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Final showdown

Two battle for seat in Tuesday's election

By Meave Sheehan
Staff Writer

At a candidates' forum Monday morning, Mayor Sy Mullman and Republican challenger Steve Grau answered questions from residents on a range of topics concerning the future of Springfield.

A crowd of about 40 people, mostly senior citizens, gathered in the Palmer Museum room of Springfield Public Library for the forum, sponsored by the local chapter of Hadasah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, a volunteer and women's organization. On Tuesday night at Jonathan Dayton High School, the two candidates met again, this time before more than 100 in attendance. Residents wrote down questions on slips of paper, which were given to the forums' moderators.

Grau presented current township taxes as his main issue. Stating property taxes have gone up 11 1/2 percent in the past year, Grau asked how residents would be able to continue to live with large tax increases. "When will the irresponsible spending stop?" Grau questioned.

Mullman, in his opening statement Monday morning, responded, asking Grau to prove that taxes have gone up 11 1/2 percent. Mullman said he went to the tax office, looked at the taxes for his home and for Grau's residence and found both increases were well below that number, with Grau's increase at 6 percent. Mullman maintained the tax increase was less than 5 percent.

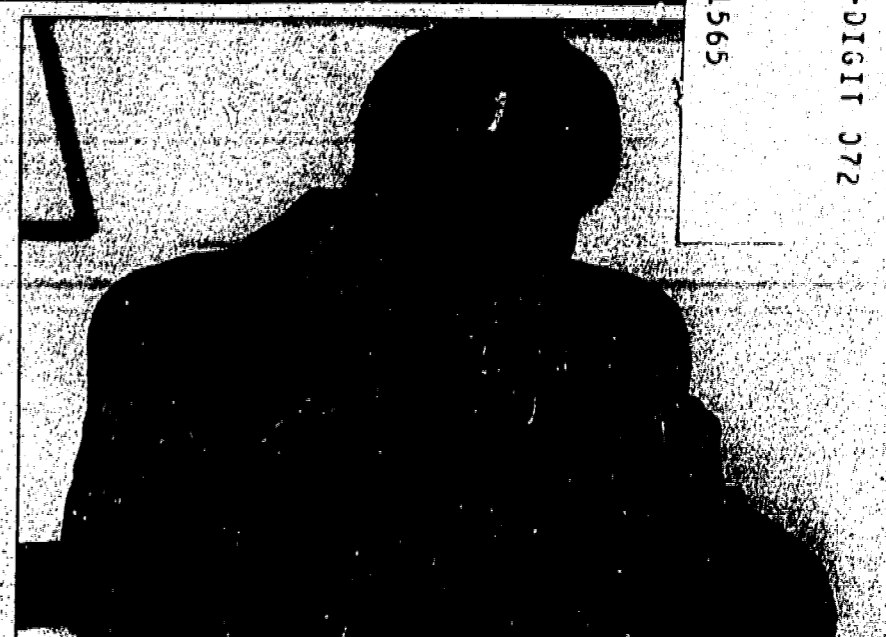
Asked about the 11 1/2 percent figure after Tuesday night's forum, Grau said it was calculated using a number of different figures within the township's finances. He countered that to get a true assessment of the tax situation requires more than examining two or three properties.

At Tuesday night's forum at the high school, Grau said the township's tax rate increased by 245 percent between 1992 and 2004, from 59 cents to \$1.445 per \$100 of assessed value.

Mullman said Tuesday night that Springfield's municipal taxes did not increase in budgets from 1997 to 2000, and taxes "went nuts" after Gov. Christine Whitman "bankrupted the state" and stopped sending funds to municipalities. He said the governing body tries to hold the line on taxes but to reduce them is difficult because of annual salary increases for union employees. He called on the county freeholders to tighten their belts by reducing their salaries, benefits, cars and staff for their part-time positions.

When answering a question about downtown redevelopment, Mullman said he had made redevelopment a priority and his plan for the downtown was in its first stages.

Promising he would have a few possible plans ready within the first year of his term, Grau called for more public input. "It's in the best interest of this town that everybody get involved, not just the five members of the committee," he said. "We should



Candidates for Springfield Township Committee, Republican Steve Grau, left, and Democrat Sy Mullman, right, met twice this week in forums before the public. The two are vying for one seat on the five-member governing body.

Photos by Joseph A. Scortecchia

have a development of what Springfield wants, not what the Planning Board wants."

Grau called for the Township Committee to have more members with differing viewpoints. Noting Committeeman Harold Poltrock is currently the only Republican on the five-member governing body, Grau stated, "There's no one there to second any motion."

Other topics included the reactivation of the Rahway Valley railroad, the Board of Education budget and the recent laptop purchase, and the proposed supermarket at the Saks Fifth Avenue site.

Of the school district's \$600,000 one-to-one laptop program, Mullman said the Board of Education had made it clear to the Township Committee it would buy the computers, regardless

of how much the township cut from the budget. Mullman said the committee did not have the authority to decide how the board spent its budget.

For the proposed Stop & Shop at the Saks Fifth Avenue site, Mullman declared the supermarket would worsen traffic, making already-busy township streets more difficult to travel.

A question about "pay-to-play" tactics, rewarding political contributions with contracts, caused Grau to claim that pay-for-play was a part of local government.

"They're getting special treatment," Grau said of donors to the Democratic Committee. He cited the expansion of Springfield's Mountain View Apartments at Hillside and South Springfield avenues as an example of pay-to-play's influence on the town.

In response to Grau's accusation that pay-to-play is "rampant" in Springfield, Mullman said, "I don't do business with any felon," and called Grau's statement irresponsible. In a later conversation, Mullman said the Mountain View Apartments were being built in accordance with township ordinance.

Of the township's hiring practices, Grau said, "Excess hiring does not make your town a more efficient town," mentioning the township administrator position recently filled by Edward Fanning. Grau said the township needs to be run more like a business.

Regarding last summer's PGA Championship at Baltusrol Golf Club, Grau said the weeklong event was a lost opportunity to bring in revenue. "Did we do anything to keep

people in Springfield to spend money?" he asked.

In general, Springfield could benefit from marketing to get people interested in visiting, Grau argued. As one example, township welcome signs could say, "Springfield: Home of the Forgotten Battle," or a similar slogan, in order to spur visitors to want to know more about the township's unique history.

When presented with a question about the possibility of a commuter railroad, both candidates were against the idea. Mullman said, "We're not in a position to bring a railroad into town."

Regional Editor Mark Hrywna contributed to this report.

Meave Sheehan can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or echoleaderj@yahoo.com.

Meisel to break ground

By Meave Sheehan
Staff Writer

County officials will participate in a groundbreaking ceremony for Meisel Avenue Park on Oct. 27. Union County Executive Angel Estrada and Deborah Bonalon were present as well as Mayor Sy Mullman and Township Committee members Kenneth Faigenbaum, Clara Hareluk and Harold Poltrock.

"It's long overdue," Mullman said of the groundbreaking and expressed his hope that the park will be ready for use in the near future. Though last week's event was ceremonial, Mullman said at a candidates' forum on Tuesday night that he expects bulldozers to begin clearing the land next week.

Plans for the park include football, soccer and baseball fields, a running track, a nature trail and space for parking. It is expected to be completed in time for the start of next year's football season, which begins in September.

The Jonathan Dayton High School varsity football program was co-oped with David Brainerly High School in Kenilworth since the park closed in 2001 due to contamination concerns.

Meisel Field received its final permit from the state Department of Environmental Protection in July. A previous timeline estimated construction would take about six to nine months.

Concerns were raised in early 2001 about contaminated soil at the athletic field after the Springfield school board proposed a multimillion-dollar referendum to renovate the fields, which was defeated by voters.

The Garden State Preservation Trust gave \$1.1 million in a remediation project to clear contaminated soil from the site and bring in new soil removed approximately 6 to 12 inches of soil from about 10 acres at the county park.

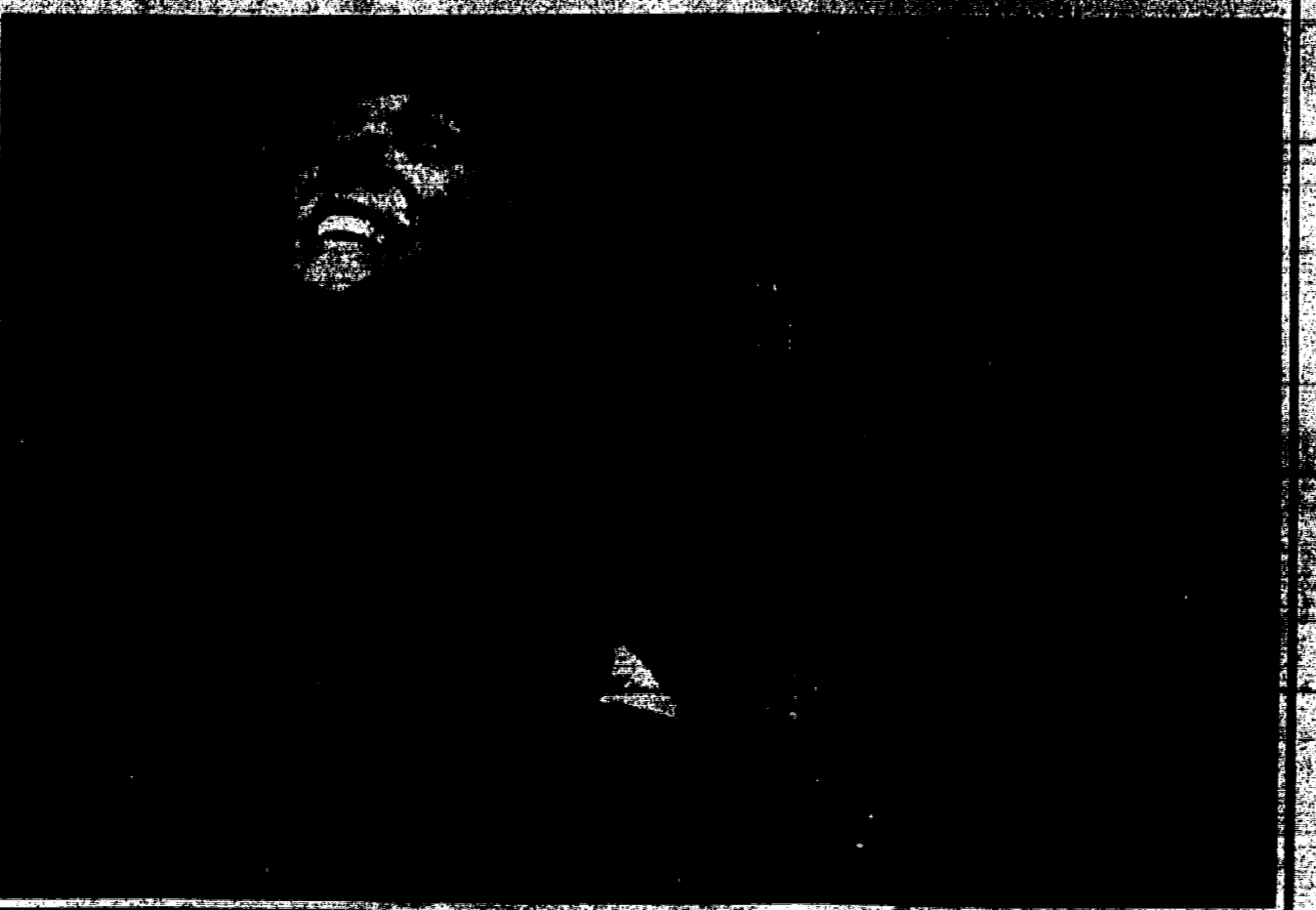
A \$400,000 grant was received from the state for the remediation project, and \$300,000 originally earmarked to renovate the track several years ago was directed toward the remediation as well.

This past July, the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation director Charles Sigmund said the timeline for the reopening of Springfield's Meisel Avenue Park had been pushed back from fall 2005 to spring 2006. One prior timeline estimate by the department said that construction likely would take six to nine months, after the project went out to bid.

Meave Sheehan can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or echoleaderj@yahoo.com.



HOSPITAL'S HAUNTED TRAIL — Damell Felder, a patient at the Springfield Hospital in Mountainside, shrieks in fear at one of the surprise scares. Nurse Joyce Young holds his arm, along the haunted trail on Saturday. Graeme Young holds onto the cape of her guide, occupational therapist Stephanie Young, as they make their way through the trail.



Borough GOP faces no opposition again

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor
The Chicago White Sox and

respective streaks when it comes to World Series titles the last two years. But Mountainside Democrats will have to wait at least another year before they take another shot at ending theirs.

Never in the 110-year history of the borough has a Democrat been elected to the five-member Borough Council and that will not change after Tuesday's General Election. Republican incumbents Keith Turner and Paul Mirabelli face no opposition this year and it's been four years since Democrats even challenged for a seat.

Turner is seeking his sixth term on the council and Mirabelli his fourth. The next council term is three years. Last year's council was one of the most recent Democrats to run for the governing body. He said the party has not been too eager to put up a candidate unless they can win.

"If there are issues that can resonate with voters, you can make a

splash," he said, but there's been nothing. He's

municipal chairmen can help to infuse the party with new, young blood.

"Opposition depends on who opponents are," Turner said, whether one is running "just for sake of opposition," or if there is a viable candidate with new ideas. "...If residents of Mountainside feel I haven't done those things, then competition is good."

"But running just to run, you end up with people that don't really want or care about the job."

See T2O, Page 2

Administrator signs three-year contract

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

Springfield officials signed a three-year contract with their township administrator, who was to start his new position on Monday.

Signed Oct. 26 by Mayor Sy Mullman and the new administrator, Edward J. Fanning, the three-page document details the terms of employment. The contract was obtained through an Open Public Records Act request filed Friday and made available on Monday.

There will be a 180-day probationary period during which Fanning's performance will be reviewed and evaluated by the Township Committee. At the end of the probationary period, the governing body will evaluate him in the areas of "leadership, organizational activity, fiscal responsibility, planning and other areas relevant to the performance of his duties and functions of his position."

Fanning, who was mayor of Springfield from 1985 to 1987, will earn an annual salary of \$85,000, and receive a minimum increase of 5 percent each year. The Township Committee has the discretion to award up to another 5 percent annually based on performance. He also will be provided with a cellular phone for township business and duties.

The township will provide Fanning with family coverage in all health

insurance programs, in addition to life insurance and pension coverage/contributions.

The new administrator will be entitled to 16 vacation days during each calendar year, to be accrued at a rate of 1 1/3 per month, but he cannot take any during the six-month probationary period.

In the event that Fanning decides to voluntarily resign, 90 days notice will be required unless otherwise agreed upon in writing, and no severance pay will be owed. Should Springfield terminate Fanning "in violation of the terms" of the agreement, he would receive payment and benefits due under the remaining term of the contract but would be seek no further damages.

Fanning, 62, was a partner with the Woodbridge law firm of Tansey, Fanning, Haggerty, Kelly, Convery and Tracy. He earned a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University in 1965 and his law degree, cum laude, from Seton Hall University in 1972.

Fanning, who served as township attorney from 1976 to 1980, was appointed township administrator Oct. 11 by a 4-1 vote of the Township Committee, with Republican Harold Poltrock the lone dissenter. He replaces Richard Sheola, the township's first full-time administrator, who left in December after five years in the position.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

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

Story reprints: For permission to reprint any item printed in the newspaper you must call Pam Canavan at 908-686-7700.

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To place a display ad: Display advertising for placement in the general news section of the Echo Leader must be in our office by Monday at 5 p.m.

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Juveniles charged with unlawful possession

Mountainside Two juveniles were arrested Saturday at 8:20 p.m. for unlawful possession of a weapon at the Route 22 footbridge.

Police on patrol noticed two males running across New Providence Road toward the library to meet a group of five more juveniles. The group walked over the Route 22 footbridge toward police and one juvenile placed a knife on the ground, according to police.

Police retrieved two knives and a set of plastic knuckles from a second juvenile. Bryan P. Callahan, 18, of Westfield was arrested Sunday at 9:02 p.m. at Deerfield Court for reckless endangerment/disorderly conduct.

Callahan sprayed a juvenile with a water gun full of urine at the corner of WoodValley Road and Central Avenue. Vicente A. Morales, 38, of Weehawken was arrested Sunday at 7:56 p.m. on Route 22 west mile post 51.10 for driving while suspended.

On Sunday at 11:29 p.m., Robert T. Childers III, 22, of New Brunswick was arrested on Route 22 east near the Lawrence Avenue U-Turn for outstanding warrants from Union Township.

Ian Austin, 34, of East Orange was arrested Saturday at 5:21 p.m. at

POLICE BLOTTER

On Oct. 25 at 11:32 p.m., Terrill A. Ross, 44, of East Orange was arrested by the East Orange police for an outstanding warrant out of Mountainside in the amount of \$400.

On Monday at 6:50 a.m., a 2004 Infiniti parked on South Maple Avenue was reported vandalized, with damage to the driver's side door lock. The windshield of a 1997 Honda parked on Dayton Court was reported smashed Sunday at 8:02 p.m.

On Sunday at 7:50 p.m., a 2005 Humvee parked on Ashwood Road was burglarized, with the driver's side window smashed. Items stolen were an owner's manual, golf clubs at an estimated value of \$1,000, and an iPod at an estimated value of \$320.

The driver's side mirror of a 2005 Hyundai Elantra parked on Adams Terrace was reported broken Friday at 12:34 p.m. On Oct. 27 at 1:38 p.m., a 2002 Nissan Pathfinder parked on Lawrence Road was reported to have been vandalized, with acid or paint remover spread on its front fender.

The front door of a Mountain-

side residence was reported damaged by bullets from a BB gun Oct. 27 at 9:30 a.m. Someone damaged the side mirror of a 2000 Honda Civic parked on Hawthorne Avenue Oct. 26 at 9:42 p.m.

On Oct. 26 at 5:50 a.m., several items were reported stolen from a salon along the 200 block of Morris Avenue. Items stolen included \$40 from the cash register, \$220 from a purse, a portable DVD player, and six children's DVDs.

A tree branch was reported to have fallen on a 2000 Volvo parked in the James Caldwell School lot Oct. 25 at 8:11 a.m., causing damage to the windshield, hood, front bumper and fenders and side mirrors. A tree branch was reported to have fallen on a Jeep parked in the Caldwell School lot Oct. 25 at 8:11 a.m., causing damage to the rear window, lift gate and roof.

On Oct. 25 at 4:49 p.m., someone broke into a locker at Bally's Fitness on Route 22 east and stole \$675 in cash, a Discover Card and a Master Card. A Dell Inspiron laptop valued \$1,300 was reported stolen from the Jonathan Dayton High School auditorium Oct. 25 at 2:30 p.m.

On Oct. 25 at 2:30 p.m.

Two council seats up in Mountainside

(Continued from Page 2) Turner, in a telephone interview Tuesday, said he feels as though he still has "something to offer" the borough, and his years of experience on the council "can only help. I don't think I have become stale in any way. There are still avenues for improvement."

He would like to continue the field maintenance committee that he's started with the school board, in addition to sharing other services and continuing to expand recreational activities, from youngsters to senior citizens.

"Even though we're a small town, we have active recreation programs," Turner said, and he hopes to continue to expand "on those good things."

Turner, a lifelong resident who owns a dental prosthetics lab in Scotch Plains, said his hope is to "continue to keep Mountainside one of what I consider, the crown jewels in the county. That doesn't happen by accident. Every tax dollar that comes into our hands, we treat like our own."

Among the issues facing the borough in his next term

are expanding television services offered to residents and dealing with state and county mandated policies "that we have no control over." As an example, he cited a recent state mandate for municipalities stormwater filters.

"It's a constant struggle being a small community," Turner said. "Shared services is a huge part of what we have to look into."

Turner said he's received several letters from residents inquiring about choices in cable television options, which he would like to explore.

Another key issue is finding ways to attract volunteers for the Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Turner said. "We have wonderful volunteer services in Mountainside. Sometimes people don't realize how important it is to give back to the community, even for a little while."

Mirabelli could not be reached for comment by presstime Tuesday. Mark Hrymna can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 128, or mhrymna@theecholeader.com.

Mountainside's Greeley awarded Congressional medal for service

Bridget Greeley, 15, of Mountainside was among the students who received the Congressional Award Service Medal, which recognizes young people who seek to improve themselves and their community.

To earn the award, young people must set and achieve goals in four program areas: voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness and exploration. Bridget earned her bronze medal by volunteering as an assistant Scout leader for Daisy Girl Scouts, worked to help clean up her community and collected donated items for various groups.

For more information, visit http://www.congressionalaward.org

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Today • The Foothill Club of Mountainside luncheon will be at noon at B.G. Fields Restaurant on Springfield Avenue. New members and guests are always welcome. For a reservations, call Genevieve at 908-232-3626. A representative from Esteé Lauder will give a makeover demonstration and answer questions from the members. Members are reminded to bring food items for Thanksgiving baskets to be given to needy Mountainside families. For information, call Ruthie Goense, president of the Foothill Club, at 908-233-5253.

The (Really Good) Books Discussion Group of Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will meet in the Palmer Museum at 7 p.m. to discuss Jhumpa Lahiri's "The Namesake." For a reservation of a copy of the book, call 973-376-4930, ext. 228.

Friday • Free senior blood pressure screenings will be from 10 a.m. to noon at Mountainside Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 east. For information, call 908-232-0015. Monday • Life Line Screening Radiology will be at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 639 Mountain Ave., Springfield. Appointments will begin at 9 a.m. Each screening requires 10 minutes or less to complete. A complete vascular screening package costs \$109. A complete vascular package, including the osteoporosis screening, costs \$129.

For more information, call 1-877-237-1344. Preregistration is required. • The Springfield Township Committee will meet for a workshop session in the Municipal Annex Building, 10 N. Trivett Road, at 7:30 p.m. • The Springfield Board of Education will meet in the media center at Jonathan Dayton High School, 139 Mountain Ave., at 7:30 p.m. • The Friends of the Mountainside Library will meet Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the library, Constitution Plaza.

Tuesday • Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will continue its Lunchtime Video Series, "Box Office Comedy Hits," at noon with the Debra Messing film, "The Wedding Date." Bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be provided. For information, call 973-376-4930.

The Mountainside Borough Council will meet for a workshop session in the conference room of Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 east, at 8 p.m. • The Springfield Township Committee will meet for a regular meeting in the Committee Room of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave., at 8 p.m. Upcoming Nov. 10 • The Mountainside Planning Board will meet in Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 east, at 8 p.m. Nov. 11 • The Springfield Veterans' Alliance will have its annual observance of Veterans Day at 11 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park, Shunpike Road and Mountain Avenue, Springfield. The alliance consists of American Legion Post 228, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7683, and Jewish War Veterans Post 273. In addition to the participation of members of these posts, the program will include children from St. James School, a chorus of young voices and the Springfield Auxiliary Police. Following the program, the Rotary Club of Springfield will dedicate the gazebo which it installed at the park.

New cell tower going up at HQ

By Mark Hrymna Regional Editor Work began last week on a new 150-foot communications tower behind the Fire Department headquarters on Mountainside. The tower has the ability to host up to four cellular carriers, and two carriers already have signed on.

Springfield's communications will occupy the top position on the tower, with the first carrier being Omnipoint/T-Mobile and the second Cingular Wireless. The remaining two carriers currently are vacant. As the top carrier, Omnipoint/T-Mobile is constructing the tower to replace the existing one and will pay the township \$2,157 per month, or \$25,881 annually. Cingular will pay \$2,000 per month.

Bid specifications set forth all requirements, Township Attorney Bergen said, including requiring the companies to test before going online to ensure the cell signals do not interfere with Fire Department radio transmission. The bids also specify that the company is to provide funds for the township to do a second test of its own. Should the signals begin interfering with radio transmissions, Bergen said the township can shut down the cell tower at once.

Jim Beyer, president of Firemen's Benevolent Association Local 57, said firefighters are concerned about the health hazards of being near cell phone signals while on duty 24 hours a day. He also questioned why there was

no public hearing explaining how the site was selected and why the firefighters' union has never been given information about the effects on health. Bergen said that since the tower was being built on township property, a public hearing was not required. Similarly, construction of the Fire Department and Chisolm Community Center in recent years went before the Planning Board but only as a courtesy, not a requirement.

"The Township Committee doesn't in the end believe there is any validity to concerns about health; it's in no way a health hazard. There's a slew of research on this. "If the Township Committee thought it was a safety hazard, it wouldn't move forward."

Springfield Halloween parade



Daniel, 2, and Madeline Beveridge, 4, and Jacob Mateur, 5, show off their costumes they dressed up in for the Springfield Halloween parade on Sunday.

Stop signs to be moved to side streets

By Meave Sheehan Staff Writer An ordinance to remove stop signs along Evergreen Avenue in Springfield was introduced by the Township Committee at its Oct. 25 meeting. Illegal stop signs currently in place will be removed, with stop signs to be installed on the adjacent side streets.

The Township Committee had the stop signs installed in the area of Evergreen Avenue and Smithfield Drive with the intent to curb speeding. After checking with the state Department of Transportation, the governing body found some of the signs were not acceptable to state DOT's standards.

The new ordinance calls for side streets, such as Christy Lane and Janet Lane to have stop signs installed at their intersections with Evergreen Avenue. Residents have been concerned about speeding in the area for a while and some have called for the installation of rumble strips. At an August committee meeting, one Evergreen Avenue resident said he had seen teenagers drag racing on his street. Other residents have complained about speeding cars turning onto Smithfield Drive from Milltown Road.

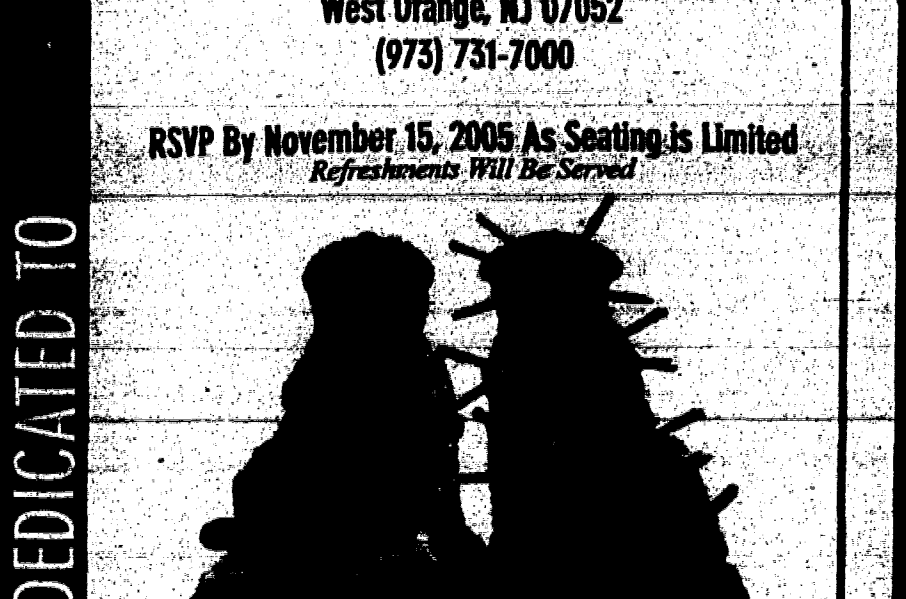
In August, residents' complaints about speeding in the area led the assistant township engineer, Sam Martini, to make recommendations to the Township Committee on how to reduce speeding. Martini recommended to the Township Committee that they have a stronger police presence on Smithfield Drive, along with double yellow lines and white shoulder lines. Martini also recommended a crosswalk to be put in for people crossing to the small park on the street.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Kline, Dill and Ward for freeholder

Pension padding. Abuse of county cars. Tax dollars spent in essence, on campaign literature for incumbents. These are the kinds of things your \$390 million county budget has been paying for last year.

The current board gave the brother of the acting governor an additional, and unnecessary, \$46,000 to his salary while he was on loan to the county from the state, which boosted his pension considerably.

Some different perspectives are needed on the freeholder board. That's one reason why voters should cast ballots for Republicans Stuart Kline and Albert Dill in Tuesday's election.

While freeholders are elected at-large, the seats are apportioned geographically by the party. With Democrats in control, there will always be two seats from Elizabeth and at least one each from Linden, Plainfield and Union, due to the size of those towns.



HER FIRST HALLOWEEN — Five-month-old Azzariyall Palin gets her wings adjusted as she's held during the Springfield Halloween parade on Sunday.

Grau for Springfield Township Committee

For the one seat open on the Springfield Township Committee in Tuesday's General Election, voters should elect Republican Steve Grau.

Grau's experience in commercial real estate should be a welcome addition to the Township Committee as the municipality continues plans for the redevelopment of the Morris Avenue business district.

This year's election has been a bit more spirited than we've seen the last several years in Springfield. Springfield's "downtown" area has been at the forefront of both candidates' campaigns.

No on Question No. 1, yes on Question No. 2

Voters will be presented with two public questions on the ballot when they enter the voting booths on Tuesday. The first deals with creating the position of lieutenant governor and the second with air pollution and underground storage tanks.

On the matter of the first public question, the last few years in New Jersey have shown a need for the position of lieutenant governor. During the course of a week in January 2001, the state had four different governors, acting or otherwise.

So it's been obvious in recent years that New Jersey needs a lieutenant governor. This year's public question would have the lieutenant governor run on the same ticket as the governor, much like candidates for president and vice president run together.

But there are problems with Public Question No. 1, and that's why voters should reject it. The ballot measure calls for a lieutenant governor to be on the ballot in 2009.

age Authority and rising pension payments and health care costs for employees.

At the very least, we hope Grau will bring another perspective to the Township Committee. There was a whisper from the governing body about discussing the defeated school budget behind closed doors in the spring.

While we can appreciate the township attorney's interpretation of the open public meetings law — and committee members pay him for his advice — there's nothing wrong with a little disagreement. It's too easy for elected officials to simply say that it was the attorney's advice.

Someone with a reasonable amount of knowledge of the operation of government should at least question why a governing body automatically goes into closed session to discuss laptop programs in the defeated school budget.

When Springfield residents enter the voting booth on Tuesday, they should cast their ballot for Grau for Township Committee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The past has something to teach us

To the Editor: Read all about it...and I did, for years and years. I refer to all the great plans for a new downtown Springfield. Sadly, like so many others promises this one never came true.

In "Olden times" as our three children used to say, we had excellent shopping facilities, all well patronized by local families: Springfield market, they delivered; Reineite's, children's clothing store for school and dress clothing; Springfield pharmacy, Wally Kleinman, always at your service; Kay's hardware and soda fountain — believe it or not — there was a men's shop, an optician and so many other stores used daily by Springfield shoppers.

Registration is required for all three story time programs. Proof of age is required for first time registrants for the preschool and toddler programs.

What's wrong with election process To the Editor: We have been subject to a political campaign in Springfield that epitomizes what is wrong with the election process these days.

This is what we should expect from the candidates but instead we have been given a candidate who makes complaints and allegations while the other candidate is left to respond to them.

I don't know what the Republican candidate is going to do for us, and what I mean by that is he hasn't told us. He's complained about what he feels is wrong but hasn't provided a plan as to how he'd make it better. I don't know if he would be a good Township Committee person or not; he just hasn't told us anything about what he's going to do.

Contribute toward health benefits

To the Editor: It is an established fact that among today's ever rising costs, the greatest percentage increases are for gasoline, residential and commercial heating by gas or electricity, higher real estate taxes and rapidly escalating health benefits with the latter directly affecting all men, women and children.

Directly about the past two years, some residents, including this writer, have requested, at their public meetings, that the Springfield Board of Education and the Springfield Township Committee have the employees under their jurisdiction share some of their steadily increasing health benefits burden with the taxpayers.

The elected officials of these two governmental bodies in Springfield seem to be reluctant to enforce such a saving for taxpayers. The time has come that their union leaders, representing six or seven unions in Springfield alone, who are in the habit of demanding more and more for their members, to realize that the taxpayers' pocketbooks are not a never-ending pot of gold just for them.

These local governing bodies and union memberships should start proposing health benefit sharing systems now, for incorporation in their 2006 budgets.

Advertisement for Mattress Factory featuring 'Election/Voter's Day Clearance' with various mattress models and prices.

Advertisement for a seminar titled 'THE HOLIDAYS ARE ALMOST HERE!' focusing on cosmetic and weight loss treatments, including Botox, Restylane, and laser treatments.

AT THE LIBRARY

Take place in Calcutta, India, Boston and New York City between 1968 and 2000.

The protagonist, Gogol Ganguli, is on a quest to reinvent himself in order to achieve a sense of dignity that will overcome the embarrassment of his name.

To Gogol, his name is a despised symbol of his cultural alienation, neither Indian nor American, but Russian.

Discussions take place at 7 p.m. in the Palmer Museum. To reserve a copy of the book, call 973-376-4930, ext. 228.

The Friends of the Mountainside Library will meet Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the library, Constitution Plaza.

Bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be provided. For information, call 973-376-4930.

Four of these Springfield paintings were represented at an international exhibition hosted in Moscow, Russia, in 2002. Hours of the exhibit are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

print collections, programs for adults and children and much more.

For more information, call 908-233-0115.

"Box Office Comedy Hits continues Tuesday" Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its Lunchtime Video Series, "Box Office Comedy Hits," Tuesday at noon.

Debra Messing's worst nightmare is about to come true. Not only is her younger half-sister getting married before her, but to add insult to injury, the groom's best man is Kat's ex-flame.

As a single New Yorker, she can't bear to attend the festivities at her parent's London home alone, so she does the next best thing: she hires an escort to play her boyfriend. The film is 90 minutes and is rated PG-13.

Funding for the video series has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs and the Friends of the Springfield Free Public Library.

Large wine advertisement titled 'LOWEST PRICES • BEST SELECTION • GREAT SERVICE' featuring various wine brands like Keridall-Jackson, Yellow Tail, Santa Margherita, and others with prices.

Advertisement for 'Total Wine & More' featuring a variety of wine selections, including domestic, import, and microbrew beer, with prices and contact information.

Advertisement for Summit Observer, a community newspaper, with contact information for David Worrall, Publisher.

Advertisement for local news and advertising services, including weather updates and sports news, with contact information for localsource.com.

Advertisement for 'Letters to the Editor' with a focus on 'Democrats will only accept a liberal' and 'Make informed choices on the ballot'.

Advertisement for 'Our policy on letters and columns' explaining the process for submitting letters and columns to the forum.

Advertisement for 'Respond to letters and columns that appear on our Community Forum pages' with contact information for localsource.com.

Advertisement for 'Respond to letters and columns that appear on our Community Forum pages' with contact information for localsource.com.

Robin Morhouse

Robin Ann Morhouse, 61, of Summit died Oct. 21 at home...

The Beacon Hill Club in Summit and the Balthous Club in Springfield...

Janet Stone

Janet Badenoch Stone, 92, of Summit died Oct. 24 in Overlook Hospital...

Born in Yorkers, N.Y., Mrs. Stone lived in Mount Vernon, N.Y., Maplewood, Kirkwood, Mo., and San Marino, Calif...

OBITUARIES

Born in Bayonne, Mrs. Frick lived in Summit before moving to Haskell 17 years ago...

Joan Ikle

Joan Kemp Ikle of Old Saybrook, Conn., formerly of Summit, died Oct. 13 at home...

Camella Frick

Camella Frick, 78, of Haskell, formerly of Summit, died Oct. 26 in the Lakeland Healthcare Center...

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Worship calendar listing various churches and their services, including BAPTIST, JEWISH-ORTHODOX, LUTHERAN, and PRESBYTERIAN.

ECHO LEADER

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

SPORTS

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

THIS IS H.S. FOOTBALL

By JR Parachini Sports Editor

Here we are. The final weekend before the state playoffs...

Bulldogs in states



The Dayton boys' soccer team, sparked by Fred Vilasco (No. 9 at left), will host a North 2, Group 1 quarterfinal tomorrow...

GL makes playoffs this time in Central Jersey, Group 2 Quite an accomplishment for young squad

By Timothy Denman Staff Writer Governor Livingston is in. For the second straight season the Highlanders have qualified for the state playoffs...

GL defeated host Roselle 21-6 last Saturday afternoon at Arminio Field to clinch a state playoff berth...

GL first beat North Plainfield (5-2) by a 7-0 score at home, handing the Catskills their first loss of the season...

North Plainfield will also qualify in Central Jersey, Group 2 and Johnson should win at Pequanock tomorrow night...

GL played Rahway, the Mountain Valley Conference-Mountain Division leader, tough before falling 14-0 at home three weeks ago...

GL returned only two starters from last year's playoff squad. The Highlanders were very much a question mark...

Guarino scored Dayton's first touchdown against Immaculate, while Cappa, a junior, scored on a five-yard run...

Silverman, a sophomore, scored on a 10-yard run and Zannazzone, a freshman, scored on a nine-yard run...

Dayton tops Montclair Immaculate for its second win of the season Guarino, Cappa, Silverman, Zannazzone score

By JR Parachini Sports Editor After garnering its first win of the season against Passaic Tech, the Dayton varsity football team snipped a three-game losing streak...

The Bulldogs received single touchdowns from four players, including quarterbacks Jason Cappa and Rob Zannazzone...

Guarino, a junior, is having an outstanding season. He has scored in every game that Dayton has scored this year...

Guarino scored Dayton's first touchdown against Immaculate, while Cappa, a junior, scored on a five-yard run...

Sablosky leads team to 3rd in conference

Captures balance beam at 9.25

By JR Parachini Sports Editor After doing quite well to finish second in the Union County Tournament at Brearley, the Dayton-Brearley gymnastics team also turned out to be one of the top teams at last Thursday's Northern Hills Conference meet at West Milford...

Dayton-Brearley finished third with 98.85 points. Union Catholic was first at 103.9 and Butler second at 98.95.

Dayton-Brearley junior Andie Sablosky captured the balance beam event with a first-place score of 9.25.

Union Catholic senior Alyssa Lewandowski and Linden was first with an All-Around score of 36.125. She was sixth at 9.4 and uneven bars at 9.0...

Sablosky was third with an All-Around score of 35.55. Sara Giannella of Wayne Valley was second at 35.75.

Sablosky was third in vault at 8.8 and tied for third with Steph Schmidt of Butler in uneven bars at 8.65.

Lisa Madonia of Brearley was third in balance beam at 8.8, while Sablosky was fifth in floor exercise at 8.85, tied again with Schmidt.

The sectionals are scheduled to take place tomorrow and Saturday at Wayne Hills.

GL girls' tennis does it again

The Governor Livingston girls' tennis team did well to capture a third straight sectional championship this year, beating Manasquan 3-2 in the Central Jersey, Group 2 title match Oct. 14 in Manasquan...

Manasquan captured Central Jersey, Group 3 the past two years. GL won the section as the No. 4 seed, while Manasquan was seeded second.

The Highlanders won at home against fifth-seeded New Providence 5-0 on Oct. 6 and then eliminated top-seeded Shore Regional 5-0 on the road on Oct. 11.

GL was then edged in the Group 2 semifinals by North 2, Group 2 champ Bernards 3-2 on Oct. 19.

GL blanked Bound Brook 5-0 on Monday to improve to 11-3. The Highlanders were scheduled to compete at Roselle Park Tuesday afternoon...

It was the first match of the season between GL and Roselle Park. The Panthers were defeated at Manasquan 5-0 in a Central Jersey, Group 2 quarterfinal.

In the sectional championship win over Manasquan, GL won at second and third singles and at second doubles.

Allie Tierney defeated Gretchen Baird 6-2, 6-3 at second singles and Paige Geiger downed Robin Morris 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 at third. Jean Namkung and Tina Cook defeated Haley McNeil and Laura Turner 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (7-1) in a thrilling second doubles match.

Katie Tierney was defeated in first singles by Tahira Smoke 6-2, 6-2, while the first doubles team of Jessica Baroff and Jen Bernstein was downed by Donna Tausek and Chase Fitzsimmons 7-5, 6-4.

Springfield Power 1, Madison United 1

In a match of the top two teams in their flight two weekends ago, the Springfield Power 13-and-under traveling girls' soccer team managed a 1-1 tie against the Madison United. Emily MacDonnell was brilliant in goal for the Power...

Power was forwards Ryan Schneider, Mallory DeMauro, Alexa Williams, Jenn Russo and Natalie Hernandez. Madison players were Rebecca Frank, Gabrielle Pypak and Jackie... Madison's defense included Angela Berardrielli, Aleksandra Diamand, Ali Hopkins and Stacey Shevitz.

The Power shut out Madison 2-0 and Montville 4-0 to move into first place in the Morris County Traveling Soccer League standings. Loeshelle, Russo, DeMauro, Williams and Schneider scored in the wins.

Springfield Scorpions 1, Summit 1

The Soccer Club of Springfield 12-and-under Scorpions battled Summit to a 1-1 tie, although they won Summit 12-4. After a scoreless first half, Zack Haliczek passed to Max Kotler, who moved around the Summit goalie and kicked the ball into a vacant net...

Springfield dominated the rest of the game, but could not put any other shots past the Summit goalie. Also playing well for the Scorpions were Sergio Amunizata, Ryan Cutino, Brian DiFiore, Matt Diako, Mike Diako, Andrew Homlish, Nico Izzi, Matt Jessen, Matt Lynn, Nick Pearl, Christian Schmidt, Ryan Schweikert and goalkeeper Brandon Moss and Peter Zablonisky.

Springfield defeated the West Milford Eagles 5-1 Sunday at Dayton High School. Backfield scorers were Schmitt, Lynn and Haliczek once and Haliczek once. The Scorpions now 3-3-1, play at Florham Park Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

Springfield Roadrunners 8, Kinnelon Galaxy 3

The Springfield Roadrunners 10-and-under boys' defeated the Kinnelon Galaxy 8-3 to improve their record to 3-2. Kazari Trought tried a team record with five goals for the Roadrunners. He scored three goals within the first six minutes of the match. Eaming assists were Jason Barreina, Tommy Walsh, Zack Semansky and Chris Vega.

Also playing well for the Roadrunners were Ryan Fitzpatrick, Reese Peterson, Kevin Chabir, Will Frick, Brandon Sack and Kyle Schmidt. Springfield beat the Denerville Hob/Nites 4-3 and the Caldwell Hurricanes by a score of 6-1 at Saturday's Rockaway Howl-O-Ween Tournament.

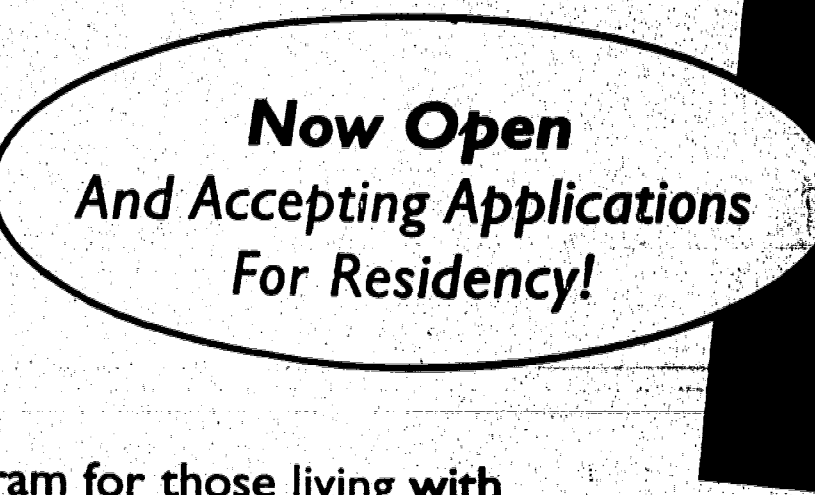
WHEN SOMEONE YOU LOVE NEEDS CARE

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CareOne at Livingston's newest assisted living community is now open. Our assisted living community was designed with our signature commitment to excellence in senior care...

Some of the services and amenities our assisted living residents will enjoy include:

- Assistance with daily living
Spacious apartments
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Kosher meals
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Harmony Village, our assisted living program for those living with Alzheimer's and other related memory impairments, will be offered in a separate, distinct assisted living unit.

To learn more about our assisted living community or Harmony Village, call to speak with Nina Goffman, our Admissions Director, or for a complimentary assisted living information packet.

CareOne at Livingston Assisted Living

A CareOne Senior Care Community 76 Passaic Avenue • Livingston, NJ 07039 973.758.4100

Visit our Web site at www.care-one.com

OBITUARIES

Doris Brahm
Doris A. Brahm, 90, of Montague, formerly of Mountaineer, died Oct. 23 in Valley View Care Center, Newton.
Born in Elizabeth, Mrs. Brahm lived in Mountaineer for 70 years before moving to Montague in 2003. She worked as a waitress at Echo Queen Diner, Mountaineer, for 30 years and retired in 1994. During World War II, Mrs. Brahm worked as a riveter for Eastern Aircraft, Linden. She was a member of the Mountaineer-Gospel Chapel.
Surviving are two sons, Arthur J. and Walter R.; a sister, Margaret Heaton; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Getting Through the Holidays Workshop
Judy Rothman, CTACC, Judith Kramer, Esq.
Invite you to our workshop on getting through the Holidays after a separation, divorce, loss of a loved one or have made a major change in your life.
The Date: Saturday November 12th, 2005
The Place: 29 Essex Street, Millburn near the Millburn RR
The Time: 1-3 pm
Price: \$35.00

Springfield Garden Club will meet Wednesday
The Springfield Garden Club will meet Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. in the Presbyterian Parish House, 37 Church Hill, Springfield. The speaker, a representative from Springfield Florist, will discuss flower arranging. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.
For more information, call Sharon at 973-921-0303.

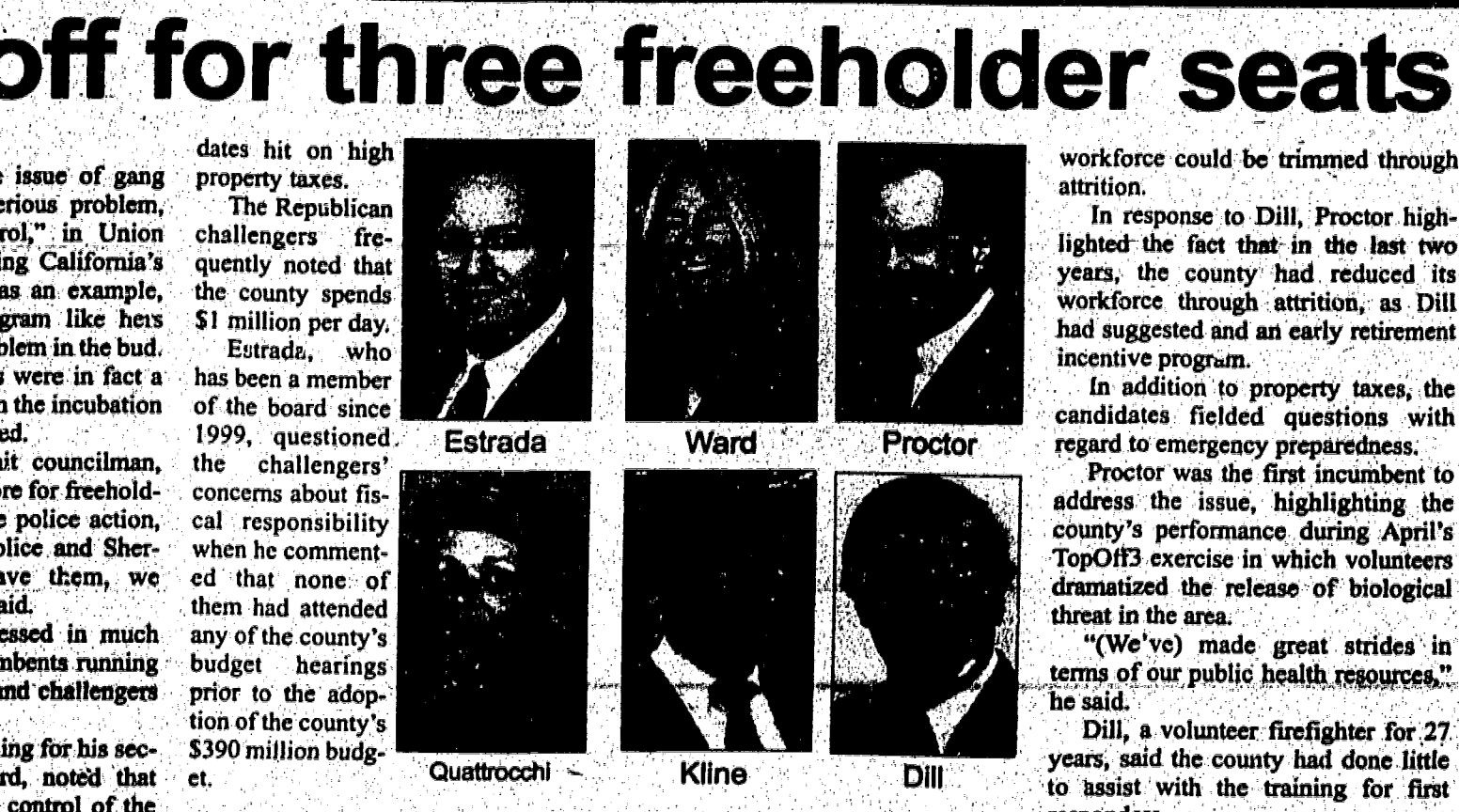
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Hits and misses
Hit — The effort by Linden City Council President Robert Bunk and historic advocate Rebecca Tatoli to purchase and preserve the Elva House. It is located on the corner of South Wood and Stinson avenues and is the oldest structure in the city.
The city has sought historic designation for the site and hired a real estate appraiser to determine the cost. They really should tape Bunk's recollections of his 70 years in Linden, including when "U.S. 1 was a two-lane dirt road" and his desire to house the "past to show the city's evolution."

Parties face off for three freeholder seats
By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer
On Tuesday, Union County voters will have their pick of six candidates to fill three seats on the Board of Chosen Freeholders.
The board is currently made up of nine Democrats. The last time a Republican had a seat on the freeholder board was 1998.
Betsy Wood of Linden and incumbent Rick Proctor of Rahway and Angel Estrada of Elizabeth will face off against Republican challengers Stuart Kline of Fanwood, Albert Dill of Summit and Patricia Quattrocchi of Garwood.
An attorney with a practice in Union Township, Ward was appointed to his seat on the board in 2004 following the resignation of John Wohlrab.
During his remarks at last week's candidates forum in Cranford, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Ward highlighted her volunteer work throughout Union County's community.
She also championed her yet to be implemented gang counseling program.
According to Ward, the program, which targets youngsters between the ages of 10 and 12, would be implemented in November.

Union County

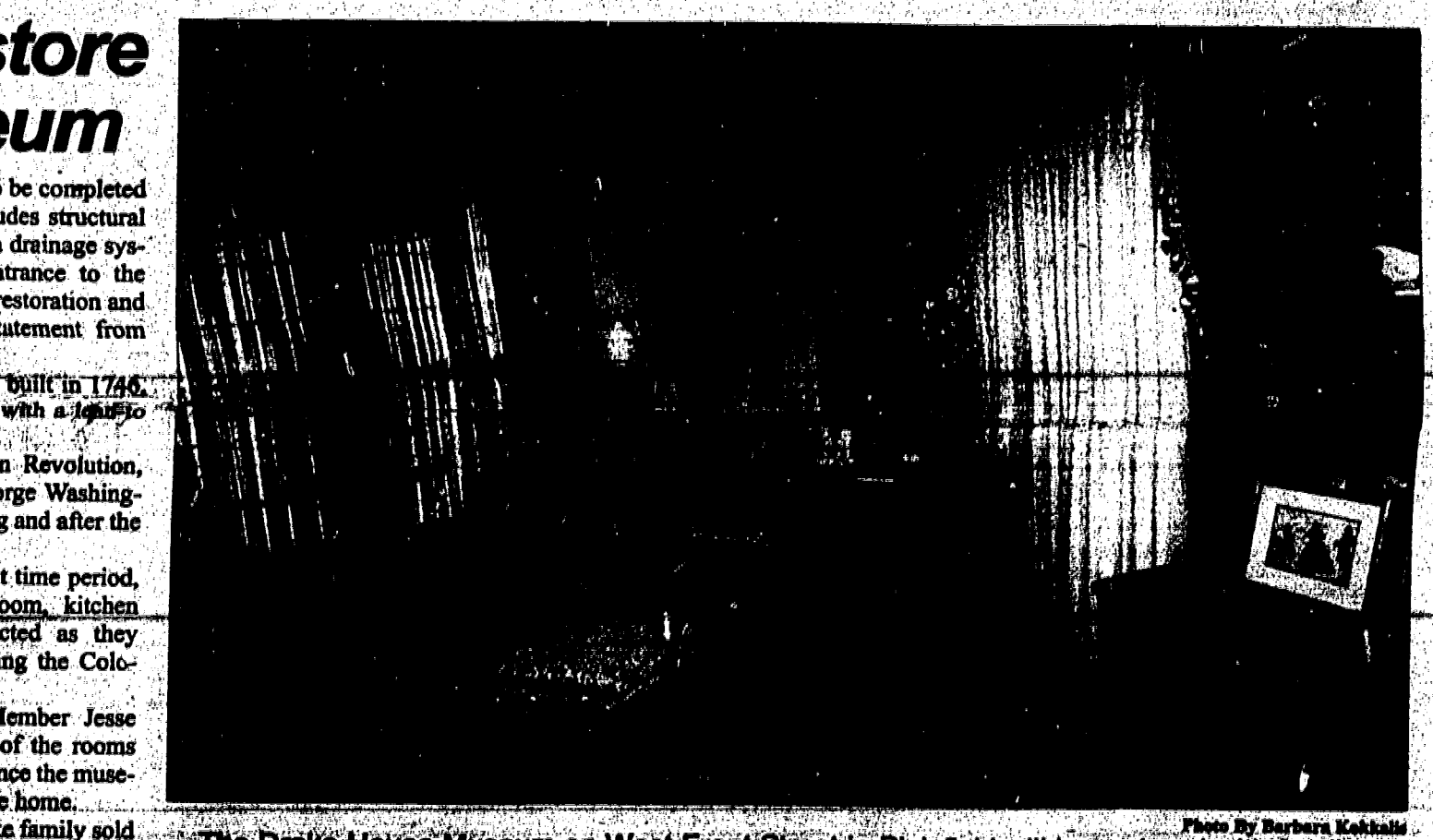
WORLD COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE NOV. 3, 2005 REG. http://www.lead.com



Ward said that the issue of gang violence, "is not a serious problem, and not out of control," in Union County. However, citing California's Los Angeles County as an example, she noted that a program like hers would help nip the problem in the bud.
Dill said that gangs were in fact a problem, and not just in the incubation stage, as Ward suggested.
The former Summit councilman, who has run twice before for freeholder, recommended more police action, specifically County Police and Sheriff's Office. "We have them, we should use them," he said.
The evening progressed in much the same way — incumbents running on their track record, and challengers calling for change.
Proctor, who is running for his second term on the board, noted that when Republicans had control of the county's legislative body, Union County ranked last in economic development in the state. He also highlighted \$5 billion in redevelopment projects that had been undertaken and decreased crime rates since Democrats took hold of the board.
"Out towns are safer because of a Democratic freeholder board," Proctor, a public health officer, said.
During the forum, all the candidates hit on high property taxes.
The Republican challengers frequently noted that the county spends \$1 million per day.
Estrada, who has been a member of the board since 1999, questioned the challengers' concerns about fiscal responsibility when he commented that none of them had attended any of the county's budget hearings prior to the adoption of the county's \$390 million budget.
Estrada also noted that the budget reflects that the freeholders "must ensure that county services are met."
Republicans claimed that taxes have risen approximately 44 percent in the last five years.
Kline, an attorney and nine-year Garwood borough councilman, said that eliminating 100 of the county's 150 employee vehicles would create almost immediate savings of at least \$2 million. Kline, who has run for the board before, also noted that the number of county salaries over \$100,000 had jumped from 24 to 64 in the last three years.
Quattrocchi, on the other hand, emphasized cross-training of employees to do multiple tasks, and the evaluation of "top-heavy" departments.
Dill stressed that the county's workforce could be trimmed through attrition.
In response to Dill, Proctor highlighted the fact that in the last two years, the county had reduced its workforce through attrition, as Dill had suggested and an early retirement incentive program.
In addition to property taxes, the candidates fielded questions with regard to emergency preparedness.
Proctor was the first incumbent to address the issue, highlighting the county's performance during April's Top03 exercise in which volunteers dramatized the release of biological threat in the area.
"(We've) made great strides in terms of our public health resources," he said.
Dill, a volunteer firefighter for 27 years, said the county had done little to assist with the training for first responders.
"The freeholders have done nothing to help the firefighters in Union County," Dill said, "scrambling" to find a site for a new fire training academy.
Estrada, however, disagreed. "The reality is, in Union County, there is a system that actually works," he said, adding that the county has been planning for the relocation of the fire academy.
See COUNTY, Page B2

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

Grid of business and service advertisements including: ADDITIONS, AIR CONDITIONING, BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY, CABINETRY, CARPENTRY, CLEANING SERVICE, CLEAN UP, COMPUTER SERVICES, DRIVEWAYS, ELECTRICIAN, FLOORS, GUTTERS/LEADERS, HANDYMAN, HOME IMPROVEMENTS, KITCHENS & BATHS, MARCKETTA PAINTING, PAINTING, ROOFING, SPRINKLER SYSTEMS, TREE SERVICE, TUTOR, WANTED TO BUY, WINDOWS.



The Drake House Museum on West Front Street in Plainfield will be restored with funding from the county, city and state.

When the Drake House was built in 1746, it was just a room, with a log cabin kitchen.
During the American Revolution, the home served as George Washington's headquarters during and after the Battle of Short Hills.
To commemorate that time period, the first-floor dining room, kitchen and bathroom are depicted as they would have looked during the Colonial Period.
Historical Society Member Jesse Levine said that layout of the rooms has changed very little since the museum was established in the home.
In the 1860s, the Drake family sold the home to John S. Harberger, president of the Manhattan Banking Company. It was Harberger who added the Victorian-style additions to the colonial home.
The first-floor parlor and the Harberger Library are decorated to reflect that time period. The library includes the original Julian Scott painting "The Death of General Seawick," a 7-by-9-foot oil painting considered the museum's centerpiece.
Also in the library are ornately carved wood bookcases, and other period furniture, and imported items, like a Chinese clock and North African Moorish tiles.
"A Turkish chair, once owned by the Red Badge of Courage" author Stephen Crane can also be found in the room.
In addition to items of historical relevance to the Drake House itself, the museum boasts a great deal of historical Plainfield items.
The dining room mantle piece and hutch were acquired from a Victorian era hotel in the area before it was scheduled to be demolished.
Original photos of the Drake home throughout the years are hung beside the front door to mark the changes the house has seen.
The will of Isaac Drake, who built the home for his son Nathaniel, also adorns a wall, as does a commemorative creating the first school system in Plainfield. Nathaniel Drake was one of the signers of the document.
While the home is closed for renovations, the historical society plans to keep up its outreach efforts throughout the community, President Eloise Tinley said.

Voters faced with two public questions on Tuesday

When residents go to the polls on Nov. 8, there will be more at stake than just electing a new governor and local officials. Voters will be asked to decide on two different referendum questions.
Public Question No. 1 deals with a constitutional amendment to establish the office of lieutenant governor, while Public Question No. 2 has to do with approval of a constitutional amendment that would fund a diesel emission reduction program. Each ballot question is accompanied by an interpretive statement to assist voters in making their decision.
In a prepared joint statement, state Sen. Thomas Kean Jr. and Assemblymen Eric Muñoz and Jon Bramnick, all R-Union, said they were in favor of both public questions.
"History has shown that we need to clarify the line of succession should a governor leave office before completing his or her term," they said. The legislators also said that ballot question No. 2 "is an important step toward improving the air we all breathe."
Candidates for governor and lieutenant governor would be elected as joint candidates in the 2009 general election, the same way the president and vice president are selected during a federal election.
According to the interpretive statement, the lieutenant governor would serve as acting governor during brief periods when the governor is absent from the state or unable to serve. The lieutenant governor would also become governor in the event of a vacancy in the office.
The lieutenant governor would only serve until the next general election, at which time voters would elect a new governor and lieutenant governor to complete the unexpired term.
However, if the vacancy of the governor's office occurs within 60 days of the November General election, the lieutenant governor serves until the following year when an election is held. A vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor is filled via gubernatorial appointment.
Presently, if the governor is absent from the state, or unable to serve, the president of the state Senate, followed by the Assembly speaker becomes the acting governor when the governor permanently vacates the office.
In this instance, the state legislator also presides over their district at the same time.
The amendment permits, but does not require the governor to appoint the lieutenant governor to serve as the head of an existing state department agency or to perform other duties or both, according to materials from the League of Women Voters of New Jersey.
The materials also explain that before the 2009 election, if the Senate president or Assembly speaker succeeds the governor, that person would be prohibited from continuing to serve in the Legislature.
Kelly Heek, a spokeswoman for Acting Gov. Richard Codey, said the governor, "has been a strong proponent of finding a way of dealing with New Jersey's succession problem even before he found himself in the role of governor this year."
Question No. 2 would expand the uses of dedicated tax revenue to fund air pollution control and administrative costs of the Underground Storage Tank Program.
According to the question's interpretive statement, 4 percent of the annual revenue from the Corporate Business Tax has been dedicated to fund environmental programs since 1996. The approval would basically reauthorize the way the money earned through the corporate tax is distributed for environmental projects.
According to materials provided by the League of Women Voters, the Constitution currently allocates half of the tax revenue for hazardous waste discharge and a minimum of one-third for funding projects and grants for underground storage tanks discharges and an inspection program.
The approval would allow the use of 17 percent of the dedicated funds for a 10-year period to be used to pay for providing grants to cover the costs of air pollution control equipment to help reduce particulate emission from diesel-powered engines.
In addition, with approval from the Legislature, an additional \$10 million in unused money from the underground storage tank program could be reappropriated to fund grants for the air pollution equipment to reduce particulates.
The amendment also allows for funding for other measures to reduce human exposure to those emissions and no more than \$1.15 million for state administrative costs. Additionally, the amendment would allow for the use of no more than \$1 million per year for state administrative expenses for the underground storage tank program.
State Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell released a letter Oct. 18 urging voters to approve the measure. "Scientists estimate that up to 150 premature deaths and more than 4,000 asthma attacks could be prevented in New Jersey each year if voters approve funding to implement this program," he said. Bradley also championed the fact that the question would accomplish results without further taxing residents of New Jersey, and the program would be "the most comprehensive in the nation."
"Voter approval to fully fund implementation of the control program would enable the Department of Environmental Protection to strengthen its efforts to protect public health by reducing diesel emissions," he said.
For more information about either ballot questions, visit the state Division of Elections Web site at www.NJlections.org.
For more DEP information about diesel emissions, visit www.StopTheSoot.org.
Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or unioncounty@yahoo.com.

GET READY FOR A BUSY FALL... PLACE YOUR AD HERE
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 908-686-7850
ASK FOR HELENE Ext. 173

County freeholders to be determined

(Continued from Page B1)

He also noted that it is common to see firefighters from different municipalities throughout the county assisting their neighboring staffs, and also said that Union County firefighters had been recognized with multiple awards.

By the end of the forum, the candidates appealed to the voters. "I would like to challenge you to 'restore empty promises,'" while Kline called upon voters to "restore two-party government, restore checks and balances, and restore accountability and integrity."

Dill championed the idea of running county government like a business, and "not politics as usual."

Proctor asked voters to "remain united on a course of progress," while Ward highlighted the contrasts between the incumbents and the challengers. She asked voters to look closely at the accomplishments of the board, and the potential for further achievements.

Quattrocchi, who got in the last word, said, "We no longer want you, the freeholders, connected to our wallets."

Lauren DeLillo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or unioncountytv@yahoo.com.

Special waste collection in Rahway on Saturday

The County of Union will sponsor a recycling event on Saturday so Union County residents can get rid of household special waste and old automobile tires in an environmentally safe manner. The collection will take place, rain or shine, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rahway River Park, off St. Georges Avenue/Route 27 in Rahway. Follow signs once in the park. All residents of Union County are eligible to participate at no cost.

Pre-registration is not required for this special Saturday collection. All that residents need to do is drive to the site with their household special waste and automobile tires. Workers at the site will unload the vehicles. There is a limit of eight automobile tires — without rims — per household. This is a household recycling event. No businesses.

A complete list of the materials that will be accepted on Nov. 5 is available at the Union County Bureau of Environmental Services Web site at www.uccnj.org/tem. For more information, call the Bureau of Environmental Services Hotline at 908-654-9889.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-14703-05

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: Donald C. Epstein, et al., Defendants, in which City of Plainfield, is plaintiff and Donald C. Epstein, et al., are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, within thirty-five (35) days after the day of publication of this notice.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon Sanford E. Cherin, P.C., 220 Keynote Road, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807, phone 908-253-5588, an answer to the Complaint/Affidavit, Amendments and Orders, if any, filed in a civil action, in which City of Plainfield, is plaintiff and Donald C. Epstein, et al., are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, within thirty-five (35) days after the day of publication of this notice.

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COUNTY NEWS

Veterans Day ceremony

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County Courthouse Centennial Celebration Committee will host a Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 10 at 11 a.m. inside the Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad St., Elizabeth.

Dr. Ralph Oriscello, Col. (Ret.) U.S. Army Medical Corps, will be the main speaker. The ceremony will include patriotic music, a flag salute, and other guest speakers, and an outdoor rifle salute on the steps of the courthouse. All Union County residents who are veterans are invited to attend the ceremony. Refreshments will be served.

Representatives from the U.S. Postal Service will be on hand for the issuance of a new postage stamp honoring four highly decorated veterans of the United States Marine Corps. The postage stamp will honor Sgt. John Basilone, Sgt. Daniel Daly, Major Gen. John Lejeune, and Capt. Lewis "Chesley" Puller on the birthday of the Marines.

For more information about the Veterans Day ceremony, call the Union County Office of Veterans Affairs at 908-659-7407.

Electronic recycling

The County of Union will sponsor a recycling event for electronics and automobile tires on Saturday, so

Union County residents can get rid of unwanted tires, computers and other electronic equipment in an environmentally proper manner. The collection will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Schering-Plough Courthouse, 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, near Garden State Parkway Exit 138.

All residents of Union County are eligible to participate at no cost. Pre-registration is not required.

Computer monitors and televisions are the source of a considerable amount of lead — about 5 pounds per screen. Up to 95 percent of most electronic appliances can be recycled. This is a responsible way to keep hazardous heavy metals out of our environment.

Electronic equipment that will be accepted on Saturday includes computer monitors, hard drives, modems, keyboards, CPUs, mice, printers, scanners, speakers, televisions, VCRs, fax machines, telephones, and circuit boards.

All residents need to do is drive to the site with their unwanted electronic equipment and as many as eight automobile tires, without rims. Workers at the site will unload the vehicles.

Refrigerators, washers and dryers, microwaves, and air conditioners will not be accepted. A complete list of the materials that will be accepted is available at the Union County Environmental Services Web site, www.uccnj.org/tem.

The electronics collection and tire recycling will be held rain or shine. For more information, call 908-654-9889.

For more information, call the Bureau of Environmental Services Hotline at 908-654-9889.

Office open for last-minute ballots

The Union County Clerk's office will be open Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for voters seeking last-minute absentee ballots. The office will be open as a public service for voters seeking absentee ballot applications who will be unable to vote at the polls in the General Election on Nov. 8.

Mail-in applications legally cannot be accepted if they are postmarked after Nov. 1. Walk-in applications are accepted up to 3 p.m. on Nov. 7, the day before Election Day.

Voters will be able to drop off their completed absentee ballot at the Union County Clerk's office. This option, initiated three years ago, allows voters to pick up their ballots, vote in privacy and deposit them in a secured lockbox — all at the same office through 3 p.m. on Nov. 7.

Completed ballots will be kept in a secure lockbox under the control of the Union County Board of Elections, who will collect them for counting. The Clerk's office has processed more than 4,000 absentee ballots to date for the General Election and expects the number to exceed 12,000 by Election Day.

Sale at Runnells

Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County, 40 Watchung Way, Berkeley Heights, will sponsor a sale Nov. 10 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. of sweaters, coats, jackets, hats, scarves, gloves, ponchos and socks. The sale, which includes 100 percent wool designer coats and jackets, will run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A percentage of each purchase made at these sales is given to the Volunteer Guild to obtain items for the residents and patients that may include televisions, VCRs and prizes for their bingo games.

For more information, call 908-771-5847.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Artist weathers everything to convey the spirit of the landscape

By Jeff Cummins

You have to admire Frank Ferrante's determination. It's a sure sign that he's passionate about his art.

Ferrante paints landscapes. Often, some of his art work focuses on things a lot of New Jerseyans would be familiar with, shore scenes, mountainous scenes in Sussex County, nice scenes of nature.

Where does he display his determination? It's plainly evident in the fact that he paints these scenes in the early morning, often arriving at his destination before dawn.

More impressive, he never lets the weather play a factor in whether he'll paint.

"If the snow is up to my belt, I'm painting," said Ferrante, whose work is on display at the Swain Galleries in Plainfield. "I'm basically doing a quick plain air sketch, to catch composition, light and atmosphere."

Ferrante captured his devotion in a quote in his artist statement: "When it happens, one experiences a sense of revelation, a joy and a curiosity that begs for closure. One feels in touch with another level — 'focused' and swept up with the moment at hand. When the 'creative' process calls, a painter accepts the challenge and passes from one place to another. The passing from one place to another expresses my feeling when capturing the drama of nature with oil paints. Working outdoors affords me the opportunity to carefully study color and light while capturing the fleeting elements in time."

Like any artist, Ferrante is searching for something that has good composition, particularly something that has "movement" in it.

How does he convey the movement in his painting? He starts out by drawing a few lines that curve and shape the painting in a particular way.

"I put some meandering lines in my canvas that the eye will follow through the painting. Zigzagging lines, if you will," said Ferrante. "You might want to start in one corner, and then continue up over the trees, and go back over the mountain, and head up to the clouds."

Ferrante has painted for more than 30 years. One of the many strengths of his work is his ability to convey the spirit of the landscape.

Associate Editor Jeff Cummins may be reached at jcummins@thelocal-source.com.



View from the Hill, above, and Winter Marsh, below, two landscapes painted by Frank Ferrante that are currently on exhibit at the Swain Galleries in Plainfield. The artist has been painting for more than 30 years.



View from the Hill, above, and Winter Marsh, below, two landscapes painted by Frank Ferrante that are currently on exhibit at the Swain Galleries in Plainfield. The artist has been painting for more than 30 years.

Oak Knoll
School of the Holy Child

Sunday, October 30, 2005
12:45 p.m. Registration • 1 p.m. Presentation
1:30 - 3 p.m. "Meet the Faculty" & Tours

Saturday, November 12, 2005
9:30 a.m. Registration • 9:45 a.m. Presentation
10:15 - 11 a.m. "Meet the Faculty" & Tours

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Musician heads back to the future with a style influenced by the '80s

By Jeff Cummins

Adriano Schiavo was definitely influenced by the 1980s, that's for sure. Schiavo, a Summit resident, grew up in Millburn and graduated from Millburn High School in 1996. Interestingly, he preferred the music of '80s pop icons Sting and Peter Gabriel to the "alternative" music that seemed like anything but the alternative during the mid-'90s.

Schiavo enjoyed the story-telling aspect of Sting — also known as Gordon Sumner — and Gabriel, and he patterned his style after theirs.

"Sting was probably my biggest influence," said Schiavo, "as well as people like Peter Gabriel and Amos Lee and Norah Jones, nowadays. I've always loved Gabriel. I love his voice; I've always been a fan of that cinematic style of music."

That cinematic, atmospheric approach to music that Schiavo refers to is what he hopes the audience will see when he takes the stage at Mexicali Blues in Teaneck on Nov. 10 at 9 p.m. Schiavo's friend, J.J. Appleton, organized the concert, and asked Schiavo to join him on the bill.

Fueled by his basic preferences in music, Schiavo is setting out to reshape his career, hopefully for a more successful one. Until now, he had released some music on independent labels, but now he's going back into the studio, more focused on producing something that he's confident will be more marketable.

"I'm working with a producer now, Curt Friesa, and I'm doing preproduction. I'll be recording in mid-November," said Schiavo. "I've had stuff in the past, but we took them off the market. I'm trying to weed out the older stuff. I released some independent stuff before, but they're not in stock right now. I'm hoping I'll get signed, take it to a large-scale level, and that I'll be appreciated by the masses. Working with Curt and my publicist, Sharon Tapper, that's the goal."

Schiavo won the VH1/Guitar Center Best Unsigned Artist Award, and he was promptly asked to open for The Doobie Brothers at one of their concerts. He's also performed at numerous concerts and festivals, including the North Jersey Festival in Boston, Mass., and the Woodstock Film Festival in Woodstock, N.Y.

Hold on a second, you're thinking a musician playing a film festival, right? It makes sense. What benefit would it be to play a film festival? "Music supervisors attend film festivals and it's a way to get music into their hands and they'll get it some place," said Schiavo, who pointed out that famous songs have been featured on "Party of Five" and "Beverly Hills-90210" because producers got them at the right time.

For now, anyone interested in Schiavo's music can see him perform at Mexicali Blues.

For more information on Schiavo, visit his Web site at www.adrianoschiavo.com. Associate Editor Jeff Cummins may be reached at jcummins@thelocal-source.com.



Summit resident Adriano Schiavo, whose music evokes memories of the '80s.

New Jersey Photography Forum on display throughout November

The New Jersey Photography Forum and the Watching Arts Center invite you to attend the opening reception for the 11th annual juried photography exhibit presented at the Arts Center through Nov. 29. The opening reception will be on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m., at which time the awards of excellence and merit will be given. Admission is free, open to the public and offers an opportunity to meet many of the fine art photographers whose work will be on display.

Approximately 50 photographs were selected from the membership of the New Jersey Photography Forum by three judges: Martin Zlotkin, Ellen Denuto and Eric Pryor. Zlotkin has been involved in art since early childhood. He started as a painter, with a strong art history education, eventually finding expression through the manipulation of photographic images. He is also a visiting artist at Lafayette College. Denuto has been creating images since the age of 7. Her black-and-white, fine-art images have been exhibited and published throughout the United States, Europe and Japan. Commercially she has created visual signatures for clients such as Saffio Eye-wear, Kravet Fabrics, Target and Starbucks. She is a founding member and former president of The American Society of Media Photographers, New Jersey Chapter. Pryor is a fine artist and president of the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit.

The exhibit was curated by Nancy White, fine-art images have been exhibited and published throughout the United States, Europe and Japan. Commercially she has created visual signatures for clients such as Saffio Eye-wear, Kravet Fabrics, Target and Starbucks. She is a founding member and former president of The American Society of Media Photographers, New Jersey Chapter. Pryor is a fine artist and president of the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit.

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7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM	7:30 PM	11:00 AM

Buy tickets at www.disneyonline.com
Ticket Prices: \$15.00 - \$22.50 - \$27.50 - \$32.50

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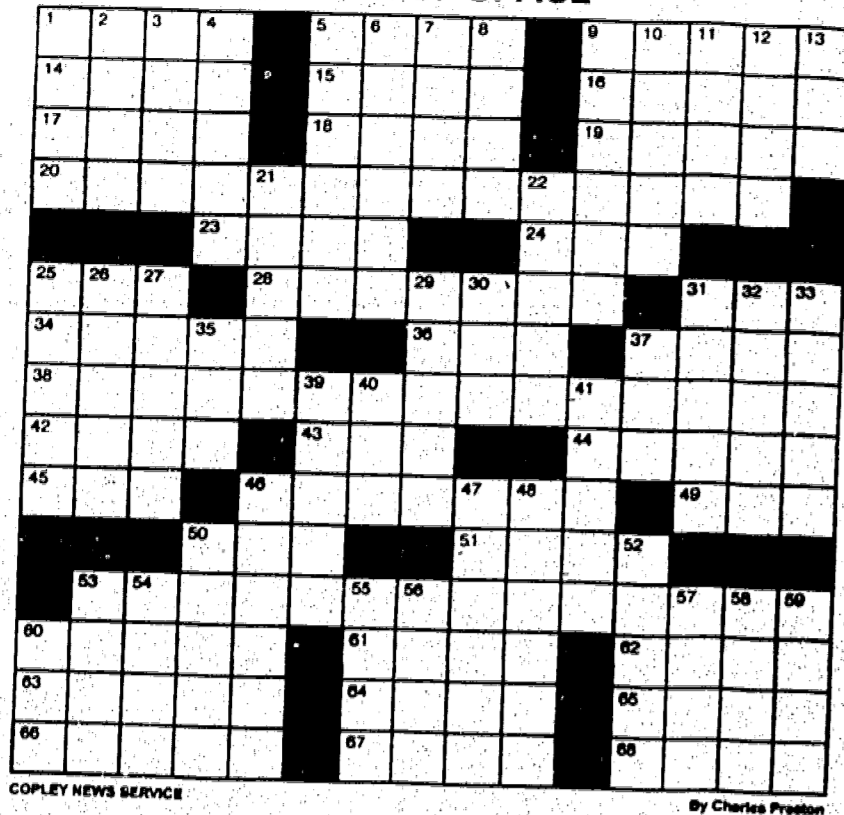
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ACROSS

- 1 San _____ Obispo, Calif.
5 Unit of matter
9 Hero's home
14 Food stamp agcy.
15 Captain of the Nautilus
16 Handy
17 Pell-
18 Wilderness, tot one
19 Zero in on
20 Jan. 20th display
23 Top guns
24 Not up to snuff
25 Restorative lesson
28 1971 John Lennon song
31 Deface
34 _____ of Athens
36 Cellular letters
37 Sonoma's neighbor
38 Jan. 20th
42 In case
43 Domino dot
44 Calmness of heart
45 Keyboard key
46 Cobblestone alternative
49 Kind of sch.
50 Pilschotende, e.g.
51 Six, south of the border
53 Jan. 20th song
60 Georgia peach
61 Surface-to-surface missile
62 Head start
63 One of the Fearsome Foursome
64 Parable plant
65 Maid of the Mist, e.g.
66 Love, Italian style
67 Took out a mortgage
68 He played Pierce

OATH OF OFFICE



COPYRIGHT NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

- 4 Some like it hot
5 Boston Marathon award
6 Singer Brewer
7 Premonition
8 Fortress feature
9 Wake Island, e.g.
10 Villa _____ Ga.
12 Spent bullet
13 Tom, Dick, and Harry, e.g.
21 The cross on a hot cross bun
22 Camel region
23 Token taker
28 Knolly trees
27 Garner
29 Lined paper
30 S&L profit
31 Palindromic woman
32 Bristly
33 Like a daisy
35 The O in AWOL
37 Anchorage-to-Fairbanks dir.
39 Capsize
40 Type of tide
41 Visual
46 "What's My Line?" panelist
47 On liberty
48 Eyed lasciviously
50 Flames are his foe
52 Yermen, once
53 Quartermaster's post
54 To boot
55 "Beetle Bailey" dog
56 Spring event
57 Baal, e.g.
58 Holy motly!
59 White cheese
60 Fluffy scarf

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE B10

What's On

FLEA MARKET AUCTION OTHER

SATURDAY November 5th, 2005
EVENT: Big Indoor Flea Market
PLACE: Roselle Catholic High School, 1 Raritan Road, Roselle
TIME: 9am-4pm
PRICE: Call for information 908-245-2350
ORGANIZATION: Roselle Catholic High School.
FRIDAY November 18th, 2005
EVENT: 4th Annual Tricky Tray Auction
PLACE: Our Lady of Sorrows School, in South Orange, (entrance on Academy Street)
TIME: Doors open at 6:30pm
PRICE: Tickets \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door
INFORMATION: Over 200 baskets/gifts. GRAND PRIZE - Personal Computer. For information please call 908-468-0422
ORGANIZATION: Our Lady of Sorrows School
WEDNESDAY November 16th, 2005
EVENT: OPEN CLINICAL DISCUSSION Working With The Older Patient
PLACE: ACAP, 789 Northfield Avenue, Suite LL2, West Orange
TIME: 7:30-9:00PM
INFORMATION: Presented by Vicki Somel, PsyD, NCPsyA, clinician and co-author of Strategies for "therapy with the Elderly, 2nd edition
This discussion is open to everyone, who is interested in learning more about therapy can be accomplished, with an aging population, debunking the belief that the elderly can not pick up or put into practice newly acquired information. For reservations call (973)735-7800; via the internet www.acap-online.org or email:spous@aol.com
ORGANIZATION: Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis.

BAZAAR

SATURDAY November 12th, 2005
EVENT: Holiday Bazaar
PLACE: Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, Stuyvesant Avenue and W. Chestnut Street, Union
TIME: 9am-3pm
PRICE: Free Admittance
New Gift Items and New Crafts for Gifts. Further info: 908-688-3161
ORGANIZATION: Sponsored by The Presbyterian Women of Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church

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What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non profit organizations. It is prepaid 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 P.M. 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

Jeff Cummins, Editor

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Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to: 463 Valley Street, P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, NJ 07040

REUNIONS

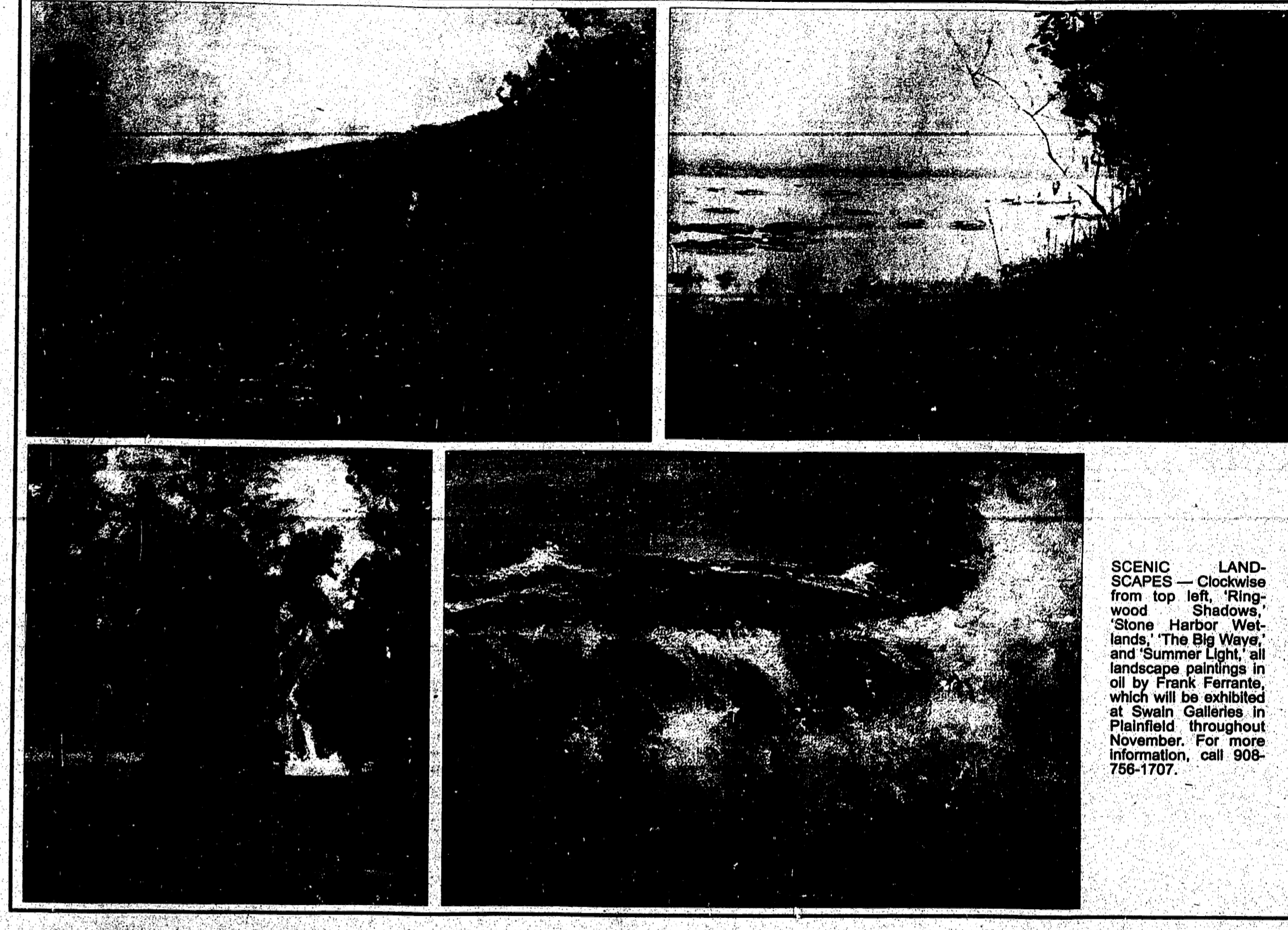
The following schools are planning reunions:
• Union High School, Class of 1976, 30-year-reunion, 2006.
• Union High School, Class of 1981, 25-year-reunion, 2006.
• Union High School, Class of 1986, 20-year-reunion, 2006.
For information on any of the above reunions, write to Reunions Unlimited Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown 07726, or call 732-617-1000.
• Hillside High School, Class of 1975, will have 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 a message by e-mail to hbsclass1975@comcast.net.
• Hillside High School Class of 1960 is planning its next reunion for 2007.
Forward your contact information to Linda Arotzky Lieb at Hillsidehigh1960@aol.com.
• West Orange High School Class of 1980 will have its 25th

Men Needed to Evaluate Shaving Products and Earn over \$1000!

30 Men needed to experience razors for a major shaving product manufacturer. Study to begin November 9th and 10th. Shave 4 days/week at our facility in New Providence. Men be willing to participate for 20 minutes in early mornings between hours of 6:30-8:30am from November to March. 1 week of evenings required for training, November 14th, 18th 6:30-8:30pm. Time allotted for vacations/holidays/ absence. Spectrum Discovery Center Call (908) 376-7050! 554 Central Ave. New Providence, NJ 07974

Graduate Studies at Caldwell College

Advertisement for Caldwell College graduate studies, listing programs like MBA & Accounting, Educational Administration, and School Counseling. Includes contact information for the college.



SCENIC LANDSCAPES — Clockwise from top left, 'Ringwood Shadows,' 'Stone Harbor Wetlands,' 'The Big Wave,' and 'Summer Light,' all landscape paintings in oil by Frank Ferrante, which will be exhibited at Swain Galleries in Plainfield throughout November. For more information, call 908-756-1707.

HOROSCOPES

Nov. 7 to 13
ARIES, March 21 to April 19: Financial independence is the result of patient and careful planning. Take the long, slow-and-steady approach when choosing your investments.
TAURUS, April 20 to May 20: Step back and examine your feelings about a close, personal relationship. Do your best to be less judgmental of your partner and more understanding.
GEMINI, May 21 to June 21: This would be a great time to work on developing healthy new habits while eliminating the negative ones. Begin with a regular exercise program.
CANCER, June 22 to July 22: Energized and creative are the words that will best describe your mood this week.
Take on a new and exciting project or activity and give it your all.
LEO, July 23 to Aug. 22: Take advantage of an opportunity to spend time alone and to get centered emotionally or mentally. Find a quiet place where you can relax and hear yourself think.

VIRGO, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Thoughts without action can be self-defeating or a waste of time. Turn your vision into reality with a well-designed and soon-to-be-executed plan of action.
LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Several of your moneymaking ideas appear to have great potential for success. Follow-up on what might be your ideal path to fortune, fame and happiness.
SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: Be fully alive and make the best of moments spent in the spotlight this week. Venture out before the crowd with a sense of courage and adventure.
SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: Look within and search your heart for answers to questions that you must ask yourself. This type of inner dialogue can lead to revelation and peace.
CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: Deal positively with the pressure from friends or peers who may want more from you than you are able to give. Stand strong and strive

toward balance.
AQUARIUS, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: It is time to throw your hat into the ring professionally and to focus on getting ahead in your career. Put your best foot forward and rise above the competition.
PISCES, Feb. 19 to March 20: Foreign people or cultures will play a role in this week's scenario. Take advantage of an opportunity to study abroad or to travel and expand your knowledge base. If your birthday is this week, you will be pleasantly pleased and overjoyed with the variety and scope of opportunities that will be presented to you during the coming year. Strive to keep the bulk of your excitement contained in order to stay focused and perhaps master specific tasks. Be careful not to spread yourself too thin or to take on more projects or tasks than you can successfully complete. Also born this week: Madame Curie, Margaret Mitchell, Spiro Agnew, Martin Luther, Leonardo DiCaprio, Grace Kelly and Whoopi Goldberg.

Advertisement for Solomon Schechter Day School of Essex Junction, featuring Hebrew language and Jewish studies.

Advertisement for www.localsource.com internet directory, listing various local businesses and services.

Community Dining Guide

A collection of dining guide advertisements for various restaurants including Jade Harbor, Village BBQ, Restaurant & Bar International Cuisine, and Kent Place School.

Union artists highlight roster of exhibit at Diversity Art Gallery

Diversity Art Gallery will hold its 15th exhibition in Clark with the focus on pastels. Each of the displays includes various themes, styles and types of art which are on display for the enjoyment and education of the public. The gallery especially encourages artists and populations in the surrounding Union, Middlesex and Essex county areas to be a part of the visual arts program. The public is invited to attend an artists' reception on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Pastels are frequently referred to as chalk because a filler, usually clay or white chalk, is added to the mixture of binder and pigment. This creates a paste, the word from which pastel got its name. Pastels are made by machine, and you have a choice between durability and brilliance. They have pure pigments of color that are ground into a very fine powder. Pigments are then mixed with a resin to bind them together.

Pigments used in making pastels are the same pigments that are ground

of Roselle Park. The public is invited to enjoy these thrilling displays of original pastels and photographs with pastels. The welcome reception is planned for meeting the artists, with refreshments.

Nancy Ori will feature 10 pieces, the largest group of fine-art pastels in the state, where semi and professional photographers meet regularly to discuss current projects and exhibits. Ori's work is widely exhibited in museums and galleries throughout the United States. She is the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including each year between 2000 and 2003 HEART Grants from Union County

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Musician's influenced by bebop, but retains his own distinct style

By Doug McNamara
Staff Writer

Coleman Hawkins — the so-called father of the tenor saxophone, who literally towers over any discussion of the tenor's historical evolution.

Coleman Hawkins — an immensely important musician who revolutionized the jazz world in 1939 with a 3-minute recording of "Body and Soul," a song from the otherwise forgettable revue "Three's a Crowd" from the early 1930s.

Coleman Hawkins — a jazz pioneer who helped end the Swing era and usher in the 1940's Bebop movement by introducing the world to the likes of hot luminaries such as Dizzy Gillespie, Thelonious Monk and Max Roach.

Though he passed away in 1969 following a battle with liver disease, at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Victoria Theater in Newark on Oct. 16, fellow tenor player David Murray subtly reminded audience

members of just how influential Hawkins has been in not just Murray's own development, but in jazz's own transformations and transmissions through the years.

As part of NJPAC's "Alternate Routes" program, Murray headlined a split bill with his quartet, which included drummer Hamid Drake, bassist Jaribu Shahid and pianist Lafayette Gilchrist.

To be blunt, Murray, 45, is a legend. He came on the scene in the mid-1970s — playing with jazz giants such as pianists Randy Weston and Cecil Taylor, drummers Max Roach and Elvin Jones, as well as Grateful Dead frontman Jerry Garcia — before striking out on a solo career. He's perhaps best known as founding the World Saxophone Quartet in 1976 — with Oliver Lake, Hamiet Bluiett and Julius Hemphill — a super group of four supremely talented, creative musicians.

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members of just how influential Hawkins has been in not just Murray's own development, but in jazz's own transformations and transmissions through the years.

As part of NJPAC's "Alternate Routes" program, Murray headlined a split bill with his quartet, which included drummer Hamid Drake, bassist Jaribu Shahid and pianist Lafayette Gilchrist.

To be blunt, Murray, 45, is a legend. He came on the scene in the mid-1970s — playing with jazz giants such as pianists Randy Weston and Cecil Taylor, drummers Max Roach and Elvin Jones, as well as Grateful Dead frontman Jerry Garcia — before striking out on a solo career. He's perhaps best known as founding the World Saxophone Quartet in 1976 — with Oliver Lake, Hamiet Bluiett and Julius Hemphill — a super group of four supremely talented, creative musicians.

Unafraid of tackling so-called free

Mountainside resident reviews book on legendary Battle of Trafalgar

By Don Jeka
Correspondent

I hate to use such a shop worn phrase, but I can't think of one so descriptive as "thinking out of the box." A box has four sides, a top and a bottom. When planning, you stay within the confines of the box. It is a safe spot, gets you through most situations, protects your rear, rewards you 99 percent of the time. You run big risks when you push outside of the box, and if you do, 99 percent of the time you lose. But that 1 percent of the time you can win big, if you have the guts to try it. Case in point: Admiral Nelson at Trafalgar.

This, one of the most significant sea battles in history, and one that is credited with sustaining the British Empire for the next 100 years, is a typical example of thinking outside the box.

In 1805, Nelson and his 27 British navy ships were keeping watch on the combined French and Spanish navies of 34 vessels safely anchored in the harbor at Cadiz, a blockade for all practical purposes. Nelson's vision told him that if he could entice the French, and their reluctant allies, the Spanish, out to sea he could settle the question of superiority over the oceans once and for all. History says he had planned for such a confrontation, waiting only until the time was right and this seemed to be it. Napoleon was banking on the French and Spanish ships to support his invasion of the British Isles after he had conquered the rest of Europe and Russia. Nelson's correspondence during

this time suggests that while his confidence on defeating the enemy never wavered, he ominously foresaw his own demise.

Nelson's "box?" Naval warfare at that time established "lines of battle," where the best ships, some over 100 guns, would parallel each other and fire broadsides, take down masts and sails, devastate the gun decks, slaughter the crew, close enough, board and hand fight who ever was left with sword and pistol. That's the way it was done for years: Nelson had a different idea. He relied on the combined enemy fleet to form up into the traditional battle line, if they ever left Cadiz, and that they would expect him to engage them in the same way. Surprise!

Once the French and Spanish boats cleared the harbor they took the expected battle-line, but the British ships had the weather gage off of Cape Trafalgar, to the south of Cadiz. Nelson's strategy was to come at them at a right angle, two columns a half mile or so apart, sailing to split their line. Far as we can tell, no one had tried this maneuver on such a grand scale before. Also, heretofore, individual captains depended on signals from their flag admiral to set the ongoing battle strategy. Nelson gave his captains the initiative to make their own decisions, fight their own battles, not wait for instructions. This was a new way for the British navy, as well as for the French and Spanish.

When the lead British ships ghosted through the enemy line in a light wind, all hell broke loose. Now the battle line

was split into three parts, giving the British ships free rein to attack individual ships at will. For the French and Spanish vessels, bravery of the crews could not compensate for the superiority of the British gunnery. Some 17 enemy vessels were captured within hours. By splitting the force, each group of ships engaged one another in a series of individual skirmishes, rather than lining up alongside each other and blasting away. These pitched battles unfolded in slow motion since the wind remained light.

Masts dropped over the side, while sections of the beleaguered ship disappeared in a shower of wood amid the acrid smell of gunpowder. During the melee, Admiral Nelson took a musket ball through his chest, which would kill him, eventually, but not before he learned of the British victory at Trafalgar. Hours of point blank cannonading among the vessels' saved the crews and ran the decks with blood. A total of 4,844 would die in this carnage, and in the storm that followed, with another 3,782 wounded.

The French and Spanish navies were decimated. Among the 7,000 to 8,000 prisoners taken were some of those countries' most experienced seamen.

Admiral Nelson's true sense of the battle is interspersed with quotes and excerpts from letters of those who participated. He includes drawings of the ships and identifying the roles they played. He tells us how cannon balls, grape shot, chain and showers of lethal splinters from these wooden giants cut

men to pieces. We can almost feel the heat as one of the largest battlewagons blows up as its magazine ignites, a sight supposedly witnessed along the Spanish shoreline miles away.

As if the battle was not enough, a hurricane followed a day later, scattering the ships and putting many on the lee shore rocks and shoals. Nevertheless, the British fleet eventually made its way home with the body of Nelson preserved in a cask of brandy aboard his beloved ship Victory.

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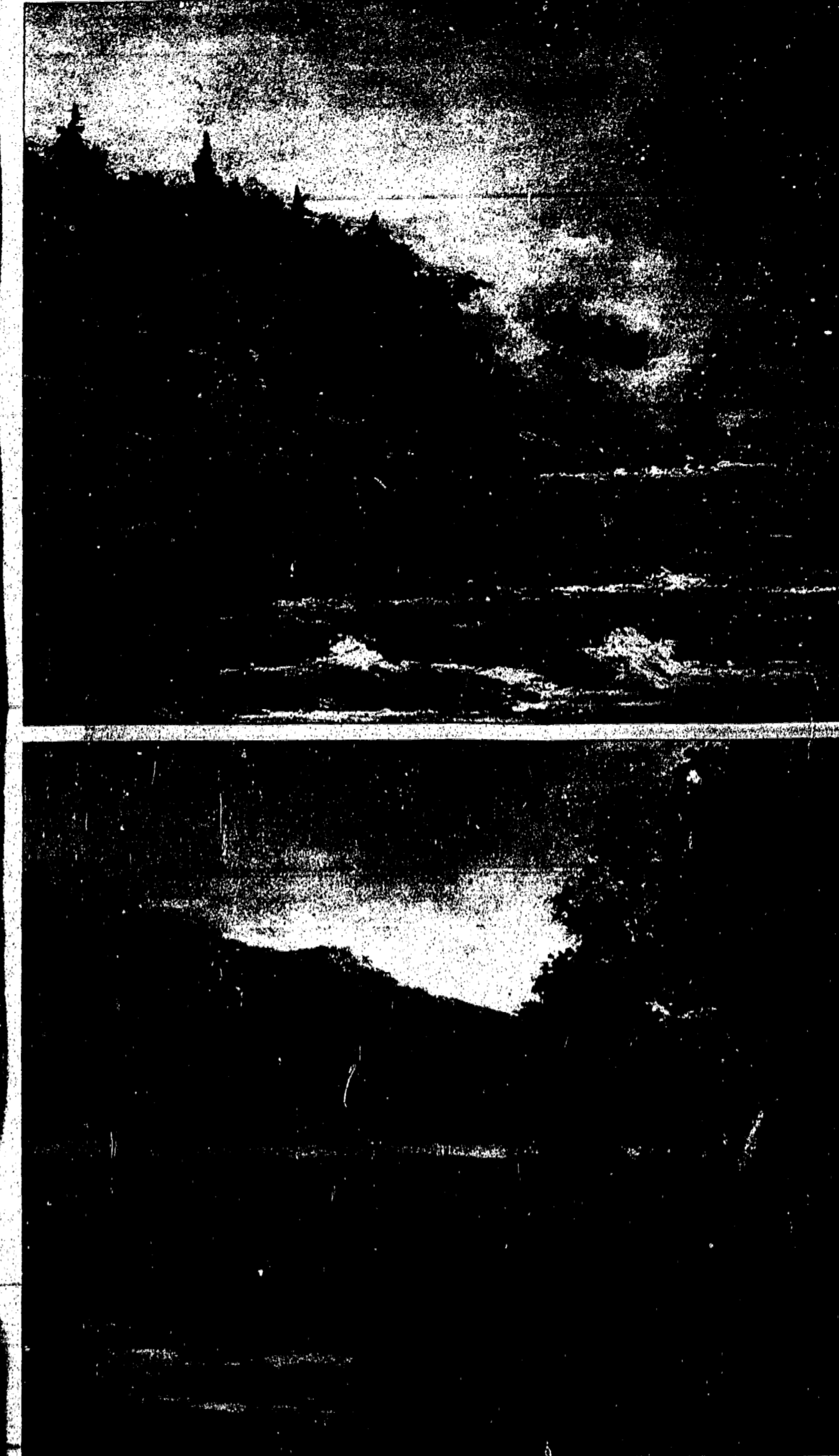
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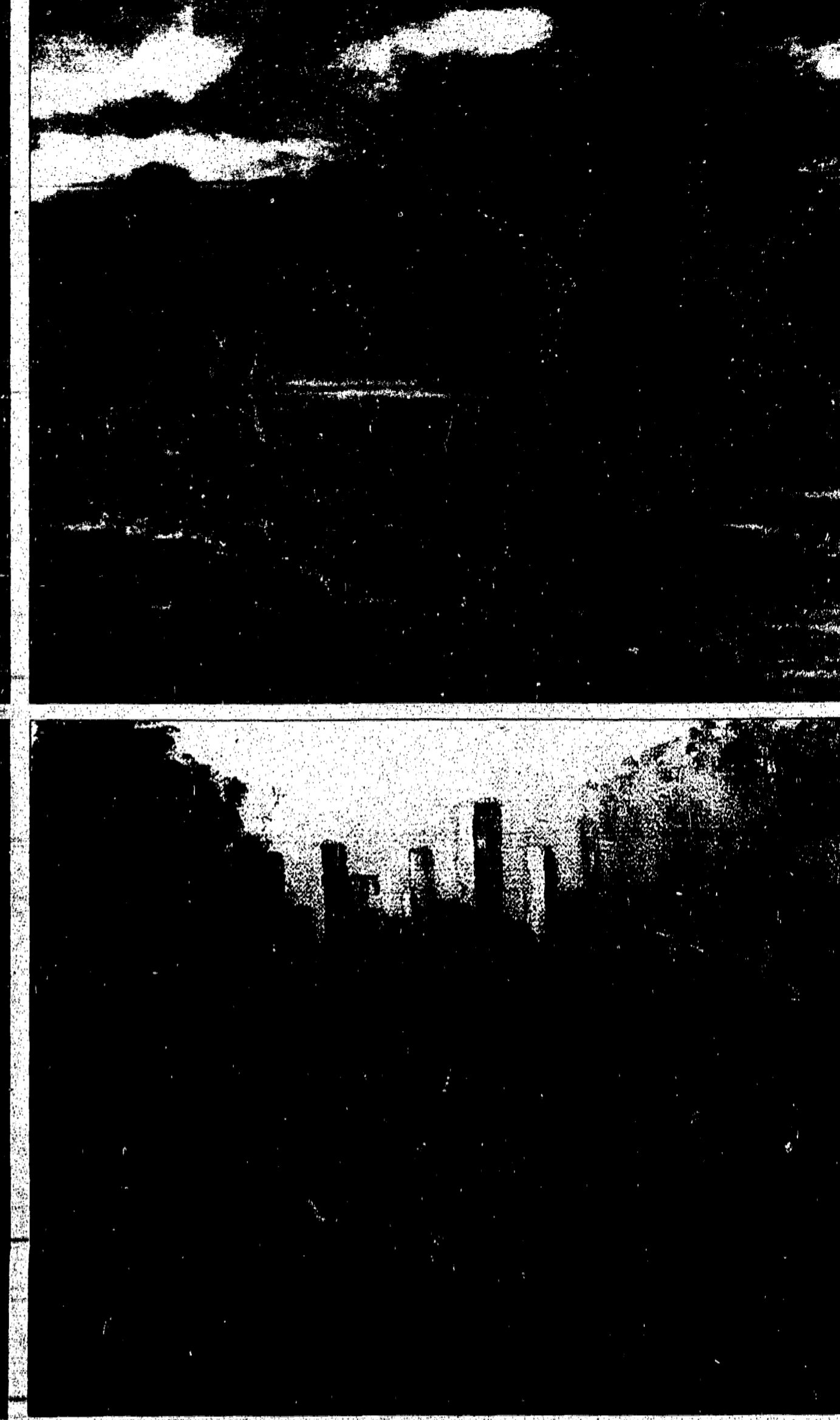
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AUTOMOTIVE

Pontiac G6 is durable transportation

Mark Maynard
Copley News Service

The Pontiac G6 is a 'tweener sedan — a little longer than most compacts and a few inches short of being mid-size.

Pontiac's new sedan is holding its own for sales, but it's a grower, not a lightning strike, despite its dramatic TV debut as the giveaway car to the "Oprah Winfrey Show" audience.

This replacement for the Grand Am is about 3 inches longer, which was used to lengthen the wheelbase for more of a large-car ride and to add some back-seat legroom.

Sold in two models, the base car starts at \$21,300; the GT starts at \$23,925. Both models come with a 200-horsepower, 3.5-liter V-6 and four-speed automatic with manual shift mode.

The well-optioned GT test car is \$27,805, including a \$1,000 package discount, but not the current buyer incentive of \$1,500.

Kicking it up a notch in size puts the G6 in direct competition with many small sedans, including such class favorites as the Nissan Altima and the all-new Volkswagen Jetta. Pontiac even puts the Mazda6 in striking distance.

The G6 is a hard worker, but the import competition has some advantage in refinement, memorable driving experiences and price.

An Altima 3.5 SE with four-speed automatic starts at \$24,480, not including a \$1,500 incentive.

A top-line Jetta with new 150-hp, five-cylinder engine is just under \$25,665,

with leather-trimmed seats, rear sunshade, satellite radio, power sunroof, wood interior trim, 12-way power driver and passenger seats with three-position driver seat memory and more.

And the Jetta has an option for a six-speed automatic transmission.

The G6 shares the body architecture of the Saab 9-3, Chevy Malibu and Malibu Maxx. A coupe is on the way, but a retractable hardtop convertible was planned but is on indefinite hold. A soon-to-be-released high-performance GTP model, with 3.9-liter 240-hp V-6, six-speed manual and 18-inch wheels, will put some Pontiac excitement back in this car.

The sedan's V-6 is rated a worthy 200 hp, but the car is heavier than the Altima or Jetta. The four-speed automatic, the only transmission offered, saps the life from the performance and the manual-shift mode, in GT only, is not calibrated for sporty gear changes.

When pushed, the engine sounds strangled.

The sportier-sprung suspension of the GT is nimble enough through the curves, but the car clunks and bumps through potholes and gives truck-size head toss when pulling into driveways or negotiating speed bumps.

The electric power steering responds to a light touch, and the large four-wheel disc brakes are reassuring, but the GT's 39.3-foot turning circle is about 2 feet too long.

Fuel economy of 21 miles per gallon city and 29 highway on 87 octane trails the Altima's 27/30 and the Jetta's 22/30, but those engines require premium unleaded.

On the inside, interior space is simple and durable with uncomplicated gauges and controls that have appealing design and smooth operation.

The GT's black interior — black plastic door panels, large dashboard, leather-trimmed seats, center console and carpeted floor mats — holds the heat when parked outside on a sunny day. That might be a hand-warmer in winter, but not so welcome in summer.

Give or take an inch, seating dimensions are about the same as Altima and Jetta. The G6 doors open wide, the back seat has a decent seat bottom and comfortable seatback angle for adults, but the center seat is compromised by the hump in the floor from the exhaust system tunnel.

Split-fold back seats are released by a balky cable setup that is reached only in the trunk. There are no release handles in back seat, which Pontiac says is a safety procedure to secure the trunk area, but it seems more of budget-saving decision at the expense of user convenience.

There is some notable standard equipment, including power-adjustable brake and accelerator pedals. Front side impact air bags and head-curtain side bags are a \$690 extra.

The one unique extra — Panoramic roof with sliding panels at \$1,500 wasn't on the test car.

Styling in this segment is becoming a big selling point, and the public seems to be saying it likes the Altima. That car had March sales of 25,329 versus 9,565 for G6, which was comparable to the others in this class.

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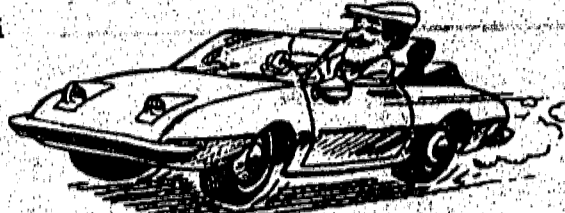
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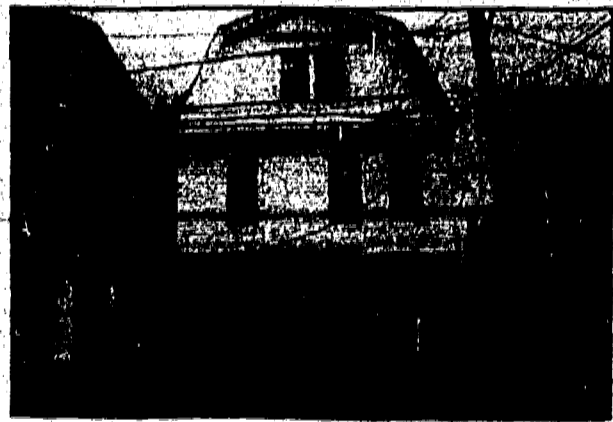
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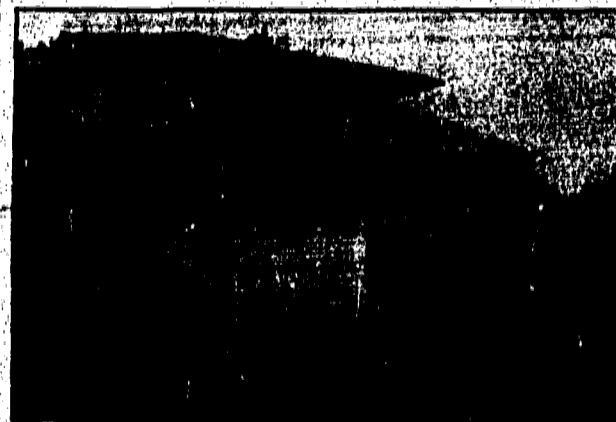


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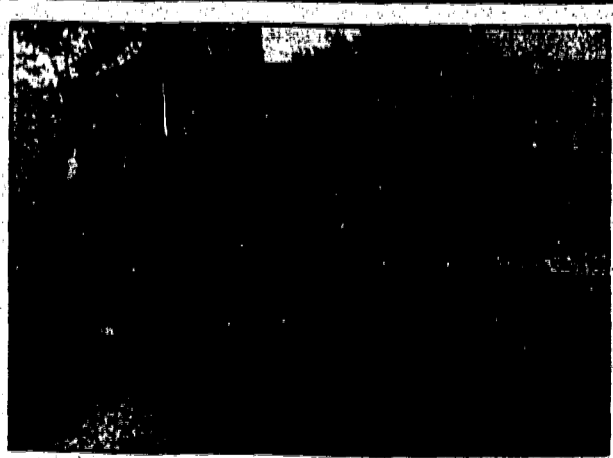


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UNION TOWNSHIP - Comfortable living in this split level located on a corner lot! Offering 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Eat-in-Kitchen, Living Room/Dining Room combo & Family Room! New replacement windows, multi-zone heating, and a 2 car attached garage! \$424,900

#Q48010160

BUY FOR \$2,340/month



Beautifully Maintained!

UNION TOWNSHIP - Meticulously maintained Contemporary by original owners! Freshly painted interior and exterior, new windows and hot water heater! 3 bedrooms including Master Bedroom suite with 2 WICs, 2.5 baths, sunken Living Room with fireplace! Sliders to deck with hot tub! \$585,000.

#048010149

BUY FOR \$2,340/month



Just Reduced!

UNION - Pristine ground entry split level with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, modern Eat-in-Kitchen (DW) with ceramic tile floor, ground level Family Room plus Great Room with built-in entertainment center! Gas/Central air conditioning; Decorator's Dream! Fantastic Battle Hill area! \$479,800.

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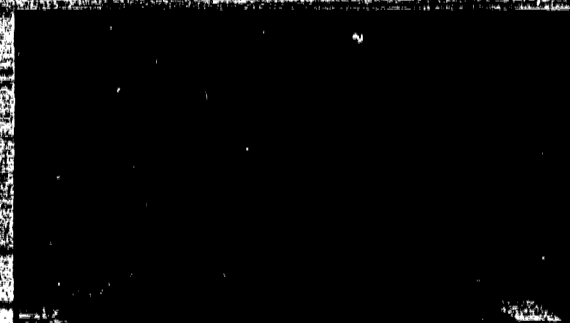
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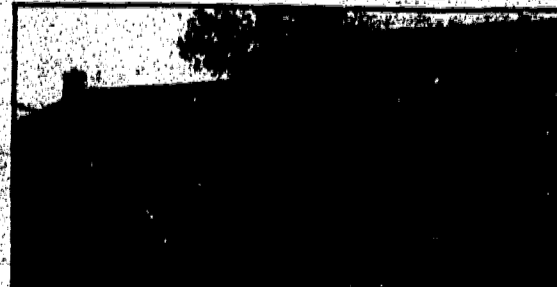
LINDEN \$299,000
A rare find! Located in desirable Sunnyside section of Linden, this 3-4 Bedroom home boasts a Living Room, Formal Dining Room, Eat-in Kitchen, full basement and a lovely piece of property with a private backyard. Great opportunity!



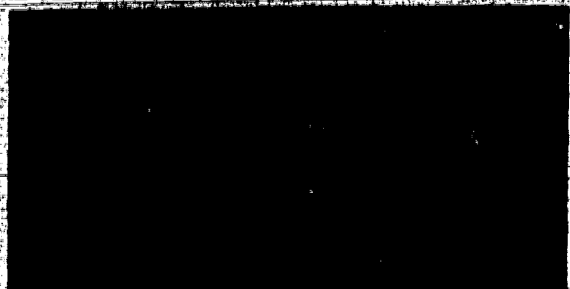
GARWOOD \$324,500
A lovely mix of charm with hardwood floors and wood moldings, this 2 Bedroom home has a mostly updated bath, Eat-in Kitchen, nice yard, new windows, Living Room with bay window and Formal Dining Room with walk-in bay. Close to shopping and transportation.



CLARK \$398,500
Great condition and open feel make this 4 Bedroom Cape a must see. Located on a lovely street near schools, library and parks. Features a new Recreation room, exercise room and more plus a 2001 kitchen.



UNION \$425,000
Completely updated Split Level with 3 large Bedrooms and 1 full and 2 half baths. Bright and airy, quality updated and fabulous open floor plan. Spacious Family Room and more! Gas heat and central air conditioning. Close to everything.



CRANFORD \$399,900
A true ranch style! This favorite style home offers you and your family 3 Bedrooms and 2 full baths. Situated on a 75' x 100' lot and lovely cut-de-est. It's convenient to school, park and Garden State Parkway.



CRANFORD \$399,900
English Village Condo! Wonderful 2 Bedroom unit on first floor open floor plan. Newly renovated Eat-in Kitchen and bath, sparkling oak parquet floors, high ceilings, archedways and picture molding. Near NYC transportation and town.

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UNION COUNTY

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NOVEMBER 2005

Paid for by Quattrocchi, Kline and Dill for Freeholder

COUNTY INCREASES PROPERTY TAX 50% OVER 5 YEARS

Most people don't know what county government does. They don't even know that the county is funded by their property tax. Property taxes go to fund three government agencies, the local school system, the municipality and the county.

Roughly 50% of the property tax goes to the school system, about 25% goes to the municipality and about 25% goes to the county. Taxpayers keep tabs on their school board, mayors and councils but no one knows what the freeholders do with our money. Most people don't even know what a freeholder is.

The freeholders run the county government, also known as the "invisible" layer of government. The freeholders are able to do anything they want without any consequence. They have used the luxury of their actions going ignored and undetected to increase their portion of the property tax over 50% over the past five years. Since the freeholder board is made up entirely of Democrats, there is no one in the position to challenge what is happening.

If the local school board, mayor or council ever raised their portion of the tax at the rate the county has the officials would be voted out the following year. Freeholders are immune to that threat because they are not connected to the rise in taxes.

Most people don't look at their tax bill. The tax is usually paid along with their mortgage or is figured as part of their rent. If they did look they would see the school system, municipal and county portions separated. They would also see a fourth line on the bill, the open space trust fund, another county tax. The freeholders crafted this tax as its own line item, but make no mistake it is a county tax and a hefty one.

Unless there is a change on the freeholder board, taxpayers can expect the same increase next year. It is costly for everyone, Democrat, Republican and unaffiliated alike. It is for the benefit of everyone in the county that Republicans are voted in this election to balance the one party rule and stop another year of oversized tax hikes.

	2000 Average per home	2000 Total for town (in \$ millions)	2005 Average per home	2005 Total for town (in \$ millions)
Berkeley Heights	\$1,325	\$ 8.6	\$1,710	\$ 10.5
Clark	880	5.3	1,310	8.0
Cranford	970	9.0	1,420	13.3
Elizabeth	530	14.7	880	24.2
Fanwood	910	2.4	1,320	3.5
Garwood	780	1.3	1,150	2.1
Hillside	590	4.4	810	6.1
Kenilworth	780	3.8	1,120	5.5
Linden	580	11.5	880	18.6
Mountainside	1,380	4.2	2,020	6.0
New Prov.	1,300	6.2	1,740	8.1
Plainfield	540	6.2	790	9.0
Rahway	580	6.2	850	9.5
Roselle	510	3.4	760	5.1
Roselle P.	600	2.5	830	3.8
S. Plains	1,110	8.8	1,590	12.8
Springfield	930	6.4	1,380	9.5
Summit	2,020	15.4	2,970	22.6
Union	650	14.9	1,010	23.6
Westfield	1,460	15.0	2,210	22.8
Winfield	60	.06	70	.06

Westfield Tax bill on page 4 shows homeowners are paying more to the county than to the town!

REPUBLICANS BUDGET PROCESS WOULD REDUCE PROPERTY TAX AND INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY

BY AL DILL, FREEHOLDER CANDIDATE

Over the past few months I have had the opportunity meet with residents of Union County at many street fairs, festivals and door to door activities. Without a doubt, the number one issue on every taxpayer and homeowner's mind is taxes. We must find a way to lower taxes and I believe it begins with a serious look at wasteful government spending and mismanagement.

As a family man, I know what it means to live on a budget, and to spend within my means. I believe that government, particularly our Union County government, should be expected to do no less. Our current 9-0 Democrat Freeholder Board is spending like the winners of the Mega Millions lottery. In fact they are spending over one million dollars a day. One solution to this problem would be to make county government account for spending exactly like the average working person must do with their own checkbook. I suggest we apply the concept of zero based budgeting to our county government.

Zero based budgeting is a concept in which entities, public or private, must justify everything contained within a budget. Zero based budgeting forces the budgeting agent to look very carefully at the bottom line. The concept is far different than the base line budgeting used by public entities. Base line budgeting suggest that a budget in year 2 starts with the same budget as year 1 with additions or upward modifications. For example, if there was \$1million in the budget in year one, then we start year 2 at \$1million and add what we need to budget without justifying the \$1million. Zero based budgeting forces the budgeting agent to start at zero dollars and build an entire budget from that point. This is exactly what every family and every business must do and County government should be required to operate in the same financially responsible way.

Zero based budgeting can be time consuming but it would be worth our time in order to save the taxpayers money.

Freeholders and staff go to Hawaii Say to taxpayers: 'LET THEM EAT POI'

While many county residents were trying to figure out how they were going to afford a day trip to the Jersey Shore and maybe a fruity beverage at the Tiki Bar in Point Pleasant this summer, 5 Democrat Union County Freeholders, including two freeholders up for election in November, Rick Proctor and Angel Estrada, traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii on a trip paid for by county taxpayers. The cost of sending the 7 county officials, including the county manager and freeholder clerk, to Hawaii cost over \$18,000. The Union County Republican Committee demanded that the Democrats reimburse the county out of their own pockets.

At a time when residents are struggling to pay higher property taxes due to the all-Democrat freeholder's \$390 million budget, which hangs like

Greg Brady's Tiki idol around county taxpayers' necks, the freeholders should be setting a good example by being fiscally responsible. Instead, they were sipping Mai-Tais by the pool.

This is unconscionable, especially when many good residents of the county are struggling to make ends meet, with some residents working two and three jobs just to hold on to their homes. Finding the time and money to maybe spend a few days vacationing at Bradley Beach, let alone Hawaii, is only a dream to most of us.

This is just another example of the corrupt behavior, poor fiscal management and the arrogant "let them eat poi" attitude of the all-Democrat freeholder board. By the way, eating poi is a lot like the way the Democrats run the county, it sounds great, but it tastes like paste.



Freeholder Estrada at work (in Hawaii) on the taxpayer dime.

Cost of a flight to Hawaii (First Class): \$ 2,005.30
 Hawaiian seminar registration costs: \$ 3,735.00
 Cost of 7 rooms at Sheraton Waikiki: \$ 8,665.72
 Cost to the Union County taxpayers: \$18,230.40

Throwing them out of office in November: PRICELESS

Fact: Last July Freeholders Proctor and Estrada went to Hawaii and you paid for it!

THIS YEAR SAY NO TO THE DEMOCRATS WASTEFUL SPENDING!
VOTE REPUBLICAN LINE "A"

Star Ledger and Asbury Park Press Endorse Forrester

Democrat Team under Corzine will continue corruption and boss-driven policies

The democratic ticket headed by Jon Corzine, including the Union County Freeholders, is seen as the same bunch in power that put the State in a property tax crisis through the unethical and corrupt practices of party bosses. The only chance to change the trend of higher taxes and debt is to vote Republican Column "A" on Tuesday, November 8.

Read what the papers had to say:

Posted by the Asbury Park Press on 10/23/05, Forrester best hope for tax, ethics reform

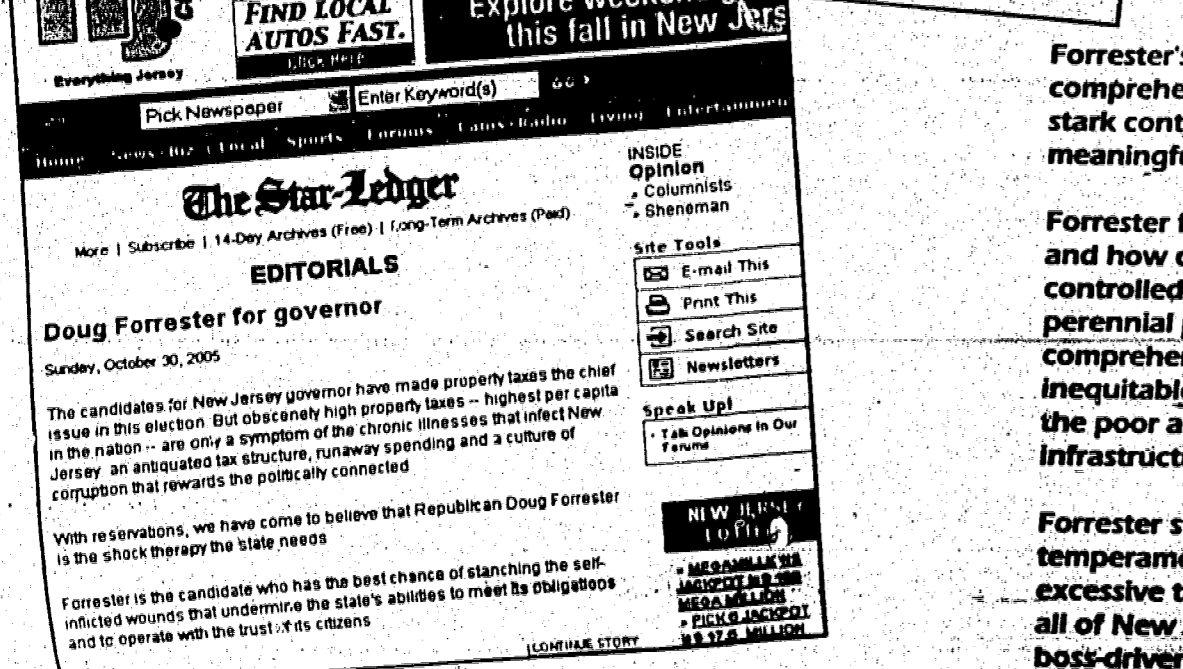
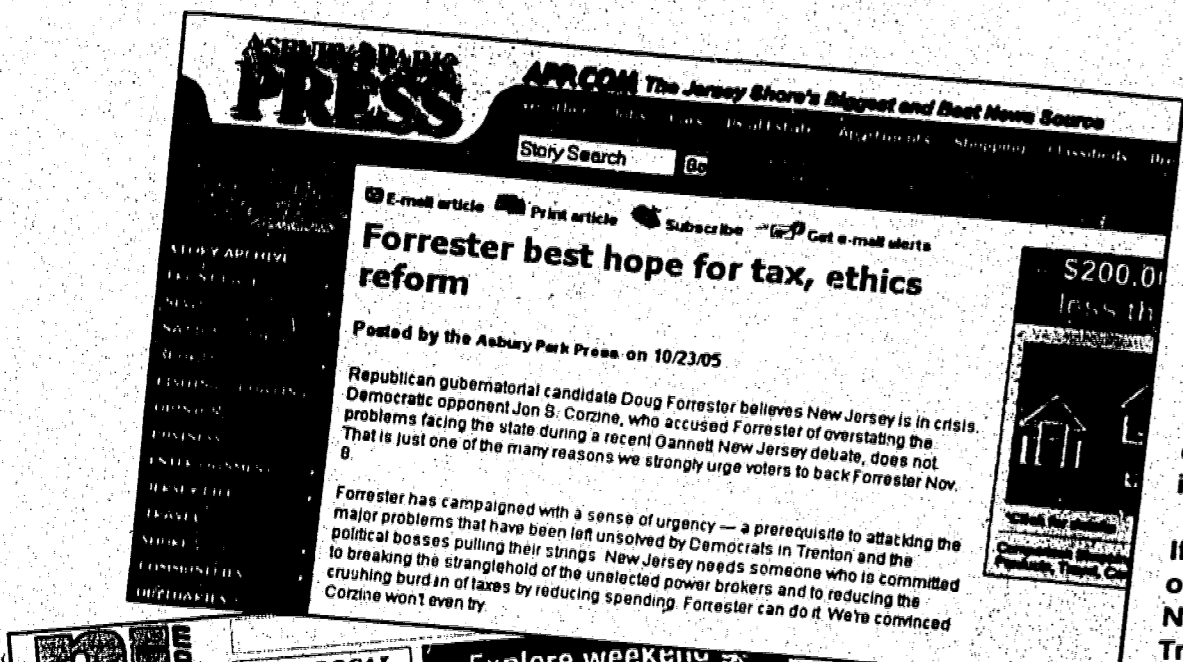
New Jersey needs someone who is committed to breaking the stranglehold of the unelected power brokers and to reducing the crushing burden of taxes by reducing spending. Forrester can do it. We're convinced Corzine won't even try.

If you want property tax relief and ethics reform, get to the polls on Election Day and vote for Doug Forrester for governor. He's New Jersey's only hope for reducing taxes, eliminating waste in Trenton and stamping out corruption.

Forrester's commitment, and his party's long-standing efforts, to institute comprehensive pay-to-play reform, including a ban on wheeling, stand in stark contrast to the Democratic Party leadership's serial sandbagging of meaningful reform.

Forrester fully appreciates how skyrocketing taxes are crippling the state and how corruption and the boss-driven policies of the Democratic-controlled Legislature are blocking long-overdue solutions to the state's perennial problems. These include the Democrats' failure to enact comprehensive pay-to-play and campaign finance reform, to stop inequitable and wasteful school funding, to provide affordable housing for the poor and middle class, to repair our crumbling transportation infrastructure and to rein in uncontrolled growth.

Forrester stands alone as someone equipped, philosophically and temperamentally, to address the state's two most pressing issues — excessive taxation and comprehensive ethics reform. He understands how all of New Jersey's unsolved problems relate to the same root cause: a boss-driven political system that is more concerned with self-perpetuation and enrichment than advancing the interests of the average citizen.



Doug Forrester is the shock therapy the state needs Posted by the Star-Ledger on 10/30/05

Jon Corzine has championed as a U.S. senator, he hasn't convinced us he can stand up to the entrenched bosses of his party or to the powerful public employee unions.

Put simply, Corzine appears to suffer from the same disease of wanting to please everyone that contributed to the downward spiral of James E. McGreevey's administration.

GOP accepts different viewpoints

BY BRUCE PATERSON, GARWOOD CANDIDATE

Our local Republican party (and I am sure it is the case all the way up the party ladder) is comprised of individuals, and that is what I feel is our greatest advantage. Diversity is the fitting word. In other words, you put two Republicans in a room and I am sure they will end up with different viewpoints on various issues. And if you put three or more together, that is the start of discussion, dialogue and compromise. Each Republican thinks for himself and has different concerns an issues based on the public's different concerns and issues. And this is how government should work - by discussion, difference of opinions and of course proper compromise for the benefit of the public.

The Democrats appear to always be in lockstep. All think alike; all agree on each issue that is raised, no matter what it may be. It appears that our esteemed opponents do think alike, and so don't understand that people can actually have diverse ideas or even different solutions to the same problem. They are structured, and each person above them hands them the orders of how they should agree or even think. That is scary!

In the latest primary, the GOP fielded no fewer than seven gubernatorial candidates, each with diverse ideas of

how New Jersey should be governed. The Democrats in power actually told their favorite son, acting Gov. Richard Codey, that he can't run in the primary, that Jon Corzine takes priority with all his wealth and money that he donates to the Democratic party. It was controlled with no choice. And if you follow the county freeholders, who are all Democrats, you'll find that they unanimously approve countless resolutions, with nary a dissenting vote. According to the Star Ledger The Freeholders approved 1,000 resolutions last year, all but three passed unanimously. Maybe that explains why our county taxes have increased regularly in the last five years. Even in the audio tapes that were released in the spring, you heard George Norcross, a Democratic power broker in New Jersey, say that either way, in the end Jon Corzine would always come back to him.

The Democrats are not allowed to have a difference of opinion, not allowed to question. In some cases, political bosses who are not even elected by the public control the Democrats and our state and local government. With this in mind, I understand why our opponents are confused that two people can have various viewpoints.

The candidates for New Jersey governor have made property taxes the chief issue in this election. But obscenely high property taxes — highest in the nation — are only a symptom of the chronic illnesses that infect New Jersey: an antiquated tax structure, runaway spending and a culture of corruption that rewards the politically connected.

GOP Demands Investigation, Says Democrats Use Taxpayer Money to Pay for Political Mailings

The Union County Republican Committee ("UCRC") has filed a formal request with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("ELEC") for an investigation of the Democratic freeholder candidates' failure to disclose political communications paid for with taxpayer dollars. The UCRC has alleged that the Democratic freeholder candidates violated election law by using taxpayer funds to fund a six-figure media campaign.

"It's not enough that every year, the Democrats build their campaign war chest by soliciting campaign donations from law firms, engineering firms and other professionals who are rewarded with big county contracts, but over the last several years they have flooded taxpayers mailboxes and cable TV with election time propaganda, bought and paid for with taxpayers dollars," said Phil Morin, Union County Republican Chairman.

Since August, thousands of county taxpayers received letters signed by the Democratic freeholder chairman and listing the names of other freeholders up for re-election in November, and a full color brochure with photos of the freeholder chairman. That same freeholder chairman is featured in a television ad that conveniently began to

run after Labor Day and is linked to the county's web page. These mailings and the TV commercial were paid for with taxpayer dollars.

Additionally, a newspaper from the Union County Alliance, which is funded in part with taxpayer funds, also is a blatant example of using taxpayer funded mailings for distribution of partisan political communications.

The letters, brochure, Alliance publication and the television commercial are "political communications" under ELEC's regulations, and the cost of these communications must be disclosed on their campaign reports by law. The Democratic freeholders failed to disclose these expenditures on their October 2005 filing with ELEC, which is a violation of law. The Democrats could be facing thousands of dollars in fines as a result of the misuse of taxpayer dollars to fund what is essentially campaign literature.

"It's time for the County Democrats to stop using taxpayer's hard-earned money to pay for their political campaigns," Morin said. "It's bad enough that the all-Democrat Freeholder Board is spending over \$1 million of our tax dollars a day, why should they be allowed to illegally spend it on partisan political propaganda?"

Drive them out of office

As reported in the Star-Ledger, more than 150 employees enjoy 24-hour use of county vehicles. Senator Raymond Lesniak's nephew, Union County Manager George Devanney, drives 32 miles round-trip in a nine-seat 2004 Chevy Suburban, which burns up a gallon of gas every 14 city miles.

When confronted by the media, Devanney defended this perk by saying "many employees need rugged vehicles so they can report to work in inclement conditions". He went on to say "Employees who have commuting privileges need access to county vehicles in the dead of night".

A review of the county vehicle list shows some of these employees include: the head of Mosquito Control; and the Director of Golf Operations, both of which are given 2003 Chevy Blazers.

Out of the 21 counties in New Jersey, Union County is one of only 10 other counties that give their county manager a vehicle and is only 1 out of 4 counties that offer their freeholders vehicles. We also give our Deputy County Manager a vehicle. Union County taxpayers cover the insurance, maintenance and gas, averaging roughly 57 gallons per month per employee.

Aside from Devanney's nine-seat, 2.9-ton four-wheel-drive Chevy Suburban, designed for heavy hauling, the county's list of commuter vehicles is dotted with gas-guzzling SUVs, including two Ford Explorers assigned to county freeholders who work part-time.

One of them, Freeholder Daniel Sullivan, logged nearly 30,000 miles in his taxpayer funded Explorer during the past year, despite his part-time status, according to county records. A map quest search

showing Sullivan's commute from his home to the county administration building is 2.13 miles and is estimated to take 7 minutes.

Sullivan also commutes about 25,000 miles a year to his job at the state Motor Vehicle Commission in Trenton. County policy dictates that cars be used only for county business or commuting. That policy rests on an honor system; employees are not required to submit logs detailing their destinations and freeholders are exempt from the policy.

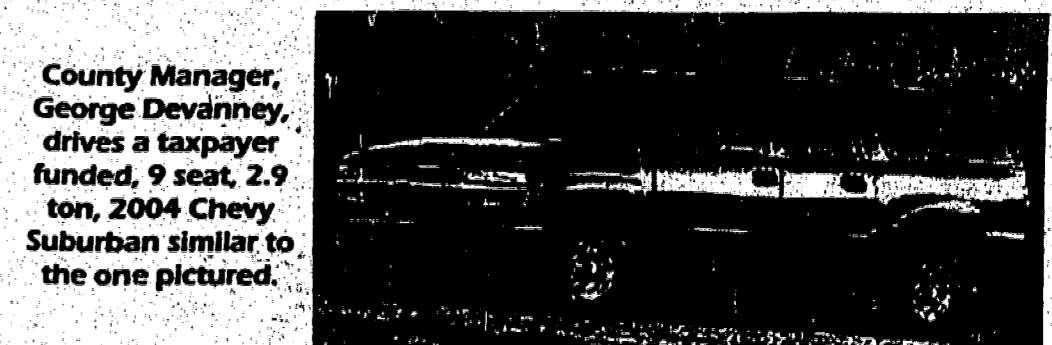
After being forced to address this issue due to the negative press, the county announced that they will be trimming only 8 vehicles from their 150 fleet.

Devanney announced that he will be turning in his Suburban which has a list price of \$47,920, for something smaller in "the New Year". Devanney and freeholders also review their salaries in "the New Year" which usually leads them to awarding themselves with retroactive pay raises.

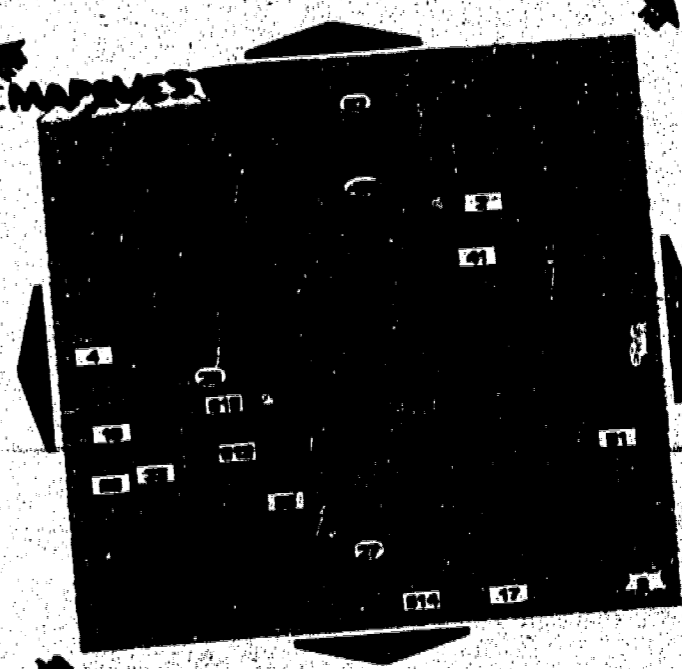
Gregg Edwards, president of the Center for Policy Research of New Jersey said "This is just a way that government, at all levels, hides compensation. They don't want to show it in salary ordinances because then it is easy for the public to hold it against them."

Edwards of the Center for Policy Research, suggested from now on, the county simply raise salaries. Awarding car keys, he said, "just leads to public cynicism".

The Republican team for freeholder believes that bureaucrats should not be commuting at taxpayers' expense. Cars are too often awarded as unseen perks that, unlike raises, fall beneath the public's radar; we strongly suggest you drive the Democrats out of office in November.



County Manager, George Devanney, drives a taxpayer funded, 9 seat, 2.9 ton, 2004 Chevy Suburban similar to the one pictured.



According to Mapquest this is the best route Freeholder Dan Sullivan can take from his home in Elizabeth to his monthly meetings, 2 miles away, at the County Courthouse. Sullivan logged 30,000 miles in one year, which means he would have made the trip to the courthouse 15,000 times using over 2,000 gallons of gas paid for with Union County property taxes.

According to County Manager George Devanney "Employees who have commuting privileges need access to county vehicles in the dead of night".

Examples of which employees need access to county vehicles in the dead of night include those in the following departments:

- 12 cars assigned to Mosquito control
- 7 cars assigned to golf operations
- 3 to the Shade Tree Commission

Are Union County Taxpayers Codey's Brother's Keeper? Patronage jobs for democrats is running rampant in Union County.

On Sept. 1, Acting Governor Richard Codey's brother Robert retired from his assignment as a deputy attorney general on loan to Union County. The county website doesn't have any photos of Codey being sent off with a gold watch but his golden parachute is worth revisiting.

According to published reports, Robert Codey, a state prosecutor since 1988, reached an employment agreement with the county in September 2004.

His state salary was set at \$93,268. Although they could have had him for free, Union County supplemented Codey's pay by \$46,731 putting his total salary at \$140,000. This boosted his pension to about \$33,000 dollars more than what he would have been eligible for had he retired a year earlier.

This deal was worked out shortly after former Gov. James E. McGreevey announced his resignation setting the stage for Codey's brother to take over as acting governor.

The unusual salary arrangement for Codey, who's expertise was in organized crime, was requested by state Attorney General Peter Harvey and approved by then-acting Personnel Commissioner Marjorie Schwartz.

Codey received special permission to exceed the state salary limit in return for "extraordinary justification and compelling need." The public, however, was never informed of what the "compelling need" was or what organized crime cases Codey was in charge of - and no indictments by Codey were reported in the news during his

short tenure.

Title 4A of the New Jersey Administrative Code requires the personnel commissioner to establish and enforce pay rates and salary ranges for civil service jobs such as deputy attorney general. Codey's official state salary was \$140,000. The maximum for his position under state regulations was \$115,618. To keep it "legal" the county had to reimburse the state for the pay increase. None of Codey's fellow 779 deputy attorney's generals was granted similar permission to exceed that limit. His salary was more than \$20,000 above the salary of his direct supervisor and 136 other deputies ranking above him. Union County Prosecutor Theodore Kozminski's salary is \$141,000.

Codey, 55, has more than 30 years in the public employment system, and under special pension rules for prosecutors, this entitles him for a pension that pays 70 percent of his highest annual salary. In addition to the \$98,000 a year pension, Codey will receive automatic annual cost of living adjustments and state-paid health insurance throughout his retirement. (The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state the average life expectancy for white male Americans is 75.4 years.)

Appointed Union County Manager George Devanney, who is State Senator Raymond Lesniak's nephew, defended Codey's pay increase. "We are lucky to get a man like Bob with his knowledge and experience. Just because he is the acting governor's brother doesn't mean politics were involved in his hiring," said

Devanney.

According to the budget proposed by Acting Gov. Codey, the state will pay out \$3.8 billion for employees' benefits in the 12 months that began July 1 - that's 14 percent of the entire \$27.4 billion spending plan. Pensions would cost the state budget \$337 million, and that price tag is expected to nearly quadruple in the following year's budget. By July 2007, the state expects it will spend more on health benefits for retired workers than for active employees. By 2010, it may

cost the state \$6.7 billion to pay for health benefits and pensions.

In his March 1 budget speech, Codey said "Entitlements are the driving force behind the increase in state spending each and every year." Codey vowed not to sign any pension enhancements, and he planned to name a panel to examine the benefits system.

With his personal experience with entitlements and expertise in organized crime, Robert Codey would make an excellent panelist.

Former Freeholder, Lewis Mingo, is the luckiest man alive.

The weekly newspapers ran a story about former UC Freeholder Lewis Mingo landing himself a county job. It seems that Mr. Mingo, of Plainfield, whose Freeholder term expired in December of last year, has accepted a full time position as Confidential Aide and Director of Senior Services at a salary of \$65,000 a year. He is also compensated with a taxpayer funded vehicle. It has not been a secret that he "decided" not to run for another term on the Freeholder Board because of changes of power within the Plainfield Democratic Committee and as luck would have it a position with the county just happened to come available.

Luckier still for Mingo is that the job happens to be working in an area he says he has an interest, children's and senior issues, what an amazing coincidence. Of further interest is that he will be concentrating on issues affecting the elderly in the western end of the county.

Plainfield happens to be in the western end of the county where he resides and the job is anchored in a Plainfield office, what good fortune.

The powers that be insist that this job was not created specifically for the former Freeholder yet according to the county government's Press Secretary and Director of Communications Sebastian D'Elia, the job "was fine-tuned to meet the issues of the western end" of the county. And how fortuitous it is that by taking this position and more than doubling his county salary from part-time, Freeholder, to full-time employee he will greatly increase his county pension upon retirement.

Lewis Mingo is quoted in Worrall Papers saying "it just happened and the timing was right" Oh that all of us should just happen to be in the right place at the right time like Mr. Mingo, he certainly is a lucky, lucky man.

Freeholders refusing to address Property Tax Crisis - Calling for a convention to fix problem they caused

When speaking with residents in all corners and in all walks of life in Union County, over the past several months, there is always a common theme that comes to the top of everyone's list, taxes. It seems that the good hardworking people of our county are financially hemorrhaging. The cost of everything from disposal diapers to car insurance to college tuition has been going up, up, up and finding enough money to keep a decent roof over their heads has gotten harder and harder for not only homeowners but renters as well.

The average worker sees somewhere between a 2 to 4% salary increase annually, that is if their employer sees fit to award raises. However, when property taxes increase anywhere from 5 to 12% it doesn't take a financial expert to realize that there will be some

residents who will experience problems paying their living expenses. Municipalities have the responsibility of collecting property taxes not only for their town's services and schools but for the county as well. The towns have some control over the pace at which they choose to raise their portion of the tax levy by nipping and tucking here and there and doing the best that they can not to over burden the residents. They do not however have the ability or authority to regulate what tax levy the Board of Chosen Freeholders chooses to pass along to the residents. This situation puts the burden of explanation on the local governing bodies that become the targets of the taxpayer's wrath because they are the ones on the front line not the Freeholder Board which is the hidden layer of government

and goes unnoticed most of the time. The Board of Chosen Freeholders has climbed on the "Property Tax Convention" bandwagon as evidenced by the taxpayer funded mailings to municipalities. My question is why wait? Why not do something now? It is clearly within the realm of possibility that the freeholders can take the initiative and move forward with a plan to not increase the tax levy. When pondering the property tax issue a simple solution jumps to the forefront and that is: curb-your-spending!! Our county government would do well to look at private industry for some pointers, but then that wouldn't make an exciting campaign press release, and let's face it, that might alienate some of their financial supporters who appear to be the benefactors of their largess on the backs of the tax payers.

Renters hit just as hard by property taxes

There is a perception that renters don't pay their fair share of housing expenses and thus are not entitled to the same rights and privileges as homeowners. Renters contribute substantially to the economy of Union County since landlords traditionally base rental charges on the costs incurred to operate the rental property, cover mortgage payments, local and county property taxes, maintenance costs and generally build in a small profit. In New Jersey any rent increase over 4-5% is considered to be unconscionable and tenants, even those without leases in non-rent controlled buildings, have recourse in the Landlord Tenant Relations Courts to settle the matter of an excessive rent increase, however property taxes can be considered a viable cause to increase a tenant's rent.

Landlords generally pass along property tax increases to their tenants and in Union County these increases have averaged approximately 50% over the past 5 years. By electing to office those candidates who are sensitive to their needs, renters can be assured that they will be able to continue to afford to stay in their "homes."

"As a renter I personally understand the plight of tenants and landlords first hand, this has been my family's home for over 23 years," said Freeholder candidate Patricia Quattrocchi. "I prefer not to have to move and will work hard for no tax increase budgets so that my landlord will not be forced to raise my rent to cover his property taxes."

Crisis Brought On By Incompetence and Corruption

Most voters don't know what effect county government has on their property tax. They relate property tax to either their school system or their municipality. What they don't realize is that the county government is responsible for the bulk of their property tax increase.

Our property tax situation has been categorized as being in a crisis. So much so that there has been a call for a constitutional convention in order to address the issue. The belief is that the crisis has occurred because of increases that are beyond the control of our elected officials. This opinion is not only absurd but gives the elected officials a free pass on accountability. It is the charge of the elected officials to operate an efficient and effective government. The crisis occurred when our leadership shirked their responsibility and put self serving political aspirations before the public's well-being. There is no better example of this than the County of Union.

In his own words, last year, the county manager, George Devanney said the county was in a budget crisis. What he failed to explain is that he was responsible for it happening.

Devanney was appointed county manager in 2000. His strongest credential is being the nephew of State Senator Ray Lesniak. It was under the influence of their party boss that the Freeholder Board, made up entirely of Democrats, appointed the nephew, even though he had no prior management experience. He was put in charge of a \$300 million budget and 3000 employees. This was the start of the crisis. He has since inexplicably increased the budget to over \$400 million

The county became the well from which the Union County Democratic Committee siphoned millions of tax dollars and funnelled them to campaign contributors and political operatives in the form of no bid contracts and patronage jobs. The well was replenished each year with increases in the county portion of the property tax and increases in service and licensing fees.

Since 2000 the county budget has swelled to over \$400 million. That's a million dollars a day! The county debt has surpassed the \$400 million mark. In the last three years alone the county spent over one billion dollars. Voters are looking for accountability but are not finding it.

The cause for the county's debt is not, as claimed, "beyond our control". Indeed, the county debt is precisely the thing that the elected officials and county manager are supposed to control.

All agree that the property tax situation in Union County is in a crisis. But we don't need a constitutional convention to fix it. The voters need to elect new freeholders who have the integrity to do the will of the people and not their party. The all-Democrat Freeholder Board has been in power for ten years. They are not about to cut the flow of funds into their party's coffers.

They will continue to do the bidding of the senator and his nephew, who will be long gone when it will be time to pay the tab. Of course the taxpayer will be there to pick up the bill.

Taxpayers can look forward to more of the same treatment next year unless voters make a change in November and vote Republican.

Growing County Debt Will Be Burden On Future Generations

The way things are going it will be the year 2030 before Union County pays off its current debt according to the county Director of Finance, Lawrence Caroselli. This year the county will shell out \$35.8 million in debt service payments. Currently Union County has a debt of \$348.5 million and it is growing. In fact, the Board of Chosen Freeholders is in the process of passing more ordinances totaling another \$33.5 million in bonds for the construction of the new Juvenile Detention Center and what is called the "County Prosecutor's Office Project". There is also an additional \$21.5 million in short term notes for "various public improvements and the acquisition of new, additional or replacement equipment and machinery, new vehicles, additional furnishings" and on and on.

When government entities talk about debt service they are, in laymen's terms, talking about loan payments, Freeholder Daniel Sullivan is quoted in a local newspaper saying that "debt service payments are similar to mortgage payments on a home." The \$35.8 million payment for this year includes interest as well as the principal payment and according to Sullivan "it is really just another line item" in the budget. Imagine that, "Just another line item", easy for him to say it is not his personal money.

The amount of debt a county can carry is regulated by state statutes and is up to 2 percent of the assessed value of all the property in the county over a three year period. Union County is currently at about 0.71 percent. But wait, there are some other projects coming up besides

those already mentioned which will need financing as well, including another addition to the Union County Vocational and Technical School and the remaining phases of the Union County Arts Center project. Not to worry, according to county officials, as we have plenty of what can be called "wiggle room", the wiggle room is what should concern us.

The annual debt service payment is already almost 10 percent of the county operating budget, payroll costs are currently around 30% and it is a given they will go up each year as will insurance costs and assuredly pension contributions. The freeholder board must be thinking: Thank heavens that the value of Union County real estate is climbing as well to provide an endless stream of tax dollars to draw upon.

Think about it, when they go out to bond for projects they are actually borrowing money which will have to be repaid down the road. The more the freeholders borrow, the more money they will need to find to repay the loans and there is really only one place to raise the funds - the taxpayers. The surge in building projects in the last several years should be drawing to a close soon as there isn't left to build. However, this wiggle room seems to give them carte blanche to find something. Just as children theorize "if I have it I should spend it" because that five dollars is sure to burn a hole in their pocket and besides there is more where that came from. The freeholders seem to believe "if we can we will", but at this rate how long before the "wiggle room" is gone?

The first two lines of this Westfield tax bill goes to the County of Union. The County accounts for 21% of the bill. The town accounts for only 16%.

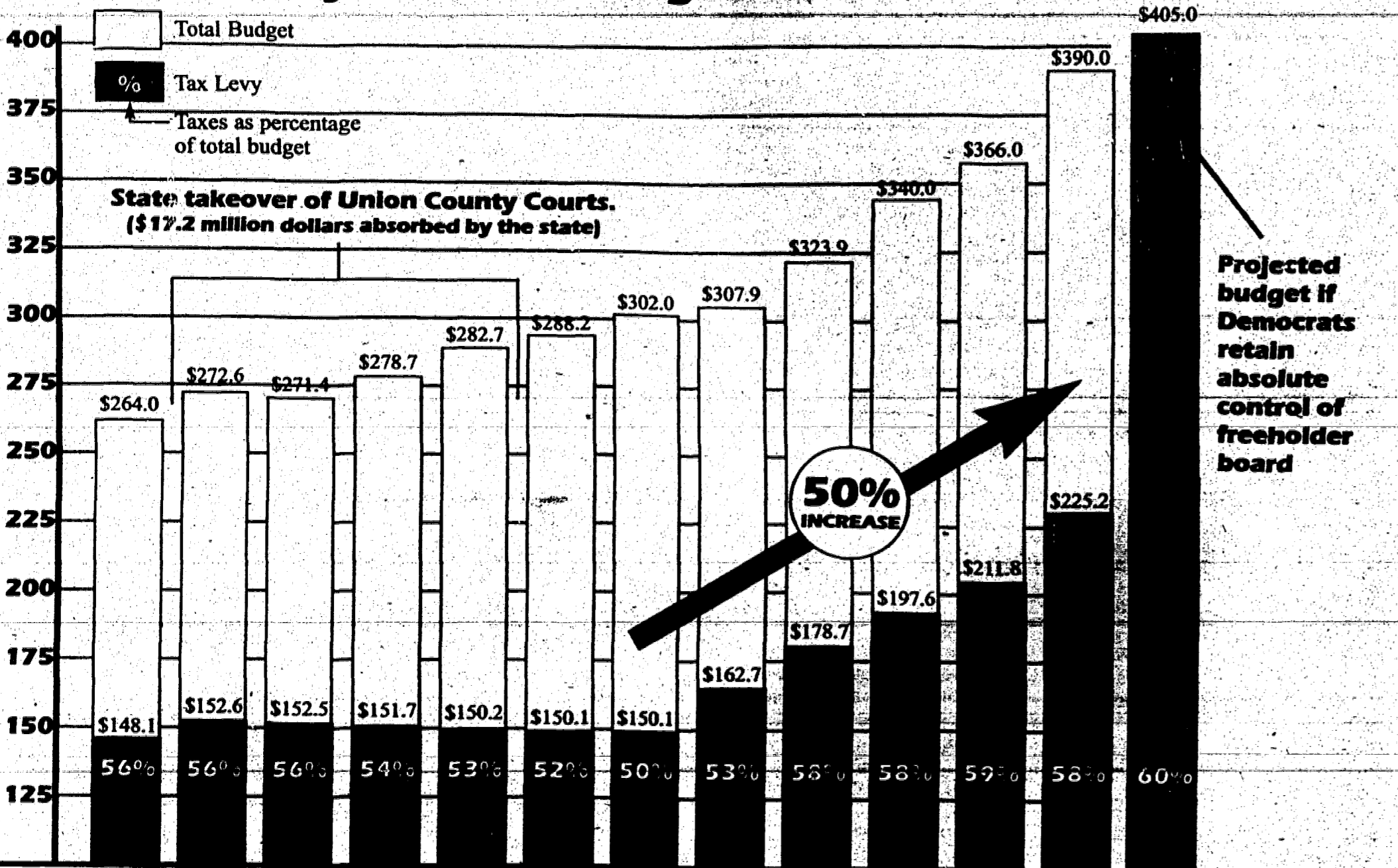
QUANTIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	RATE PER \$100	AMOUNT OF TAX
COUNTY TAX		1.186	\$711.20
CITY OF WESTFIELD		0.449	\$282.01
CITY OF WESTFIELD		3.652	\$2,304.47
DISTRICT SCHOOL TAX		.953	\$601.56
LOCAL MUNICIPAL TAX			
2005 TOTAL TAX			5,840
LESS DEDUCTION FOR:			.00
2005 NET TAX			5,840
2005 NET TAX			1,330.24
LESS 2005 PREV. BILLED			6377.94
2005 NET TAX			6972.30

Most people never look at their tax bill. They usually pay their taxes as part of their mortgage or rent, so they don't realize that 20 - 25% goes to the county and that percentage is climbing every year. Some people are now paying more to the county than they are to their municipality. Yet, if you ask them what is a Freeholder and what do they do with the money, the average person can't tell you.

Landlords generally pass along property tax increases to their tenants and in Union County these increases have averaged approximately 50% over the past 5 years. By electing to office those candidates who are sensitive to their needs, renters can be assured that they will be able to continue to afford to stay in their "homes."

"As a renter I personally understand the plight of tenants and landlords first hand, this has been my family's home for over 23 years," said Freeholder candidate Patricia Quattrocchi. "I prefer not to have to move and will work hard for no tax increase budgets so that my landlord will not be forced to raise my rent to cover his property taxes."

COUNTY ON TRACK FOR ANOTHER TAX HIKE Union County executive budgets from 1994 - 2004



The Union County Bond Rating is based partially on the county's ability to pay the bonds back with interest. The freeholders have demonstrated that they can raise property taxes over 10% per year without any repercussions. This makes the lending institutions very happy.

Most of you think corruption in government is a serious problem in New Jersey. According to the latest poll from Quinnipiac University, 92 percent of you think it's a serious problem in this state.

But more people think Democrats are the most corrupt according to the findings of the Quinnipiac poll. Half of the people responding to the poll said they associate government corruption to the Democratic Party.

The Union County Freeholder Board is mortgaging the future of our children and grandchildren with excessive debt. They are borrowing on their future tax increases.

A balance must be made on the all Democrat freeholder board in order to stop the mounting debt. Vote for accountability for the future, vote for the Republican candidates for Freeholder on November 8.

Reduce your property taxes

10%

Coupon Savings

Bring this coupon to the polls

Vote on November 8, 2005

Vote for the Republican candidates for Union County freeholder:

Stu Kline

Patricia Quattrocchi

Al Dill

Expiration November 9, 2005. One coupon per voter. Can not be combined with any other offer.

Vote Column

A

Majority of Towns not being represented by freeholders

Presently, Union County Freeholders are elected on an "at-large" basis. The statistics suggest that party-line voting is a significant factor in elections. The concept that districting would nullify the significance of party-line voting is valid.

Even though 13 towns chose Republican candidates to represent them on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders they are not being served by their choice. The large population of a few towns overwhelm the efforts of the rest of the county to have equal representation.

From a managerial perspective the importance in changing the electoral system is one of responsiveness and accountability. At play is the underlying philosophy of the so called "spoils system." According to Willis Swartz, in his book, American Government Problems, the general practice of selecting public administrators and

administrative employees - whether elected or appointed - on the basis of partisan politics rather than that of individual merit or technical skill leads to corruption and inefficiency and can be accepted as natural, if not a necessary, consequence of "the system."

The call for change of the electoral structure of the County of Union to a districted system in order to correct the lack of accountability by the county freeholders has come from diverse and non-partisan sources. County money is disproportionately being spent in the few towns dominated by registered democrats.

This change will not happen without the cooperation of the freeholders themselves and so Democrat and independent voters are being encouraged to vote for the Republican ticket in their town. It is the only chance that they will have a voice in county government that takes 25% of their property taxes.

The call for change of the electoral structure of the County of Union has come from diverse and non-partisan sources. In April of 2004, the Union County Taxes and Services Task Force for the City of Summit, completed a report that studied different aspects of county government. The report offered courses of action to consider in order to correct the lack of accountability in county government. One of the options proposed by the by-partisan task force was changing how the Union County Freeholders are elected.

The most noteworthy claim of county government not being representative of its constituency came from a coalition called "Stop the Train". The coalition includes local and state level elected officials from both parties, residents from suburban and urban areas, both affluent and working class. Though their status in Union County could not be more diverse, these communities are united in a cause to make county freeholders more responsive. The issue of the reactivation of a freight line that cuts through eight municipalities is a symptom of the coalition's claim of misrepresentation. So much so that six municipalities had banned together and sued the county.

2003 Election Results Illustrate Municipal Inequality

The results of the 2003 elections had the three Democrat candidates winning the countywide election garnering an average of 38,000 votes. The three Republicans received an average of 32,000 votes. The third party candidates received approximately 7,000 votes combined.

Though they lost the county wide popular vote the Republican candidates won in 13 municipalities. The Democrat candidates won in the remaining eight. Registered Democrats out number registered Republicans in the county by 2 to 1. Democrats having approximately 87,000 voters and Republican having

41,000. There are approximately 261,000 unaffiliated and Independent voters.

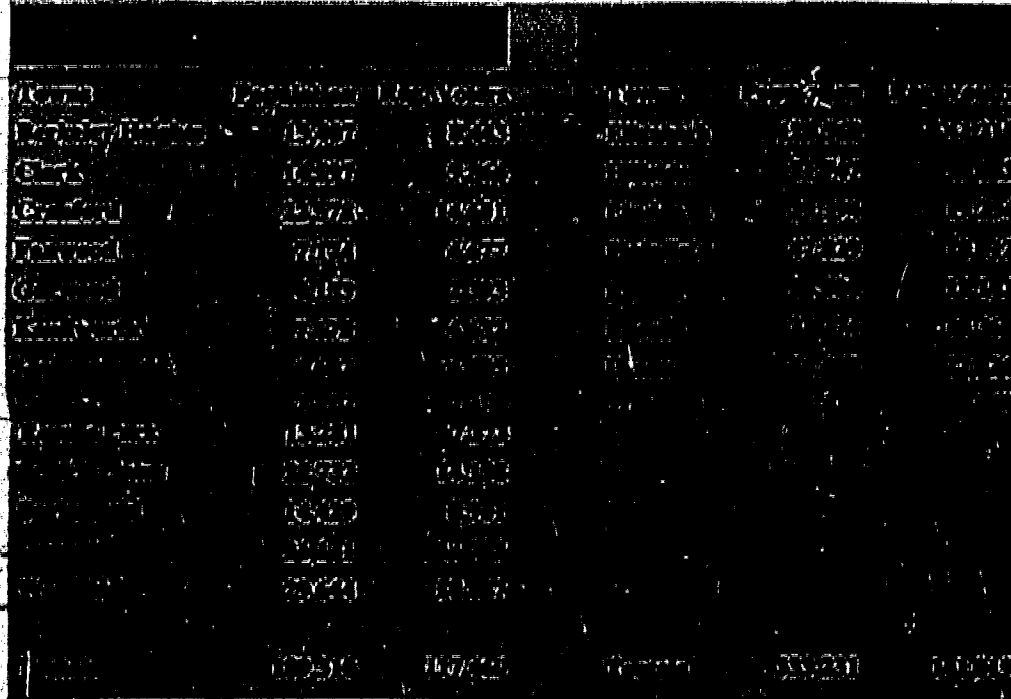
The balance of registered voters is skewed towards the eight towns voting Democrat. The towns represent approximately 333,231 residents with 141,091 voters. The Republican voting towns have 189,310 residents with 117,465 voters. The breakdown of voters by party affiliation in these towns is balanced. Democrat voters represent 22% of the electorate and Republican voters represent 24%. In the other eight towns the Democrat voters represent 41% of the electorate and the Republican voters make up 10%.

2003 Breakdown by Municipality by Population and Registered Voters

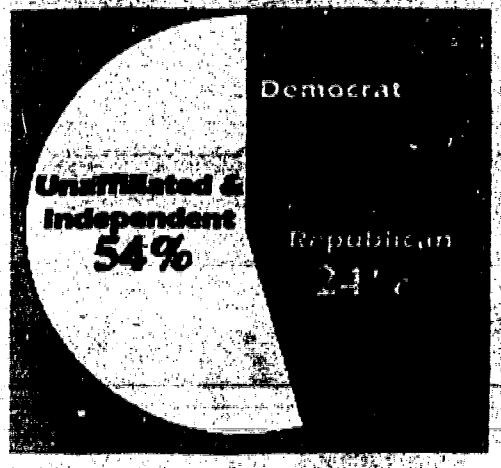
(Number of Voters and party affiliation and percentage of total voter per party)

Town	Reg Voters	Dem	GOP	U/I	% Dem	% GOP	% U/I
Berkeley Heights	7,879	1,122	2,741	4,016	14.24%	34.78%	50.97%
Clark	10,009	2,764	1,929	5,316	27.62%	19.27%	53.11%
Cranford	14,788	3,527	3,080	8,178	23.86%	20.83%	55.31%
Elizabeth	42,995	22,215	2,592	18,188	51.87%	6.03%	42.30%
Fanwood	4,890	983	1,138	2,869	20.33%	23.28%	56.20%
Garwood	2,474	551	399	1,524	22.27%	16.13%	61.60%
Hillside	10,710	4,134	875	5,701	38.60%	8.17%	53.23%
Kenilworth	4,700	1,447	1,040	2,213	30.78%	22.13%	47.09%
Linden	19,499	10,525	1,077	7,897	53.98%	5.52%	40.50%
Mountainside	4,880	790	1,560	2,330	16.38%	32.18%	49.79%
New Providence	7,077	1,101	2,248	3,728	15.56%	31.74%	52.71%
Plainfield	18,444	7,747	1,205	9,492	42.00%	6.53%	51.46%
Rahway	13,419	4,951	1,894	6,574	36.90%	13.99%	49.11%
Roselle	10,380	4,368	766	5,246	42.14%	7.38%	50.50%
Roselle Park	7,413	1,784	1,224	4,405	24.07%	16.51%	59.42%
Scotch Plains	14,182	3,070	3,109	8,003	21.65%	21.92%	56.43%
Springfield	9,946	2,283	1,565	6,098	22.85%	15.73%	59.96%
Summit	12,554	2,402	3,733	6,419	19.13%	29.74%	51.13%
Union	28,198	7,250	4,339	14,609	25.87%	15.38%	58.75%
Westfield	18,020	3,734	4,585	10,701	20.72%	25.43%	53.85%
Winfield	975	381	182	412	39.07%	18.67%	44.31%
Totals	261,009	87,087	41,039	132,883	33.37%	15.72%	50.91%

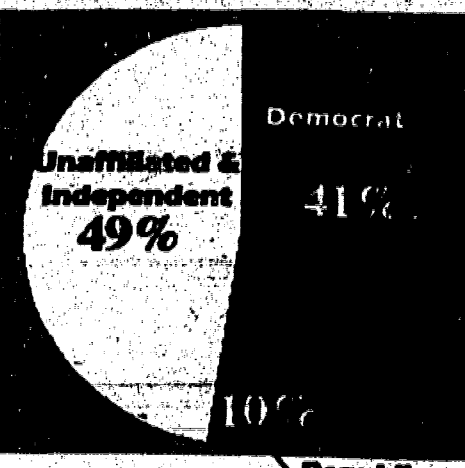
Towns in which Republican Candidates won election. Towns in which Democrat Candidates won election.



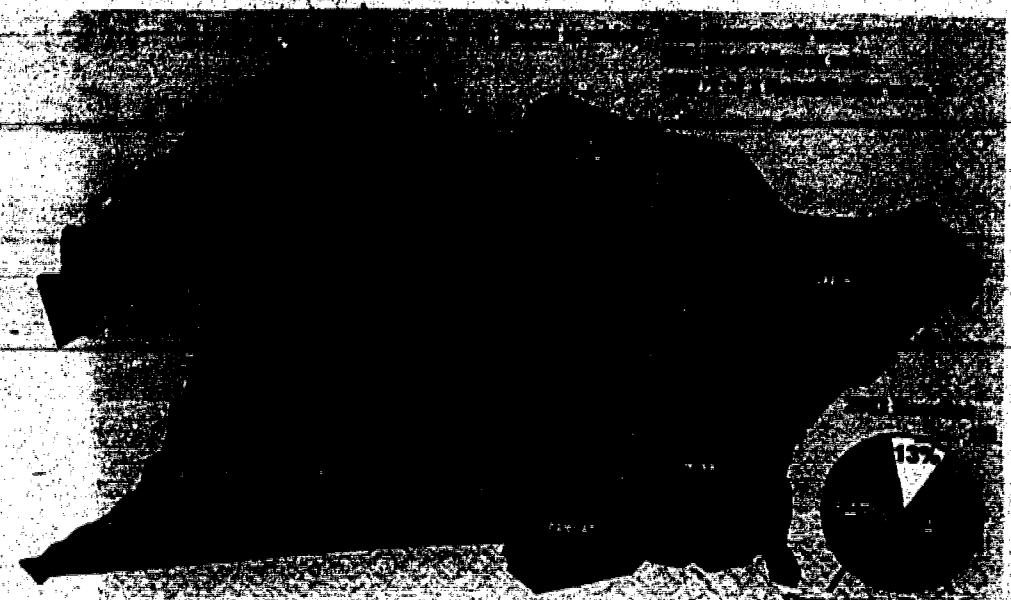
Breakdown of registered voters of above towns by party affiliation.



Breakdown of registered voters of above towns by party affiliation.



Municipalities represented by local election winners (Dark grey towns elected Republican candidates but are not represented by them on the freeholder board.)



2003 Election Results (Three democrat candidates, Three Republican and Independent candidates)

Town	Dem 1	Dem 2	Dem 3	GOP 1	GOP 2	GOP 3	U/I
Berkeley Heights	898	890	817	1,704	1,789	1,698	210
Clark	983	1,042	933	1,291	1,259	1,220	347
Cranford	2,235	2,323	2,152	2,837	2,514	2,433	879
Elizabeth	4,605	4,647	4,604	1,850	2,000	1,982	1,083
Fanwood	1,147	1,184	1,093	1,126	1,211	1,102	164
Garwood	369	360	329	392	386	377	75
Hillside	1,460	1,464	1,480	350	350	338	136
Kenilworth	807	854	742	1,003	989	968	141
Linden	3,554	3,613	3,528	1,359	1,382	1,328	710
Mountainside	448	451	413	949	954	944	105
New Providence	891	871	816	1,852	1,843	1,820	118
Plainfield	3,247	3,254	3,333	897	748	707	247
Rahway	1,908	1,910	2,005	1,011	1,055	998	327
Roselle	2,827	2,850	2,861	738	766	818	250
Roselle Park	790	978	744	860	834	850	244
Scotch Plains	1,885	1,893	1,820	2,229	2,244	2,198	399
Springfield	1,196	1,184	1,144	1,758	1,794	1,894	236
Summit	2,043	2,010	1,977	3,671	3,690	3,687	201
Union	3,810	3,620	3,441	2,692	2,724	2,848	566
Westfield	2,895	2,918	2,785	3,881	3,869	3,802	514
Winfield	175	193	182	172	124	125	28
Totals	37,951	38,516	38,998	32,022	32,258	31,508	6,957

Voting Information from the League of Women Voters

5 Things you need to know on election day

- 1) Your ballot, your vote –**
Don't panic if you registered to vote but your name is not on the list. Get help from a poll worker to make sure your vote is counted. You may be directed to another polling place or given a provisional ballot.
- 2) I.D. – Don't go without it –**
You may need to show I.D. To be safe, bring your driver's license, or a paycheck, utility bill or government document that includes your name and street address.
- 3) Writing on the wall –**
Look at the signs at the polling place for directions on how to use the voting machines, a list of your voting rights, and instructions for filing a complaint if your rights have been violated.
- 4) When in doubt, ask –**
Poll workers are there to help you. They'll show you how to work the machines and give you a provisional ballot if you need one. If you're at the wrong polling place, they should tell you how to get to the right one.
- 5) In and out –**
You probably won't have to wait too long. But even if the line is long, don't leave without voting. The outcome of this election will be important!

Avoid the crowds:

If you can, go to the polls during off hours:
10 a.m. -- 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. -- 3:30 p.m.
That's when it's likely to be less crowded.

Take a friend to vote:

Why go alone when you can take a friend or loved one to vote too?

325 dead people voted in Union County last year

Efforts by the GOP are under way to stop voter fraud

GOP party officials released the results of a summer-long study that found tens of thousands of examples of possible voter fraud in the 2004 election, including instances where votes were cast by dead people.

Officials said their analysis found:

- 54,601 people were registered in more than one county, and 4,397 appeared to have voted twice in the 2004 presidential election.
- 170,558 people were registered to vote in New Jersey as well as other states. Of those, 90,025 voted in New Jersey last year, and 6,572 appeared to have voted in two states.
- 4,755 individuals listed in county records as deceased also were listed as voting last year.

Be sure to remember to bring some form of identification with you each time you vote in the event you are "challenged" at the polls. If you cannot prove who you are, you will not be permitted to vote.

NOTE: A death certificate is not a valid form of identification to vote.

2005 UNION COUNTY REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

- GOVERNOR**
Doug Forrester
- FREEHOLDER**
Patricia Quattrocchi
Stuart Kilne
Albert Dill
- COUNTY CLERK**
Sandra Spector
- ASSEMBLY 21st DISTRICT**
Eric Munoz, M.D.
Jon Bramnick
- ASSEMBLY 22nd DISTRICT**
Nancy Malool
Ellyse Bochicchio Medved
- BERKELEY HEIGHTS**
3 year committee terms
Joseph Bruno
Elaine Perna
- CRANFORD**
3 Year Council Terms
Michael Pilick
Robert Puhak
- FANWOOD**
3 Year Council Terms
Michael D'Antuono
Maureen Marby
- GARWOOD**
3 Year Council Terms
Bruce Paterson
Anthony Sytko
- KENILWORTH**
3 Year Council Terms
Michael Batkiw
Alan Jankunas
- MOUNTAINSIDE**
3 Year Council Terms
Paul Mirabelli
Keith Turner
- NEW PROVIDENCE**
3 Year Council Terms
Terri Keller
Robert Robinson
- PLAINFIELD**
4 Year Mayoral Term
Albert McWilliams
- At-Large Term Second and Third Ward*
Alonzo Coleman, Jr.
- ROSELLE PARK**
3 Year Council Term At-Large
J. Ricky Badillo
- 3 Year First Ward Council
Joel Reed
- SPRINGFIELD**
Committee Term
Steven Grau
- SUMMIT**
First Ward Council
Ellen Dickson
- Second Ward Council
Michael Vernotico
- 2 Year At-Large Council
Frank Macloce
- UNION**
3 Year Committee Term
Shawn Gianella
- WESTFIELD**
4 Year Mayoral Term
Andrew Skibitsky
- 4 Year First Ward Council
Sal Casarua
- 4 Year Second Ward Council
Vicki Klimmins
- 4 Year Third Ward Council
Darlaine Walsh
- 4 Year Fourth Ward Council
Eric Leuthold
- WINFIELD**
3 Year Committee Term
Charles Sweeney

Vote Column A Nov 8

Above, a sample of the November 8th, 2005 General Election absentee ballot design is illustrated. Note that the easy to read directions on the left direct voters to fill in the oval to the right of each of their selections in pencil or black/blue ink pen. Write-in selections are available in the blank write-in section. Pre-printed stickers are not permitted.

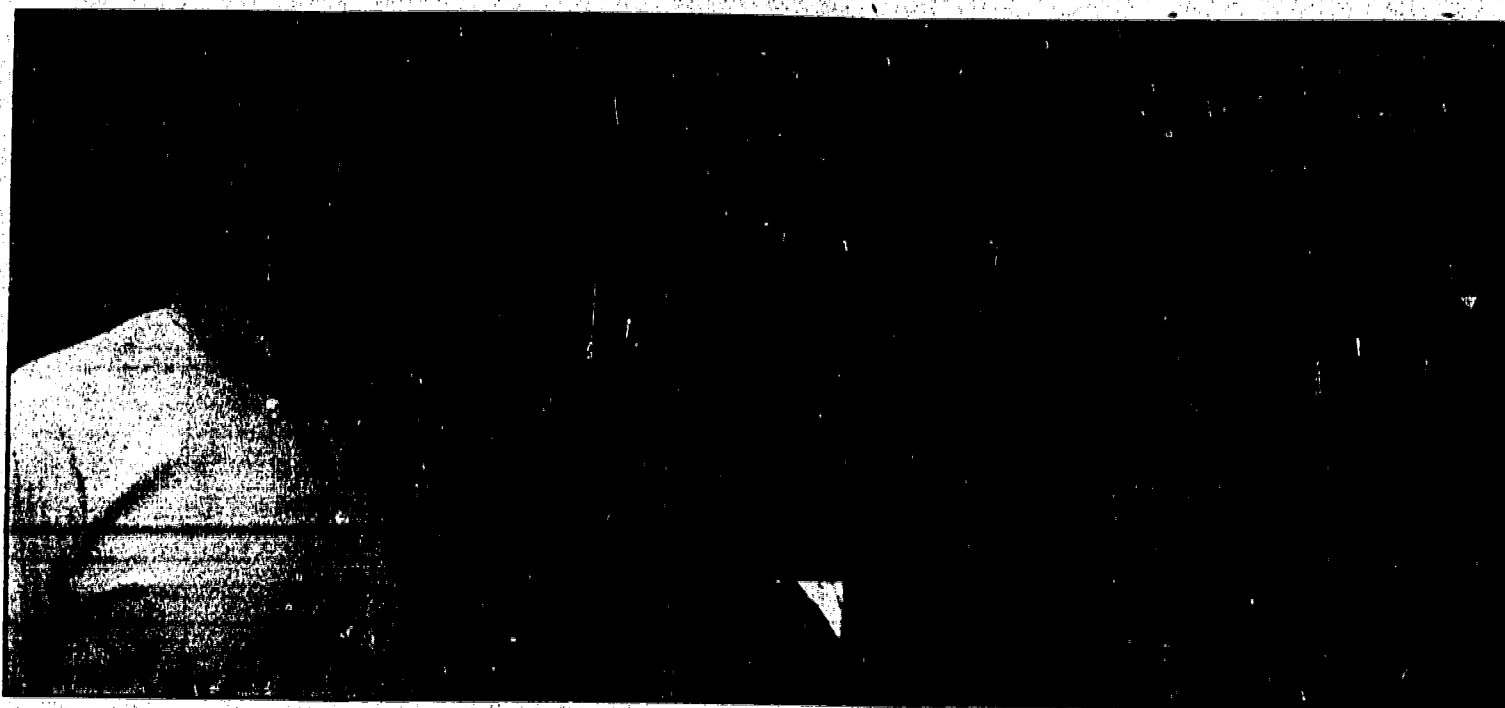
Union County residents who are qualified, registered voters may apply for an absentee ballot by written application to the Election Office. Voters must sign their name as it appears in the registry book. All requests must be received 7 days before any and all elections including Primary, General, School and Special elections. Any voter who fails to apply by the deadline may apply in person in the Election Office on any day up to 3 p.m. of the day before Election.

For information call: (908) 527-4360

REPUBLICAN FREEHOLDERS FOR UNION COUNTY

Kline * Quattrocchi * Dill

Committed to OPEN, HONEST GOVERNMENT



Stuart Kline

Stu Kline is completing his third term on the Fanwood Borough Council. He is the former Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee.

Stu has served on the Public Safety, Recreation and Public Works Committees which has helped him become an expert on fiscal management.

Stu is currently a member of the Fanwood Lions Club. He is married and the father of three children.

Patricia Quattrocchi

Pat Quattrocchi is a former Garwood councilwoman. She currently serves as the Zone Chairman of the Lions Club overseeing 6 Union County Chapters and is an activist criticizing the current

Union County Board of Freeholders for high taxes and wasteful spending. She served Union County as a regional Domestic Violence Crisis Intervention volunteer. She lives in Garwood with her husband and has seven children.

Al Dill

Al Dill, a nine year Summit Councilman, chaired the Welfare and Public Works Committees. He also served as liaison to the Board of Education and Recreation in Summit. He is the past president of the Police Athletic League, Summit Jaycees and current member of the Fire Department.

Al served as a Vice-Chair for the Union County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and he is a former Commissioner of the Union County Utilities Authority. He is married with two children.

REPUBLICAN TEAM ISSUES & INITIATIVES

Lower property taxes

County property taxes have needlessly risen over 50% over the last five years. We propose to reverse that trend.

Cut wasteful spending

We propose to do away with awarding pay-to-play no bid contracts.

This is a form of kickbacks to campaign contributors. It is unethical with no accountability.

This practice adds to the cost of services.

Open government records

Decisions are being made without open discussion or public participation.

Requests for public records are denied or delayed and responses are not always truthful.

We believe in open access to government records and inviting public participation.

Keep business in Union County

The Freeholders often contract with companies that are not located in Union County but happen to be campaign contributors.

We think the county should use local businesses when they can.

Focus on essential services

The county has neglected the essential services that it should be delivering.

senior and youth services, health and safety concerns, and economic development and human services.

Call us at (908)789-0200

or log on to: www.unioncountygop.org