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TWO SECTIONS

Towns pay tribute to veterans

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

On a cold Friday morning, ceremonies to honor the men and women of the U.S. armed services were held in Springfield and Mountainside.

In Springfield, Ethel Smith, commander of American Legion Ladies Auxiliary 228, opened the Springfield Veterans Alliance's 32nd annual Veterans Day tribute at Veterans Memorial Park with an unscheduled introduction of former Army Specialist Ziad Shehady, who attended as a spectator, but stood out in the crowd dressed in his fatigues.

The 21-year-old indicated he was

there "to support other veterans, especially those more senior, and to show my dedication to my country."

Master of ceremonies Myron Katz, commander of Jewish War Veterans Elin-Unger Post 273, emphasized, "We cannot forget our veterans, those who gave their lives, those here and those around the world."

After an invocation by Warren Sim, chaplain of American Legion Continental Post 228, and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Sal Gibaldi of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7683, Yokenha Cadet, a senior at Jonathan Dayton High School, sang the national anthem.

Sixth- and seventh-graders from St. James the Apostle School read poetry, while fourth- and fifth-graders sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

A POW/MIA flag was set at the site by Herb Quinton of Legion Post 228 and Stan Wnek of VFW Post 7683. Richard Shipman of JWV Post 273 spoke of its significance, followed by the singing of "God Bless America," led by veteran Gregory Clarke, a former mayor.

Bob Grimm and Ray Schramm of VFW Post 7683 and Legion Post 228, respectively, placed a memorial wreath at the park. William Smith explained its meaning, indicating "the wreath is a circular, never-ending symbol of our love and devotion to our great country, and to the many men and women of our armed services who have served it so well."

"The flowers of this wreath may wither and die, but the spirit that they symbolize will live forever."

Smith, vice commander of Legion Post 228, is the husband of Ethel, who opened the tribute.

Members of the Springfield Community Children's Chorus performed "This Land Is My Land."

After a benediction by Ira Epstein, chaplain of JWV Post 273, the program closed with a three-volley salute by the Springfield Auxiliary Police Honor Guard and the sounding of "Taps" by Ben Krupit, a Jonathan Dayton High School senior.

Krupit, who has been performing at the township's Veterans Day observances for the last four years, said, "I used to use 'Taps' as a warm-up song. Until the war in Iraq, I didn't know what it meant. It is amazing how four notes can evoke such emotion. It is an honor to play for these veterans."

Former Springfield resident Sada Weber, now of Hillaborough, attended on behalf of her husband, William, a U.S. Army World War II vet, who died 10 years ago. A pear tree was planted at the park in 1995 in his memory.

Following the tribute, William Smith noted while turnout was strong, there were fewer children in attendance than usual due to the closure of the public schools for the state teachers' convention. He stressed the importance of making children aware of the meaning of Veterans Day. Otherwise when veterans "are gone, who will know?"

Mountainside's ceremony was held at the veterans monument at the Fire Department on New Providence Road. Bob Farley, commander of VFW Post 10136, led the obser-



Photo by Barbara Kerkhals

Post 228 Vice Commander William Smith salutes the flag during Friday's ceremony.

vance that included prayers by Bill Leber, chaplain of VFW Post 10136, the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," a tribute to POWs and MIAs, and the placement of two wreaths at the monument. One wreath was donated by Mountainside Elks Lodge 1585.

Farley concluded the event by requesting everyone to pray for world peace, which is "not only desirable, but attainable."

Earlier in the week, the Deerfield School Student Council hosted a veterans tribute. Students spoke of the significance of Veterans Day, the national anthem was played, and Farley and Bill Fitzgerald of VFW Post 10136 spoke of their experiences in the U.S. Navy.

Tracy A. Politowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or echoleadernj@yahoo.com.

Zoning Board to revisit superma

By Meave Sheehan
Staff Writer

In the case of a proposed Stop & Shop supermarket in Springfield, a state appellate court handed down a decision Oct. 28 to send the case back to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for further proceedings.

The Appellate Court determined that the Zoning Board had improperly rejected Stop & Shop's application for a site plan. The court's mandate reverses the board's decision and gives the board "an opportunity to impose appropriate conditions, consistent with the ordinance, in conjunction with the grant of final site approval."

The site for the proposed Stop & Shop is the old Saks Fifth Avenue site on Millburn Avenue, near where it intersects of Morris Avenue. Springfield, along with Millburn and others, have been fighting the plan to put a Stop & Shop at the site.

When Stop & Shop initially applied to the Zoning Board for approval, the board denied the application after many hearings, which led Stop & Shop to file an action claiming the board's denial was unreasonable.

Ruling in Stop & Shop's favor, a judge invalidated the board's decision and approved the site plan, with 26 conditions.

The Township of Millburn, the Colonial Association of Springfield, Village Super Markets Inc. and Sumas Realty Corporation, a related entity, filed separate appeals and Springfield intervened as an appellant.

According to the state Supreme Court, Stop & Shop was entitled to the

same variance Saks, previous owner, was granted. Then, the case came before the Zoning Board again, with the board rejecting Stop & Shop's proposal because of the design of the truck-unloading area. The board worried the store did not have enough loading docks, which would lead to congestion on neighboring streets.

In its conclusion, the appellate court wrote, "We anticipate the Springfield Planning Board will impose appropriate conditions and restrictions on Stop & Shop's proposed development and use of the property in order to minimize any intrusion on or inconvenience to the continued use and enjoyment of those neighboring residential properties."

Township Attorney Bruce Bergen said the Board of Adjustment will hear the case again and determine what reasonable restrictions they may place on the plan.

Attorney James Segreto, who argued the case for Stop & Shop said, at this point, the Zoning Board must meet promptly to decide which of the 26 restrictions they will impose.

"We have already said we would agree to all of them — the restrictions," Segreto said, noting Stop & Shop agreed to all 26 conditions a long time ago. After the board meets, Segreto continued, "We'll then be able to make our plans to start building." He did not specify a date for breaking ground on the site.

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



Photo by Barbara Kerkhals

WW II veteran Bill Fitzgerald reflects during a Veterans Day tribute at Deerfield School.



Hurwitz appointed to Township Committee

At its Nov. 9 meeting, the Springfield Township Committee appointed Mark Hurwitz to the committee seat left vacant by Steven Goldstein's resignation last month.

"I am honored by the trust that has been shown me in asking me to serve," Hurwitz said, after being sworn in to the position.

The Township Committee had 30 days to name a replacement from the date Goldstein's resignation became effective, Oct. 21. Of Hurwitz's appointment, Mayor Sy Mullman said in a later interview, "We picked someone that we felt was dedicated to the town."

Mullman also said they wanted someone "non-political," a newcomer to public office. This appointment is the first of its kind, as Hurwitz will hold the position full-time.

Former committeeman Harold Poltroff, who stepped from the vote to approve Hurwitz's appointment, Mullman said there seemed to be a consensus among the committee Hurwitz was the right candidate.

The governing body chose Hurwitz over two other candidates presented by the Springfield Democratic Committee, former committeeman Roy

Hurwitz will serve through next year, when the remaining year of the original three-year term is up for election. Goldstein's term officially expires Dec. 31, 2007. Last year, he was re-elected to his third, three-year term. Next election day, in addition to the one-year term, the three-year terms of Poltroff and Ken Falgenbaum will be on the ballot.

Most recently, Hurwitz participated in the township's 225th anniversary of the Battle of Springfield celebration in June and was in charge of the Revolutionary War re-enactments that were conducted on high school grounds. A member of the 3rd New Jersey Regiment since 1974 and a member of the National Brigade of American Revolution, Hurwitz has also served as commander and president and on the board of directors.

A Springfield native and 1969 graduate of Jonathan Dayton High School, Hurwitz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or echoleadernj@yahoo.com.

Staff builds wheelchairs as unique as their clients

By Meave Sheehan
Staff Writer

Wheelchairs line the hallway of the Rehabilitative Technology Department at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside. Here, on the basement level of the state's largest rehabilitation hospital exclusively for children, busy staff members work to customize wheelchairs for patients with varying needs and of different sizes.

Theresa Defosse, a staff member in the department, explained that the department's overall goal is to increase function and help their patients become more independent. Staff members customize wheelchairs for specific cases, helping some of the patients make the transition from hospital care to living at home.

When Defosse sees new patients in the Rehab Technology Department, her approach includes doing an assessment to see how that child's body moves. She also works with therapists to learn more about the

patient's range of motion.

David Savage, a rehabilitation engineer, explained that many factors must be considered when customizing a wheelchair for each patient. Since the Rehab Technology Department works with children with several different kinds of diagnoses, each patient's needs are unique.

The patients, up to age 21, use different parts of their body to navigate in their wheelchairs. Some patients have full use of their hands, while others use their forearms or their fingers to direct their wheels. Other patients may move their wheelchairs through head motions or by breathing through a straw to propel the chair forward.

Discussing the case of an adolescent on whose wheelchair he is working, Savage said he listened to the patient's preferences and the patient's abilities, such as the use of his left arm, making it possible to use a hand-controlled joystick. Savage noted

other limitations of a cultural and social nature when designing wheelchairs. For instance, children who practice Orthodox Judaism may not be able to use electric switches during the Sabbath.

Though there are wheelchair manufacturers and vendors throughout the country, customized wheelchair programs such as the one at Children's Hospital are not that common. Wheelchairs are mass-produced, but manufacturers do not necessarily customize them for users.

Savage, Defosse and other professionals in the field get a chance to share the unique solutions they come up with at conferences.

As an assistive technology provider, Defosse has been working with children at the hospital for 14 years, treating patients with a wide array of diagnoses. With a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, Defosse decided she wanted to work

See WHEELCHAIRS, Page 2



Photo by Barbara Kerkhals

Theresa Defosse, a staff member in the Technology Department at Children's Specialized Hospital, and David Savage, rehab engineer, help customize Alexey Smirnov's wheelchair.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Today

The Great Books Discussion Group, which meets on the third Thursday of each month, will meet at 10 a.m. to investigate various aspects of the short story by Henry James, "Beast in the Jungle."

For more information, call 973-376-4930.
Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its fall international film festival with "Since Otar Left" at noon and 7 p.m. Admission is free for all films. Space is limited to 60 people at each showing. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.
A special dress rehearsal for senior citizens of "Guys & Dolls" will be at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium of Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave., Mountainside.

Friday

Jonathan Dayton High School's Drama Department will present its fall production of "The Fall of the House of Usher" by Tim Kelly in Halsey Hall auditorium at Jonathan Dayton High School, Mountain Avenue, Springfield, at 7 p.m. Parental discretion is advised for children younger than age 13, as some of the staged images may be frightening to young viewers.

Tickets can be purchased at the door, \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. Call Karyn Chomko at 973-376-1025, ext. 5188, for ticket information.
Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave., Mountainside, will present the musical "Guys & Dolls" in the gymnasium at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for \$5.

Saturday

Adults and children of all-ages are invited to learn about wild turkeys lurking in the woods from 10 to 11 a.m. as part of the Outdoor Adventure Series at Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

Learn what turkeys sound like and find out how it was almost our national bird. Take a hike to search for turkeys and look for turkey tracks. Pre-registration is not required. The fee for this program is a suggested donation of \$1 per person.

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Sunday

A harvest pancake breakfast, sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Rosary Altar Society, will be from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in Msgr. Pollard Hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 300 Central Ave., Mountainside. Tickets cost \$5 for adults; \$3 for children younger than 12. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets sold after all Masses on Nov. 12-13.

Rosetta will perform at Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., at 2 p.m. The free program is offered as part of the Sunday Afternoon Concerts at Springfield Free Public Library.
For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Monday

The Board of Trustees of Mountainside Public Library, Constitution Plaza, will meet in the meeting room at 7:30 p.m.
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.

Tuesday

Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., begins a new Lunchtime Video Series, "Classic/Classy Comedies and Mysteries," at noon. For information, call 973-376-4930.
The Mountainside Board of Education will meet in the media center at Beechwood School, 1497 Woodcress Drive, at 8 p.m.
The Mountainside Borough Council will meet for a regular meeting in Council Chambers 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. 26

A used clothing drive to benefit Project Graduation for Governor Livingston High School's Class of 2006 will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Berkeley Heights Community Center, 29 Park Ave., Berkeley Heights, and Deerfield School, Central Avenue, Mountainside.

Wheelchairs can ease transition

(Continued from Page 1)

With people early in her career. "I've grown with the hospital and with the department," Defosse said, noting the department consisted of only a handful of people when she started.

The department is serving more children each year and staff often work with the same patients for several years, according to Lynda Samples, Children's Hospital's media relations representative.

When the time arrives for some patients to return home, staff members ease that transition by visiting the child's

home to evaluate access. For example, ramps may need to be installed.

Defosse encouraged families with children who need wheelchairs to make the wheelchairs a priority, since giving younger children more mobility helps them in cognitive and social development, allowing children to make decisions and gain greater independence. "Get the kids driving as young as possible," Defosse said.

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

New administrator sworn in

(Continued from Page 1)
School, Hurwitz returned to live in the township in 1999 after residing in Central Jersey for many years.

Hurwitz works for Big Color Systems in Upper Saddle River, a digital color printing company, where he is vice president of sales. Prior to his career in sales, Hurwitz was an art teacher for eight years at Montgomery High School.

Stating he was proud to accept the committee seat, Hurwitz said, "We need to work together to move the town into the 21st century." Hurwitz also said he brought a unique perspective to Springfield's Revolutionary War history.

Asked why he had been chosen by the Township Committee in a later

conversation, Hurwitz credited his work on the battle anniversary celebration, which led him to bring the project's concept to the Township Committee.

Over a two-year period, Hurwitz worked with committee members and the members of the anniversary committee to prepare for the weekend celebration on June 25-26.

Thanking his family, Hurwitz noted community service has been a family tradition since he first moved to Springfield with his family as a child in 1957.

Hurwitz's father, Murray Hurwitz, was involved with the Springfield First Aid Squad, Temple Shalom Shalom and other community groups.

A resident of Meisel Avenue, Hurwitz is executive vice president of the Brotherhood, a men's club at Temple Shalom Shalom on South Springfield Avenue, and has served on the Board of Trustees at the temple. With his wife, Hurwitz has one daughter, a junior at Jonathan Dayton High School.

In other appointments, Committee member Kenneth Faigenbaum was appointed deputy chairman of the Township Committee and new Township Administrator Edward Fanning was sworn in after a final vote by the committee, with Poltrok the only committee member to vote no.

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Girl prepares for opening number

(Continued from Page 1)

based on everyday life. "If something great happens or someone annoys me, I write a song about it," she said.

Taylor's interest in performing isn't surprising as several of her family members are in the entertainment business. Her mother is an actress, her

uncle Betty a jazz vocalist, and her cousin Orlando plays the bongos. Taylor's previous credits include photo work with her mother when she was 2 and 4 years old for Parents Magazine, a training video for Mercedes-Benz at the age of 3, performing the national anthem at Springfield's Veterans Day ceremony in 2004, and roles in the middle school's "Crazy for You," as the lead Polly Baker, in December and Jonathan Dayton High School's "Wizard of Oz" as a munchkin in March.

A self-described fashion diva who "never goes anywhere without my sil-

ver hoops" earrings, Taylor likes actor Ashton Kucher, "hanging out" with her friends Sara and Kirsten, and spending time with her aunt Maggie, who, upon hearing of Taylor's successful audition, asked her niece for her first autograph.

Tomorrow Taylor begins a series of weeklong preparations in New York City for the Thanksgiving Day show. She will attend various workshops, rehearsals, costume fittings and run-throughs.

Next month, she will play Mrs. Macabee in the middle school's production of "Bye Bye Birdie."

After Taylor was born, her maternal grandfather, Antoine Duchantier, gave her a crystal star paperweight engraved with her name, birth date, and the phrase "A Star is Born." It seems as if her career in show business was written in the stars.

Tracy A. Pollinowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or echolcadernj@yahoo.com.

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Two selected for children's chorus

Springfield Community Children's Chorus members Gloria Bangiola and Alexandra Golden have been selected to the 2006 Eastern Honors Children's Chorus.

More than 500 children, ages 10 to 15 auditioned from 11 states; 154 were selected.

Gloria and Alex will travel to New York City on Feb. 14-18. They will work with Jean Ashworth Bartle, the legendary conductor of the Toronto Children's Chorus, and will perform their concert at Carnegie Hall.

Gloria attends Frelinghuysen Middle School in Morristown and Alex attends James Caldwell School in Springfield.

The Springfield Community Children's Chorus, under the direction of Leslie Adler, sponsored both girls. For more information about in the Springfield Community Children's Chorus, call 973-379-0012.



Alexandra Golden and Gloria Bangiola will perform New York City in February as part of the 2006 Eastern Honors Children's Chorus.

Resident reports theft of Rolex watch

Springfield

On Nov. 3, there was a report of the theft of a Rolex watch, valued at \$5,000, from a home on South Springfield Avenue on Oct. 29.

On Oct. 31, Eric Jones, 42, of Newark was arrested at the Essex County Jail for an outstanding warrant out of Springfield.

On Oct. 31, there was a report of damage to the driver's side door lock of a vehicle at a home on Briar Hills Circle.

On Oct. 31, there was a report of the theft of the contents of a locker at Bally's Sports Club, including \$80, credit cards and clothing, on Route 22 east.

On Oct. 31, there was a report of the theft of an E-Z Pass device from a 2001 Lincoln at a home on Linden Avenue.

On Oct. 31, there was a report of damage to the driver's side door lock of a 2004 Nissan at a location on Colonial Terrace.

On Nov. 1, there was a report of the theft of batteries from CVS on Morris Avenue.

On Nov. 1, there was a report of the theft of 31 no parking signs during the

POLICE BLOTTER

reparing of Tooker Avenue.

On Nov. 2, there was a report of a broken windshield on a 2001 Jeep at a location on Franklin Place.

On Nov. 3, there was a report of an attempted theft of a 2001 Audi from a home on Beverly Road.

On Nov. 3, there was a report of the theft of a Meyer eight-foot snow plow, valued at \$3,000, from a location on the 500 block of South Springfield Avenue.

On Nov. 4, there was a report of the theft of a Mongolian bicycle, valued at \$80, from the Florence M. Gaudinier Middle School.

On Nov. 4, there was a report of the theft of a North Face fleece liner, valued at \$165, from the Sports Authority on Route 22 east.

On Nov. 1 at 12:45 p.m., Devon J. Samaroo, 23, of Maplewood was arrested on Springfield Avenue for outstanding warrants out of Elizabeth and Mountainside.

On Nov. 2 at 11:32 a.m., Isaac A. Davis, 26, of Newark was arrested on

Route 22 East near the Lawrence Avenue U-Turn for driving while suspended.

On Nov. 6 at 5:23 p.m., Shawn D. Cunningham, 34, of East Orange was arrested at his quarters for outstanding warrants out of Mountainside, Elizabeth, Millburn, Mountclair, Orange and Union.

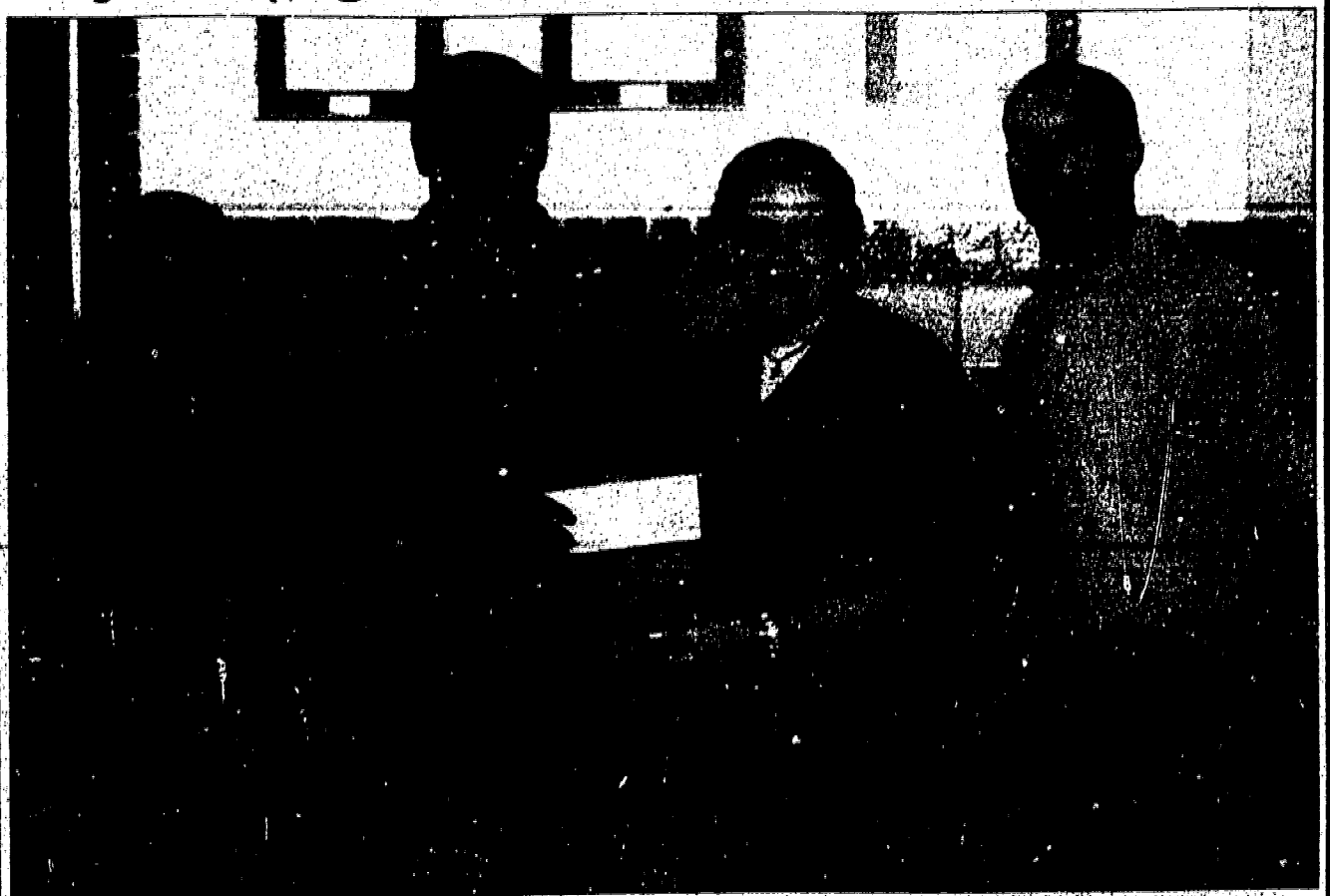
On Nov. 8 at 3:41 p.m., Andrew Lewter, 53, of Bloomfield was arrested on Route 22 east near the Springfield border for an outstanding warrant out of South Orange.

On Nov. 9 at 10:58 p.m., William Watson Jr., 36, of Metuchen was arrested in East Brunswick for an outstanding warrant out of Mountainside.

On Nov. 10 at 9:51 a.m., Dobrovoje Brkusanin, 58, of North Haledon was arrested on Route 22 west near the Scotch Plains border for an outstanding warrant out of Clark.

On Nov. 10 at 11:32 a.m., there was a report of the theft of an owner's manual, valued at \$20, from a vehicle parked in the driveway of a Summit Road residence some time between 4 p.m. Nov. 9 and 9:30 a.m. Nov. 10. The driver's side door lock appeared to have been damaged.

Dayton High School receives grant



Jonathan Dayton High School Principal Elizabeth Cresci and Athletic Director Joe George accept a \$500 grant from the ExxonMobil Educational Alliance program, which will support the school's swim and softball teams. Guy Seale of Brookside Friendly Service in Summit and his wife, Donna, worked to secure the grant.

Mountainside firefighters rescue kitty

Mountainside

Firefighters responded to a report of a cat stuck in a storm drainage pipe on Creek Bed Road at 11:02 a.m. on Oct. 31.

Fire officers at the scene requested assistance of DPW personnel to remove the large grate from the catch basin, then lowered a ladder into the 10-foot deep manhole. Firefighters were unable to see the cat, but could hear the sounds of a small kitten.

Deciding to flush the cat out of the nearby catch basin and lowered a fire hose into the drainage pipe, flushing the cat out of the pipe. Firefighters took the kitten to Westfield Veterinary Group for a check-up and named it Lucky.

On Friday at 5:34 p.m., firefighters responded to an activated fire alarm at an office building on Route 22 west. Firefighters could not determine the cause of the alarm activation, advising the manager to contact the

FIRE BLOTTER

alarm company for inspection.

Firefighters responded to an activated industrial alarm on Route 22 west Friday at 12:16 p.m.

Fire officers determined the opening of a fire door at the rear of the building set off the alarm. Firefighters locked the door and reset the alarm.

On Nov. 9 at 10:32 p.m., firefighters responded to an activated Central Station fire alarm at the Trailside Nature and Science Center in the Watchung Reservation.

Fire officers could not determine the cause of the alarm's activation and advised the stable manager to contact the alarm company for inspection.

Firefighters responded on Nov. 9 at an unspecified time to a report of an electrical transformer fire on a utility pole on Birch Hill Road.

The minor fire downed a high voltage electrical cable. Firefighters

remained on the scene until a PSE&G emergency crew arrived to make repairs.

On Oct. 30 at 8:19 p.m., firefighters responded to an activated fire alarm at a Hedge Row residence. Firefighters determined smoke from unattended cooking activated the alarm.

Firefighters responded to a report of a fire near Loop Road in the Watchung Reservation Oct. 29 at 8:10 p.m. Firefighters fought a small bonfire in a barbecue pit and extinguished it.

On Oct. 29 at 7:31 p.m., firefighters responded to an activated fire alarm at a Mountain Avenue commercial building. Firefighters determined the alarm was accidentally activated by an employee cleaning the store.

Firefighters responded to a report of a vehicle fire in the driveway of a Blazo Terrace residence Oct. 31 at 9:42 p.m. The vehicle dashboard fire, caused by a malfunctioning headlight which was extinguished.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Good luck

The Springfield Township Committee appointed Mark Hurwitz to fill a seat on the governing body, left vacant by last month's resignation of Steven Goldstein. To Hurwitz, we say good luck. It's a rather thankless job serving on a governing body, though Springfield's Township Committee members do get a modest stipend and are offered health benefits. But for the hours it takes to do a good job, that's not exactly a giant incentive.

Hurwitz will serve for the next year until the 2006 election, when the final year of Goldstein's seat will expire. It remains to be seen whether Hurwitz will seek that final year or someone else steps forward to run. Regardless, we wish him the best of luck during his tenure on the governing body.

Turning out

Voters in Mountainside and Springfield did a great job last week. Even though there was no real local race, as both Republicans were unopposed, Mountainside voters still went to the polls at a good rate; 56 percent, better than the state wide turnout of 49 percent. Springfield voter turnout was more than 50 percent, where there was a race for one of the seats on the five-member Township Committee.

While both towns locally displayed a better showing than voters statewide, it's all a matter of context. Half of the eligible registered voters going to the polls is considered good in a gubernatorial election. Next year, expect turnout to be closer to a third, when only the U.S. Senate and Congressional seats lead the ballot. In presidential elections, turnout nationwide is generally better than 50 percent, while it might spike to 60 or 70 percent locally.

As we said, it's a matter of context. When you expect to get low turnout and you get 50 percent, it's "good." While in Iraq, soldiers and civilians are dying and the reason has been that it's for democracy. In it's most basic terms, democracy is government by the people, and the way that happens is through voting.

Commit to quit

They know the health risks involved; they're aware of the money spent each week that could be spent on something else; and they know that their nasty habit can make them unpleasant to be around. So why do smokers continue to light up? The answer is different for everyone, and for those who have unsuccessfully tried to quit in the past, the thought of trying again can be intimidating — even scary.

Today, however, is a new day. It also happens to be the American Cancer Society's 22nd annual Great American Smokeout, and we urge all smokers to join the scores of others who will make another attempt today to snuff out the unhealthy habit.

Society's attitude toward smoking has changed throughout the years. What was once glamorous has become unattractive. And it's no secret that smoking has been linked to a variety of illnesses such as cancer, emphysema and heart disease. Still, statistics show that more than 40 million people, including teenagers, continue to light up. While some smokers claim to derive some satisfaction from lighting up, others wish they had never started. What they need to know is, it's never too late to quit.

As part of the Smokeout, many schools are launching local campaigns to encourage teens and adults to quit. Chapters of the youth-led smoking-prevention group REBEL — Reaching Everyone by Exposing Lies — will sponsor various lunch time activities in high schools. In addition to handing out literature, teens will encourage others to make the commitment to quit smoking.

In recent years, government involvement has led to strict regulations regarding cigarette advertisements and marketing, as well as additional taxes on cigarettes, forcing smokers to burn upward of \$6 per pack in most stores.

Despite the facts, it's inevitable that people will continue to smoke. Many will take the plunge and attempt to quit, only to relapse in a day or so. We urge those people to keep trying. Don't be afraid to seek assistance and support. For those who are ready to quit and move toward a healthier lifestyle, New Jersey offers the Quitline, a free service available in 26 languages, six days a week. Counselors can be reached at 1-866-NJ STOPS or at www.quitnet.com.

Even if you've tried to quit before and failed, we urge you to give it another shot. Take advantage of the Great American Smokeout. There's no time like the present.

"To silence criticism is to silence freedom."

— Sidney Hook
Philosopher
1951

Echo Leader

Published Weekly Since 1929
Incorporating Springfield Leader
and Mountainside Echo

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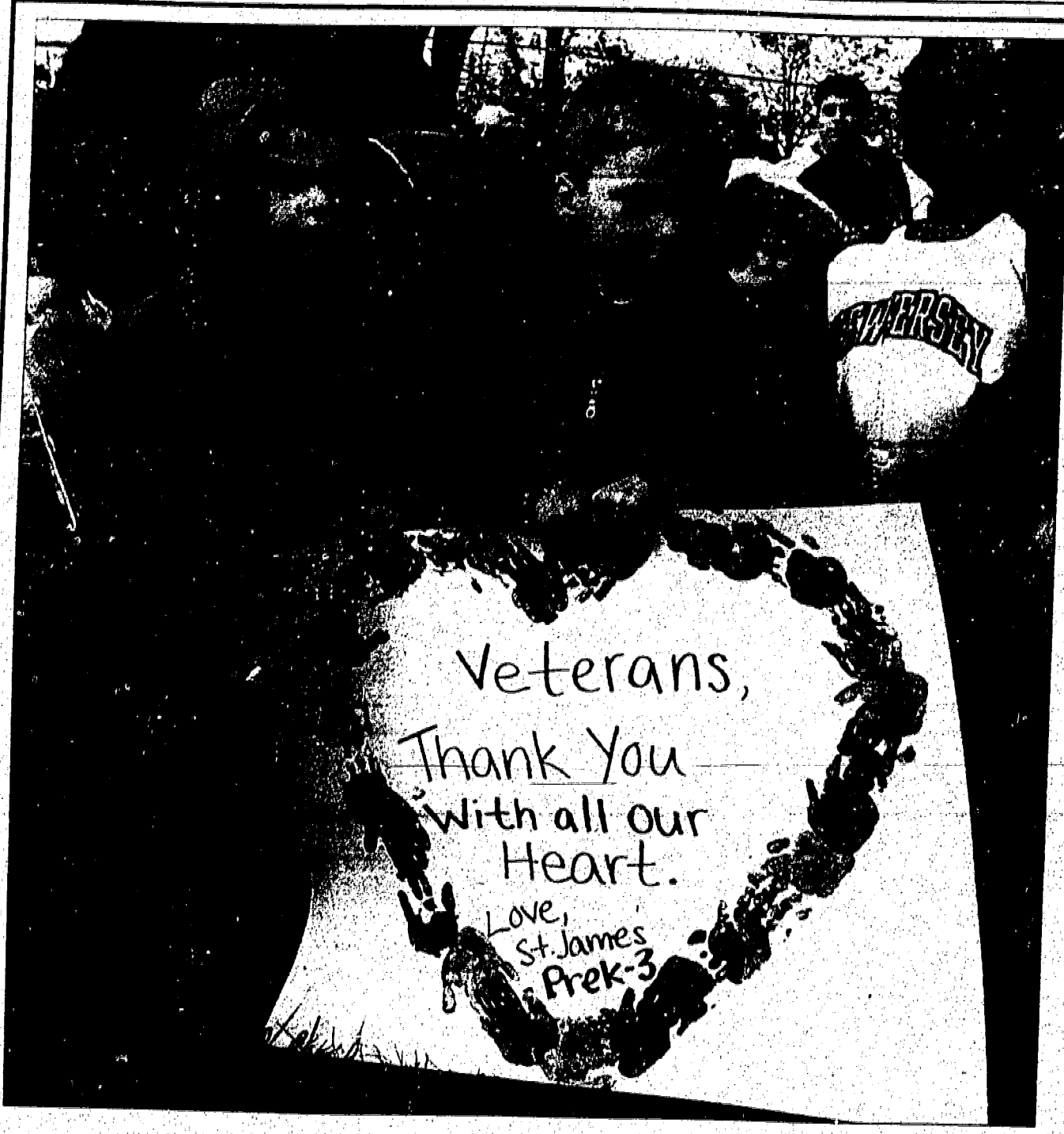


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU — Pre-K through third grade students from St. James the Apostle School show their support at Springfield's annual Veterans Day Tribute at Veterans Memorial Park.

Anti-American rallies shouldn't be taken lightly

It is one thing for idle students and wasters to march in the streets chanting "Death to America!" It is quite another for the president of the country to join them. Yet this is just what happened in Iran recently.

In his bid for international harmony, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran made a speech calling for Israel to be "wiped off the map." The sincere sentiments were made on the Sabbath, a day when people are supposed to be filled with kindness toward others.

After the hate-spewing diatribe, what else could President Ahmadinejad do but join the mobs? They demonstrate regularly in Iran, a country where no one seems to work, where the men are either students or terrorists — or perhaps both.

It was difficult to believe at first glance. I mean, this is the president of the country. What do you think would be the reaction if Bush marched in a parade chanting "Death to Iran!" with clenched fist and twisted mouth?

But we have come to expect such things from Iran. We shrug our shoulders and move on. This is a mistake. Remarks like that are akin to a declaration of war and should be treated as such. The president of the country has proven himself to be a thug. His remarks are criminal. No one has the right to say any country should be wiped off the map. When the leader of a country says it, something is seriously wrong.

Officials tried to downplay the terrorist's remarks, but there's absolutely no excuse for this, or for Iran in general. In the 1970s, the Ayatollah Khomeini, a so-called "holy man," put a death sentence on an English novelist, because the writer, in Khomeini's opinion, ridiculed Islam. In 1979, Americans were held hostage in Iran, a despicable crime supported by the Iranian government, while President Carter, terrified and befuddled beyond belief, did nothing.

Point Of View

By Richard Lime

Then, in 1980, we elected a tough president, but instead of giving the Iranians hell, Reagan gave them weapons. Who knows what else they have done. It may be they had a hand in the Sept.-11 terrorist attacks, and I believe they are shielding Osama bin Laden.

How long are we going to let this terrorist-supporting scourge just do or say anything it pleases? All of us must face the consequence of our actions. But not Iran. Now they are on the verge of nuclear weaponry, and who do you think will be the first target? President Ahmadinejad just told you.

Antagonizing Israel is not the smartest thing to do, but Iran has not yet learned this. Again and again, I read in amazement of the 1967 war. Israel was attacked from all sides, outnumbered, and yet they were on the verge of crushing both Egypt and Syria in six days. In the 1956 Suez War, Israel warned the Soviet Union to stay out of the Sinai. You have to admire someone who is not afraid of anyone.

Let me tell you something — Israel will never be defeated in a war. Since 1948, they have been trying to

"wipe Israel off the map" but they haven't succeeded, and they never will because Israel is literally fighting for its existence.

There is no place to go. How would you feel if you were waiting more than 2,000 years for a home and you finally got it? You wouldn't let some hate-spitting terrorist scum drive you out, would you? Don't worry about Israel. They aren't going anywhere. In the darkest days of World War II, when the British were being mercilessly bombed by the Nazis, we were told: "There will always be an England."

Now, in the light of some truly terrifying threats by a radical criminal nation, not unlike Nazi Germany, that is known to support terrorism and is aggressively seeking nuclear capability, we must also remember: there will always be an Israel. An Israeli-Iranian conflict would result in Iran being wiped off the map.

The righteous and the just will endure and prosper and the wicked shall be vanquished and cast into the pit.

Richard Lime is a resident of Union.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for support, encouragement

To the Editor:
I'd like to thank the residents of Union County for their support and overwhelming vote which re-elected me to the position of Union County clerk on Nov. 8.

During my 30-year career in public service, my commitment has been to provide outstanding service to the residents of our county. Aided by a dedicated professional staff I renew my pledge to you for cost-efficient, excellent programs and services by the Union County Clerk's Office during my next five-year term as your county clerk.

Thank you again for your support and encouragement.

Joanne Rajopio
Union County Clerk

I would like to thank Mr. Mullman for all the effort and time he gave to Springfield. I commend him for his dedication and spirit.

Steven Graw
Springfield

Voters deserve commendation

To the Editor:
We would like to extend a heartfelt and resounding thank you to all of those residents of Union County who came out to support us for Union County freeholders on Election Day 2005. Whether you distributed literature, put a sign on your lawn, worked on the telephones, were poll workers/challengers, or were the "gophers" for the day, you need to know that in our eyes you were all wonderful.

It is a nice feeling as well to know that there are so many people who still cherish and exercise their right as citizens of the United States to have a voice in the electoral process and go out of their way to vote, you are all to be commended.

Patricia Quattrocchi
Stuart Kline
Al Dill

Change takes time and dedication

To the Editor:
I would like to thank every citizen that chose to exercise his or her right to vote. Whether you cast your vote for Mr. Mullman or myself shows that you are concerned about our community. This is now the time to bring every resident of Springfield together. Divisions need to be erased and it is time to start to serve the people of Springfield. I promise to work with the best interest of Springfield in mind.

The process of change takes time and dedication. With proper strategic planning and a high level of energy we can implement all the necessary changes to bring back a sense of pride that has been missing for sometime. To do this we need people to come out and be a part of our decisions. Come to the Township Committee meetings and voice your opinions.

It is time to open up the communications between the elected officials and the people that put them there. I promise to do my part in making this happen.

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Hester Street Troupe featured at annual Shabbat

Temple Sha'arey Shalom, 78 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield, will celebrate its eighth annual inter-generational Klezmer Shabbat with a special service on Friday at 8 p.m.

Featured again this year will be the renowned Hester Street Troupe. At this service many generations of the congregation and community come together to celebrate the Sabbath and have a meal together and participate with full body and spirit in soulful and toe-tapping worship led by Cantor Amy Daniels, Temple Sha'arey Shalom choir and the wonderful musicians of the Hester Street Klezmer Troupe.

Prior to the service at 6:30 p.m. will be a family Sabbath dinner.

This special service is co-sponsored by the Tem-

ple Sha'arey Shalom Renaissance Group and Religious School.

On Dec. 11 at 10 a.m., the annual Hanukkah brunch will take place featuring delicious food, crafts for the kids and holiday shopping.

Sha'arey Shalom is a Reform Jewish congregation affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism, formerly Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Membership is from the communities of Cranford, Millburn, Springfield, Union, Westfield, and other surrounding communities. The temple serves as a social, educational, and religious focal center for the communities. Active Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Youth and Renaissance groups are always welcoming newcomers.

Diverse programs suit many interests including

adult bar/bat mitzvah classes, conversational Hebrew, a Rosh Hodesh women's study group, study minyans, book discussion groups, and speakers and trips sponsored by a very active Renaissance group.

Monthly Tot Shabbat services, for those up to age 4, begin at 6:30 p.m.

Advance reservations for dinner are required by Nov. 11 and tickets cost \$15 per adult, \$6 per child, with children younger than 6 free.

For more information, or to make reservations for dinner, call Mindy Schreff, family educator, through the temple office at 973-379-5387 or e-mail office@shaarey.org.

Additional information can also be found on the temple's Web site www.shaarey.org.

EVENTS

Greeting card-making class to meet Fridays

Learn to make your own greeting cards at the greeting card stamp class offered through the Mountainside Recreation Department. Participants can make cards for birthdays, Christmas, Halloween or any occasion.

The class will meet Dec. 9 at Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 east. The class is for adults, and the registration fee is \$14 per person.

Stop by the Recreation Office for a registration form or call 908-232-0015 for information.

'Mom's Night Out' planned at FMG

Edward V. Walton School PTA is planning a "Mom's Night Out" at Florence M. Gaudineer Middle School cafeteria in Springfield on Friday from 6 to 9 p.m.

The event will be a fund-raiser for various projects related to the school. The PTA is currently looking for crafters and vendors to display their wares. Exhibit spaces are available for \$40 each and tables can be rented for \$8.

Checks can be made payable to "The EV Walton School PTA," and sent to 601 Mountain Ave., Springfield 07081. The fax number is 973-258-0753.

For information, call 973-376-1304.

The event is open to all adults in the community.

'The Fall of the House of Usher' at Dayton

Jonathan Dayton High School's Drama Department will present its fall production of "The Fall of the House of Usher," by Tim Kelly, Friday and Saturday in Halsey Hall auditorium at

Jonathan Dayton High School, Mountain Avenue, Springfield, at 7 p.m.

Here's Edgar Allan Poe's most famous tale of supernatural horror brought to the theater by Kelly, the screenwriter responsible for many of the highly acclaimed Poe films.

It begins in Baltimore, in a tavern called The Raven, during a howling storm.

The city is fascinated by a recently discovered case of premature burial. Actresses and dancers from a nearby theater can talk of nothing else. Soon a stranger and a mysterious woman suffering from some curious malady seek shelter.

The tale the stranger unfolds soon has listeners mesmerized. It is the account of a visit to a gloomy mansion where Roderick Usher and his sister, Madeline, are possessed by an evilness that endangers them physically. The family doctor, Fortunado, searches for a cure while the menacing walls take shape and speak out:

"Harken to the voices graven, listen to the call of doom. We are the moss-encrusted bastions, are the stones that make this tomb of the House of Usher."

Madeline "dies" and is buried only to claw her way free and accuse her brother of entombing her alive. Eventually, the house is destroyed and its darkest secrets forever buried. The stranger flees the tavern, and the listeners, including Detective Dupin, are left to ponder the truth of the account and the identity of its teller.

Parental discretion is advised for children younger than age 13, as some of the staged images may be frightening to young viewers.

Tickets can be purchased at the door: \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. Call Karyn Chomko at 973-376-1025, ext. 5188, for ticket information.

Pancake breakfast

A harvest pancake breakfast, sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Rosary Altar Society, will be Sunday from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in Msgr. Pollard Hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 300 Central Ave., Mountainside.

Tickets cost \$5 for adults; \$3 for children younger than 12. No tickets sold at the door on Sunday. The breakfast will be catered by McDonald's Restaurant, 1967 Route 22 west, Scotch Plains.

Used clothing drive

A used clothing drive will be held on Nov. 26 to benefit Project Graduation for Governor Livingston High School's class of 2006. The public is urged to bring wearable, used clothing to the following locations from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.:

• Berkeley Heights Community Center, 29 Park Ave., Berkeley Heights

• Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave., Mountainside.

Items to be collected include all clothing, shoes, belts, handbags, hats, gloves and scarves. In addition, table linens, bedspreads, towels and stuffed animals may be donated. Pillows and blankets will not be accepted. Items should not be torn or stained and must be delivered in tied plastic bags.

Brighton Gardens conducts craft fair

Brighton Gardens of Mountainside, 1350 Route 22 west, is having their first annual craft fair on Dec. 3.

Doors open to public at 10 a.m. Crafters are needed for the event, set up time is 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$5 per table for crafters. The event is free to the public. Call Luann at 908-654-4460.

Brighton Gardens of Mountainside is an Assisted Living Community. The benefits will go to the residents activities who live at Brighton Gardens of Mountainside.

Farmers' Market

Springfield will host a Farmers' Market at Ruby Park on Caldwell Place, every Tuesday from noon to 6 p.m., from September through November. A variety of seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables are available.

For information, call Linda Donnelly at 973-912-2201.

Booster Club fair seeks vendors, crafters

The Governor Livingston Highlander Booster Club invites community vendors/crafters of all types to participate in its Highlander Market Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Governor Livingston High School, 175 Watching Blvd., Berkeley Heights.

Part of Super Saturday, an annual event that draws more than 700 fans and participants of all ages, Highlander Market offers local vendors and crafters the opportunity to showcase and sell their wares.

For more information and to reserve space, call Adrienne Trivella at 908-464-4520 or e-mail to ade81458@aol.com.

Lurking wild turkeys

Learn about wild turkeys lurking in the woods on Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. as part of the Outdoor Adventure Series at Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

Learn what turkeys sound like and find out how it was almost our national bird. Pre-registration is not required. The fee for this program is a suggested donation of \$1 per person.

Far Brook School Open House

Wednesday, November 30, 2005

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OPEN HOUSE

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All decisions on admissions are made without regard to race, religion, sex or national origin.

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Third place for St. James



St. James the Apostle School in Springfield took third place honors in this year's Scholastic Olympic Competition held at Roselle Catholic High School. This was based on the total number of points scored by each school. Eighth grade boys and girls from 16 area Catholic grammar schools competed in nine categories. Individual plaques were presented to the first-, second- and third-place finishers in each of the boys and girls division for the nine competitions. Individual awards were presented to Villius Stankevicius and Tara Nicola, first place, history; James Kocur, third place, science; Erica Ratti, first place, science; Nisha Matthew, second place, religion; and Sharleen Garcia, third place, mathematics.

Nutrition lecture series

The Summit Area YMCA will continue its series of free nutrition lectures this fall and winter. Lectures are free and open to the community. They take place at three branches of the YMCA in Summit, Springfield and Berkeley Heights.

- "Enjoy the Holidays, Without the Weight Gain," will be today 1 to 2 p.m., Summit YMCA, 67 Maple St.
- "Get the Skinny on Fat," will be Nov. 30, 9 to 10 a.m. at the Berkeley Heights YMCA, 550 Springfield Ave., 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Springfield YMCA; Dec. 1, 1 to 2 p.m. at Summit YMCA, 67 Maple St.
- "Meal Planning, Why, When and How," will be Dec. 7, 9 to 10 a.m. at

the Berkeley Heights YMCA, 550 Springfield Ave., 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Springfield YMCA, 100 S. Springfield Ave., Dec. 8, 1 to 2 p.m. at Summit YMCA, 67 Maple St.

- "It's time to Start Planning Those New Year's Resolutions," will be Dec. 14, 9 to 10 a.m. at the Berkeley Heights YMCA, 550 Springfield Ave., 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Springfield YMCA, 100 S. Springfield Ave., Dec. 15, 1 to 2 p.m. at Summit YMCA, 67 Maple St.

For more information about any of these lectures, call Sue Fieseler, YMCA staff nutritionist, 908-273-3330, ext. 167, e-mail to suefieseler@summitymca.org, or visit www.summitareaymca.org.

Flu vaccine clinics

The Westfield Regional Health Department will have flu clinics on the following dates:

- Wednesday, 7 to 8 p.m., Garwood Municipal Building, 403 South Ave.
- Nov. 28, 7 to 8 p.m., Mountain-side Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 east.
- Nov. 29, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, Fanwood Municipal Building, 75 Martine Ave.
- Nov. 30, 7 to 8 p.m., Committee Room, Springfield Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.
- Dec. 7, 7 to 8 p.m., New Providence Municipal Building, 360 Elkwood Ave.

Widowed Persons group seeks members

The Widowed Persons Association of Our Lady of Lourdes, 300 Central Ave., Mountainside, is looking for new members.

Meetings are the second Sunday of the month from 2 to 4 p.m.

There is a program, followed by refreshments, consisting of wine and cheese, followed by coffee and cake. A fee of \$3 is charged. All widowed persons are invited.

On Dec. 11, the association will have a Christmas party at Gran Centurions, Clark 1 to 5 p.m. \$40 cash bar.

Beth Ahm Men's Club welcomes comedy hour

The Men's Club of Temple Beth Ahm and the Springfield B'nai B'rith will co-sponsor a comedy hour with veteran comedian Bobby Ramsen at Temple Beth Ahm, 60 Temple Way, on Dec. 4 at 9:30 a.m.

A bagels and spreads brunch will precede the entertainment. There will be a \$5 charge for non-paid-up members of either organization, wives, significant others and other persons interested in attending.

Ramsen, who started out in the Borscht Belt and, early on appeared on "The Ed Sullivan Show," has had key humor roles on such TV programs as "Bob Newhart Show," "Mary Tyler

CLUBS IN THE NEWS

Moore," "Diff'rent Strokes," "T.J. Hooker" and many other shows. He has also appeared in numerous TV specials.

In addition, the comedian has had principal roles over the years in about a dozen films as well as appearing in numerous night clubs, casinos and cruise ships.

For more information, call Joe Tenenbaum, president of the Springfield B'nai B'rith, at 973-379-9306 or Jerry Rosenberg, program chairman, at 908-351-1819.

GL Booster Club raises money for athletics

The Governor Livingston Highlander Booster Club invites fans of all ages to kick off another year of fundraising.

The Booster Club is a volunteer organization of parents, alumni, friends and community members that supports the 24 athletic programs and all student-athletes at Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights.

Last year, the Booster Club raised a record \$36,000 that was channeled directly back to the school's athletic community, including the launch of new programs, expanded activities, scholarships, and team grants.

To support these programs, the Booster Club sponsors a variety of

ways for community members to get involved.

Businesses and families wishing to support the Highlanders may also take an ad in their sports journals, published three times per year. Those who wish to participate can send an e-mail message to Coordinator Susan Winter at susanwinter@comcast.net for details.

The entire community is invited to support the club. Donations may be sent to 175 Watching Blvd., Berkeley Heights, 07922.

All proceeds from club fund-raisers and special events go directly to support GL athletes and athletics through its programs of grants, scholarships and awards.

Handcrafter Group gathers in borough

The Handcrafter Group of the Women's Association of the Community Presbyterian Church, 1459 Deer Path, Mountainside, will meet on the second Saturday of every month in the church's Memorial Room at 10 a.m.

Those attending can use their own skills or learn new ones.

The group is currently making blankets for Rannels Specialized Hospital.

For information about the group, call the church office at 908-232-9490 and leave a name and telephone number with Janet.

Free immunizations offered to children

The Westfield Regional Health Department, which serves Springfield and Mountainside, offers free immunizations and physicals to all children from the age of birth to 18 years.

This is done through the department's child health clinic. This clinic is conducted twice a month by appointment only. The department's pediatrician performs the immunizations and physicals.

The child health clinic is for children who do not have insurance or whose insurance does not cover well visits.

The Westfield child health clinic only cares for children who are well. The clinic does not offer medical treatment to children who are suffering from any illness.

For information or to make an appointment, call Anne Trivisano, public health nurse, at 908-789-4070.

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Dr. Gregory Hagg, Senior Minister • Mr. Keith Wind, Director of Ministries
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Sunday Worship Celebration at 11:00 AM

Springfield Evangelical Baptist Church

242 Shunpike Road, Springfield 973-379-4351
Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 23rd at 7:30 p.m.
Everyone is invited to attend

AT THE LIBRARY

'Since Otter Left'

Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its fall international film festival today with "Since Otter Left" at noon and 7 p.m.

Director Julie Bertuccelli deftly spins the delicate thread of familial conflict and maternal love into a bewitching tangle of intergenerational duplicity. This film is 102 minutes and is Unrated.

The series will continue on Dec. 15 with "Hero." Funding for the film festival 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 Public Library.

Admission is free for all films. Space is limited to 60 people at each showing. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Miss Candy Sing-a-long

Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will present Miss Candy Sing-a-long, as she sings in the key of "F" 10:30 to 11 a.m. today and Nov. 25, the day after Thanksgiving, in the Palmer Museum, for children up to 5 with a caregiver.

The Miss Candy series continues on Thursdays in December, Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22, from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

"F" for people — so everyone can sing along. Children love to sing, especially action songs. And who wouldn't want to go on a bear hunt, or visit the ballpark, or hear about the old woman who swallowed the fly?

Miss Candy's enthusiasm encourages even the shyest child to participate, and of course, she gently encourages good manners.

"I love how their faces light up when they recognize an old favorite," said Miss Candy. Children feel proud when they realize they can do a good job of singing along.

Great Books to discuss short story

The Great Books Discussion Group, which meets on the third Thursday of each month, will meet today at 10 a.m. to investigate various aspects of the short story by Henry James, "Beast in the Jungle".

John Marcher, the protagonist,

believes that his life will be defined by some catastrophic or spectacular event, lying in wait for him like a "Beast in the Jungle." Mary Bartram, whom he knew 10 years earlier, remembers this and decides to take a flat nearby, curiously waiting to see what fate has in store for him. This engrossing psychological drama is said to have laid the foundations for a technique called "stream of consciousness."

The Great Books compilation may be purchased for \$24 at the Circulation Desk. The discussion group welcomes new members. Participants are invited to come to any or all of the sessions.

The program is free and open to all. For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Rosetta to perform

Rosetta will perform at Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Sunday at 2 p.m. The free program is offered as part of the Sunday Afternoon Concerts at Springfield Free Public Library.

Rosetta is Andrew Mc Donough, vocals, guitar and keyboards; Elizabeth Cabrera, cello and keyboards; Kris Lamb, flute, whistle, recorder and several other wind instruments, and John Lamb, vocals, bodhran, whistle and harp. They specialize in the traditional music of Ireland, Scotland, and Spain, presenting a mixture of lively dance tunes, show airs, light-hearted ditties, serious ballads, romantic love songs, and much more.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Funding for the program 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 by the A. Leigh Balber Memorial Fund.

Classic comedies

Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., begins a new Lunchtime Video Series, "Classic/Classy Comedies and Mysteries," on Tuesday at noon.

William Powell and Myrna Loy star as Nick and Nora Charles, a married couple who liked to dabble in mysteries, martinis and witty repartee. When not busy with their endless

rounds of cocktails and dinner parties, the wealthy and charming detective team set out to solve a seemingly unsolvable murder, along with their lovable pooch, Asta. The resulting triumph nabbed four Academy Award nominations and spawned five sequels.

The film is black and white and runs 91 minutes. It was produced in 1934 and is not rated.

The series will continue on Tuesdays, Dec. 6 and 20, Jan. 3 and 17 and 31.

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.

Bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

For information, call 973-376-4930.

Artists' Showcase

Local artists are invited to join the Artists' Showcase to be sponsored by the Friends of the Mountainside Public Library in February.

Painters, photographers, printmakers, sculptors and others in the fine arts are encouraged to participate. Exhibit your works for one low entry fee and keep the sale's proceeds. Suggested price range is \$25 to \$150 per piece. Deadline to join is Dec. 15.

Call the library at 908-233-0115 for more information.

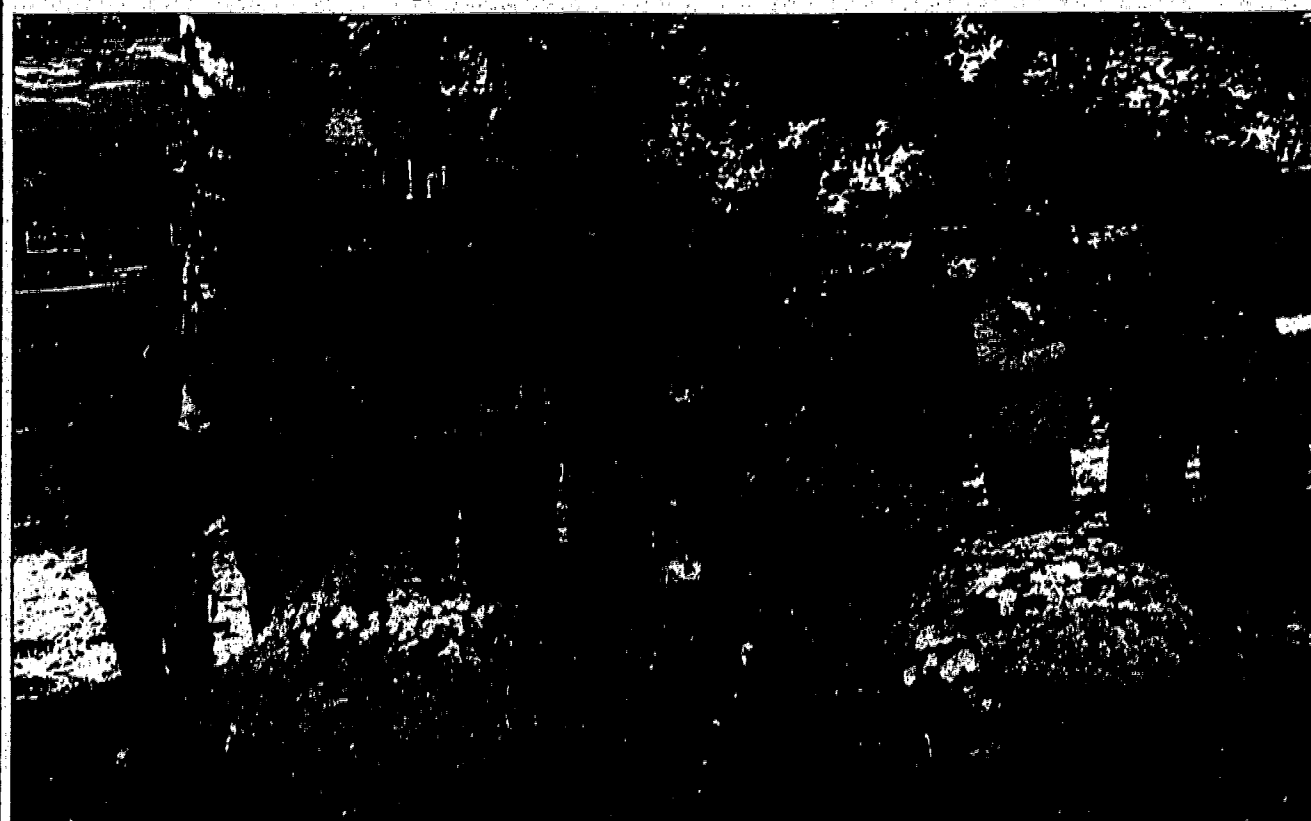
Lunchtime Video Series

Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will continue its Lunchtime Video Series, "Classic/Classy Comedies and Mysteries," Dec. 6 at noon.

The second film in the series came two years after the original husband and wife hit starring William Powell and Myrna Loy. This time they're out to solve a series of murders, while ever engaging in bubbling repartee and champagne.

Once again, the sleuthing is a pretext for chemistry, but it's a good pretext just the same, centering on Loy's cousin who's accused of murder. The fine cast also features young Jimmy Stewart, though it's obviously not his film.

Picking out pumpkins



The 4-year-olds enjoy picking out pumpkins at the Community Presbyterian Nursery School pumpkin hunt in Mountainside.

RECREATION

Basketball tryouts

The Springfield Recreation Department will have the following tryouts next week:

- Nettes Girls Travel Program, today, 5:30 p.m. for grades five and six, and 7 to 8:30 p.m. for grades seven and eight in the Gaudineer School girls' gym.

- Minutemen basketball, which participates in the Bi-County League and competes against surrounding communities, today, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for grades five through seven, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. for grade eight, at Gaudineer School in Gym 1.

SNAP Digital Camera Class offered

Learn to upload your digital photos, create and save them to folders, and attach them to e-mails in the SNAP Digital Camera Class.

The class will meet in the computer room at Mountainside Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 west, Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The fee is \$15 per class.

Pre-registration is required, and

additional information is available at the recreation office.

For information, call 908-232-0015.

See 'Disney on Ice'

The Springfield Recreation Department will sponsor a trip to see "Disney on Ice: Incredibles," on Nov. 25 at Continental Airlines Arena in East Rutherford. The performance will begin in the lower tier seats at 3 p.m.

The bus departs at 1:30 p.m. from the Chisholm Community Center. The price is \$32 per person and includes bus transportation to and from the Continental Airlines Arena, parking price, and seating.

Register at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall, or call 973-912-2227. Checks should be made payable to Township of Springfield. Register with payment by Wednesday.

Survive in the wild

Adults with children ages 5 and older are invited to discover what it takes to survive in the wild on Dec. 10 from 1 to 2 p.m. as part of the Outdoor

Adventure Series at Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

Each family will learn the fundamentals for shelter and fire building. Together the group will build a shelter warm enough to sleep in.

Pre-registration is not required. The fee for this program is a suggested donation of \$1 per person.

For more information, call 908-789-3670.

PLT workshop Dec. 1

On Dec. 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. formal and informal educators are invited to take part in an interactive, educational Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop at Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

PLT activities will engage your students in interdisciplinary, hands-on experiences that develop skills in problem solving, evaluation and research.

The fee for this workshop is \$10 per person. Light refreshments provided.

Smell Gas? Act Fast.

Natural gas is a colorless, odorless fuel. For reasons a chemical odorant sometimes added as a "rotten egg" smell, is added, the presence of gas detectable.

If you smell gas, do:

- Alert others and leave the area immediately.
- Open doors and windows when you leave.
- Do not operate electrical lights, appliances or other equipment such as telephones, cell phones or flashlights.
- Do not use a phone away from the area and call 911.

When you smell gas, it should be reported right away. Call your local gas company or 911.

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SENIOR NEWS

'Therapeutic Foods'

The Women's Issues Group of SAGE ElderCare will present Josette Sohier, a dietician with Overlook Hospital who will talk about "Therapeutic Foods" at SAGE ElderCare, 290 Broad St., Summit, today at 10 a.m. SAGE ElderCare's Women's Issues programming is free.

Refreshments will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m. with the lecture starting promptly at 10 a.m. Registration is suggested, though walk-ins are welcome.

For more information, call Suzanne Lyon at 908-598-5514. SAGE ElderCare serves as a major community resource in the establishment and delivery of innovative services for older adults and their caregivers; providing them with dignity and choice.

These services allow the elderly to remain independent and living in their own homes. Present SAGE ElderCare programs include HomeCare, Meals-on-Wheels, State Health Insurance Assistance Program of Union County, Bill Paying, a shopping service, Info-Care, and Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center.

SAGE ElderCare serves 5,000 older people and their families annually in Essex, Morris, Somerset, and Union counties.

For more information, call 908-273-5550 or log onto www.sageelder-care.org.

Fall prevention series

The SAGE ElderCare Fall Prevention Initiative includes a series of comprehensive programs about fall prevention for the elderly, for the public-at-large and for SAGE's volunteers, home health aides, staff, clients and caregivers. The programs are designed in collaboration with health care providers in SAGE's service area of Morris, Union, Essex and Somerset counties.

With approximately one-third of adults aged 65 and older in the community falling each year, the program will play a vital role in helping to prevent falls and reduce the risks of injuries among the elderly.

SAGE ElderCare's Fall Prevention Program is underwritten by the Henry H. Kessler Foundation with additional support from the Fred C. Rummel Foundation.

On Dec. 8, the public is invited to the free "Fall Prevention Forum & Screening" from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. at SAGE ElderCare, 290 Broad St. The program, for adults 65 and older, will focus on prevention screening to protect seniors from falling.

Learn how changes in activities, lifestyle and the home environment decrease the risk of falling. Free screenings will include balance assessments, bone density and blood pressure evaluations. Strength and balancing exercises will be demonstrated through Tai Chi exercises.

The speaker for this event is Greg Davis, a physical therapist from McRae Physical Therapist Group in Millburn. Refreshments will be served.

For information about this and future programs, call Julie Reich, SAGE ElderCare's fall prevention coordinator, at 908-598-5552.

SAGE ElderCare serves as a major community resource in the establishment and delivery of innovative services for older adults and their caregivers; providing them with dignity and choice. These services allow the elderly to remain independent and living in their own homes. Present SAGE ElderCare programs include HomeCare, Meals-on-Wheels, State Health Insurance Assistance Program of Union County, Bill Paying, a Shopping Service, Info-Care, a Resale Shop, Chore Service and Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center. SAGE serves 5,000 older people and their families annually in Essex, Morris, Somerset, and Union counties.

For more information, call 908-273-5550 or log onto www.sageelder-care.org.

'Essentials for Seniors' SAGE ElderCare will continue its fifth annual "Essentials for Seniors Drive" until Dec. 12, providing seniors with basic items for living.

You can help seniors in Union, Morris, Essex and Somerset counties by donating new items such as towels,

razors and shaving cream, bed sheets, toiletries, supermarket gift certificates, and/or new clothing items such as gloves, hats, shirts, slippers, undershirts and sweaters. Items should be new, unwrapped and delivered to the following locations:

- SAGE ElderCare, 290 Broad St., Summit.
- Summit Medical Group, 120 Summit Ave., Summit.
- Summit Medical Group, 34 Mountain Blvd., Warren.
- Hilltop Community Bank, 385 Springfield Ave., Summit.

• Hilltop Community Bank, 555 Springfield Ave., Berkeley Heights.

• Summit High School, 125 Kent Place Blvd., Summit.

• New Providence Internal Medicine Associates, 1252 Springfield Ave., New Providence.

"The Essentials for Seniors Drive" has been very successful for the past four years, thanks to the generous donations of our community, and the organizations that assist us in collecting the items," Kathy Aira, director of SAGE ElderCare's HomeCare program, said.

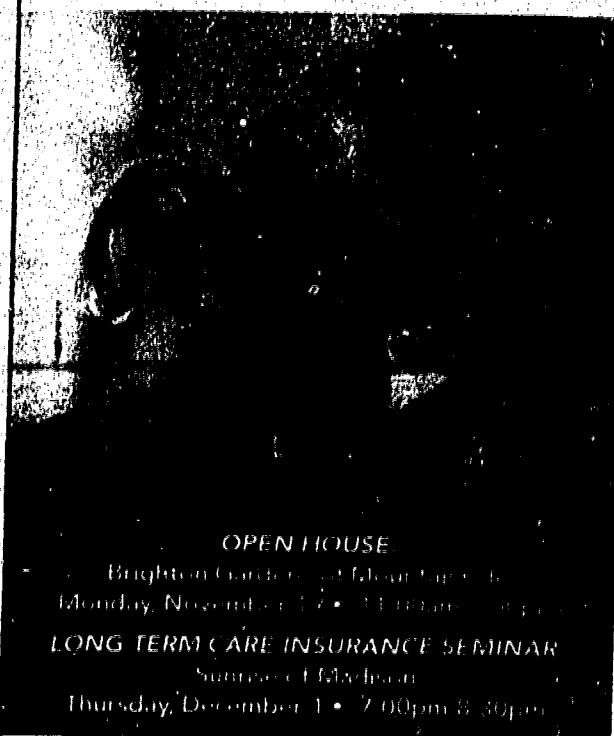
"We hope to continue its success this year, so that we can meet the needs of the elderly in SAGE ElderCare's service area of Union, Morris, Essex and Somerset counties."

It's simple to pick up a small item while holiday shopping for friends and family, and the value it has to seniors is enormous.

Just knowing that they are thought of means a great deal.

For more information about the "Essentials for Seniors Drive" call the SAGE ElderCare HomeCare Department at 908-273-8400.

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ECHO LEADER

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

THIS IS H.S. FOOTBALL

By JR Parschall
Sports Editor

We're now down to a final four. Four of Union County's nine teams that made the state playoffs advanced to their respective semis.

We have Union in North 2, Group 4 and Bradley in Central Jersey, Group 1 playing tomorrow. Union is at Phillipsburg and Bradley is hosting Burlington City.

Then we have Rahway in Central Jersey, Group 2 and New Providence in North 2, Group 1 playing Saturday afternoon. Rahway is hosting Kinnelon and New Providence is at Mercer.

Union is coached by fifth-year head coach Marc Ciani, who is a 1983 UHS and who played on Union's 1987 North 2 Group 4 championship team.

Phillipsburg is led by first-year head coach Mike Ciani, who is a 1983 UHS and who played on Union's 1987 North 2 Group 4 championship team.

Bradley is coached by first-year head coach Mike Ciani, who is a 1983 UHS and who played on Union's 1987 North 2 Group 4 championship team.

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Lead runner



The Bradley football team is led by the play of senior running back Jake Floyd (No. 44). The Springfield resident, who attends Dayton, led all rushers with 164 yards on 22 carries and scored two touchdowns in Bradley's 35-7 playoff win over Keyport last Friday night at Ward Field in Kenilworth. Bradley will host Burlington City tomorrow night at 7 in a Central Jersey, Group 1 semifinal. Bradley is attempting to reach its first sectional final since last winning North 2, Group 1 back in 1991.

GL girls' soccer team wins Central Jersey, Group 2 title

Ragones scores winning penalty kick

By Timothy Denman
Staff Writer

BERKELEY HEIGHTS - Last year was prettier, but this season they simply got it done.

The Highlanders were not scored upon last season until their final game of the year when they were eliminated from the North 2, Group 2 playoffs by Chatham 3-1 in heartbreaking fashion in the final.

On Nov. 8, the Governor Livingston girls' soccer team continued to overcome the loss of standout senior forward Christie Slide by winning a sectional championship this time.

The second-seeded Highlanders outlasted fifth-seeded Rumson-Fair Haven 2-1, winning on penalty kicks 4-3 to claim the Central Jersey, Group 2 title at home.

Dana Ragones scored the winning penalty kick goal. GL (17-2-3) put a three-game winning streak on the line Tuesday against South Jersey champ Haddonfield (21-1) in the Group 2 semifinals at Red Bank Regional in Little Silver.

Arts center offers workshops

The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, 68 Elm St., is offering fall workshops designed to expand your knowledge of various mediums in a short time.

Open to everyone of high school age and older, the workshops are appropriate for those from beginner to advanced levels and are perfect for those who don't have the time to take a full semester course.

Get into the 21st Century and take your photographs to the next level with two digital workshops, "Scanning and Printing Basics" and "Beyond the Single Image." "Scanning and Printing Basics" will be offered Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The workshop will emphasize the basics of understanding film screening and inkjet printing. Students will use Nikon film scanners to scan film from 35mm to medium sized negatives or slides.

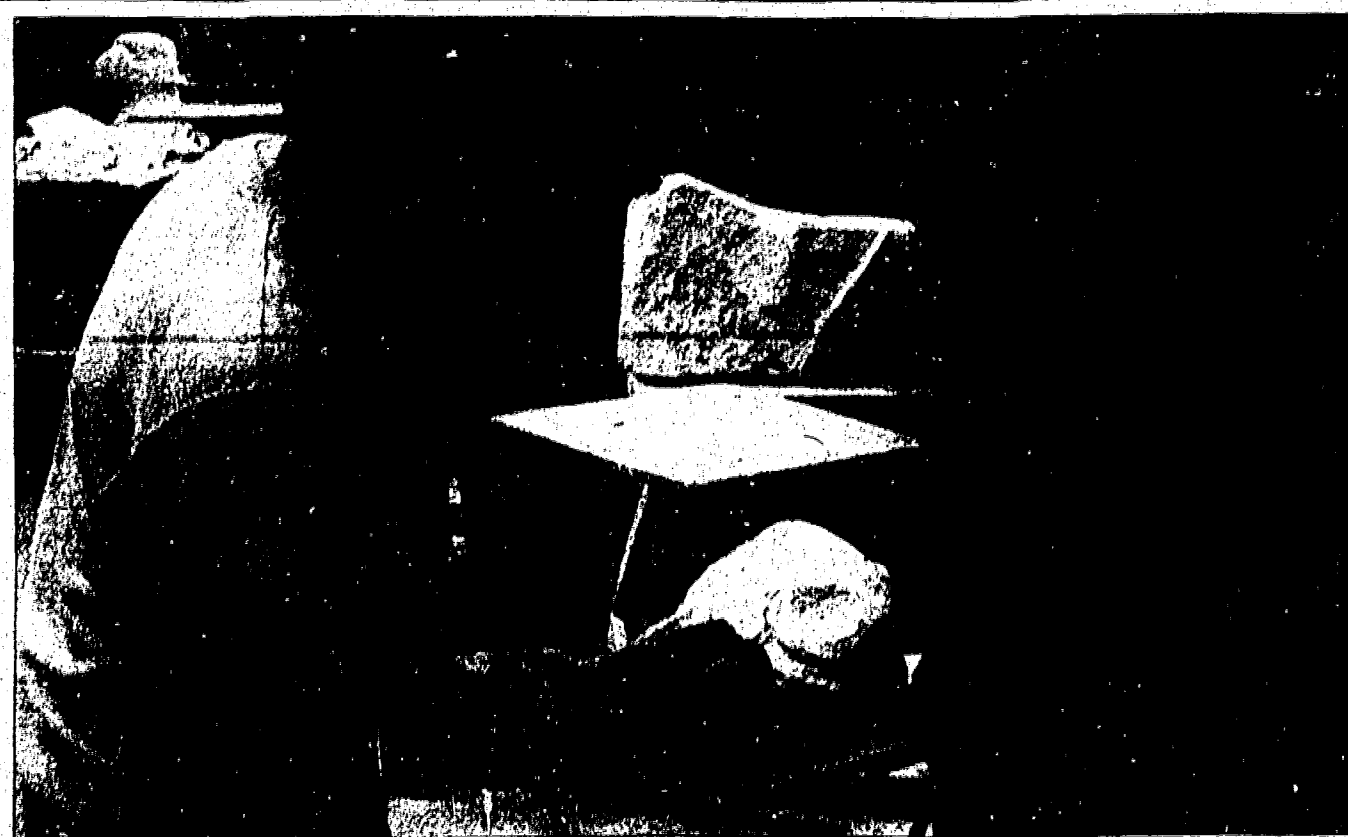


Ceramics and clay work, both hand-building and working on the wheel, are popular workshops at the arts center.

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Refreshments Will Be Served



Sculptor Alfredo Cardenas works with a student in a sculpture workshop at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit.

The image scans will then be used to learn printing basics for black and white and color printing. Students will

bring home printed images as large as 16x20. "Beyond the Single Image," Dec. 3-4 or Dec. 10-11, will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Digital photography opens up creative possibilities in the art of photo compositing — combining multiple images — as never before.

Students will learn scale, juxtaposition, unity versus fragmentation, and realism versus surrealism, and will master the most useful features in Photoshop as well as the more advanced techniques.

Participants should have a basic knowledge of Photoshop and digital photography.

Explore color in the sculptural medium with the "Patina" workshop, on Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Taught by sculptor Alfredo Cardenas, students will learn the various techniques to make a patina and how to apply it.

Participants will also learn the process of antiquing and working with

faux finishes. Take your sculptures to the next level with this workshop.

Get down and dirty as you enter the amazing world of clay construction. Create a beautiful piece of art in a weekend at the "Ceramic Tiles" workshop Dec. 3-4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students will explore the decorative themes of arts and crafts period tiles, review design concepts, and create two negative tile press molds which they will then use to create a motif suitable for mounting.

Free-form tiles will also be created and glazed and finishing concepts will be discussed.

For more information on the workshops and other classes and programs at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, call 908-273-9121 or log onto www.njvca.org.

The Visual Arts Center serves the entire northern area. There is ample free parking on site and the center is a short walk from the NJ Transit Summit train station.

Trustees gather in informal setting

It was a Friday night in Summit and the home of Jennifer and Lowell Millar was bustling with activity. Members of the Overlook Hospital Foundation board of trustees and their spouses had gathered at the Millars' for cocktails, a buffet dinner and an evening of socializing.

"It's not often that our board members gather together outside of the parameters of our regularly scheduled meetings or hospital-sponsored events," said David Hartman, chairman of the foundation's board of trustees, "so it was nice for them to interact on a more personal social level."

The evening provided a wonderful opportunity for new and existing board members and their spouses to get to know each other better," added Ann Machin Oliva, executive director of the Overlook Hospital Foundation.

The Overlook Hospital Foundation board of trustees is united by a common goal to help keep Overlook on the forefront of care by raising funds that are used to enhance facilities, purchase state-of-the-art equipment and support special programs. These highly qualified individuals have a range of expertise in health care, business, fundraising and financial services.

Trustees represent a cross-section of communities served by Overlook and hail from Union, Morris, Essex, Somerset and Hunterdon counties. Thus, they also have a personal and professional interest in ensuring that funds raised by the foundation help further Overlook's mission of providing world-class care close to home.

Trustees are elected to serve three-year terms, during which time they attend monthly board meetings, hospital and foundation-sponsored events, and the board's annual dinner.

"Our trustees are our ambassadors to our communities," Oliva said. "We keep them informed about the latest developments at Overlook, and hope that they will, in turn, pass on valuable information to their family, friends, colleagues and neighbors."



Jennifer and Lowell Millar hosted the Overlook Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees' social at their Summit home. Jennifer Millar is a member of the foundation board.



Union County

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

WORRAL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

In re: 2005 results

Local boy holds the line: A wire story on the election results of Gov.-elect Jon Corzine in Summit where he lived until moving to Hoboken two years ago. Turns out that both he and his Republican opponent Douglas Forrester garnered 3,328 votes. As a comparison, Frank Macioce, the citywide Democratic candidate, Peter Suzuki, by more than 400 votes.

Hard work counts: Republican Steven Grau in Springfield and Robert Puhak and Michael Pluck in Cranford, as well as Democrat Larry DiNardo in Roselle Park, bucked the odds. All of these candidates went into their local races as underdogs, all rang door bells intensely and all of them won. Running on taxes being too high, Grau snagged 53 percent of the vote in Democratic Springfield. The local Cranford GOP racked up 1,700-vote pluralities.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

For Puhak it was quite a week. Along with the win, his wife was featured in the December issue of Good Housekeeping for her winning recipe of pine nut cookies.

No excuses accepted: The estimate is that the turnout of registered voters was about 50 percent. This doesn't even include the so-called eligible voters who don't even bother to register. The excuse that the negative ads somehow justify sitting home is hogwash. Maybe we should have Freeholder Angel Bruni and his wife, from Summit, and some of the other boys in Iraq tell their experiences to those who think sitting home is some kind of meaningful protest.

Numbers count: For the money watchers, based on the campaign reports Corzine spent \$34 per vote in the General election. Forrester spent \$20 per vote. This doesn't include the \$12.5 million Forrester spent in the primary or the \$5.4 million Corzine spent with no opposition.

Friendly towns: Corzine garnered a 7,800-vote win from Elizabethtown and a 4,000-vote margin in Hillside. He got a 77-vote cushion in Winfield. Forrester's best towns were Berkeley Heights which gave him a 900-vote win and a 560-vote win in neighboring New Providence.

Selective voters: While Grau was pulling off the 53 percent win in Springfield, the Democratic rest of the way, in Roselle Park, the county Democrats won by over 100 votes, while Republican Councilman Ricky Badillo won by more than 300 votes. Corzine carried Roselle Park by about 250 votes.

In Garwood, Democrat Bill Schadevold won re-election by 30 votes while the county Republicans won the town by 130 votes. When the issues of taxes came up, Schadevold shot back that as both a homeowner and local businessman he gets hit twice on that most sensitive of subjects.

Wait 'til next year: Maybe Union County Republican Chairman Phil Morin has a connection to Brooklyn. He says next year "will be ideal for us to run a strong successful campaign." Morin's optimism is based on both state Sen. Tom Kean Jr. and Congressman Mike Ferguson being on the ballot. Democrats point to a 12-year winning streak at the county level including years when both the Republican stars were on the ticket.

What it means: The Monmouth University Polling Institute found that neither statewide Republican or Democrats would address the need for property tax reform. Supposedly the voters acknowledge that property tax reform will have some pain. We will see that tolerance for pain when the reforms start coming in January.

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ices agreement with the county to provide safety compliance services for \$115,000 per year.

Since January, the firm has prepared for woodland restoration at the Watchung Reservation; renovation of Metel Avenue Park in Springfield; project design for the Esposito Farm in Clark; a feasibility study for Clark's Wildlife Preserve; and the remediation of properties in Berkeley Heights.

"We use them because they are a Union County environmental engineering firm with a long-standing relationship with the county," Union County Public Information Director John Salermo said. "Environmental safety is public safety," he said. "We can trust them when it comes to environmental matters, that's a very important."

The newest contracts are for professional consulting services regarding the potential acquisition of properties in Berkeley Heights, as well as the engineering services and construction observation and administration for the reconstruction of Metel Park, and for the purpose of providing general engineering and consulting services to the trust fund.

Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or union-county@yahoo.com.

Cooking the way it used to be

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This is part of a continuing series on historic sites in Union County.

Clothing, furniture, art and literature all offer ways of looking into the past.

However, it's the culinary arts that take the cake, literally, when it comes to time travel.

Each weekend, visitors to Westfield's Miller-Cory House Museum, can see first hand how dinner went from farm to table in Colonial-era America.

There are no food processors, blenders, dishwashers, or even temperature controlled ovens, just elbow grease and fire.

Each weekend during the museum's season, volunteers spend hours in the property's stand alone kitchen — a structure that was originally part of the Frazee house property in Scotch Plains — cooking period specialties in an open hearth.

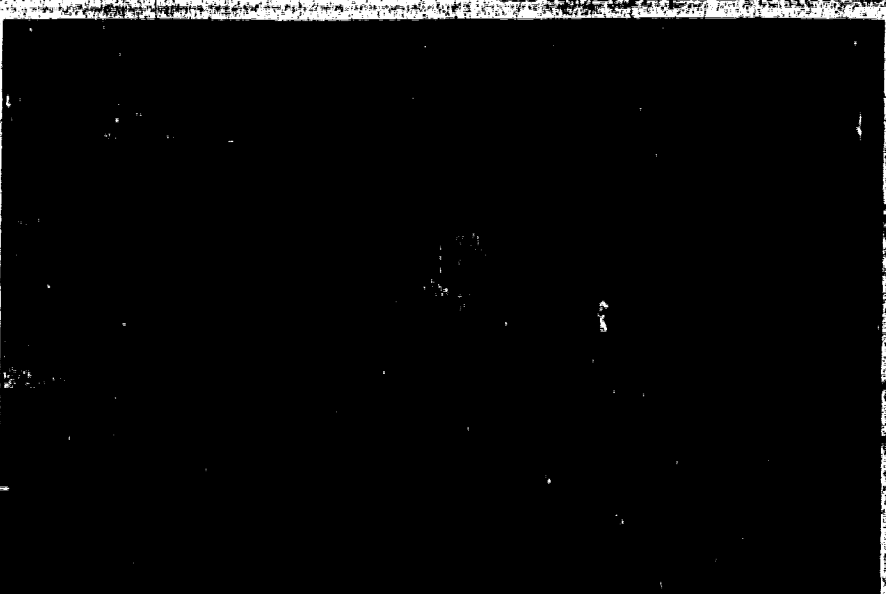
According to costumed volunteer Joan Bama, the temperature an oven reaches has a lot of variables, including the type and quality of wood used.

On Nov. 6, Bama and volunteer Arlene Soong prepared a feast with ties to Union County's Leni Lenape heritage. The meal, which featured entrees, soups, and desserts included cider roasted wild boar, or pork; askusquash soup; winter root and onion soup; Algonquin stuffed Pompano Pumpkin; stewed rabbit; succotash; ghost bread; roasted corn; Indian cake; pumpkin cornbread; and pemican — a forerunner of today's protein sticks. It's made with animal fat, cranberries and nuts.

Frank Gold, also a volunteer at the museum, said that the recipe is actually from inside the house, so many of the items inside the house are so precious. Both Bama and Soong said they even try the traditional recipes at home.

"It actually tastes better here," Bama said, referring to the smoky taste the modern kitchens just cannot recreate.

The rooms include two bedrooms — one for the parents and one for the



Joan Bama, a volunteer chef for the colonial kitchen at the Miller-Cory House, checks on a recipe.

Contracts awarded

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders unanimously awarded two separate contracts Nov. 9, and a contract increase to the PMK Group, an engineering consulting firm based in Cranford.

PMK's three newest contracts total \$195,500. Funding for each of those contracts will come from the county's Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund. Established in 2000, the trust fund assesses a levy of 1.5 cents per \$100 of total equalized real property valuation for a period of 20 years.

The two new contracts bring PMK's total number of contracts with the county up to 10, including two professional services contracts.

Not counting those two professional service agreements, PMK does approximately \$555,717 worth of business with Union County in 2005 alone.

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Tom Chirichella leads his two boys, Ryan, 5, and Patrick, 7, to the Miller-Cory House Museum on Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

Collections of the recipes, compiled by volunteers over the museum's 33-year history are also available for purchase at the museum's shop.

However, both women noted that a lot of preparation goes on before they even arrive on site to start cooking. While the cooking techniques remain the same, some of the ingredients are somewhat easier to come by.

Today, most things can be purchased at the store, whereas when the Millers and the Corys occupied the home, most of their foodstuffs came from their own farm, or items that they traded and bartered for with neighbors.

But, the kitchen is just part of the site's charm. Listed on both the state and national registers of historic places, the Miller-Cory House is named after the two families who first occupied it; the Millers, from 1740 to 1780, and the Corys from 1780 to 1920. The house itself was a residence until 1972, when the home was established as a museum.

The home, which was built in 1740 was initially just two rooms, that Samuel Miller built for his wife Sabra on approximately 100 acres of land. As the Miller family expanded from two members to 10, additional rooms were added.

Much of the furniture in the house, while not original to the structure itself, does come from the Colonial Period, between 1740 and 1820. To help make the interior of the home as authentic as possible, volunteers have tried to represent all of the belongings listed on Joseph Cory's will, volunteer Eileen O'Shea said.

"Even though they were farmers, they were a middle-class family," she said. An archaeological dig in 1999 offered "solid proof" of that assertion when delicate dinner plates, and shoe buckles were found in the backyard.

Other items, also recovered during the dig, are on display in the home. All of the rooms of the home feature period accessories, including books, candles, and toys. The grounds also feature herb, vegetable, and dye gardens.

The Miller-Cory Museum is open Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. from mid-September to mid-June. Private tours can be arranged by appointment.

For more information, or to schedule a tour, call 908-232-1776. Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or union-county@yahoo.com.

The biggest change, Salermo said, is in the union's health care providers. The union will now utilize the Horizon Direct Access Network, which Salermo said, is 15 percent smaller than the previous network.

Salermo noted that in some instances, the benefits of the new network were better than the old one. "If not better, then equivalent," he said. The new health care plan will cover 30 percent of the expenses up to \$1,600 for individual members and \$3,200 for those with family coverage. At that point, the plan covers 100 percent of the costs.

Employees will make the initial payment for health care services, and submit a form to the county. The forms are then reviewed by a third-party administrator before the county issues a \$100 copay and reimburses the employee.

Representatives of the labor union could not be reached for comment by presstime Tuesday.

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Dressed in period garb, John Mills talks about a colonial-style mattress in the children's room.

Children — and a second-floor loft which now serves as the administrative hub for the museum.

"We tried to find out what was in the original house," Gold said. Much of the furniture in the house, while not original to the structure itself, does come from the Colonial Period, between 1740 and 1820.

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Parks union settles

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

The Board of Chosen Freeholders, unanimously approved a new labor agreement with the parks maintenance union at its meeting last month.

Union County Labor Management Relations Director Joseph Salermo said the agreement affects a little more than 100 employees who work at county golf courses, in facilities, and as craftsmen. The agreement, which is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2005, is good through Dec. 31, 2007.

When the employees, who are part of United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Local 494 last entered labor talks with the county, they spent over a year at the bargaining table, stretching talks from 1999 to the spring of 2000. This time around, negotiations began in April, he said.

According to Salermo, employees at the higher end of the union's pay scale will receive a 3.75 percent salary raise in 2005, and 4 percent in both 2006 and 2007. Those employees whose salaries fall within the salary guides will be getting an annual pay increase of 3.25 percent each year, he said. Salermo also said the agreement calls for the employees' prescription drug co-pay plan to remain the same.

A 30-day limit for filling prescriptions for name-brand pharmaceuticals is also part of the new agreement. Salermo said this will limit the use of name-brand drugs used by the employees, thus saving the county some money.

"Premiums have gone up 65 percent since 2000," Salermo said, noting that it's important to try and cut into those increases. And, Salermo said, all employees still contribute to their health care plan.

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And they all fall down

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COUNTY NEWS

Historian to lecture on 'perils of power'

Noted historian professor Carol Berkin will present the lecture, "The Perils of Power, the Dangers of Weakness: Creating a New Constitution" on Monday at 7 p.m. in the Roy Smith Theater on the Cranford campus of Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave. Berkin's visit is sponsored by the College's Department of Economics, Government, and History, and The History Club. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Berkin is the author of several books and has appeared in numerous documentaries. Her two most recent works are "A Brilliant Solution: Inventing the American Constitution" and "Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America's Independence."

Her first book, "Jonathan Sewall: Odyssey of an American Loyalist," was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. She has appeared in numerous television documentary series, including the PBS programs, "Liberty! The American Revolution," "The Scottsboro Boys," "Benjamin Franklin," and the Ric Burns documentary "New York." Berkin also appeared in "The Founding Fathers," "Founding Brothers," and "Preserving Our National Treasures," all of which aired on the History Channel.

Berkin received her B.A. degree from Barnard College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University. She has been a professor of history at Baruch College in New York City since 1981 and served as associate provost of the college from 1985-1990. She also served for seven years as deputy chair of the Ph.D. program in history at the City University Graduate Center where she teaches American colonial and revolutionary history and women's history.

For more information on Monday's lecture, call the Economics, Government and History Department of Union County College at 908-709-7579.

Donations sought

The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Union County is asking the public to join them in participating in their annual Holiday Star Project. They will purchase, wrap and distribute holiday gifts to individuals attending Union County Psychiatric Clinic Behavioral Healthcare in Plainfield, and would welcome donations from the community. Distribution of presents will take place in early December during a Christmas party given by NAMI, at UCCP.

A cash donation is preferred, rather than to purchase clothing directly. Money will be used to buy winter jackets at discounted prices. Also requested are donations of personal care items such as shampoo, cream, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, and other toiletries that will be placed in gift bags and distributed, along with the clothing, to each individual. The deadline for gift collection is Tuesday, UCCP offers out-patient, individual, group and family therapies, counseling and medical monitoring. Vocational rehabilitation and social/recreational activities are also provided.

To make a cash donation, mail a check, payable to "NAMI Union County," to NAMI Union County, P.O. Box 724, New Providence, 07974. Indicate that the check is for the Holiday Star Project. To donate toiletry articles, call Sandy at 908-272-8049 for drop-off information.

For information about joining NAMI, call 908-233-1628.

ID cards for veterans

Union County Clerk Joanne Rajopji would like to remind veterans living in Union County that they can receive their free military discharge identification cards at the County Clerk's office. The wallet-size card is honored as proof of service in the United States armed forces. It can assist in receiving educational benefits, death benefits,

licenses, and the property tax rebate. The identification cards are available to veterans whose Certificate of Honorable Discharge, and DD-214 forms are recorded at the Union County Clerk's office. Benefits from honorable military service are limited to the veteran and their spouse, parents, children, heir or personal representative. "The distinctive red, white and blue cards have a raised seal certifying proof of recording from the Clerk's office," Rajopji added.

If a veteran's discharge papers have never been recorded, the original document must be presented at the Union County Clerk's Office. Documents will be recorded in the Union County Veterans' Index and the original will be returned to the veteran. Photographs of Honorable Discharge or DD-214 documents cannot be accepted for recording.

If the original documents are lost, veterans can write to the National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, 63632. Those who have already recorded their documents in the Clerk's office can call the office for additional information.

"All veterans can be assured that access to their discharge papers is limited and available only to the veteran, his/her mother, father, wife/husband, brother, sister, child, heir or personal representative," Rajopji said. "Veteran documents are archived in a secure area and they are not accessible to the public."

The County Clerk's Office is located in the Union County Courthouse at 2 Broad St., Elizabethtown. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 908-659-7403.

Nugent Association hosts annual dance

The Joseph Nugent Sr. Association of Union County will hold its 72nd annual dance on Saturday at the Kenilworth Veterans Center 33 S. 21st, Kenilworth, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Founded by Joseph Nugent Sr. in 1933, the Nugent Association is the oldest independent Irish-American organization in the state.

The Willie Lynch Show Band will provide entertainment. Admission costs \$20, which includes beer, wine, coffee, cake and tea. There will also be a cash bar.

Being honored at this year's dance for many years of dedication to the association is Barbara Halloran of Clark and Bob White of Roselle. This year's recipient of the Greta Sheridan Memorial Community Service Award will go to Mike Slattery of Caldwell. The Jack O'Connor award goes to Cranford resident retired Capt. Ray Lynch from the Union County Prosecutor's Office. The Nugent Bravest award goes to Elizabeth resident and retired Elizabeth Fire Chief William Nye.

The chairpersons are Tara Dowling, Katie McGuire, Kerry Scharden and Todd Dowling.

For reservations, call Carol Martin at 732-851-5109 or Kevin Dowling at 732-594-1763.

Ice skating center opens new season

Warinanco Ice Skating Center, a facility of the County of Union, is now open for the 2005-06 ice skating season on

Skating sessions will be as follows:

• Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

• Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to noon.

• Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and 6 to 8 p.m., which is a family session during which children ages 17 and younger must be accompanied by an adult, and 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

• Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 1 to 3 p.m., and 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

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For more information, call 908-659-7403.

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It is a helpful resource to find a wealth of volunteer opportunities — whether you prefer to roll up your sleeves for cleanup or gardening projects, or choose to spend quality time at a senior center or child care program.

The volunteer directory is also available online at www.uccnj.org. Additional volunteer opportunities can be found at www.uccnj.org.

"Local volunteers are the driving force that help keep Union County a great place to live and work," said James W. Horne Jr., chief executive officer of United Way of Greater Union County. "It is our mission to promote volunteerism and mobilize our community to improve the lives of our neighbors."

To receive a copy of the County of Union Volunteer Directory, or to add your organization's volunteer needs to future editions of the directory, call Susan Pepper, coordinator of Union County's Office of Volunteer Services, at 908-527-4753, or e-mail spepper@uccnj.org.

Interested volunteers can call the Union County nursing coordinator, Ella Shaykevich, at 908-518-5620 or eshaykevich@uccnj.org for more information.

Also, anyone wishing to enroll over the Internet can visit <http://www.uccnj.org/lines/volunteer> to register as a volunteer.

Register for hockey clinics, skating lessons

Registration for the second session of hockey clinics and ice skating lessons will be today through Sunday at the Warinanco Ice Skating Center in Roselle. Hockey clinics and ice skating lessons will run for six weeks. Registration for the third session of hockey clinics and ice skating lessons will be Jan. 12-15.

Register in person. Applications will not be accepted by mail. You can pick up a registration form at the Warinanco Skating Center or call the Department of Parks, Recreation & Facilities at 908-527-4900.

You can only register in person and on the registration dates for the session you prefer.

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Juvenile committee seeks volunteers

Volunteers are being sought for the Juvenile Conference Committee of the Family Court.

JCCC is a community-based panel that hears matters involving alleged juvenile offenders. The juvenile, parents/guardians, and complainant are invited to discuss the offense and related matters with the committee.

The JCC considers the facts and makes recommendations to the judge for a resolution that would aid in the juvenile's rehabilitation. The program is designed to divert juveniles charged with minor offenses to their local JCC instead of a court proceeding.

For more information, contact the Juvenile Conference Committee, Office of the Court Administrator, Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad St., Elizabethtown.

Young Republicans

The Union County Young Republicans is a social and civic organization for young professionals in Union County, who are between the ages of 18 and 40 and registered Republicans.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Cartoonist's book details history of Union County

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

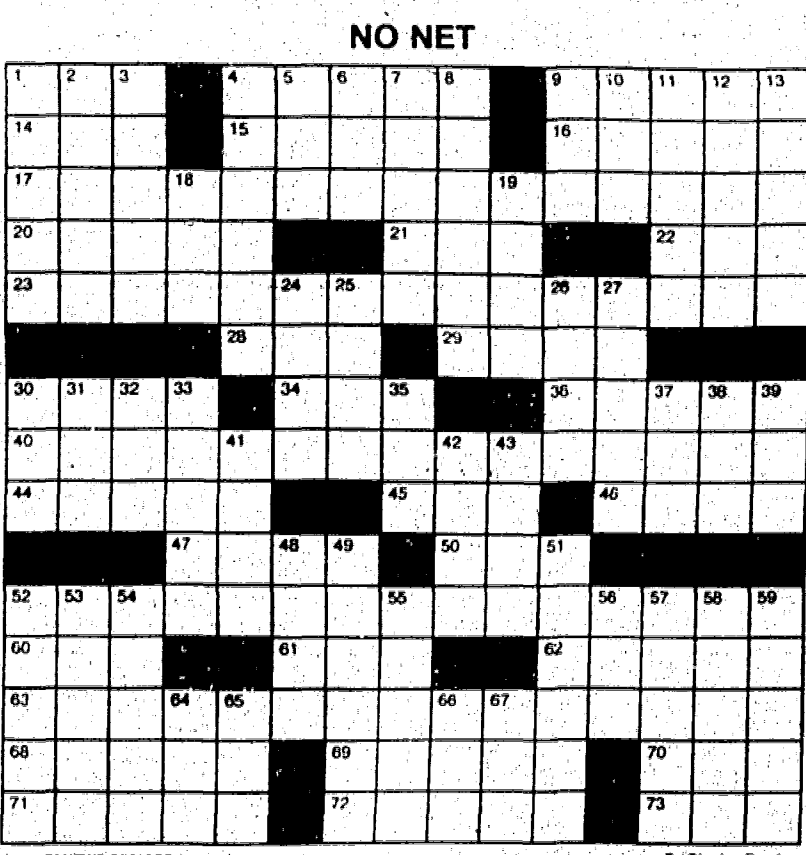
It was 55 years ago when cartoonist Frank Thorne first began fitting the long history of Union County into cartoon form.

ACROSS

- 1 Temporary mania
- 4 Sounds of falling objects
- 9 Andes animal
- 14 Summer, on the
- 15 Deck just above the keel
- 16 Air fresher choice
- 17 Take a chance
- 20 Address Page
- 21 Lanka
- 22 WWII weapon
- 23 Take a chance
- 28 Chem. or geology
- 29 "Star Wars" princess
- 30 "The King and I" heroine
- 34 Begley, Jr. and Sr.
- 36 Grimm's grim guys
- 40 Theme of this puzzle
- 44 Place
- 45 Four, usually
- 46 Gels
- 47 Foot part
- 50 Ether or ethano
- 52 Take a chance
- 60 Einstein's birthplace
- 61 Magnon
- 62 Former Cuban refugee
- 63 Take a chance
- 66 Like asters and daisies
- 69 Rhone tributary
- 70 Yellow or Red
- 71 Slalom curves
- 72 The Battle of the
- 73 Baseball's Roush

DOWN

- 1 Not as many
- 2 Early arcade game
- 3 Sandwich spots, briefly
- 4 Bottom lines, perhaps
- 5 Regal initials
- 6 Suffix indicating smallness
- 7 Seek water, in a way



COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE B10

HOROSCOPES

Nov. 21 to 27

ARIES. March 21 to April 19: Enhance your knowledge of a new philosophy with additional sources or information. Give a teacher proper credit for having an influence on your life.

TAURUS. April 20 to May 20: Keep a close watch on your finances. Money tends to slip through your fingers and investments are subject to fluctuations beyond your control.

GEMINI. May 21 to June 21: Enjoy a period of special popularity in relationships. With the sun highlighting your seventh house of partnerships, look forward to great interaction.

CANCER. June 22 to July 22: A willingness to work hard and go the extra mile to complete an assignment is necessary for success. Get focused

and put your nose to the grindstone.

LEO. July 23 to Aug. 22: Set the stage for socializing with a happy-go-lucky, lighthearted approach. Welcome creative ideas from friends and be prepared to take them to the next level.

VIRGO. Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: It is time to find resolution and forgive a family member for a prior misguided deed. Reach out with compassion and understanding. Begin the healing process.

LIBRA. Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Mental pursuits are emphasized this week. Surround yourself with people who share your interests and who can provide the intellectual stimulation that you need.

SCORPIO. Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: Study your budget. List your assets

and income and compare them to your debts and fiscal liabilities. Strive to balance or match the columns equally.

SAGITTARIUS. Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: A change in your personal projection is timely. Make revisions in your appearance that reflects your confidence level or your thoughts about yourself.

CAPRICORN. Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: Find the right time to tie up loose ends and to clear your mental slate. When one door closes, it leaves ample room for the opening of the next door.

AQUARIUS. Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: You always know the right things to say. When a friend comes to you with a gnawing problem, plan to respond with comforting words or practical solutions.

PISCES. Feb. 19 to March 20:

Make great strides or headway in your professional endeavors. Consider the input of a co-worker that will prove to be invaluable in your climb to the top.

If your birthday is this week, pay special attention to communication and practice caution when exchanging pertinent information. Your ideas tend to be far-fetched or out of the ordinary, and so it is going to take additional explanations to effectively get your point across. Speak up and overcome the fear of being labeled an outcast. Welcome just rewards or recognition for your contribution to a group project.

Also born this week: Francois Marie Arouet de Voltaire, Abigail Adams, William H. "Billy the Kid" Bonney, Dale Carnegie, Curry Nation and Tina Turner.

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, Unpublished 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 hhsclassof1975@comcast.net.
- Hillside High School Class of 1960 is planning its next reunion for 2007.

Forward your contact information to Linda Arotzky Lieb at Hillside-high1960@aol.com.

- West Orange High School Class of 1980 will have its 25th reunion on Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at The Appian Way restaurant in Orange.
- For more information, contact Joe Dorey at joeyd01@comcast.net.
- Rahway High School Class of 1980 is organizing its 25th reunion. Call 732-288-2857 or send an e-mail to Ron

Knox at rahway25reunion@aol.com for more information.

- Hillside High School Class of 85 will hold its 20th year class reunion on Nov. 25 at The Sheraton - Newark Airport, 128 Frontage Road, Newark. The evening will begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Lisa Helms at lhelms@att.net.
- Edmund at LAHedmund@aol.com, Kimberly Leach-Moore at Kmoore15@aol.com, or visit hhsclassof85.net/events.

What's Going On?

BAZAAR

FRIDAY

December 2nd, 2005
EVENT: Holiday Auction
PLACE: Holy Spirit School, Morris Avenue and Suburban Road, Union
TIME: 6pm - 11pm
PRICE: \$10.00
DETAILS: Please call Holy Spirit School 908-687-8415 to purchase tickets

AUCTION

SATURDAY

November 19th, 2005
EVENT: Holiday Auction
PLACE: St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 721 Railway Avenue, Union, NJ (off of Morris Avenue)
TIME: 1pm-5pm
PRICE: Admission: \$5.00 - includes 25 free prize tickets. Coffee, Tea & Pastries. Crystal, Small Appliances, Toys, Hand-Crafted Holiday Items, Food Baskets, Gift Certificates, Linens, Hand Crochet Dollies and Many, Many more. Something For Everyone. Call (908) 964-7957 for more info and directions
ORGANIZATION: Philopochos Adelphitos "St Irene" of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

ADVERTISE TODAY!

CLASSIFIED ADS
GET RESULTS!
CALL US AT
908-686-7850

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ORGANIZATION: Sponsored by: Holy Spirit School

OTHER

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

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE QUICK AND CONVENIENT!

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

AUTO SPECIAL
20 words - 10 WEEKS of Exposure including LocalSource.com for 159" in ESSEX COUNTY or 10 WEEKS of Exposure for 159" in UNION & ESSEX COUNTY
For More Information Please Call The Classified Department 908-686-7850

Shore music legends come to Union County

On Nov. 19 at 8 p.m., Jersey Shore legends Gary U.S. Bonds, Joe Grushecky and the Houserockers and Bill Chinnock take the stage at the Union County Arts Center for an evening of rock 'n' roll Jersey Shore style.

Bonds began his professional career as America's baby boomers moved into their midteens. For his first hit, "New Orleans," attention was brought to the record by having promotional copies sent to radio stations in sleeves inscribed "Buy U.S. Bonds" — hence at age 19, Gary Anderson became Gary U.S. Bonds. The follow-up was the now legendary party record, "Quarter to Three." Over the next three years, Bonds co-wrote and recorded hit after good-time hit: "School is Out," "School is In," "Dear Lady Twist," "Twist, Twist Senora," "Seven Day Weekend" and others. Bonds' latest release "Back in 20" has been awarded the 2005 W.C. Handy Blues Award as "Comeback Album of the Year."

Pittsburgh native Grushecky creates the passionate, visceral rock 'n' roll that's remarkable for its consistency, quality and unique blue-collar sensibility. Much like Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band or Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes, Joe Grushecky and the Houserockers have been making American blue-collar bar rock that draws on classic R&B from the 1970s on. Grushecky has recorded five successful albums to date, even with a little help with co-writer Springsteen. He has shared the stage repeatedly with the likes of Springsteen, Bon Jovi, Bandiera, Southside, The E Street Band and many others. Not bad for a

Pittsburgh boy making his way over to Asbury Park.

Dubbed "the real essence of American music," roots-rock guitarist, keyboardist and singer-songwriter Bill Chinnock was one of the early founders of the Asbury Park music scene. Bill's roots are in the blues as well as rock. He has toured with Albert King, Sonny Terry and Brownie McGee, Willie Dixon, James Cotton, John Lee Hooker and many others, fashioning his unique style of blues and roots music.

Tickets are \$30 and may be purchased by calling 732-499-8226 or online by visiting the Web site at www.UCCAC.org. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Ticket Central Box Office located at the corner of 1601 Irving St. and Central Ave., Rahway. The Arts Center provides barrier-free access and seating for our patrons upon request. The theater is located within walking distance of the Rahway NJ Transit train station and can be reached by taking exit 135 from the Garden State Parkway or exit 12 from the Turnpike. Parking is available downtown at the newly completed Rahway Parking Garage. A free shuttle is available to and from the theater.

The Union County Arts Center is dedicated to providing world-class entertainment that is exciting, educational, affordable and responsive to the diverse interests of the communities it serves. UCAC would like to thank the following for their continued support: the city of Rahway, Merck & Co., the County of Union Board of Chosen Freeholders, RSI Bank, and Northfield Bank.

'The Wiz' is set for Union County show

The Rainbow Experience, a multi-cultural community theater group, will present the musical, "The Wiz," a retelling of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum, with music and lyrics by Charlie Smalls and a book by William F. Brown.

Featuring the hit songs "Ease on Down the Road" and "Everybody Rejoice," the winner of several 1975 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, is sure to delight the whole family.

The show will be performed on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the United Church of Christ on 220 W. 7th St. in Plainfield. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors over 65, or children under 12. Call 908-233-2494 or 908-755-8655 to make reservations.

The musical features "Nora" Boylan of Summit as Dorothy, Gillian Beliz-Morham as the Wicked Witch of the West, Michael Swain and Jada Nims, both of Plainfield, as the Tinman and Lion, respectively.

Featured cast members include Adam Alsmadist of Bridgewater as the Wiz, and Tammy Westbrook of Plainfield as Glinda.

The production is directed by Terry-Lynn Lecompte, a recent faculty member of the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan, and an independent artist, educator, director and actor/singer.

Lecompte's work was recently seen at Brundage Park Playhouse.

Now in its seventh season, The Rainbow Experience is dedicated to its mission to foster a multi-cultural, interfaith church and community partnership through the production of theater.

The Rainbow Experience was founded by the joint-ministries-of-the United Church of Christ, the United Church of Christ and the First Congregational Church-Union County in Westfield. Previous productions include "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Godspell," "Honk!" "Once on this Island," "Oliver!" and "Songs in the Spirit," an original cabaret.

The Rainbow Experience is grateful to receive funding from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a part of the agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs along with generous support from the Westfield Foundation; the NJ Association of the UCC and contributions from the congregations of the First Congregational Church of Westfield, the United Church of Christ-Congregational of Plainfield

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IT'S A 'WONDERFUL' PLAY - Real life mother and daughter actors Barbara Guidi and Emma Guidi with Rick Delaney as the George Bailey family in 'It's a Wonderful Life - The Radio Play,' set for Dec. 4 at 3 p.m. at The Theater Project, Union County College's Professional Theater Company, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call 908-659-5189.

Community Dining Guide

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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to: *Worral Community Newspapers*, 463 Valley St., P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, NJ 07040. Fax: 908-241-2557.

ART SHOWS

"CONSUMED: PAINTINGS BY VALERI LARKO," will be on exhibit from Sunday through Dec. 16 at the Arts Guild of Rahway, located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway. For more information, call 732-381-7511, or log on to www.rahwayartsguild.org.

THE WORK OF MARION HOWARD will be on display at the Children's Specialized Hospital, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside, through Nov. 30. For more information, call 888-244-5373, or log on to www.childrens-specialized.org.

DIVERSITY ARTS GALLERY will host its 15th exhibition in Clark, titled "Just Pastels." The 60-piece pastel exhibition will be open to the public through Jan. 8, every Sunday from 11 to 3 p.m., and by appointment. Community groups are invited to call for group meetings. Among the exhibitors will be Nancy Uri of Berkeley Heights, Sigal Lenz and Jeanne Smith of Fairwood, Adrian Guilani of Scotch Plains, and Dolores Brink of Roselle Park. Diversity Arts Gallery is located at Union County Baptist Church, 4 Valley Road, Clark. For more information, call 732-574-1479 or visit the Web site at www.diversityart.com.

THE ARTS GUILD OF RAHWAY, located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway, presents "A Separate Reality: An Eclectic Exhibition of Realistic Visual Artworks," from Jan. 11 to Feb. 10, with an opening reception on Jan. 15 from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Featured artists include Thomas Andersen, Aileen Bassos, Allen Maertz, Jennifer Mazza, Douglass Newton, Leah Oates, Roger Sayre, Charlotte Schulz, Rebecca Sittler, Brian St. Cyr and Randall J. Stoltz. The exhibition will be curated by Samantha Mae Dorfman. For more information, call 732-381-7511, or log on to www.rahwayartsguild.org.

LANDSCAPES will be the focus of "Landscape: Recent Landscape Imagery," at the Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St., Rahway, from Feb. 19 to March 17 with an opening reception on Feb. 19 from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Featured artists include Patricia Brennero, Peter Giacolo, Laura Lou Levy and Roger Tucker. For more information, call 732-381-7511, or log on to www.rahwayartsguild.org.

LOCAL ARTISTS are invited to join the artists' showcase to be sponsored by the Friends of the Mountainside Public Library in February. Painters, photographers, printmakers, sculptors and others in the fine arts are encouraged to participate. Exhibit your works for one low entry fee and keep the sale proceeds. Suggested price range is \$25 to \$150 per piece. The deadline to join is Dec. 15. Call the library at 908-233-0115 for more information.

CHORUS

THE RAHWAY VALLEY JERSEYANES Chorus presents "What The Dickens ... A Pithy Piece in a Parody," a musical theater spoof of the Charles Dickens classic "A Christmas Carol." Shows are Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at Rahway H.S. on Madison Avenue in Rahway. To reserve tickets call 732-494-3580.

CLASSES

THE DUCRET SCHOOL OF ART is located at 1030 Central Ave. and is situated on a seven-acre campus in a historic residential area of Plainfield. The school offers full-time and part-time day and evening classes in fine art, graphic design/computer graphics and illustration. For information call 908-757-7171, fax: 908-757-2626, or visit the Web site at www.ducr.edu.

LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM on Morris Avenue in Union has scheduled its popular Lunch and Learn series, which is free to members of the public and are invited to bring their lunch and

information, call 732-574-1818.

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

KEAN UNIVERSITY'S OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS and *The Star-Ledger* have partnered to publish a new book titled "World of Wonder: Exploring the Realms of History, Science, Nature and Technology."

The book brings together 90 of the most fascinating subjects surveyed by the World of Wonder series. The book is now available for purchase in the Kean University book store and on the Web site of *The Star-Ledger* at <http://www.nj.com/worldofwonder>.

WEEKLY STORY TIMES are presented every Monday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Springfield Barnes & Noble, located at 240 Route 22 West,

learn. Lunch and Learn takes place on a Tuesday from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Space is limited, so call 908-527-0400 for your reservation.

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

LEARN THE ART OF GIFT WRAPPING from Bev Miller and Penny Spotts of All Wrapped Up, who will demonstrate how to create holiday gift baskets on Dec. 6 from 12:15 to 1 p.m., as part of Liberty Hall Museum's Lunch and Learn series. The admission is free and the time is 12:15 to 1 p.m. Guests are invited to bring their own lunch. Space is limited, so call for a reservation. Liberty Hall Museum is

the doors always open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$15 and will benefit the AIDS quilt. For information, call 908-412-9105, press 2. Other concerts will take place at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 E. Broad St., corner of North Ave., Westfield. Other concerts will include:

Freebo & Photoglo in Westfield on Saturday.

Kevin Danzig in the Walchug Art Center on Dec. 3.

Bethany and Rufus in Westfield on Dec. 10.

THE WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER presents the following performances:

King's Road Swing Band, Friday, 8 p.m., \$15.

Dave Goldstein Stand-up, Saturday, 8 p.m., \$15, \$12 for WAC members.

For program details, log on to www.watchungarts.org, or call 908-753-0100.

JERSEY SHORE REUNION 2005 at the Union County Arts Center, 1601

benefit the club's Scholarship Fund, which helps to advance the studies of promising young musicians. A reception and refreshments will follow the concert.

THE SANCTUARY CONCERTS, 240 Southern Blvd., Chatham, at the Presbyterian Church, presents Klezmer/Bluegrass group The Klezmer Mountain Boys with Jewish folktales storyteller Ellen Muskat on Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. For information call 973-376-4946 or visit www.sanctuaryconcerts.org. Admission is \$15 and includes home-baked desserts and coffee.

Y-SQUARES, a local square dance club, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Frank K. Hehly School, Raritan Road, Clark. The fee for each lesson is \$4. For information, call 908-298-1851, 732-381-2535 or 908-241-9492.

THE SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS group has begun a new season with sessions on Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Connection, Morris Avenue at Maple Street, in Summit. Beginners are welcome, no partners are needed. All sessions begin at 8 p.m., newcomers may arrive at 7:30 p.m. for extra help. Admission is \$2 for the evening. Call 973-467-8278 for information and a flyer listing the season schedule.

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN ELIZABETH. Pick your choice of social dancing, \$9 per person, or Latin dancing, \$10 per person, at the Bayway Polish Club, 625 Pulaski St. For information, call 908-355-3131.

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

THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC. meets at 295 Jefferson Ave., Union, behind Home Depot on Route 22 East. The club is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. For information, call 908-964-9724 or 908-964-8808, send inquiries via e-mail to TMRCinc@aol.com or visit the Web site at www.tmrcl.com.

DAVID SANCIOUS AND LARRY CORVELL will perform at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and \$25, \$15 and \$20 for subscribers. For more information, call 732-499-8226, or log on to www.uccac.org.

A HOLIDAY DOO-WOO CELEBRATION will be held at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. Performers will include Fred Parra & The Salinas, Terry Johnson's Flamenco, Jimmy Clinton, Frankie Ford, Emilio Stuchio & The Classics, The Passions, and John Kue & The Excelsiors. Tickets are \$35. For more information, call 732-499-8226, or log on to www.uccac.org.

ORCHESTRA OF ST. PETER BY THE SEA will perform at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 10 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 732-499-8226, or log on to www.uccac.org.

"ANNIVERSARIES AROUND," is the 90th anniversary concert of the Musical Club of Westfield, to be held at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm Street, Westfield, at 8 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets cost \$10 each and may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 908-789-9353. Proceeds will

located at 1003 Morris Ave., Union. For more information about upcoming Liberty Hall events or for reservations call 908-527-0400 or visit on the Internet at www.libertyhallnj.org.

BOOKS BY AND ABOUT WOMEN are the focus of the Mountainside Public Library in February. Painters, photographers, printmakers, sculptors and others in the fine arts are encouraged to participate. Exhibit your works for one low entry fee and keep the sale proceeds. Suggested price range is \$25 to \$150 per piece. The deadline to join is Dec. 15. Call the library at 908-233-0115 for more information.

THE VISUAL ARTS CENTER of New Jersey will present the third exhibition in our Emerging Artists Series, beginning on Dec. 16 and continuing through Feb. 3. This special exhibition will showcase the work of five Master of Fine Arts candidates who will be graduating in 2006. The artists will attend New Jersey college and universities offering Master of Fine Arts programs. The artists chosen are Stephen Shingler from Montclair State University, Neil Gallander and Jeffrey Thompson from Mason Gross School of Fine Arts, Rutgers; Lydia Vincenzi from William Patterson University, and Todd Doney from New Jersey City University. For more information, call 908-732-9121, or log on to www.artcenter-nj.org for more information on classes, exhibitions and special events.

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOOK GROUP will meet at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For

information, call 732-574-1818.

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

HICKORY TREE CHORUS, an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in barbershop style, meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the New Jersey Youth-Symphony Music Center, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Open to residents of both Essex and Union counties. To learn more about Sweet Adelines, Hickory Tree and its quartets, women and teen-aged girls who sing are urged to visit the Web site, hickorytreecorus.org, or e-mail to info@hickorytreecorus.org, or call 973-968-6815.

THE INTERNET HOSTING, 256 South Ave., Fanwood, hosts an Open Mic Karaoke Night on Sundays at 7 p.m. Join the group for a cup of gourmet coffee and a wide variety of organic foods and participate in an original poetry reading, a stand-up comedy routine or

benefit the club's Scholarship Fund, which helps to advance the studies of promising young musicians. A reception and refreshments will follow the concert.

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DAVID SANCIOUS AND LARRY CORVELL will perform at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and \$25, \$15 and \$20 for subscribers. For more information, call 732-499-8226, or log on to www.uccac.org.

A HOLIDAY DOO-WOO CELEBRATION will be held at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. Performers will include Fred Parra & The Salinas, Terry Johnson's Flamenco, Jimmy Clinton, Frankie Ford, Emilio Stuchio & The Classics, The Passions, and John Kue & The Excelsiors. Tickets are \$35. For more information, call 732-499-8226, or log on to www.uccac.org.

ORCHESTRA OF ST. PETER BY THE SEA will perform at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway, on Dec. 10 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 732-499-8226, or log on to www.uccac.org.

"ANNIVERSARIES AROUND," is the 90th anniversary concert of the Musical Club of Westfield, to be held at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm Street, Westfield, at 8 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets cost \$10 each and may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 908-789-9353. Proceeds will

WORRALL NEWSPAPERS

a musical number. There's no cover charge, and patrons can come in, make new friends, surf the Web or play a game of Diablo2, NeverWinterNights, WarCraft or Counter-Strike. To ask about a schedule of events, call 908-400-1234 or visit its Web site: www.theinternetcafe.com.

JAZZ

LANA'S RESTAURANT in Clark will offer dinner and live jazz with Warren Vache every Thursday, beginning at 7 p.m. For information, call 732-689-9024.

JAZZ IS BACK AT THE COVE! "Wednesday's Jazz Cocktails" will feature the house band, Tempo, playing at Dusty's Place on Monday, formerly known as The Cove, 112 Chestnut St., Roselle. Saturday Jazz Showcase features top acts from the New York Metropolitan area. For information, call 908-241-5675, or 908-241-1224. Patrons may also send a message by e-mail to salange@bellatlantic.net.

KIDS

TALES FOR TOTS PRESCHOOL STORYTIME will be offered at Barnes and Noble, Route 22 West, Springfield, Mondays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m., and the Kids' Writing Workshop, Saturdays at 10 a.m. For information, call 973-376-8544.

RADIO

TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION will meet at 8 p.m. the first and third Mondays of the month at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church on Old Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. For information, call 908-241-5758.

SCRIPTS

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

SINGLES

INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years old, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for discussion and continental breakfast at First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield. Donation is \$2. For information, call 908-889-5265 or 908-889-4751.

SOCIAL SINGLES DANCING, for 45-year-olds and older, meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Yankee Buffet Grand Ballroom, 2680 Morris Ave., Union. Admission is \$7. For information, call 908-688-8816.

THEATER

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS will compete for the 2006 fourth annual Young Playwrights Competition for New Jersey High School Students, sponsored by The Theater Project, Union County College's Professional Theater Company. First, second- and third-prize winners will receive \$600, \$400, and \$200 U.S. savings bonds, respectively. The winning scripts will be honored with professional script-in-hand performances during New Jersey Family Week at the theater, March 2006, when professional theaters in New Jersey offer free programming for young people. The contest is open to students in New Jersey in grades nine to 12. Scripts at any stage of completion are eligible. Deadline for submission is Jan. 31. There is a \$5 entry fee. Mail to The Theater Project, Union County College, 103 Springfield Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016. For information, call 908-659-5189.

INTERNET

THE INTERNET HOSTING, 256 South Ave., Fanwood, hosts an Open Mic Karaoke Night on Sundays at 7 p.m. Join the group for a cup of gourmet coffee and a wide variety of organic foods and participate in an original poetry reading, a stand-up comedy routine or

WORRALL NEWSPAPERS

a musical number. There's no cover charge, and patrons can come in, make new friends, surf the Web or play a game of Diablo2, NeverWinterNights, WarCraft or Counter-Strike. To ask about a schedule of events, call 908-400-1234 or visit its Web site: www.theinternetcafe.com.

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located at 1003 Morris Ave., Union. For more information about upcoming Liberty Hall events or for reservations call 908-527-0400 or visit on the Internet at www.libertyhallnj.org.

BOOKS BY AND ABOUT WOMEN are the focus of the Mountainside Public Library in February. Painters, photographers, printmakers, sculptors and others in the fine arts are encouraged to participate. Exhibit your works for one low entry fee and keep the sale proceeds. Suggested price range is \$25 to \$150 per piece. The deadline to join is Dec. 15. Call the library at 908-233-0115 for more information.

THE VISUAL ARTS CENTER of New Jersey will present the third exhibition in our Emerging Artists Series, beginning on Dec. 16 and continuing through Feb. 3. This special exhibition will showcase the work of five Master of Fine Arts candidates who will be graduating in 2006. The artists will attend New Jersey college and universities offering Master of Fine Arts programs. The artists chosen are Stephen Shingler from Montclair State University, Neil Gallander and Jeffrey Thompson from Mason Gross School of Fine Arts, Rutgers; Lydia Vincenzi from William Patterson University, and Todd Doney from New Jersey City University. For more information, call 908-732-9121, or log on to www.artcenter-nj.org for more information on classes, exhibitions and special events.

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOOK GROUP will meet at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For

information, call 732-574-1818.

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

HICKORY TREE CHORUS, an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in barbershop style, meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the New Jersey Youth-Symphony Music Center, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Open to residents of both Essex and Union counties. To learn more about Sweet Adelines, Hickory Tree and its quartets, women and teen-aged girls who sing are urged to visit the Web site, hickorytreecorus.org, or e-mail to info@hickorytreecorus.org, or call 973-968-6815.

THE INTERNET HOSTING, 256 South Ave., Fanwood, hosts an Open Mic Karaoke Night on Sundays at 7 p.m. Join the group for a cup of gourmet coffee and a wide variety of organic foods and participate in an original poetry reading, a stand-up comedy routine or

benefit the club's Scholarship Fund, which helps to advance the studies of promising young musicians. A reception and refreshments will follow the concert.

THE SANCTUARY CONCERTS, 240 Southern Blvd., Chatham, at the Presbyterian Church, presents Klezmer/Bluegrass group The Klezmer Mountain Boys with Jewish folktales storyteller Ellen Muskat on Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. For information call 973-376-4946 or visit www.sanctuaryconcerts.org. Admission is \$15 and includes home-baked desserts and coffee.

Y-SQUARES, a local square dance club, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Frank K. Hehly School, Raritan Road, Clark. The fee for each lesson is \$4. For information, call 908-298-1851, 732-381-2535 or 908-241-9492.

THE SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS group has begun a new season with sessions on Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Connection, Morris Avenue at Maple Street, in Summit. Beginners are welcome, no partners are needed. All sessions begin at 8 p.m., newcomers may arrive at 7:30 p.m. for extra help. Admission is \$2 for the evening. Call 973-467-8278 for information and a flyer listing the season schedule.

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN ELIZABETH. Pick your choice of social dancing, \$9 per person, or Latin dancing, \$10 per person, at the Bayway Polish Club, 625 Pulaski St. For information, call 908-355-3131.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for exchange program - rewarding opportunity working with high school exchange students. Responsible, bilingual, recruiting host families, supervising students. Small stipend given. Call Sue, 732-251-1517 or 800-677-2773.

PERSONALS

A DEVOTED married couple wishes to adopt newborn, will offer a special life to a child, financial security, love and a close, extended family, expenses paid. Josephine & Tommy, 1-866-229-2043.

LOST & FOUND

LOST DOG, in South Orange, October 29. Pekingese Shih Tzu, one eye, 21 years old. 5-6 lbs, caramel & black. Very friendly. 973-865-3000 or 973-885-0002.

INSTRUCTION

EARN Degree-Online from home. Medical Business, Paralegal, Computers, Job Placement Assistance, Computer & Financial Aid. If qualify, call 866-555-2121. www.onlinedegree.com

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BED SET & 6 cherry wood sleigh bed, dresser, mirror, chest, night stands. New in box. Value \$550 sacrifice \$2675. Can deliver. 732-259-6690.

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CEMETERY PLOTS Hollywood memorial park beautiful spot in front of cemetery. Lighted memorial section 20 \$3,000.00 worth \$4,300. 610-687-8684.

DINING ROOM SET: matching table & 6 chairs. Solid wood, 50" high. TV, 5 piece set. Sears lawnmower, Char-Broil grill, dehumidifier, oriental rug, Butcher Block console. 973-762-6148.

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ESTATE/HOUSE SALE

SPRINGFIELD, 708 PARK PLACE (East of Route 22 exit Springfield left at light to Park Place) Friday, Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Quality furnishings, antiques throughout the home. Original paintings, American pottery, China, Depression glass, jewelry, St. John clothing (size 12-14), Judith Leiber handbags, antique furniture, too much to list. Cash only.

UNION 2153 BALMORAL Avenue 9:00am-5:00pm Saturday, November 19th. Household items, furniture, old records, knickknacks, figurines. Something for everyone!

UNION 429 DAVID Terrace (across from Kawamew School) November 19th, 9am-5pm. Contents of house, furniture, dishes, clothes, miscellaneous items.

GARAGE/YARD SALES

SUMMIT - 41 LONDERY Drive, Sat. Sunday, November 19th, 9am-1pm. Children's toys, games, household items, bedroom furniture, priced to sell.

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUE & OLDER FURNITURE, Dining Rooms & Bedrooms, Breakfronts & Secretaries, Etc. Call Bill! 973-686-4804

AAA LIONEL American Flyer, Ives and other trains and old toys. Collector pays highest cash prices. 1-800-464-4671. 973-425-1538.

COMIC BOOKS WANTED

TOP \$\$\$ Paid 973-227-5188 (Call 9am-5pm)

PLEASE SAVE MAXIE, a young neutered male cat, caramel-colored with black stripes. Maxie is extremely affectionate with humans, but bullies other cats. Maxie will be kept in an isolated room for the rest of his life, unless someone with no other cats wants him.

PETS

PLEASE SAVE MAXIE, a young neutered male cat, caramel-colored with black stripes. Maxie is extremely affectionate with humans, but bullies other cats. Maxie will be kept in an isolated room for the rest of his life, unless someone with no other cats wants him.

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REAL ESTATE

When the temperatures begin to cool, the market heats up

Weichert, Realtors branch office managers know that fall is the real start of the new year for many people and that the season offers advantages for both homebuyers and sellers.

"People are focused on school and work," said John Geaney, branch manager of Weichert's Upper Montclair Office. "Other people start new jobs in new locations and find it necessary to relocate. Also, there are buyers who did not find the home they wanted in the spring and they are looking in the fall."

Many buyers want to be in a new home before the holidays start. In addition to getting settled before the holidays, buyers are aware of tax advantages by purchasing before

the year ends. "Buyers report mortgage interest and property taxes on their tax returns for the new home if they purchase it before the close of the year," said Geaney. "There is a strong desire to purchase and close before Dec. 31."

Interest rates are key. "Buyers know what the interest rates are now," said Carol Gilligan, branch manager of Weichert's Maplewood office. "If they choose to wait, the rates change. It's to their advantage to purchase now if they have found the home they really want."

Schools are back in session. "Some parents find it easier to get their home organized and free of clutter once the children are back

in school," said Gilligan. "With the children in school, a routine is back in place and can actually help parents plan time to shop for a new home."

Fall is a colorful season. Cooler temperatures bring beautiful colors that dress up landscaping with fall foliage and add charm and an inviting appeal.

"There are so many beautiful items in nature that dress up your home and add a warm welcome," said Gilligan. "You may want to make an arrangement of mums and pumpkins near an entrance. Walkways can be dressed up with small pumpkins spaced along the path. Inside, a smaller arrangement of flowers and a pumpkin make a nice table centerpiece and dress up a kitchen or dining room."

There is a new opportunity for visibility in the fall.

"People who were not routinely driving by your home may now be on their way to new activities," said Geaney. "These people see your home is on the market and may be interested themselves or know someone who is looking for a home in the area. Word-of-mouth advertising is valuable."

Take advantage of all that the fall season makes available. Weichert, Realtors encourages those who are thinking of buying or selling a home to call the nearest Weichert office and invite a sales professional in to learn

about all of the real estate services that the company offers.

Weichert has more than 16,500 sales associates in more than 350 company-owned and franchised sales offices in key markets throughout the United States. A family of full-service real estate and financial services companies, Weichert helps customers buy and sell both residential and commercial real estate, and streamlines the delivery of mortgages and home and title insurance. For more information, call Weichert's customer service center at 1-800-USA SOLD or visit Weichert's Web site, www.weichert.com. Each Weichert franchised office is independently owned and operated.

In first three quarters commercial, industrial market has yet to heat up

Cushman & Wakefield of New Jersey Inc.'s Research Services team has released its third-quarter 2005 office and industrial market statistics for the state's Northern and Central regions. Below is an overview of Cushman & Wakefield's findings.

• Office vacancy rates have remained stable in 2005. The overall vacancy of 19.2 percent is up just slightly from 19.1 percent at year-end 2004. This still remains high compared to the low of 10.5 percent recorded in 2000.

• Sublet space throughout the region continues to decline, currently at 7.38 million square feet and representing 22 percent of total available product. At the end of 2004, 8.64 million square feet of sublease space represented 26.1 percent of total availabilities.

• Overall average rental rates have experienced an increase, jump-

ing 32 cents from \$24.84 per square foot at year-end 2004 to \$25.16 per square foot today.

• Office leasing activity in 2005 has rebounded from totals posted during 2004. Some 8.78 million square feet of leases were executed through the third quarter of 2005, on pace to reach 11.7 million square feet by year-end. Last year, a total of 9.4 million square feet in leasing took place.

• Leasing highlights in Central New Jersey involved the NJ Turnpike Authority, which will merge its two divisions and headquarters location from East Brunswick/Woodbridge into 100,000-square-foot at 581 Main Street in Woodbridge. QualCare Alliance Networks Inc. decided to relocate within Piscataway and leased 99,541 square feet at 30 Knightsbridge Road for its new headquarters.

• The largest transactions in Northern New Jersey occurred in Morris

County. Atlantic Health System leased 210,971 square feet at 475 South Street in Morristown. American Home Assurance Company leased 117,118 square feet, and Cingular Wireless PCS leased 72,385 square feet at 5 Woodholme Road in Parsippany.

• Investment sales activity has continued on a strong pace in 2005, with 12.1 million square feet in year-to-date transactions. In Northern New Jersey, highlights included the sale of the 138,740-square-foot 2100 North Central Road in Fort Lee. In Central New Jersey, George Comfort & Sons Inc. assumed ownership of the 11-building, 427,000-square-foot Quakerbridge Plaza in Hamilton.

• Several new development projects broke ground during the third quarter. Currently, 791,931 square feet of space is under construction, as compared to just 180,000 square feet

at year-end 2004.

• The industrial market cooled slightly during the summer months. Yet, although leasing slowed from totals recorded during the first half of 2005, more than 5 million square feet of third-quarter industrial transactions were executed in Northern and Central New Jersey.

• Vacancy rates have decreased markedly during the year in both regions, registering at 6.3 percent in the northern counties and 6.2 percent in the central counties, down from 15.9 percent and 8.7 percent, respectively, at year-end 2004.

• While Middlesex County again led the entire region in leasing activity, tenants were generally more active in Northern New Jersey, where 55 percent of the total square footage was leased. In the Meadowlands, HD Smith pre-leased 211,000 square feet at Phase 1 of Saw Mill Park in Kearny. In Middlesex County, Howard Berger signed on for 200,000 square feet.

• Some 2.2 million square feet of available product was added in Central New Jersey. Two speculative projects, the 251,000-square-foot Perth Amboy Business Center, Bldg A, and the 231,000-square-foot 300 Herrod Blvd in South Brunswick were delivered fully occupied.

• Construction is progressing on 15 facilities totaling 2.4 million square feet, primarily within Middlesex County. This includes three warehouse/distribution facilities greater than 300,000 square feet.

• While the majority of new construction remains concentrated in Central New Jersey to satisfy demand for modern space, developers are capitalizing on redeveloping older industrial facilities/sites into alternative uses within Northern New Jersey, where available land is less plentiful.

• Investors continued to find value in warehouse product during the third quarter, as 3.1 million square feet of industrial product changed ownership. In Cranbury, Rockefeller Group Development Holdings sold the recently completed, 427,500-square-

foot 71 Station Road to Gateway Holdings. In Secaucus, ING Clarion Partners purchased the 403,869-square-foot 275 Hartz Way from Investcorp.

Cushman & Wakefield is the world's largest privately held real estate services firm. Founded in 1917, the firm has 189 offices in 57 countries around the globe, and more than 11,000 professionals. Cushman & Wakefield delivers integrated solutions by actively advising, implementing and managing on behalf of landlords, tenants, and investors through every stage of the real estate process. These solutions include helping clients to buy, sell, finance, lease, and manage assets. The firm also provides valuation advice, strategic planning and research, portfolio analysis, and site selection and space location assistance, among many other advisory services.

To find out more about Cushman & Wakefield, call 800-376-3133, or visit the firm's Web site at www.cushmanwakefield.com.

Weichert

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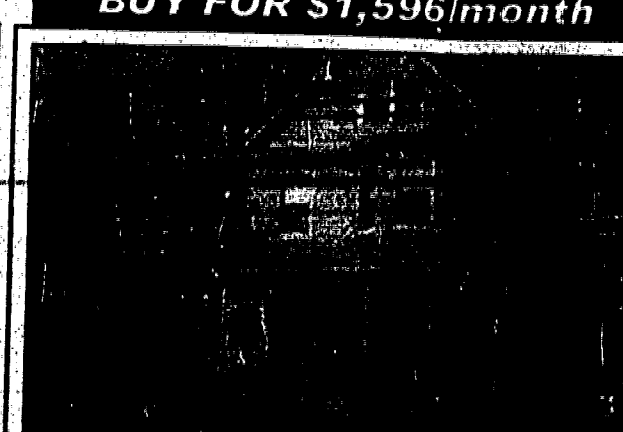


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UNION TOWNSHIP - Charming Cape Cod in need of a little TLC! Offering 3 bedrooms, full bath, Living Room with a fireplace, full basement, and much more! Centrally located within walking distance of everything! \$380,000

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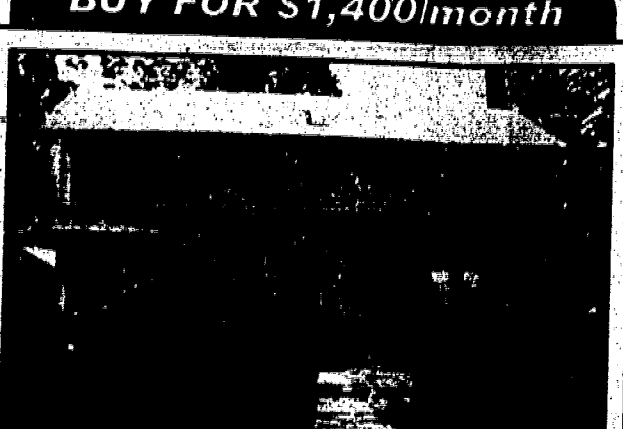


Renovated Colonial!

UNION TOWNSHIP - Beautifully renovated Colonial located near Maplewood train station and Route 78 - commuters' dream! 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, finished basement, and new appliances and boiler! A Must See! \$319,000

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EAST ORANGE - Tons of charm in this 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home, with the perfect mix of updated, modern features! Featuring a balcony off the Master Bedroom, modern EIK w/butler's pantry, and gas fireplace in the Living Room - all on an oversized lot! \$350,000

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REAL ESTATE

Ex-pro finds homes for today's stars

When Devils hockey stars Dan McGillis and Colin White moved to New Jersey this summer and urgently needed to find homes, they wanted a real estate broker who understood the unique pressures facing athletes who travel, move frequently and have to make important decisions via long distance.

They turned to Colin Dibley, a former Davis Cup tennis champ and world record holder who is now a sales associate with Jordan Baris Inc., an independent real estate brokerage serving northern New Jersey since 1952.

"I used to travel frequently when I was playing on the tour and that helps me understand some of the qualities other athletes look for in a home," said Dibley. "Easy access to airports, highways and team facilities are important because today's athletes spend so much time on the road or traveling to practice. Time at home is cherished."

McGillis bought a house in Chatham, and White moved to Montclair. Both of these towns are close to the Devils' practice rink in West Orange. "Easy access to airports, highways and team facilities are important because today's athletes spend so much time on the road or traveling to practice. Time at home is cherished."

"Jordan Baris Realtors has been selling homes in northern New Jersey for more than 50 years and has represented many celebrities and athletes, so we know which towns and neighborhoods they are drawn to," said Ken Baris, the president of Jordan Baris Inc. "And we understand their demands, wonderful neighborhoods that provide a combination of privacy, good schools

Colin Dibley, who is based in Jordan Baris' West Orange office, was a member of Australia's champion Davis Cup team in 1973 and a Wimbledon singles quarter-finalist in 1971 and 1972. In 1974, he set the world record for the fastest serve at 148 miles per hour, a record that stood for 24 years.

and access to transportation."

Dibley, a native Australian, has been a licensed sales associate with Jordan Baris since the mid-1980s, when he started investing some of his tennis earnings in single- and multi-family homes. He said representing McGillis and White was unusual because the athletes had a relatively short period of time to find homes and move after signing contracts with the Devils.

"Having such a limited time to find them homes, I actually e-mailed both families photographs of select properties in order to accelerate the process," said Dibley. "I also arranged inspections and made sure all of the paperwork was ready in time for the closing."

Dibley, who is based in Jordan Baris' West Orange office, was a member of Australia's champion Davis Cup team in 1973 and a Wimbledon singles quarter-finalist in 1971 and 1972. In 1974, Dibley set the world record for the fastest serve at 148 miles per hour, a record that stood for 24 years.

Dibley continued to play professionally into the 1990s and was the

U.S. Open over-35 singles champion in 1981 and the Wimbledon over-35 singles champion in 1983 and 1985. Some of Dibley's biggest tennis highlights include wins over Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl, Guillermo Vilas and Ili Nastase. At Orange Lawn Tennis Club in South Orange, he won the 1973 Eastern Grass Courts tournament men's singles title.

Established in 1952, Jordan Baris Inc. is one of the oldest and most respected full-service real estate brokerages in New Jersey and the New York metropolitan area. The firm operates offices in West Orange and South Orange and has a team of 235. Jordan Baris Inc. provides real estate brokerage services to buyers and sellers of residential and commercial properties, tenants and landlords as well as developers. A member of Leading Real Estate Companies of the World, formerly the Relo network, the firm provides national relocation services. Jordan Baris Inc. is renowned for both superior customer service and leading edge technology. Visit the firm's Web site at www.jordanbaris.com.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Weichert Union is No. 1 in the town

Robert Spillane, branch manager of Weichert, Realtors' Union office, has announced that Weichert, Realtors was the No. 1 real estate company in Union from January until August 2005, with more sales and listings than any other broker in the area, according to statistics from the Garden State Multiple Listing Service.

If you are interested in joining this fine sales team or would like to speak to a sales associate about a real estate transaction, call Weichert's Union Office at 908-687-4800. The office is located at 1307 Stuyvesant Ave.

Two at Weichert win September awards

Robert Spillane, branch manager of Weichert, Realtors' Union office, recently announced that two sales associates were recognized for their office achievements in September.

Kathleen Gwaldis received awards for top listings, top revenue units and top dollar volume for the month. Gwaldis is a member of Weichert's 2004 Million Dollar Sales and Marketing Clubs, as well as Weichert's 2004 President's Club, an honor that places her in the top 1 percent of the company's 16,500 sales associates. In addition, she holds membership in the

New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence at the gold level for 2004.

Sharon Lane was named top sales associate for the month.

These and the other fine sales associates can be reached for real estate transactions in Weichert's Union Office at 908-687-4800. The office is located at 1307 Stuyvesant Ave.

Weichert has more than 16,500 sales associates in 350 company-owned and franchised sales offices in key markets throughout the United States. A family of full-service real estate and financial services companies, Weichert helps customers buy

and sell both residential and commercial real estate, and streamlines the delivery of mortgages and home and title insurance. For more information, call Weichert's customer service center at 800-USA SOLD or visit Weichert's Web site, www.weichert.com. Each Weichert franchised office is independently owned and operated.

O'Neill is honored for regional achievement

Marilena O'Neill, a sales associate in Weichert, Realtors' Summit office, was honored for her regional achievement in September. Erica Levey, branch

manager, made the announcement.

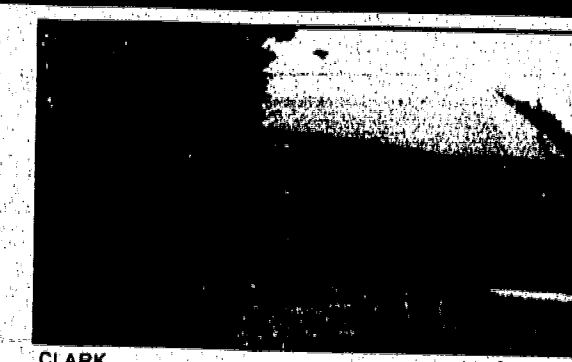
O'Neill earned the award for top sales in the region. O'Neill is a member of Weichert's 2004 Million Dollar Sales and Marketing Clubs, as well as Weichert's 2004 Ambassador's Club, an honor that places her in the top 2 percent of the company's 16,500 sales associates. She also holds membership in the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence at the silver level for 2004.

Marilena O'Neill and the other fine associates of Weichert's Summit office can be reached for real estate transactions at 908-277-1200. The office is located at 474 Morris Ave.

Weichert has more than 16,500 sales associates in more than 350 company-owned and franchised sales offices in key markets throughout the United States. A family of full-service real estate and financial services companies, Weichert helps customers buy and sell both residential and commercial real estate, and streamlines the delivery of mortgages and home and title insurance. For more information, call Weichert's customer service center at 800-USA SOLD or visit Weichert's Web site, www.weichert.com. Each Weichert franchised office is independently owned and operated.

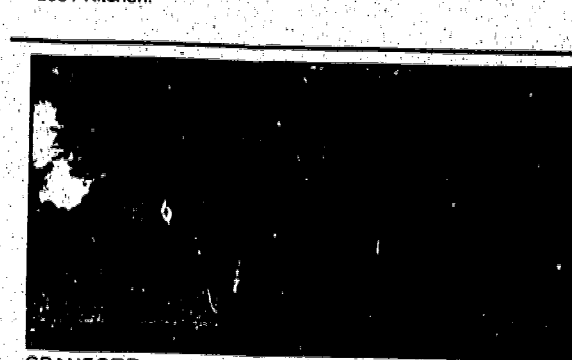
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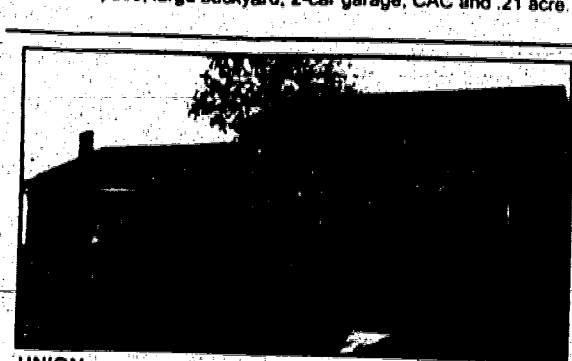
CLARK
Great condition and open floor make this 4-Bedroom Cape a must see. Located on a lovely street near schools, library and parks. Features a new Recreation room, exercise room and more plus a 2001 Kitchen.

\$398,500



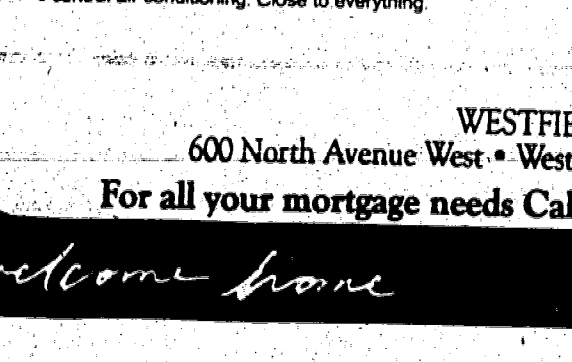
CRANFORD
Lovely, tree-lined street. This spacious 4 Bedroom, 2.5 bath home consists of 6 levels. Large rooms, hardwood floors, Eat-In Kitchen, Master Bedroom with full bath, great Family Room with walk-out patio, large backyard, 2-car garage, CAC and 21 acre.

\$519,900



UNION
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.

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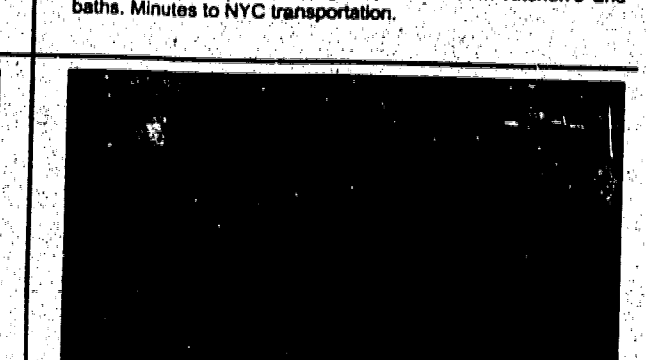
SPRINGFIELD
Charming Cape Cod located in close proximity to shopping, schools, parks and places of worship. Four Bedroom home with park-like yard, hardwood floors, fireplace, sun porch and deck.

\$399,000



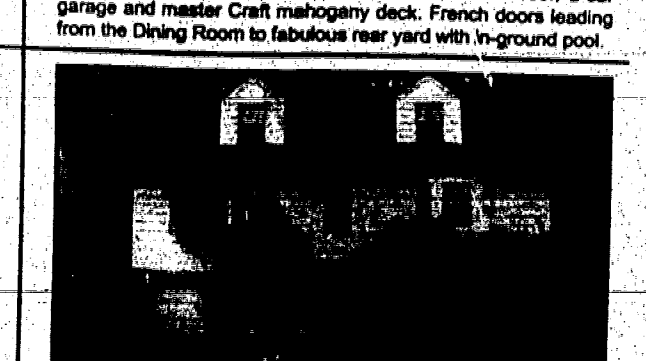
CRANFORD
English Village Colonial One and two Bedroom units, both in mint condition. Featuring spacious room sizes, oak parquet floors, arched windows and moldings, updated Eat-In Kitchen and bath. Minutes to NYC transportation.

\$199,000 & \$399,000



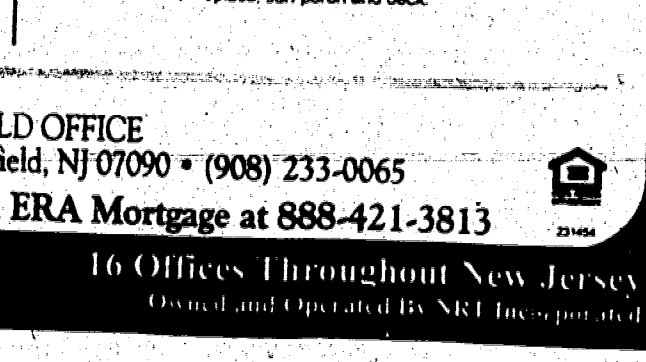
FAN WOOD
The home you've been waiting for and at a price you will love. See this custom, vinyl-sided Split Level with 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 bath, hardwood floors, Pella windows, Timberline roof, 2-car garage and master Craft mahogany deck. French doors leading from the Dining Room to fabulous rear yard with in-ground pool.

\$469,999



WESTFIELD
Beautiful country colonial boasts over 2000 sq. ft. of living space, 5 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, granite counters, oak stained wood floors, fireplace, oak hardwood floors, 12' ceilings, dimensional roof and Anderson windows. Offered at \$559,000.

\$559,000



WESTFIELD
Beautiful country colonial boasts over 2000 sq. ft. of living space, 5 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, granite counters, oak stained wood floors, fireplace, oak hardwood floors, 12' ceilings, dimensional roof and Anderson windows. Offered at \$559,000.

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The second bedroom is quite large, and includes one complete wall of closets. A central bath is available for everyone to share. Linen and coat storage is accessible from the hall.

Many extras in this split-foyer plan

Sideways flank the entry adorned with a round-top fan window. Access is provided to either level of the home. The upper level houses the main living quarters.

A tray ceiling and vast open areas create a dramatic visual effect. The great room and dining area run through the center of the house with triple windows and a door overlooking the rear sun deck.

The U-shaped kitchen is adjacent and filled with amenities. A deep walk in pantry helps keep counter top clutter to a minimum.

The master suite is vaulted and highlighted by double windows with an arch top window, flooding the room with natural light. Two separate closets are indicated for maximum use of the space. A private luxury bath includes double vanity, separate shower and tub.

Family bedrooms are isolated on the other side, with two different versions available.

One version includes an enormous bedroom, not much smaller than the master bedroom, with the same vault and

window treatment. A giant walk-in closet is also indicated for this bedroom. The second bedroom is really quite large as well, and includes one complete wall of closets. A central bath is available for everyone to share. Linen and coat storage is accessible from the hall.

The second version reduces the sizes of the bedrooms, and includes a deep laundry room.

Downstairs you will find an oversized double garage, laundry facilities and space for future development.

Stone, horizontal siding, multiple roof lines and beautiful window treatments including arch tops and shutters create a home of memorable design.

Plan number Z-624-SF includes 1,698 square feet of heated living space on the upper level, 112 square feet of heated space on the lower level.

To receive an information packet on the plans, call W.D. Farmer Residence Designer Inc. at 800-225-7526. You can write to request the information at P.O. Box 450025, Atlanta GA 31145. Visit the Web site: www.wdfplans.com.

Weichert

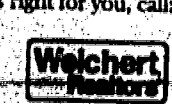
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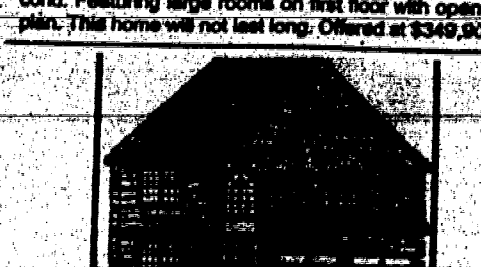


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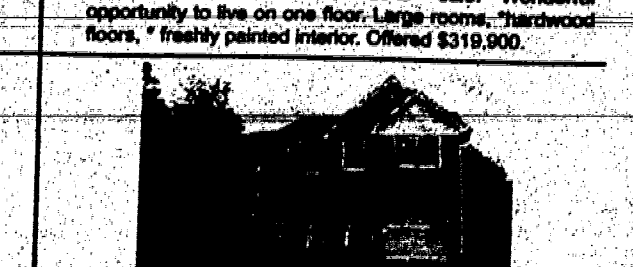


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AUTOMOTIVE

New Jetta is a better version of an old pal

By Mark Maynard
Copley News Service

Meeting a friend's new mate can be so awkward, particularly when the old one was so well-liked.

That's a little how it was for me when I was introduced to Volkswagen's new Jetta.

I liked the old Jetta. I liked its purebred European good looks and German logic. Even the cheapest model seemed trend-setting in its style, functionality and performance.

But as sweet as that package was, Volkswagen dumped it for something bigger, braver and faster.

The company has attracted a young buyer demographic with this simple sedan, amassing about 2.2 million owners.

But apparently that age group isn't interested in moving up to the slightly larger Passat, so the approach for the redesigned Jetta was to follow its millions of Jetta owners into careers and mortgages and offer them a more grown-up version of their car.

It's tough love for these kids, but somebody has to say it. And it might as well be Volkswagen's advertising: Life's hard, suck it up, get some sensible shoes and enjoy partying at home because you've got to get up early for work. And be a rebel with a car, the new Jetta.

On introduction to the new Jetta at the media launch in San Diego, my reaction was cool and cautious. My trusted friend's replacement looked stuffy, like the Phaeton had a baby. Or worse, it was too much like something from Toyota or Honda.

And after 200 miles of driving, I was still a nit.

I grumbled that the doors didn't seem to open as wide. The rearview mirror looked cheap. There was too much wind noise around the mirrors. The interior design, so-called, was plug-and-play plain.

I was being perhaps a bit unfair, so I scheduled a week to test drive it at home, so I could finish nailing the coffin shut.

And for the first few days at home with my good friend's new partner, I was a rude host. But then something happened. I pulled the shifter into

Sport mode and caught a little action from the six-speed Tiptronic automatic.

Sport mode puts the transmission into a true performance calibration. Not quite as aggressive as in the Audi A4, but upshifts are held to build power. Downshifts come easily with the flick of the accelerator.

The Tiptronic keeps the transmission sensitized for point-and-shoot maneuverability, which is easily appreciated on the daily commute. At freeway speeds, the transmission stays in fifth. The 0-60 mph is a modest 9.1 seconds, but the car's still fun to play with.

So beauty isn't skin deep.

The new engine is an aluminum, 2.5-liter five-cylinder, with double overhead cams and 20 valves. It is rated a dutiful 150 horsepower, but the 170 foot-pounds of torque pulls hard up hills and away from stoplights.

Fuel economy of 22 mpg around town and 30 on the highway is good, using 87 octane. It's not a bad way to spend a fuel budget.

I was starting to feel the love, but this car will have much to prove even to recent Jetta owners. It is being directed into a tough, highly critical segment of well-done, midsize sedans.

The new Jetta is about an inch wider, 7 inches longer for a larger back seat area and it rides on a 3-inch-longer wheelbase for a more mature ride.

Using the new Golf platform, the Jetta is 60 percent stiffer for torsional rigidity that gives the best foundation to hang the suspension and pack the engine.

The size is still in the compact segment, but it's pushing the limit for performance agility. It is far more polished than the comparably priced Pontiac G6 and more of a competitor to the Volvo S40 and Acura TSX.

Perhaps the biggest difference between Jetta and the competitors is the long list of safety features and conveniences.

Pricing has been simplified into two models and two major option packages.

The base model — Value Edition Jetta — starts at \$17,900, and every model includes air bag curtains and

side air bags, four-wheel disc brakes with ABS with brake assist, eight-way adjustable front seats, tilt-telescopic steering wheel, power windows and heated mirrors, air conditioning and full-size spare.

The Jetta 2.5 starts at \$21,005 and adds such extras as automatic air conditioning, automatic headlights, heated seats, leatherette seating, rain-sensing wipers, six-disc in-dash CD audio system, and a rear seat armrest and ski pass-through.

Package No. 1 adds a power tilt-slide sunroof, upgraded sound system and 16-inch alloy wheels.

Package No. 2 adds leather-trimmed upholstery, rear sunshade, satellite radio, wood trim and 12-way power driver and passenger seats.

The new model does have subtle Jetta-ness to compete among the entry luxury brands. The drivability and interior roominess are convincing, when given a chance.

The chassis is tight and the suspension breathes in harshness and exhales smoothly. But, while you can run this car hard, its added mass and height make it not as snappy through the corners as the Volvo or Acura. The large disc brakes pull the car to a sudden stop without a lunge and squat.

The inside works well, too. The plain instrument panel is actually quite functional and simple to operate. A neat valance treatment to the base of the windshield cleans up the view out the front.

Sightlines are unobstructed and the seats are full and comfortable. The roomier back seat area is also easier to get in and out of than the old model. A fold-down rear seatback and fold-flat front seat greatly expand cargo capacity.

Quality of parts and assembly is good, but I did experience two problems.

The electric driver's seat would motor forward when the door was opened. VW is aware of this glitch on some cars and offered a fix, but it didn't help. And the chrome bezel plate around the gearshift wouldn't stay snapped in place. Simple bugs, easily exterminated.

The new Jetta isn't perfect, but it

left a good impression.

Still distrustful, I invited the input of a female friend who leases a 2000 Jetta five-speed, which was her first new car. And she's been a VW fan since owning a Karmann Ghia in high school.

I stood back as she opened doors, peered into the trunk and got settled behind the wheel. Then we went for a drive.

How about that sloping front end, I asked?

No problem, said she, "except the side glass is smaller."

That's because the doors and beltline are slightly taller, which puts more steel around occupants for better impact protection. "Oh, I like that," she said.

She had no issue with the exterior styling, the interior is fancier than her Jetta. Her final answer: "I like it. I just hope I'm all grown up by the time my lease is up."

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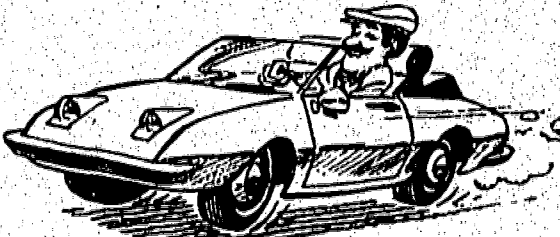
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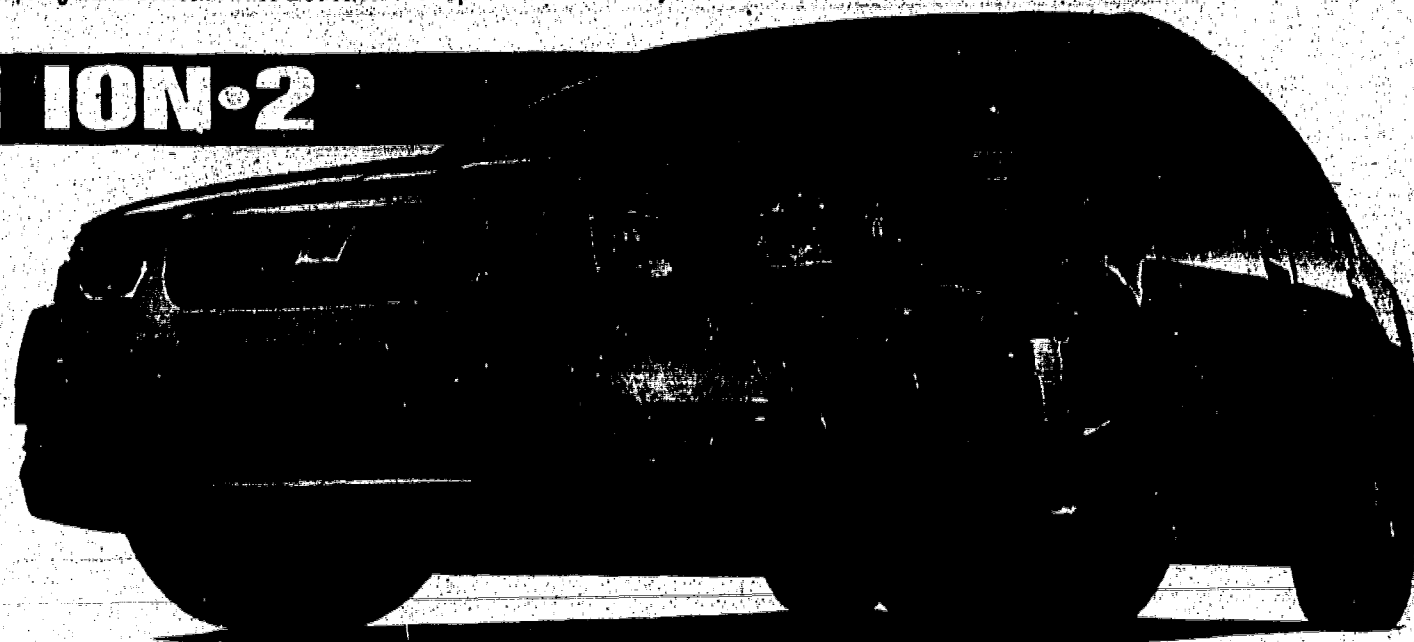
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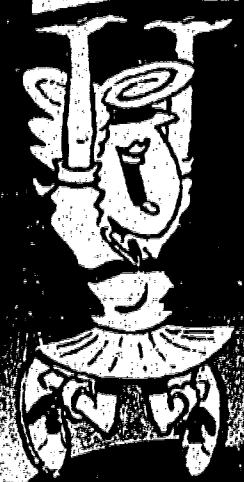
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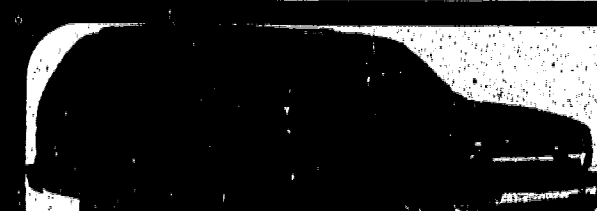


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Inside

BUSINESS

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Volume Eight, Number Twelve
December 2005

Transportation companies provide a vital link for area businesses

Kem Lall started out less than 15 years ago with one truck working out of a Jersey City warehouse, transporting supplies for local companies. His company now has 35 trucks and drivers, contracts with 25 other independent drivers, and provides transportation, and storage and distribution facilities for a wide range of local companies.

KLX Logistics, located near Liberty State Park in Jersey City, is an example of the many companies benefiting from large corporations outsourcing functions such as shipping, storage and distribution. Companies such as KLX, many of which have been built from the ground up and are still family owned, provide the needed 'middleman' logistical services to get raw materials to the producers and the finished products to the end customer.

"We started building slowly, adding a vehicle or two each year. Now we want to expand our transportation services to other industries, increase our warehouse size and get into more storage and distribution," Lall said. Not satisfied to stay at any one level, Lall said, "I would like to get involved more in warehousing and distribution of more types of products." The company is currently acquiring additional warehouse space.

KLX provides a range of services from courier for packages to shipping truckloads of goods. It caters largely to the printing and graphics industry, delivering raw paper rolls to printers, delivering the printed product to the binder and then transporting the finished product to the customers, said Marcos Nunez, director of sales.

"We work with all sizes of companies from small to Fortune 100, specializing in same-day and next-day service. We are their in-house trucking company," he said. "We will also store products in our warehouse and ship it as needed. If a company has 12 skids of paper being delivered, we can transport it in tractor trailers, store it in our warehouse and then transfer it to vans to be delivered at different times to New York City or elsewhere. It also works the other way around, we collect the finished product in vans, bring it to our warehouse and transfer to large trucks for long

distance transport."

KLX is a minority-owned company certified by the New York-New Jersey Minority Supplier Diversity Council.

For a totally different type of shipping need, Dependable Auto Shippers, located in Linden, in Mesquite, Texas, and in Gardena, Calif., specializes in moving cars for people who cannot drive the vehicle to a new location themselves. The company contracts with large companies that provide the service as a benefit for employees who are moved from one office to another, or contracts with individuals.

"Dependable Auto Shippers understands how critical the vehicle transfer is to the employee during a move," said Denise Burleigh, corporate account specialist.

"The difference between Dependable and other auto shipping firms is that Dependable owns its own trucks and employs the drivers. Many firms provide the

(Continued on page 4)



Trucks are being loaded and unloaded at a KLX warehouse.

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The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Gateways Not Growth

Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive...

By John L. Picard

When I was a boy I would rush home to hear those fateful words of introduction to my favorite TV show. Yes, it was Superman! The one thing I could never understand was why Lois or Jimmy never caught on to the fact that Clark Kent and Superman were the same person.

Many businesses are a lot like Lois. They see one view of a customer and think that this single, static identity is the only truth. Fact is, across different places and times, one individual can have multiple identities. Our identity, (sense of self, values, community), influences our purchases and our buying relationships. A better description of customer identity would be more like a gallery of pictures, depending upon location, timing, context and personal history.

Are you exploiting the power of your customer's identity? These complex, deeply enduring aspects of the customer go beyond traditional demographics or psychographics in explaining purchase decisions and relationship commitment. Using today's technology, you can quickly change your message and your marketing channels to reflect the customer's sense of who they are... or aspire to be.

A tool to understand your customer relationship Every relationship has a number of critical moments and experiences that are influenced by both the customer's and business's identity. These moments are built on the stories and influences that form each identity. These influences can mean the difference between success and failure in your relationship sales and marketing. Consider:

Community - The groups or individuals surrounding and influencing the customer. Though they may be beyond your field of vision, they are critical to the intensity and need to act (Bosses, family, peers, clubs, profession, lifestyle and traditions could be lines and bonds that form their community).

Values - How does your offer relate to the customer's personal values? Incorporate the values and purpose of the buyer into your marketing message. Is your buyer a guy

who wants his BMW to make a statement of success or a parent who is looking for safety, above all, for the family.

Relationship style - We all learn and relate to others in unique ways. Are you choosing your language and marketing tools to reflect customer identities at these critical moments? Choose channels and wording to sound like you and them. Consider long copy and case studies for story tellers and headlines and bottom line messages for busy performance-driven individuals.

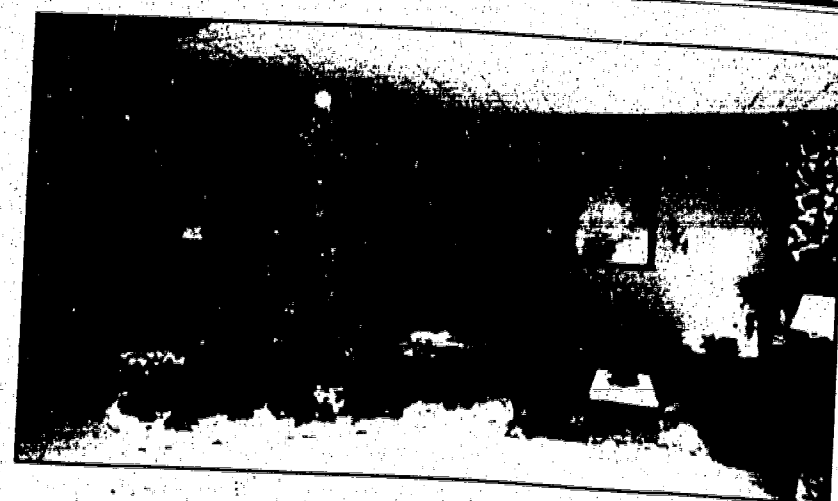
Emotional - A customer may wear his heart on his sleeve with one identity and may seem more like a stone in another. Trust, satisfaction, intensity of feelings, comfort and level of commitment are critically associated with capturing the right emotional tone.

Origins and history - The homes we grow up in, our roots, family and traditions and even our faith, all impact our identities and relationship expectations. Make sure you incorporate the intangibles in your wording, style, color and offers.

Connectedness - How does the prospect or customer see their relationship with you? Is it personal, business, partnership or situational? Consider the level and depth of the relationship. (Consider whether they are frequent buyers, first time buyers or even former customers who are being given an incentive to come back).

Use identity to support strategy - Align your sales and marketing to focus on the point(s) where these variables come together to address the customer's changing identity and need. I can't promise you will always avoid delivering kryptonite, but I do think that reaching into the sphere of identity components that define your customer's identity will help you leap tall buildings in a single bound.

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



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Union County hotels woo business clients

Business is picking up for hotels and bed and breakfast establishments in the Union County area that cater to business clients, but competition is also increasing, according to those interviewed by *Inside Business*.

The situation means that the business customers benefit from increased services and amenities. From the lone bed and breakfast establishment to the world wide chains, hotels are trying to be a home-away-from-home, at the same time they provide many of the needs of a business office.

For Pillars of Plainfield, one of the few bed and breakfast accommodations in the area, about 30 percent of the customers who stay at the inn are business travelers. They are attracted to the Pillars, which has six rooms and a studio apartment, because it is not the typical hotel, according to Chuck Hale, who owns the inn with his brother, Thomas.

"For our customers, the beauty of traveling has worn off and they want to stay some place that resembles their home as much as possible. I have had innumerable people tell me our B&B is just like their grandmother's house, but nicer," Hale said.

The bed and breakfast has regular clients who stay for the week and return to their homes on the weekend. The staff at Pillars will put away the guest's belongings for the weekend, when the room is rented to tourists, and then return the belongings for the regular guest's arrival on Monday. The inn's small size does not keep it from providing the latest in high speed Internet connections and other business amenities, Hale said.

For the business traveler who prefers the standards of an international hotel chain, the Holiday Inn - Springfield offers all the amenities a customer expects in any Holiday Inn world wide, said Karen Baglieri, director of sales.

The 190-room hotel has a growing business clientele drawn to the location because of the consistency of standards throughout all Holiday Inns, she said.

"We have free wireless Internet connections, a breakfast buffet and happy hour in the restaurant," Baglieri said. "We are located on Route 22 which is a prime location for business customers."

The area now has two Hilton brand hotels: the DoubleTree Hotel Newark Airport, which until recently was the Wyndham Hotel, in Elizabeth, and the Hampton Inn @ Aviation Plaza in Linden.

The DoubleTree caters primarily to business clients and provides amenities so business people can travel lightly, said Jacquell Edwards, assistant director of sales. Business, which dropped off some after 9/11, is beginning to grow again. High speed Internet access is available in all rooms and wireless connections in the conference rooms.

At the three-year-old Hampton Inn, 60 percent of the customers are people traveling for business. The hotel is located in Linden, close to Newark International Airport and provides shuttle service to nearby large corporations, Helena Chin Sang, director of sales, said.

Each year the hotel upgrades some amenity and does things such as frequently changing the breakfast menu to accommodate those who stay for long periods of time.

For the Kenilworth Inn, 70 percent of the customers are business people, who choose the location just off the Garden State Parkway for its convenience, said Joseph Golden, director of sales. Business, which was down after 9/11, has particularly picked up in the last year.

"Working people expect a high level of service, and they do not want more hassles, so we try to make them as comfortable as possible, with a homey atmosphere, but with the high speed Internet and other services they need," Golden said. "We have complimentary breakfasts, and things like irons, ironing boards and hair dryers in the rooms so people do not have to pack them."

Another hotel with convenient Garden State Parkway location is the Crown Plaza Hotel in Clark, which provides rooms for business meetings and hosts many training sessions for business organizations, said Angela Alfonso, general manager.

"The hotel business has become very competitive so we have instituted many things to encourage repeat customers, such as layered bedding, rewards for frequent customers and complimentary breakfasts.

"We try to attract those people who want good service and amenities, by providing meeting facilities and high speed Internet, and having a large selection of television channels and agreements for guests at nearby health clubs for the after work hours," she said.

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Transportation companies provide a vital link

(Continued from page 1)

service but contract out the actual shipping," she said.

"We handle large group moves for corporations or individual relocations," Burleigh said. "We have been in business for 50 years and have a good track record. We have on-line, real-time tracking of vehicles, so a corporation can look at all of its vehicle moves at once, or an individual owner can track his car going across the country. It makes people feel better if they know where their vehicle is. We also guarantee on-time delivery and if something goes wrong, we will provide a rental car."

Dependable provides the insurance coverage for the move and has a dedicated customer service specialist for each customer and will provide extensive consultation with customers, Burleigh said.

"We are not a shipping broker, but rather own and operate a fleet of high tech enclosed and open auto transport carriers," she added. The company provides same-day pickup and door-to-door service.

In a different type of specialized service, NorthStar Services in Pennsauken, the company being transported are large containers, usually delivered to the area by ship on major shipping lines coming into the New York and New Jersey harbors.

"We work with the major shipping lines and with individual corporations to provide intermodal trucking," said Marty Marano Jr., president. "It takes a special expertise to handle containers, but we transport just about anything and everything the consumer uses, because everything comes into the ports."

In addition to working in the seaports along the east coast, NorthStar works out of Columbus, Ohio, and Harrisburg, Pa., handling the containers that are also transported on rail lines.

"We have been in the business for 20 years. People know us and know who they are dealing with. We make promises for on-time delivery and keep the promise," Marano said.

Many large corporations are finding it less expensive and more efficient to outsource much of the transportation needs of the company. A family-owned company that provides those services is J.F. Evans Inc. in Union. Founded by James F. Evans, the company is now operated by his sons, Richard and John.

"Many corporations realize it is better to outsource these services to a company they know and trust," said Richard Evans, president. "Companies we deal with on a personal basis."

In business since 1961, J.F. Evans specializes in transporting delicate communications industry equipment, including the parts for cellular telephone towers and equipment for telephone and data communications offices.

"These things require special handling," Evans said. "We have the right equipment for these specialized moves to make sure everything is secured and safely transported. We also can move the equipment safely into the building. Our customers know they can get their equipment tomorrow if they need it."

Because of the nature of the equipment being transported, shipping requirements change frequently for J.F. Evans since the equipment itself is constantly changing, Evans said. The company is now trying to expand into other types of shipping.

For shipping any type of raw material or end product, the transporter used by many area manufacturers is Material Management International based in Middlesex.

"We handle all types of goods for all sizes of companies," said Brian Hoffman, sales manager.

Much of what the company handles is raw materials and end products for the pharmaceutical companies that make their homes in and around Union County. But Material Management also handles heavy equipment that industrial manufacturers need, the raw materials they use to produce products, and the end result that is shipped to retailers. Founded by John McKenna 20 years ago, the company is still headed by McKenna and employs several family members.

"Companies have found that outsourcing to a third party logistical freight company, such as us, saves them money," Hoffman said. "We have the expertise and the equipment to do the job right. This is all we do, so it is the best and most expeditious way for a company to provide for its transportation needs."

Hampton Inn @Aviation Plaza

Hotel offers quality, comfort and service

The Hampton Inn @Aviation Plaza opened its doors in January 2003 and is a mainstay in the town of Linden. The hotel is owned and operated by Hersha Hospitality Management L.P., New Cumberland, PA. A first-class Hilton brand hotel, it offers quality hotel accommodations and service to the neighborhood, area businesses and companies. The four-story hotel is located within walking distance of shopping, a variety of restaurants and lounges, such as Applebee's, Boulder Creek Steakhouse, the newly opened Chevy's Fresh Mex and Southern Smokehouse.

Chris De Marco, general manager, explained that the hotel is located in a prime location in close proximity to New York City, Newark Liberty International Airport, the Linden train station served by New Jersey Transit, the Jersey Gardens Outlet Mall and other facilities.

"Guests enjoy staying at the hotel because it provides quality accommodations and service at reasonable rates, particularly when compared to New York City prices," DeMarco said. "At the same time, the hotel is a short drive from New York City for shopping, nightlife and entertainment."

Guests stay in any of 149 guestrooms, including 17 Jacuzzi suites and 6 King Studio suites with refrigerators and microwaves. The hotel lobby features a marble floor and cozy oversized leather chairs and sofa and a fireplace. The walls and ceiling are lined with wood molding that is designed to give the hotel a more residential feel. Upon arriving at the hotel, guests are met with the aroma of freshly baked cookies, which are complimentary for all guests.

Guests can use the on-site fitness center and outdoor pool. A free hot breakfast

buffet is provided each morning in the breakfast room, which also offers a 24-hour coffee bar. Additional amenities include complimentary shuttle service to and from Newark Liberty International Airport and area businesses, free local telephone calls, USA Today newspapers, free in-room high speed Internet access, two dual-line speaker telephones with voice mail and data ports, in room coffeemakers, hairdryers, irons and ironing boards, on-demand movies and video games, a guest laundry and same-day valet service, free parking, and a 24-hour sweet shop filled with goodies.

The hotel has two meeting rooms. The first floor meeting room accommodates up to 40 people for corporate meetings and 60 people for small functions, such as baby showers, luncheons, birthday and christening parties. The second floor has an executive boardroom with seating for 12. The hotel does not have banquet facilities, but it welcomes outside caterers.

This year the Hampton Inn hotels received the prestigious J.D. Power and Associates Award for Hotel Guest Satisfaction.

According to Phil Cordell, senior vice president of brand marketing at the hotel, "Hampton brand is committed to continually improving the guest experience."

This year Hampton unveiled a new easy-to-set alarm clock/radio and "Cloud Nine" bedding, which includes a raised headboard, a raised bed, crisp white covers, plush down-like comforters, lumbar pillows, multiple pillows with a variety of firmnesses, fitted sheets, bed skirts, and quilted mattress pads.

For additional information please visit Hampton Inn website at www.Hersha.com or contact Helena Chin-Sang, Director of Sales at 908-862-3222.

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President's Message

Much has been made of the decline in America's industrial might. Jobs and whole industries have gone overseas, and now it seems that everything you buy is imported. First it was Japan that started our industrial decline, and now China looks poised to finish the job. Soon we will be no more than a nation of hamburger flippers.

While the press and many politicians have made much of this decline, a closer look at the numbers indicates something really quite different.

As a share of the overall labor force, manufacturing employment in the United States has dropped substantially. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 10 percent of American workers are now employed in the manufacturing sector. This is a steep drop from nearly 25 percent of the workforce in 1970. When you consider that only about half of the people who work in a manufacturing operation actually do any manufacturing (the remainder being clerical, maintenance and management), the decline appears even greater.

A look at manufacturing's declining share of the overall economy shows a similar trend. In 1970, manufacturing accounted for about 26 percent of the country's economic output. It now accounts for only 13 percent. Wow, bad news.

A closer look at the numbers paints quite a different picture, however. Though the percentage of people employed in manufacturing has dropped, the actual number of manufacturing jobs has remained fairly steady, at least until the last couple of years. This is because the overall labor force has grown by a tremendous amount, mostly in the managerial, professional and technical areas. As the American economy has grown, so have the demands for these types of jobs. Because of the economic downturn and technological innovation, there has been some softening in the total number of manufacturing jobs, but not the kind of decline that some people predicted more than a decade ago.

As a part of the overall economy, a similar picture can be seen. Manufacturing in the United States is not in decline. Since 1991, it has grown at an average annual rate of almost 4 percent, faster than the economy as a whole. This rate of growth has led to a near doubling of output from manufacturing during this period. So contrary to popular opinion, our manufacturing sector is not in decline. It is growing, and it is becoming more efficient, but it is not declining.

The United States continues to be the world's premier manufacturer. Japan is a distant second, and China, the supposed powerhouse, produces only about half of what the US does, and mainly low value, labor intensive products.

According to many financial and economic analysts, the more worrisome problem for American industry is not the loss of jobs to other countries, but the loss of jobs to automation. Part of the problem is our education system. How many want their kids to grow up to be factory workers? Certainly not many. As a result, we push our kids toward professions, we encourage them to go to college, and if they graduate, but often the degree they obtain will only get them a job as a clerk or a salesperson. And how hard is it to find one?

As our manufacturing workforce shrinks, it will become harder and harder to replace workers. As manufacturing becomes more automated, the jobs that remain will become better paid, much better than the jobs that are being lost.



Where the Chamber stands...

Gov.-Elect Jon Corzine must consider business as he plans for New Jersey's future

Every governor who has come into office in New Jersey in recent decades has made a show of being friendly to the business interests in the state. As New Jersey's reputation for punishing business interests grew in surrounding states, each governor promised to make things better.

The problem is most have done little to fulfill that promise. Gov. Thomas H. Kean did make some regulatory changes that helped business but even Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, who said she wanted to make New Jersey a business-friendly state, failed miserably. She has been topped only by the Democrats who have succeeded her.

Gov. James E. McGreevey did a particularly stellar job of blaming business for things that were going wrong in the state, particularly in fiscal matters. He marshalled support in the Legislature for drastic increases in taxes on business to try to close the growing gaps in the state budget. And Acting Gov. Richard Codey has not turned any of that around. Then the legislative candidates picked up the ball and declared increased business taxes the solution to every problem. Recent legislative races have been replete with inaccurate accusations of businesses run amok.

Now, all businesses in New Jersey, large and small, are looking to Jon S. Corzine, our newly elected governor, to set a new tone and actually make New Jersey a business friendly state. Helping the businesses that are here to thrive, fostering the creation of new businesses, and welcoming the relocation of businesses and industries from other states is the best thing the new governor could do for the state economy. And promoting the state economy, in turn, helps boost the regional and national economies. With a little help, the economy can continue to recover from the doldrums experienced after 9/11 and once again flourish.

But that is going to take action on the part of state leaders and some changes in regulations and laws. Our governor and legislators can no longer look to business to fix every fiscal problem. Businesses are made up of people, so raising business taxes hurts people as well as the seemingly anonymous business entity. Helping businesses to grow, through favorable legislation, creates new jobs, to the obvious benefit of everyone.

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce has commented on several issues of interest to business in recent months that may or may not be tackled by the lame duck Legislature and governor. If they are not, the issues will be left over for the new elected officials to deal with.

The Chamber would like to see Health Savings Accounts enabled in New Jersey as is allowed by the new Medicare law. Health care costs will continue to be one of the biggest worries for employers of all sizes and will be one of the major increases in costs that employees are asked to share with their employers. In some cases, health care costs could put small businesses into bankruptcy. Or more smaller businesses could be forced to discontinue providing health care insurance and lose good employees to larger corporations. And it is the small companies that provide most of the jobs in the state.

Health Savings Accounts would allow employers to buy high deductible plans for employees and then the employees or employer could set up health savings accounts to pay for other medical expenses. It is a workable plan that could lower the costs for many people and should be passed quickly by the new Legislature if it is not enacted in the lame duck session.

The issue of New Jersey's high property taxes continues to plague everyone. Whatever elected officials do about it, through a constitutional convention or other means, it should not be used as yet another excuse to raise business taxes. What is needed, but sorely lacking in Trenton, is some real control over spending and then a more equitable property tax policy that takes into consideration that fact that raising business taxes hurts everyone.

Many other issues also are still pending, such as prohibiting arbitration for workplace disputes over discrimination, which the Chamber opposes. These types of issues may or may not be dealt with in the near future. But the real issue is larger than the individual bills that are pending and that will be reintroduced in the new Legislature. The issue is that elected officials need to realize that for the state to flourish, people must have jobs, and that means businesses have to flourish. To do that, businesses need officials who truly take their interests into account so that New Jersey could really be a business friendly state.

Capital Page

Assemblywoman Linda Stender

The future of New Jersey's Transportation Trust Fund

As a member of the Transportation Committee in the New Jersey General Assembly, I believe that we must take responsibility for the future of our state's transportation system. It is a sound investment in our economy and our quality of life. We must also maintain fiscal responsibility. For these reasons, I am increasingly concerned about the current state of the Transportation Trust Fund and its ability to finance capital projects in the near future. The Transportation Trust Fund is projected to be completely exhausted by the end of Fiscal Year 2006.

The collapse of this program will be devastating to us. State highway, road and bridge projects will be postponed, withdrawn from consideration or paid for at the expense of other programs. Local governments will be forced to abandon projects or pay for them by some other means, resulting in increased taxes or increased property taxes for residents. Neglecting our roadways until funding is exhausted will result in deteriorated roads and bridges, poor service from mass transit, more traffic and longer commuting times. These conditions, coupled with the absence of funding for maintenance and bicycle safety programs and highway safety measures, such as guard rails and median barriers, will create dangerous conditions on our roads and bridges.

In order to reverse this problem, I am sponsoring legislation, along with Assemblyman John Wisniewski and Assemblyman Peter Biondi, designed to reverse this. This legislation will address the problems that have hindered the Transportation Trust Fund in the past and place the appropriate measures to keep it operating smoothly in the future. In doing so, we will ensure a safe and effective program for future generations.

The Transportation Trust Fund was created by the legislature as a funding mechanism for transportation capital construction projects in New Jersey. The current administration has recommended a FY 2006 program of \$1.205 billion. In order to sustain this level of funding, three constitutionally dedicated sources of revenue were established. First, the Transportation Trust Fund receives a portion of the Motor Fuels Tax, currently 9 cents of the 10.5 cent per gallon total tax collected. Currently, the NJ Motor Fuels Tax is one of the lowest in the nation. It also receives revenues from the Petroleum Gross Receipts Tax and an appropriation from the sales tax.

In addition to constitutionally dedicated funding, the Legislature dedicated revenues from to be paid annually from the diesel fuel tax and increases in truck registration fees, from motor vehicle registration surcharges, and from the state toll road authorities. Unfortunately, the

Transportation Trust Fund has not received any of these statutorily dedicated revenues for the past five years because budgetary constraints have forced current and prior administrations to use these funds for general state purposes. By redirecting this funding to the Trust Fund, the Transportation Trust Fund has lost nearly \$600 million.

To compensate for losses of funding, the Transportation Trust Fund Authority has issued bonds to help meet operational costs, which will result in a \$7.3 billion dollar debt by the end of June 2006. This rapidly increasing dependence on debt is resulting in a severely stunted program. Much like a home owner trapped by a high interest home mortgage payment, all of the \$805 million in constitutionally dedicated funding will be directed to debt service. These lofty payments will not recede until 2021. Even modest transportation projects will not be possible to complete.

For this reason, I have sponsored Assembly Bill 3414, which takes initial steps to restore the fiscal integrity of the Transportation Trust Fund and return it to its purpose of providing a steady, reliable source of funding for transportation capital projects.

This legislation puts a funding cap on the Transportation Trust Fund's annual projects at \$1.4 billion, exclusive of federal funds. It also limits the Transportation Trust Fund's annual bonding to 50 percent of the maximum amount for proposed projects. This is an essential move to correct the funding crisis. After June 2005, all funding will be spent paying towards acquired debt. By limiting the permissible debt to 50 percent, we guarantee a steady revenue stream for much needed new projects.

To help keep spending down, this legislation would also deter the Commissioner of Transportation from reporting a proposed project amount that exceeds spending caps by preventing the issuance of any bonds during the following fiscal year. Similarly, it would also deter the Legislature from approving project budgets exceeding spending caps. This legislation further reduces spending by reducing and eliminating salaries and overhead by the Department of Transportation and the New Jersey Transit Corporation as well as expenses for maintenance over a six year period.

I am confident this legislation will begin restoring the Transportation Trust Fund to a reliable, stable source of funding for our transportation capital projects.

Member Viewpoint

Video choice can be a reality in New Jersey

By Mark Bocchieri

Verizon has been a big part of the New Jersey economy since the beginning of the communications industry, and — if anything — its stake in the future of the state is only getting bigger.

Verizon has about 15,000 people working in New Jersey today, including the headquarters for Verizon Wireless in Bedminster and Verizon-New Jersey in Newark.

Verizon invests more than \$700 million a year — about \$2 million a day — in the state economy in the modern communications networks that underpin 21st century commerce. It's safe to say that most New Jerseyans are connected to a Verizon network at some point, pretty much every single day.

All of this makes Verizon an important corporate citizen in communities all over the state. Verizon is committed to New Jersey because it is where Verizon employees live and work.

Technology has changed the world. Speed, mobility and control have become part of our customers' DNA, and Verizon is transforming itself to meet those demands. Since the year 2000, Verizon has invested some \$75 billion in capital — more than any other telecom or cable company in America. Verizon has used many billions of that to build the best wireless network in the country, deploy DSL in its wireline network and introduce the next-generation products and services that the digital customer demands.

Now, the broadband customer's demand for convergence is driving change in Verizon's networks again.

Verizon is the first communications company to make a major commitment to taking fiber all the way to homes and businesses, with a new network technology called "Fios." Fios delivers super-fast Internet access, true broadband capacity for video, all kinds of interactive capabilities, and almost unlimited capacity for future growth. Nationwide, Verizon plans to deploy Fios to about 3 million homes by the end of this year — more than all other carriers combined. In fact, Verizon is planning to build this new technology in some 70 communities, across 10 counties by the end of the year.

For Verizon, Fios will make it more competitive in terms of delivering the speed, control and mobility the broadband customer wants. For New Jersey, these networks will put powerful new tools for economic empowerment in people's hands. By investing in these new networks New Jersey is as well-positioned as any state in the country to implement a progressive economic agenda that would transform our business environment and position Verizon for leadership in the global economy.

In addition to crystal clear voice and blazing fast Internet access, Verizon's new Fios network is capable of providing video. Verizon has worked with programmers and software developers to put together a really terrific package of video services that is as good as or better than anything in the market today.

A survey commissioned earlier this year by Verizon indicated that customers would welcome a new entrant in the video marketplace to provide some new competition to the cable companies. And with the revenues that would come from a video product, Verizon would be in a better position to speed up deployment and get Fios to more people, faster.

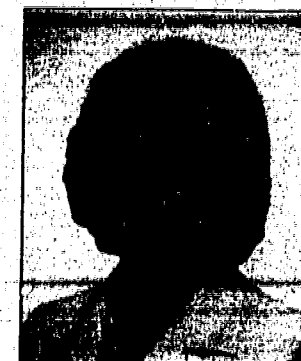
However, before Verizon can offer television services in a local community, Verizon needs to get a franchise — a rule that dates back to the earliest days of cable TV. Verizon already has the network to provide voice and data. Now it is required to go through an additional process in each New Jersey town just to provide video over the same network, which makes no sense.

While Verizon is making progress in getting the franchises it needs, the process could go faster — and the benefits of video competition could come quicker — with a state or even a national solution to this franchise issue.

In September, Texas became the first state to pass legislation that granted statewide franchises. A short time after the bill was signed into law, Verizon announced a more aggressive deployment of Fios in that state.

New Jersey now has the chance to seize the lead by putting statewide franchise reform on the fast track when the state legislature reconvenes this fall, giving them a true choice for competition for video services.

For more information on video choice, go to www.tvchoicenj.com



Inside

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photo left to right: Ken Nickel, Senior VP, Community Lending; Kermit Dyke, First Senior VP, Commercial Lending

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What's Coming Up!

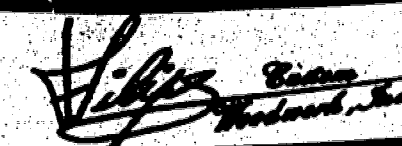
Date	Event	Times	Location
December 1	Workforce Education Committee	8:45 AM	Chamber Office
December 6	Linden Chamber Holiday Gathering (reservations required - a small fee applies)	5:30 PM	Prima Restaurant, 112 South Wood Avenue, Linden
December 9	Local & County Affairs Committee	8:30 AM	Scotch Plains Municipal Building 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains
December 13	"The 2005 PGA Golf Tournament" - Behind the Scenes Security & Safety Implementation - presented by Lieutenant George M. Georgeles, Supervisor - Central Region New Jersey State Police, Office of Emergency Management	8:00 AM	Crowne Plaza Hotel, 36 Valley Road (exit 135), Clark
December 14	Kenilworth Chamber Meeting	8:30 AM	Call for location
December 21	Clark Chamber Meeting	8:30 AM	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Clark - Hosted by Columbia Bank
December 22	Springfield Chamber Meeting	8:30 AM	Call for location
SAVE THE DATE:			
Jan. 31, 2006	94th Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner	6:00 PM	Doubletree Hotel (formerly the Wyndham Hotel)
Watch the mail for your invitation!			

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Christopher Reardon Freelance Communications - Christopher Reardon
 2101 Park Place, Springfield, NJ 07081

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 332 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901

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Financial Resources Federal Credit Union - Jeffrey Schneider
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First State Bank - William Heath
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Hana Worldwide Shipping Co., Inc. - Jonathan H. Yoo
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908-629-2224

M. Lidell, Inc. - John Lidell
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Mitchell Supreme Fuel Co. - Len Kientz
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973-678-1800

New Directions Consulting - Marilyn Gettinger
 121 Severin Court, Cranford, NJ 07016

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Member Moments...

Member Moments...

A seminar on stress entitled "Holiday Stress and Anxiety" will be held from 7 PM to 8 PM Nov. 28 at the Westfield YMCA, 220 Clark Street. The seminar, being conducted by Jonathan Sibley, psychotherapist associated with the Behavioral Health and Psychiatry Department of **Trinitas Hospital** in Elizabeth, is free and open to the public. Sibley notes that stress, anxiety and depression often go hand in hand. As the holidays approach, Sibley says symptoms of depression may become more noticeable among people of all ages.

The **Wyndham Hotel**, Elizabeth, near Newark Liberty International Airport is now the DoubleTree Hotel Newark Airport. The hotel has 385 guestrooms, eight junior suites, three full suites, a new business center, Shula's Steak 2 Restaurant and provides complimentary 24 hour airport shuttle service. The hotel is part of the Hilton organization and provides a rewards program for frequent guests.

McCart & English, Newark, announced Steven Beckelman, from the firm's securities litigation department, and Joseph Scholz, in the complex commercial litigation department, have been named partners in the firm.

United Way of Greater Union County has set an aggressive fundraising goal of \$3,725,000 for its local 2005-2006 campaign, a 5 percent increase over its 2004-2005 campaign.

Within its \$3,725,000 campaign goal, United Way has set several neighborhood campaign goals. Local Community Council volunteers will be reaching out to local residents and mailing appeal letters to reach the following targets: Cranford Community Council - \$33,100; Eastern Union County - \$129,500; Plainfield, North Plainfield, Fanwood & Scotch Plains - \$83,500, and South Plainfield - \$26,400.

United Way of Greater Union County's local fundraising campaign supports more than 100 local programs at 70 certified non-profit agencies in our area. Programs supported by United Way address critical community needs and improve the lives of local children and youth, seniors, people with disabilities and families in crisis.

For more information or to support United Way of Greater Union County's local fundraising efforts, call 908-353-7171 or visit www.uwguc.org.

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HOSPITAL SCORES FOR PNEUMONIA

Hospital	Score
Union Hospital	95
St. Barnabas Hospital	90
St. Joseph's Hospital	85
St. Luke's Hospital	80
St. Michael's Hospital	75
St. Peter's Hospital	70
St. Vincent's Hospital	65
St. James' Hospital	60
St. Francis' Hospital	55
St. Elizabeth's Hospital	50
St. Ann's Hospital	45
St. Clare's Hospital	40
St. Mary's Hospital	35
St. John's Hospital	30
St. David's Hospital	25
St. George's Hospital	20
St. Andrew's Hospital	15
St. Patrick's Hospital	10
St. Nicholas' Hospital	5

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