

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountinside

Class is in session for parents

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

After several months of preparation, the first Parent-Teacher Association and Parent-Teacher-Student Organization event was conducted on Saturday at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield, hosting more than 100 parents who strived to learn various skills and awareness strategies through workshops scattered on the first floor.

Titled, "Creating Successful Students and Children: A Day of Workshops for Parents," the event aimed to educate parents on a wide range of issues, including: bullying, Internet safety and saving up for college.

Human Resources Director Ellyn Atherton, along with Assistant Superintendent Eileen Corburn, planned the event, which began in November, sending out fliers to parents and teachers.

Together, the staff and initiated the workshops in the Highland Park school district with the goal of working for a couple of years.

"They were wonderfully successful," said Corburn of the workshops she helped run in her old district. "We always had a lot of parents attend."

The first time around is considered a test run, Corburn said. After that, the event would only have more of an impact on staff, parents and students in the district.

Already pre-registered for the event, however, were 120 parents, and even more were in attendance when the day began.

"We had that present, but only a few people to participate, that

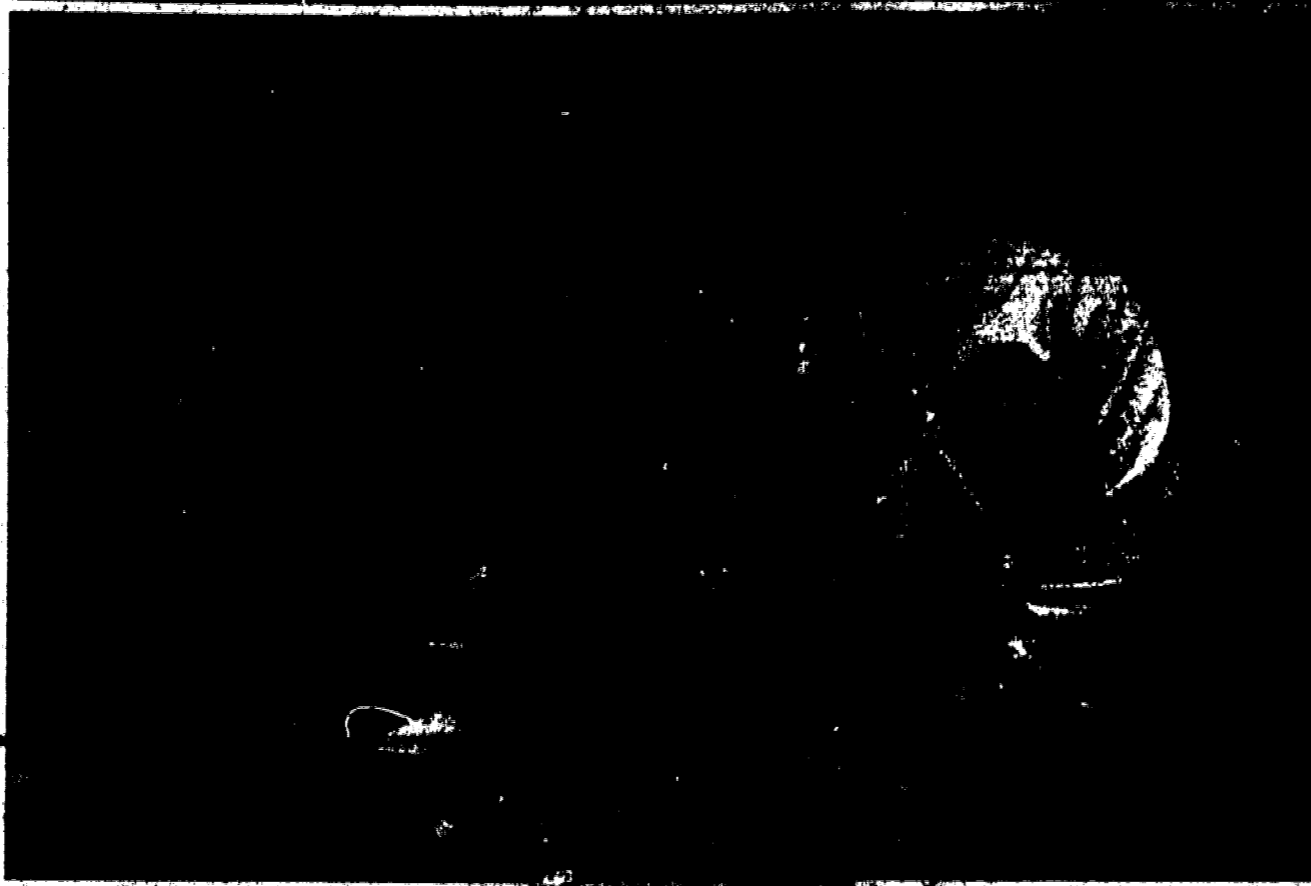


Photo By Barbara Koblitz

Detective Andre Banks of the Springfield Police Office shows parents how to check for internet abuse at the first Parent-Teacher Association and Parent-Teacher-Student Organization Day at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield.

knowledge base of what's going on in school," said Atherton.

Corburn, who ran two workshops, including one regarding New Jersey core curriculum standards, explained that, in its simplest form, the event would help parents learn more about their child's education.

At the same time, she said, it would create a partnership between the school and families, allowing specific questions to be answered.

"It gives parents a sense of what it's like in the classroom and experience it the way students do," she added.

"It's really all about the students," said Atherton about the workshops, which began early in the morning in the gym. "Parents need to

know what's going on in their child's school," she said.

"We are an excellent school," said Fran Smith, PTA president of Thomas L. Smith School.

"The presenters were wonderful and I was all very informative. The more we do, the better it will be," she added.

Smith said the feedback she received from parents was all positive, hopefully leading to an even better response next year.

"It was a great initiative spearheaded by the assistant superintendent for the purpose of enabling parents to come to the schools, to learn and discuss about what's going on in the district," said Board of Education

member Judy Millman.

Millman said it allowed for great interaction between staff and parents and will aid in the parent-child relationship, as well.

About nine staff members helped present workshops and 13 students were also available to provide child care.

Corburn said, in Highland Park, attendance for the event eventually rose to more than 200.

Based on Saturday's response, the Springfield school district appears to be well on its way to increasing parental involvement and awareness in regard to a student's education.

"It's important to see how learning actually takes place," Corburn added.

BOE estimate \$100 tax incre

By Rick Klittich
Staff Writer

The Mountainside Board of Education recently submitted its school budget for the 2005-06 school year to the county superintendent, setting the total amount at \$12,139,469.

The final review, though still preliminary, called for a local tax levy in the amount of \$10,442,048. The spending growth limitation adjustment was set at \$280,993.

School Business Administrator Paul Vizoso estimated there would be a \$100 annual school tax increase for a homeowner in Mountainside with a home assessed at \$160,700. This figure, Vizoso explained, has not been calculated as of yet and is only an approximate increase.

Last year's school tax increase was \$174 per household, with the average home assessed at \$199,300.

The debt service for this year's budget is \$309,673.

Vizoso said the usage of dissolution funds from the breakup of the Union County Regional High School District has not yet been determined.

Last year, the Mountainside district used \$438,680 from the dissolution funds toward its school budget.

Last year's total operating budget was \$11,569,245.

Notable increases could come in the form of staffing, with the possibility of a Deerfield School secretary that would have a proposed \$10,000. The position would entail the duties of the Deerfield Library secretary, allowing someone on hand to help children at the Deerfield Library secretary.

The technology budget is also projected to increase by \$100,000. The main reason for this is due to the fact that computers purchased for last year, as fiscal year 2004 produced a budget of \$100,000, was carried forward to this current school year. Last year's technology budget was set at \$30,062.

Out-of-district tuition could increase by \$250,000, due to the fact that more students that are projected to be attending Deerfield High School than did this current year. Vizoso estimates that the district's tuition rates projected in 2002-2003 are likely to be slightly off, as tuition rates are increased by 3 percent to account for inflation.

General administration costs are projected to increase by \$100,000 to the \$175,000 the board paid to the Board of Education for the Union County Regional High School dissolution.

Co-curricular activities are expected to see an increase in funding next year, as well. For non-sports activities such as chess club, art, technology club and music clubs, \$41,800 is allocated. This is an increase of more than \$15,000 in this area of the budget. Athletic funding for coaches, officials, uniforms and equipment remained near \$33,600.

School administration costs have also risen, but only because of the lack of a Deerfield principal's salary from July to October 2004. For next year, that salary must be budgeted.

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Springfield candidates reveal goals

Springfield candidates for the Board of Education revealed their goals for the district during a public hearing on Monday. The candidates, including incumbent Bob Mendler and challenger Scott K... Mendler said he would like to see a slight budget increase. "I'll be adding more staff and drive to get the district's tasks would be completed," Mendler added. "I'll be adding more staff and drive to get the district's tasks would be completed," Mendler added. "I'll be adding more staff and drive to get the district's tasks would be completed," Mendler added.

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Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

How to reach us: 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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News items: News releases of general interest may be sent to our office by Friday at noon to be considered for publication the following week. Pictures should be black and white glossy prints. For further information or to report a breaking news story, call 908-686-7700 and ask for Editorial.

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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.

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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 meetings. To mail a schedule, send it to Echo Leader, Attn: managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union 07083.

Today

- The Springfield Free Public Library continues its spring International Festival at 66 Mountain Ave., with "Everybody's Fine" at noon and 7 p.m.
- In the tradition of Tomatore's earlier "Cinema Paradiso," this lyrical tale explores the themes of aging, memories, and the inevitability of change. Admission is free for all films. Refreshments will be served. For information, call 973-376-4930.

Saturday

- A program on maple sugaring will be conducted at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. View a brief slide presentation exploring the history of maple sugaring from early Americans to present day collection methods.
- The program is for adults, ages 18 and older. Admission is \$10 per person for Union County residents, \$15 for non-county residents. Pre-registration is required. Call 908-789-3670 for information.
- The Friends of the Mountainside Library will host a children's book sale at the Mountainside Public Library during regular hours.
- Books, videos, compact discs and puzzles for children and teens will be on sale in the library meeting room.
- All proceeds support the Friends and many programs that they sponsor at the library. Call the library at 908-233-0115 for information.

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.
- The Mountainside Public Library Board of Trustees will meet in the meeting room of the library, Constitution Plaza at 7:30 p.m.
- The Springfield Township Committee will meet for a workshop session in the Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave. at 7:30 p.m.
- The Friends of the Mountainside Library will host a children's book sale at the Mountainside Public Library during regular hours.
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Tuesday

- The Mountainside Board of Education will conduct its regular scheduled board meeting and public hearing on the 2005-2006 school budget at the Beechwood School Media Center, 1497 Woodacres Drive in Mountainside. The executive session will take place at 7 p.m. with the regular public board meeting starting at 8 p.m.
- The board may or may not take action at this meeting.
- The Springfield Township Committee will meet in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave. at 8 p.m.

Upcoming March 24

- The Westfield Regional Health Department presents, "Hygiene Practices and Dental Habits of your Child" at the Mountainside Free Public Library, Constitution Plaza, Mountainside, at 11 a.m.
- Those interested in attending this free informational session, can register by calling 908-233-0115.
- For information regarding this topic prior to the event, call the Public Health Nurse at 908-789-4070 ext. 4073.
- Newark Liberty International Airport Manager Sue Baer will speak to the Springfield Hadassah members at the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. at 12:30 p.m.
- A mini lunch will be served.
- The public is invited to attend, but non-Hadassah members who plan to attend are requested to call Chapter President Iris Segal at 973-376-0516.

Driver arrested for DWI

Mountainside

Jasmany Pulligande, 22, of Wisconsin, was arrested on Route 22 west on Sunday at 2:32 a.m. Pulligande was pulled over for an unsafe lane change and was found to be driving while intoxicated.

- On Saturday at 10:52 p.m., Paul Owens, 24, of Newark, was arrested on Route 22 east for being uninsured and having fictitious plates. Owens was also suspended with warrants.
- Duane Reid, 25, of Newark, was arrested on Route 22 west on Friday at 10:28 a.m. for driving with a suspended license and having outstanding warrants out of Newark for \$600.
- Yuri Lamb, 23, of Montclair, was

three different cars were broken off of the vehicles while they were parked overnight.

- On Sunday at 8:06 a.m., it was reported that unknown suspects entered a car parked at the Route 22 west Holiday Inn lot, damaging the driver's side door lock and stealing two of the vehicle's headlights.
- On Saturday at 10:30 p.m., a vehicle parked in the lot of Benjamin's restaurant was found with a smashed driver's side window and stolen headlights.
- A New York resident's car, parked at Echo Plaza on Mountain Avenue, was found with stolen headlights on Saturday at 10 p.m.

POLICE BLOTTER

Firefighters aid in car extrication

Springfield

- On March 8 at 1:23 p.m., all units responded to Route 78 west near the Route 24 split for a car under a truck with extrication.
- On Saturday at 6:10 a.m., firefighters responded to Route 22 west for a motor vehicle accident.
- Firefighters responded to a Route 22 east business for a medical service call on Friday at 2:38 p.m.
- On March 10 at 5:42 p.m., firefighters responded to Route 78 east for

Man faces sentence for Rt. 22 chase

An 18-year-old East Orange man is facing a five-state prison sentence when he is sentenced on June 10 after he admitted in an Elizabeth courtroom that he eluded police in Mountainside last year and then filed phony insurance claims indicating his car had been stolen.

Kevin Banks of Amherst Street said he drove up last May 20 to a restaurant on Route 22 in Mountainside with several suspected Crip gang members in his vehicle and then tried to break into a white 2002 Subaru when confronted by Mountainside patrol officers Thomas Norton and Jeffrey Stinner.

According to Assistant Prosecutor Nell Beaumont, Banks fled the scene in his Chevrolet Monte Carlo at a high rate of speed and eventually rammed two marked Mountainside police cars before weaving in and out of busy Route 22 traffic at speeds reaching more than 80 miles per hour before he escaped at Exit 144.

"Several hours later, on Pine Grove Terrace in Newark, officers from the Essex Union Auto Theft Task Force spotted the car, which Banks had reported stolen to police," said Beaumont.

Banks will be ordered to pay more than \$5,000 in restitution. Beaumont, legal supervisor of the Prosecutor's Insurance Fraud Unit, said the suspect told Superior Court Judge Joseph P. Perfillo that he illegally filed a false insurance claim with his carrier.

The investigation leading to Banks' arrest at Mountainside police headquarters on June 20 was spearheaded by Mountainside Detective Michael Jackson, with assistance from Prosecutor's Office Detective Jamieson Antonio.

U.S. marshals arrested Banks on Oct. 18 and had him brought to court after he failed to appear to answer the charges.

He now sits in the Union County jail in Elizabeth awaiting sentencing. "This is a perfect example of how insurance fraud is linked to many other crimes," said Beaumont.

FIRE BLOTTER

Student gets first-hand experience of culture

By Rick Klittich Staff Writer

Jonathan Dayton High School junior Samantha Boettcher has always had an interest in Japanese culture.

For the next 10 months, she'll have the chance to experience it first-hand.

Through the Japan-US Mutual Understanding Program for the 21st Century, which is administered by the Youth For Understanding USA organization, Boettcher was chosen as one of 25 American students to live and study in Japan until January of next year. After applying for the scholarship in October, Boettcher found out in December that she would be staying with a volunteer host family beginning earlier this week.

"Ever since anime sparked my interest in sixth-grade," said Boettcher, "I've been interested in Japanese culture."

Boettcher said that with the growing popularity of Pokemon, along with other similar ways Japanese culture grew in America, she simply "fell in love with it all."

While vacationing, Boettcher's mother, Dawn, met a woman whose granddaughter had recently returned from Japan.

The first time she had been to the foreign country, however, was through the YFU organization. After a conversation about the experience and application process, Dawn was sure to tell her daughter about the chance of a lifetime.

"I think she's going to come back with a whole new understanding of other cultures," Dawn Boettcher said. "It should be a tremendous experience for her."

JUMP is funded by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in commemoration of the signing of the San Francisco Peace Treaty. The treaty was renewed in 2002 by the Japanese Foreign Minister and US Secretary of State Colin Powell.

While in Japan, Boettcher will meet foreign dignitaries, learn skills and perspectives necessary to meet today's challenges and become familiar with the opportunities the global community offers.

Boettcher, currently a junior at JDHS, will complete her entire senior year in Japan. Upon returning in January 2006, she will finish her second semester of her junior year, and then graduate in June of next year.

"I hope to bring back some of the culture to my town," Boettcher said. "Basically, I want to make an impact on Springfield itself."

Boettcher explained that she would like to make JDHS that much more open-minded, possibly adding a foreign exchange student program as an annual opportunity.

After attending orientation classes in California prior to her trip to Japan,

Auxiliary officer honored

At its annual dinner at the Spanish Tavern in Mountainside, the Springfield Auxiliary Police named Catherine Matthews as the winner of the Harold H. Liebeskind Auxiliary Officer of the Year award. Matthews has been with the Springfield Auxiliary Police for the past two years. She graduated number one from the Basic Auxiliary Police Training Program at the John Stamler Academy in 2003.

Among those participating in the ceremony were Emergency Management Coordinator John Cottage, Township Committeewoman Clara Harelit, Emergency Management Deputy Coordinator Scott Seidel and Township Committeewoman Kim Falgout.

At its annual dinner at the Spanish Tavern in Mountainside, the Springfield Auxiliary Police named Catherine Matthews as the winner of the Harold H. Liebeskind Auxiliary Officer of the Year award. From left are Emergency Management Coordinator John Cottage, Township Committeewoman Clara Harelit, Matthews, Emergency Management Deputy Coordinator Scott Seidel and Township Committeewoman Kim Falgout.

Group offers free health workshops

During the next 12 weeks, True Health Chiropractic in Springfield will offer a free program designed to guide participants through the steps necessary to achieve their 2005 health and fitness goals.

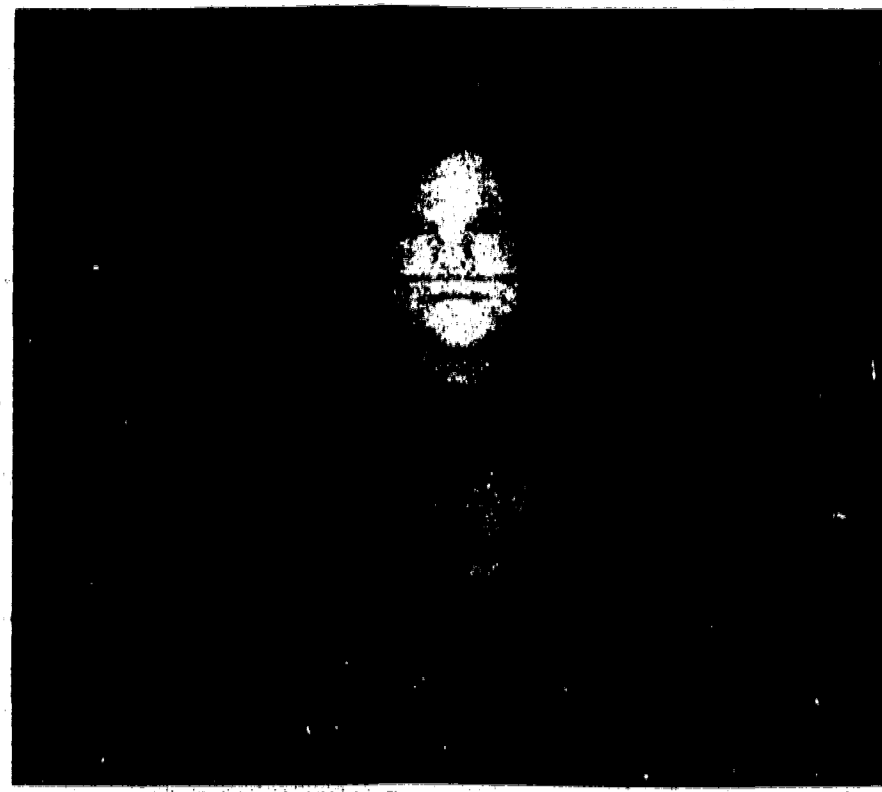
Participants will require a strong support group, encouragement, and a resilient spirit to keep their goals on track.

This free program will offer six bi-weekly interactive workshops on current health and wellness topics, a free trial membership to a local gym, frequent chances to win prizes, a support group/network of people who share common goals, and the opportunity to embrace an alternative healthy lifestyle.

All workshops will take place on Monday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. Workshops are free to the public but participants must pre-register to attend.

Topics will include:

- "Setting Up For Success" — Cre-



Jonathan Dayton High School junior Samantha Boettcher of Springfield recently embarked on a visit to Japan, where she will live and study as part of the Japan-US Mutual Understanding Program for the 21st century.

Boettcher said that her biggest fear regarding the trip, which was flying, is probably conquering. Considering she is confident in her communication abilities with the Japanese, as she has learned basic conversation and writing skills already, Boettcher said she's all set for the voyage.

"There may be a little homesickness," she said, "but I'll push forward." She is also excited about her host family, as the culture's friends-

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Spring Health Fair features free exams

The Westfield Regional Health Department, in collaboration with King's Super Market in Garwood, Trader Joe's Company in Westfield and ShopRite Market in Springfield, will have their Spring Health Fair on April 30 at 425 East Broad St., Westfield, at the Westfield Municipal Building Community Room from 9 a.m. to noon.

Services are exclusively for residents living in the towns of Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, New Providence, Roselle Park, Westfield and Springfield. The fair offers free health screenings which include: bone density testing, blood pressure screening, hearing exam, chiropractic consultation which includes balance testing and posture analysis, colorectal cancer screening kits, dermatology consultation with skin screening, breast health awareness information.

Participants can also get bloodwork done with test options available for minimal fees.

For bloodwork, pre-registration with the Health Department is required. Come to the Health Department from March 28 to April 14 to register from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The office will close for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.

Free pneumococcal pneumonia vaccinations are offered, pre-registration with the Health Department is required. Pre-registration will occur March 28 to April 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Those who are eligible for Medicare should bring their card at the time of registration.

Pneumococcal pneumonia vaccine is given to all adults 65 years of age and older and those with diabetes mellitus chronic pulmonary or cardiac disease, sickle cell disease, "asplenia," nephrotic syndrome, immune problems, alcoholism, or chronic liver disease.

A Free Union County Police Department Child Seat Safety Clinic will occur the day of the fair.

Bring your child safety seat for the experts to check proper installation and performance.

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Boys and Girls Lacrosse: August 4-5
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Westfield Sunrise of Westfield 908-317-3030 240 Springfield Avenue AL, ALZ

AL=Assisted Living ALZ=Alzheimer's Care
www.sunrise seniorliving.com

COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Competition needed

Despite the high number of candidates vying for seats on the Springfield Board of Education, this same sense of enthusiasm has not carried to Mountainside's school board race.

In fact, in Mountainside, there is no race. On the borough's school board, two seats are open this year. Incumbent board member John Perini is seeking re-election. Board President Peter Goggi has decided not to run for re-election, which leaves a vacant seat apparently no one wants.

While school election races are often more quiet in Mountainside than Springfield, which often has an active pool of candidates every year, the lack of volunteerism shows a disquieting sense of complacency.

During the past year, plenty of residents have taken the opportunity to complain about how board members conducted business at school board meetings. These people had good ideas on how they thought information could be better presented on several issues. We saw this many times regarding the ongoing search for the new chief school administrator, the mysterious odor at Beechwood School, and throughout the period of the construction delays at Beechwood.

Many of these residents have shown a genuine interest in what is happening in their school community and have ideas on how things could be improved. These people may have made excellent candidates for the Board of Education, but their talents were untapped since they decided not to run.

Sometimes it's not enough to stand on the sidelines and press for changes or express criticism. The most effective way to make a real difference is to get on the inside and use that same enthusiasm and energy in a positive way that can bring about real change. The board always needs members who can effectively question items and articulate issues not only among other board members, but to the public they serve. In fact, it is these very people who can provoke a more positive, interactive dialogue between the public and the board.

Perhaps the often adversarial relationship that developed in the past year between the public and board dissuaded these people from competing for a spot. Whatever the reason, it's that very sense of healthy competition that the community of Mountainside needs right now.

Roll out the welcome mat

A battle of sorts is being waged between U.S. Attorney Christopher Christie and New Jersey Attorney General Peter Harvey as a result of the number of corruption arrests and indictments the U.S. Attorney has made in New Jersey versus the number brought forth by the state attorney general.

The battle, so to speak, is really based on comments made by legislators who feel either Christie has a direct focus on corruption or that Harvey needs to review what his office is doing to fight corruption. Neither man really needs a defense.

Clearly, Christie has a knack for rooting out corruption in our state. According to a published document, the number of people charged or convicted with public corruption between 2002 and 2004 in our state is 164, 88 recorded by our state attorney general and 76 by the U.S. Attorney. While the state attorney general has recorded more, the difference is a mere 12 people who have been charged with or convicted of public corruption during that time.

There's very little difference in numbers in this area, and this is not to condemn the New Jersey attorney general. Unfortunately, "Corruption and New Jersey: Perfect Together" could become our state's slogan because of how rampant it's become among our elected officials and government employees.

We don't believe anyone is trying to disparage New Jersey Attorney General Harvey because U.S. Attorney Christie is making perhaps a more profound mark in the state. Both positions have their priorities, but how great it would be if the two men found a way to combine their efforts and worked together for the better cause. We would certainly roll out the welcome mat for both men if they wanted to spend some time in Essex and Union counties.

"The more a government chooses to provide information to its citizens on a 'need to know' basis, the more citizens probably need to know what their government is up to."

— Editorial
Detroit Free Press
2002



Photo By Renee Rose Sibayan

BINGO MADNESS — Taylor Friedman, 9, with fellow third-grade Brownie Lia Goldberg, 8, calls out 'Bingo!' after winning for the third time during the Springfield Girl Scouts Bingo Madness program at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center on March 4.

History shows how Springfield once was

Leonard Statile (1892-1956) came to America from Italy in 1912. He was among the first Italians to settle in Springfield. Colandra, Castronova and Casale were some of the other families that settled in Springfield.

The young 20-year-old found employment with F&F Nursery, owned by the Fiener family. They had much acreage of nursery stock in town.

Their headquarters was located where General Green Village is today. Their land extended from the shopping center and including where Jonathon Dayton High School is, both sides of Meisel Avenue from the athletic field to Milltown Road and both sides of Milltown Road south to the Union line. The north side of South Springfield Avenue, from the Chisolm School to Independence Way where the senior citizen housing is, was also part of the nursery. And finally, the Fieners owned all the south side of Old Short Hills Road, from the Garden

Point of View

By Philip Statile

After learning the nursery business, Statile decided to go out on his own. In 1922, he purchased a rundown farm with a house and barn on 15 acres for \$15,000.

The farm was located at 492 Mountain Ave. I, Philip Statile, was born in the house in 1924 and still reside at the address.

The venture was a success and Springfield Nursery Inc. was established.

The business flourished and, after my father's death in 1956, I took over the operation of the nursery. On my retirement in 1989, my son, Leonard, took over the business and renamed it L.P. Statile Inc. His son, Philip, currently works there and will enter the business full-time on his graduation from Seton Hall University and will be the fourth generation involved.

Many interesting things happened in our neighborhood.

Across the street from us, was hayfield that extended from Nelson Place to Shunpike Road, where the temple is. On that corner was the homestead of Claude Baker, the owner of the hayfield. Mr. Baker had a dairy farm there. He leased the dairy to a Mr. Meeker.

We used to buy milk there for 10 cents a quart. He also made butter. Mr. Baker also had a barn there that he leased to a pilot. The pilot used the barn as a hanger for a two-seater biplane. The pilot would take a passenger up for a ride for \$1.25. The highlight of a Sunday afternoon in the summer was a person bailing out of the plane and parachuting on the hay field.

There were two accidents that happened with the biplane. The first happened across from our house. The plane crashed while trying to land. Luckily, the pilot and the passenger escaped with minor injuries. The second accident happened on the corner of Mountain Avenue and Shunpike Road where Veterans Park is across from the temple. The plane crashed into a tree.

The pilot and a passenger, a Mr. Wilson of Springfield, were both killed. That was the end of barnstorming in Springfield.

There was another interesting thing that happened in our neighborhood. Shortly after my parents moved into the farmhouse, they noticed a large bonfire in the middle of the hayfield across from our home. People with white gowns and hoods were around the fire. It turned out to be a Ku Klux Klan meeting.

Philip Statile is a resident of Springfield.

Newspaper's guidelines for election coverage

In fairness to all candidates and to provide the best service to our readers, this newspaper has established guidelines and a schedule for coverage of the April 19 Board of Education election.

Under the guidelines, this newspaper is committed to specific elements of coverage. It will give background information about all known candidates, including stories on basic positions taken by each, and it will write news stories on the issues raised during the campaign.

We also will list important events such as candidates nights and fundraisers in news stories. We will aim to stimulate discussion of the issues during election campaigns through independent research and initiative stories.

If appropriate, editorial endorsements will be made.

News releases and campaign position statements from candidates are welcome. They will be used at the editor's discretion and they will not necessarily be printed as such but may be used as material to develop news stories if the issues raised in them merit such treatment.

Story use, timing and treatment are entirely at the discretion of the editor.

We will strive to avoid the initial raising of controversial or sensational issues in the final edition before election.

We aim to focus on what the voter needs to know and not on what the candidates want to say.

Our guidelines reflect the reader service objectives of this newspaper in elections. However, we will review our guidelines from time to time and revise them if necessary to benefit our readers.

Following is the schedule we will adhere to in the April 19 Board of Education election:

Letters to the editor: Letters of endorsement will be accepted up to and including the issue of April 7 for candidates. Letters may be printed or appear as excerpts at the editor's discretion.

Endorsement letters containing more than 250 words will be edited for length, regardless of how many candidates they endorse. Letters without telephone numbers will not be considered for publication.

Candidate's Corner: Candidates running for the Board of Education will be given an opportunity to speak to the readers on these pages as they present their backgrounds, platforms and goals. Their columns will appear April 14.

Our endorsement: Endorsement editorials will appear April 14.

Staff-written round-up stories: A final look of the candidates, their platforms and goals, will appear April 14.

Results results: Complete election result coverage will be in the April 21 edition.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks helping to clean landmark

To the Editor:
On behalf of the church and common chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Springfield Garden Club volunteer who monitors the DAR cemetery of Mountain Ave in Springfield, I extend a grateful "thank you" to the persons who have been cleaning snow from the cemetery sidewalk.

Thank you for your assistance in maintaining one of our last remaining 18th century historic sites.

Mary Frances Napier
Springfield

Examine areas for budget cuts

The 2005-06 Springfield Board of Education budget is proposed to be \$30,697,872, according to the front page of the March 10 issue of the Echo Leader. Last year's budget for the 2004-2005 was \$25,481,625 and the figure for the previous year of 2003-2004 was \$23,603,714, as per the board secretary. To placate taxpayers, the board said if you should have a home in Springfield assessed at \$100,000, you will only have a tax increase of about \$110. As property taxpayers know, most homes in Springfield are assessed at a great deal more than \$100,000.

Of course, we all want Springfield students to have a good education, but perhaps it is time for the superintendent of schools and the Board of Education members to examine or audit the records to ascertain if any cuts or better use of personnel and equipment could be realized.

Michael Davino, superintendent of schools, is rightly quoted on the front page as saying — in reference that he wants to envision providing every student

with a laptop computer — that "For the first time, teachers are not significantly more advanced than the students. This brings to children in the classroom their world. It's always been ours. To not recognize this would be short-sighted." In this regard, Davino approved supplying laptops for all pupils in the Florence M. Gaudin Middle School, but not for the high school. However, he is delaying in having laptops for all high school students as well as those in elementary school in the future.

In that case, do we need less teachers and could larger classes be instituted? After all, the Internet is a marvelous teaching tool, as well as various educational videos which are currently being shown on classroom television sets and/or laptops as part of the curriculum.

In the same issue of the Echo Leader, there is an editorial paragraph in page 4 which points to the fact that no written details about the budget were given to Springfield Board of Education meetings, nor were any handouts, presentations, graphs or estimates given to the public.

The editorial also notes that, in Mountainside school district, two sets of multiple data are given by mid-February; and, later in March, a complete budget packet is available to its residents showing pertinent budget concerns. How can the Springfield residents discuss or vote on a budget when its people are not given the facts and figures?

There are seven candidates running for seats on the Springfield Board of Education on April 19. In addition to voting for the candidates, voters may also vote "yes" or "no" on the Board of Education budget. In the meantime, persons may wish to attend the next Board of Education meeting, which will be conducted in the high school instructional media center, on Monday at 7:30 p.m. Unfortunately, you will have to go there in person, since the board does not have its meetings televised on Channel 36, despite many requests to do so.

Harold Shattigrove
Springfield

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BOE conducts school budget hearing

The Mountainside Board of Education will conduct its regular scheduled board meeting and public hearing on the 2005-2006 school budget Tuesday, at 8 p.m. at the Beechwood School Media Center, 1497 Woodacres Drive in Mountainside.

The executive session will take place at 7 p.m. with the regular public board meeting starting at 8 p.m. The board may or may not take action at this meeting.

Airport manager speaks to Hackensack

Norwig Liberty International Airport Executive Director Bob Beer will speak to the Springfield Hackensack members on March 24 at the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. at 12:30 p.m.

Beer will share with the audience what it takes to run an airport. A 29-year veteran of The Port Authority, she brings an overall perspective and in-depth knowledge of air transportation as it exists today. She is the first woman to manage an airport for The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

She was appointed general manager of Newark Liberty International and Teterboro airports in June 1998, following four years of service as general manager of LaGuardia Airport. As general manager, Ms. Beer is responsible for a staff of 500 and an operating budget of nearly \$300 million, directing the daily operations of the region's busiest airports.

She began her career with the state agency as a management analyst.

In 1985, she was promoted from manager of the Public Services Division of the Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals Department to manager of the Lincoln Tunnel. The following year, she was named manager of the Port Authority Bus Terminal in midtown Manhattan, the world's busiest. Beer was the first woman ever promoted into those positions. In 1988, she moved from buses to planes, joining the Aviation Department as general manager of Aviation Customer and Marketing Services.

A mini lunch will be served. The public is invited to attend, but non-Hackensack members who plan to attend are requested to call Chapter President Iris Segal at 973-376-0516.

Hike investigates Lake Surprise wildlife

A Headwaters Hike will be offered by Trailside Nature & Science Center in Mountainside on March 26 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Adults and children of all ages are invited to take a hike with a Trailside Park naturalist to investigate the variety of life found around Lake Surprise. Listen for spring peepers, look for wildflowers and discover the wonders of wetlands. Pre-registration is not required for this program and the fee is a suggested donation of \$4 per person.

Meet at the Lake Surprise parking lot. Trailside is a facility of the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation. Call 908-789-3670 for information.

Maple sugaring program on lap

Over a short six- to eight-week

period in February and March, the sap of the sugar maple is collected and turned into syrup.

A program on maple sugaring will be conducted on Saturday at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 437 New Providence Road in Mountainside from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. View a brief slide presentation exploring the history of maple sugaring from early Americans to present day collection methods.

Participate in a taste test to see if you can recognize the real thing, learn to identify sugar maple trees and use a tap in action. Enjoy breakfast by an open campfire to celebrate and appreciate the sugaring season with pancakes and 100 percent real maple syrup.

EVENTS

St. James PA opens to PA officers

St. James Parish is open to PA officers in Springfield. Call 973-376-5612.

March 28. The bus leaves Knights of Columbus parking at 8 a.m. and returns approximately at 5 p.m.

The cost is \$21 per person. The price includes deluxe bus transportation, bus driver tip, lunch voucher, shopping bags and discount coupons. For reservations, call Tony Graziano at 973-376-5612.

Temple plans Megillah Madness Marathon

Get ready for the great Megillah Madness Marathon. Temple Beth Ahm Preschool and Religious School children of all ages are invited to participate in the Megillah Trivia Game Show on March 24 in the Sanctuary at Temple Beth Ahm, 60 Temple Drive in Springfield at 7 p.m.

For preschoolers, the Megillah Madness includes the annual parade of costumes. For all grown-ups, a Megillah Reading has been created. This takes place at the same time and date in the Chapel at Temple Beth Ahm. A complete reading of the Book of Esther, geared towards adults will be followed by the 8 p.m. Hamantaschen Sock Hop, complete with a DJ and refreshments.

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'EcoArt for Kids' offered

EcoArt for Kids, part of Trailside Nature and Science Center's annual Earth Awareness week, is offered for families with children ages 4 and older on March 25 at 452 New Providence Road in Mountaintop between 10 a.m. to noon.

Participants are invited to use their artistic abilities by creating crafts from recycled objects. Cereal boxes and sandwich bags make cool fish bowls. Paper rolls become waffles and popsicle sticks become pun pizzas. No pre-registration is required and the fee is \$4 per child for Union County residents and \$5 per child for non-county residents.

Call 908-789-3670 for information.

Community cleanup planned

On March 26 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., children, ages 5 and older with an adult can take a stroll along Lake Surprise to search for early spring wildflowers, hungry caterpillars, spring peeper frogs and songbirds in a community cleanup as part of Trailside Nature & Science Center's annual Earth Awareness Week.

Participants can meet at the Lake Surprise parking lot.

Call 908-789-3670 for information.

Cottage enrolls at RIT

James Cottage, son of Judy and John Cottage of Springfield, has enrolled for fall 2005 admission at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York.

Cottage will major in illustration in RIT's School of Art and will graduate Jonathan Dayton High School in June.

Cottage

Czumaj joins World Leadership Forum

Anna Czumaj, a student at the Florence M. Gaudin Middle School in Springfield, has been accepted into the People to People World Leadership Forum.

Czumaj will join a select group of students in Washington, D.C., March 28-April 3, to earn high school credit while studying leadership and exploring some of the United States' most prominent monuments and institutions.

From Capital Hill to the Smithsonian Institute and from Colonial Williamsburg to the National Museum of American History, Czumaj will examine the characteristics of American leadership during times of national challenge and prosperity.

Forum delegates will also participate in small-group discussions and exercises to experience first-hand how successful leaders develop strategies, make decisions, build consensus and foster change.

Czumaj was nominated and accepted

STUDENT UPDATE

ed for the honor based on outstanding scholastic merit, civic involvement and leadership potential.

Gershberg joins dean's list at Syracuse
Samantha Gershberg of Springfield was among the students enrolled in the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University who were named to the dean's list for the fall 2004 semester. Gershberg is a senior majoring in stage management.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve at least a 3.4 grade point average — on a 4.0 scale — during the semester.

Pingry students join honor roll list

Two Mountaintop residents were among the students at The Pingry School appointed to the Upper School's first semester honor roll for the period beginning in September and ending Jan. 22. The students are Erik Moss, grade nine and John Statamatis, grade 12.

The honor roll recognizes students for achieving a B+ average or better with no individual grade lower than a B.

Grushevsky named to headmaster's list

Morristown-Beard School has two honor rolls for academic achievement. To make the headmaster's list, a student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.90 with no grade below B.

Twelfth-grader Anna Grushevsky of Springfield was among the Morristown-Beard School students who have

been listed on the school's headmaster's list for the 2004 fall semester. To make the honor roll, a student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 with no grade below B- or a 3.2 grade point average with no more than one grade in the C range.

Blustevsky earns Bloustein Award

The Garden State Scholarship Program recently announced this year's recipients of the Bloustein Distinguished Scholar Awards for graduating high school seniors. Selection was based on a combined profile of each student's grades and SAT scores. This year's award-winners from Morristown-Beard School included Anna Grushevsky of Springfield.

Kurzner named to Muhlenberg dean's list

Jill Kurzner of Springfield, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2004 semester at Muhlenberg College.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale during the semester.

Kurzner is a freshman majoring in theater and a 2004 graduate of Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield.

Newark Academy names honor students

Newark Academy in Livingston

announced the students that earned honors for their academic achievements during the fall 2004 term.

The honors list includes those students who achieved grades of B- or above for each course taken.

Students from Springfield include: Michael Calara, 12th grade; Jackie Dorsky, 12th grade; Aviad Haimi-Cohen, 12th grade; Ariel Schwarz, 12th grade; and Christian Kempf, seventh grade.

Brown named to dean's list at Syracuse

Steven Brown of Mountaintop was among the students enrolled in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University who were named to the dean's list for the fall 2004 semester.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve at least a 3.4 grade point average — on a 4.0 scale — during the semester.

Brown is a junior majoring in magazine journalism.

Halkzer joins Mo-Beard dean's list

Eighth-grader Ashley Halkzer of Springfield is among the Morristown-Beard School students who have been listed on the school's honor roll for the 2004 fall semester.

The Morristown-Beard Middle School has two honor rolls for academic achievement.

To make the honor roll, a middle school student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 with no grade below B- or a 3.2 grade point average with no more than one grade in the C range.

Lessons come alive at Walton

For the students at Edward W. Walton School in Springfield, the Valentine's Day celebration consisted of more than just classroom parties. The children completed an array of activities to combine learning and fun.

Valentine's activities reinforced various math skills. Students were actively engaged in sorting, classifying and graphing using candy hearts. They explained their graph to a teacher to reinforce their understanding. Cutting a circle in half and adding a turned square helped a group of students see that their baked cakes could magically transform into a heart-shaped cake.

Another math-centered project provided children the opportunity to practice their patterning skills as they strung colored beads to make bracelets and necklaces.

Language arts activities for the day reinforced lessons in reading words around the room that began with the letters in Valentine.

Children also read poems, wrote stories about a best friend in their writing journals, and composed Valentine stories.

Delivering their Valentine cards also allowed students to read the names of fellow students.

In the true spirit of love, friendship and kindness, one group of children made tissue paper flowers to be used as the centerpiece for a smaller dinner at Brighton Gardens of Mountaintop, an assisted living facility.

SENIOR NEWS

Summit AARP meets

The Summit AARP will conduct its next monthly meeting on March 28 at 10 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church at 587 Springfield Ave. in Summit.

Coffee and social starts at 9:45 a.m. The speaker will be Mary Vaccinimo. She will provide an update on Medicare benefits/prescription plans.

On April 25, the guest speaker will be Christine Hodde, from the Summit Area Red Cross, who will speak on volunteer opportunities and the chance to share common concerns with others who are caring for their aging loved ones.

PREP group gathers

SAGE Eldercare, a major community resource for elders, offers a monthly support group for caregivers the third Wednesday of each month at SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad St. in Summit.

PREP — People Responsible for Elderly Persons — provides caregivers with emotional support, community resources, effective problem-solving and coping strategies, and the chance to share common concerns with others who are caring for their aging loved ones.

For information, call Ellen McNally, at 908-273-5550.

SAGE Eldercare serves as a major community resource in the establishment and delivery of innovative services for older adults and their caregivers, providing them with dignity and choice. These services allow the elderly to remain independent and living in their own homes.

Present SAGE programs include HomeCare, Meals-on-Wheels, SHIP — State Health Insurance Assistance Program — of Union County, Bill Paying, a Shopping Service, Chore Service, InfoCare and a Resale Shop and Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health

Center, currently located in Berkeley Heights. SAGE serves 5,000 older people and their families annually in Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union counties.

For information, call 908-273-5550 or log on to www.sage-nj.org.

Furniture workshop returns to SAGE

After a temporary hold as SAGE Eldercare moved into its new facility at 290 Broad St., Summit, the SAGE Workshop is now accepting items for repair. Do you need a chair caned or reupholstered? Does a table need to be refinished? If you need furniture repair, the

volunteer craftsmen at the SAGE Workshop can help.

Since 1961, the SAGE Workshop has offered the public fine-quality furniture repair. The workshop volunteers will consider repairing any piece of furniture that can be carried into the workshop. The workshop has especially earned a reputation for expertise in reupholstering cane chairs. Prices depend upon the condition of the chair or furniture item and the materials required in the restoration process.

The woodworkers also offer hand-crafted gifts or decorative items for sale. For example, a decorative wooden kitchen step stool or a child's caned

'Teddy Bear' chair is available in three sizes. They will also consider special commissions.

The workshop is located in the basement of the SAGE building and is easily accessible.

For information about the service or to schedule an appointment to bring in furniture, call 908-598-9331. SAGE Eldercare serves as a major community resource in the establishment and delivery of innovative services for older adults and their caregivers; providing them with dignity and choice. These services allow the elderly to remain independent and living in their own homes.

WORSHIP SERVICES

WORSHIP SERVICES

Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Date	Services	Time
March 20, 2005	Palm Sunday Liturgy	10:45 am
Good Friday	Veppers & Exposition of Holy Shroud	3:00 pm
Holy Saturday	Matins & Blessing of Easter Baskets	5:00 pm
Easter Sunday	Resurrection Liturgy & Blessing of Easter Baskets	8:30 am

Welcoming the World! BITAEMOI

Christ Church Summit

Easter Services - 2005

March 24, 2005
7:30 pm (at Church)

Maundy Thursday, Thursday, March 24th
7:30 PM - Organ recital by David Lamb
8 PM - Candlelight Service with Communion

Easter Sunday, March 27th
8:30 AM - Worship Service with Gathered Communion, Sunday School with Special Easter Assembly
11:15 AM - Worship Service with Gathered Communion

There will be an Easter egg hunt for children at 10:30 AM. Nursery care available at both services.

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301 Chestnut Street/Roselle Park Tel. 908-245-2237

March 24, 2005
7:30 pm (at Church)

GOOD FRIDAY - TENEBRAE SERVICE
March 25, 2005 8:00 pm
Community United Methodist Church
(Host Service with Roselle Methodist)

Easter SERVICES
10:30 am
COME SEE THE "LILY CROSS"

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Pastor

The Antioch Baptist Church

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Easter Sunday Services

The pastor and congregation of Antioch Baptist Church extend a warm welcome to the community and others to worship and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sunrise service will start at 6:30 a.m. Then our regular service will start at 11:00 a.m. In which we will continue to celebrate Easter Sunday. Our music ministry will render selections at both services that will be an inspiration to you as they are to us every Sunday morning.

Again we welcome you to worship with us regardless of who you are. God bless you.

ST. LUKE AND ALL SAINTS

398 Chestnut Street - Union • 908-486-7253
Rev. James Kolin • Rector

Palm Sunday - March 20, 10:45 am
Maundy Thursday Service - March 24, 7:00 pm
Good Friday Service - March 25, 3:00 pm
Easter Sunday Service - March 27, 8:30 am

SUNDAY SERVICE 8AM
The Holy Eucharist Rite II
Healing Service on first Sunday of each month
A Christian Community Supporting our members in Union
Visitors Welcome

Come... All are Welcome... Celebrate

OUR EASTER LORD

Palms 8:30 am, 10:45 am
Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
Good Friday 3:00 pm
Easter Sunday 8:30 am

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March 10-18 St. Joseph Novena 7pm (March 12 Novena incorporated in 5:30pm Mass)
March 19 Mass for the feast of St. Joseph 8:30am

March 19 & 20 Palm Sunday: Saturday 5:30pm - Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am & Noon
March 24 Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm (followed by Adoration)
March 25 Night Prayer - 10pm
Good Friday: Seven Last Words Service - 7:30pm to 3pm
MAIN PASSION LITURGY - 7:30pm

March 26 Easter Saturday: Blessing of Food
EASTER VIGIL MASS - 8pm
Easter Sunday MASSES OF RESURRECTION 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am & Noon

St. Mary's Church of Rahway

232 Central Ave. • Rev. William T. Morris, Administrator

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY
Masses: Saturday 6 p.m. • Sunday 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m., 12 noon, 1:30 p.m. (Hispanic)

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK
Masses: 6:30, 8 a.m., 12:10 (noon), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK
Masses: 6:30, 8 a.m., 12:10 (noon), 7 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 8:30 to 10:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY
Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 3 p.m. (English), 5 p.m. (Spanish)

SATURDAY OF HOLY WEEK
Evening Vigil - 7 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY
Masses - 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m., 12 noon, 1:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Come Worship with Us

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY, March 20
Communion Worship Services 9 a.m. Slovak, 11 a.m. English

HOLY THURSDAY, March 24
Worship service: 7:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, March 25
English Tenebrae service: 7:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY, March 27
Communion Services - 9 a.m. Slovak, 11 a.m. English

THE REV. LEON L. LAVELLE
HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
301 TUCKER AVE., UNION
908-681-0714

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

1212 KELLY STREET UNION

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper
March 24th, Church - 7:00 pm
(Morning Prayer - 8:30 am)

Good Friday - The Passion and Death of the Lord:
March 25th, Church - 3:30 pm
Living Stations of the Cross - Church - 7:30 pm
(Morning Prayer - 8:30 am)
Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil
March 26th, Church - 8:00 pm
(Morning Prayer - 8:30 am)

EASTER SUNDAY
Church (Lower Church)
7:30 am, 9:00 am, (9:05 am) 10:30 am (10:36 am), 12:00 pm (12:05 pm)

Church of St. Joseph

Corner of East Third Ave & Walnut Street, Roselle • (908) 988-4333

Holy Thursday, March 24, 2005 • 7 PM - Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, March 25, 2005 • 3 PM - Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 26, 2005 • 10 AM - Stations of the Cross

PALM SUNDAY

Guest Preacher: Bishop Vincent Fittit

March 20 at 10:00 AM

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

(Founded in 1706) • The Reverend Joe Parrish, Rector

41 BROAD STREET, ELIZABETH • Tel: (908) 352-1218
(In the heart of Historic Midtown Elizabeth on Broad Street, half a block south of East Jersey Street)
Free Sunday parking behind church in Municipal Lot on Jefferson Avenue

Come experience the Procession of the Palms!
The Passion of Christ, Confirmation and Communion.
The delicious Great Palm Sunday Potluck follows Communion.

Have a Blessed Easter

Worrall Community Newspapers

CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER

TRADITIONAL SEDER MEAL

Soup, Salad, Roasted Chicken, Holiday Vegetables, Dessert & Beverages

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
639 Mountain Avenue, Springfield
973-379-4525

Ask for Pat Miller
Adults: \$27.00 Children (under age 13): \$17.00 (checks, please) Buy tickets by March 20

This is a great inter-community event for everyone! Bring your friends, neighbors and family (Mention the Seder to interfaith married families.)

You may reserve your own table up to 8 people. Reservations will include a confirmed table assignment. First come, first served.

NOTE: You cannot pay at the door. Please be prompt! (No one admitted after 7:15 until intermission of the service and presentation.) Limited to 250 people

Evangelical Lutheran Church

228 Cooperstown Place • Westfield
(908) 282-2517

Easter Worship Services

Palm Sunday, March 20
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, March 24
12:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, March 25
2:00 and 7:20 p.m.

Easter Vigil Saturday, March 26
Sunset (8:16 p.m.)

Easter Sunday, March 27
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

A Blessed and Happy Easter

Worrall Community Newspapers

Saint James the Apostle Church

Rev. Robert B. Sings, Pastor
45 South Springfield Avenue • Springfield • 973-376-3044

Liturgies of Holy Week 2005

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion - March 19-20
Mass of 5:30 pm - Sunday
7:30, 9:00, 10:30am and 12:00 noon - Sunday

Good Friday - March 25
Morning Prayer - 9:00am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 2:00pm
Living Stations - 7:30pm

Holy Thursday - March 24
Morning Prayer 9:00am
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday - March 26
Morning Prayer 9:00am
The Great Easter Vigil - 7:30pm

The Easter Vigil begins outdoors with the Blessing of the Easter Fire

Easter Sunday - March 27
Masses at 7:30, 8:30, 9:30 and 11:00am and 12:30pm
www.saintjamesparish.org

RELIGION

Holy Cross Church prepares for Seder

As houses of worship enter the season of Lent, Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Springfield prepares for its memorable and faith-filled walk through Holy Week.

Today, Danzic leads a messianic congregation, the first in the Lutheran Church in Queens, N.Y. Beth El Messianic Congregation is honored to have Danzic, ordained as a Lutheran minister, as its minister.

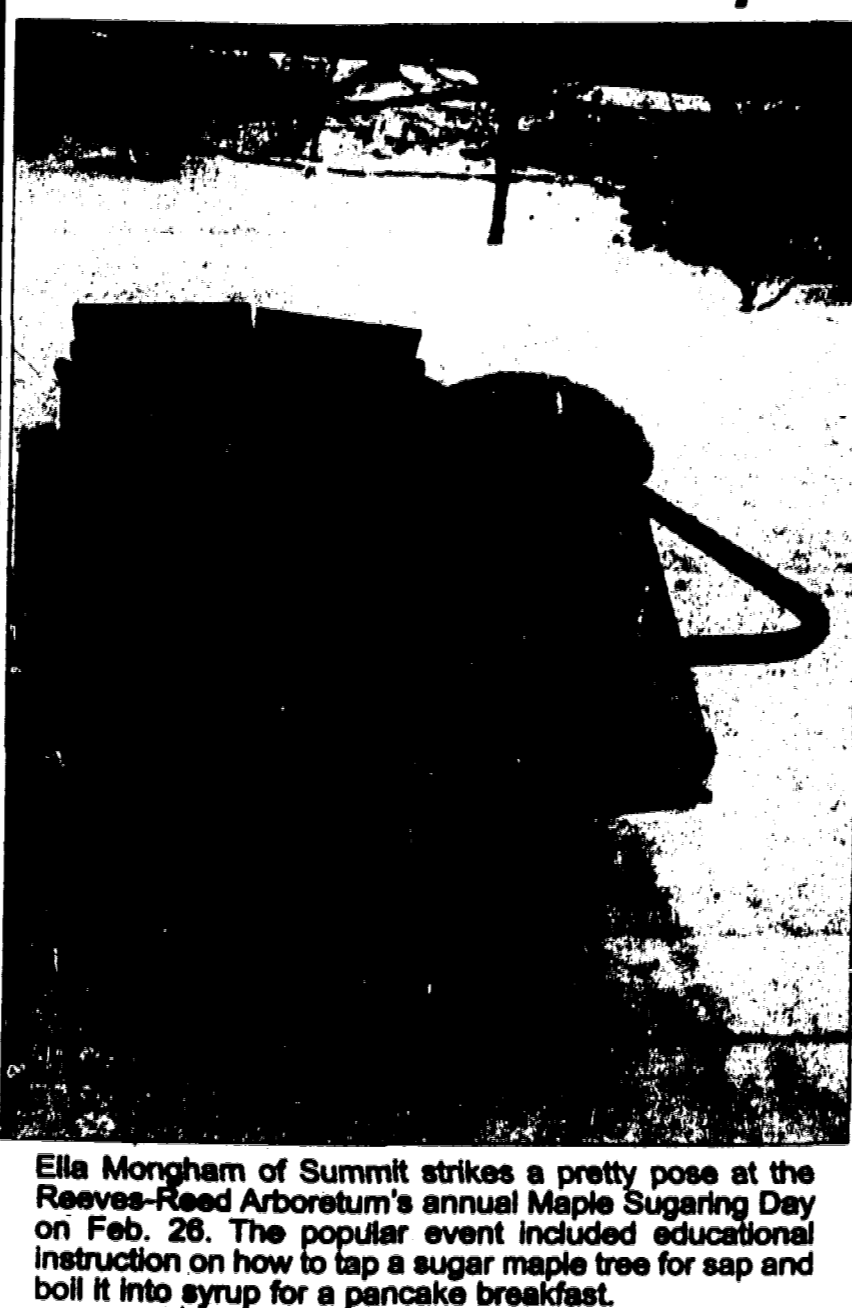
Through the vivid prism of her family's story, Musleah will introduce the distinctive heritage of the Jews of India. The seventh generation of a Calcutta family, Musleah traces her roots to 17th century Baghdad.

Her work has appeared in The New York Times, Family Circle, Publishers Weekly, Hadassah, Reform Judaism, Jewish Woman, Na'amat Woman and numerous other Jewish journals.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Worship calendar listing services for Baptist, Jewish, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Synagogue congregations.

Meet a sweet little helper



Ella Monaghan of Summit strikes a pretty pose at the Reeves-Reed Arboretum's annual Maple Sugaring Day on Feb. 26.

Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit is currently looking for Boy and Girl Scout troops interested in fulfilling a service project to volunteer for their Earth Day Celebration, on April 17.

Summit On-line FIND IT Quick & Easy www.localsource.com

SPORTS

Editors: JR Paracchini Can be reached in Maplewood at 973-763-0700

What a career it was for Zavocki Sparks Bulldogs to 74-26 mark

By JR Paracchini Sports Editor

What a career it was. From game No. 1 back on Dec. 14, 2001 to this year's Group 1 semifinal on March 9, Chaim Zavocki put on some kind of show.

After capturing Central Jersey, Group 1 for its first-ever sectional championship, Dayton was defeated by South Jersey champion Salem 69-43 in the Group 1 semifinals March 9 at Deptford.

Dayton ice hockey impresses Bulldogs 14-9-2

By JR Paracchini Sports Editor

The season-opener takes place on Dec. 1. A long regular-season climaxes with the conference playoffs. Then, if you are good enough, state tournament play reaches into March.

Carroll, a junior defenseman, scored three goals and assisted on the other two in the season-opening win against Livingston. Carroll went on to earn First Team All-Conference honors in the Blue Division of the Central Conference for a third straight year and was also named the Blue Division MVP.



Large advertisement for local services including roofing, snow removal, painting, and home improvement.

Advertisement for Marcketta Painting, offering interior and exterior painting services.

Advertisement for Lenny Tufano, offering painting and home improvement services.

OBITUARIES

Dominick Casternovia
Dominick Casternovia, 85, a lifelong resident of Springfield, died March 4 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Mr. Casternovia owned D. Casternovia Painting and Decorating Co., Springfield, for 36 years before retiring in 1982. He was an Army veteran of World War II. Mr. Casternovia fought in Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland and was awarded the Distinguished Unit Badge and Eastern Service Medal with Bronze Arrowhead.

He was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus Msgr. Francis Coyle Council 5560, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7683 and the American Legion Post 228, all of Springfield.

Surviving are his wife of 57 years, Helen; a son, Eugene; two daughters, Sally A. DiCiccio and Erlene F.; a brother, Samuel; and four grandchildren.

Gertrude Clare
Gertrude Clare, 91, of Livingston, formerly of Springfield and Union, died March 4 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston.

Born in Vienna, Austria, Mrs. Clare lived in Springfield, Union and West Palm Beach, Fla., before moving to Livingston five months ago. She was a former member of the Women's Club of Temple Anshe Shalom, West Palm Beach.

Surviving are a daughter, Nancy Gordon; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Thomas Winchurh
Thomas W. Winchurh, 65, of Mountaineer died March 6 at home. Born in Newark, Mr. Winchurh lived in Union before moving to Mountaineer 51 years ago.

Surviving are two brothers, Richard and Robert.

Ruth Sadkin
Ruth Sadkin, 91, of Summit died March 4 at home. Born in Passaic, Mrs. Sadkin lived in Newark before moving to Summit 40 years ago.

J. Michael Carter
J. Michael Carter, 51, of Summit died March 10 in Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York City.

Alyssa Wilbur
Alyssa Jennifer Wilbur, 3, of Summit died March 8 in Overlook Hospital, Summit, after being struck by a

ambulance. Born in Plainfield, she lived in Summit for a year. She was enrolled at the Overlook Child Care Center, Summit.

Surviving are her parents, Judith and Dwight Wilbur; three brothers, Steven Markey, Garrett and Jonathan Wilbur; and her grandparents, Janet and Gary Gill, and Liz Wilbur.

Robert Mohri
Robert Gerard Mohri, 70, of Kamakura, Japan, formerly of Summit, died March 7 in the Yokohama City University Hospital.

Born in Summit, Mr. Mohri attended Summit High School and received a bachelor's degree from Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, and a masters degree from Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1951 to 1959 and was wounded during the Korean War.

Surviving are his wife, Reiko, four children, Mark, Chris, Julia and Jessi; a brother, Richard Mohri, and five grandchildren.

Margaret Swift
Margaret Swift, 91, of Summit died March 4 at home. Born in Summit, she lived in Summit before moving to Summit 40 years ago.

Surviving are a son, Thomas, and two grandchildren.

Dorothy Glynn
Dorothy M. Glynn, 91, of Summit died March 6 at home. Born in New Brunswick, Mrs. Glynn lived in Teaneck before moving to Summit five years ago.

Surviving are two sons, Charles and Edward; three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Brian Reardon
Brian L. Reardon, 58, of Summit died March 9 in New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York City.

Born in Brockton, Mass., Mr. Reardon moved to Summit 28 years ago. He worked for Lucent Technologies, Whippany, for the past eight years.

Surviving are his wife, Mary Beth; a son, Matthew; a daughter, Katherine; a brother, Robert, and three sisters, Mary Johnson, Ann Turner and Rosalie Kelly.

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Alan Nunez dips his bread into the chalice of juice as part of Holy Communion at Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church. Nunez is learning about the sacrament celebrated monthly and offered to persons of all ages and backgrounds who desire a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Seder Meal marks Holy Week

The public is invited to participate in a reenactment of a Seder meal on March 24 at Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall at 7:30 p.m.

A Seder meal is a Jewish tradition that was adopted in the Book of Exodus — found in the Hebrew writings of the Holy Bible — as a means of remembering the original Passover, when the Hebrews were freed from the pharaoh.

A Christian Seder takes the same basic preparation and elements of the Jewish meal and ritual and modifies some of the parts to affirm how Jesus has fulfilled many of the prayers and symbols of the ritual. This event, to be celebrated by the children, their immediate and church family and the general public, will culminate with a series of lessons related to the Seder Meal and Sacrament of Holy Communion.

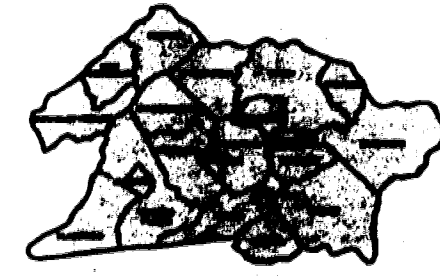
Springfield Emanuel celebrates Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month. Anyone, regardless of age or background, who desires a relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior is invited to receive the elements of bread and juice. Wine is not served, in sensitivity to those addicted or allergic to alcohol.

On Good Friday, the day that Jesus is believed to have been crucified, a Tenebrae service of candlelight and shadows will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. This service is designed for older children through adults.

Two services will be offered on Easter Sunday, March 27. An informal and interactive service will begin at 8 a.m. This service, in the Springfield Emanuel sanctuary, will be led by Pastors Elaine Wing of Emanuel and Charles Baier of the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield, located across the street. A light breakfast will follow at 8:45 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., a more traditional service will take place in the Emanuel Sanctuary. Special music will highlight the service, which will include the weekly children's message for younger disciples.

Springfield Emanuel is located at the far back end of Church Mall near the intersection of Morris and Mountain avenues in Springfield.



What goes on there

Petrino Prioritizes: Railway Superintendent of Schools William Petrino is bringing his school budget up for a public hearing on March 24. Petrino is planning for the worst. If the city defers the budget with an 8 percent increase on April 16, the superintendent has already said he will cut the usual suspects like elementary music, sports and arts.

Unfortunately in the current climate the school budget becomes an easy target for hard-pressed taxpayers. It's a shame that the current system allows music and art to be the scapegoats for angry taxpayers and clever administrators.

Left Out: You talk to Frank Capone

Assemblyman Jon Bramnick — You talk to me about Westfield has sponsored legislation that "encourages all residents of New Jersey to join with the leaders of the state in a campaign toward civility, kindness and respect to all."

Kushner Goes to Clinic: Charles Kushner got the word last week he is going on a two-year state penal vacation. A local lawyer quipped, "Four Charlies, it's been a long time since he had to take orders from anyone. This is going to be a long stretch."

County's Policy Advisory: The County Policy Advisory Commission is reviewing the County's policy on the use of the County's land.

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Union County

- News
Arts
Entertainment
Classified
Real Estate
Automotive

Forrester wins on 2nd ballot

Over 500 people crowded the auditorium of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School last weekend to decide the fate of six Republican candidates for governor.

The excitement and energy in the room was palpable, as the candidates took the stage and made their appeals to a bigger convention audience than the county committee had seen in years, including a 61-person delegation from Elizabeth — never a party stronghold.

In a room festooned with banners, signs, and even a few balloons from wall to wall, be-stickered committee members listened and took stock as staffers walked the aisles passing out campaign literature.

John Murphy, a freeloader from Morris County, had been focusing on the county for a month, working his public service message. Murphy's strategy had already been received well by county municipal officials, earning endorsements from officials in Clark, Westfield, Summit and Berkeley Heights.

A recent speech from Bret Schundler, the former Jersey City mayor who had all but ignored the county prior to the campaign, created a new buzz in the audience, most of whom were only familiar with Schundler from his last, unsuccessful, gubernatorial campaign.

Doug Forrester, seen by many as the only candidate with the financial means to take on Jon Corzine, is the former mayor of West Windsor and was a member of the Kean administration. With wide name recognition from his unsuccessful Senate campaign in 2002, the Union county line

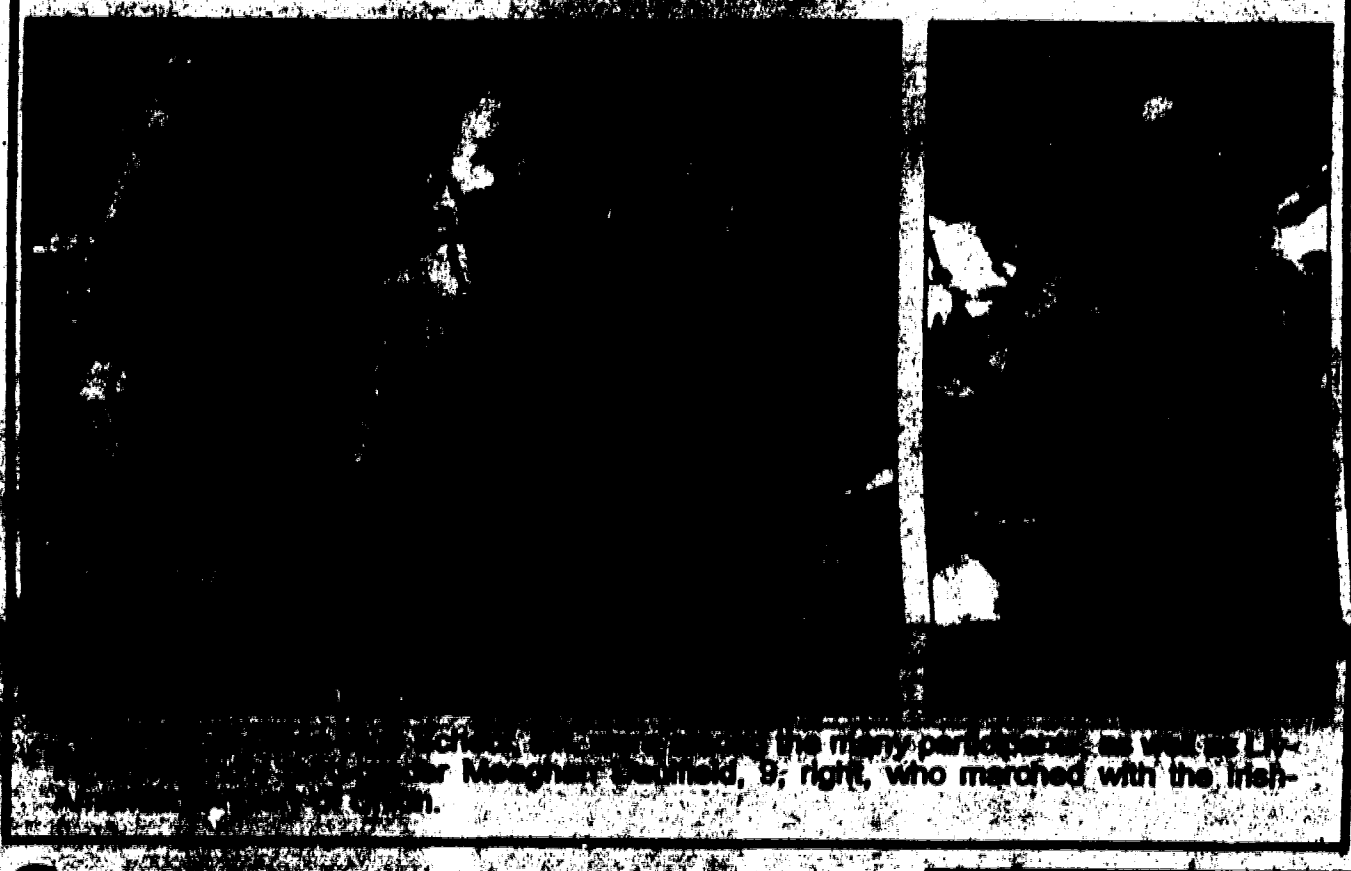
While Murphy seemed disappointed with the results, he said considered a second-place finish as doing well. "It keeps me in the race and indicates my candidacy is for real," he said, adding that now his focus will turn to the Ocean and Bergen counties.

As the second ballot votes were tallied, Forrester emerged the winner by a mere 23 votes, topping Murphy 216 to 193.

The county election is a good first step in the process of a new administration. It also indicates that the county is not as dead as some of the other candidates. A Washington Township



Grand Marshal Peg Cullen of Morris County leads a parade of people along the route of the Union County St. Patrick's Day parade.



The many participants at the St. Patrick's Day parade in Union County.

Good news among teens in pedestrian fatalities

Though Wilbur's is an especially sad case, the situation is far from unique in Union County, where pedestrian fatalities are a growing concern.

Three of every five traffic fatalities in Union County are pedestrians, the new study, released last week, details.

The Tri-State Transportation Campaign, an advocacy group, released a study detailing the county's pedestrian fatalities in the last 10 years.

The study shows that the county has the highest number of pedestrian fatalities in the state.

The county is just behind with 23,000, and a portion of the vote-cast school in Scotch Plains.

Removes the House: You really have to find it to the Killworth School System. They are trying to get rid of the school.

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Pedestrian Deaths in Union County



The TRTC study includes some recommendations for decreasing traffic-related pedestrian fatalities:

Increasing state funding for the Transportation Trust Fund for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

Creation of a dedicated funding source for the "Safe Streets to Schools" program, which aims to improve pedestrian safety near schools.

The implementation of "traffic calming" techniques, such as speed bumps, chicanes, and other measures to reduce vehicle speeds in residential areas.

County officials are looking forward to the drill, which they hope will allow them to not only the county's readiness, but how well information flows between the federal, state, and local agencies.

"We'll be looking at how our local health departments communicate with each other and pool our resources," said Fire Marshal Rick Proctor, who also serves as the incident commander for several Union county municipalities.

The drill, the Emergency Department and all facets of the hospitals will function

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Town Super Checking! You Will Notice the Difference... 2.02% APY on balances of \$5,000 or more. Rate guaranteed until May 1, 2005. Applies to new accounts only. The Town Bank You Will Notice the Difference... 520 South Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090. 908.301.0800. 44 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090. 908.518.9333. www.townbank.com

WHAT DO YOU CALL A MIRACLE? WE CALL IT THE CYBERKNIFE. Virtual surgery that can treat even inoperable tumors. Imagine if you had an inoperable tumor. Now, imagine if that same tumor could be treated quickly, painlessly, and effectively, without even making an incision. That's the remarkable technology behind the Cyberknife, which uses a combination of robotics and sophisticated image-guidance technology to deliver precisely targeted doses of radiation to hard-to-reach tumors in the brain, spine and other parts of the body.

Union to be center of statewide emergency drill next month. The drill, the Emergency Department and all facets of the hospitals will function. The drill, the Emergency Department and all facets of the hospitals will function. The drill, the Emergency Department and all facets of the hospitals will function.

COUNTY NEWS

'Crisis in Africa' interactive discussion
The Elizabeth Historical Society...

UCLSA dinner Tuesday
UCLSA, the association for legal professionals...

Rehabilitation services the topic of speaker
Residents are invited to a free presentation...

The revised fee schedule will be as follows:
Passport application, adult, \$97...

'House of Silver' at Rannels today
The Volunteer Guild of Rannels Specialized Hospital of Union County...

LIFE Center to mark 25th anniversary
Union County College's LIFE Center will celebrate a quarter century...

Senior outreach
The Union County Division on Aging in the Department of Human Services...

WPC and Rajori Cox to honor
The Union County Women's Political Caucus will host a reception honoring...

NARFE chapter is 'Irish for a day'
The Union County National Association of Retired Federal Employees...

New passport fees
A new, federally mandated "security surcharge" increased passport processing fees...

her of the New Jersey Planning Board...
Refreshments will be served for more information...

UCLSA awards an annual scholarship to a qualified individual living in Union County...

The Westfield Annex is the only county clerk's office in the state that is open during evening hours...

The cost for the seminar and a complete dinner including tax and tip is \$25 for reservations...

UCLSA is continuing its fundraising efforts for its annual charitable cause. This year, UCLSA, along with its state association, NJALS...

Storch is an adjunct instructor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry, Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Behavioral Health...

ally, final plans will be made for their annual May theater party outing...

The Volunteer Guild of Rannels Specialized Hospital of Union County will feature the merchandise of "House of Silver" today...

A percentage of each purchase made at these sales is given to the Volunteer Guild to obtain items for the residents and patients...

The luncheon will serve a triple purpose: to mark the 25th anniversary of the LIFE Center...

Anyone who would like further information should call the Office of Volunteer Services at 908-771-5847.

Members will be largely unaffected by the epidemic emergence and spreads," he said.

Proctor also revealed that Union County was chosen because of its five acute-care hospitals...

Teeth are optional for the oh-so-tender large medallions of tuna carpaccio with seared exterior...

From the four main-course choices, we went for the striped bass and the pan-seared chicken.

The plant kingdom is not an afterthought at The Manor.

With dinner starting between 6 and 6:30 p.m. in the Terrace Lounge...

There are fresh flowers at all tables, and a grand bouquet of orchids, lilies, and cut flowers...

Then a relocation for the show up a sweeping staircase to Le Dome...

For this evening, Judy McLane took a night off from her role as Tanya in Broadway's "Mama Mia"...

If there were such a thing as a Tony-Across-the-Street award...

The service is very Old World and solicitous without being stuffy...

The short wise list on the cabaret menu represents a fraction of the restaurant's vast cellar...

Ordering a drink was the first theatrical presentation.

A martini glass containing three martini olives on a swizzle stick...

Respective chef Michael Weisshaupt has engineered a short and sassy theatrical pre-cabaret dinner.

The bread show was followed by an amuse-bouche of luscious corn chowder with roasted pepper, mousse, creamy-dreamy enough...

For appetizers, we chose a succulent combination of tuna carpaccio with tuna tartar and seaweed salad...

Drill will test local response

(Continued from Page 1)
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Broadway performer stars at The Manor

By Anita Lewis and Joel Levin

"Cabaret Soiree Nights" at The Manor in West Orange serve dinner, music, and tradition with inspired and consistent elegance...

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Stage performance brings 'Passion' to life

By Jeff Cummins

This time last spring, moviemakers watched the graphic production of "The Passion of the Christ" at theaters throughout the country...

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all of the production costs, donating the theater and any profits to the congregation of Monte Carmelo in Jersey City...

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The service is very Old World and solicitous without being stuffy...

The short wise list on the cabaret menu represents a fraction of the restaurant's vast cellar...

Ordering a drink was the first theatrical presentation.

A martini glass containing three martini olives on a swizzle stick...

Respective chef Michael Weisshaupt has engineered a short and sassy theatrical pre-cabaret dinner.

The bread show was followed by an amuse-bouche of luscious corn chowder with roasted pepper, mousse, creamy-dreamy enough...

For appetizers, we chose a succulent combination of tuna carpaccio with tuna tartar and seaweed salad...

Offbeat comedy chosen for Strollers' latest

By Jeff Cummins

Sexualis" written by John Patrick Shanley, premiered in New York in 1987, and it's been performed regionally throughout the country since then...

Teeth are optional for the oh-so-tender large medallions of tuna carpaccio with seared exterior...

From the four main-course choices, we went for the striped bass and the pan-seared chicken.

The plant kingdom is not an afterthought at The Manor.

With dinner starting between 6 and 6:30 p.m. in the Terrace Lounge...

There are fresh flowers at all tables, and a grand bouquet of orchids, lilies, and cut flowers...

Then a relocation for the show up a sweeping staircase to Le Dome...

For this evening, Judy McLane took a night off from her role as Tanya in Broadway's "Mama Mia"...

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meets a year in advance to decide the plays, and one of our members just stumbled on it. This title is provocative. It was intriguing, he read the play, and it was very funny and we wanted to do it.

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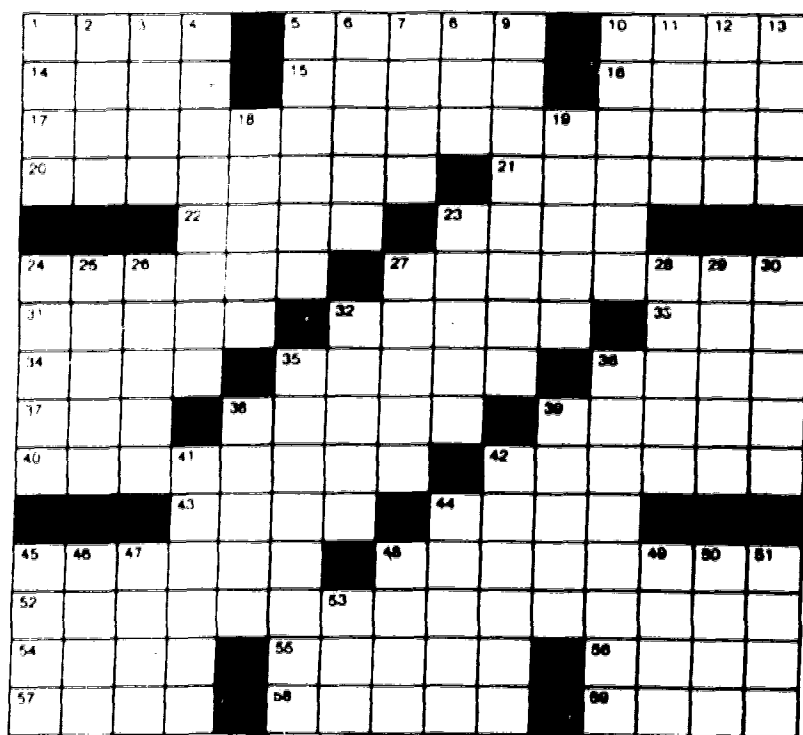
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ACROSS

- 1 Like foin gras
5 Former frosh
10 Gripper
14 Yucca's cousin
15 Library request
16 Kind of contract
17 Home for the Orangeman
20 Beam walkers
21 Unfriendly sort
22 Star
23 Guzzle
24 Having branches
27 Intenalfies
31 Silent
32 Keep to oneself
33 Flagon filler
34 Snee
35 Say "I do"
36 Fuhrer's WWII partner
37 Forum farewell
38 Standards
39 Maid's concern?
40 Writes back
42 Uses Bartlett's
43 Sale term
44 Hunk of hay
45 Conqueror of Rome
48 Round-trippers
52 Garden state city
54 The Wind in the Willows character
55 Eldritch
56 Erlong
57 ... show, so ... shall
58 Change, at the printer's
59 Memory route

TOWN TOPICS



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- 4 Clever thinking
5 On the up-and-up
6 Boggs
7 Mud concoctions
8 Layer
9 Tulip glasses
10 Beagle's trip
11 Master or monger
12 Indra's gown
13 Sommer, on screen
18 Abyss
19 Kooky
23 Pittsburgh
24 Airport ad
25 Existing
26 Night beests?
27 Store window models
28 Pan-fry
29 Worrier's woe
30 Takes a look
32 Groups together
35 Nickname
38 Postponement
39 Turmoil
41 Holiday highlight
42 Aircraft engine
44 Jim, at the Alamo
45 Theater go.
46 Several popes
47 Off the plane
48 Towel designation
49 The Middle; abbr.
50 Ginza glow
51 New Year word
53 Wedding notice segment

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE B10

REUNIONS

The following schools will conduct reunions in the coming months:
Westfield High School, Class of 1985, 20-year reunion, May 21.
Scotch Plains High School, Class of 1985, 20-year reunion, June 11.
Scotch Plains High School, Class of 1975, 30-year reunion.
Union High School, Class of 1985, 20-year reunion, 2005.
Union High School, Class of 1995, 10-year reunion, 2005.

Union Hill High School, Class of 1975, 30-year reunion, 2005.
Union High School, Class of 1976, 30-year reunion, 2006.
Union High School, Class of 1981, 25-year reunion, 2006.
Union High School, Class of 1986, 20-year reunion, 2006.
Westfield High School, Class of 1980, 25-year reunion, 2005.
For information on any of the above reunions, write to Reunions

Unlimited Inc., P.O. Box 150, Elizabethtown 07726 or call 732-617-1000.
Hillside High School, Class of 1965, is holding its 40th reunion on June 25.
If anyone has information regarding former students, contact Barry Zins at BZins1111@aol.com.
Hillside High School, Class of 1955, is planning a reunion on May 20 at the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit. Contact Paul Ladell at 973-915-7688.

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY March 19th, 2005
EVENT: Flea Market & Collectible Show
PLACE: Arthur L. Johnson High School, 365 Westfield Avenue (off Raritan Road), Clark.
TIME: Indoors & Outdoors 9-5PM
DETAILS: New merchandise, collectibles, crafts and a special garage/tag sale section!
For information Call: 201-997-9535
ORGANIZATION: Sponsor: St. John's Rosary Society

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY March 19th, 2005
EVENT: Big Indoor Flea Market
PLACE: Roselle Catholic High School, 1 Raritan Road, Roselle
TIME: 9am-4pm
PRICE: Call for information 908-245-2350
ORGANIZATION: Roselle Catholic High School

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HOROSCOPES

March 21 to 27 ARIES, March 21 to April 19: If you can believe in yourself you can achieve just about anything.
Set your sights high and push yourself to the limit of experience and success.
TAURUS, April 20 to May 20: Follow your instincts in a job search and it will lead you to where you belong.
Find your niche and everything will naturally fall into place.
GEMINI, May 21 to June 21: Socializing with friends, clubs, groups or organizations is charted for this week.
Dress up and present a confident and professional image.
CANCER, June 22 to July 22: A project or assignment you have been working on has reached a point of review.
Take your time and make the necessary adjustments.
LEO, July 23 to Aug. 22: Optimism is your key word.
Make sure that you are in the right frame of mind when faced with opposition.

Think big and know that the sky is the limit.
VIRGO, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Situations or circumstances will lend themselves well to exploring the unknown.
Set sail on a mission to raise your consciousness and uncover truth.
LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Cooperating with a partner or mate is the key to a peaceful existence.
Instead of pulling apart, take steps to blend your interests and energies.
SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: Work together with colleagues or co-workers and come up with the perfect solution to a gnawing problem.
Consider all possible inputs.
SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: Social, romantic or creative opportunities will find life or a setting for development this week.
Relax with friends and explore the possibilities.
CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: You do not have all the answers.
Reach out to family members who have experience or expertise to assist you with a job or career decision.

AQUARIUS, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: Community concerns will demand your attention.
Put your head together with neighbors and other concerned parties and address a pressing issue.
PISCES, Feb. 19 to March 20: Great deals or fantastic bargains are all around you this week.
Stick to your budget and do not give into the temptation to spend beyond your means.
If your birthday is this week, discipline, focus and patience are your key words for the coming year.
Avoid spreading your energy in too many directions or acting before you have decided what you would like to accomplish.
Relationships could suffer from divided goals, dreams or plans.
Stretch your mind to see and understand your partner's views and work together to find some common ground.
Also born this week: Bob Woodward, Elton John, Steve McQueen, Werner Von Braun, Stephen Bond.

Dancin' up a storm



Students of the Aborada Spanish Dance Theatre, supported through the Union County Arts Center's Meritans in Music program, go through their dance routine. For information, call 732-499-0441.

'Drawer Boy' offers gripping tale

By Jeff Cummins Associate Editor
Sometimes, music can just set the "feel" for a production. As "The Drawer Boy," began at the Paper Mill Playhouse last Thursday, the somber, almost depressing lyrics from Neil Young's song "After the Goldrush," immediately established the sense of quiet desperation that seemed to permeate the production.
Set in 1972, the play opens with Paul Vincent O'Connor playing the role of Angus, a farmer and former veteran who suffered an injury in World War II that damaged his mind and left him subject to occasional fits of rage. John Mahoney, who starred on television as Frasier Crane's father on "Frasier," and also appeared in movies, including "Moonstruck," and "Say Anything," plays Morgan, Angus' close friend, fellow war veteran and housemate, a man with a gruff demeanor who gives Angus mental chores that distract him from remembering painful experiences.
The lives of the two old friends are changed when a young college student approaches them, asking to spend a few days to observe farm work as a means to prepare for a play he's working on for his theatrical group.
The student, named Miles, played by Louis Canelemi, who has appeared on television in "Third Watch" and "Law and Order: Criminal Intent," provides an interesting contrast to the farm characters played by Mahoney and O'Connor.
After listening to Morgan tell Angus a long story about two soldiers and two English women, Miles quickly discovers that Morgan is hiding a secret from Angus.
The student, named Miles, played by Louis Canelemi, who has appeared on television in "Third Watch" and "Law and Order: Criminal Intent," provides an interesting contrast to the farm characters played by Mahoney and O'Connor.
In the final 15 minutes of the production, O'Connor takes the audience in the other direction, conveying sorrow and pain with such sincerity that the audience feels the emotion as well.

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Tommy's in the house



Tommy Davidson, best known for his performance on the hit television series 'In Living Color,' will bring his stand-up comedy routine to the Union County Arts Center tomorrow night. For tickets, call 732-499-8226.

T.S. Monk to kick off spring jazz series

By Jeff Cummins Associate Editor When the subject is jazz, John Lee doesn't mince words. The bassist, a South Orange resident, has a strong opinion, and he'll gladly tell you that jazz is as American as apple pie.

"Jazz is one of the two original art forms from America, it's American music, plain and simple," said Lee. "The cultural choice has always been classical, but we've played the same concert halls the classical musicians plays, the same festivals, some times even bigger festivals. It's a worldwide phenomenon looked on as American classical music."

It's that kind of unwavering passion that helped Lee as he built the "Giants of Jazz" festival that's become such an extraordinary event over the last eight years. And Lee doesn't limit his passion to expanding "Giants of Jazz." He also brings his devotion to "Jazz at the Baird," a series of performances featuring jazz legends, which starts on March 19 at 8 p.m. at the Baird Center in South Orange when T.S. Monk — drummer, bandleader, composer and vocalist, takes the stage. This will be the first spring series for the Baird Center. "Giants" began when Lee tried to help the Baird Center raise money for the jazz concerts that it hosts during the summer. Ultimately, what began as a mere fund-raiser turned into an event that stands on its own merit.

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Above, drummer T.S. Monk, who opens the Jazz at the Baird Series on Saturday. At right is John Lee, whose assistance has been critical in developing jazz concerts at the Baird Center.

Mom still rocks with the best of them

By Jeff Cummins Associate Editor When you think of motherhood, the first thing that comes to mind is rock 'n' roll. The prevailing sentiment was that mothers had passed the time when they could really rock. Just don't tell that to Alice Marie. The West Orange resident had natural childlike, but got right back into making music shortly after giving birth. She'll be performing as part of "Mamapalooza," a concert series featuring mothers. The New York version, which Marie will participate in, will take place on May 19 at Arlene's Grocery in The City.

"Mamapalooza" showcases moms, and gets the people past the stigma that once you're a mom you can't rock," said Marie. She said that fellow mom Joy Rose founded the "Mamapalooza" series. "It was very ill, and when she came out of it, she decided to revive her musical career," said Marie, who noted that Rose had played performers — she was just as good as her. "You get this ripple effect, some of my closest friends live here in town. They couldn't believe the beauty of the area. Between West Orange, South Orange and Maplewood, I don't know how many musicians there are. And it's not just musicians, either. If you take that Saturday morning train, you'll see a lot of people who work in theater. Dionne Warwick would cross the street from me. She lived here years ago, and she supposedly lived in this neighborhood. Levi Stubbs of the Four Tops lived in this neighborhood. Lee's love for South Orange, where he's lived since 1988, has resulted in a devotion that won him 'Villager of the Month' honors on three different occasions. "The original idea of 'Giants' was that I had a tradition to our new director, Judy Wukitch, and she and Andy Brady, director of Parks and Recreation, both passionately love this town and love the arts," Lee noted. "I thought it was a two-fold thing. We could present this concert, and hopefully the profits from that would help our summer series."

— John Lee

Marie practices what's known as "alternative music" these days, which was popularized in the '90s by bands like Pearl Jam. Marie quickly agreed that the term "alternative music" has become something of a misnomer as the years have gone by. "Alternative became pretty mainstream," she said. "I always think of it as something a little left of center. Avril Lavigne kind of walks the line."

In years past, the old convention that motherhood ended or seriously reduced one's career in rock music probably would have been true, but technology has played a big role in changing that reality. Marie noted that performers have greater access to production because technology has made it substantially more affordable to produce CDs. Still, it's more than technology that fuels Marie's drive to make music. She began singing at her grandmother's piano when she was 3, and she been writing songs for about 15 years, using poetry as her inspiration to begin writing songs. "I tend to problem-solve through songs," Marie noted, "whether it's the relationship department or 'Why am I on this planet.'" Marie also has a fondness for words and language, noticing things that probably wouldn't hit the radar screens of many other people. "I'll hear something on the sub-

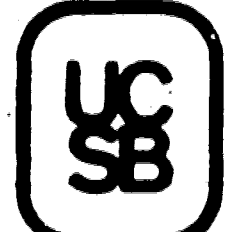
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Alice Marie

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With ERA eCampus, agents can take courses from the comfort of their home or office. 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More than 150 courses are offered via eCampus, including ERA's Acceleration, Top Gun Academy, Senior Real Estate Specialist and many more.

ERA's Acceleration course teaches marketing, selling, negotiating, closing and presentation skills as well as product and services knowledge, skills which are required of an ERA sales professional.

Top Gun Academy, ERA's advanced agent training program, focuses on prospecting, presentations and specialized markets. Agents who take this course gain a better understanding of the entire process needed to be a top associate.

With the explosion of growth in the senior market, agents are eager to take the Senior Real Estate Specialist training class to learn how to serve the needs of this unique market. The course helps agents prepare for the financial, emotional and investment-related issues specific to this group.

The format of eCampus classes range from live instructors online to self-study programs where participants work at their own pace. Agents are able to participate in a "virtual" class from anywhere Internet access

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Tener wins gold level in Circle of Excellence

Sales associate Carol Tener from the Burgdorf ERA Westfield office recently earned the New Jersey State Circle of Excellence award. Carol is a member of the NAR Circle of Excellence every year since 1984, achieving the gold level in 1992, 1993, and 2000-2003. She is also a member of the prestigious Burgdorf ERA President's Council. Recognizing only the top 17 sales associates out of Burgdorf's 700-plus member sales force, membership in the Burgdorf ERA President's Council is the company's highest and most distinguished honor.

Tener's fine reputation is underscored by the professional, compassionate, and approachable demeanor she brings to serving her clients. She was the first-ever recipient of the distinguished Ritz Award, which is bestowed upon the Burgdorf sales associate who best personifies Burgdorf's vision statement, "Extraordinary Professionals Exceeding Expectations."

"Carol's outstanding sales performance and dedicated service make her an example to sales professionals throughout the real estate industry," stated George Kraus, vice president and manager of the Burgdorf ERA Westfield office. "Carol clearly demonstrates Burgdorf ERA's commitment to provide sophisticated, state-of-the-art service to every client and offer a level of customer service exceeding real estate industry standards."

To contact Tener, call 908-233-2243, e-mail Carol.Tener@burgdorf.com, or visit the Westfield office at 600 North Ave. West.

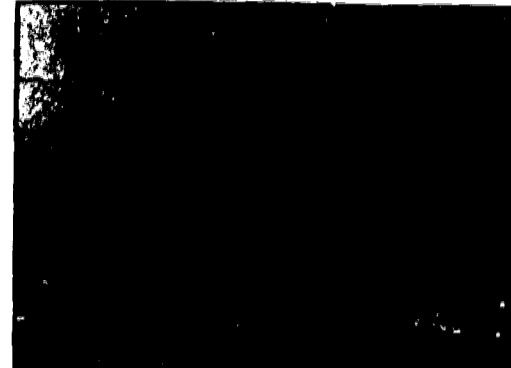
Spillane is recipient of Ronald Reagan Award

Robert T. Spillane Jr., managing broker of Weichert Realtors' Union Office, has received the 2004 Ronald Reagan Gold Medal Award. The award was announced Feb. 8 by House Majority Leader Tom Delay and U.S. Rep. Tom Reynolds.

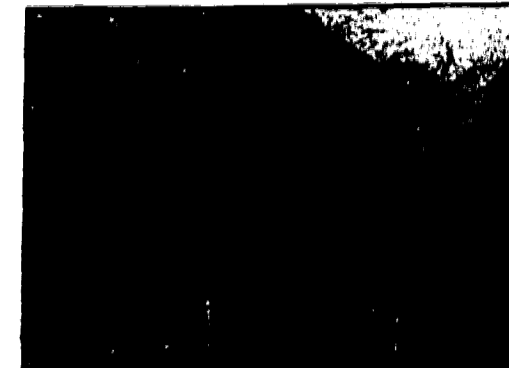
Commenting on the selection, Reynolds said, "Mr. Spillane has served as an honorary chairman of the Business Advisory Council and has provided much needed support. This award could not have gone to a more deserving candidate." "It is such an honor to receive such a prestigious award," said Spillane.

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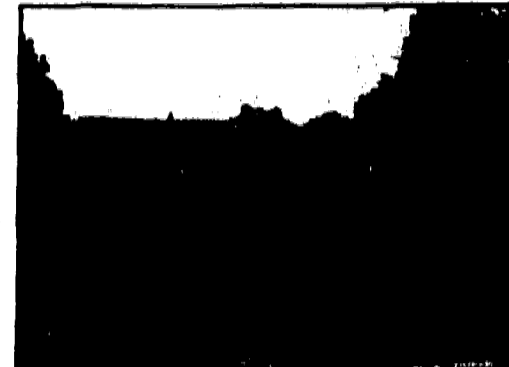
Linden Offered at \$365,000
Beautiful 3/4 BR Colonial features updated EK, FOR, 2.1 baths, 2 car det. garage, fin. bmnt, newer roof plus many upgrades! Near schools, shopping & transportation.
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Roselle Park Offered at \$369,900
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UN1939



Union Offered at \$413,000
Wonderful 3 BR Split located on a dead end street features 2 full baths, EK, FOR, family room, Anderson doors leading to a 16x20 ft. deck & 1 car garage.
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Union Offered at \$379,000
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AUTOMOTIVE

Prepare your car for pothole season

The AAA New Jersey Automobile Club offers advice on how to properly hit a pothole to minimize damage. First, always have proper air pressure in your tires — it can make all the difference when you hit a pothole. With an under-inflated tire, you run the risk of bending a wheel or damaging a steering or suspension component. With an over-inflated tire you can damage the tire itself.

Marty Koonce, an ASE-certified master mechanic and manager of the club's approved auto-repair program, suggests checking the air pressure in your tires every two weeks during the spring. "The wide variation in temperature — from warm balmy days to sub-zero nights — not only makes it prime season for potholes, but can affect your tire pressure too," said Koonce. For proper tire inflation information, check either your vehicle's owner's manual or the tire inflation placard. The inflation placard is located either on the inside edge of the driver's door, inside the glove compartment door, or possibly inside the fuel door. AAA recommends drivers scan the road 15 to 20 seconds ahead to anticipate potholes. "Even if you can't see them, you'll probably spot the brake lights of other vehicles slowing down as they approach a pothole. Take extreme caution when you attempt to swerve around a pothole — you may end up impacting something worse, like another car. 'If you have to hit a hole, don't slam on the brakes. Let up on the accelerator as you approach the pothole, touching the brake pedal lightly to signal vehicles behind you. Stay off the brake upon impact, letting the wheel roll through the hole,'" said Koonce. "Braking locks the wheel, increasing the chance for more severe damage from a solid hit."

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What's new? A convertible motorcycle

By Jerry Garrett
Copley News Service
Not sure if that new bean or helle will work out? Do you long to be the Perfect Male one minute, but the Lone Ranger the next?

Instead of complex counseling, you might need a convertible bike. But aren't all motorcycles convertibles, just not all? As you know, to be precise, they're all open tops. Convertibility, however, is another matter. Yamaha is coming out with what it calls the world's first "convertible bike" — a variation of its V4-powered Royal Star line that incorporates the best features of a cruiser and a touring bike, and lets the user easily change setups.

This might be the answer that confused, conflicted, co-dependent bikers have been searching for. Now, they can quickly shift emotional gears between two-up touring togetherness or riding off into the sunset alone. Fight the urge, however, simply to leave a quarrelsome companion on the roadside, holding the bag. All too easy to do with this bike.

The Royal Star "Tour Deluxe" comes with hard bags, passenger pillion and handrest, hoodlum-style windshield and other traditional touring amenities. But with a flip of two spring-loaded levers, the windshield neatly unmaps, in about two seconds. A similar latching system releases the handlebars. One bolt removes the pillion. A couple more bolts each remove the hard bags.

And voilà! The Tour Deluxe is transformed into a cruiser. All in less than five minutes. The main problem that defines tourism as cruising — the windshield and rear seat — can be removed in less than a minute. "The more things a bike can be to people, the more they'll use it," explains Yamaha spokesman Brad Banister. The idea is not so much to appeal to schizophrenic buyers as it is to give some competition to rivals. Honda, with its Valkyrie, a cruiser/tourer mutant, and others have driven a 17% percent increase in this market segment in the last six years; Yamaha's segment share, through its touring-skewed Road Star Silverado line, has tripled in just two years. Yamaha's solution with its upscale Tour Deluxe, however, is to offer essentially two bikes for the price of one — at a pretty decent price point: \$13,999, fully equipped.

That should put some pressure on the competition, not to mention Yamaha's own existing full-dress touring, the Royal Star Venture, which retails for several thousand greenbacks more. If your touring needs can be met without the Venture's plush wide-body rear passenger accommodations, the Tour Deluxe is a real value.

In fact, Yamaha is now calling the Tour Deluxe its flagship model, so don't be shy about asking for deep discounts if you still want a Venture. The key differences between the Tour Deluxe and its Royal Star stablemates, aside from the convertibility features, are slight. Same 98-horsepower, liquid-cooled 1294 cubic-centimeter four-cylinder with 89 foot-pounds of torque, same frame, same suspension, same engine, same exhaust, same lights, same wheels, same tires, same accessories, same paint, same color, same everything.

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AUTOMOTIVE

GM's new Equinox is versatile on the road and very easy to enjoy

By Mark Maynard
Copley News-Service

Ever since the Chrysler PT cruiser came along, the small SUV hasn't been the same.

The car that works like a truck theme is in demand for good reason: it's not ugly, it's built-in function and utility, and it's comfortable with plenty of space for people and their stuff. And now, after years of making SUVs, Chevrolet has distilled those preferences into its compact Equinox SUV. It is good-looking outside with good ideas inside. And it's a GM design, not a borrowed model from a Japanese or Korean partner.

Sold in front- or all-wheel drive in LS or uplevel LT models, pricing for the five-passenger sport utility starts at \$21,500 and goes to \$24,900 for an LT with AWD. With some options, the LT front-drive test truck ran to \$26,250.

Often this compact class of SUV, including the Ford Escape, Honda CR-V and Toyota RAV4, earns sales for improved fuel economy over a larger SUV, but then the size limitations set in, and towing just can't compare with a truck-based sport utility.

But as a family-class "car," the Equinox has a number of virtues. Among them: head and shoulder room, back-seat leg room, some creative cargo space, and a modest-size V-6 that has plenty of kick and returns credible fuel mileage of 19 mpg city and 25 on the highway.

The tow rating of 3,500 pounds will easily handle a tent trailer and more. Sharing a platform with the Saturn Vue and you'd never know it by looking at the two SUVs, the Equinox has a six-inch longer wheelbase and a wider stance. The car-like unibody chassis is a sturdy foundation using high-strength steel in 90 percent of the structure — engineering that should bolster crashworthiness.

Dual-stage front air bags, front belt pretensioners and ABS with traction control on the LT are the main safety features. Optional roof-rail air bags at \$500 deploy downward between the front and rear roof pillars for head and chest protection.

The two-trucks independent suspension provides a steady ride and turning, but its wide turning radius

allows 42 feet — requires some three-point maneuvers in tight parking situations. The test truck's optional 17-inch tire package probably didn't help, but the wheels were an attractive addition.

The mix of front disc brakes and rear drums gives the stopping presence of a full four-wheel disc system. The power-assisted brake seemed more than adequate to handle the 3,660-pound curb weight, or 3,776 for AWD. A four-wheel disc upgrade, surely, isn't far away.

The pairing of the 185 hp, 3.4-liter V-6 and five-speed automatic is ideal. Shift points are smooth and accommodating for urgent passing power.

At highway speeds, there's some wind noise at the mirrors and some tire noise, but those areas might have stood out because the cabin is so well soundproofed.

The cab-forward architecture is a little minivanish from the driver's seat.

And I thought the long reach of the windshield pillars would take time for me to get accustomed to, or create big blind spots, but they didn't.

Over-the-shoulder views are uncomplicated, though they sometimes are in other small SUVs with rear headrests.

One of the pleasures of an SUV is its elevated ride height, and the Equinox provides that viewpoint without making it a struggle to enter or exit. Even the back seat is raised for prime viewing.

Interiors at General Motors are much improved in the last couple of years, and Equinox has an attractive woven fabric for the headliner and run visors. Covered vanity mirrors, though not lighted, are an appreciated extra.

Durable plastics of nicely contrasting textures and colors and some soft-touch textures where it matters are used throughout — and of much higher quality than in the Saturn Vue.

All doors open wide, almost perpendicular, and have slim storage pockets. For driver and passenger, there are handy, small cargo nets at the base of the instrument panel console to easily clip a phone or stow a sunglasses holder.

The front center console has a flip-

up, padded armrest with storage, including coin, pen and tissue holders, and pullout cup holders. Raise the armrest for more storage or to reach the CD storage slots and optional ash-tray and lighter-power plug.

There are two more 12-volt power plugs in the second row and cargo area. The front passenger seatback folds flat for long items, and the hard back of the seat — not fabric — won't get snagged and doubles as a desktop work area for the driver.

From the second row rearward, the space is cargo, or people, flexible.

The 60/40 split folding rear seat has fore-aft adjustment that can bring it to within inches of the front seats so parents can keep the child seat close or extend the cargo area. The cargo area has a panel system of adjustable shelf height. A cargo net and overhead light are part of the standard equipment.

But despite overall improvements in interior quality, there were a couple problems in the test truck. A long strip of plastic trim on driver's door-handle pull was loose and the two horizontal seams of the plastic instrument panel sections were uneven, and the glove box door fit was a little off.

That little nit aside, the Equinox is versatile, accommodating and easy to enjoy. The traditional family sedan could be a dated concept, replaced and enhanced with such contemporary designs as this little SUV.

2005 Chevrolet Equinox LT
Body style: Compact, five-passenger SUV, with front-wheel or all-wheel drive

Engine: 3.4 liter OHV V-6
Horsepower: 185 at 5200 rpm
Torque: 210 foot-pounds at 3,800 rpm

Transmission: five-speed automatic

Acceleration: 0-60 mph, 8.5 seconds

Fuel economy: 19 mpg city, 25 highway

Fuel tank: 16.6 gallons; 87 octane recommended

Wheelbase: 112.5 inches
Height: 67 inches
Width: 71.4 inches

Length: 188.8 inches
Curb weight: 3,660 pounds, 3,776, AWD

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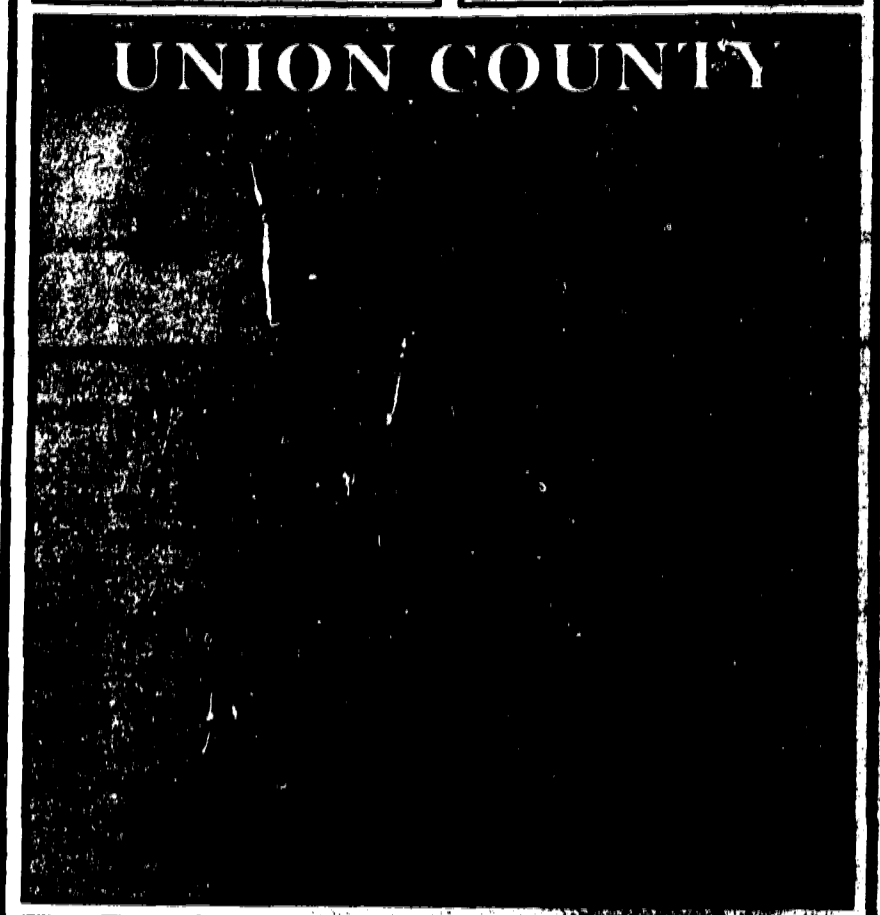
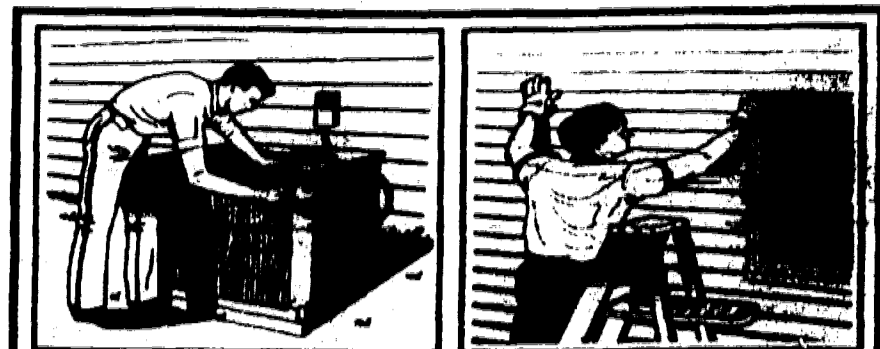
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MAR 17 10% APR MADNESS! \$6000

NEW 2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX

Advertisement for the 2005 Chevrolet Equinox. The ad features a large, stylized background image of the vehicle. Text at the top reads 'INCREDIBLE Multi-Chevrolet' and 'MADNESS! \$6000'. Below this, it says 'MAR 17 10% APR'. The main headline is 'NEW 2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX'. The ad includes a list of features and benefits, such as 'Dual-stage front air bags', 'ABS with traction control', and '10% APR financing'. It also mentions a '\$6000 cash rebate' and a '72-hour risk-free trial'. The bottom of the ad features the Essex BMW logo and contact information for the dealership.

Advertisement for Essex BMW. The ad features the Essex BMW logo at the top. Below the logo, it lists several BMW models for sale or lease, including the BMW 325Ci, BMW X3 3.0i, and BMW X5 3.0i. Each model is accompanied by a price tag and a lease-to-own offer. For example, the BMW 325Ci is priced at \$339 per month for 36 months. The ad also includes a '72 HOUR RISK-FREE' guarantee and a 'BMW's 4 Year/50,000 Mile Full Maintenance Program Included'. At the bottom, it provides the dealership's address (425 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield, NJ) and phone number (800.781.2341).

Advertisement for Essex BMW, similar to the one on the left. It features the Essex BMW logo and a grid of car models with their respective prices and lease-to-own offers. The models listed include 2002 BMW 325i, 2002 BMW 330i, 2003 BMW 325i, 2002 BMW 525i, 2002 BMW 325xi, 2002 BMW 530i, and 2002 BMW 330i. The ad also includes the dealership's contact information and a '72 HOUR RISK-FREE' guarantee.

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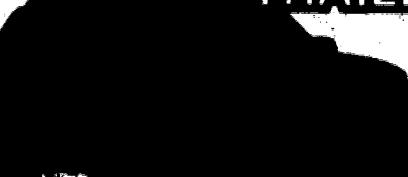


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4 cyl. auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, air, tilt, am/fm, a/s radials, bkt seats. Stk#50703. Vin#5F201938. MSRP \$20,305. Price includes \$2000 Factory Rebate, \$1000 Bonus, \$1000 Instant Value coupon & \$500 NY Auto Show Bonus if qual.

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NEW 2004 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS 4DR



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6 cyl. auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks/mirrs/seats/suzooof, air, case/cd, tilt, cruise, lock, alum whls, alarm sys. 4856 demo mi. Stk#40384. Vin#49242893. MSRP \$28,365. Price includes \$1000 Instant Value coupon, \$1000 March Madness Bonus Cash & \$500 NY Auto Show Bonus.

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2000 FORD ESCAPE 4DR 4 cyl. auto, a/c, p/str/brks, p/winds/lks/mirrs, cruise, tilt, am/fm/cd, 38,771 mi. Stk#50812. Vin#56139576. **\$8,917**

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2002 KIA SPECTRA 4DR 4 cyl. auto, p/str/brks, air, cd, 18,000 mi. Stk#50812. Vin#56139576. **\$8,917**

2002 KIA SPECTRA 4DR 4 cyl. auto, p/str/brks, air, cd, 18,000 mi. Stk#50812. Vin#56139576. **\$8,917**

2002 BUICK RENDEZVOUS AWD 4DR 6 cyl. auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, air, case/cd, 19,767 mi. Stk#50429A. Vin#25543173. **\$15,917**

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2002 KIA SPECTRA 4DR 4 cyl. auto, p/str/brks, air, cd, 18,000 mi. Stk#50812. Vin#56139576. **\$8,917**

2002 KIA SPECTRA 4DR 4 cyl. auto, p/str/brks, air, cd, 18,000 mi. Stk#50812. Vin#56139576. **\$8,917**



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