise Makers  
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# Stepping Out

Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to: **Worral Newspapers**, The Valley St., P.O. Box 158, Mountaintop, NJ 07036. Fax: 908-276-5557. Or call 908-276-5557.

## ART SHOWS

**EDGE ART GALLERY**, which opened its doors in Rahway's arts district is presenting its third series of exhibitions. Gallery one will feature Alejandro Torres, a Cuban born artist who examines the nexus between Christianity and politics as it relates to the Cuban-American identity. Gallery two will feature Julio Nazario. In a series of photographic portraits, Julio Nazario reveals a more somber and individualistic side of ordinary Hispanics. EDGE Art Gallery is located at 1571 Irving St. in downtown Rahway. The current exhibits runs through Dec. 31. The gallery is open from Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is 908-965-0112. EDGE Art Gallery is dedicated to artists who have worked outside the mainstream and who have not followed the latest trend but stuck to their vision against all odds.

**NEW EXHIBIT OPENS AT ARTS GUILD OF RAHWAY**, the Arts Guild of Rahway will present "Illustrations: Collages/Collisions by Patricia Cudd, Anuradha Das and Erena Rae." The show will run until Dec. 10. There will be free admission.

The gallery hours are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Thursday, Friday, Saturday and 7 p.m. at the Arts Guild, 1600 Irving St., Rahway. For more information, call 732-381-7511, or visit the Web site at [www.rahwayartsguild.org](http://www.rahwayartsguild.org) or e-mail [artsguild1670@earthlink.net](mailto:artsguild1670@earthlink.net).

**THE DUCRET SCHOOL OF ART** in Plainfield is holding its annual Miniature Art Show and Sale in the school gallery. Sunday through Dec. 10. There will be a variety of paintings, prints and drawings available for sale, none larger than 12 inches square. "This show has always been the perfect opportunity to purchase affordable, original art for holiday gifts," said instructor Judi Banyas, curator. The opening reception and sale will be on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is welcome.

The Ducret School of Art is located at 1030 Central Ave. and is situated on a seven-acre campus on a historic residential area of Plainfield. The school offers full-time and part-time day and evening classes in fine art, graphic design/computer graphics and illustration. For information about the spring term that begins Jan. 17, call 908-757-7171, fax 908-757-2626, or visit the Web site at [www.ducret.edu](http://www.ducret.edu) for details.

**"CHRISTMAS MINIATURES"** will be the focus of an exhibit by 19 noted gallery artists at Plainfield's Arts Galleries. Fifteen of the artists are from New Jersey, three from New York City and one is from North Carolina. Christina DeBarry, a first-time exhibitor in the show, is from Firtham Park. Featured artists include Judy Banyas of Roselle Park, Kat Block of Springfield, S. Allan Schaeffer of Fanwood, Max Sang of Westfield and Cheryl McLeod, formerly of Plainfield.

"Miniatures opens Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m., and continues Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday to 4 p.m., and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. Swain Galleries is located at 703 Watching Ave., Plainfield. For more information, call 908-756-1707.

## BOOKS

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

**ISLE OF KLEZBOS**, made up of the six female members of the award-winning Klezmer troupe Metropolitan Klezmer, are a six-woman, high-octane klezmer band from New York City. Isle of Klezbos will perform on Oct. 18 at 8 p.m. as part of the Sanctuary Concert Series at the Union Village Methodist Church, 1130 Mountain Ave., Berkeley.

**THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC.** meets at 295 Jefferson Ave., Union, behind the Home Depot on Route 22 East. The club is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. For information, call 908-354-8060.

**ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 11 S. Broad St., will sponsor a series of free film classics at the Main Branch. All films begin at 10 a.m. For information, call 908-354-8060.

**HOBBIES**

**THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC.** meets at 295 Jefferson Ave., Union, behind the Home Depot on Route 22 East. The club is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. For information, call 908-354-8060.

## MYSTERY READING GROUP

meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Rantano Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

**BLUES LEGENDS** Paul Genova and Ernie Hawkins will perform as part of the Sanctuary Concert Series on Jan. 8, at 8 p.m. at the Union Village Methodist Church, 1130 Mountain Ave., Berkeley Heights. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at [www.sanctuaryconcerts.org](http://www.sanctuaryconcerts.org). Admission includes dessert and coffee at intermission.

**UNION HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR** will present a special Christmas concert at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church on the corner of Stuyvesant Avenue and Chestnut Street on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. Admission is free. For further information, call 908-688-3164.

**THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF THE SEA** will perform at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. For tickets or information, call 732-499-8226 or visit the Web site, [www.ucaac.org](http://www.ucaac.org).

**THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY** announces its annual Messiah Community Sing, which will take place on Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield. For tickets or further information, call 908-654-3260.

**THE HARVEST QUILTERS OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY** will meet the first Monday of each month at Cozy Corner Creations quilt shop, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains.

**THE INTERNET LOUNGE**, 256 South Ave., Fanwood, offers organic food and music. The lounge is open Monday through Friday from 7 to 11 p.m. For information, call 908-737-7469.

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## COMEDY

**THE WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER** presents Comedy Night on the third Saturday of each month. The Comedy Night series at the Watching Arts Center has managed to build a following in its suburban location by drawing from a mix of New York City comedy club stand-ups. Each show features new faces and fresh material.

**Host Phil Hochman** will present a series of comedies by John McMillan, a headliner and feature performer. Ticket price includes light refreshments after the show. The show begins at 8 p.m. Saturdays, and tickets are \$15.

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## THEATER

**THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOL OF DRAMA** continues its partnership with 12 Miles West Theater Company at 562, Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield. For more information, call 973-566-9700 or visit the Web site, [www.njactors.org](http://www.njactors.org).

**WILKINS THEATRE** is the setting for "The Chankukkah Story," featuring The Western Wind and narrator Anabelle Gurwih. "The Chankukkah Story," on Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. is comprised of 25 songs that weave together ancient Yiddish melodies of Eastern Europe and modern Israeli and Mexican tunes along with insightful and informed commentary. Tickets are \$25, call 908-737-7469 for more information. Wilkins Theatre is located on the campus of Keen University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union.

**"VOICE OF THE DRAGON,"** composer Fred Ho's newest action blockbuster, is a groundbreaking multicultural, cross-generational performance epic in a never-before-seen explosive fusion of musical arts and theater with pyrotechnical music art, set during the early Ching dynasty in China. The show features a cast of elite champion martial artists and Fred Ho's Afro-Asian Music Ensemble. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 908-737-7469. Wilkins Theatre is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union. "Voice of the Dragon" will perform on Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

**VAN GOON'S EAR**, 1017 Stevens Ave., Union, will present a series of musical evenings, Tuesdays are "Acoustic Tuesdays," some of which feature open mic from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets, and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer. Open mic participants sign up at 7:30 p.m. and get 10 minutes at the microphone. Jazz and blues are featured Sundays at 8 p.m. The cover charge is \$3 for all Sunday concerts, unless otherwise noted.

**On Sunday, Groove Apparatus** will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Dec. 12, The Experimental will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Dec. 19, Howard Parker and the Hot Tink Out Band will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Dec. 26, Roamin Gabriels will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Jan. 2, John Playaz will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Jan. 9, Danny Crum Trio will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Jan. 16, The Guitar Jazz Trio will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. On Jan. 23, the Joe Knipes Quartet will perform from 8 to 11 p.m. A \$3 cover is in effect for the aforementioned performances.

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**WOOD**, presents a series of jazz, blues, and contemporary concerts, as well as folk-themed nights. Every Sunday Live Comedy, funk and poetry. "Live at Instant Coffee," 8 p.m. Every Monday Open Mic Night, Happy Hour all night. Every Tuesday Jazz Jam, all pints, \$2. Every Wednesday Karaoke Night, Miller Lite and MGD, \$2 all night. Every Thursday Fiesta Night, Corona Cerveza and Margaritas, \$2 all night. On Dec. 2, see Smaller Than Life and Grand Saturday, see The Broadcasters. For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit [www.xroads.com](http://www.xroads.com).

**MOLLY MAGUIRE'S IRISH PUB** in Clark will present entertainment in the coming weeks. Thursdays are Ladies Nights, and Sundays feature NFL games and \$2 drafts. Molly Maguire's is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call 732-388-6511.

**SECOND SATURDAYS COFFEEHOUSE** will take place the second Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit. Featured will be an "open mic" forum of musical poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for future dates. For information, call 908-928-0127 or send an e-mail to [info@secondsatursdays.org](mailto:info@secondsatursdays.org).

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**STLU WOMEN WANTED** AGED BETWEEN 18-65. STLU IS SEEKING WOMEN OF COLOR. YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR MARKET RESEARCH STUDIES CONDUCTED AT 75 TERMINAL AVENUE, CLARK, NEW JERSEY 07066. IF INTERESTED PLEASE CALL 732-499-2660. AS A PARTICIPANT YOU WILL BE ASKED TO USE AND EVALUATE A VARIETY OF COSMETICS, SKIN CARE, HAIR CARE, AND HAIR COLOR PRODUCTS. TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION, YOU WILL RECEIVE A GIFT PACKAGE OF BEAUTY PRODUCTS WORTH BETWEEN \$75-\$85 - OR MORE AT RETAIL. YOUR OPINIONS ARE VALUABLE! COME JOIN US! TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY.

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Burgdorf ERI... <http://www.burgdorferi.com>

Crossroads Christian Fellowship... <http://www.ccfou.org>

ERA Village Green... <http://www.era.villagegreen.com>

Eye Care Center of NJ... <http://www.eyecarecenter.com>

First Night of Maplewood/So. Orange... <http://www.communitynj.com/cflfirstnight-soma>

Forest Hill Properties Apartments... <http://www.springstreet.com/propid/369126>

Grand Sanitation... <http://www.grandsanitation.com>

Holy Cross Church... <http://www.holycrossnj.org>

Hospital Center at Orange... <http://www.thehospitalcenter.com>

JRS Realty... <http://www.century21jrs.com>

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Forest Hill Properties Apartments... <http://www.springstreet.com/propid/369126>

Grand Sanitation...

DJ Tamir in schedule for Dusty's in Roselle

Dusty's Place, Union County's newest nightclub, will present DJ Tamir on Saturday nights this fall...

Season is under way for Westfield Community Players

The Westfield Community Players membership drive for their 2004-05 season is now under way...

Kean will present a new professional equity theatre program

Kean University announces Premier Stages, a new professional Actor's Equity Association theater program...

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrated at Ritz Theatre

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, The Ritz Theatre recently hosted an interactive art lesson for 100 elementary school students...

Kean artist debuts CD

Kean University affiliate artist in piano Allison Brewster Franzetti last released a new double CD, titled "Reflexions..."

Correction

The photograph identified as a scene from "Macbeth" in the Oct. 28 edition of the Union County Arts & Entertainment section was taken from a scene from "Tosca..."

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Table listing seminars for Union-Roselle, Union-Elizabeth, Essex-Irvington, Essex-Bloomfield, Essex-Maplewood, and Essex-Bloomfield, including dates, times, and locations.

ART CLIPS

The students learned about fine art techniques of Hispanic artists Jorge Posada from Colombia, Frank de la Mercedes from Nicaragua, and Rene Mayorga from El Salvador.

Musicians meet at craft shop to hone their craft

Area musicians who are looking for an opportunity to fine tune their folk music, this story of redemption and hope takes place at a restaurant in a small town that serves up more than food to weary souls...

Seniors at Home LLC

Advertisement for Seniors at Home LLC, featuring a photo of a woman and text: "Thanks to Seniors At Home, LLC and their excellent caregivers, my mother was able to stay at home..."

HELP WANTED

CASTING: TV series seeks people struggling with painful addictions. Especially danger, video games, steroids, promiscuity, plastic surgery...

HELP WANTED

Marketing: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (P/T) Outstanding part time opportunity to be at the epicenter of promotional activity for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center...

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ADoption: A married couple seek to adopt newborn. Will be full time mom and involved dad. Financially secure. All expenses paid...

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At Worrall Community Newspapers, reporters learn what it takes to become good reporters. Why? Because reporting for one or more of our weekly newspapers means becoming involved in the communities we serve...

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\$1,000 WEEKLY INCOME possible making promotional letters for our Company. Real earning potential. Work 100% from home. No selling or envelope stuffing. Call 1-708-231-7400 (24hrs) www.HBNB2Opp.com

HELP WANTED

1000 ENVELOPES = \$5000. Receive \$15/week Green Mail Home Weekly New mailers. Guaranteed Free information. 1-800-765-7076 24hrs.

HELP WANTED

\$525 WEEKLY income possible making sales letters. Genuine opportunity working with our Wellness Company. Supplies provided. No selling. ET/PT. Call 1-708-536-7040 (24 hours) www.CardmaConsulting.com

HELP WANTED

\$990-\$2,320 WEEKLY POSSIBLE! Mailing our letters from home. Easy. Free Info. Genuine opportunity. 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed. No waiting for training. No NYC. Call: CDAM (973) 378-3317 or hning@compuser.com. We offer a complete salary + benefits.

ACCOUNTANT

Benefit financially by joining a growing CPA firm. If you are an experienced accountant and your efforts recognized. Join a more personalized CPA firm with an excellent training program. We perform auditing, accounting, financial planning, tax, estate planning and consulting. From audits to tax returns our goal is to help our clients manage their business. Your comp includes a base salary, OT + a monthly bonus. If you have 2-5 years of public accounting experience, fax or email your resume today to: CDAM (973) 378-3317 or hning@compuser.com. We offer a complete salary + benefits.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT: NOW Hiring For 2004 Postal Jobs to \$59,000/hour. Full Federal Benefits. Paid training. No experience necessary. Green Card OK. Call 1-866-605-5049 ext#1000.

BOOKKEEPER

BOOKKEEPER Full Charge with 3-5 years experience in computerized bookkeeping to include GL, AP, AR, Billing and Payroll. We are seeking an individual who enjoys a fast-paced working environment. Must be well organized and a team player with communication skills. Working knowledge of Excel and MS Word a must. West Orange area. Fax resume with salary requirements to: 908-369-1201 or e-mail to jobs@buildingbusiness.com.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS

BE YOUR OWN BOSS, work online. \$500-\$1000 Part Time, \$2000-\$7000 Full Time. Full training. Opportunities: http://www.processmainline.com/

CRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE ASST. SUPERINTENDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION. Advanced Technological Skills 12 Months. SECRETARY FULL-TIME/TEMPORARY POSITION. Clerical, Administrative, Law Enforcement, Homeland Security, Wildlife and More. 1-800-320-9353 Extension 2002.

CLARK COMMUNITY POOL ASSISTANT MANAGER

Aquatic background mandatory. Lifeguard, Water Safety Instructor, and Certified Pool Operator preferred. Send resume to: CLARK POOL UTILITY, 430 WESTFIELD AVENUE, CLARK, NEW JERSEY 07066. ATTN: KATHLEEN LEONARD

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GOVERNMENT JOBS: Wildlife/Pest. Paid Training. Call for Application and Exam Information. No Experience necessary. Toll Free 1-888-269-6000 extension 200.

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GOVERNMENT JOBS: Earn up to \$409 a week assembling CD cases at home. No experience necessary. Start immediately! Call 1-800-267-3944 extension 119. www.assembly.com

MEDICAL BILLING

MEDICAL BILLING Company in Bloomfield seeks experienced individuals. Flexible, part-time schedules. No experience necessary. Fax resume to: 973-745-0366

MOVIE EXTRAS

MOVIE EXTRAS: Earn up to \$200-\$800/day. All looks needed. TV, Music Videos, Commercials, Film and more. Work with the Best! Extras on Call! 1-800-260-3949. EXT 3002.

CLEANING/JANITORS

CLEANING/JANITORS: Earn 60K cleaning houses! Union County area. The clean free compensation plan will change your world. Base + commission + bonus + benefits. Call now 908-206-1317. Fax 908-206-8733. email: clean\_freem@yaho.com

HELP WANTED

CASTING: TV series seeks people struggling with painful addictions. Especially danger, video games, steroids, promiscuity, plastic surgery. Also seeking troubled teens and desperate housewives. www.habitat.com

HELP WANTED

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER: Hi-End Int. Remodeling. Experienced hands on, read blueprints. Call 201-641-5926 or fax resume 201-641-0949. Health insurance and 401k.

DRIVERS EARN

DRIVERS EARN: up to 43 cpm and take your truck home. With this OTR position you can start up to 36 cpm and receive 7 cpm in six months of less. With continuing raises you will earn up to 43 cpm in no time. Operate a Freightliner C120 and select a time of plan that fits your needs. And yes, you can take your truck home if you live within 100 miles of a J.B. Hunt Facility. Limited Positions. Call today. 1-800-238-1911. 1-800-232-4868. EOE. Subject to div. Class A & 3 mos. Exp. Required.

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DRIVERS - RUN CLOSE TO HOME: \$ 8.50 per mile. Great Pay \$855 Great Pay \$855 Personal Computer Required. 1-800-913-2823 Ext#100

DRIVERS - REGIONAL RUNS AVAILABLE

DRIVERS - REGIONAL RUNS AVAILABLE: Mid-west & Northeast. Also hiring OTR. Full-time, ny-owner operator solo-teams-1,800-CFD-DRIVE www.cfdrive.com

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DRIVERS WANTED: Suburban Essex Cab company seeking part/full time help. 30-50 hours week. Good pay. Steady work. 973-762-5700.

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DRIVERS - REGIONAL RUNS AVAILABLE: Home Weekly 99%. No touch freight. No NYC sign up. 30-50 hours week. OTR experience required. 1-800-927-0431.

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SPRINGFIELD FLORAL GARDENS, 2 bedroom apartment \$1300, 2 bedroom apartment with den \$1400. Nice location. Close to major highways. 973-584-8663.

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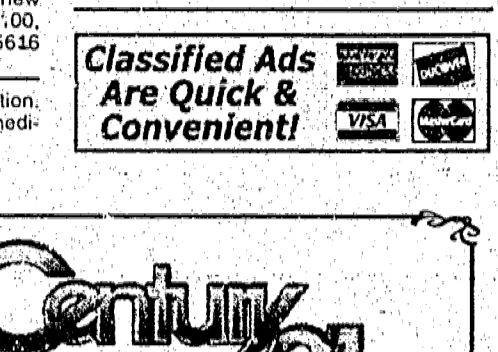
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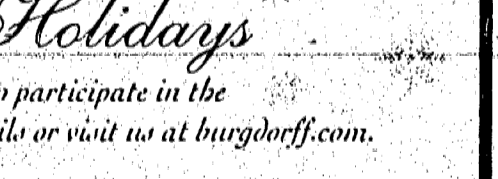
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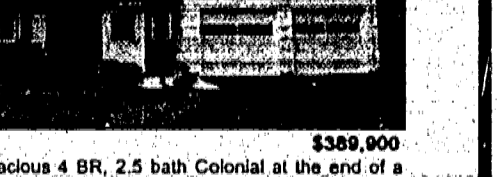
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ABANDONED FARM Sale, 24 Acres was \$40,000 now \$29,900. Gorgeous woods, stream, great hunting! Ideal building site! Terms available. www.upstateNYland.com

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Murphy is the best sales agent in September

Julia Murphy, a consistent top achiever in the Burgdorf FRA, Westfield office, has been honored as Sales Agent of the Month for September 2004.

Murphy has received many distinguished awards and has been a recipient of the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence Sales Award 2003.

She has been a New Jersey real estate professional for 14 years and resides in Cranford. Murphy is an active member of the Cranford Junior Women's Club, the Crane Phillips House Restoration Committee and a trustee of the Cranford Historical Society.

She may be contacted at her direct line, 908-233-2488, or her e-mail address, JulieMurphy@burgdorff.com.

Let's Ask Jill by Jill Guzman. Look for the R and the MLS Signs of Success!

Thank you Jill Guzman. Another one of 'Our Success Stories' Congratulations: Meet Darlene & Rick Shellhouse, Former Home Owners of 26 Hill Street, Bloomfield, NJ.

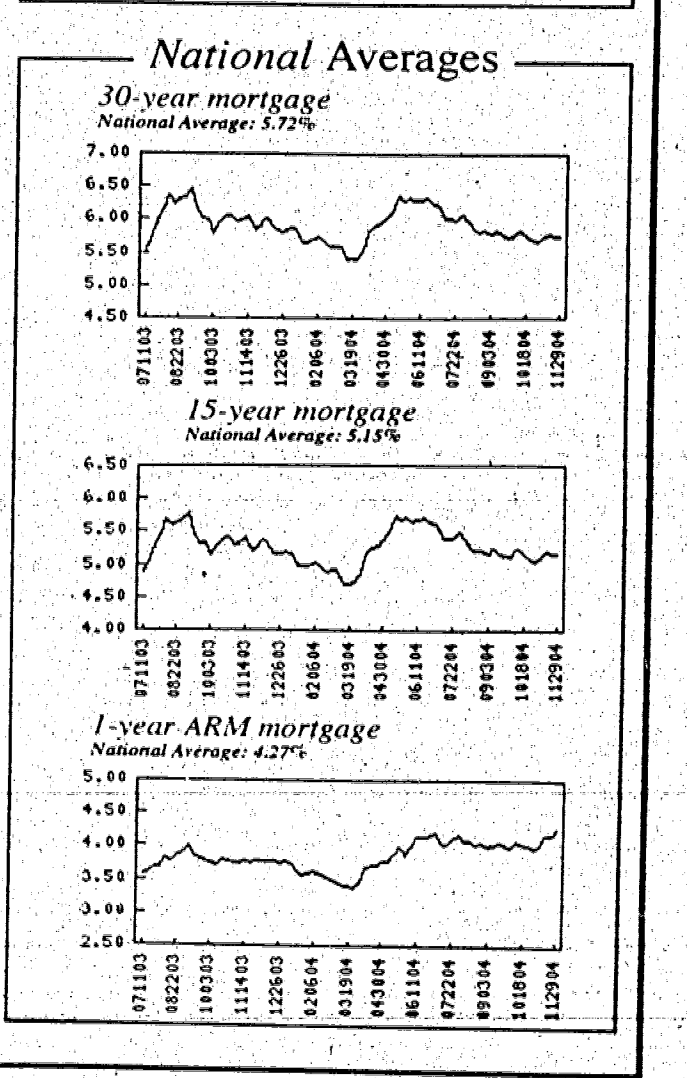
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mortgage market place

Table with mortgage rates: Lender & phone, 30yr fixed rate+pts/apr, 15yr fixed rate+pts/apr, ARMs (ngm) rate+pts/apr, Additional programs/information.

Weekly Mortgage News. McLean, VA - Freddie Mac (NYSE:FRE) today released the results of its Primary Mortgage Market Survey in which the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (FRM) averaged 5.72 percent.



Infiniti Q45 is worth a second look

By Mark Maynard. I've just spent a week in a '04 Infiniti Q45 sedan and I'm showing no signs of plague, as far as I can tell. This robust flagship of luxury is large and lean, richly attired in the finest interior appointments and electronic advancements.

'Peed automatic transmission with revised manual-shift mode. The rearview backup camera is standard equipment. Other standard features include a sunroof, leather-trimmed seats, dual zone automatic climate control, Infiniti Voice Recognition, Vehicle Information System with 5.8-inch color LCD monitor, tire pressure monitor system and a Bose 8-speaker, 300-watt audio system with in-dash six-disc CD changer.

The Q45 gets a mild freshening for 2005, but it's difficult to note the exterior differences except for a slight change to the grille, which is an improvement. Other changes will include standard active suspension and rain- and speed-sensing wipers.

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Writing to thank you and our agent, Melanie De Bella for all of the help-making the fast sale of our home happen. We got exactly the price we wanted and Melanie was always there to make the process simple and painless.

While the styling is nondescript, there are no swoopy lines that obstruct vision, and Q has a trim, 36.1-foot turning circle, the tightest in the class. The interior quality and assembly are immaculate and the colors and textures harmonious.

2004 Infiniti Q45. Body style: Full-size five-passenger, rear-wheel-drive sedan. Engine: Aluminum, 4.5 liter, DOHC, 32-valve V-8 with continuous variable valve timing control.

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