

FREE IN THIS WEEK'S PAPER

A full-color, glossy pocket-size guide to Countywide

4 JULY

# Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountaine

02206-1353

## Township prepares for 'battle'

By Meavn Sheehan  
Staff Writer

This month marks the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Springfield. To commemorate the battle, the town will kick off a two-day celebration this weekend, featuring two battle re-enactments, rides and games for children, a parade and a fireworks display.

The Battle of Springfield is often overlooked in the history of the Revolutionary War. The battle was fought June 23, 1780, during a critical point in the war. It marked the last time that the British fought on New Jersey soil. The Continental Army, battling against British forces much larger than them and won.

The Historic Cannonball House on Morris Avenue is one of the buildings that survived the burning and looting of the town by British forces. The building currently houses the Historical Society, which has been heavily involved in the planning of the battle celebration.

Margaret Bandrowski, president of the Historical Society, looks forward to the celebration.

"We're very excited. The children in the schools are very excited," Bandrowski said.

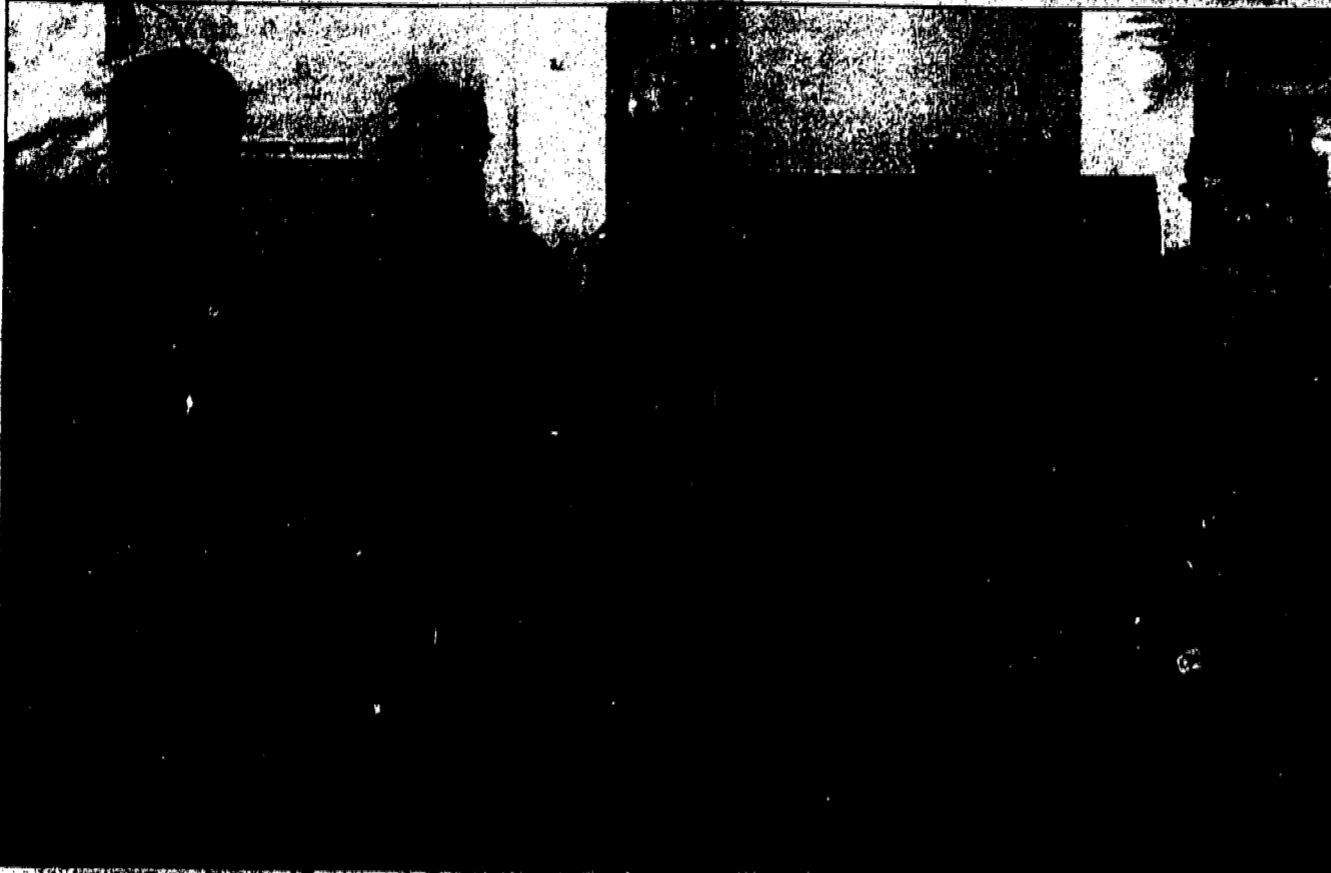
The weekend schedule will be packed with events, including a display of the original oil painting of the battle.

On Saturday, there will be a historic dinner at the First Presbyterian Church. The dinner will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At 11 a.m., the 100-year-old battle monument will be dedicated at the Church Hill site.

The dinner will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In honor of the anniversary, the



Displaying the original oil painting of the Battle of Springfield, 'Give 'Em Waboy Boys,' are, from left, 225th Anniversary Parade Chairman John Cottage; Grand Marshall Newt Meeker holding the Meeker Cup; Thomas Fleming, noted historian and author of 'The Forgotten Victory,' the story of the Battle of Springfield; and Springfield Library Director Susan Permahos. Meeker is a descendant of 14 Meekers who fought in the Battle of Springfield.

annual fireworks display will happen on Saturday instead of July 4 weekend. The gates will open later than usual, at 7 p.m., on the Sandmeier School grounds. The fireworks will start at 9:30 p.m.

The parade date is set for the next clear night.

On Sunday, there will be a historic dinner at the First Presbyterian Church.

On Sunday, the parade will start at 11:30 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.

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that the committee is putting out a commemorative journal with recent and historic photographs of Springfield.

Seidel expects that thousands of people will take part in the celebration.

Most of the events are free, with the exception of a small charge for the parade.

Longtime Springfield resident Mark Hurwitz, a member of the Third NJ Regiment, known as the "Jersey Blues," said the battle re-enactment is a rare opportunity to see the battle.

The "Jersey Blues" will be hosting the national Brigade of the American Revolution.

Re-enactors from the South, Midwest and Canada are planning to participate.

Hurwitz, a vice president of sales for a publishing company in Upper Saddle River, has been a re-enactor for 30 years.

He said he is excited to participate in the battle re-enactment.

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## School board hires new administrator

By Joan M. Devlin  
Staff Writer

Roderic McLaughlin will become the new business administrator/board secretary, for the Mountaine Board of Education as of July 1. His salary will be \$110,000, and the contract will run from July 1 through June 30, 2005.

The announcement was made and voted on at the school board meeting on June 30.

Chief School Administrator Richard O'Malley talked about the new appointment with enthusiasm. "Rod comes to us with great experience; he is currently serving as interim business administrator for Union County, where he reviews school districts and their budgets," said O'Malley.

O'Malley said there had been a search committee consisting of himself, Board President John Perrin, and board members Ray Haggar, finance chairman, and Scot Worswick, personnel chairman.

"The four of us looked at a total of 18 candidates. It was narrowed down to four and they were asked to come in for interviews with the entire board," said O'Malley. "Then we chose the one candidate; his experience is tremendous and I believe we are very fortunate to have someone of this caliber in Mountaine, with his enthusiasm and abilities."

There were two "no" votes during the voting process; one from Carmine Venes, who said although McLaughlin was obviously qualified, felt the salary was excessive for a 700-student school district. The other "no" was from board member Pat Knodel.

Since McLaughlin was finishing a project for the position he is leaving with Union County, he was not available for comment by press time.

McLaughlin will replace Business Administrator Paul Vizzuso, who has served a three-year term with the board.

## Dayton HSPA scores rise in math, English

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

Scores on the High School Proficiency Assessment administered this year in English and math rose significantly in Dayton-HSPA schools in 2004.

The scores on the assessment, which is given to students in the 21st century, are the highest since 1990.

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## Providing an example of top-notch teaching

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

James Caldwell School in Springfield is always a place where you can find a top-notch teacher.

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said, adding that it's a tribute to the district that it "doesn't matter how long you've been teaching, you will be recognized."

"I love working in Springfield," Orr said, particularly because of the amount of support from the community. The school board recognizes me during its meetings, and you can see the time to write thank-you notes, she added.

Caldwell Principal Ken Berthel said Orr has a wonderful reputation in the community.

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Jessica Orr, a fourth-grade teacher at James Caldwell School in Springfield, was named Teacher of the Year by the Board of Education.

It's a simple or routine process. Nominating forms are distributed to teachers, parents and students. After nominations are announced a teacher then must choose to accept the nomination, for it's not a simple, "I'll take

it." The application process includes 15 typed pages, delving into a teacher's philosophy on education and why he or she became a teacher, among a number of items, Corburn said.

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## Borough officials mull method of billing to cover library services

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

In response to state mandates that have left Mountaine Public Library with a windfall of tax dollars the last two years, the borough has begun billing the facility for services provided. Now, borough officials are trying to determine a reasonable billing method to cover not just employee wages but also materials, equipment and such.

The public library has seen its budget rise roughly \$67,000 and \$40,000 over the past two years, for no other reason than the state mandating it, under a formula that ties the budget to a town's assessed property values.

Mayor Robert Vignanti said even state leg-

islators representing Mountaine agree the law, first written in 1945 and revised again in 1970, was improperly done both times and has many flaws.

Borough staff had been billing just an employee's hourly wage for work done, the mayor said. He believes the borough shouldn't be charging only \$15 to \$18 an hour, but a figure more likely to be found in the private sector, possibly \$40 per hour. A simple, flat formula would avoid bookkeeping headaches but cover gas, mileage, time, materials and anything else, he said.

Most of the services provided at the library are odd jobs performed by the Department of Public Works. For instance, at the library's

yard sale earlier this month, DPW employees helped move tables from the community room and distribute flyers on cars in the parking lot alerting drivers to "no parking" in the lot the day of the sale. The library has its own landscaping contract.

"We've not given any proper instruction," the mayor said at last week's council work session. "The next time we do it, we should have some guidelines."

"We have had some guidelines, and the library manager, Miriam Bein, is the chairman of the library's Board of Trustees, suggested the borough only look to break even, not make money. "It's still coming from taxpayers," he said.

Mortimer said that when he first joined the library board, there was concern about limited funds to continue services, but that's no longer the problem. The library board is looking at using its surplus for a new HVAC system. He estimated it might take two years' worth of surplus to cover the cost.

At the present time, the borough would provide services without charging the library.

Now that it's receiving another \$100,000 in borough taxes because of state mandates, he

wants to avoid building up a surplus at the library.

Library Director Miriam Bein said the library's HVAC system is in need of updating and is the main reason why the library closes on Saturdays during July and August. The library is closed on Sundays all year.

She said addressing the faulty HVAC system is a high priority for the library board.

While the mandated increases over the past several years have been significant, Bein said this is not something that will continue for years to come. According to Bein, the library's total budget was \$529,205 in 2005 and in 2004 it was \$462,311, representing an increase of roughly \$67,000.

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e-mail: The Echo Leader accepts/accepts news releases and opinion pieces by e-mail. Our e-mail address is Editor@theecholeader.com

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To place a classified ad: The Echo Leader has a large, well read classified advertising section. Advertisements must be in our office by Tuesday at 3 p.m. for publication that week.

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Website: Visit our Web Site on the internet at http://www.echoleader.com. Find all the latest news, classified, community information, real estate, and hometown chat.

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Police make drug arrests

Springfield

On June 11 at 8 p.m. on the Morris Turnpike, police arrested Shanan Gibbons, 19, of Springfield, for possession of marijuana, less than 50 grams, possession of alcohol while underage and receiving stolen property.

POLICE BLOTTER

On June 11 at 4:24 p.m., police said a 2001 GMC Yukon Denali was stolen from Springfield Acura on Route 22 east. The vehicle's estimated value was \$27,500.

On June 15 at 9:46 p.m., police stopped a vehicle for an equipment violation on Route 22 east. Police said the driver was unlicensed. Police

allowed the vehicle to be driven by a passenger.

On Friday at 8:25 p.m., police said a homeowner on Milltown Road discovered her back door window had been broken. The door was found locked.

On Friday at 7:45 p.m. of an unknown vehicle that had pulled down wires attached to a house and pole on Hillside Avenue. Police found damage to the eaves and siding of the house.

On Friday at 6:33 p.m., police responded to a report of a fire at Print Tech on Route 22 west. One of the employees extinguished the fire by pouring a bucket of water on the fence.

On June 16 at 4:53 p.m., fire-fighters responded to an activated fire alarm at a residence on Partridge Run. The alarm was activated by dust stirred up by the on-site remodeling contractor.

CO detector activates alarm

Springfield

On Tuesday at 3:35 a.m., a carbon monoxide detector was activated at a Short Hills Avenue residence and fire-fighters arrived at the scene.

On Monday at 3:56 a.m., fire-fighters responded to an activated fire alarm at the Elk's Club located on Route 22 east.

On Sunday at 2:15 a.m., fire-fighters responded to an activated fire alarm at the Elk's Club located on Route 22 east.

On Saturday at 12:52 p.m., the fire department responded to a business on Route 22 for an alarm problem.

On Saturday at 11:50 p.m., fire-fighters responded to an activated fire alarm at Town Hall.

On Saturday at 10:09 p.m., fire-fighters responded to an activated fire alarm at Town Hall.

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Hospital warns residents about fraud

Recently, many residents have been approached by a college-aged male in the Westfield region claiming he is selling books and making donations to Children's Specialized Hospital, according to officials at the hospital.

The hospital does not in fact have any involvement with these sales and would like to alert other residents for possible future encounters.

Springfield Police step up pedestrian safety efforts

Over the past few years, the Springfield Police Department has seen an increase in pedestrian accidents and fatalities.

In an effort to improve pedestrian safety, the Police Department will continue its Pedestrian Information and Enforcement Program this year.

The Police Department, as well as AAA advise pedestrians to: 1.) Cross at crosswalks, keep to the right in the crosswalk, 2.) Before crossing look all ways, 3.) At signalized crosswalks, cross only on the proper signal.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Friday: The graduating Class of 2005 at Jonathan Dayton High School will begin their commencement exercises near the tennis courts at the high school, located at 138 Mountain Ave. in Springfield at 7 p.m.

Saturday: The following is a schedule of events for the 225th anniversary of the Battle Of Springfield.

Sunday: The following is a schedule of events for the 225th anniversary of the Battle Of Springfield.

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

Tuesday: The Springfield Township Committee will convene a regular meeting in the Committee Room of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave., at 8 p.m.

Wednesday: The Springfield Planning Board will meet in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave., at 8 p.m.

Thursday: A dedication ceremony for Mountaineer's new community clock will take place at the corner of Valley National Bank, 882 Mountain Ave., at 1 p.m.

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Date changes for clock ceremony

By Mark Hrynya Regional Editor

A dedication ceremony for Mountaineer's new community clock will be July 9 at 1 p.m.

The ceremony originally had been scheduled for the afternoon of July 2.

"I never realized how many people go away" for the 4th of July weekend, Mayor Robert Vigilanti said.

The clock cost slightly less than \$40,000 and Vigilanti said slightly more than \$40,000 was raised from about 70 residents, businesses and friends.

The money was donated to the Myelin Project, a non-profit organization that funds independent studies on nervous system disorders.

At 11 a.m., a centennial re-dedication of the battle monument will take place at First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Morris Avenue and Church Hill. From 3 to 4 p.m. will be a battle re-enactment. Camp closes at 4:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m., gates open at the Sandmeier School for fireworks, with live music and food available for sale. At 9:30 p.m., fireworks will start, with a rain date set for next clear night.

At 11 a.m., camp opens at Jonathan Dayton High School, including demonstrations and displays of life in the 18th century.

At 1:30 p.m., a parade will kick off, starting at Echo Plaza on Mountain Avenue and ending at Jonathan Dayton High School.

At 4:30 p.m., all activities will close. Additional sponsors are needed. For information, call 973-912-2200, 973-912-2300 or send a message by e-mail to www.springfieldbattle.com.

At 10 a.m., camp opens at Jonathan Dayton High School, including demonstrations and displays of life in the 18th century.

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Honoring the country's flag



Springfield-Hillside Elks exalted ruler Joel Martin begins the Flag Day service with a flag charge, while retired Lt. JG Stan Wneek and John Del Russo of the U.S. Army look on. The Flag Day ceremony is performed by the Elks annually to honor the country's flag.

Summer concerts return to Echo Lake

Rock-n-roll entertainment returns this summer at the 2005 Union County Summer Arts Festival. The free concerts are conducted on Wednesday evenings in Echo Lake Park at 7:30 p.m.

- July 6 — Midnight Dip, jazz/funk/blues
July 13 — Verdict
July 20 — Total Soul
July 27 — Mustang Sally
Aug. 3 — Philadelphia Funk Authority, funk/jazz/pop

- Aug. 10 — The Nerds, rock and roll
Aug. 17 — The Fabulous Greaseband
Aug. 24 — Ed Palermo Big Band with Rob Paparozzi
Aug. 31 — The Party Dolls
The rain site will be Cranford High School. Call the Parks & Recreation hotline at 908-352-8410 after 3 p.m. on the day of the concert.

Recreation sponsors Summer Playground Program

The Springfield Recreation Department will sponsor their Summer Playground Program 2005 at the Chisholm Community Center from Monday to Aug. 19. It will be closed on July 4.

The registration fee is \$100 for the entire eight-week program and includes a camp T-shirt.

Activities include games, arts and crafts, field trips, athletics, special events and morning trips to the Springfield Pool, color wars, parties, sports tournaments and more.

This supervised outdoor playground operates at the Chisholm Community Center in the playground area. The program runs for eight weeks and is available for boys and girls in Springfield ages 5 to 13.

Children are to be dropped off no earlier than 8:30 a.m.; the staff will not be responsible until this time. Pickup time begins at 12:15 p.m. and every child must be picked up by 12:30 p.m. Counselors will sign your child in to camp. A parent or guardian must sign their child out.

Earlier this month, the Myelin Project at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield participated in several activities to raise funds for medical research. The young volunteers include, from left, executive board members Adam Hirst, Lam Ngyun, Maria Inneo and Brandon Stem-Charles.

Advertisement for Newark Academy sports events including Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Boys and Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Fencing, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, and Field Hockey.

Advertisement for Sunrise Senior Living, titled 'Redefining Senior HOME', featuring a table of mortgage rates and contact information for various locations.

Advertisement for The University Hospital, featuring a testimonial about stroke recovery and contact information for the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey.

Advertisement for Jiffy Lube celebrating the 225th Anniversary of Springfield, offering signature service for \$17.99.

Advertisement for F.F. Service Co., providing commercial and residential services like sealcoating, painting, and repairs.

Advertisement for Kearny Federal Savings, offering mortgage services and a table of interest rates for various loan terms.



# COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

## Use enforcement

Much like the speeding incidents that had plagued Evergreen Avenue in Springfield last year, a different street in the township has now become the new target for speeders.

At the last Township Committee meeting, a resident came to speak before committee members about the dangerous transition Smith Field Drive has taken as a result of the increased number of speeding drivers. Citing an increasing number of accidents, the resident was concerned about the safety of those who walk and cross that street, particularly since many young families live on the street. Distributing a petition signed by 98 percent of the people on the street, the resident pointed out the need for something to be resolved quickly. One of the solutions he said residents on the street supported was the placement of speed bumps.

While speed bumps and rumble strips are often touted as a way to prevent speeding, they do not belong on a residential street. Rumble strips are loud and noisy and speed bumps pose car insurance problems for drivers due to the damage they can cause to vehicles. Speed bumps are a nuisance to drivers who obey the speed limit, and the only place they belong is in a parking lot.

Speed monitors can be visually effective but rarely cause drivers to slow down if no police vehicle is present. In fact, the only thing that will make people slow down is greater police enforcement of the speed limit by having increased police presence on the street.

Naturally, a police officer cannot be stationed in one spot at all times, but having an officer there, even for a few hours a day, will make a difference, particularly if the officer's hours of observation are sporadic.

This has worked in Mountaineer, when more police were present during the opening of Beechwood School, when Woodcreeks Drive suddenly became a traffic-heavy road during the parent drop-off/pick-up period.

As Township Committee members mentioned at their last public meeting, a renewed study of the traffic on the street by the township engineer and collaborative input from residents will allow the Township Committee to resolve the issues in much the same way they did with the Evergreen Avenue speeding issues.

An important component of this solution is to provide greater police enforcement on the street.

## The future awaits

As summer begins, children across the United States are putting away their notebooks, cleaning their lockers and saying farewell to their schools until September. While this ritual doesn't mean as much to the children of today as it once did, first grade, students in upper grades revel in this annual exercise. It offers both a sense of closure to one year of their life, mixed with anticipation for the carefree days in the coming months.

For seniors in high school, this year offers a different kind of closure altogether. All the papers they had to write, all the notes they had to pore through or tests they had to take were for this one moment: graduation. If the conclusion of each school year signifies the end of a small segment of their lives, then graduation is something far greater. Thirteen years of schooling — plus any preschool time — are now being put behind them.

But for what? For some high school graduates, school really isn't ending at all, just moving to the next phase: college. Some students will commute while others will live on campus, but this entry into a larger world is full of a myriad of possibilities. No longer will they be the big fish in the small pool. Now, their "pool" is that much larger and, after college, seemingly endless.

For other high school graduates, plans for college are in the future, if at all. They might get a job, go to night school or even join the military. The only question is what they wish to attempt.

And that's what graduation is all about. Each graduate is like a minor league ball player being signed to a big league team. Will they be a reserve player? How about a pinch hitter? Maybe they'll be a starter, or even a star. But it's up to them to make the effort; it's up to them to decide who and what they want from life.

These high school students are our future. Whether they are our children, our relatives, friends or neighbors, they will be working to help define their future, and ours as well. We wish them a happy graduation and great success in whatever they attempt to accomplish.

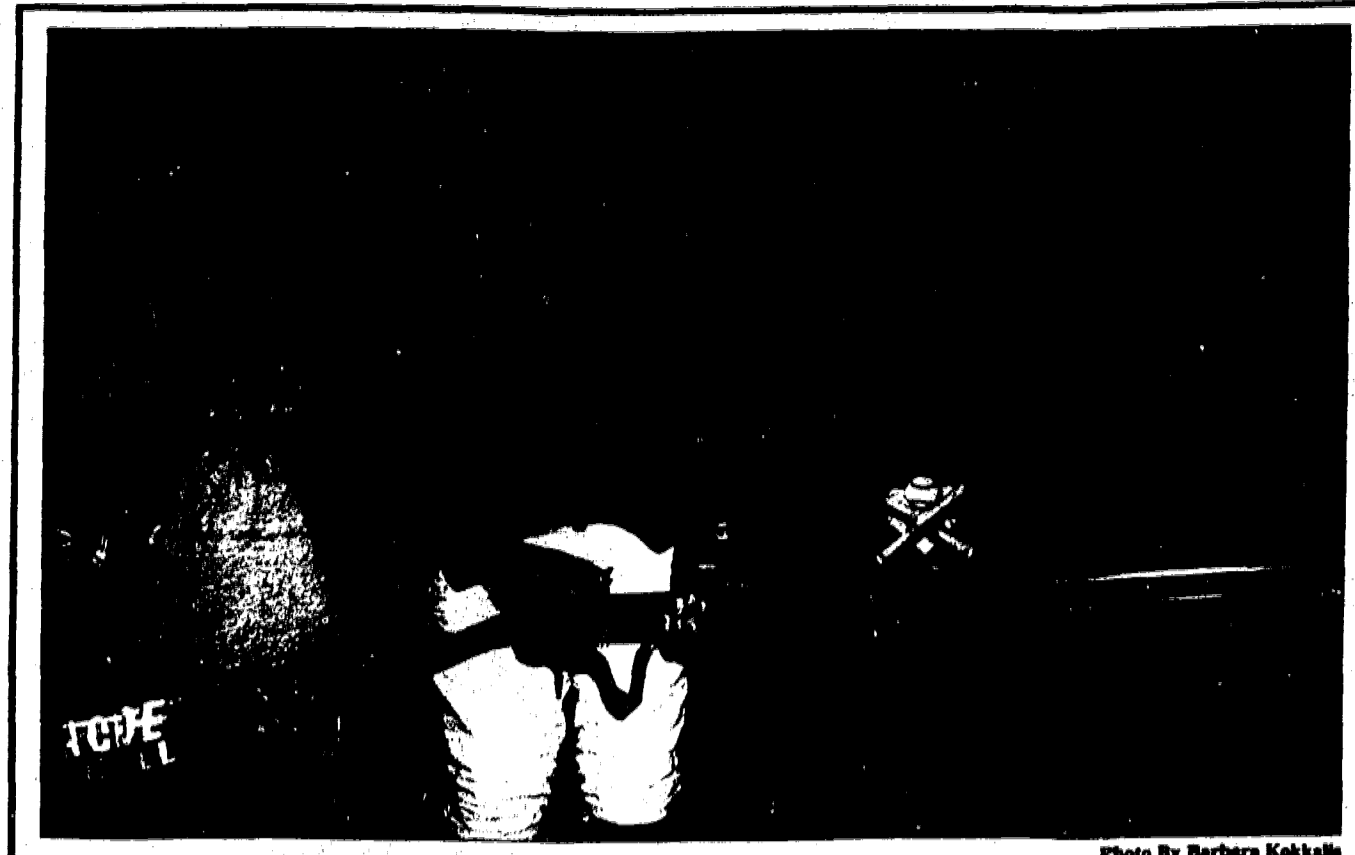


Photo by Barbara Kachalski

## Their courage under fire reveals our proud past

We in Springfield are proudly planning a huge celebration of the Battle of Springfield waged here on June 23, 1780, complete with parades, reenactments, ceremony and fireworks.

Why? Why is this little known battle, called "The Forgotten Victory" by historian Thomas Fleming, important not just to us but to all Americans?

If Lexington and Concord were the beginning of the War of Independence in America, Springfield was the beginning of the end for British rule in the colonies. Waged by 5,000 British and Hessian troops and only 1,500 Americans — army and militia — more than in many better-known engagements, this encounter was the last in the northern states as the war moved toward its conclusion in Yorktown, Va., in March of the following year.

In 1780, Springfield was a much larger area than it is now, including all or parts of Millburn, Short Hills, Maplewood, Summit, New Providence, Livingston and South Orange, and was still a part of Elizabethtown. There were perhaps 30 houses clustered around the area between the Rahway River and Bryant's Corners.

The First Presbyterian Church stood then where it stands now, at the cross of the road from Elizabethtown and the road to Newark Mountain. By June of 1780, the church building was used to store arms and other things, with services being conducted in the

### Uncovering The Past

By Margaret Bandrowski

personage a little way up what is now Church Hill.

As the British left Staten Island before dawn on June 23, the lookouts on the mountain sprang into action, alerting the militia and troops by messengers on horseback and, more dramatically, by lighting the signal beacons of logs and tar. Soldiers and farmers came from all over to defend their homes and those of their neighbors.

The Tooker family, whose house at the corner of Mountain Avenue and Caldwell Place stood until c. 1970, buried their silver and valuables in the fields before fleeing to the "Heights" behind the town for safety.

The first encounter was at the river, between British and Hessian troops led by Knyphausen and Col. Israel Angell's 2nd Rhode Islanders. The second British contingent, which had marched along Vauxhall, faced the Americans led by Lee and Walker at Little's bridge by what is now known as the Hessian House on Millburn Avenue. The house is so-called because two Hessians, the Von Wert brothers, were said to have deserted

and hidden there, choosing to remain and build lives in the new country. The loyalist support for which the British had hoped never materialized. They were forced to withdraw on all fronts, the final retreat in New Jersey.

General Nathaniel Greene wrote his commander in chief, General Washington, of the encounter: "I am at a loss to determine what was the object of the enemy's expedition: If it was to injure troops under my command or to permeate further into the country, they were frustrated. If the destruction of this place, it was a disgraceful one. I lament that our force was too small to save the town from ruin. I wish every American could have been a spectator, they would have felt for the sufferers. And joined to revenge the injury."

The sacrifices made by the Americans were substantial, with approximately 150 killed or wounded and their homes and fields burned during the retreat. The houses on or close to the field of battle which were left standing were few — only four within the boundaries of modern Springfield. The house now known as The Cannon Ball House, although in the thick of the fighting, was occupied as a British field hospital.

The claims filed by Springfield families seeking restitution after the war showed an enormous range of loss, from houses and outbuildings to

clothing, utensils, livestock, food, tools and even slaves or indentured servants. It was necessary to start over completely, with almost nothing left from their previous prosperous lives.

From the names of their families, we know that they refused to leave the land which had cost them so much to defend; they rebuilt and replanted and many of their descendants are here still.

So, on this weekend, let us enjoy the spectacle, the rides, the food, the parade and the fireworks. But let us also pay attention to the re-enactment of the battle and try to put ourselves for a moment into the world of those who lived the actual event, when their land and their homes were set ablaze as the price of liberty for us all.

Let us pause a moment in tribute at the many of our old gravestones in our local cemeteries which mark the final resting places of these brave men and their wives and children who saw the conflagration. The resting places of many of those who served are marked and the dates of death tell us who perished in the fight.

Their courage and sheer determination to stand the ground that is new ours is why this battle and this day are important for us all.

Margaret Bandrowski is the president of the Springfield Historical Society.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Stores served as generous hosts

To the Editor:

The Springfield V.F.W. Post 7683 would like to thank the following stores and their managers for allowing us to host our annual Poppy Drive this year at their locations: Millburn ShopRite, Springfield ShopRite, Short Hills Walgreens, 7-Eleven, Foodtown and Eckerd.

Quartermaster and Poppy Chairman John Del Russo  
V.F.W. Post 7683

### How embarrassing was that?

To the Editor:

At the last public Springfield Township Committee meeting, resident Arthur Weintraub asked our governing body a question on an ordinance appropriating up to \$159,700 for new equipment. His question focused on the amount of 20 expenditures listed in the amount of \$21,000 for vests and uniforms. "How many were being purchased?"

What followed was truly a Kodak moment. Not one of the Township Committee knew the answer and they each took turns attempting to talk through the question without answering it. How do you vote on an ordinance without knowing the facts? How embarrassing was that?

They each knew they were voting yes on the ordinance to spend the \$159,700; however, nobody could offer any details. One representative beyond embarrassment, Bruce Bergen, township attorney, went on to state that, until an answer can be found, the \$21,000 vest ordinance on second and final reading would be pulled and the committee to adopt it. I am not quite sure if Bergen's edict is legal. I was surprised to learn that, once an ordinance reached second and final reading and a vote occurred, it had to be pulled, corrected and advertised again.

An interesting question for the proper authorities in Tinton and Mr. Bergen to review immediately.

The ordinance representing up to \$159,700 in spending read like a cookie list of goodies that several departments need and want: emergency management, bullet resistant vests, \$21,000; computer replacement, \$15,000; police breathalyzer, \$15,000; engineering, scanner and plotter, \$14,000; fire, computer/projection equipment, \$12,500; police, desk top computers, \$70,000; emergency management radios, \$8,000; tax collector, three computers, \$7,500; fire-portable radios, \$7,000; planning and zoning software module, \$7,000; finance, high speed printer, \$4,500; fire prevention, video projector, \$4,000; construction, road run software, \$4,000; emergency management computers, \$3,500; emergency management laptop, 2,500; finance, chairs, \$2,000; finance, large monitors, \$1,200, and last, but not least, fire prevention, Sparky, new suit, \$1,500. I want to repeat from my letter of last week with reference to our taxes going into orbit: "Find ways to cut spending in the answer and I have not heard one proposal from anyone on the committee to do so!"

Additionally, this very situation brings to the fore again the refusal of the entire Township Committee to change their existing policy to permit members

### of the public to speak on any subject listed on the agenda, before official action is taken.

The Echo Leader editorial last week put it best: "Allowing this to continue devalues the role a citizen plays in the community if they are given little chance to help direct and shape the future. This policy should be changed."

Had Mr. Weintraub not asked the question, his inquiry would have come after official action was taken.

I am getting the urge to use the coconut nickname again, however, I believe that, by the next public meeting, the committee might change their policy. It defies all logic not to do so. Let's wait and see.

Henry Pappas  
Springfield

### Laptop demo needed more notice

To the Editor:

There were to be demonstrations by vendors of laptop computers by the Springfield Board of Education. A definite date was not published in the Echo Leader. As per its June 2 issue, it stated on the front pages Superintendent of Schools Michael Davino "hopes to present a plan to the Springfield Board of Education for implementation of the laptop program beginning the end of this school year. The final board meetings are scheduled for Monday and June 27." Since the date of June 27 was specifically mentioned, one would think that June 27 would be the chosen appointment for the demonstration.

Suddenly, a representative for Apple laptops appeared at the Monday public meeting of the Springfield Board of Education. On questioning some of the school board members, it was revealed that they did not know about this man's prospective visit to their Monday meeting until they routinely involved their packets of meeting agenda information from the office of the superintendent on June 4. That left a weekend and one working day prior to the Monday meeting. There was no time to submit the information for the Echo Leader's weekly community calendar or to publish it in other areas of the local newspapers. Therefore, many residents who would have liked to have seen the demonstration never had advance notice and did not attend. However, why didn't any of the nine school board members contact Mr. Davino and ask that the demonstration be postponed until the general public could be notified and the Echo Leader could print the dates of the demonstration?

School board members are elected by the taxpayers on the third Tuesday of every April, and they have an obligation to respond to the taxpayers regarding such a topic of great interest as the laptops, since that issue greatly contributed to the defeat of the school budget at the April 19 election.

The next school semester will start on Sept. 5. Would the January 2006 semester be a more realistic date for the superintendent of schools and the Board of Education to implement this experimental laptop policy? Let's ask them, or would they like to "negotiate" an answer?

Head Montague  
Springfield

## Registration opens for camps

The Springfield Recreation Department has opened registration for several camps.

At the time of camp registration, each child may register for two trips. Each trip has 65 spots available on a first come first serve basis. Any additional available spots will be open for registration at the camp orientation on Sunday.

Make a separate check payable to: township of Springfield.

- The following choices are available:
- Tuesday — Bowcraft in Scotch Plains, \$25. The trip includes: lunch, unlimited rides, mini golf.
- July 5 — Plaza Lanes in Madison \$15, trip includes: lunch, shoes, unlimited bowling.
- July 12 — Runaway Rapids in Keansburg, \$25. Trip includes: lunch, ice skating, 20 arcade tokens.
- July 19 — Bridgewater Arena \$20. Trip includes: lunch, ice skating, 20 arcade tokens.
- July 26 — Forum Theatre in Metuchen, \$15. Trip includes: 5 course lunch, 2-hour show.
- Aug. 2 — Medieval Times in

Lyndhurst, \$35. Trip includes: 5 course lunch, two-hour show.

August 9 — Sportsworld in Paramus, \$25. Trip includes: all exhibits, IMAX movie and one high definition movie.

For information regarding trips or camp, call Recreation Program Coordinator Michele Zambrana at 973-467-3790.

The Springfield Recreation Department welcomes back pool camp directors Traci Miller and Lisa DeNicolo for a summer camp program at the municipal pool.

This program is designed for children entering pre-kindergarten by Dec. 1, 2005 through the age of 13 and/or entering grade eight. Recreation staff members are all certified by the American Red Cross in CPR and First Aid.

The prekindergarten- and kindergarten-age children will be in the Little Fish program.

Each week is centered on a different fish and the children play games and learn about that fish. The children are introduced to swimming age appropriate sports and games, arts and

crafts, group play and much more. Children in first through fourth grades are in the "Club-Mates" adventure groups. Each child will earn certificates as they participate in weekly activities including swimming, first aid, nature, arts and crafts, cooking and more.

The Survivor program is designed for children entering fifth through seventh grades. The children are split into tribes and will experience athletic and mind-stimulating challenges. The program encourages friendly competition and teaches the value of good sportsmanship.

Survivors will also be involved in arts and crafts, sports, swimming and much more.

The Counselor in Training program is for those children entering eighth grade. CITs will learn basic counselor skills by working with all the different age groups.

They will attend weekly workshops to learn child interaction, games, sports, music and more. Each CIT will also take the American Red Cross baby-sitting course and receive their baby-sitting certification.

### Trip to Atlantic City planned by B'Nai B'rith

B'Nai B'rith of Springfield plans a trip to Atlantic City at the Claridge Casino Hotel on Sunday.

The package includes breakfast and brunch at Regal Chateau, 222 Mountain Ave., Springfield, next to the post office at 11:30 a.m.

The bus will leave from Echo Plaza Mall at 1 p.m. between Mountain Avenue, and Route 22, Springfield. The bus will take guests down to the Claridge Casino where they will receive \$16 Bally Bucks and a show ticket to "Legends in Concert" at 7:30 p.m. in the Palace Theatre: the cost per person is \$35.

For reservations and information, call Jerry Kamen at 908-687-9120 days or 908-277-1953 evenings. Mail checks to 2824 Morris Ave., Union, NJ 07083. Limited to bus capacity. First come basis, no reserve party.

### Shopping spree July 19

St. James Roman Catholic Church will sponsor a shopping spree at Vandy Fair Reading outlets on July 19.

The bus will leave the Knights of Columbus parking lot at 8 a.m. and return at approximately 2 p.m. The cost will be \$21 per person and includes deluxe bus transportation, bus driver tip, lunch voucher, shopping bag and discount coupons.

For reservations, call Tony Graziano at 973-376-5612.

### Church Mill street fair coming in September

The second Church Mill Street Fair will be in Springfield on Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Vendors and service organizations are encouraged to reserve a space at the Fair now.

## EVENTS

move indoors in case of inclement weather. Approximately 20 10x10 spaces are still available.

This street fair is different from most in that the focus is on encouraging stronger, healthier communities as a way of honoring the lives of those persons who died on Sept. 11, 2001. The community groups represent a wide array of non-profit and social service organizations that help people, animals and the environment in our area. Not only can the public learn about services available to them in Union County, they can also learn about ways they can help their community.

Call Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church at 973-376-1695 for more information.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
LEGAL NOTICE  
NOTICE TO APPEAR  
1193 2005 N.J.A.C. 17:27  
Borough of Springfield, New Jersey  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an application for a use and occupancy permit for the construction of a new wireless communication facility consisting of a new tower and associated equipment, located at the intersection of Route 22 and Route 206 in the Township of Springfield, New Jersey, has been filed with the Municipal Planning Board for a use and occupancy permit. The application was filed on June 14, 2005. Any interested parties who desire to be heard at the public hearing on this application should file their comments with the Municipal Planning Board, during the public hearing period, on or before June 23, 2005. The public hearing will be held on June 23, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, during the regular meeting of the Municipal Planning Board. The location of the proposed facility is located at the intersection of Route 22 and Route 206 in the Township of Springfield, New Jersey. The application is available for review at the Municipal Planning Board. For more information, please contact the Municipal Planning Board at 973-376-1695.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION  
RENT LEVELING BOARD  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE RENT LEVELING BOARD HAS SET THE RENT LEVELING HEARING ON THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2005 AT 7:00 P.M.  
MURRAY FROMER, SECRETARY  
U11999 ECL June 23, 2005 (06.28)

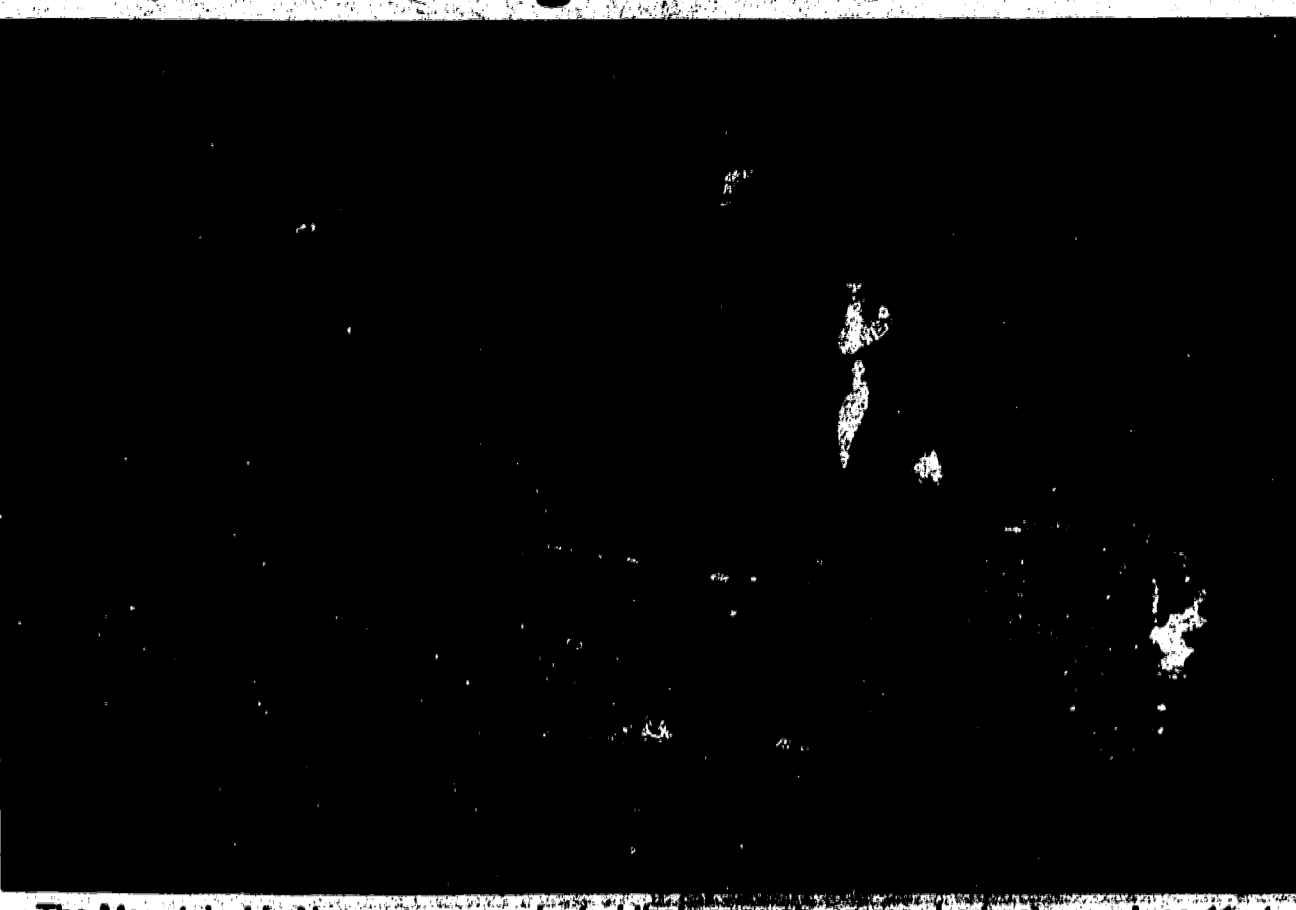
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
July 18, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. Lackland Self Storage,  
1525 Route 23 East, Mountaineer, NJ 07053  
The following merchandise will be sold at public auction. Listed below are the unit numbers along with the occupant name and a brief description of the contents.  
U114687 ECL June 16, 23, 2005 (06.00)

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**FRANCIS D. MCINTYRE, ESQ.**  
McIntyre & Kirshenbaum, LLC  
500 Morris Ave. Phone: 973-467-3117  
Springfield, NJ 07081 Fax: 973-467-8554

## Welcome to Margaritaville



The Mountaineer Newcomers conducted their annual barbecue on June 11 at the home of Sonia and John Brenner. Twenty-three couples attended the Margaritaville-themed night. Everyone enjoyed the tropical atmosphere, the delicious food and the great company, including members of the social committee: Anna Elcker, Kern Propp and Sonia Brenner, who planned and organized the evening.

## CLUBS IN THE NEWS

**VFW Post 7683 inducts officers**  
Veterans of Foreign Wars 7683 in Springfield inducted the following officers at the installation dinner:  
Skeets Kuzmuk, post commander; Stan Wnek, senior vice commander; Sid Weinstein, junior vice commander; Sal Gibaldi, quartermaster; Frank LaMotta, adjutant; Bill Van Riper, Stan Wnek and Sid Weinstein, trustees.

**Women's knitting group welcomes newcomers**  
The Women's Association of the Community Presbyterian Church of Mountaineer would like to celebrate new beginnings by welcoming all new babies in the area with a handmade gift of a baby bonnet.

Those who would like to knit with them or learn how to knit, are encouraged to join them on the second Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. in the church's Memorial Room at Meeting House Lane and Deer Path. For information, call the church office at 908-232-9490.

Among the guests was Charles Seron, principal of Jonathan Dayton High School who received a plaque for his work with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. Shaina Goldberg received a plaque and a \$200 bond for her Voice Of Democracy entry as a first place winner. David Wightman received a plaque for his work with children in town. Other guests included widows of charter members. Representatives from the American Legion Post and Jewish War Veterans were also in attendance.

The VFW thanks the residents who made their poppy drive a success this year. New members are always welcome. Call Commander Skeets Kuzmuk for an application at 908-654-5764.

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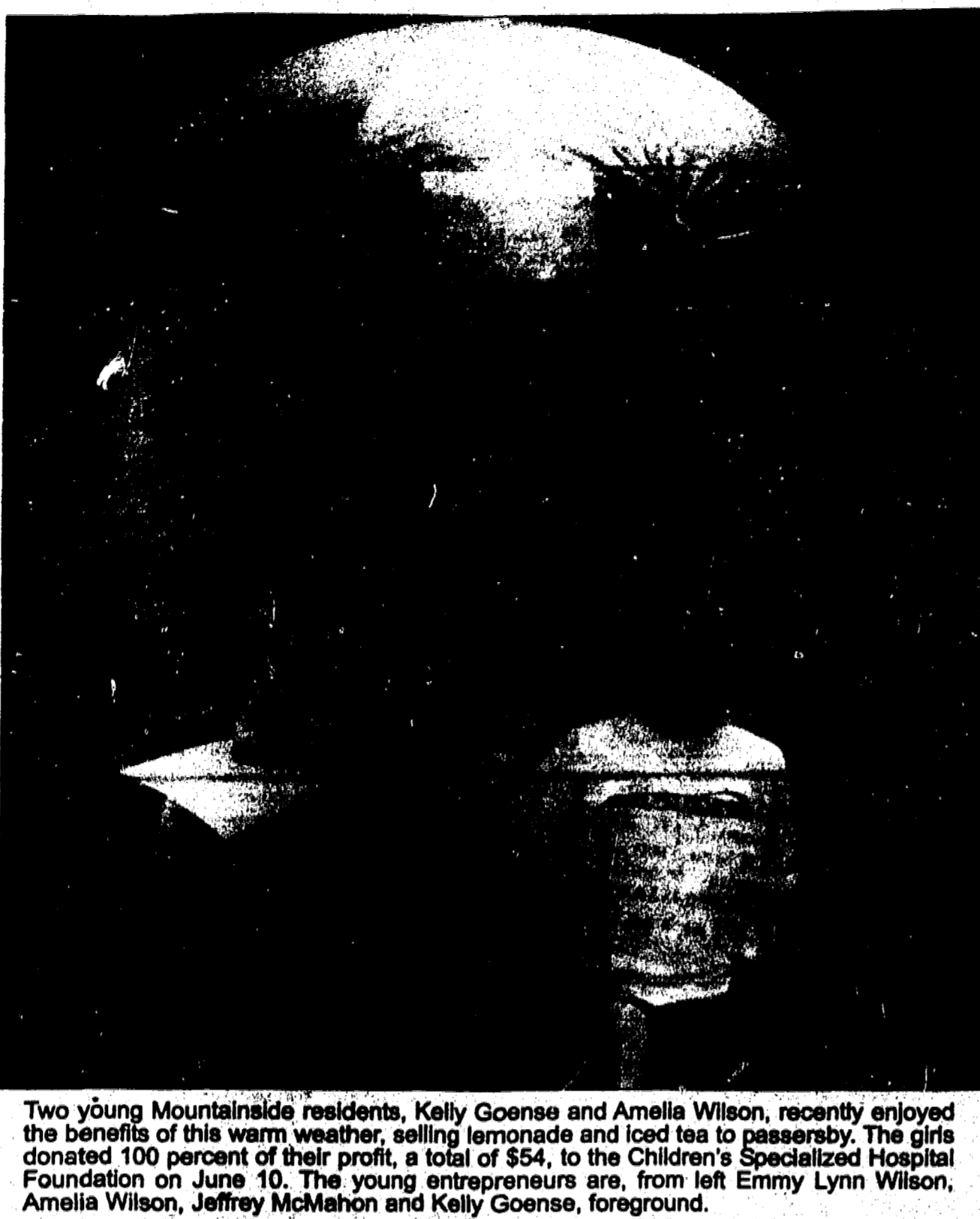
\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) available on all 12/05. Penalty for early withdrawal. Minimum \$500,000. Business accounts not eligible. Offer available only at the PNC Summit Branch. Offer may be modified or discontinued at any time without prior notice and may vary by market. Member FDIC.



Summer reading program begins

The summer reading program at the Mountaineer Public Library for children in grades kindergarten and older will begin on Monday, with the summer-long theme "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds"...

Made in the shade



Two young Mountaineer residents, Kelly Goense and Amelia Wilson, recently enjoyed the benefits of this warm weather, selling lemonade and iced tea to passersby.

STUDENT UPDATE

Wasserman graduates cum laude from NJIT. McCurdy awarded Bloomberg Scholarship. Grushevsky earns Class Leader Award. Beasley earns degree. Ebinger and Mena awarded certificates. Pisciotti graduates Kent Place School. Patel earns award. Haliczar graduates to Mo-Bear Up School. Hotz, Goldblatt earn honors at Lafayette.

AT THE LIBRARY

PJ Story time. The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues June children's programming for babies, toddlers and young children... Summer Reading Club sign-ups begin. Visual artist to exhibit mixed-media paintings. Palmer Museum stays open during 'battie'.

Churches offer summer services

As summer officially arrives Tuesday, area churches are once again making adjustments to services. Some are combining congregations for the summer months, while others are moving the times of services and Masses...

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Clinton named new director of YMCA. The Summit Area YMCA is named Terri Clinton as the new executive director of the Springfield YMCA. Glassman named Researcher of the Year. Ron Glassman of Mountaineer, was recently named 2005 Researcher of the Year by the International Association of Counselors and Therapists.

Summit Music Festival returns to CPC in July

Since 2002, the annual music festival has been held at Summit on a Saturday evening in July to honor the talent and passion of the musicians of the Summit Music Festival. This year's festival will feature a professional orchestra and will be held at the Central Presbyterian Church.

WORSHIP CALENDAR. BAPTIST: EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - 'SERVING CHRIST IN THE 21st CENTURY'. METHODIST: SPRINGFIELD METHODIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (SUMC). ROMAN CATHOLIC: THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES. THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES. LUTHERAN: HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH. JEWISH-ORTHODOX: CONGREGATION ISRAEL OF SPRINGFIELD.

HealthLink Radio. SUNDAY MORNINGS, 8:30AM on WFUD-FM, 89.1. OR ANYTIME ON YOUR COMPUTER at www.TheUniversityHospital.com. This Week's Topics: Metabolic Syndrome: When Bad Behaviors Add Up to Ill Health. Controlling Tremors with a Pacemaker for the Brain.

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Breast cancer drive pulls into Springfield

BMW's ninth annual Ultimate Drive Program for the Summit-based Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is scheduled to drive through Springfield on July 7.

The ever popular Ultimate Drive Program will deliver on its promise to make pit stops as it travels cross-country, bringing with it a commitment to raise money for breast cancer research.

The event will travel to the Springfield BMW Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at JMK BMW, 391 Route 22 east.

In the past eight years, the Ultimate Drive has raised more than \$8 million for breast cancer research, education, screening, community outreach and treatment programs. Its goal for 2005 is to raise \$1 million.

Through partnerships like The Ultimate Drive, we are able to raise millions of dollars each year to help fight breast cancer," said Cindy Schwab, vice president of Cause-Marketing and Sponsorships for the Komen Foundation.

The Ultimate Drive Program is a driving program created by BMW to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research and community outreach programs.

The general public is invited to drive the fleet of BMWs at participating retail centers during an Ultimate Drive event.

For each mile driven in one of the BMW Ultimate Drive vehicles, \$1 is donated to the Komen Foundation to support breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment programs.

The 645i's are painted, as are the fleet cars, in shimmering Titanium Silver with a pink ribbon design. This year, the Signature Car and the fleet vehicles will each have a unique ribbon design.

Providing added safety



Dr. Murray Ross, commander of the Summit American Legion Post 138, center, presents a check for \$2,800 to the Summit Police Department for the purchase of an emergency mobile command post.

Collection captures still-life images

A place that almost wasn't is the focus of Sherb Nauty's artists in residence exhibition at Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit.

The installation of colored photographs explores the beauty of birds in flight as well as casually glistening across waterways in the swamp.

Nauty's fascination with the Great Swamp is two-fold. Now only does he appreciate the abundant wealth of subjects found there, but also the history behind the land

which was formed nearly 25,000 years ago by the Wisconsin Glacier and almost became what is now Newark Airport.

The exhibition runs through July 1. Winner House is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For information, call 908-273-8787.

Botanical exhibit opens

Dutch-born artist Gusta Van Dobbenburgh presents Botanical.nl at Reeves-Reed Arboretum, 165 Hobart Ave., Summit, starting July 5.

Van Dobbenburgh, a Mendham-based artist, has been fascinated with his art form since childhood. At 10 years of age, she was drawing botanical postcards in black and white.

"I draw for joy," said Van Dobbenburgh. "The botanical tradition is to draw nature the way that it is."

For Botanical.nl, Van Dobbenburgh unveils a study of bulbs, vines and flowers exuberantly executed.

Van Dobbenburgh holds a master's degree in Dutch language and literature.

Stories and photos may be emailed to UnionCountySports@yahoo.com

SPORTS

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

First Dayton JV grid game is Sept. 8 at Bound Brook

By JR Parachini Sports Editor

Will this be a banner year for high school football in Union County?

Below is the first major Union County schedule published. Changes will be made, of course, with as much notification from me as possible.

There are 17 football playing schools in Union County, once again, with Dayton returning. The Bulldogs presently have a five-game junior varsity schedule for 2005, with varsity status returning for 2006.

Former Franklin mentor Joe George is the new Dayton head coach. Former Scotch Plains assistant Erik Rosenmeier took over at Cranford, with Chris Hull moving on to Morristown.

Roselle and New Providence are the only county schools that open Week One. The rest open the early weekend, which is Week Two.

Perhaps the No. 1 non-conference game scheduled is Pope John of Sports at Rahway on Oct. 1. Coached by one of the winningest mentors in the state in Vic Paternostro, the perennial parochial power Lions will face a very good Rahway team, coached by former Union All-Stater Gary Mobley.

SAT Saturdays are Oct. 8 and Nov. 5, with most games scheduled for 2 p.m. The playoff weekends are Nov. 11-12 (quarterfinals), 18-19 (semifinals) and Dec. 2-4 (finals).

Several Union County schools moved to different sections. Here's a look at where each is placed for the upcoming 2005 season:

- North 2, Group 4: Union, Elizabeth, Linden, Plainfield, Westfield. North 2, Group 3: Scotch Plains. North 2, Group 2: Summit. North 2, Group 1: New Providence.

1985: It was a very good year. This is the 20th anniversary of the only year in which Union County schools captured all four championships in North Jersey, Section 2.

Union repeated in Group 4, Linden won its first playoff title in Group 3, Hillside captured its first in Group 2 and Brearley best Roselle Park to win its second in Group 1.

WEEK THREE Friday, Sept. 30 (4) Linden at Elizabeth, 7 p.m. Scotch Plains at Cranford, 7 p.m.

WEEK FOUR Friday, Oct. 7 (5) Elizabeth at Union, 7 p.m. Westfield at Linden, 7 p.m.

WEEK FIVE Friday, Oct. 14 (7) Plainfield at Union, 7 p.m. Newark East Side at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.

WEEK SIX Friday, Oct. 21 (4) Westfield at Union, 7 p.m. Plainfield at Shabazz, 7 p.m.

WEEK SEVEN Friday, Oct. 28 (6) Union at Bridgewater-Raritan, 7 p.m. West Orange at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.

WEEK EIGHT - Playoff cutoff weekend. Friday, Nov. 4 (6) Westfield at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.

WEEK NINE NJSIAA Quarterfinals. Consolidation games. Nov. 11-12.

WEEK TEN NJSIAA Semifinals. Nov. 18-19.

WEEK ELEVEN - Thanksgiving games. Wednesday, Nov. 23 (3) Union at Linden, 7 p.m.

Springfield Roadrunners proved to be hard to catch Booters completed a perfect 10-0 campaign

The Springfield Roadrunners 9-and-under boys' soccer team defeated the Summit Sidewinders 5-1 last weekend to finish a perfect 10-0 this season.

The Roadrunners became the first Soccer Club of Springfield team to finish a season undefeated in four years.

Manny Barrera scored twice and Bailey Rudolph once in the first half, with assists going to Tyler Cirin, Joey Luliano and Boomer Sack. Phil Moore tallied his first goal of the season on a penalty kick.

Ryan Fitzpatrick scored his first goal of the season in the second half, giving all 14 Springfield players at least one goal this year.

Other Roadrunner booters who scored were David Furberstein, Vinny Nappa, Will Hensley, Thomas Walsh, Russ Peterson, DeYoung Dan and Chris Vega.

Springfield's 8-and-under traveling boys' team, completed their season with 3-0 victory over the Butler Pirates.

Scoring for Springfield were Zachary Wilcox, Austin Knapp and Conan Crone in a game the Stripes controlled throughout.

The Stripes finished first in their flight and posted a final unbeaten record of 9-0-1.

Members of the champion Stripes included Kristian Alparis, John Apolloni, Paul Astromoneo, Charles Bachman, Larry Boyle, Jordan Burke, Max Cohen, Connor Crone, Ryan DeYoung, Brian D'Elia, Nick DiStasio, Matt Lynn, Nick Pears, Christian Schmidt and Ryan Schwaibart.

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield's Senior American Legion baseball team - Post 228 - started the season off with two straight losses before rallying for five straight wins to post a 5-2 as of today.

"We started off a little slow," coach Chris Loeffler said. "It took us a few games to get used to each other, but now we are really hitting our stride."

Loeffler was just named Union County Coach of the Year by The Star-Ledger. In his second year at the helm, he guided the Dayton High School baseball team to its best season ever.

The Bulldogs finished 22-5 and ranked second in Union County. They reached the Union County tournament championship game for the first time since 1963, and also made it to the Central Jersey, Group 1 final for the first time.

Power concludes with tie: The Springfield Power 12-and-under traveling girls' squad tied the Lincoln Park Palmas 2-2. The Power finished with only one loss and in second place in their division.

Rebecca Frank and Jessica Gonzalez scored for Springfield, with teammates Jackie Loebelle, Emily Stein and Gabriella Pysak playing well in the midfield.

Also giving solid efforts were forwards Mallory DeLuastro, Remy Schneider and Jenna Russo and on defense Angela Berardinelli, Natalie Bratsch, Erika Seal, Stacey Shovitz and goalkeeper Alexa Williams.

The U-12 Power is the first girls' traveling soccer team in Springfield history and because of its success, more teams have formed. Many more young girls in Springfield are taking soccer to a higher level.

Scorpius beat Ridge: The Springfield Soccer Club 11-and-under Scorpius blanked the Ridge Raiders by a score of 4-0. The win awarded Springfield of first place in its flight, the fourth flight championship for the Scorpius.

Scorpius' last game was a 3-2 win over the Ridge Raiders. The team's scoring was led by goalkeeper, Brandon Lopez and Brian Lopez.

Also playing well for the Scorpius were Sergio Antunista, Joey Balbo, Ryan Ciano, Brian DiFiori, Matt DiLeo, Mike DiLeo, Andrew Homilish, Max Kotler, Matt Lynn, Nick Pears, Christian Schmidt and Ryan Schwaibart.

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Dayton captured the Mountain Valley Conference-Valley Division championship and also defeated the title of non-conference team Roselle Catholic, Union, Cranford and Governor Livingston.

Springfield's latest victory came on Monday when it defeated Watchung Hills 5-0 at Ruby Field behind a scoring pitching performance by Raul Farnagosa, who graduated from Dayton this year. A standout shortstop, he was a First Team All-County selection along with his younger brother, Joe, who will be a senior at Dayton in his fall.

Farnagosa held Watchung Hills to just three hits, striking out four and walking two over seven innings of work. "I was able to stay ahead of the batter," Farnagosa said. "When I did fall behind, I was able to come right back. The key was my ability to work the corners and stay aggressive."

All the while, Springfield was led by Scotch Plains resident Chris D'Amunzio, also a First Team All-County selection out of Scotch Plains High School. Scotch Plains doesn't allow seniors to play on its Senior Legion team, while Springfield was more than happy to take its talents.

During the high school season, the MIT-bound athlete led Scotch Plains with a .471 batting average, five home runs, 27 runs, 26 RBI and a .900 slugging percentage. His No. 1 position, like Raul's, was shortstop.

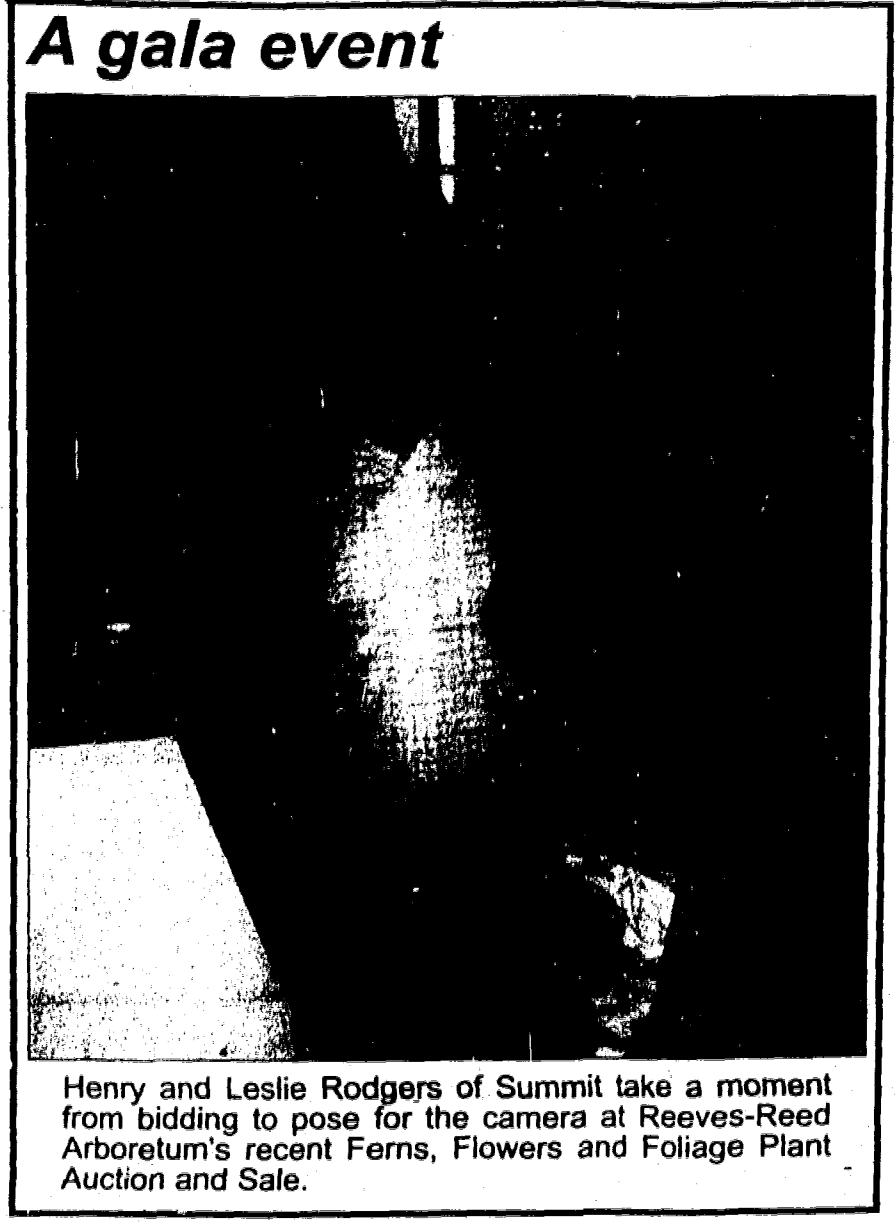
Against Watchung Hills, D'Amunzio went 4-for-4, including a single in the fourth, which plated two runs. "I have been getting really lucky so far this season," D'Amunzio said. "Everything seems to be dropping in for

BUSINESS

Grid of various business advertisements including: ADDITIONS, AIR CONDITIONING, CAREGIVER NEEDED, CARPENTRY, CLEANING SERVICE, TIRE SERVICE, ELECTRICIAN, FLOORS, HANDYMAN, KREIDER ELECTRIC, INC., KLEAN FLOORING, LANDSCAPING, MASONRY, MOVING, PAINTING, MARQUETTA PAINTING, POWER WASHING, ROOFING, RUBBISH REMOVAL, RUBBISH REMOVAL, RUBBISH REMOVAL, TILE GROUTING, TREE SERVICES.

Advertisement for 'We Moved!!!' located at 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, HELENE, 908-686-7850. Includes 'NOW MOVED' logo.





Henry and Leslie Rodgers of Summit take a moment from bidding to pose for the camera at Reeves-Reed Arboretum's recent Ferns, Flowers and Foliage Plant Auction and Sale.

**A gala event**

**Poetry group performs**  
Join residents of Summit Senior Housing and their friends as they continue their monthly poetry group, "Poetry: Poems from the Heart," led by Marion Mansfield in the Arts & Crafts Room, 12 Chestnut Ave. on Monday at 2 p.m.  
This month's topic is, who are your favorite poets and why? Original and favorite poems will be read. Summit area seniors are welcome. Admission is free. For information, call 908-273-0130.

**SAGE aids seniors with Bill Paying Program**

Are you frustrated with balancing your checkbook? Have those bills gotten out of control and you can't decide where to begin? Are you new at managing family finances? SAGE ElderCare's Bill Paying Program can help. Eligible seniors must be 60 years of age or older and a resident of Union County, Short Hills, Millburn or Chatham.  
SAGE's trained volunteers can sort mail, review and organize bills, outline budgeting and organizational strategies, reconcile checking accounts, prepare checks for payment and provide instruction to learn to manage your finances independently and more efficiently. An initial consultation can be arranged in the privacy

**SENIOR NEWS**

of your home. For information on this low-cost program, call Suzanne Lyon, director of volunteers, at 908-598-5514.

**PREP group gathers**

SAGE ElderCare, a major community resource for eldercare, 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, SAGE InfoCare director, 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.

This free group will provide practical information to effectively assess memory problems, thus allowing the participant to set goals, create a positive mental attitude, plan for the future, spark creativity and exercise the brain. Many causes of early memory lapses can be reversed.

We all exercise our bodies; why not learn how to exercise your brain? The group is the first of its kind in the Union County and is a collaborative effort between SAGE ElderCare



# Union County

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

**By the numbers**

4 — The number of wedding parties posing for pictures at Warranaco Park in Elizabeth Saturday at 5 p.m. June brides and a spirit of optimism.

203,703.56 — The cost of writ of execution this week by the Union County Sheriff for a property on Poplar Street in Roselle when the owners couldn't keep up the payments to the bank. This is the flip side to the economy when people live above their means.

**Left Out**  
By Frank Capace

96.7 and 1250 — The new radio stations and static I get trying to replace WCBS FM. It reminded me of the mid '60s before FM, when we had WABC, but couldn't get WBCA in Roselle Park and surrounding towns except in the car, even though the transmitter was only 15 miles away.

55 — The proof of a 2-percent drop in the percentage reliance on property taxes as a revenue source of the County Government. Freeholder Chairman Rick Proctor announced the good news last week at a panel discussion of the New Jersey Association of Counties.

25 — The speed limit in Cranford being enforced by an effort including lawn signs imploring motorists to slow down. Impressive were the remarks of Cranford Commissioner Dan Aschenbach last week about kids being kids and the need to slow down and save lives. He is right, Mr. Mayor. This is a young town.

1 — Winfield's newest cop Jeffrey Kleinerman was the top marking man at the 2005 Police Academy on the final written examination at the County Police Academy.

"It was a great day when I saw the officer who just joined the force," said David Wright, the mayor, not the Mayor third baseman.

Wright points out that the winner of the Academy achievement award was Nicole Tingo, a Westfield cop who also lives in Winfield in the place of another Winfield officer.

1928-0313 — The 11-page decision of the Appellate Division dismissing the arguments of property owner Frank Krause in opposition to a gas station on North Avenue in Cranford. The court affirmed the lower court that the station was not required to obtain a variance to include a permitted use of a sandwich shop in the pre-existing nonconforming gas station.

34 — As in millions of dollars the county will spend in the annual road program to preserve transportation. It will be completed by Labor Day.

2,500 — The check presented by Summit American Legion Post to the local police department toward the purchase of an emergency mobile command post.

51,038 — The estimated amount of money a family of two adults, two teenagers and infant must make in Union County to avoid the poverty level according to a study released by the University of Washington.

17,000 — Gang members statewide as estimated by New Jersey State Police Superintendent Col. Joseph "Rick" Fuentes. He said, "These are gangs that are founded and sustain themselves economically with the commission of crimes."

200 — The weight of a bear cub spotted in Ashland Road in Summit that later roamed into the Wachung Reservation.

An attorney, Frank Capace is a resident of Cranford.

## County makes trust grants available

By Lauren DeFilippo  
Staff Writer  
Approximately \$1.45 million in grants are now available through the county's Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The funds were announced earlier this month. Funds for the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund come from local property taxes. Established in 2000, the trust fund assesses a levy of 1.5 cents per \$100 of total equalized real property valuation for a period of 20 years.

In 2004, the county raised approximately \$7.8 million in Open Space funds, and realized just over \$48,000 in interest on the same account, according to the county budget.

For 2005, the county is slated to take in \$8.9 million for the trust fund. "Greening Union County"

In early June, the board announced that an additional \$50,000 in matching Open Space Trust funds would be made available to all of the county's 21 municipalities as part of the "Greening Union County" initiative.

The idea behind the initiative is for the county to match every municipality on a tree-for-tree basis.

For 2005, the county is slated to take in \$8.9 million for the trust fund.

As part of the "Greening Union County" initiative, more than 1,400 trees were planted across the county last year.

In addition to matching funds for tree purchasing ability, the county also provides for the installation of the trees by forestry professionals and a one-year maintenance guarantee.

"Preserve Union County" Another \$500,000 from the fund has been made available for the second round of "Preserve Union County."

Originally proposed as an initiative during Freeholder Deborah Scanlon's tenure as board chairperson, the program made \$500,000 in matching grants available to local historical sites.

According to the county, the "Preserve Union County" initiative is a merit-based, matching grant program. The applicant must generate \$1 in funds for every \$1 of grant money requested, a county announcement said.

Funding is available for projects including acquisition, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration and preservation of a historic site by the county, municipalities and qualified non-profit historical preservation groups.

Eligible sites must be listed on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places or certified by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Historic Preservation.

During the first round of the initiative, \$500,000 was distributed to a dozen properties throughout the county.

The largest grant, of \$82,080 went to the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabeth.

Clerk of the Church Rafael Rodriguez said that much of the grant money went to erect a fence around the church.

The fence was needed to protect the historic cemetery located on the church's grounds from further vandalism and destruction, he said.

The cemetery, which houses the remains of Jonathan Dickinson, an early American Presbyterian clergyman and the founder and first president of what is today Princeton University.

When he opened the site in his Elizabethtown home, it was called the College of New Jersey.

Rodriguez said the cemetery is often frequented by people interested in conducting genealogy studies.

"It's quite important to the history of our town, and the history of the nation," he said.

The second largest grant went to the Crane-Phillips House Museum in Cranford, which received \$75,000 for interior renovations to the kitchen and the construction of a handicapped accessible bathroom, Office Administrator for the museum Maureen Wakeman said.

Currently, the first of three months of construction is under way at the museum, which has been closed to visitors since January, Wakeman said. The entire kitchen, sink, stove, and lighting, was ripped out and will be restored to its original 1890s form, she said.

The site will re-open in time for the "Four Centuries in a Weekend" event in the fall, Wakeman said.

"Kids Recreation Trust Fund" This year, the county will distribute approximately \$900,000 as part of its "Kids Recreation Trust Fund."

The program funds three types of recreational opportunities for children — scholarships, equipment and field and recreation center improvements.

Last year, approximately \$1 million was distributed to the county's 21 municipalities.

While only municipalities are eligible for the grants, schools and other non-profit organizations can team-up

with their respective towns to get funding, the county's Office of Public Information said.

The Kids Recreation Trust Fund is funded in part by money from the Union County Open Space Trust Fund, private partners, foundation money and other government funds.

This year, approximately \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded.

Scholarships are aimed at providing financial assistance to school-aged children, ages 5 to 17, who are interested in participating in recreational events, but cannot due to costs or staff or facility limitations.

Additionally, nearly \$500,000 will be awarded for field improvements including lighting of the fields, 60 increasing hours of operation, and other projects.

Another \$300,000 will be provided for equipment used in recreation programs.

For more information about any of the grant funding opportunities, or to receive an application, call the Office of Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation at (908) 558-2277.

The deadlines for application submissions are July 29 for the Greening of Union County and Aug. 3 for the Preserve Union County and Kids Recreation Trust Fund initiatives.

**Edward Doll Sr.**

Edward D. Doll Sr., 83, of the Holiday City section of Berkeley Township, formerly of Mountainside, died June 12 in the Community Medical Center, Toms River.

Born in Jersey City, Mr. Doll lived in Mountainside before moving to Berkeley Township 19 years ago. He also spent his winters in Bradenton, Fla., for the past 18 years. Mr. Doll was a carpenter for the Jersey City Medical Center for 20 years before retiring in 1972. He was an Army Air Corps veteran. Mr. Doll was a staff sergeant during World War II.

He was a member of the American Legion Post 129, Toms River. Mr. Doll also was a member of the Boece, Homeowners, Fishing, Irish-American and Guys and Dolls clubs, all at Holiday City at Berkeley.

Surviving are his wife of 64 years, Ann; a son, Edward Jr.; two daughters, Elizabeth Kapke and Ann Marie Robinson; a brother, Charles; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Kenneth Krystofiak**

Kenneth A. Krystofiak, 61, of Mountainside died June 14 in Union Hospital.

Born in Newark, Mr. Krystofiak lived in Warren for 15 years before moving to Mountainside 12 years ago. He was a structural engineer for Cheskin Associates of Bloomfield for 20 years. Mr. Krystofiak was a graduate of the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, where he received a degree in civil engineering. He was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War and was stationed in Germany.

Surviving are a daughter, Jennifer; a son, Mark, and three brothers, Ronald, John and Gary.

**Robert Hudak Sr.**

Robert M. Hudak Sr., 68, of Mountainside died June 17 at home.

Born in Newark, Mr. Hudak lived in Colonia for 12 years before moving

**OBITUARIES**

to Mountainside in 1974. He was a chemical operator with Merck & Co., Rahway. Earlier, Mr. Hudak worked for Hoffmann-La Roche in Nutley, Amoco and Union Carbide.

He served in the Marine Corps during peacetime and was a master mason with Gavel Washington Lodge 273 in Union for many years. Mr. Hudak was active with rescue operations of the Best Friend Dog & Animal Adoptions Inc. in Cranford for eight years.

Surviving are his wife of 46 years, Marie, a son, Robert M. Jr.; a daughter, Janice Bunniss, and two grandchildren.

**Elizabeth Pepe**

Elizabeth "Betty" Pepe, 80, of New Providence, formerly of Summit, died June 13 in the Glenside Care Center, New Providence.

Born in Newark, Miss Pepe lived in Summit before moving to New Providence more than 10 years ago. She was a bookkeeper for 20 years with Wharton-Lyon & Lyon Insurance Co., Livingston, before retiring 15 years ago.

**Connie Anderson**

Connie M. Anderson, 85, of Summit died June 17 at home.

Born in Peacopago, Italy, Mrs. Anderson lived in Summit since she was six months old. She had been an

accounting clerk at Chubb and Son Insurance Co., Warren, for 16 years before retiring in 1982.

Surviving are a son, Larry Jr.; two sisters, Ana Pizanti and Mary Noll, and a grandchild.

**Marian Brundage**

Marian Brundage, 79, of Summit died June 8 in the Newport News home of her son, Cole Brundage.

Born in New York City, Mrs. Brundage lived in Rockville Centre, N.Y., before moving to Summit more

than 40 years ago. She worked for City Services, New York City, and as a library assistant at the Franklin School in Summit.

Mrs. Brundage was a member of the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield and the Women of Independent Minds Book Club. She also was active with area theater and exercise groups.

Also surviving are another son, Craig; a daughter, Helen Rouse; two sisters, Harriet Grusch and Janet Smith; a brother, Everard Smith, and three grandchildren.

Patton's 3rd Army and saw action at the Battle of the Bulge. He was the recipient of four Bronze stars. Mr. Roccia also served with the Merchant Marine and the National Guard.

Surviving are two brothers, Pat and Jimmy, and two sisters, Jennie and Ellen.

**Solomon Tow**

Solomon Tow, 90, of Springfield died June 18 at home.

Born in New York City, he lived in Belrose, N.Y., before moving to Springfield seven years ago. Mr. Tow was a self-employed sales representative for 50 years for the French Connection, Hukapo and Lofties in New York City before retiring in 1987. He received a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from City College in New York.

Mr. Tow was an Army veteran of World War II. He served in the Pacific Theater and saw action in the Philippines.

Surviving are a daughter, Barbara Schuppe, and four grandchildren.

**Ernest Roccia**

Ernest Roccia, 88, of Mountainside died June 18 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Newark, Mr. Roccia lived in Mountainside since 1971. He was an Army veteran of World War II. Mr. Roccia served with General George



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A member of Atlantic Health System

## County's role in Revolutionary War draws history buffs

By Lauren DeFilippo  
Staff Writer  
History enthusiasts of all stripes indulged their passion at Kean University in Union last week.

On Friday morning, the county's Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs co-sponsored a seminar about the county's role in the American Revolution.

According to Kean History Department Chairperson Mark Lender, the area that is today Union County was a hotbed of Revolutionary war.

"The scale of the action in what would become Union County was just extraordinary," Lender said to a group of roughly 100 guests.

With in the county's boundaries over the six-decade-long period of fighting, he noted. That's approximately two recorded and verifiable engagements each week.

Lender likened Union County's history as theater of war to that of the "Location is everything," he said, noting that the county's prime location between New York City, which was occupied by British forces, and Philadelphia, meant that the state would see a lot of action during the war.

"More fighting took place in New Jersey than any other state," Lender said.

However, over time, historical sites like battlefields and encampments have given way to urbanization and other development.

"The community cannot protect what they don't know is there," Steve Hedgeson of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection said.

He called upon the local community to work at identifying historic sites. Using resources such as the National Parks Service, local groups can lobby their municipal planning and zoning boards to curb development of the sites, thus preserving a tangible piece of history.

Esther Lender noted that when he tells his address of the county's rich history, that first question usually if they can visit the site.

Unfortunately, a number of locations have long since been eradicated for the sake of economic and industrial progress, he said.

Some of them are small and easily lost. Many of the maps, Rajoppi said, are in various forms of disarray.

"They're either in extremely poor condition, or poor condition," she said.

Some are ripped or torn, while others have pieces missing.

"Some of them are fragments," Rajoppi said. "It's a large, large problem."

The clerk estimated a number of causes for the maps' conditions, including heavy use, deterioration from acid caused from being handled frequently by people, and previous poor handling jobs.

"Map repair work is a specialty," she said, noting that because of the dying industry, the number of people who do such work is small and costly.

"Many of the maps, Rajoppi said, are in various forms of disarray. They're either in extremely poor condition, or poor condition," she said.

Some are on linen, while others are on paper, or laminated, or affixed to cardboard backing.

Once the maps are restored to their original condition, they can be copied," she said.

From there, the original maps will be archived.

At present, Rajoppi said the office is just waiting for final approval from the freeholder board before they can begin their restoration work.

"We are all ready to start," she said.

Restored maps are two examples of books of maps that will be restored by the Union County Office, which received a grant to complete the restoration project.

County Freeholder Chairman Rick Proctor announced the grant to complete the restoration project.

Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi said the PARIS grant is really one of the largest available for this kind of work.

"We consider ourselves very, very lucky," she said.

In total, the county received \$1,010,035 in PARIS funding. The remaining money not used by Rajoppi's office will be utilized by the



COUNTY NEWS

'Freeloaders Forum'
Union County's extensive summer arts and recreation programs are the subject of the latest 'Freeloaders Forum' program...

These programs include free Wednesday evening concerts that will return to Echo Lake Park beginning June 29...

'Kids Kingdom Traveling Jubilee' events are scheduled for this summer: July 10, at Wannanaco Park in Elizabethton...

Information on all Union County Parks & Recreation programs can be found online at www.uccnj.org...

Each half-hour 'Freeloaders Forum' program can be seen on a continuing program loop as part of UCC 1, an Internet video service from Union County College...

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Beat the heat at either of two county pools

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeloaders and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities announce the opening of the two county-operated swimming pools...

Swimming lessons are held at Ulrich Pool beginning July 5. Applications are available at either pool office for all ages, beginners through adults, and pre-registration is required...

Special open swim sessions for seniors and people with disabilities are held at Ulrich Pool on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. and at Wheeler Pool on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon...

Registration for the fall classes begins July 1 and lasts through the summer or until classes are full. Registration forms and fees must be submitted in person...

Watching Stables is located at 1160 Summit Lane in Mountainside and is operated by the Union County Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities...

For further information, and to obtain registration materials, call 908-789-3665.

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City, county law enforcement officials solve crimes

In less than three days over the weekend, detectives from the Plainfield Police Division arrested seven persons charged in connection with three separate homicides that occurred in the city between March and May...

'I join Police Chief Edward Santiago in pointing out that the teams of detectives who worked for weeks and weeks on these cases are the ones that deserve credit for rounding up the evidence and those believed responsible for these killings,' said Union County Prosecutor Theodore J. Romankow...

Santiago said the first person arrested was an Irvington resident, Omar F. Lewis, 18, of Clinton Avenue, who was charged with the murder and robbery of Jose F. Lopez on March 13, 2005...

Lopez, a resident of Plainfield, was accosted on the 600 block of Madison Avenue by a group of persons, knocked to the ground and then allegedly stabbed by Lewis and left in the middle of the street. Santiago said his body was discovered at around 9:10 p.m.

The defendant, who moved from Plainfield to Irvington after the killing, was arrested Thursday in Irvington by detectives without incident,' the chief said, adding Lewis is currently being held in the Union County jail in Elizabeth under \$500,000 bail set by Superior Court Judge James Heimlich.

On Friday, detectives charged another city man with the murder and robbery of Manuel Sidel Perez back on May 5, Santiago said.

Richard Grier, 36, of 936 West Third Street, was charged with the murder and robbery of a woman in the Union County jail in Elizabeth under \$500,000 bail set by Superior Court Judge James Heimlich.

On Saturday at 6 a.m., Plainfield Detective Frank Wilson and Prosecutor's Detective William Mannix arrested Juan Antonio Montanez, 19, in Perth Amboy near his home at 93 First Street and charged him with taking part in the killing and attempted robbery of Lopez in the street.

A third suspect, Keith R. Carson, 27, was arrested by Plainfield Detectives Jean Calvin and Thomas Masuhr at his home at around 6 a.m. at 424 West 5th Street in Plainfield at around the same time and he is being held in lieu of \$1.5 million set by Judge Moylan.

The final suspect, a 16-year-old male from the city was also arrested Saturday at his home and he is in the George W. Herlich Detention Center in Elizabeth awaiting a court hearing on March 13, 2005.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Equity theater group at Kean set for inaugural season

By Francine Cohen
That thunderous applause you hear? It's the sound of theater lovers clapping loudly in anticipation of the inaugural season of Premiere Stages. Premiere is proud to introduce audiences to new works by established and emerging playwrights, filling a niche long empty in the area...

This new theater company's initial offering is an interactive staged reading of 'Opus,' which opens Friday and runs through Sunday. Playwright Michael Hollinger's piece revolves around a world-class chess player's challenge to replace a visiting virtuoso in time for a presidential inauguration at the White House...

The first full production of the 2005 season is a comedic commentary not to be missed, 'Owed to My First Love,' by Susan Baraky, runs from July 14 to 31. This world premiere comedy takes a riotous look into the journey of a struggling actor...

Other universities in the country can boast a top-notch theater program which draws experienced talent and educates students simultaneously. Kean University's premiere stage company, Premiere Stages, has a strong commitment to the arts and is working to make the university a cultural center for the region...

Recently, with the help of Robert Cole, vice president of university relations, and Lindsay Gambini, who heads up the effort to expand the arts program, Farrell brought in programs and performances to the school, increasing arts at the university by 300 percent, including Premiere Stages, which was launched under the direction of John Wooten...

At Premiere Stages, it's clear there's no business like show business. Based at Kean University, Premiere Stages is a professional equity theater that is actually an academic program of the university. It is one of a handful of theater companies of its kind; few other universities in the country can boast a top-notch theater program...

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Local duo starts work on film project

By Leslie Prentice
Double 7 Film production company is making movie magic in Bayonne. Founders, directors Emily Konopinski and Pete Chatman are embarking on their debut full-length feature film titled 'Premium.'

The Bayonne set has a true independent, 'indie' film feel. At this juncture in the shooting schedule, the main stage of 'Premium' is an inverted gas station, the logo being a purple circle with the written promise of 'full service' within. Three correspondingly purple pumps await traffic and an actor can be seen pacing and mouthing lines on the asphalt...

Chatman said he tried to keep the story 'tight to film' and that much of it is based on his own experiences. The original inspiration for 'Premium' was Chatman's own encounter with a man in a small, and some of the cast and crew already knew each other. The hero of this gas station dramedy is a 27-year-old black man named Cool, trying to make it as an actor without taking typically 'black' roles...

While the full feature is only five days into the ambitious 20-day schedule, things already seem to be coming together. The indie film world is small, and some of the cast and crew already knew each other. The hero of this gas station dramedy is a 27-year-old black man named Cool, trying to make it as an actor without taking typically 'black' roles...

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Local musicians ready to rock out

By Jeff Cummins
Lauren Hunt had done all the preliminary work, including hiring a manager. Now her hopes for a band were being stifled by just one problem: Few auditions were producing any talent worthy of her aspirations...

But there was one bright spot, guitarist Nick Affitto of Union, who just happened to know some friends who might be interested in joining the band. Affitto contacted his friends, and the deal was done. 'We had a bunch of guys who auditioned and didn't work out,' said Affitto, 'but I had some friends who were musicians, and I thought, 'Hey guys, want to play in a band?'

At first, the band that Hunt and Affitto created will take the stage at The Denning Court, 21 South Orange Ave., South Orange, at 8 and 9:15 p.m. Hunt's band is a veteran when it comes to playing live, creating an interesting mixture that certainly isn't the norm. Having listened to Frank Sinatra and Steve Wonder, does he have any particular preference in terms of music?

That's tough," he said. "My preference changes daily. I like them all." But the music played with Hunt's band is decidedly pop, and mostly about self-discovery, as evidenced by the light, optimistic songs of "Who Am I," the first of four songs available on the group's Web site, www.laura-huntmusic.com.

Even though Hunt's focus is primarily pop rock, she has many influences, as well. The Union County Board of Chosen Freeloaders will present an exhibit by Judith Colon White of Roselle in the gallery space at the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl St. in Elizabeth.

The exhibit of paintings by Judith Colon White of Roselle in the gallery space at the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl St. in Elizabeth. The exhibit features a variety of styles and subjects, including landscapes, still life, and portraits.

White was born in Elizabeth and raised in Roselle. She has always loved music and art. Along with being a talented painter, she is also a gifted soprano. After high school, White worked at a variety of jobs to study music. She studied piano at Manhattan School of Music in New York and has sung at Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall in New York and in churches throughout New Jersey.

White's paintings on exhibit at the Pearl Street Gallery are done in oil, watercolor, and pencil. Her subjects include landscape, floral still life, and portraits. She works in a realistic style and was self-taught until she entered the duCrest School of Art in Plainfield at the age of 42. She studied painting and graphic arts and graduated from duCrest in 2003.

White has exhibited her work in shows throughout New Jersey. Her exhibits include the Merck Jersey Art Show, the Plainfield Outdoor Festival, the St. Mark's Church Art Show, and the Diversity Art Gallery in Clark. Her work is frequently exhibited at the Pearl Street Gallery in Plainfield. She has won many awards for her work in watercolor, oil, sculpture, and stained glass.

The beautiful and inspiring paintings of White, one of Roselle's fine multi-talented artists, are on display at the Pearl Street Gallery in the historic St. John's Paragon through July 19. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Union County artists whose works can be hung on a wall and are interested in exhibiting in the gallery are welcome to apply. For more information about the Pearl Street Gallery or to learn about other programs, services and volunteer opportunities, contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, NJ 07202. Telephone 908-558-2550. NJ Relay users can dial 711 or send e-mail to culturalinfo@uccnj.org.

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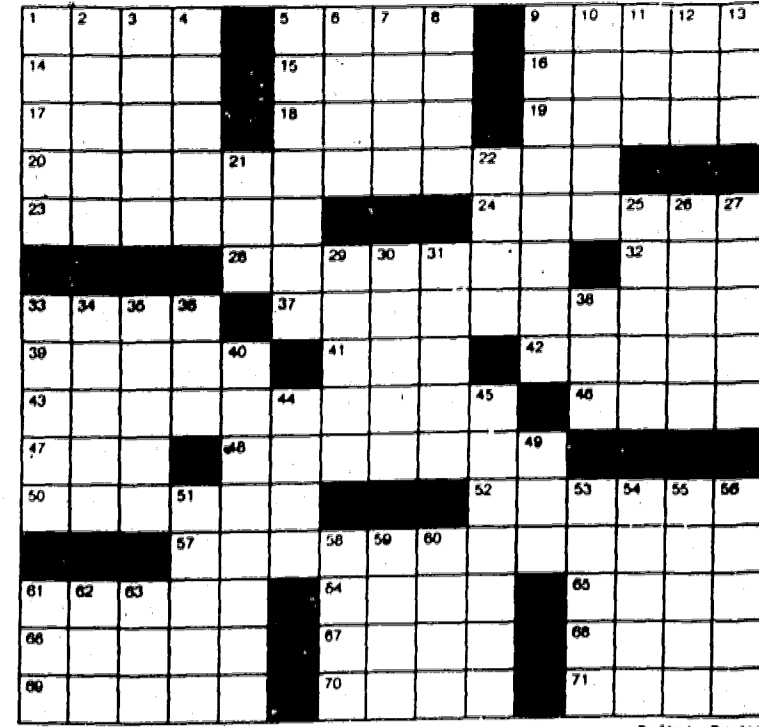
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ACROSS

- 1 Broken, as a bronco
- 5 Go postal
- 9 Pooped
- 14 It'll cause a sensation
- 15 Heavy reading
- 16 Green growth
- 17 Shy marsh bird
- 18 What revenge-seekers get
- 19 Swamp things
- 20 Market bottom?
- 23 Temper
- 24 Saudi capital
- 28 Home of Alexander the Great
- 32 Scene of confusion: slang
- 33 Way to go
- 37 Highly optimistic investor?
- 39 Big spread
- 41 Put down in writing
- 42 Had a cow?
- 43 Bear's action?
- 46 TV angel
- 47 Take scene
- 48 Put together
- 50 Lamb products
- 52 Day break?
- 57 Buys shares of?
- 61 Short last line
- 64 Jungle knife
- 65 Schubert song
- 66 Bouquet of roses
- 67 Lose focus
- 68 In two parts, musically
- 69 Full of gossip
- 70 Not everyone
- 71 Recipe shortening

In the Market



- 3 Erin, of "Happy Days"
- 4 Wipe out
- 5 Outstanding
- 6 Variable star
- 7 That's for sure!
- 8 Hang fire
- 9 Words to the wise
- 10 Gray matter
- 11 The time of your life
- 12 Far out!
- 13 Cry of triumph
- 15 Manhattan show-
- 17 Tiger club
- 25 Sky blue
- 26 Kansas Bob and Elizabeth
- 27 Wrestler's repertoire
- 28 "Lost Horizon" director
- 30 Mild oath
- 31 Eats
- 33 Outmoded
- 34 Gets sore
- 35 Lopes along
- 36 One of the girls
- 38 Shituck
- 40 Emulate Godot?
- 41 Siberian city
- 45 Ring back
- 49 Giovanni's god
- 51 Elementary particles
- 53 Brewera
- 54 Goes downhill?
- 55 Traffic snarl
- 56 Patagonia's peaks
- 58 Slacks off
- 59 All by one's lonesome
- 60 Hit the low spots
- 61 Lacking color
- 62 Wrath
- 63 Average guy?

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE B10

HOROSCOPES

June 27 to July 3

**ARIES**, March 21 to April 19: Work on a home-improvement project that will increase the value as well as the comfort of your home. Invite family to join in the decorating process.

**Taurus**, April 20 to May 20: You are likely to be exposed to many different ideas or concepts this week. When questions arise concerning your thoughts or opinions, answer with care.

**GEMINI**, May 21 to June 21: Cash in on a money-making idea and you are on your way to leaving your budgetary problems in the dust.

Wait until the check clears before splurging.

**CANCER**, June 22 to July 22: Holding on to stubborn behavior or being set in your ways will prevent you from performing your greatest good. Relax and give in to change.

**LEO**, July 23 to Aug. 22: You can begin to stimulate more intuition or right-brain activity with meditative exercise. Open the door to your creative subconscious and let ideas flow.

**VIRGO**, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Your friends can be most informative and will prove to be a great asset in problem solving.

Take notes and consider acting on their insights and advice.

**LIBRA**, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Sometimes the voice of experience knows best.

Turn to an elder or mentor you feel you can trust to help make a difficult or complex decision.

**SCORPIO**, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: A change of scenery is just what the doctor ordered. Pack your bags for a quick and timely getaway to the country, city or island of your choice.

**SAGITTARIUS**, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: Keep a close watch on possessions or accounts held jointly with others. Make sure your associate is aware of recent profits or unimely losses.

**CAPRICORN**, Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: Play the diplomatic role and avoid passing judgment on a partner or mate. If given a chance to tell your side of the story, set the record straight.

**AQUARIUS**, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18:

Working smart will help you to get a lot accomplished at work this week. Stay focused and complete a pressing project in record time.

**PISCES**, Feb. 19 to March 20: A good sense of humor comes in handy when dealing with children. If you cannot beat them in a game of wits, why not join them in a moment of laughter.

If your birthday is this week, you are intellectually strong and gifted in communication during the coming year.

Use this cycle to make great headway in a teaching or learning environment. You tend to favor the unusual in many aspects of your life, but you should take a moderate approach to domestic changes or home improvements.

Express your individuality and make your mark.

Also born this week: Bob "Captain Kangaroo" Keeshan, Richard Rodgers, Antoine de Saint-Exupery, Charles Laughton and Thurgood Marshall.

Artist's work is shown at UCC

Through July 28, Union County College will be host to an exhibition by Gayle Ruskin-White titled, "Large Scale Works from 1990-1994." This exhibition will be hung in the Commons on the College's Cranford campus at 1033 Springfield Ave. Due to extensive renovations being made to the MacKay Library, the Tomasulo offerings are being moved from the gallery space to various venues on the Cranford Campus.

Ruskin-White describes her works as abstractions, using a combination of organic, 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 are oil paint on unstretched canvas, wood panels, and steel. They incorporate

tonal works of black, gray, brown, and white, with hints of color. The paintings have an urgency of life and death to them, not in an ominous way, but instead, they reach out to a universal acknowledgement of the human condition.

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.

THE BIGGEST MISTAKES WOMEN INVESTORS MAKE AND HOW TO IDENTIFY THEM

Hosted By: Stewart A. Ritter  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
When: Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> 2005  
at 7:00 pm  
Where: The Westwood  
438 North Avenue,  
Garwood

Admission is free, but space is limited. For tickets please call Rosalee DeSimone at 908-789-7827 or 800-265-5736

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Antiques featured at series

Liberty Hall Museum has scheduled the following programs in its popular Lunch and Learn series, which is free to the public who are invited to bring their lunch and learn. Lunch and Learn takes place on a Tuesday from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Space is limited, so call 908-527-0400 for your reservation.

On Tuesday, interior decorating is the topic. Mary Ann Imbracco, an interior designer and partner in Designs for Interiors, will explain the basics of home decorating. Using samples, she will demonstrate how to design a color scheme, place furniture, and choose fabrics and window treatments.

Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave., Union, chronicles more than 200 years of New Jersey and U.S. history.



**FILM FESTIVAL**  
**SATURDAY**  
June 25th, 2005  
Video Festival  
PLACE: 174 South Valley Road (corner of Meeker Street, near bottom of Walker Road), West Orange  
TIME: 7:30 p.m.  
DETAILS: Nationally known competition and traveling exhibition of cutting-edge contemporary film by independent filmmakers. A program of diverse, energetic film, from whimsical animation to powerful, uplifting documentaries, including "Ryan," a visually stunning portrayal of an artist that won the 2005 Academy Award for short animation (973731-6485)  
PRICE: \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door  
ORGANIZATION: Ridgeview Community Church

**What's Going On** is a paid directory of events for non profit organizations. It is prepared and costs just \$20.00 (for 2 weeks) for Essex County or Union County and just \$30.00 for both Counties. Your notice must be in our Union Office (1291 Stuyvesant Ave) by 4:00 PM on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at our other offices, 266 Liberty St., Bloomfield or 463 Valley St. Maplewood. For more information call 908-686-7850

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**Jeff Cummins, Editor**  
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REUNIONS

- The following schools will conduct reunions in the coming months:
  - Scotch Plains High School Class of 1975, 30-year reunion, 2005.
  - 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 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, Englishtown 07726 or call 732-617-1000.
- All graduates of Scotch Plains High School on Aug. 27 from 1 p.m. to dusk at Memorial Park on South Wood Avenue. Bring your own chairs. For more information, call Jim Kupcho at 732-634-8674, or send an e-mail to LP850442@comcast.net.
- Linden High School, Class of 1975, will hold its 30th reunion at Costa's Restaurant, Roselle Park, on Nov. 26. Anyone with information about missing classmates may contact Shirley Anne at 908-241-8298, or send an e-mail to hhsclassof1975@comcast.net.
- There will be a cash bar. Reservations made before Saturday are \$15 per person, and reservations made after Saturday are \$30 per person. Make checks payable to South Side High School Alumni and mail them to Allan G. Katz, 170 Forest Hill Rd., West Orange, NJ 07052-3921. All graduates from the 1930s are welcome to attend. For more information, call Allan Katz at 973-731-6475, or Arnold Mirsky at 908-688-4659.

Editorial deadlines

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

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Greats line the stage at JazzFest 2005

By Doug McNamara  
Staff Writer

From June 10 through 12, jazz lovers of all ages flocked to the Sanoff-Aventis JazzFest 2005, held at the Madison campus of Fairleigh-Dickinson University.

During the three-day event — organized by the nonprofit New Jersey Jazz Society — festival attendees could experience jazz's rich history and diversity, with acts ranging from Dixieland to bebop.

The festival began on a Friday night with a rare appearance by legendary pianist Ray Bryant — a recent inductee into the Jazz Hall of Fame — joined by bassist Lyle Atkinson and drummer Winard Harper.

Bryant began his career in the early-1950s in Philadelphia as the house pianist at a local jazz club, backing such greats as Miles Davis and Charlie Parker.

In 1955, Davis — impressed by the young pianist — called him to New York for a recording session with vibraphonist Milt Jackson and alto saxophonist Jackie McLean, thus launching Bryant into the jazz world.

Though Bryant is primarily known as a bop pianist, he's comfortable with a variety of styles — such as boogie-woogie, stride and gospel — which gives his playing a bluesy, more traditional sound.

His musical flexibility was on display Friday night. Bryant started the show off with a solo piece he had composed called "Lullaby Petite," before launching into a number of standards, such as Count Basie's "Little Darling" and Antonio Carlos Jobim's "Wave."

He ended the first set playing a number of bop anthems, the highlight

of which was Bobby Timmons' minor blues "Moanin'."

Throughout the evening, Bryant's playing was inconsistent. At times, he dazzled, especially on bluesier tunes such as "After Hours" — a piece he recorded on the classic 1957 album "Soney Side Up." Featuring tenor saxophonists Sonny Rollins and Sonny Stitt — and pianist Bobby Timmons' "Moanin'."

On such familiar material, his full arsenal was on display, wowing the audience with riffs that recalled Basie at his best and block chords reminiscent of Red Garland.

On some of the other pieces, he seemed flat. At times, his playing would become too cute. On a number of pieces, such as "Wave" and "Broadway," Bryant seemed to grope for ideas, leading to what sounded like half-failed experiments.

Though he no longer sounds like he did in his heyday of the '50s and '60s, his playing was impressive, particularly for a man of 74.

Bryant's opening band — the Morristown High School Spectrum Jazz Ensemble — deserves special mention. This group can really play! This group of talented young musicians handled a number of difficult charts easily.

Particularly impressive was their rendition of Oliver Lake's "Stolen Moments." Unlike many high school bands, this group resisted the temptation to overplay and compense the arrangement's dynamic range.

Instead, they made sure the loud parts were loud and the soft parts soft. A number of weekend performers — organist Radam Schwartz springs to mind — could certainly learn from these high schoolers.

Registration is now open for the Summer Arts Camp for children between 7 and 14 years old at The Arts Guild of Rahway during July and August. The weeks are July 18 to 22, July 25 to 29, Aug. 1 to 5 and Aug. 8 to 12. During each week there will be a morning session from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and an afternoon session from noon to 2:30 p.m. Each session or afternoon session is \$150. Full-day sessions for any one week are \$280. All materials will be provided, and a limited number of scholarships are available for needy students. Call for application information.

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'Ragtime' captures the emotions of an era

By Jeff Cummins  
Associate Editor

The first thing that strikes one about "Ragtime," at the Paper Mill Playhouse through July 17, is that director Stafford Arima's minimalist approach is absolutely outstanding.

"Ragtime" is a story about people from various segments of American culture who, by chance or choice, suddenly find themselves out of their provincial corner of life. Each one of them is charged, some for better, some for worse.

Within the plot are several mini stories, each a story in its own right. Arima's direction of "Ragtime" is able to tell each of these stories, without letting any of them overshadow the other. Better still, "Ragtime" makes each story worthy of telling in its own right.

The emotional factor in this play is tremendous. There's certainly nothing new about stories of bigotry, perseverance in the face of adversity, and building a life in a new culture, but there's something about this version of "Ragtime" that still makes these topics jump out at the audience. By the end of the play, emotions are raw. Again, something that's a testament to Arima and his cast.

With so many characters in the production, if there is one central character, it's Coalhouse Walker, Jr., played by Quentin Earl Darrington, who excelled in the role. Darrington masterfully showed how events in his life could alter his perspective. As the play begins, Darrington's Walker is behind the wheel of Booker T. Washington, who calls upon people of color to persevere in spite of bigotry and racism. But as events shake Walker's world, Darrington is very

persuasive in his performance, turning from a proud man who trusts in authority to a proud man who takes matters into his own hands.

Walker's odyssey begins when he ventures north from New York City to New Rochelle, in Westchester County, to find Sarah, the mother of his son. The family is briefly reunited, but a chance meeting with Willie Conklin, a bigoted Irish freighter ably played by Greg Stone, changes Walker's life forever. Before Walker runs into Conklin — whose Irish brogue is mastered by Stone — he meets the family Sarah and his son are staying with, and builds a friendship with the woman of the house, known as "Mother," played by Rachel York, and her younger brother, played by Shonn Wiley.

York subtly conveys the frustration of a woman whose marriage is just a tad unsatisfying. She's married to father, played by David Hess, an excellent provider who ignores her and frequently takes long-distance excursions, leaving her to mind his business affairs and their son. White father is traveling to the North Pole, mother and her little boy share an interesting train ride with an Eastern European immigrant, named Tatch, who has a daughter referred to as little girl who is the same age as mother's little boy. At the conclusion of this chance meeting, the little boy tells his mother they'll see a lot of Tatch and his daughter in the future.

Tatch is played by Neal Betari, who delivers one of the best performances of the play, excelling as a terrified, but hopeful immigrant, before morphing in the second act into a confident, successful filmmaker, who reconnects with mother, who delivers one of the best performances of the play, excelling as a terrified, but hopeful immigrant, before morphing in the second act into a confident, successful filmmaker, who reconnects with mother, who delivers one of the best performances of the play, excelling as a terrified, but hopeful immigrant, before morphing in the second act into a confident, successful filmmaker, who reconnects with mother,

begin as a youngster and follow through into adult life. It is a way to record and communicate one's thoughts and feelings and produce something — a drawing, or painting, a print or collage or sculpture — that is uniquely your own.

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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area.

# Stepping Out

## ART SHOWS

**"LARGE SCALE WORKS FROM 1990-1994"** by Gayle Ruskin-White will be on exhibit through July 28 at Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For more information, call 908-709-9155.

**THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS** will present an exhibit by Judith Clark White of Roselle in the gallery space at the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl Street in Elizabeth. The solo exhibit of paintings by the award-winning artist can be seen through July 19 at the Pearl Street Gallery. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**THE ART OF LONGTIME SUMMIT RESIDENT JAMES W. HARTE**, will be exhibited by his daughter, Kathleen Harte Giesen, at the Millburn Library through the end of June. Harte, who uses her multiple national citizenship, decided to use the exhibit to honor the important role her father played in her life. Contact the library at 973-376-1006 for hours of operation.

**THE 14TH ANNUAL ARTS CENTER'S JURIED EXHIBITION** will be held at the Watching Arts Center through June 30. For information, call 908-753-0190, or visit the Web site, www.watchingarts.org.

## Friendly folks in Summit



A scene from the recent 'Art in Summit' day. For more information on this and other arts experiences in Union County, call the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts at 908-273-9424.

## BOOKS

**THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOOK GROUP** will meet at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark, for information, call 732-574-1818.

**BOOKS BY WOMEN, ABOUT WOMEN** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

**THE "LORD OF THE RINGS" READING GROUP** meets the first Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

**KEAN UNIVERSITY'S OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS** and the Star-Ledger have partnered to publish a new book titled "World of Wonder: Exploring the Realms of History, Science, Nature and Technology." The book brings together 90 of the most fascinating subjects surveyed by the World of Wonder series. The book is now available for purchase in the Kean University book store and on the Web site of the Star-Ledger at <http://www.nj.com/worldofwonder>.

**SPORTS COLUMNIST MAURYN ALLEN** will discuss the 1956 Brooklyn Dodgers' World Series win over the New York Yankees tonight at 7 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For more information, call 973-376-6581.

**LOVE A GOOD MYSTERY!** Get a sneak peak at the new American Girl Mysteries on Friday at 4:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For more information, call 973-376-6581.

**"THE BOOK OF SALT" by MONIQUE TRUONG** will be the focus of the "Discover" book group on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For more information, call 973-376-6581.

fabrics and window treatments. Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave., Union, chronicles more than 200 years of New Jersey and U.S. history. The museum is open to the public Wednesdays through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m., April through December. For more information about upcoming Liberty Hall events or for reservations call 908-527-0400.

**THE NEW SCULPTURE STUDIO** of the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts has prepared an expanded curriculum. The New Jersey Center for Visual Arts will be offering a new stone carving course for the summer 2005 semester, on Mondays from 9:30 a.m. to noon. These classes will feature a new book titled "World of Wonder: Exploring the Realms of History, Science, Nature and Technology." The book brings together 90 of the most fascinating subjects surveyed by the World of Wonder series. The book is now available for purchase in the Kean University book store and on the Web site of the Star-Ledger at <http://www.nj.com/worldofwonder>.

**WORKSHOP** presents many exciting and new classes for its upcoming summer program scheduled for Wednesday through July 29. This all-inclusive summer program features pre-K and kindergarten programs, string ensembles, vocal performances, art classes, a potpourri of crafts classes, food preparation classes, dance classes, video techniques, graphic designs, cartooning, jewelry-making, batik decoration, jazz aerobics, and keyboarding. In addition to a host of musical-theatrical choices, the workshop will be held at Roosevelt Intermediate School on Clark Street in Westfield.

Children who are interested in this wonderful dramatic experience of both clowning and juggling register by calling 908-518-1561 or by visiting the New Jersey Workshop of the Arts at 160-152 E. Broad St., Westfield, to receive a brochure.

## CONCERTS

**MEET THE ORCHESTRA** concert series continues at the Suburban Community Music Center, 570 Central Ave., Murray Hill. For the 18th year, the Suburban Community Music Center, in cooperation with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, will host the Meet the Orchestra series for children ages 3 to 8. For more information, call 908-790-0700.

**THE WATCHING ART CENTER ACUSTIC-FOLK SERIES** has begun at Watching Art Center, 18 Sterling Road, Watchung. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and the shows start at 8 p.m. Admission is \$15. For information and reservations, call 908-753-0190 or

## DISCUSSION

**THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS** invites local nonprofit organizations, individual artists and scholars to apply for funding from the 2004 Union County HEART — History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands — Grant program. Contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, 07202; call 908-558-2550. Relay users dial 711; or send inquiries via e-mail to [culturalinfo@ucnj.org](mailto:culturalinfo@ucnj.org).

## JAZZ

**LANA'S RESTAURANT** in Clark will offer dinner and live jazz with Warren Vache every Thursday, beginning at 7 p.m. For information, call 732-869-

## THEATER

**THE KENILWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY** will present its second annual "The Bard on the Boulevard" outdoor summer Shakespeare festival. Performances in the series include "Antony and Cleopatra" on Sunday, "Richard III" on July 31 and "Love's Labour's Lost" on Aug. 14. All performances are free and open to all members of the general public. Because seating will not be provided, the public is encouraged to bring lawn chairs or other portable seating. Blankets and beach towels are not recommended. In the event of rain, the performance will be moved indoors to the Kenilworth Public Library at 548 Boulevard. For more information, call the Kenilworth Public Library at 908-278-2451.

**THE THEATER PROJECT IN CRANFORD** will present "Jackie, An American Life" which begins on July 7 and continues through July 31, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m. General admission is \$20. On Thursdays, tickets are \$12. On Sunday only, July 10, is Senior Sunday when all senior citizen tickets are \$12. Student tickets are always \$10. Reservations are recommended, and can be made by calling 908-658-5189.

## VARIETY

**THE BACK PORCH** in Rahway will present Open Mic Night every Thursday night, a disc jockey every Friday night and solo artists and bands on Saturdays.

**HAPPY HOUR** is 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, with \$1 drinks and \$3 Long Island iced teas. Mondays are Mexican Mondays with \$2 shot specials, \$2 Coronas, \$2 margaritas and \$1 tacos. Wednesdays are Ladies Nights and karaoke.

**THE BACK PORCH** is located at 1505 Main St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-6644. **CROSSROADS**, 78 North Ave., Garfield, presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy acts, as well as foot-bell-theatrical nights.

**EVERY SUNDAY: Live comedy, funk and poetry; Live at Instant Coffee, 8 p.m.** Every Monday: Open Mic Night, Happy Hour all night. Every Tuesday: Jazz Jam, all p.m., \$2.

**EVERY Wednesday: Karaoke Night; Karaoke and MGD, \$2 all night.** Every Thursday: Flash Night, \$2 Coronas, Cuervo and margaritas, \$2 all night. For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit [www.xroads.com](http://www.xroads.com).

**MOLLY MARGUERITE'S IRISH PUB** in Clark will present entertainment in the coming weeks: Molly Maguire's is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call 732-389-8511.

**HOUSE OF SATURDAY COFFEE** will be held at the second Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit. "Featuring" will be an "open mic" format of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for future dates. For information, call 908-928-0127 or send an e-mail to [info@houseofcoffee.com](mailto:info@houseofcoffee.com).

**VAN GOGH'S EAR**, 1017 Shuyburn Ave., Union, will present a series of musical events. Tuesdays are "Acoustic Tuesdays," some of which feature open mic from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer. Open mic participants sign up at 7:30 p.m. and get 10 minutes at the microphone. Singers and blues are featured Sundays at 8 p.m. The cover charge is \$3 for all Sunday concerts, unless otherwise noted. For information, call 908-810-1844.

**Sunday, the Pat Clare Trio** performs from 8 to 11 p.m. with a \$3 cover. July 10, Moneyworks performs from 8 to 11 p.m. with a \$3 cover. **THE CONCORD SINGERS**, unique, non-unionizing women's community choir, will have their summer concert on spring 2005. Rehearsals are Mondays from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit. For more information, call Debra Boyman at 908-777-7878 or visit the Web site, [www.concordsingers.org](http://www.concordsingers.org).

**PREMIERE STAGES**, the new Actors' Equity Association theater program at Kean University, is currently accepting play submissions for the Premiere Stages Play Festival from professional playwrights born or currently residing in New Jersey, as well as in the surrounding areas of New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. There is no fee required to submit a play to the Premiere Stages Play Festival. To request entry guidelines, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Laura Kelly, producing assistant, Premiere Stages at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union, N.J. 07083.

**HICKORY TREE CHORUS**, an award-winning women's choir singing four-part a cappella harmony in barbershop style, meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the New Jersey Youth Symphony Music Center, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Open to residents of both Essex and Union counties. To learn more about Sweet Adelines, Hickory Tree and its quartets, women and teen-aged girls who sing a cappella, visit the Web site, [hickorytreorchestra.org](http://hickorytreorchestra.org), or send an e-mail to [info@hickorytreorchestra.org](mailto:info@hickorytreorchestra.org), or call 973-966-6815.

**DINNERMATES** and Entrepreneurs Group invites business and professional singles to dinner at a local restaurant; wine and mingling is at 8 p.m., dinner is at 9 p.m. Two age groups are available. For information on dates and

## INTERNET

**THE INTERNET LOUNGE**, 256 South Ave., Fairwood, hosts an Open Mic Karaoke Night on Sundays at 7 p.m.

# Andy Bey highlights 40th anniversary concert at Newark Museum.

By Doug McNamara Staff Writer

Since the 1960s, the Newark Museum has educated the public about jazz every Thursday afternoon during the summer with its Jazz in the Gardens concert.

Last Wednesday night, the museum, with its co-sponsor WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM, kicked off its newest Jazz in the Gardens series — and celebrated its 40th anniversary in the process — with a garden party aptly titled "A Love Supreme."

The title, of course, refers to the seminal John Coltrane album, which the saxophonist recorded in 1965, the first year the series began. A classic

that has influenced literally thousands of musicians — ranging from legendary rock guitarist Carlos Santana to trumpeter and bandleader Wynton Marsalis — "A Love Supreme" is a fitting theme for the Museum's series.

However, the epithet doesn't just merely recognize Coltrane's masterpiece. It also honors the thousands of jazz enthusiasts — or should I say fanatics? — who have loyally supported an increasingly unpopular art form. What makes the Jazz in the Gardens series so special, though, is that for 40 years, every Thursday, on a lazy summer afternoon from 1-2 p.m., it has invited the general public — many of whom wouldn't otherwise hear the

music — to the back of the museum for a free concert featuring top-notch musicians.

As Cephas Bowles, WBGO's general director, explained, it isn't often that people can see "this caliber of artist." He added that the series really "improves the overall quality of life" for people who both live and work in Newark. "It's a great way to de-

awards for his album notes. His Sunday night "Jazz from the Archives" show is also the longest running program on WBGO, explained Bowles.

Following the award presentations, vocalist and pianist Andy Bey performed. Throughout the evening, he displayed his versatility as a musician, equally at home singing poignant ballads and navigating uptempo burners.

The highlights of the set were two standards: trombonist Juan Tizol's "Serenade," a standard of the Duke Ellington Orchestra and Kurt Weill's "Speak Low."

With its seductive melody, reminiscent of Middle Eastern caravans, "Caravan" was perfect for Bey's

# Rocker takes unique road to career

By Lauren DeFilippo Staff Writer

For more than a decade, Bloomfield native Ted Leo has been making political palatable in some form or another.

For the last decade, he's been rocking audiences in some form or another. His newest incarnation, Ted Leo and the Pharmacists, has experienced the most success, although it was not until the last few years that Leo thought he could ever really make a career out of being a singer/songwriter.

"I started playing music, and I just never stopped," he said.

Their 2004 release, "Shake the Sheets," was written in large part in the basement of his parents' home, and the fact that his album arrived on record shop shelves just on the heels of the 2004 presidential election had a poignant resonance for the disappointed and disenfranchised voters of America.

The band even did a stint on the "Vote for Change" tour with fellow New Jerseyans Bruce Springsteen.

Now 34, and recently married, Leo calls southeastern Rhode Island home, but still comes to Essex County on a fairly regular basis, about twice a week, he said, for business and to visit family.

New York City was where Leo usually served as the opening act for the four-piece group, who live along the East Coast, but house the larger pieces of their equipment in the area.

Looking back on his childhood, Leo described growing up in Bloomfield as an interesting experience.

hill from there," he said.

The now defunct Dirt Club in Bloomfield and out-of-the-way record shops like Two-Tone in Montclair also served as guideposts.

Today, Leo said, he drives past places like the Bloomfield Avenue Cafe, and gets angry that he's in such a rush he can't stop by and see who's playing.

"I actually want to try and play there again," he said.

Leo left Bloomfield following his graduation from Seton Hall Prep in West Orange. He attended Notre Dame University in South Bend, Ind. and graduated in 1994 with a bachelor's degree in English.

It was while at Notre Dame that he formed the punk rock band Chisel, which later broke up in 1997.

He has also lived in various spots up and down the East Coast, including Boston and Washington, D.C.

Leo said he got into music at a young age.

"My parents were young and listened to a lot of what I considered goof '60s rock," he said.

His father even took him to his first concert — Adam and the Ants — at a Passaic venue when he was 10.

Today, nothing makes him more excited than the young faces that peek back at him when he's on stage.

"I've always made it a point to play all-ages shows," he said.

Leo will perform at New York City's Living Plaza on Sunday, with Radio 4.

He will also play Maxwell's, 1039 Washington St., in Hoboken on Monday at 8 p.m. with Radio 4. Tickets are \$15.

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# Play at county college takes a comical look at Camelot

"Jackie, An American Life," a comedy by political satirist/playwright Gip Hoppe, opens at The Theater Project, Union County College's Professional Theater Company, on July 7 at 8 p.m.

Directed by Theater Project artistic director Mark Spina, with a cast that includes Harriet Trangucci of Summit, Rick Delaney of Orange, Gary Glor of Essex Fells, Brian Kennedy, Carla Franceschetti of North Caldwell, Shauna Miles and Daimah Talley of Plainfield, the production team comprises Jessica Parks, set design; Elise Halloran, lighting design; Cherie Cunningham, costume design; and Mike Cunningham, sound design.

No one since Greta "I want to be alone" Garbo had craved privacy more than Jacqueline Kennedy, and she had to marry a Greek billionaire to get it. In Gip Hoppe's hilarious play, Jackie herself conducts us on a whirlwind tour of the events and people in her life, on the condition that, when it's over, "You'll all go home and leave me alone!"

But can we? "The story of America's obsession with Mrs. Kennedy,"

said director Mark Spina, "may tell us more about ourselves than about the object of our fascination."

"Jackie, An American Life" plays from July 7 through 31, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m. General admission is \$20. On Thursdays, tickets are \$12. One Sunday only, July 10, is Senior Sunday when all senior citizen tickets are \$12.

Student tickets are always \$10. Reservations are recommended, and can be made by calling 908-686-5189.

The Theater Project is Union County College's professional theater company, bringing artists from all over the state and New York City together in its productions. Well-known for its intimate Studio on Stage where the audience sits within arm's reach of the performers, the company is celebrating its 11th season of producing new works and contemporary classics. The Theater Project has been recognized by grants from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the New Jersey State Arts Council, and the Union County College Foundation.

Harriet Trangucci, who plays Jackie, has performed for the last 15 years on New York and regional stages, most recently as Theda Blau in "I Had To Be You" at the Bickford Theatre. She was nominated for Outstanding Comedic Actress by *The Star-Ledger* for her portrayal of Mary in "Mary, Mary." Trangucci trained at Indiana University and also at William Esper Studios in New York City. She is associate artistic director at Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre where she teaches text acting.

Rick Delaney, who plays JFK, has appeared in Theater Project productions of "Three Tall Women," "The Mystery of Irma Vep," "Artist Descending a Staircase," and "A Wilde Night in the Rockies." Other New Jersey performances include "Red Herring" at 12 Miles West Theater and "Resident Alien" at Dreamcatcher Rep in South Orange. His numerous productions at the What Exit? Theater in Maplewood include "Sylvia," "Below the Belt," "The Memory Of Water," "Don't Dress For Dinner," and "The Lying Kind." In 2003 at What Exit?, and at NJPAC in

cooperation with the New Jersey Theatre Alliance, Delaney played all 40 characters in the acclaimed one-man show "Fully Committed." That production was chosen by Peter Filichina of *The Star-Ledger*, as one of the 10 best of 2003.

Gary Glor, who plays Black Jack Bouvier and Richard Nixon, has appeared in Theater Project productions of "Pterodactyls," "A Wilde Night in the Rockies," "Artist Descending a Staircase," "How I Learned to Drive," "An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bouef," "Defying Gravity," and "Beyond Therapy." Gary's regional theater credits include "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" at the George Street Playhouse, "Glenroy Glen Ross" at Millbrook Playhouse, "Amadeus" at Saxton's River Playhouse and "King Lear" and "The Tempest" at Buffalo, Shakespeare in the Park. Glor has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Theater from Rutgers University.

Brian J. Kennedy, who plays Hugh Auchincloss and Aristotle Onassis, studied acting at Towson University and Action Theater Conservatory. He

has appeared with the Theater Project in "The Waiting Room," "The Food Chain," and "Defying Gravity."

A graduate of the University of Richmond, Carla Franceschetti plays the roles of Lee Radziwell and Eunice Kennedy, and has appeared on stage as the waitress in David Ives' "The Philadelphia," and could be seen at various locations on campus doing her impersonation of Marisa Tomei in "My Cousin Vinny." She was most recently seen at the Theater Project as a Spanish-speaking Little Red Riding Hood in "Animal Babble" and as Froggy in "The Country Club" at Alliance Repertory Theater.

Shauna Miles, who plays Pat Kennedy Lawford and Betty Fretz, was last seen in Theater Project's production of "Top Girls." In addition to receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Boston University's School for the Arts, she was the winner of the Kennedy Center's Irene Ryan award and the recipient of Williamson Theatre Festival's Bill Everett Scholarship. Off Broadway credits include "The Duchess of Malfi" with Kings County Shakespeare Company and

# Paper Mill Playhouse offers three levels of summer courses

The Theatre School at Paper Mill Playhouse, New Jersey's renowned regional theater company, has announced its schedule of classes for the 2005-06 season. Theater class enrollment is open to students of all ages.

Committed to providing classes for all of life's stages, the Theatre School at Paper Mill operates from September through May with classes offered in sessions of either eight, 16 or 25 weeks duration. Registration is currently under way and will continue through September. All classes are

held at Paper Mill Playhouse, or at the Community Congregational Church in Short Hills, a five-minute drive from the theater. Classes are designed to foster individual growth and explore the theater process rather than focusing on performance, although select classes conclude with a showcase or "sharing" of things learned throughout the semester. Classes are offered on four levels:

Level One, for junior players, age 4 to 12 — The roster of classes has now expanded to include classes for pre-K students such as Storybook The-

atre and Theatre Tot's, as well as expanded offerings for older children including creative drama, play production, musical theatre, private voice lessons, acting for the camera, and dance. A select group of students is chosen to participate in the Junior Players All-Stars, who travel with two productions each year to community centers, schools, hospitals and senior citizen residences.

Level Two, teen and youth theater classes, age 13 to 18 — Classes offered include scene and monologue study, playwrighting, musical theater,

dance workshop, stage combat, hip hop, Broadway tap and jazz, cabaret singing workshop, private voice lessons, contemporary song styles, theater sports and many more. A select group of students audition for Children's Theatre on Tour which continues the tradition of performances at community centers and schools.

Level Three, adults and seniors, age 18 and up — Adult classes are provided for both the novice and more-experienced actor and include

acting workshops, musical theater performance, contemporary song styles, cabaret singing, adult tap workshop and voice over techniques. In addition, special classes providing a wide variety of interactive activities are offered for senior citizens including senior play workshop, playreading group, life stories and breakfast at Paper Mill — a weekly series of discussions about how theater works.

The Theatre School at Paper Mill was founded in 1989 with an initial

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS (IN STATE OF NEW JERSEY):** YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED TO APPEAR UPON JOHN SUZUKI, KANN & SHEPARD, plaintiffs' attorneys, whose address is 7 Century Drive, Suite 201, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054, telephone number (973) 238-9300, an Answer to the Complaint and amendments to the Complaint, in which a check of the Division of New Bank USA (FACUR MANDI, et al.) are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court, Union County, New Jersey, Cause No. 05-02-005, including this (3) days after the date of this notice, or such default may be rendered against you. If you are unable to appear, you shall file your answer and amendments to the Complaint with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Center, 200 North 2nd Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated December 19, 2002 made by FACUR MANDI and WENDY ROSE MANDI as mortgagors to CHAMPION MORTGAGE DIVISION OF KEY BANK, USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION recorded January 14, 2003, in Book 887 of Mortgages for Union County Page 0767, et al. and (2) to recover possession of and constructive possession of the property located at 1137-1143 EVERGREEN AVE. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07054.

If you cannot afford or are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling (973) 238-9300. UNION COUNTY LAWYER REFERRAL: (908) 354-4340. UNION COUNTY LEGAL SERVICES: (908) 354-4340

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**YOU, WENDY ROSE MANDI,** are made party defendant(s) to the foreclosure action because you are one of the mortgagors and may be liable for any or all of the debts and/or any lien, claim, or interest you may have in or to the property described herein by reason of the mortgage made by you and your husband, JOHN SUZUKI, as set forth above.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated December 19, 2002 made by JOHN SUZUKI and WENDY ROSE MANDI as mortgagors to CHAMPION MORTGAGE DIVISION OF KEY BANK, USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION recorded January 14, 2003, in Book 887 of Mortgages for Union County Page 0767, et al. and (2) to recover possession of and constructive possession of the property located at 1137-1143 EVERGREEN AVE. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07054.


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New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex-CO 873, Trenton, New Jersey 08646, including your check in the sum of \$193,000.00, and may be liable for any or all of the debts and/or any lien, claim, or interest you may have in or to the property described herein by reason of the mortgage made by you and your husband, JOHN SUZUKI, as set forth above.

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Worrall Community Newspapers publishes 19 weekly papers in Union and Essex Counties. Visit our website at [www.thelocalsource.com](http://www.thelocalsource.com)

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# REAL ESTATE

## Coldwell Banker introduces new relocation service for executives

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in New Jersey and Rockland County, N.Y., recently announced the introduction of HomeMatch International and Executive Service, a relocation program designed to help local companies attract top executive and international talent to their organizations. HomeMatch International and Executive Service builds on the strength of the Coldwell Banker Concierge Service. Designed to meet the ever-increasing demand for full service from both buyers and sellers, the innovative Coldwell Banker Concierge Service is based on the same concept that upscale hotels have provided for years. It is a complimentary, value-added, service-delivery program that helps buyers and sellers locate services they need before, during, and after a home sale or purchase.

But HomeMatch International and Executive Service takes that one step further. By connecting with individuals before they have made the decision to relocate, HomeMatch International and Executive Service provides a critical service at the front-end of the buying and selling process.

Department of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in New Jersey and Rockland County, N.Y., HomeMatch International and Executive Service is a comprehensive service provided to business clients looking to attract top talent from the United States and abroad. When considering job offers from companies throughout the world, executives are faced with a variety of challenges, not the least of which is the decision to relocate themselves and their loved ones. Whether leaving a home or area they love, having their spouse give up a job and find a new one, having children and pets move from familiar surroundings, altering social networks, or considering a location with different cultural sensitivities, individuals considering job offers requiring relocation have much more to think about than the terms of the offer itself.

HomeMatch International and Executive Service makes the process of transition easier by considering the concerns of individuals and their families and helping the entire family unit feel more comfortable with the place they are relocating to.

Kathy Kennedy, program manager

For example, Kennedy recalls a tour on which a job candidate remarked that he and his wife once lived in the area and that they missed fresh New Jersey produce. A follow-up stop at a local farmer's market allowed him to load up on fresh tomatoes, corn, and peaches plus a fresh bouquet of flowers for his wife. That stop may have been enough to convince this executive and his family to accept a position and relocate back to New Jersey.

In another instance, a job candidate and his wife were invited to a party at a company executive's home. The candidate's wife was greeted by an especially friendly dog that kissed her hand and rubbed against her clothing. The executive's wife pulled the dog away, saying, "No harm done." The job candidate, who had previously expressed a strong interest in the position, articulated strong concerns about accepting the position the day following the party. Unknowingly, the corporate executive and his family had inadvertently insulted the job candidate's wife. In her culture, dogs were considered unclean and having the dog kiss her hand and rub against her clothing was a serious disgrace. In this case, sensitivity to the concerns of the candidate and his wife allowed a relocation consultant to share the cultural issues with the business client, address them, and ensure the acceptance of the position by the international transferee.

The comprehensive service provided through HomeMatch International and Executive Service is complemented by Coldwell Banker Concierge Service. Once a candidate has accepted a position and selected to relocate, Coldwell Banker Concierge ensures a seamless move and integration of an individual into his new community.

Area tour specialists are sales associates from Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage who have undergone specific training to introduce them to the needs of relocating individuals and sensitize them to cultural differences from around the world. Tour specialists pull together a range of materials about one or more targeted communities, provide a customized tour of homes in these communities, and listen carefully for other opportunities to help individuals feel more comfortable in the area.

Offered through the relocation

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15 YR FXED	4.625	1.50	4.942	FEE	15 YR FXED	5.000	0.00	5.032	FEE	30 YR JUMBO	5.625	0.00	5.639	\$300
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15 YR FXED 4.875 0.00 4.963 FEE														
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Reverse Mortgage & Rate Refinancing														
Other products available, please contact your agent for details and rate information.														
30 YR FXED 5.375 0.00 5.463 APP														
15 YR FXED 4.875 0.00 4.963 FEE														
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<p><b>2005 MERCURY VILLAGE 4DR</b></p> <p>6 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50428. VIN#4UJ0554.</p> <p><b>\$5723</b></p>	<p><b>2005 MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50812. VIN#5D50812.</p> <p><b>\$8723</b></p>	<p><b>2005 MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50812. VIN#5D50812.</p> <p><b>\$8923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50812. VIN#5D50812.</p> <p><b>\$9223</b></p>	<p><b>2005 MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50812. VIN#5D50812.</p> <p><b>\$9223</b></p>	<p><b>2005 MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50812. VIN#5D50812.</p> <p><b>\$9223</b></p>
<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50831. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$10,523</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet COBALT 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50816. VIN#57577358.</p> <p><b>\$11,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet COBALT 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50816. VIN#57577358.</p> <p><b>\$12,523</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet COBALT 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50816. VIN#57577358.</p> <p><b>\$12,523</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet COBALT 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50816. VIN#57577358.</p> <p><b>\$12,523</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet COBALT 4DR</b></p> <p>4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50816. VIN#57577358.</p> <p><b>\$12,523</b></p>
<p><b>2005 FORD EXPEDITION XLT 4X4 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, alum whls, 45002. Stk#50832. VIN#1F17722.</p> <p><b>\$13,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 4DR</b></p> <p>6 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, lugg rk, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50350. VIN#52197645.</p> <p><b>\$14,523</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$16,723</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$16,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$16,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$16,923</b></p>
<p><b>2005 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER XLT 4DR</b></p> <p>6 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, lugg rk, tilt, cruise, alum whls. Stk#50350. VIN#52197645.</p> <p><b>\$17,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$18,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$19,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$19,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$21,923</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Chevrolet EQUINOX 4DR</b></p> <p>8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks, a/c, cd, auto ride susp, 3rd row seat, trailering equip, ling r diff, side imp air bags, alum whls. Stk#50944. VIN#55242783.</p> <p><b>\$21,923</b></p>



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# INSIDE BUSINESS

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Volume Eight, Number Seven  
July 2005

## Specialized financial services for women grow

The number of businesses owned by women is growing faster than any other segment, and the size of the businesses themselves also is growing exponentially. The financial needs of those women business owners, as well as the financial needs of women as individuals, are being found to require a different approach than the traditional financial market.

Union County banks and financial service institutions are meeting those needs by developing new approaches to business and individual financing.

"The difference is that the businesses women are running are frequently newer businesses, and smaller ones," said Ellen Marshall, senior vice president at Independence Community Bank, which has 54 branches in New Jersey. "We have SBA (Small Business Administration) preferred lender status and can offer products suitable to new businesses."

"Women are getting into more industries that were formerly male-dominated such as construction, or women are the ones organizing medical groups. In most ways the financial products they need are similar to those anyone would need, but the relationship approach is particularly well received by women," Marshall said.

"But there will be less and less difference (between businesses owned by men and women) as time goes by," she added.

The number of women-owned businesses is growing at a rate that no bank or financial advisor can ignore. As of June there were 10.6 million firms in the country that were at least 50 percent owned by a woman or women. Between 1997 and 2004, the estimated growth rate in the number of women-owned firms was nearly twice that of all firms and employment in women-owned firms expanded at twice the rate of all firms, according to the Center for Women's Business Research.

Women-owned businesses generate \$2.5 trillion in sales and they will spend an estimated \$546 billion this year on salaries and benefits.

Rick Mattis, registered representative for the Professional Economic Growth Group in Cranford, a full financial services company, agreed women are more relationship-oriented when it comes to financing and investment.

"There is more of a difference between men's and women's financial needs on an individual basis, than there is for business owners," Mattis said. "As individuals, women have different concerns from a family man or even a single man. They are thinking of their retirement and all their investments."

"Women are much more relationship driven and I like to review things with clients every six months," he said. "Men want to do something once and then never want to see you again."

John Lazaro, regional leader with Primerica Financial Services, a financial services company that is a subsidiary of Citigroup, said, "Women need to be empowered." Lazaro conducts seminars geared toward women and investing.

"Women live longer, often make less, and they cannot always be depend on someone else, so they have more need to plan for their futures. We find that people do not plan to fail, but fail to plan. One of our goals at Primerica is to educate women about finances," Lazaro said. "Women are less than half as likely to receive a pension as men, but 80 percent to 90 percent of all women will be solely responsible for their finances at some point in their lives."

"Among the elderly poor, 70 percent are women," she said, quoting the statistics she uses in her seminar from *Women and Diversity*, published by the Women's Business



Ellen Marshall, senior vice president, Independence Community Bank consults with colleagues Mary Brautigam and Pam Werner about the bank's programs.

(Continued on page 7)

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# Gateway to Growth

## The Wisdom of Lemonade Stands

By John L. Picard

We learn the value of relationships early ... if only we could remember

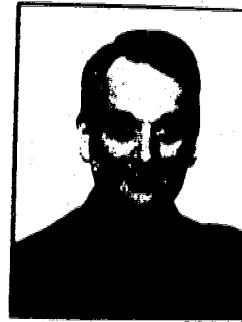
When I was 13, way before the current IPOD era, I passionately wanted a stereo. To pay for it, I got a job running a newsstand on Sundays, despite the fact this meant starting at 5:45 AM. As an official teenager, getting up at this hour was a horrific sacrifice (can you hear the violins in the background?) but, truth be told, I loved selling and connecting to all the different people. After three years and three alarm clocks (mysteriously, they don't bounce), newsprint ink on my hands became the sound of music to my ears.

**The rewards of selling** — Haven't we all had those "thrill of victory" moments when we were growing up ... selling lemonade, going door to door, working a newsstand? We have all known these moments of connection, selling and reward. Think back to the smiling adult as he grabbed the lemonade-filled paper cup or to the sound of the change in your cigarbox "bank."

**Lemonade stand wisdom** — From business owners to non-profits, we all need to reconnect and value the lessons of these moments and the skills we gained, as we seek new opportunity in business and life.

**Silos are the enemy** — Each part of a business has its own bias that is at odds with the simple truth of a lemonade stand: finance can focus on cash, accounting on taxes, marketing on market share, sales on conversion, service on satisfaction, HR on training ... the list could go on. Instead, all need to see themselves as aligned in a circle around each customer relationship. Everyone needs to understand his or her part in the value of the lemonade and the ka-ching of the cigar box.

**A measurable value to the effort** — Every business gives and receives measurable value in the flow of its individual relationships — "dollars and trust: in" and "products and services: out." Gauging and managing these flows is critical to realizing relationship value. To get to the numbers, look at key variables like current sales, frequency, volume, real and unrealized potential, consistency, cash flow, cross sales, timing and cyclical capacity, share of wallet (penetration), alternative revenue streams, transaction flow and velocity and discounted lifetime valuation.



**The hidden relationship equity** — Below the surface transactions, there are critical variables that represent "hidden equity." These relationships variables include trust, propensity to buy, loyalty, satisfaction, commitment, product advocacy, company identification and viral marketing and buzz opportunities. All of these are drivers in the relationship, yet they are rarely connected or defined.

**The value-to-cost relationship equation** — In addition to obvious sales and marketing expenses, you need to apportion relationship-wide costs and resource allocations. Each touch-point with the customer comes with a price and opportunity cost. Look at cost of sales, branding and awareness, marketing, education, support, promotion, service expenses, production, management allocation, partnership/alliance allocations, cost of dollars and financing. Each relationship will mix and match these expenses to define its own relationship cost metric.

**Find the economic and resource sweet-spot** — Comparing each relationship's costs and benefits will provide a "current" relationship net valuation. As you analyze and understand these numbers over time, you can dynamically manage the changing relationship flow and velocity across customer timelines. Together, these insights can maximize ROI and value in both directions.

**The sum of the equations** — When you measure and optimize relationship value, you gain new strategic choices, reconnect to the business mission and create competitive advantage. It may feel different than the lazy days of your youth, but the reality is, it's just a new way to get back to what business always was and was meant to be. It's time to come home again.

JOHN PICARD is principal of Picard & Company, a strategic marketing firm specializing in business growth and customer retention. Functioning as a "relationship architect," the firm strengthens customer relationships to optimize long-term returns and profitability. Picard can be reached at 908-771-0512 or via e-mail at [jp@picardandcompany.com](mailto:jp@picardandcompany.com) or visit [www.picardmarketing.com](http://www.picardmarketing.com).

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## Union County abounds in historic sites and recreational opportunities

Union County visitors and residents can begin a historical trek through the county with the re-enactment of the Battle of Springfield the weekend of June 25 and 26 and the Battle of the Four Centuries in a Weekend on Oct. 15 and 16.

In the time in between those two major events, Union County offers a host of historic houses, many of them recently restored, that visitors can tour, as well as one of the most extensive systems of parks and golf courses available in an urban setting.

The weekend in June will mark the 225th anniversary of the historic Battle of Springfield. On June 23, 1780, British troops invaded from Staten Island to what was then Springfield, intending to capture Morristown by seizing the Hobart Gap in the Watchung Mountains, along what is now Route 24. They were confronted by unanticipated resistance from the Continental Army, as well as local militia. The British succeeded in driving the British back to Staten Island in what became the last Revolutionary War battle to be fought in New Jersey.

To recreate that time, several hundred Revolutionary War re-enactors will portray British and American soldiers at an encampment on the Jonathan Dayton High School grounds on Saturday and Sunday. The Third New Jersey Regiment, known as the "Blue Devils," will lead the re-enactment. Two re-enactments of the battle will be staged. Additional information is available at [www.springfieldbattle.com](http://www.springfieldbattle.com).

The weekend will also feature rides and games for children at the high school, a fireworks display coordinated with music on Saturday night, and a parade on Sunday.

Then in the fall, the Union County Board of Freeholders, the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, and the state Historical Commission will host an event featuring free admission to 23 historic houses and sites throughout the county on Oct. 15 and 16. The houses and museums show how the upper class and the working class of past centuries lived and contributed to the settlement and development of Union County. Additional information can be found at [www.unioncountynj.org/gotodo/4centwk/index.htm](http://www.unioncountynj.org/gotodo/4centwk/index.htm).

Many of the houses have been restored to show how the wealthy, farmers, soldiers, and business people lived and worked. Other sites were once luxurious hotels for vacationers from New York City and the city centers in New Jersey.

The houses and museum sites are also open all summer for visitors. Information on hours and tour availability can be found at [www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org) or by calling the Union County Freeholders office 908-527-4100.

Some of the outstanding homes in the area include the Cannon Ball House in Springfield, which is one of the few buildings in the area to survive the Revolutionary War battle. Most buildings were burned by the British. The Cannon Ball House, which was struck by cannonballs, was used by the British as their infirmary.

The Caldwell Parsonage in Union is another historic home that has become the repository for historic records, personal affects, furniture and clothing depicting the history of the county from the 18th Century to the early 20th Century. The original home was the site of the death of Hannah Caldwell, who was shot by a British soldier. The scene is depicted on the county seal. The home was burned by the British but rebuilt two years later.

The Crane-Phillips House Museum in Cranford is a Victorian cottage located near Crane's Ford crossing of the Rahway River. It has been restored to give a glimpse of the life of a modest family in the late 19th Century.

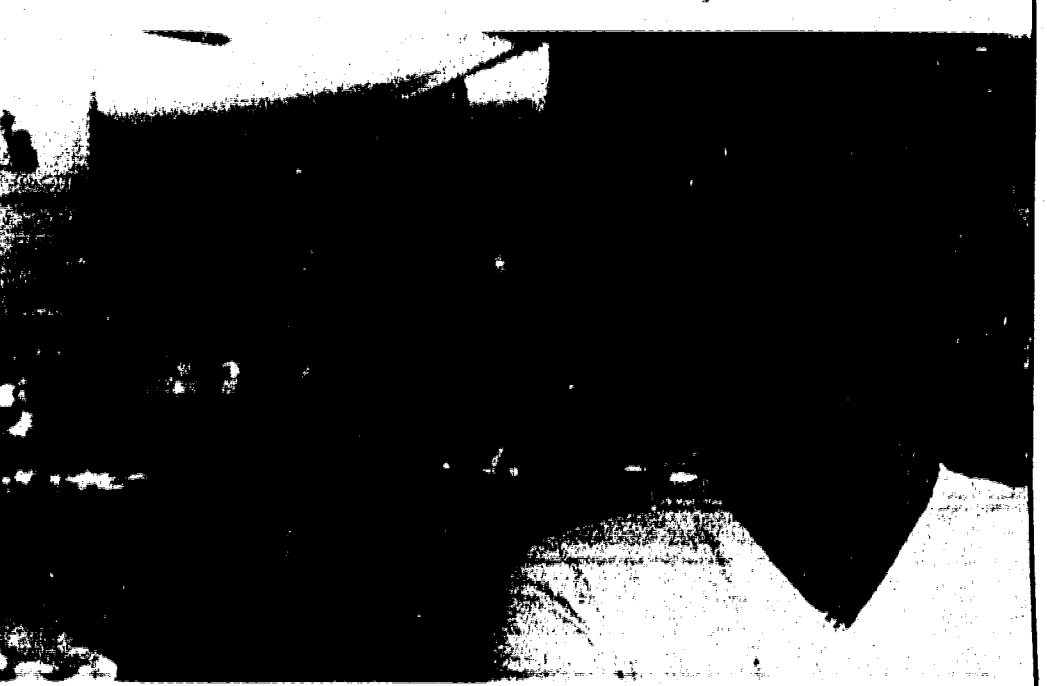
Many of the historic homes in the county have been restored through the use of funds from the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund passed in 1999, which dedicates county tax money for these purposes. Part of the money also goes to preserve open areas.

The historic sites are set in a highly urbanized area that is distinguished by the second oldest park system in the United States. It was designed by famed park designer Frederick Law Olmsted, who also designed New York City's Central Park and other outstanding greenways in cities across the country.

Films and concerts are available in the parks throughout the summer, as well as areas for picnicking, soccer, softball, cricket and other leisure activities. The county also has three golf courses that draw golfers from throughout the state.

"Our parks are an oasis for urban dwellers on a warm afternoon," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison for parks and recreation and for the Cultural and Heritage Affairs Division.

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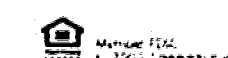
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# The Financial Center

The Financial Center provides financial expertise from a woman's perspective

In 1978 as a divorced mother of three young children, Eileen Fritz took a bold move by deciding to capitalize on her financial training and go out on her own. She took her experience from Wall Street and as an IRS auditor and started her own financial consulting company as a sole proprietorship.

She quickly started building a client base and three years later decided to incorporate under a new company name as The Financial Center and locate in Clark.

Her new venture seemed to be a logical progression of a well-rounded professional career that includes experience in financial management generally gained on Wall Street and tax accounting specifically gained with the IRS. This financial background enabled Fritz to bring an unusual expertise to her individual and corporate clients.

"Through sound leadership, astute bottom-line financial management and a knack for making each of her clients feel like they are her only customer, Eileen's singular vision never wavers," say her staff. "The result is a loyal and appreciative client base and double-digit annual growth, a stunning success by any measure."

Fritz said her original motivation was the fact that owning her own business allows her the freedom to create one's own life and take care of the clients with what is best for them. At the same time, her broad-based financial background has proven valuable to her clients. She specializes in zeroing in on key financial planning issues, listening to clients' concerns and accurately determining their needs.

Fritz said she tries to bring a special added value to her women clients, whether they are business owners, or having her handle their investments. The Financial Center is a woman-owned business, which allows her to offer sound advice for women starting a business.

She has learned through her own experience what it takes to establish, nurture and

grow a business. She understands that financial management issues, such as cash flow, tax planning, and pension planning, are critical to the success of any business. More importantly, women tend to "feel more comfortable with a female financial advisor," Fritz said.

"One reason her clients stay with her for so many years is her ability to make money for them and to protect their investments. Eileen also understands that there are financial planning issues that are unique to women," said one of her clients.

The Financial Center gives special attention to issues such as transferring and/or rolling over pension plans, and establishing retirement accounts. And Fritz instructs her staff to give an added commitment to helping women.

Fritz's clients appreciate her attentive and proactive approach to their financial challenges, and most of all appreciate the availability she provides. Her female clients understand that they will have the advantage of an advisor who understands the financial issues unique to women in business.

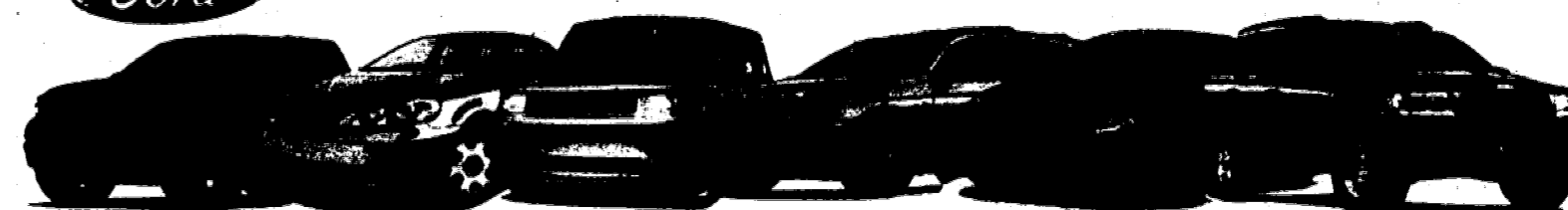
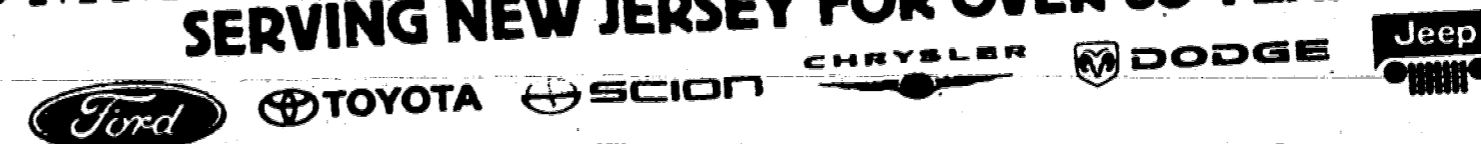
Additional information on The Financial Center can be obtained by calling 732-669-0460, or visiting [www.fritz4finance.com](http://www.fritz4finance.com) and [www.fritz4tax.com](http://www.fritz4tax.com).



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## Gateway Chamber website provides information on members and on New Jersey

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce has launched a website designed to be not only an important source of information for and about Chamber members, but also a resource for information about the entire state.

"Seventy to 80 percent of the people who visit a Chamber of Commerce website are visitors to an area or people considering moving into an area," said Jim Coyle, president of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, who with his staff and the staff of Chamber Weblink, designed the Chamber's website to provide the most relevant information possible.

The Chamber's website, [www.gatewaychamber.com](http://www.gatewaychamber.com), received more than 10,000 hits during its first month of operation.

"Our first goal is to provide information that can help our members," Coyle said. "The website is another vehicle through which we can do that."

"But we also want it to provide information to someone who lives here and needs information, someone who might be considering relocating to the area and information for tourists. We want to be a resource to our members, to the community at large and to people from outside our area," Coyle said. "In order to do that, we committed to a major Internet presence. This allows us to service our members more effectively, while simultaneously reaching an audience that is not made up of Chamber members, but is made up of people who want information about the region."

The site was designed by Chamber Weblink, based in Indianapolis. The firm has designed websites for Chambers of Commerce in several major metropolitan areas, including Denver, Boston, Phoenix, and Salt Lake City.

"We wanted to make the site easy to use so that people would keep coming back. The Chamber is the center of business activity in the community and we also want to be the place to go for reliable community information," said John Muller, president of Weblink. "We want this to be important to the membership, but to also be a gateway to the community and to show off the community in general."

Members will be included in the website along with links to their individual websites. The Chamber will be able to track how many people have clicked through to the individual business sites.

"This will be a wonderful tool for members to find other members," said Kate Conroy, assistant to the president of Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce. "We want a site that paid attention to detail and was as user friendly as humanly possible."

The site will have links to maps for businesses and will list new members, updated each month. It also will have information on member discount programs.

"This is a great way for a member to get his or her business name out to new members," Conroy said.

The site will be searchable by members' names and will provide contact addresses, telephone numbers and fax numbers for the Chamber and for businesses. It also will provide basic information on the Chamber and will have a download application form.

Copies of this newspaper, *Inside Business*, will be available online. The website will have links to local Chambers of Commerce.

For both Chamber members and visitors, the site will provide information on municipalities and local events, career opportunities both within the Chamber and through other avenues throughout the state, employment statistics, health care information and guides to local schools.

"We want this website to help people learn about the state of New Jersey as well as about our local area," said Joanne Vero, advertising executive for the Chamber and a member of the committee that put the site together. "We will be rolling out different aspects of the site in the future with the goal to making it an information center, including entertainment possibilities and guides to the performing arts."

"In short the site will show off the entire community," Muller concluded.

## Specialized financial services for women grow

(Continued from page 1)

Network. "Women often have an unrealistic picture of their retirement possibilities."

At the same time, women's share of the labor market is continuing to increase and women have an equal say in the household finances in 75 percent of all U.S. households, according to the same study.

"One of the reasons women can't save is because they need guidance in managing their debts. Primerica offers complimentary financial needs analysis. This service looks at debt management, budgeting and savings, thus allowing us to help women with their financial needs," Lazaro said.

Jean Martone, vice president at Boyle Financial Associates LLC in Westfield, also conducts meetings and seminars for women on financial issues. Boyle Financial provides insurance and benefit plans for small and mid-sized companies. Martone recently was part of a Women in Business series for the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

"There seems to be a void out there for women in business, so there is a need for networking," Martone said. "One of the concerns for many women is long-term care. It seems men think someone else will take care of these things, but women are concerned and they know they live longer, so they are asking questions."

"So many women are working and own their own businesses that we are starting to develop business financial planning for women," she added.

Eileen Fritz, owner of The Financial Center in Clark, an accounting and financial planning service, agrees it is still more difficult for a woman to start a business than a man, particularly if she is going into a field dominated by men.

"Sometimes people, and women in particular, have to realize that they not only have to do something well, but they also have to be able to market it," she said. "She cannot succeed if no one knows she is there. But if a woman comes to me for advice about starting a business, I will probably tell her to do it. I try to help them understand the steps and know how to track expenses and what to do if they hire employees."

Another woman in business, Diane Maroukian, a financial professional of The Guardian Life Insurance Co. of America and Park Ave Securities, New York, said her advice to clients sometimes depends more on age than on gender.

"If they are in their 30s, they need disability protection and growth of assets. At 50, they should look at long-term care insurance," said Maroukian, whose company handles finances for individuals and small to medium-size businesses. "Women business owners frequently like the idea of dealing with another woman. There is often better communication."

Another approach is taken by Commerce Bank, headquartered in Cherry Hill. The bank recently launched a new SBA Community Express loan program designed to support the growth of under-served businesses, such as those owned by women, veterans, minorities and low-income people. Commerce is the most active SBA Community Express lender in the state and the leading SBA lender in the mid-Atlantic region.

Under the program, loans of up to \$150,000 are guaranteed up to 85 percent and loans of \$150,001 to \$350,000 are guaranteed up to 75 percent. The money can be used for most types of capital business expenses or to refinance debt. To qualify a business must be owned by a woman or a person fitting one of the other categories.

Commerce also made a donation to the Women's Business Center of the New Jersey Association of Woman Business Owners, and has partnered with the WBC to serve as a technical assistance provider.

"Commerce Bank has a long history of serving small businesses," said Arnold Horvath, senior vice president. "We are honored to partner with NJAWBO in this supportive program to give these unique small business owners, who are often underserved by lenders when it comes to financing, the opportunity to grow and succeed."

Another area bank, North Fork Bank, actively seeks women customers and women entrepreneurs, noted William Gascoigne, senior vice president.

"I do not know that their financial needs, per se, are different, but we know the importance of women business owners and women entrepreneurs and we will roll out the red carpet for them."

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# President's Message

The longer I've been around, the more cynical I become on the motivations behind many governmental actions. More often than not, actions seem to be for show, especially in time of a crisis. It appears that the underlying strategy is that if you can't do anything about it, at least look like you are doing something about it.



Clearly taking away nail clippers and other incidentals like pill cutters from airline passengers falls into this category. It did not make us more safe. It has caused tremendous aggravation. But, on the other hand, it has made our government appear to be doing something.

There is a new move about in the Congress to do something about the methamphetamine problem. Methamphetamine abuse is a growing problem. It can lead to violent crimes and all the other problems associated with drug abuse. Most methamphetamine is imported into the United States, primarily from Mexico and Canada, as well as several other countries. It is also produced domestically in small make-shift labs somewhat akin to stills.

This is a growing problem, and one that the government has had little success interdicting at the borders. This isn't especially surprising given our inability to stop the importation of any drug into this country. However, since we do have a war on drugs going on, something has to be done no matter how inane.

Congress, in its wisdom, thinks that the solution is to take cold medicine off the shelves of your local drugstore and supermarket. The logic here is that the small amount of domestic methamphetamine production (less than 20 percent) depends on the pseudoephedrine and ephedrine contained in most cold medicines. If we can take the cold medicine off the shelf, the drug makers will lose their key ingredient.

There are two bills in Congress, S. 103 and H.R. 314, that will reclassify products that contain pseudoephedrine as a schedule V drug to be sold only by a licensed pharmacist or pharmacist technician. Grocery stores without pharmacies would be prohibited from selling cold medicines. These medicines would only be available from behind the counter, and would require a photo ID and signature to purchase them.

In a normal year, most households purchase some type of cold medicine. A typical national drugstore or supermarket will carry about 300 products that contain pseudoephedrine. If this legislation passes, and it is expected to, all these products will be moved behind the pharmacist counter, and we'll have to wait in line with everyone else getting a prescription filled to get our cold medicine. And heaven help you if, like me, you want to read labels and compare ingredients! I can just imagine all the dagger stares from others waiting in line while I look at two or three different labels.

An added inconvenience will occur when the pharmacist goes home at 9 PM. At that point there just won't be any way to get the medicine before morning. If you have young kids who never show their symptoms til 10 PM, you're out of luck. This move will also be devastating to the generic manufacturers as they don't advertise, so you won't know to compare their lower cost brand with the nationally advertised brand.

The legislation is also unfair. Every citizen in the country will be penalized. Our names will go on a government list as cold medicine buyers. We will have to stand in line and be subjected to undue scrutiny because we have a cold. And our choice of prices and alternatives will be taken away.

And for what? This legislation has the effect of protecting the foreign manufacturers of methamphetamine, because truly, they are the ones who will benefit from the demise of their homegrown competition. Will it make us more safe? About as safe as removing nail clippers from airplanes.

# Where the Chamber stands...

## DR-CAFTA deserves support of business

Congress is expected to vote soon on a free trade agreement for the United States and several Central American countries, which will, in effect, further extend the global economy.

There are those who argue the global economy hurts some U.S. workers, and that may be true in some respects. But the trend cannot be stopped and so we need to make the best deal possible that will help support our country's, and our region's, economy and DR-CAFTA will do that. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce feels the DR-CAFTA deserves the support of our business. The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce agrees and urges you to call your Congressional delegation to ask the members to vote for it when it comes up this summer.

Labor intensive jobs are being moved from the United States to other countries and there is little we can do about that because the work can be done cheaper elsewhere. DR-CAFTA would keep some of those jobs in this hemisphere and improve our trade deficit.

The bill's awkward acronym DR-CAFTA stands for Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement and is similar to NAFTA, which covered the United States, Canada and Mexico. This bill would extend similar free trade agreements to the United States, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Currently, 80 percent of the products from these countries enter the United States duty free, while products from the United States being exported to these countries are subject to a tariff of 7 percent to 9 percent. In other words, these countries are enjoying nearly free access to our marketplace, while our access to theirs remains limited. DR-CAFTA would fix that imbalance by immediately eliminating all tariffs on 80 percent of the goods manufactured in the United States, with the rest phased in over a few years.

Most American farmers support the bill because it would help increase exports of corn, wheat, rice, soybeans, poultry, pork and beef to these countries. It also should open up markets for services for United States firms that provide such things as telecommunications, insurance and shipping.

Although the United States may still lose jobs to these countries, the alternative is to lose them to China and India. If we can improve the economies in our neighboring countries, it should increase their ability to buy products from the United States. In addition, if more jobs are available, it should improve the workers' bargaining power with employers, help lift them out of poverty and increase their ability to buy our products.

Stronger economies in these Central American countries should provide the governments with additional resources for education, health care and infrastructure projects and improve the stability of these always-shaky democracies. Finally, if the economies in these countries improve, fewer people will be forced to leave their homes to flee to places like the United States in search of jobs.

To help the workers in the United States who lose their jobs, additional assistance could be included in this bill to provide new job training in the United States. That might help win the support of some labor organizations for the bill.

Although the fate of DR-CAFTA looked grim for awhile, recent rallies held in Washington showed strong grassroots support for the measure. President Bush has been pushing hard for the initiative and a coalition of business leaders has been created to back the measure. Former Democratic President Jimmy Carter recently came out in favor of the bill.

In a letter to Congressional leaders, Carter said DR-CAFTA will create jobs and improve labor standards in all of the countries involved. Rejecting DR-CAFTA, would in effect, "undercut these fragile democracies, compel them to retreat to protectionism, and make it harder for them to cooperate with the U.S."

There is no way to reverse the ever-expanding global economy and in some cases the United States is going to lose jobs to foreign countries. DR-CAFTA is one way we can try to make the best economic deal for United States businesses and assist governments and workers in nearby countries.

# Capital Page

## Rep. Scott's Capital Page

### Congress acts to help small businesses, banks

In New Jersey, financial services make up our fourth-largest employment sector, comprising one in 10 jobs. However, all businesses - and all jobs - are affected by banking and insurance regulations.

That's why when I came to Congress in 2003, I chose to serve on the Financial Services Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. The committee oversees banking, insurance, federal monetary policy, money and credit, international finance, as well as securities and exchange.

As a state assemblyman in Trenton, I fought to make certain our insurance rules were fair and common-sense. Now in Congress, I'm fighting for reform at the federal level to make sure that our laws don't punish entrepreneurs and small businesses.

To that end, the House recently achieved a victory for small businesses and banks, passing legislation to correct inequities that have persisted for years.

H.R. 1224, the Business Checking Freedom Act, would remove the prohibition on banks from paying interest on business checking accounts.

The unfair, outdated law has stood between our local small businesses and their ability to earn interest on their own money. By allowing banks to pay interest on business checking accounts, we create a new and broader market option that helps our main street banks and small businesses at the same time.

Small business owners are disadvantaged by the current ban on business checking because they tend to bank at smaller institutions. If they choose to bank at larger institutions, their smaller deposits typically mean they won't qualify for complicated mechanisms such as sweep accounts. Larger banks offer these products to larger business depositors. Smaller institutions are often unable to offer such products. This legislation will allow banks to better meet the needs of their small business customers.

Additionally, H.R. 1224 would correct a regulation that is unfair to banking institutions. Currently the Federal Reserve requires banks, thrifts, and credit unions to maintain cash reserves to cover potential withdrawals and to help the Fed manage the nation's monetary supply. No interest is paid to depository institutions on these funds. This bill allows the payment of interest on banking reserves.

In the competitive financial marketplace, no one should have the free use of someone else's money. Individual consumers pay interest when they take out a car loan, home loan, or student loan. And yet, the government wants its loans for free - it requires loans of reserves and doesn't pay a penny of interest. Our government has always taken this privilege with other people's money, but the free ride should end.

This plan passed the House with overwhelming support in May. We are now waiting for the Senate to act on this important legislation.

Another concern small businesses and employees regularly share with me is the rising cost of insurance. Recently, Congress created innovative Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) to enable more people to purchase insurance at an affordable price.

Signed into law in 2003, HSAs enable people to pay for current health expenses and save for future qualified medical and retiree health expenses tax-free in conjunction with high-deductible health plans.

New legislation introduced this year would expand the availability of accounts and make small businesses eligible to receive a tax credit for contributions made into their employees' HSAs: \$200 for an individual and up to \$500 for a family.

Here's an example of how this plan works: Mr. Smith was laid off from his job in 2003 and, consequently, lost his health insurance. To continue his company coverage through COBRA, he would have had to pay \$350 per month for the premium. As a result, Mr. Smith went without coverage for two years. After starting his own business, he learned about Health Savings Accounts. Instead of paying \$350 a month, Mr. Smith is now covered with an HSA-qualified plan for \$105 per month; and he puts away \$50 each month into his HSA account.

No one should have to risk being without health insurance. Now, self-employed entrepreneurs and small business owners will be able to purchase affordable health coverage. Starting a business is a big risk. This plan helps ensure that you don't have to take the additional risk of going without health insurance.

If you are interested in more updates on what is happening in Congress, you can contact me through my Web site at [www.house.gov/garrett](http://www.house.gov/garrett).

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The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce is a business organization that represents and advances the business interests of its members. With 1,500 members, it is the largest business organization in Northern New Jersey and offers many services and resources to its members, such as networking events, advocacy, discounted business services, seminars, trade shows, and promotional opportunities. To find out more about the Chamber, [click here](#).

## Where the Chamber stands...

Renewed communication needed to prevent disasters  
News stories about one spill or chemical industry accident after another during the 1970s and 1980s led to improved handling of chemicals and other dangerous materials at least for a time. But now, as a result of a variety of factors, the industry is once again in a state of denial.

# INSIDE BUSINESS

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135 Jefferson Ave., P.O. Box 300, Elizabeth, N.J. 07207-0300  
Telephone (908) 352-0900 • Fax (908) 352-0865  
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### MISSION STATEMENT

"The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce is a business organization which represents and advances the business interests of its members"



# Member Moments...



Celebrating the launch of the new SBA Community Express loan program at Commerce Bank and the bank's donation to the Women's Business Center of New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners are (left to right) Pamela Y. Innis, assistant vice president, SBA Division, Commerce Bank; Penni Nafus, director, NJAWBO Women's Business Center; Robin Berg Tabakin, advisory board chair, NJAWBO Women's Business Center; and Sue Fitzpatrick, president, NJAWBO. The Community Express loan program is designed to support and advance the growth of under-served businesses owned by women, veterans, minorities and low-income area individuals.

Northfield Savings Bank today announced that Liberty Bank, a division of Northfield, with seven full-service banking offices throughout Union and Middlesex Counties, will officially operate as Northfield Savings Bank effective June 30.

Northfield's New Jersey-based branch offices are located in Avenel, East Brunswick, Edison, Linden, Milltown, Monroe Township, and Rahway. All New Jersey branches also will open seven days a week by the end of this month. Northfield Savings Bank acquired Liberty Bank in December 2002.

Provident Bank in Jersey City has appointed Anthony Tufaro as vice president corporate cash management.

Credit card and check card reward points are now being offered for holders of Commerce Bank Visa check card or credit cards who purchase insurance from Commerce Insurance Services. Commerce Insurance Services is a wholly owned subsidiary of Commerce Bancorp, Cherry Hill. Customers who have the cards and are enrolled in the Visa Extras rewards program will earn reward points for purchasing auto, home owners, umbrella, watercraft and flood insurance. Bonus points will be offered for new policies.

Daniel McCarty joined Valley National Bank as senior vice president, director of taxation.

(Continued on page 11)

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COMMERCIAL BANK

# Member Moments

(Continued from page 10)

PNC Bank, Princeton, announced Thomas Gregor, central and northern New Jersey regional president, has been elected second vice chairman of NJ Bankers.

Cox Stationers & Printers and Spectraform, Garwood, held the second annual customer appreciation day beach party recently. More than 250 people toured the printing facility, visited 18 vendors and were treated to boardwalk games and food.

McCarter & English, Newark, announced Wendy Greenwood and Jeremy Hirsh were appointed to the corporate, securities and banking practice group of the law firm.

Cecil House of South Orange has been named vice president, customer relations of PSEG, Newark. John Anderson has been named vice president, supply chain management, of PSEG, Newark.

The Occupational Center of Union County received an award for "Community Development" from the statewide association of county run and federally funded Community Development Block Grants. The nomination for the award came from Union County's Board of Chosen Freeholders in response to the long term collaborative effort between the county and the Occupational Center.

Merck is now accepting applications for the 2005 Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Mini-Grant program in Rahway, Linden and the surrounding area. The CAP was formed in 1994 as part of a partnership between Merck, Linden and Rahway, and provides a forum for open communication between Merck's neighbors and the company's management. The CAP Mini-Grant program will award up to \$1,000 each to projects in community service, health and welfare, the environment, education and community revitalization.

The money can be used to support an existing local program or provide seed money for a new community endeavor that will enhance the quality of life in the area. Recipients chosen by the CAP, a 22-person group of

local community members reflecting a diversity of interests, will be notified of their award in October and recognized formally at Merck's annual neighbor meeting in December.

Organizations interested in applying for the 2005 CAP Mini-Grant Program may do so by calling Melissa Lee at 732-594-3865 or emailing melissa\_lee@merck.com and request an application. All applications must be submitted to Merck Rahway Site Public Affairs, P.O. Box 2000 (RY60-200E), Rahway, NJ 07065, no later than Aug. 19. Additional information about the CAP can be obtained by calling Gail Driscoll, manager, Merck Public Affairs—Rahway, at 732-594-6492.

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# Did you know...

## New Jersey law prohibits discrimination against young workers

By Eugene Killian, Jr., Killian & Salisbury, P.C.

Did you know that New Jersey law prohibits discrimination against younger workers as well as against older workers? (As if New Jersey employers didn't have enough to worry about.)

This is one of the differences between the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (the "LAD") and the federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act ("ADEA"). The federal ADEA does not recognize "reverse" age discrimination.

The federal ADEA prohibits discrimination against workers who are more than 40 years of age. In the recent federal case of *General Dynamics v. Cline*, employees between the ages of 40 and 49 brought suit against their employer, arguing that the elimination of a retiree health insurance program for workers then under age 50 impermissibly discriminated against younger workers. The United States Supreme Court disagreed, stating that "the 40-year threshold makes sense as identifying a class requiring protection against preference for their juniors, not as defining a class that might be threatened by favoritism toward seniors."

But New Jersey's LAD does not contain the 40-year threshold. It simply prohibits discrimination based upon various categories, including "age." Under the LAD, unlawful age discrimination includes the following acts:

- Refusal to hire
- Discharge from employment
- Discrimination in compensation
- Discrimination in the "terms, conditions or privileges of employment"

The seminal New Jersey case involving reverse age discrimination is *Bergen Community Bank v. Sisler*, decided by the New Jersey Supreme Court in 1999. In *Sisler*, the employee, Michael Sisler, was hired to run Bergen's merchant credit-card programs. At the time he was hired, he was working for New Era Bank and was not actively seeking other employment.

Following his hiring by Bergen, Sisler was having lunch with Bergen's co-founder, Tony Bruno, and the conversation turned to age. When Bruno learned that Sisler was only 25 years old, he appeared shocked. Bruno asked Sisler not to tell anyone how old he was, because it would be "embarrassing" if other bank employees learned how much money Sisler was making, and what his responsibilities were.

Eight days after he started working at Bergen, Sisler was called into a meeting with Bruno and Mark Campbell, Bergen's other founder. Bruno and Campbell told Sisler that the bank was going

to "make some changes," and that Sisler might be terminated. They suggested that he relinquish his position, and become a consultant. Sisler was incredulous, and refused. Less than five months later, Bergen fired Sisler, even though he was never informed of any deficiencies in his performance. Sisler's replacement was 31 years of age.

Sisler's attorney attempted to settle the age discrimination claim, but the bank decided to adopt an aggressive strategy, and sued Sisler for various alleged transgressions, such as "breach of loyalty." The strategy backfired when Sisler counterclaimed for age discrimination under the LAD, and the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that his claim was valid.

Under *Sisler*, to succeed on a claim of reverse age discrimination in a case involving discharge from employment, the employee must prove four elements:

- "Background circumstances" showing that the employer is "unusual" in that it discriminates against the majority (i.e., younger workers).
- The employee was performing at a level that met the employer's legitimate expectations.
- The employee was nevertheless fired.
- The employee was replaced by a candidate sufficiently older to permit an inference of age discrimination.

Assuming the employee comes forward with the necessary evidence, the employer can defend the claim by showing that legitimate, non-discriminatory reasons existed for the discharge. The burden then shifts back to the employee to show that those reasons are merely a "pretext" for the firing.

*Sisler* contains many valuable lessons for employers seeking to avoid the litigation meatgrinder. Here are three examples:

- Be fair with employees. An angry employee, or one who feels he has been treated unreasonably, is far more likely to head over to the local plaintiff attorney's office. Playing hardball is generally a bad idea.
- Document the personnel file in an objective manner, so that if termination is necessary, the employer can demonstrate that non-discriminatory reasons existed.
- Review your insurance program thoroughly before problems happen. Don't assume coverage exists.

Gene Killian is a principal in the Clark law firm of Killian & Salisbury, P.C. The firm specializes in employment law, insurance law, and general commercial litigation and dispute resolution. Killian & Salisbury has been awarded an "AV" rating by the Martindale-Hubbell organization, which is the highest score available for quality of work and ethics.

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