

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

Attorney: closed session violates act

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor
The Springfield Township Committee maintains that their action of going into closed session during a special meeting at Town Hall on May 18 was legal under the Open Public Meetings Act, but not according to an attorney with the New Jersey Press Association and the wording of the act itself. The purpose of going into closed session, according to the committee, was to decide the reduction amounts to be made in the devastated school budget.

But under the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law, governing bodies can legally go into closed session only to discuss certain items. These include matters considered confidential by federal law, state, statute, court rule; collective bargaining agreements; personnel matters related to the employment, appointment or termination of current or prospective employees, and several other categories, which differs from what members of the Township Committee said they went into closed session to discuss.

However, there's one item some members involved in the closed session say applies directly to their position as a governing body making a decision on reducing the budget of a Board of Education. This deals with pending or anticipated litigation from the other party, but even this is open to interpretation.

"They shouldn't have been in closed session to begin with," said Arlene Turinchak, an attorney for the New Jersey Press Association, who was advised of the meeting. "There has to be a real threat of litigation. Just to call a superintendent in to discuss general matters shouldn't have been done in closed session."

While Michael Davino, the superintendent of schools, was called in to the closed session at one point, those who were in the closed session maintain that no discussion or threat of litigation was ever made.

Township Attorney Bruce Bergen said

Bergen. "I think it totally defeats the purpose of a closed session."

Mayor Sy Mullman, who was also involved in the closed session, said that, since the Township Committee was still undecided after a special public meeting the night before the verdict was to be delivered, a closed session was necessary to come up with a final decision. He also said personnel matters were discussed at that time, providing further necessity for a closed session. "The money involved might have led to firing teachers," said Mullman. "It could have affected salaries. That's why we called in Mr. Davino. We wanted to make sure no staff was going to be cut."

But Committeeman Ken Faigenbaum maintained that no specific school staff names were discussed at the meeting, refuting the legal closed session category of discussing personnel matters related to the employment, appointment or termination of current or prospective employees.

Still, Faigenbaum said what the Township Committee did was legal, since there is a legal component to what the Township Committee is doing in the resolution that is read to the public before going into any closed session. At the beginning of each year, a blanket closed session resolution is read to cover any potential closed meetings that arise throughout the year.

Faigenbaum said this resolution, along with the power of the Board of Education to file an appeal based on the Township Committee's decision allows for the potential for pending litigation, a key requirement that gives the Township Committee the legal ability to go into closed session during that special meeting.

Committeeman Harold Poltrock agreed that the ability of the school board to file an appeal required the Township Committee to come up with an agreement with the board.

Committeeman Steven Goldstein agreed to add all the committee members

Ready to ride free,



Ian Ellmer, 4, of Springfield sits on his 'motorcycle' at the 200 Club's gathering at Iberia in Newark after their ride from Essex County Airport.

New budget for \$180 tax

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor
Coming in at \$20,791,652, the final version of the 2005 municipal budget was overwhelmingly approved by the Township Committee at their budget hearing Tuesday night. The municipal tax increase is estimated to be \$180 for the average homeowner in Springfield with a home assessed at \$160,000. The money raised through taxation would represent a 4.8 percent increase from last year. This shows a slight decrease from the preliminary 2005 municipal budget total, which was set at \$20,875,673, representing a 5.07 percent increase over last year. Last year's budget was \$20,819,762.

One of the most significant capital expenditures that was originally part of this year's budget was the \$3.5 million cost of the Police Department/Town Hall expansion and renovation project. "This project has now been put on hold and it will not be coming forward, so it will not be a part of this budget," said Committeeman Ken Faigenbaum. During the public comments portion of the meeting, resident Steve Stone asked if capital funding for the project has definitely been put on hold and if the project will be coming up once again. "It will not be reflected in this budget," said Committeewoman Clara Harselik, adding that the Township Committee will have to eventually look again in the future at how to create more space for the Police Department.

Elsewhere in the budget, the cost of providing a salary and health benefits for a township administrator has been reduced from \$100,000 to \$50,000, since the township has not hired a new administrator yet. The contract for former Township Administrator Richard Sheola was not renewed when it expired in December 2004.

Resident Harry Pappas criticized the need for a township administrator, emphasizing that the township tried it before and it didn't work. "I just think it's another layer of bureaucracy," said Pappas. "You're talking a serious tax point when it's all said and done. Bringing in an administrator isn't going to lighten the workload; it will add to it."

Other costs that came into question from residents were the figures for the gross days of accumulated absence for employees in the police and fire departments. These figures showed 1,354 for the Police Department, at a compensated value of \$424,577.70; a total of 44 days for the Fire Department, at a compensated value of \$26,813.60; 936 days for the union township employees at a value of \$142,028.12, and finally, 707 days for management/non-union employees, at a value of \$165,016.30. The total compensated absence liability showed \$758,435.72.

Marie Sedlak, chief financial officer for the township, said these figures for the Police Department also include amounts for terminal leave, which is given 60 days after the employee retires. Other significant figures in the municipal budget included appropriations for salaries and wages which, in some cases, showed a decrease over 2004. The administrative salaries and wages decreased from \$151,658 in 2004 to \$110,000 in 2005. Salaries and wages for the township clerk went from \$149,884 to \$122,090. Financial administration salaries and wages decreased from \$184,996 to \$174,224.

Fans come out in force for final 'Star Wars'

By Alexander George
Correspondent
With more than an hour left until midnight, half the theater was empty as fans waited for the premiere of the final Star Wars movie, 'Revenge of the Sith'.

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Dedicated and casual fans packed the theaters showing the much anticipated final chapter in the Star Wars series at the 11:30 p.m. showing, resting to the right of the theater. The "Star Wars" faithful, fans, some wearing Star Wars T-shirts, Darth Vader masks, and Jedi robes, made the pilgrimage to Loews that night out of their intrinsic dedication to director George Lucas' films.

Many fans wisely pre-purchased tickets to assure admission and arrived well ahead of show time to get quality seating. Though the manager of Mountainside Loews could not disclose how many people were in each theater, he said the three theaters premiering Star Wars had sold out.

After lobby was packed with last-minute arrivals before the premier showing until fans settled into the theaters and quieted for the two-hour, 26-minute movie.

"For A Star Trek of Summit, 'Episode III' is a movie I've been waiting for since the 'Phantom Menace' came out six years ago," said Tim.

"I wanted to get good seats and I figured waiting two hours in a crowded theater wasn't as bad as the time I've waited for this movie to come out and that the wait would make seeing the movie a lot more worth it...and it definitely was."

"Revenge" has been lauded as the best of the three prequel films. The loyal fans also understood the quality of "Revenge" when the film finished just

before 3 a.m. The credits rolled to unanimous applause while many remained in their seats perhaps

Since that midnight showing across the nation, Revenge has nationally grossed more than \$160 million at the box office with \$50 million in ticket sales for the opening on May 19 alone, a new record. Many moviegoers even purchased tickets for the another showing that afternoon on opening day, just 12 hours later.

As demonstrated at the Route 22 Loews, the Star Wars fan base in the Mountainside area and all of America is a special breed.

Laying the foundation



Seventh-graders from Girl Scout Troop 196 in Mountainside review some bricks to be laid along the walk to the historic house. They served lemonade and cookies to guests during a special program at the borough's historic Hatfield House.

\$200K trimmed from school budget

By Brian Pedersen
Managing Editor
Before the Springfield Township Committee announced its decision to trim the devastated \$31-million school budget by \$200,000 last week, members high among residents and school board members waiting for the committee to come back from a lengthy closed session.

After meeting for 90 minutes, Township Committee members came back to the Committee Room to reveal their decision before an audience that severely dwindled in numbers after losing patience.

Without giving any explanatory statements regarding the compromise reached with the Board of Education, Mayor Sy Mullman said the school district's technology budget had been cut in half and the specific line items to be removed from the budget include the cost of technology and operation of plant.

Township Committeeman Ken Faigenbaum read the resolution which he said contained the essence of the agreement. The supporting reasons for the reductions, according to the resolution, are that these cuts can be made without placing a reduction in programs serving a positive impact on the education of students.

The estimated annual school tax increase was originally set at \$180 for the average homeowner with a home assessed at \$157,800. Now, the tax increase is estimated to be \$140 per household.

Afterward, Mullman described the decision as a "necessary compromise" but said he was not at all satisfied with the result. He said the Board of Education and superintendent were effective in discussing their one-to-one laptop initiative

in the many meetings that took place between the school board and members of the Township Committee.

The initial \$245,000 technology cost of the one-to-one laptop program, proposed by Superintendent of Schools Michael Devino was to provide a laptop to every middle school student in the district. Since then the program has been cut in half, with only seventh- and eighth-graders getting personal laptops in September, while sixth and ninth-graders will not.

Mullman said he was supportive of the laptop proposal and felt the school board did a "great presentation."

"It's better to be a leader than a follower," said Mullman.

Township Attorney Bruce Bergen agreed that the compromise worked better than simply cutting out money from the budget.

"The Township Committee felt this was a way to answer the public's concern," said Bergen. "Both sides worked hard to get a compromise that makes sense in my opinion."

Many residents came forth during a special meeting at Jonathan Dayton High School the day before the final verdict was revealed to voice their concerns about the school budget and the proposed laptop program. Many residents who opposed the budget said they voted a down specifically because of the laptop initiative.

One of those residents was Shelley Stangler, who was also present at the special meeting at Town Hall last week.

"It was obviously a difficult decision for everyone involved," said Stangler. "I know you didn't get everything you wanted," she told school board members at their meeting Monday night, thanking Faigenbaum for the compromise that will fund a scaled-down laptop pilot program. To Davino, she said, "I hope you can come back to me in a couple of years and say, 'I told you so.'"

Resident Louis Della, who was also present at the special meeting said she was happy with the outcome.

"I think it was a good compromise," said Della. "I'm happy that they are allowing some grades to try the initiative. I'm glad nothing of importance was cut out so it doesn't affect the children's education."

Davino called the agreement a testimony of an attempt to be collaborative with the Township Committee.

"I thought the townspeople were in a very difficult situation and so were we, because despite what was written regarding the budget, I still felt it was fair and reasonable concerning education," said Davino. "By some assessment and outcome of the vote, people were dissatisfied with whatever the tax increase would be."

Aside from the estimated \$150,000 that will be cut from the laptop proposal, the remaining \$50,000 will consist of several items, according to board President Patricia Venezia. Among them are reductions in health benefits and the costs for mailing home report cards for middle and high school students. As a result, students will now be asked to carry home their report cards.

"At first glance, logic says we would extend this to the high school, but that will still be reviewed," said Davino.

Venezia said there wasn't much to pull out of the budget and felt that once the Township Committee agreed to modify the figure for the laptop proposal, it showed they were being understanding of the district's needs.

"I thought they were fair," said Venezia. "I think they recognize the inherent value of the laptop program."

Board member Irwin Sablosky said the compromise answers the voters' cry for restraint. "I think the Board of Education came out with a fair, lean budget."

Regional Editor Mark Hrymka contributed to this report.

Offices closed on Memorial Day

The offices of this newspaper will be closed Monday in observance of Memorial Day. We will reopen Tuesday.

The deadlines for the June 2 edition are as follows:

- club news, etc. — Friday, noon.
- Legal advertising — Friday, noon.
- Letters to the editor — Friday, 9 a.m.
- What's Going On — Friday, 4 p.m.
- Display ads — Friday, 5 p.m. for

- Section A and noon for Section B.
 - Sports news — Friday, noon.
 - General news — Friday, 5 p.m.
 - Classified advertising — Tuesday, 3 p.m.
- We wish all of our readers and advertisers a happy holiday.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

How to reach us: The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Wormal Community Newspapers, an independent, family owned and operated newspaper company.

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

To subscribe: The Echo Leader is mailed to the homes of subscribers for delivery every Thursday. One-year subscriptions in Union County are available for \$26.00.

Missing newspaper: If your copy of the Echo Leader did not get delivered please call 908-686-7700 and ask for circulation.

Back issues: Back issues of the Echo Leader are available for \$26.00 per year subscription for \$47.00.

News items: News releases of general interest must be in our office by Friday at noon to be considered for publication the following week.

Letters to the Editor: The Echo Leader provides an open forum for readers' opinions and welcome letters to the editor.

To place a classified ad: The Echo Leader has a large, well read classified advertising section.

To place a public notice: Public notices are notices which are required by state law to be printed in local weekly or daily newspapers.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Today: The Springfield Chapter of Hadasah will host its 50th installation of officers at Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave.

Friday: Babies' Lapsite at Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., designed for children up to 18 months old.

Saturday: Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, will conduct a "Salamander Search" from 2 to 3 p.m.

Sunday: The Springfield Memorial Day events will start with a lineup at 10:30 a.m., followed by a ceremony at Town Hall at 11 a.m.

Wednesday: With "Frogs by Flashlight," children ages 6 and older, accompanied by an adult, are invited to view a brief slide presentation about these elusive amphibians who breathe through their skin and sing at night.

Thursday: The Good Books Discussion Group of Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will meet at 7 p.m. to discuss "My Sister's Keeper" by Jodi Picoult.

Friday: The Mountainside Newcomers Club will host a townwide garage sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fee per household to participate is \$20.

Saturday: B'Nai B'rith of Springfield plans a trip to Atlantic City at the Claridge casino hotel. The package includes breakfast and brunch at Bagel Chateau.

New addition expected at Walton

By Mark Hrywna Regional Editor: An addition to Walton Elementary School in Springfield could take shape by the middle of next month.

School Business Administrator Matthew Clarke said at Monday night's Board of Education meeting that 32 modular units, which eventually will form 24 classrooms, are done and ready to come to Springfield.

The school board on Monday night approved payments of about \$660,000 to C. Pacillo Mechanical and \$108,000 to Williams Scotsman Inc.

The Walton project is part of a plan to shift the grade levels within the Springfield school district. Walton will house first- and second-graders, as well as prekindergarten and kindergarten programs.

James Toy, 46, of Elizabeth was arrested at the Colonial Motel on Route 22 east in Springfield for a warrant on May 17 at 4:25 p.m.

Police received a report from the hotel that Toy was in a room there and it was discovered he had an outstanding warrant from the Union County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$150.

A resident of Oyster Bay, N.Y., reported that the headlights from his 2003 BMW were stolen while his vehicle was parked at the Holiday Inn on West in Springfield on Saturday at 8:08 a.m.

Man arrested at Rt. 22 hotel

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Brush fire brings firefighters

On May 15, firefighters responded to South Springfield Avenue near Route 22 for a brush fire.

On Friday, firefighters responded to Route 78 east mile post 50.5 for a motor vehicle accident at 6:55 p.m.

Firefighters responded to a chimney ridge residence for an electrical problem on Friday at 9 p.m.

On Saturday firefighters responded to a pump truck on the scene of a fire on Stuyvesant Avenue in Union County at 10:07 p.m.

Attention churches

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

Redefining Senior "HOME"

Advertisement for Sunrise Senior Living, featuring text: "Whether it's our pets in residence, our flowering plants or our staff that acts more like family than caregivers..."

Group joins forces to abolish nuclear arms

The conversation in Fellowship Hall of Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church on May 12 began unexpectedly.

A delegation of Japanese Councilors from Hiroshima Japan, United Methodist Clergy and Laity and concerned citizens from New Jersey gathered to share a meal and discuss issues around the Seventh Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review taking place at the United Nations this month in New York City.

The Rev. Rich Knox, a member of the Board of Church and Society of the Greater New Jersey Conference of United Methodist Church asked for forgiveness that the United States, the only nation in the world that has used nuclear weapons in a military theatre, of the delegation.

There was no doubt that what concerned those gathered was the tragedy of war in general, and more specifically the devastating, long lasting impact of nuclear warfare.

The bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki 60 years ago were miniature compared to the strength of present nuclear warheads. We want people to learn more about the effects

Newcomers Club meets

The Mountainside Newcomers Club announces the following activities:

New member coffee — A new member coffee will be June 2 at 8 p.m. at Anne Eiker's home.

For information and to RSVP, call Tricia Brancatella at 908-301-1498.

Make checks payable to: Mountainside Newcomers Club and mail ASAP to Natalie Zuzovsky, 1287 Wood Valley Road, with a short description of the items that will be available for sale.

For membership information, call Brancatella at 908-301-1498.

Membership is open to new residents of Mountainside and established residents who have recently experienced a change in lifestyle, such as the birth of a baby, a change in employment or marital status.

Mountainside resident pleads guilty of thefts stemming from scams

A Mountainside man pleaded guilty to numerous counts of theft and related charges stemming from several insurance and mortgage fraud schemes, including a scam designed to rip-off a mortgage company involved in the purchase of a multimillion-dollar residential property located in Bergen County.

Castle Rock Real Estate — a real estate partnership controlled by LoPapa. The purchase was accomplished by creating a fictitious person — Joseph Georges — and representing that Georges was willing to buy the real estate from LoPapa for \$4.9 million.

LoPapa further admitted that between April 1996 and January, 1997, he falsely inflated a homeowner's insurance claim in the amount of \$33,400 for artwork that was purportedly damaged by a leaky roof at the East Saddle River Road property.

LoPapa submitted the inflated claim to the Great Northern Insurance Company. An investigation by the Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Insurance Fraud Prosecutor determined that the artwork never existed.

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Advertisement for Norcrown Bank, featuring text: "Want your money to work harder? Norcrown Bank now brings you two great options. Enjoy higher returns and complete liquidity with our Money Market Account..."

Large advertisement for Newark Bears, featuring text: "OUR BEARS LOVE THE ROAR OF THE CROWD" and "Come Be A Part of It!". Includes event schedule for Thundersticks Giveaway, Post-Game Fireworks, Family Fun Day, and Team Photo Giveaway.

Advertisement for Penn Federal, featuring text: "3.00% APY* Balances \$1,000 & above until December 31, 2005" and "FREE Debit/ATM Card • FREE Online Banking • FREE Bill Pay".

SEF sells Springfield T-shirts to raise funds

The Springfield Education Foundation is selling two different shirts, a tank top and T-shirt, to honor Springfield. These shirts are an original design just for the township of Springfield...

Youth and adult tanks are available for \$10 each, youth and adult T-shirts are available for \$12.

Those who are interested in purchasing a T-shirt can make a check payable to: Springfield Education Foundation...

STUDENT UPDATE

Aifante inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta

Jenna Aifante of Springfield was among the University of Delaware students who were recently inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta...

Walsh graduates Delbarton June 5

Ryan Walsh of Springfield will be among the graduates attending commencement exercises for Delbarton's 118th graduating seniors...

Newark Academy announces honors

Newark Academy in Livingston has announced Springfield students who earned honors for their academic achievements during the winter 2005 term.

Public Notice

Summary of Synopsis of Audit Report for Publication. Summary or Synopsis of 2004 Audit Report of Township of Springfield as required by N.J.S.A. 49:15-4.

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Notice regarding the Township of Springfield's financial statements and budget for the year 2005.

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Reflections on Hollywood's version of Holocaust

The following writings were done by students at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield after witnessing a Holocaust Memorial Day program, focusing on a screening of the film, 'Schindler's List.'

By Michelle Itriadre: Sometimes life experiences cannot be told in words or films, but the deeper part of remembering is being able to feel and understand what a person is going through.

In the years of 1930 through 1945, hatred seeped into people's hearts. Propaganda and half-truths shaped people's minds like pieces of clay. It was later directed toward a group of religious individuals, the Jews.

Looking around, I knew well enough that the freshman way of responding to the scenes presented was less emotional, unlike the juniors who have not heard about the Holocaust.

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Holocaust to insure that the atrocities witnessed will never, ever repeat in the future of human kind.

By Maria Rosenfeld: As a dedicated student of both world history and Jewish culture, one could suppose that an enriching movie such as 'Schindler's List' would be at the top of my viewing list.

However, many were shocked when they learned that I had not seen the film before it was presented to us on this past Yom Hashoah — Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Since I have met various people who are now recognized in Yad Vashem in Israel for aiding Jews, it was very interesting to see Steven Spielberg's take on one of the most righteous Yad Vashem inductees on film.

We now have the chance to save others who have not heard about the Holocaust.

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People in the News

Fahey joins SAGE Board of Trustees: SAGE ElderCare, a major community resource for eldercare, has announced that Christine Fahey of Green Pond has joined the Board of Trustees.

Culnen named top local Weichert associate: Three sales associates in Weichert, Realtors' Summit Office, received the office's top awards in April.

Notice to Bidders: Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Education at the Municipal Building, County of Essex, New Jersey.

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RECREATION

Golf league accepting registration for new year: Registration is now being accepted for the Summit Board of Recreation's Golf League.

YMCA offers three-month memberships: Summit YMCA will offer three-month memberships, and college student memberships this summer.

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Nutrition lectures offered

The Summit Area YMCA will continue a series of lectures throughout the month of June covering several nutrition topics and concerns.

The second lecture in the series, 'Healthy Eating for Healthy Children,' will be conducted on June 15 at Berkeley Heights YMCA.

The last in the series of June lectures, Surviving Swimsuit Season, will be June 22 at Berkeley Heights YMCA.

'Jazz in June' conducted

Jazz in June, featuring the Bill Tally Trio with Julia Dollison, is a fun-filled benefit for the Summit Chorus.

The evening's program includes live and silent auctions, festive live and wine tasting.

Now in its 95th season, the Chorus is Chorus in Residence at Drew University.

Large advertisement for Total Wine featuring various wine selections, prices, and promotional offers like 'Someone has to have low prices, IT MIGHT AS WELL BE US.' Includes categories like Italian Wine Savings, Phone Wine Savings, Perennial Favorites, and Sparkling Value Wines.

SENIOR NEWS

AARP will host year-end luncheon next month

Summit AARP 5040 will have its year-end luncheon meeting at noon on June 6 at the Hanover Manor, 16 Eagle Rock Road, Hanover.
Monthly meetings will not be conducted in June, July and August. The 2005-06 year will begin with regular meetings on every fourth Monday of the month.
For information, call 908-273-2239.

Speakers share sailing experiences

Julie and Stu Conway sailed around the world in a 58-foot sailboat from September 1998 to April 2001. They will share their experiences with members of The Summit Old Guard on Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the New Providence Municipal Center. The Sum-

mit Old Guard was founded on Dec. 2, 1930 and is currently celebrating its 75th year.
For information, call Earl Gilkey at 908-464-2480 or log on to the Web site: www.summitoldguard.homestead.com.

PREP group gathers

SAGE Eldercare, a major community resource for older adults, 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 McNal-

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.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST
SPRINGFIELD CHURCH - "SERVING CHRIST IN THE 21st CENTURY" - 242 Shunpike Rd., Springfield. Rev. Frederick Mackey, Sr. Pastor. Sundays 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages. Nursery through Seniors. Spanish Sunday School 9:30 am and 5:30 pm. 10:30 AM Worship Service and Nursery care - 5:30-7:00 PM AWANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11, 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery care. Wednesdays 7:15 PM Prayer, Praise and Bible Study; Junior/Senior Ministry. Active Youth Ministry. Wide-Range Music Program. Ample Parking. Chair Lift provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4351. Mondays - 7:00 pm - ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

JEWISH - REFORM
TEMPLE SHA'AREY SHALOM 78 S. Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07376-5187. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi; Amy Daniels, Cantor. Education Director; Nina Greenman, Pre-School Director; Mindy Schreff, Family Life Educator; Edward Fink and Hank Rottenberg, Co-Presidents. Temple Sha'arey Shalom is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. Shabbat worship, enhanced by volunteer choir, begins on Friday evenings at 8:00 PM, with monthly Family and Alternative Worship. Saturday morning Torah study class begins at 9:15 AM followed by worship at 10:30 AM. Religious school classes meet on Saturday mornings for grades K-3; on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 4-7; and Tuesday evenings for post-bar/bat mitzvah students. Pre-school classes are available for children ages 2 1/2 through 4. The Temple has the support of an active Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Renaissance Group and Youth Group. A wide range of programs include Adult Education, Social Action, Interfaith Outreach, Singles and Seniors. For more information, call the Temple office, (973) 379-5187.

LUTHERAN
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 639 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, 07081. 973-379-4525, Fax 973-379-8887. Remo Madsen, Pastor. Our Sunday Worship Service takes place at 10 a.m. For information about our midweek children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 9:15-4:30 p.m.
REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, 229 Cowperwaite Pl., Westfield. Rev. Paul E. Kriach, Pastor. (908) 232-1517. Beginning Sunday, July 3, Summer Worship Times are as follows: Sunday Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible.

JEWISH-ORTHODOX
CONGREGATION SHE'AR MITZVAH, 410 Main Ave., Springfield. Chaim Marmorstein, Rabbi; Alan J. Yuter, Rabbi Emeritus; Solomon Greenfield, President. Congregation Israel is a Modern Orthodox synagogue. There are two daily weekday morning Minyan at 6:15 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Daily weekday Mincha/Maariv services are also held. Call the shul office for times. There are two Shabbat morning services at 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. as well as Junior Congregation at 9:30 a.m. at the Nursery School. Conducts classes for children aged 2 1/2 to 4. A summer camp is also available to children of this age. Adult classes are held three nights a week with two weekly Teen classes. We have an active Senior Set and very active Jr. NCYS and Sr. NCYS chapters for pre-teens. Our Sisterhood, Adult Education and Youth groups provide a wide array of communal programming. For further information call the synagogue office at 973-467-9666.

METHODIST
EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (SUMC) - is a faith community ignited by God's love for all people. Join us for Sunday worship which begins with the entire congregation at 10:30 AM before children exit for Sunday School. Express God's compassion through outreach activities. Beginning and experienced vocalists and musicians are invited to participate in the ministry led by professional musicians Jimmy Johnson and Dan Craci. Bible study, prayer, youth group and fellowship events enable all to grow in their faith. SUMC is located at the far back end of Church Mall, near the intersection of Morris and Mountain Avenues, Springfield. Call 973-376-1695 for more information.

ROMAN CATHOLIC
THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES, 300 CENTRAL AVENUE, MOUNTAINSIDE, 908-232-1162. Celebrate the Lord's Day: Anticipated Mass 5:00pm, Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am. Weekdays: Monday-Friday 7:30am, Saturday 8:00am, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Saturday at 1pm. Perpetual Adoration Chapel for personal prayer and devotion. www.ollmountainside.org, office@ollmountainside.org

UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST
UNITARIAN CHURCH IN SUMMIT, 4 Waldron Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901, 908-273-3245. www.usumit.org. Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Minister. Mitchell Vines, Music and Choir Director. Sunday Services and religious education classes at 9:30 and 11:00 AM. Adult Education and other programs.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUMMIT is located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and DeForest Avenue. Church School and Bible Study is held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m.; the emphasis of which is to always have a "good week" because of Paul's reminder to us in his letter to the Romans "that ALL things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose". The sermons are uplifting, Biblically sound and guaranteed to keep you awake. The music and weekly children's message are memorables. All are welcome to hear the Good News of God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ. Our church also offers nursery care, after worship refreshments and fellowship, and many lively programs for everyone. Come worship with us and find out how you too can have a "good week". Call the church office or Pastors Gina or Rich Hendrickson, Senior Co-Pastors for more information at 908-273-1700.

PRESBYTERIAN
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 210 Main Ave. at Church Mall, Springfield, 973-379-4230. Sunday School Classes for ages 3yrs - Senior High 9:00 a.m. in our Parish House. Sunday morning worship service 10:15 a.m. Children's Church is held during the worship service. Nursery care and facilities are provided. Opportunities for personal growth through worship, Christian Education, Choir, ongoing church activities, and Fellowship. Holy Communion is held the 1st Sunday of every month. The Ladies Evening Group-Jud Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

NETE: All copy changes must be made in writing and received by Worral Community Newspapers no later than 12:00 Noon, Fridays prior to the following week's publication.
Please address changes to: Connie Bloom, Worral Community Newspapers, 1291 Sayrevood Ave., P.O. Box 3109, Union, NJ 07083. U/W

Emile and Grace Wamsteker of Berkeley Heights recently attend a volunteer in-service day at SAGE Eldercare. Wamsteker is a regular volunteer for SAGE Eldercare's Bill Paying Service.

Volunteers help with SAGE Chore Service

SAGE Eldercare's Chore Service is in need of volunteers to help with the program. If you are a handyperson or a handyperson at heart and are looking for a rewarding volunteer assignment that offers flexibility and variety, call Suzanne Lyon, SAGE Eldercare Volunteer Director at 908-598-5514. Volunteers play a critical role in helping SAGE Eldercare fulfill its mission to support the independence, well-being and quality of life of older adults, their families and caregivers.

The Chore Service program has been up and running since January. This service assists seniors with minor repairs to ensure their safety and reduce the risk of falling in their homes. Using a safety checklist, trained volunteers help evaluate homes and identify problem areas. They are unable to service emergencies or large jobs requiring a licensed technician, but will be happy to refer you to someone that can. Whether it is changing a light bulb or moving heavy boxes in the garage, a SAGE Eldercare Chore Service volunteer can help.

Church extends garage sale

In a repeat action in the realm of church-sponsored garage and rummage sales, the Unitarian Church at 4 Waldron Ave., Summit, extended through May, and perhaps longer, the Web site portion of the garage sale which was recently conducted. Citing lack of floor space for large items such as furniture and unusual items, the church created a catalogue of these items on its Web site.
Access to the Web site catalogue is reached by going to the church's Web site at www.usummit.org and then clicking on Internet sale. As items are sold, they will be deleted from the site. For information, call Ann Haskok at 908-277-5598, or send a message by e-mail to anhaskok@gatt.net.

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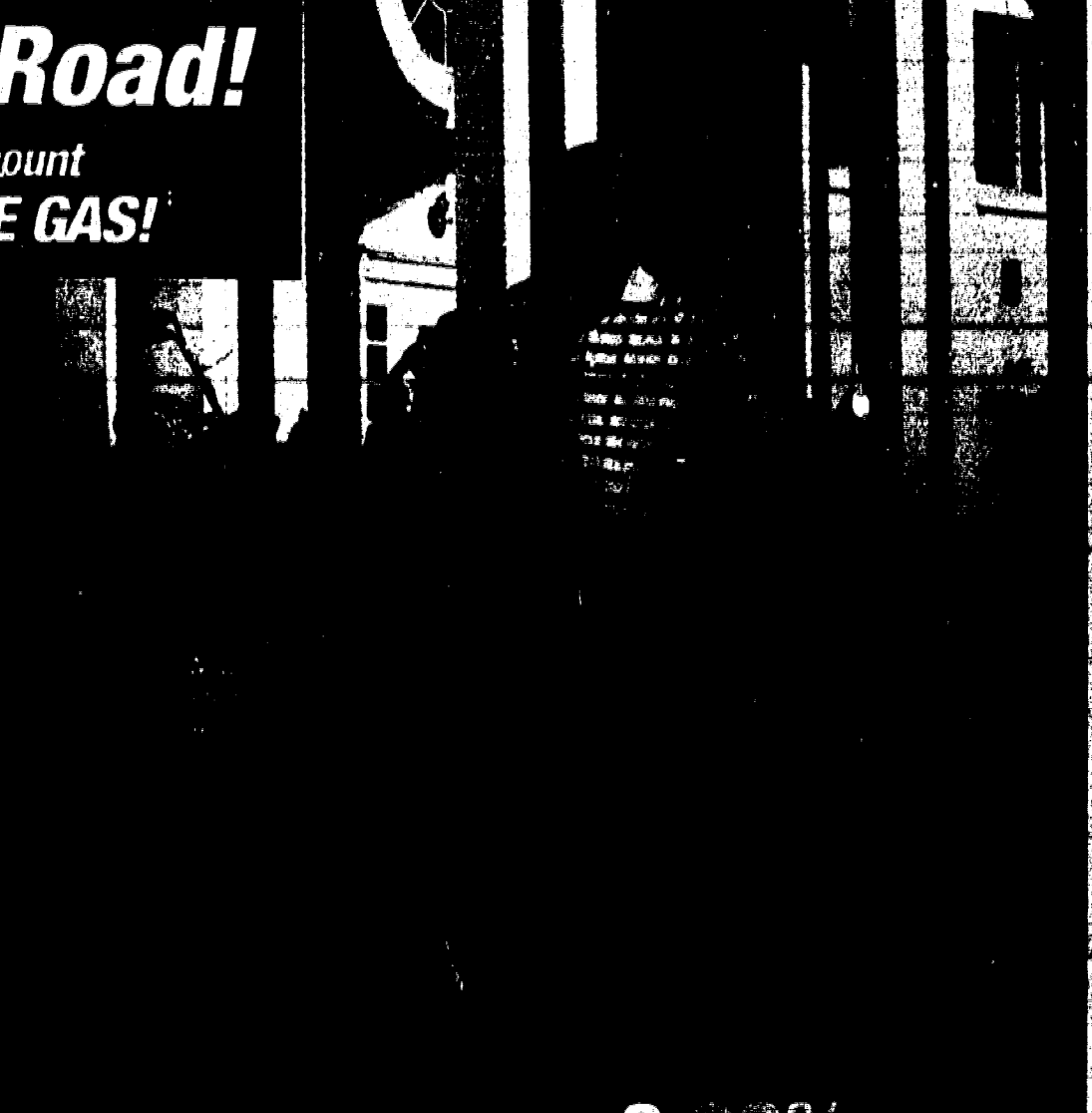
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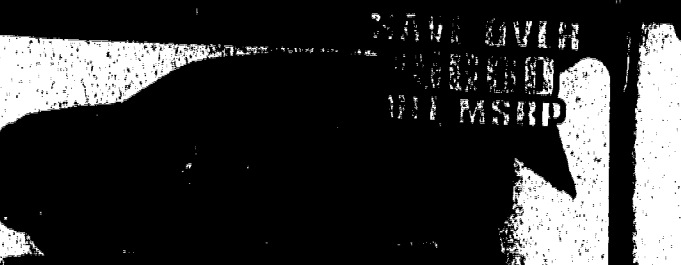


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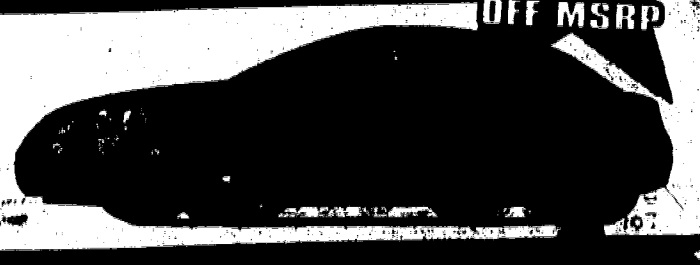


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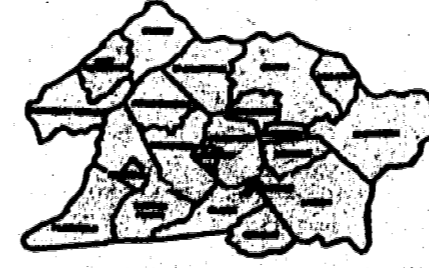


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Union County

- News
- Arts
- Entertainment
- Classified
- Real Estate
- Automotive

Motorcycle patrol

The use of motorcycle police on patrol in Linden by mid-June was predictable. Among the array of pictures of politicians, entertainers and family members in the office of Mayor John Gregorio is one of a before and after shot. On the top, circa 1948, is a thinner Gregorio with no grey hair. He is sitting on his motorcycle which he drove from then rural Staten Island to Linden. Beneath is a shot from 2002 from an exhibition show with a heavier, grayer Gregorio on a larger bike.

Left Out

The purchase of two new motorcycles was made possible with a gift of funds from Mary Bauer on behalf of her late husband Raymond who was a prominent banker in the county with close ties to Gregorio. Deputy Police Chief Sal Bivona explained that the city will join Elizabeth and the County Police by utilizing two Harley-Davidson motorcycles. He cites the safety factors include the ability of the cycles to get to accidents quickly, and traffic jams, lead funeral procession and even conduct radar patrol. The two cycles were bid out and are especially suited for police work including anti-lock brakes and the necessary radar equipment.

Gregorio has had a long time relationship with the Bauer family which is funding a number of projects. When I got my first mortgage, it was a Bauer at the then-Kenilworth State Bank who shook my hand and welcomed me as a county homeowner. Now the bank is owned by a corporation in South Carolina. Raymond Bauer park will be dedicated by city officials at the site of the old theatre on Wood Avenue across from the City Hall. The new location will include a theatre for 1,500 to have high school and community events. There will also be a passive park. "The city likes to tell the jobs about the motorcycle cop in Florida who pulled over a speeding Gregorio saying "I have been waiting for you." Gregorio said, "I got here as quickly as I could." Gregorio sees the primary benefit of the motorcycles as getting to access of an emergency more quickly. The cops will be on patrol from 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bivona calls it greater "visibility and flexibility." Gregorio's office can be designated as organized eater. He turns and says, "Hey guys, don't forget that picture." Bivona said I reply in union. "No, we wouldn't do that."

An attorney, Frank Capace is a resident of Cranford.

Prosecutor's use of wiretaps on the rise

By Mark Hrywa
Regional Editor

The use of wiretaps by the Union County Prosecutor's Office is on the rise and is likely to double for the second year in a row.

The Prosecutor's Office used 17 wiretaps in 2003 and 36 last year, and expects to be expected to surpass 70 this year. Union County is second in the state in the number of wiretaps used.

"The results have been incredible," Prosecutor Theodore Romankow said, in the amount of cocaine, heroine and marijuana seized.

"It's a clear indicator of the type of drug dealers working in Union County," he said, adding that wiretaps are "absolutely an invaluable tool."

Prosecutors cited the recent conviction of three brothers and an uncle in the Fitzgerald trial as evidence of the usefulness of wiretaps. In that case, jurors sat and listened to wiretaps. Executive Assistant Prosecutor Robert O'Leary said.

There's been "a significant narcotics take-down" since Romankow took office in July 2002, O'Leary said, with eight major cases, all involving wiretaps, since he took office. Most cases have involved drugs and drug dealing.

"It's a great way to gather exact information," O'Leary said. "It's a tremendous investigative tool."

Romankow stressed that his office uses wiretaps strictly for drugs and drug interdiction. Law enforcement agencies also use wiretaps in cases involving organized crime, gambling and gang activity.

"We have one of the most aggressive narcotics squads in the country. It's starting to show."

As a direct result of wiretap investigations since 2003, the Prosecutor's Office has executed 130 search warrants, made 176 arrests, and seized more than 30,000 grams of drugs with a street value of more than \$17 million, in addition to vehicles, weapons and cash.

The use of wiretaps in New Jersey and nationwide has increased in recent years, with some civil liberties attorneys citing the Patriot Act as a factor, according to several reports.

Nationally, the number of wiretaps has increased from 1,442 in 2004 to 1,710 last year. New Jersey's state prosecutors have increased the use of wire taps from 117 in 2003 to 144 in 2004, which cost \$8 million, according to a published report this week.

"The only ones who really complain are the drug dealers," Romankow said.

The Prosecutor's Office must submit to an impartial judge wiretap applications, he said, which include preliminary investigations and preparing affidavits with appropriate warrants. Prosecutors must show probable cause and that there is no other way to obtain the information, he said.

"Sometimes it's the only way to determine who had guys are, and that's getting more difficult with cell phones," Romankow said.

"It's a very complex procedure," Tim Leahour, an assistant prosecutor who is director of the Narcotic Strike Force, said. Any judge can issue a search warrant, but very few can authorize a wiretap. "There are very few because of the complexities involved."

"They're there to safeguard privacy concerns."

Not only must authorities show probable cause that an individual is involved in criminal activity, but also that the particular phone is being used in criminal activity, Leahour said. Authorities also must show that they've exhausted all other law enforcement techniques.

Though the number of wiretaps has increased in recent years, Leahour said the figure dwarfs the overall number of investigations by law enforcement.

There also are stringent guidelines on how prosecutors can use wiretaps, O'Leary said.

Though he did not have figures on how much wiretaps have cost the Prosecutor's Office, Romankow said, "It costs us money every time we hook up with the phone company."

A large portion of the money spent, he added, is recovered from the drug proceeds from the crime. Authorities confiscate all assets, such as money, cars and houses, which are then used to pay for equipment and cars.

Species identified at park

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

More than 100 different species of both plants and animals were identified in Union County's Lenape Park this past weekend.

The cataloging effort was part of the first ever "urban bio-blitz" in the state.

More than 100 scientists participated, volunteering their time to assist in the process.

"While a final tally of all the species has not yet been completed, there were a few discoveries of rare and endangered birds, Dennis Miranda of the Rahway River Association said. Among those species were the Red-shouldered Hawk and the Black-throated Green Warbler.

"The park is still a critical habitat for a number of species."

"The best part, for me, was to see the people from the many disciplines of nature come together," Freeholder Beth Joins Kwaleki said. "They went out of their way to participate."

The freeholder said she would probably find the event to be an even greater success after the final tallies are ready.

"The park is really, in some ways, a crossroads for natural species," she said. "I would suspect we have a lot more species of plants and insects than we had been previously aware of."

"They didn't even sign up," he said.

"It shows that people yearn for other recreational activities that bring them back to nature."

Miranda also noted that the in-person appearance of volunteers also means that the park serves the original vision of the park's designers, the Olmsted Brothers, designers of Lenape Park.

There are plans to conduct another bio-blitz type event, Kwaleki said. The event this past weekend will serve as the baseline comparison amounts for all cataloging to come.

Budget to be adopted

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is scheduled to adopt the 2005 county budget tonight at 7 p.m.

The \$390 million budget was introduced at the freeholders' April 28 meeting and a public hearing will take place during the next meeting.

For most of the county's residents, the budget means higher taxes.

This year's revenue from taxes make up 33 percent of the budget.

This is a two percent decrease from the 2004 budget, while the tax levy, or amount of revenue collected from property, will increase in almost all of the county's 21 municipalities.

The lowest average increase, 13, will go to Clark, and the greatest of 15.4 in Mountainside.

New Providence is the only town that will experience a decrease in the county portion of the tax bill, 2.2.

When the budget was introduced, Director of Finance Lawrence Caroselli said that property values on both residential and commercial sites were going up.

In terms of rates, Highway experienced the greatest percentage of increase, 24.33 percent of \$261.3 million. While the city of Elizabeth still leads the county with total tax of \$6.4 billion, in Elizabeth.

According to the county, the value of new construction in the county has increased since 1999.

Also, the county is hiring five new officers to help maintain community safety and order, and the Division of Police, within the Department of Public Safety, will receive eight new officers, half the amount needed.

The Prosecutor's Office requested 13 new staff members, eight of which will probably be permitted under the budget.

The Department of Parks also will hire six new laborer positions to help maintain the parks system, which has acquired more than 120 acres since 2001.

The funds for those six positions will come from the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, a dedicated tax of 1.5 cents per \$100 that was passed by voters in 2001.

The county also highlighted the institutions of new revenue sources which brought in \$335,000 in revenue.

The Vacation Time Purchase Program, which garnered \$235,000 engaged county employees to purchase additional vacation time.

Another \$100,000 was raised through an initiation of an inmate processing fee at the county jail at the rate of \$50 per inmate.

Festival highlighted plight of women around globe

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

Originally, they wanted to stage a production of the "Vagina Monologues."

However, over time, that idea gave way to the Olympia Film Festival.

A fine and open to the public event, now in its second year, the festival is entirely run by students at the Union County Magnet High School.

"It all started when Allison bought the book," Crystal Gonzalez, a 17-year-old senior said.

She said Allison Chung, also a 17-year-old senior, got the idea to hold an event that would raise money for women's rights and honor the memory of a friend who had died from a brain aneurysm. Chung's cousin, a senior at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in Scotch Plains Township.

Allison said that she first bought a copy of the "Vagina Monologues" while on a biology field trip to Provincetown, Mass., during her freshman year of high school.

Since then, she has subsequently misplaced and purchased two more copies of the book.

"There have been schools that have put on the play," Allison said.

However, just because the play was staged, does not mean it went off without a hitch.

In some instances, she said, audience members had been offended by some of the provocative material.

With some teacher assistance, and a group of friends, the girls were able to coordinate a number of events relating to an important issue.

And, according to the girls, they're more successful than they could have imagined.

"This is my baby," Chung said.

She herself got interested in women's issues because of her background.

"Growing up Asian and female has been really hard," she said, having to equate modern times with older patriarchal traditions.

"As a young girl, I played a lot of sports, and it was something my grandmother could not really understand," she said. "I could never tell them because the words were so different."

"I'm interested in women's issues, and women's issues," Chung said. "And since then, it's become a passion."

Gonzalez traced her interest in women's issues back to her mother's experience with an abusive relationship.

"I was in a position where I was being hit, and it was something that I was not used to," she said. "I was in a position where I was being hit, and it was something that I was not used to."

Chung also is trying to raise awareness of the issue of violence against women.

"A lot of us are trying to raise awareness of the issue of violence against women," she said.

"We're trying to break down the barrier and get more people interested in an important issue."

And, according to the girls, they're more successful than they could have imagined.

"This is my baby," Chung said.

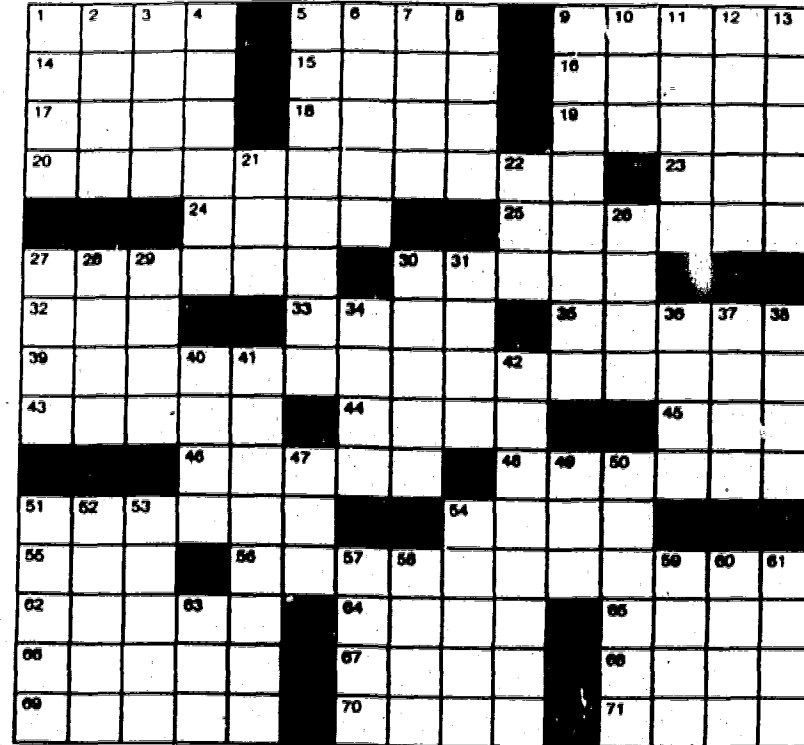
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"Growing up Asian and female has been really hard," she said, having to equate modern times with older patriarchal traditions.

ACROSS

- 1 Audacious
5 Overlook, perhaps
9 Resonance, on the streets?
14 Fencing gear
15 Raced
16 Greak muse
17 Roof overhang
18 Operatic highlight
19 Dating from birth
20 Go ape
23 IRS expert
24 'Das Rheingold' role
25 In the regions: underworld
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32 Lend a hand
33 Trepidation
35 Pinch or adjust
39 Rage
43 The Most Happy

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DOWN

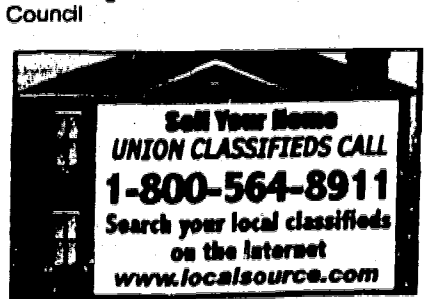
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8 Ring out
9 Feud
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12 Troops encampment
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22 Travel stop
23 Wilder's 'Our...'
27 Hook with a handle
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- 30 Lake by Reno
31 Smelter fodder
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36 Advantage
37 Mr. Greenspan
38 Beer holders
40 Norwegian king
41 Pian B
42 Helms and such
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52 Complete
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57 Keats offerings
58 Go limp
59 Ship's hull feature
60 Notable times
61 Proceeds
63 Storage container

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE B11

FAIR

SATURDAY & SUNDAY June 4th & 5th, 2005
EVENT: Harrison's Multicultural Celebration Street Fair
PLACE: Held along Harrison Avenue, Harrison, NJ
TIME: Saturday 10AM-10PM & Sunday 11AM-6PM



FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY May 29th, 2005
EVENT: Flea Market and Collectible Show
PLACE: New Jersey Transit Lot, New York Avenue, Lyndhurst, (off Ridge Road, by Shop Rite)

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non profit organizations. It is prepared and costs just \$25.00 (for 2 weeks) for Essex County or Union County and just \$30.00 for both Counties.

FLEA MARKET

FRIDAY & SATURDAY June 3rd & 4th, 2005
EVENT: Giant Rummage Sale
PLACE: Calvary Church- 31 Woodland Avenue, Summit, NJ
TIME: 9am-3pm
PRICE: Free Admission.



HOROSCOPES

May 30 to June 5 ARIES, March 21 to April 19: A communication project tops your list of priorities. Put yourself in a position to gather and distribute information as quickly and as effectively as possible.
TAURUS, April 20 to May 20: Make plans to expand your financial horizons. Embrace a money-making opportunity that will allow you to cash in on your talents.

19: Practice moderation. Stay away from offering proposals or making promises that will be difficult to keep.
AQUARIUS, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: Plan social activities that are daring and invigorating.
PISCES, Feb. 19 to March 20: Reach out and get reacquainted with family members or loved ones that are outside of your immediate circle.

GEMINI, May 21 to June 21: You should be feeling really good about who you are and where you are going. Let your confidence and optimism show in the way that you walk and talk.
CANCER, June 22 to July 22: Meditation provides the spark that lights the way to inner soul development. Take time to examine your feelings and beliefs.

LEO, July 23 to Aug. 22: Networking among your friends or associates has its benefits. Make a successful presentation of your ideas, products or services at a club or group meeting.
VIRGO, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Someone in authority has the power and influence to help you achieve your career goals.

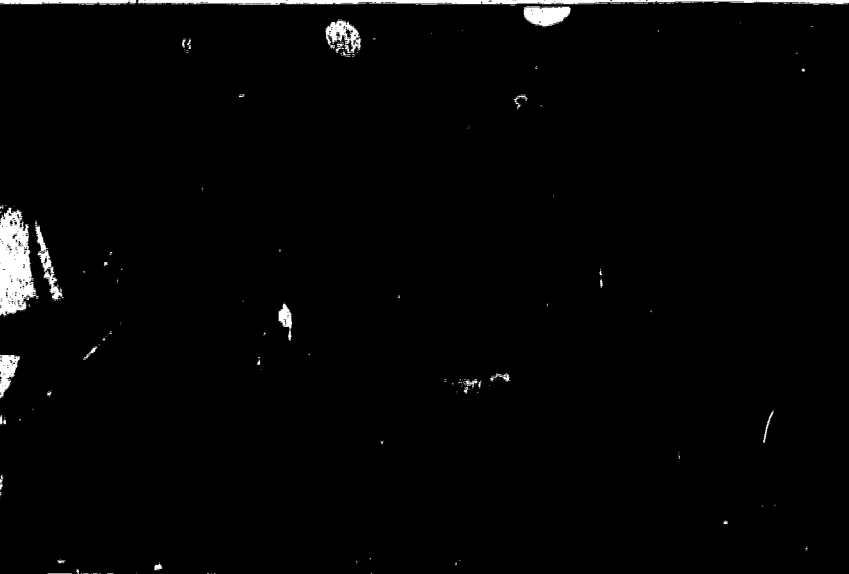
LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Find the courage and drive to break free from restrictions. Dare to dream the big dream and claim your right to be any-

thing that you want to be.
SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: It pays to check out the pros and cons of an investment deal before making a commitment.
SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: Merriment or entertainment takes on a whole new twist. Welcome an exciting and unusual individual who will crash your social scene with new ideas.
CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan.

Adulthood presents a fork in the road for local music group

By Jeff Cummins Associate Editor
Listening to "Nothing Like Reality," the recently released CD by the Maplewood-based band The Establishment, I sensed an almost familiar sound, the kind I heard on MTV.
To bring this home, of course, you have to realize that I'm 41, and I haven't watched MTV since the mid-'80s.
That's just the point. The Establishment has a throwback sound, something that will remind late-thirtysomethings and early-fortysomethings of their younger days, when "Family Ties" and "The Cosby Show" dominated television, and former President Ronald Reagan was still touting his economic plan.

'90s band. There are some one-hit wonders, a lot of life changes."
Murphy noted the band has played together for roughly eight years now, mostly with the same people.
"Three of the four of us graduated from Columbia High School," said Murphree, who cited numerous local connections for the band, which played its first gig at the Village Coffee Company in Maplewood, and continues to play frequently at Here's 2 The Arts on Baker Street in Maplewood Village. In addition, the group has also played some bigger name venues, including The Stone Pony in Asbury Park and the TriBeCa Rock Club in New York City. The venues they've played offer a testament to the fact that this isn't the average garage band: Though the group started as a bunch of friends playing music together, they've clearly developed a cohesiveness that comes with experience, the kind of experience you get when you've worked with the same people for eight years.



From left, guitarists Michael Tobin, Alex Barron and Shawn Murphy, and drummer Chris Murphree of The Establishment, which recently released the CD 'Nothing Like Reality.'

And frankly, that's a good thing. No, I'm not venturing into the political arena; I've always fancied myself rather apolitical, at least in terms of the arts and entertainment scene. I'm referring to the light, poppy, enjoyable music of the '80s, an era which now seems almost like the mild '50s seemed to an earlier generation.
What serves as the group's inspiration? "Depends on the day, I guess," said Murphy, who noted that the band's music has been compared to REM. "A lot of our influences go from Springsteen to The Police, as well as REM and Coldplay. When we started, we were very into Nirvana and Pearl Jam, and now like Toad the Wet Sprocket, a mid-

Campus. Ruskin-White describes her works as abstracts, using a combination of objects, painterly gestures with line. She works on five or more paintings at a time, which allows her to create a wonderful dialogue between the pieces. The paintings all seem to come together at the same time. The paintings are worked on in layers, allowing them to manifest a sense of depth.
This allows the viewer to establish their own dialogue with each painting; there is no correct interpretation of what is seen. The paintings in this exhibition

with encouragement from her teachers, at Pratt Institute in New York City, receiving a BFA in drawing. Following graduation, she lived in Mexico for a while, working in a lithography studio. Ruskin-White has exhibited in New York City, California, Mexico, Chicago, Arizona, Florida, and Germany.
Attended gallery hours are from 1 to 4 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and on Saturdays. Evening hours are from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays through Thursdays. For more information call 908-709-7155.

Here's My Card

Advertisement for 'Here's My Card' featuring various business cards for services like 'MOUNTAINSIDE DELI', 'Vicki's Beauty Salon', 'Beyond Dance', 'MERCURY INSURANCE GROUP', 'CAMPUS SUB SHOP II', 'Kenilworth Inn', etc.

REUNIONS

The following schools will conduct reunions in the coming months:
• 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.

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ARTS CLIPS

Band comes to Watchung

Dave's True Story's smart, sexy sound blows a cool breeze through the world in which we live with its fourth release, "Nature." The band will perform at the Watchung Arts Center, 18 Sterling Road in Watchung, on June 4 at 8 p.m. For information, call 908-668-8092.

Like all great art, Dave's True Story stands outside of its era with a sensibility that encompasses the past, lives in the present, and hints at the future. The New York City group utilizes a stylish, elegant jazz pop sound

that contrasts the thorny thickets of songwriter guitarist Dave Cantor's deliciously devilish lyrics. The group's resident siren, Kelly Flint, was former playwright Cantor's crafty, acerbic mistress as if they were tender messages of love, but songs about psychic readings, beatnik posters, and prescription medication are seldom the stuff of late-night saloon songs.

Over the course of three albums, enough people have noticed Dave's True Story for the band to sell more than 50,000 records without the benefit of a major label or big press machine. Instead they've been win-

ning hearts and minds in a more subversive, covert manner, flying under the big boys' radar even as they've been lauded everywhere from The New York Times to CNN and had their songs included in the feature film "Kissing Jessica Stein."

In a world primed for sophisticated, jazzy pop by the likes of Norah Jones and Diana Krall, Dave's True Story injects the crucial element of sharply observed irony with mordant, masterfully crafted tunes. Whether the bossa nova beat or a love-lorn protagonist searches for missing mojo against bongo-driven Beat-era jazz grooves,


Dave's True Story audiences clearly hear the sounds of a different drummer.

Kean will present a new professional equity theatre program

Kean University announces Premier Stages, a new professional Actor's Equity Association theater program. Actively engaging and enhancing the professional theater academic programs at Kean, Premier Stages will also serve a culturally diverse audience, children-at-risk, and a broad pool of artists.

Premiere Stages features four uniquely conceived projects that will nurture and encourage the work of students, introduce children to the arts, attract high-profile artists to the institution and provide a forum for the development of new plays. The Premiere Stages Play Festival will present the work of emerging dramatists living in the greater metropolitan area through readings, workshops, and fully-produced world-premiere productions. For more information on Premiere Stages at Kean, Premier Stages will also serve a culturally diverse audience, children-at-risk, and a broad pool of artists.

MEMORIAL Days 2005

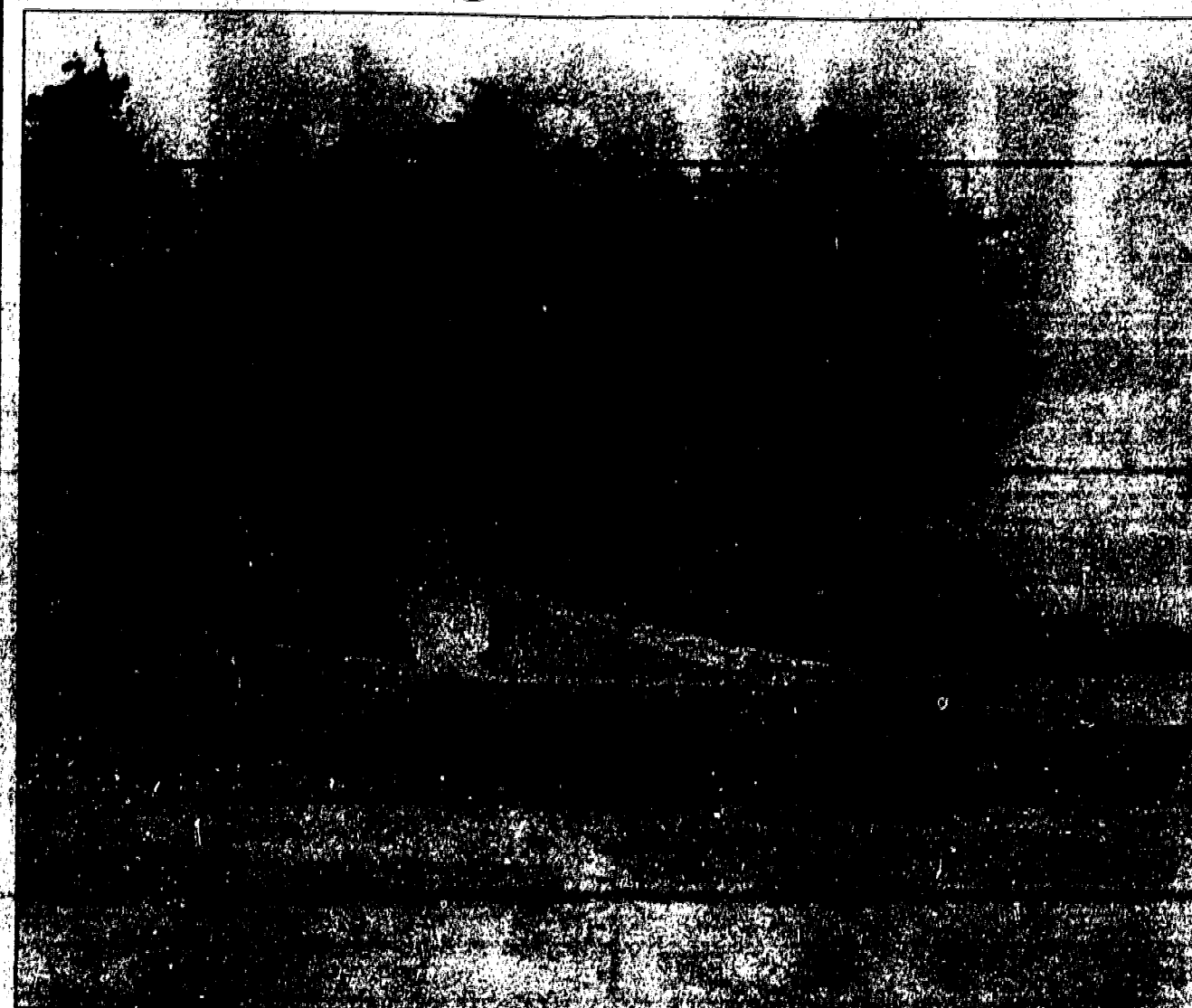


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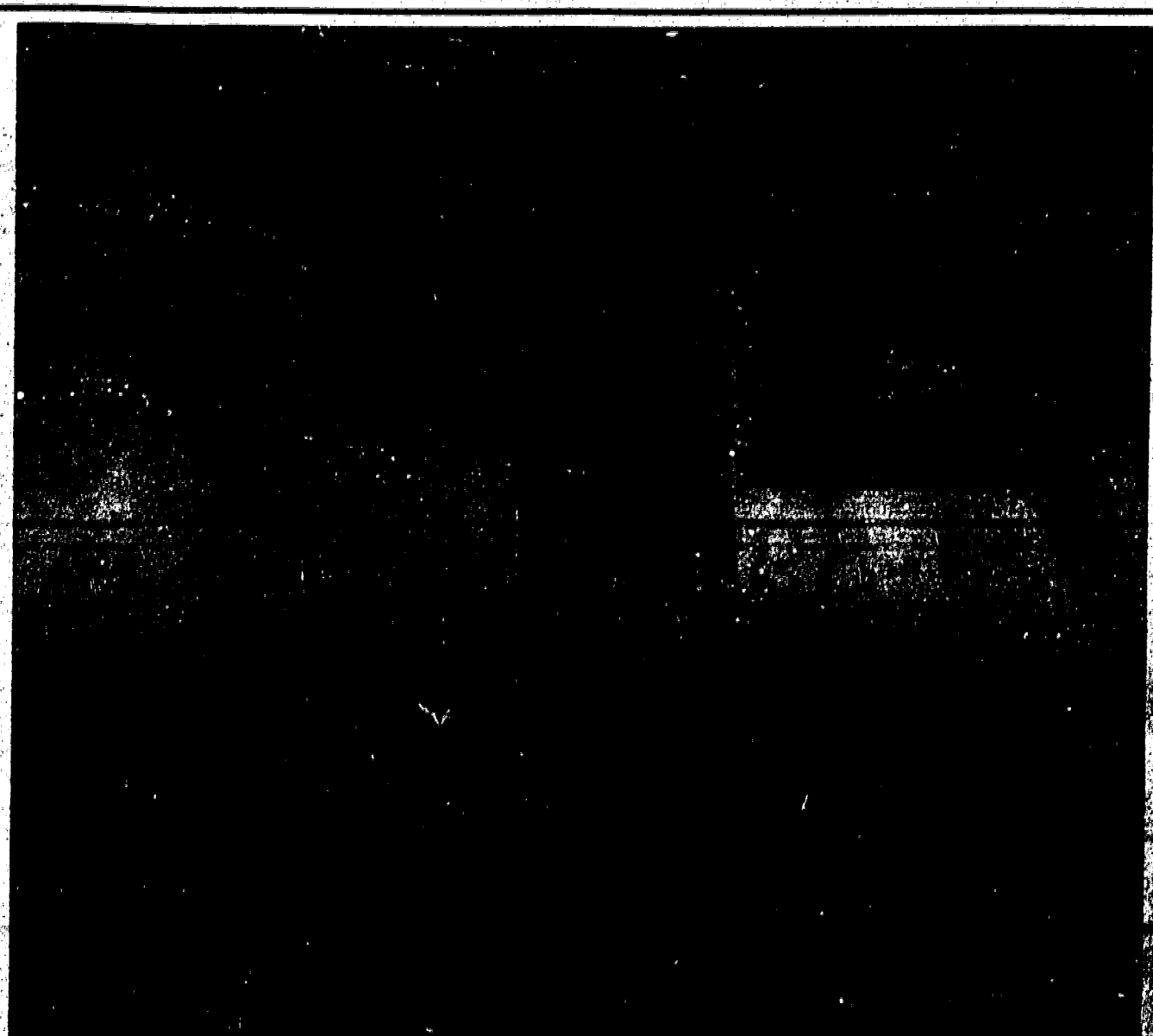
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Community page is published monthly celebrating holidays, special events and awareness. If you would like to participate or for more information, Call 800-564-8911 and ask for a classified representative

Scenes of the great outdoors



"Cove," "Peggy's Cove," and "Peggy's Cove," above right, are two of the paintings by Frederic Thompson, which will be part of an exhibition of the painter's work at Swain Galleries, 703



Watchung Ave., Plainfield, from June 4 through 30. For more information on the exhibition, call 908-756-1707.

Healthy Living

Saint Barnabas plans events for National Cancer Survivors Day

Individuals whose lives have been touched by cancer are invited to attend Saint Barnabas Medical Center's 12th annual Celebration of Life on June 5 in honor of National Cancer Survivors Day. The special event, held from noon to 4 p.m., celebrates the courage of cancer survivors, the fortitude of their health caregivers, and the support of their loved ones. The featured speaker is cancer survivor, author and news broadcast-

Diabetic neuropathies require special care

This week's Diabetic Neuropathy (DN) DPM, covering a number of topics regarding diabetes and neuropathy. Q: I am a 60-year-old diabetic and have been experiencing numbness and tingling in my feet for several years. What can I do for my DN? A: At the Wound Care Center at Overlook Hospital, we take a multidisciplinary approach to healing wounds that often are associated with diabetes and returning the patient to a normal, active lifestyle. When a patient comes to the wound center, the foot is evaluated by one of our podiatrists who determines the best plan of care that will lead to total healing of the wound. This may include the use of a cast or boot to immobilize the foot and reduce swelling, or the use of a debridement to remove dead tissue. In some cases, a surgical procedure may be needed to debride the wound and provide blood flow to the wound. If a bony prominence is the cause of an ulcer or wound, on a weight-bearing area, the podiatrist might need to remove the problem surgically to allow the wound to heal. It is sometimes necessary for a plastic surgeon to remove a bony prominence, giving the patient's wound the best chance for resolution. All of the surgical procedures only can be conducted if the patient's diabetes is under control and if the patient is otherwise medically stable. Another frequent scenario is for a patient at the wound center to recount to us a story of a family member or friend who lost a limb that began with a sore on his or her foot. The physicians are all aware of the potential for this to occur, but we pride ourselves in working in an environment that results in an excellent healing environment. A serious side effect of diabetes is diabetic neuropathy, the loss of sensation involving the sensory nerves of the feet. This is critical, since the individual then loses the ability to detect pain or irritations that could complicate prevention is a key to avoiding the

Negrin is recipient of annual Robert R. Shomer Award

The American Veterinary Medical Association has named Dr. Robert R. Shomer, DVM, as the recipient of the annual Robert R. Shomer Award. Dr. Negrin, who received her Bachelor of Science degree from Rutgers University, College and Veterinary School of Veterinary Medicine, DVM, from Cornell University, is the owner of TLC Pet Doctor in Union, N.J. She holds a license in practice veter-

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AUTOMOTIVE

Electronic sensors detect lane swerving

By Mark Maynard
Copley News Service

The next time you are tooling along the freeway and glance down to answer a cell phone or dig through the console for a CD, consider this bit of information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

More than 43 percent of all fatal accidents reported in 2001 involved a vehicle drifting out of its lane or off the road.

That so-called "unintended lane departure" is the single-largest cause of automotive highway fatalities in the United States, the administration reports.

Even the most conscientious of us hands-on-the-wheel drivers can admit to unintentionally edging across the white line. Keeping up with the flow of heavy traffic requires due diligence, and even then another set of eyes would help.

That extra set of eyes will be possible soon, says Francis Memole, vice president of Iteris, which is about two years from launching its AutoVue Lane Departure Warning System.

The simple, electronic eye-type monitoring system will be offered as an option by an as-yet unannounced automaker, Memole says.

The system already is used in Europe by trucking and bus companies, and the demand is increasing, he says.

The electronic watchdog is a small, integrated unit that packages a camera, onboard computer and software. The compact design can be attached to the windshield behind the rearview mirror, dashboard or in the rear of an overhead console.

On the road, the AutoVue camera tracks visible lane markings, white or yellow striping, and feeds the information to the computer. The software then combines the picture data with vehicle speed and steering inputs.

Using image-recognition software, the computer can predict when a vehicle begins to drift toward an unintended lane change.

An electronic buzz imitating the sound of tires on a rumble strip alerts

when a lane has been crossed without using a turn signal.

Two small speakers are mounted at the base of the front-seat backs. Drifting across the left-lane markings triggers the left speaker, and moving right sets off the passenger-side alert.

At night, the camera works from headlights, aimed 12 to 30 feet in front of the car. The company also is working to develop a seat vibrator alert, which would be especially useful for hearing-impaired drivers.

An unintended side benefit of AutoVue is that it encourages drivers to use the turn signals. If not, the system fires off an alert.

The system is simple and inexpensive to produce. The camera is of the type used in a child's toy, and the computer processor is of that used in a PDA. Using these types of available components will also keep the price down. What could be promoted as high technology and priced at \$2,000 will more likely be offered for around \$500, Memole says.

"Technology itself won't sell. It has to be affordable," he says.

While a recent road test of the device proved fully functional, the parameters for alerts are up to the safety standards of the manufacturer, and those can take time to establish, he says.

"Large SUVs, such as Suburbans, are wide and more sensitive to crossing lanes," Memole says, "so the manufacturer may choose to set the alert to sound a couple of inches from the white line to allow plenty of time to correct. Smaller cars could be programmed for the outside of the line."

Driving home from the interview in a vehicle without AutoVue, I noted the absence of the prompts and felt somewhat exposed to potential danger. Unlike air bags that are painful reminders of their safety insurance, AutoVue could be an ounce of prevention that might someday be standard on all passenger vehicles.

Send questions and comments to autovue@iteris.com. For more information, go to www.iteris.com.

Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.

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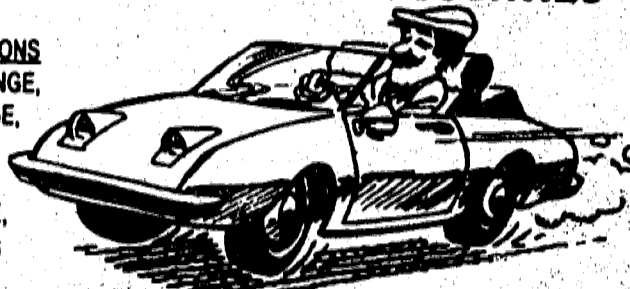
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