

Crime Stoppers

Union County Prosecutor Andrew Ruololo supports a county crime deterrent program, Page 3.



Saunders to play AAU

Dayton standout basketball player Michelle Saunders will represent New Jersey on an AAU team, Page B1.

Puppet magic

Children's entertainment is featured in Trilside Nature and Science Center's summer programs, Page B3.



Springfield Leader

VOL. 63 NO. 42—THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1992—24

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., Home of Herbert Quinlan

TWO SECTIONS — 50 CENTS

Tax bills are on the way

State budget delay forces estimation for 3rd quarter

By David Brown
Managing Editor

The tax bill is coming, but residents will not be receiving a notice for the total amount of taxes due. Due to the state's delay in finalizing its own budget, and subsequently, local budgets, Tax Collector Corine Eckman said Springfield will issue only an estimate of the local tax bill for the third quarter.

"This is very unusual," Eckman said, estimating the third quarter notice would be in the mail within several weeks.

The tax rate is normally fixed by May, enabling the municipality at that point to issue a bill for the total taxes owed by each resident for the year.

But because municipal budgets have not been approved by the state's Division of Local Government Services, the County Board of Taxation cannot calculate and fix the official tax rate for local governments.

Estimated tax bills are normally issued for the first and second of quarterly payments, as the local budget is typically not approved until after the two bills for the first half of the year — February and May — have been issued.

Inquiries regarding tax payments, Eckman said, have been numerous. "There must have been hundreds of calls and people coming in asking about their tax bill," she said, noting that residents are required to make tax payments by Aug. 1 with a 10-day grace period whether or not they have

received a bill from the township. "If they have to make a payment without a bill, I'll read them a bill estimated on the last quarter's payment," Eckman explained.

Eckman said the company that prints the tax bills will have to adjust its computer program to deduct not only the first and second quarter payments from each resident's total tax bill, but also the payment taxpayers will be making on their estimated bill in August.

Although it introduced its proposed budget last month, the Township Committee has been operating on temporary budgets pending the state's approval of the \$13.4 million fiscal plan.

Katz, Pappas formally break with GOP mayor over style

Attack questions Kumos' use of office, 'unilateral' moves

By David Brown
Managing Editor

An apparent rift in the Republican party became an effective split Tuesday night, when Township Committee members Jeffrey Katz and Harry Pappas formally condemned their GOP colleague, Mayor Philip Kumos, for what they characterized as the "unilateral" style he has adopted as the township's mayor. They also claim he has misused his honorary title.

"It is now up to the people of good conscience everywhere to ensure that it stops here and now, and that there is strict accountability for these improprieties," Katz said, concluding his statement by attacking the mayor on a variety of counts.

While the GOP pair claim the problem has existed for some time, the debate centers to a head with the removal of Katz from the Public Safety Committee. Kumos moved Katz, a five-year veteran of the Township Committee, to the Finance Committee, appointing Democratic Committee member Marcia Forman in his place.

Katz and Pappas called for an explanation of the switch, which Kumos said he made because of a conflict of interest, citing Katz' membership on the Auxiliary Police and Emergency Management.

While the exact nature of the conflict-of-interest charge was never verbalized — Township Attorney Jay Klotz issued an opinion stating no reasonable conflict exists — Kumos said Tuesday that he will "rethink the matter" in light of the attorney's opinion.

"The sad fact is that I'm not surprised by the chairman's actions," Katz said. "It's completely consistent with his past behavior — exercising powers that he doesn't have and never had."

Citing Kumos' "self-appointments" to the Regional Board of Education's

Ad Hoc Committee on Cost Containment, about which they say they were never consulted, Katz and Pappas also criticized the mayor for a pattern of making "unilateral" decisions without consulting the full Township Committee.

A recent feasibility study undertaken by Kumos of cost-cutting measures regarding the Springfield Fire Department — which examined the possibility of merging the department with the Summit Fire Department — was also cited by Katz and Pappas as evidence of Kumos' actions independent of the committee.

In a four-page statement, Pappas criticized the mayor on a number of additional points, including his placement of a private parking place at the municipal building, his push to hire a full-time employee in the Municipal Court — which, they say was unnecessary — and Katz' removal from the Public Safety Committee.

Pappas, who stated he had "zero respect" for Kumos' leadership, said despite the mayor's recent pledge to pass along all information he received pertaining to township business, "over the past 10 weeks, this has not been the case."

The mayor was also criticized for using his position to bypass the rules of the Municipal Pool restricting residents from the facility without a badge.

"That was wrong and I am truly sorry for that and regret it," said Kurmos, who acknowledged he requested the pool manager to allow Springfield Board of Education President Gary Tise and his family into the facility without the required membership badge.

"The bottom line is, if you're a member of Phil's family, a special friend or someone he likes, then anything is OK regardless of ethics, rules or law," Katz said.

The pool incident, however, was the sole charge to which Kumos bowed. "I didn't know in what form this

would come, or when, but I wasn't surprised," said Kurmos, who directed his rebuttal in large part at Pappas. "I knew these people would try to defame me."

While openly citing his contempt for Pappas, Kumos said he has kept the Township Committee adequately informed of on-going matters, and attributed much of the attack to his refusal to support Pappas in his recent bid for the Union County Board of Freeholders.

"Blasphemous are something Harry's good at," Kurmos said, adding he "worked hard" at the GOP convention to see that Pappas did not get a spot on the GOP ticket.

Kumos extended his analysis to the local political scene, expressing hope that the "Pappas party puppets" fall in their November election bid. The mayor fell short of openly supporting the Democratic ticket. "I do not support the Republican ticket," he said.

"If I'm guilty of anything, it's caring about Springfield too much," Kurmos said in defense of his critics' claim that he has become "dictatorial" in his position. "The only good thing that came out of this meeting was that here, and forever more, my name will never again be associated with Harry Pappas. I only said what I said about Springfield because of the amount I do."

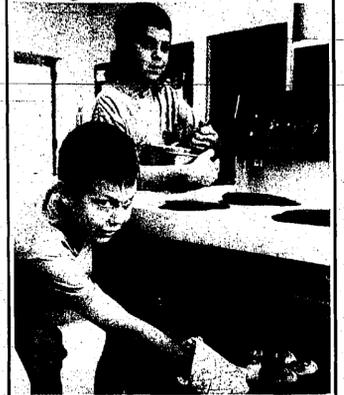
Kumos said he believes Pappas is "eager to control Springfield." "We're being driven by a state program that constantly raises the bar for us to jump over," Matfield said. "It's not just multiplying two-thirds by three-fourths anymore. The new test goes way beyond that."

Ruffley outlined some of the changes in the skills program because of the altered nature of the HSPT: English and mathematics teachers, for instance, will no longer work in isolation, but will work as a team to tailor the basic skills program to a particular student's needs.

In addition, she noted, all students in the basic skills program will participate on a daily basis in a computer-assisted math instruction program that will be monitored weekly by teachers and modified accordingly.

Matfield summed up the thrust of the changes in the new test. "It emphasizes the integration of thinking and experience," he said, "and it's getting away from the idea of rigidly defined subjects."

Baking in the summer



Ten-year-old Richard Shanley and Mark Wasserman, both 12, test their baking skills in home economics class at F.M. Gaudinier's summer school program.

U.S. Open seeks slots in quarry

By Dennis Schaal
Staff Writer

Union County Manager Ann Baran disclosed this week that the county will soon be sending a letter to the Springfield Township Committee soliciting its sentiments on a proposal to use the county-owned Houshille Quarry as a parking facility for the 1993 U.S. Men's Open golf championship.

Baran noted that the Baltusrol Country Club, the host of the 1993 tournament, has approached the county for permission to use the quarry, located in Springfield, to park "at least 4,000 cars."

Baltusrol has hosted 13 U.S. Golf Association events. For the 1980 Men's Open and the 1985 Women's Open, the last two championships it welcomed to the historic links, the quarry was utilized for parking to accommodate the massive influx of golf fans for the premier event.

Springfield Mayor Philip Kumos said this week that the Township Committee will discuss the issue as soon as it receives the county communication.

Kumos commented that the event, slated for June 14-22, will be "a big shot in the arm for Springfield merchants." He said he "can't foresee any problems" with the quarry parking arrangement for "the prestigious event."

The township has no veto power over the proposed contract between Union County and Baltusrol, but presumably the town's views would hold some weight.

Freeholder Chairman Louis Santagata said this week that the board has discussed Baltusrol's proposal in executive session, but has not yet taken formal action.

Baltusrol officials, who could not be reached for comment Monday, have reportedly also made arrangements to store some of the parking flow to Newark International Airport.

Baran explained that her administration would seek to ensure that the county assumes no costs or liabilities from allowing tourney officials to use the quarry for parking.

She said the county has already begun negotiations with Baltusrol on a lease agreement, which would probably contain a provision for a \$1 leasing-fee.

"We want to work in partnership with Baltusrol because all the business the championship brings in will assist county businesses," she said.

"We want to work out a win-win situation," Baran said.

Baran said the county will wait to receive input from Springfield officials before proceeding with a formal vote by the freeholder board.

Asked about the precise timing of freeholder action, Baran said: "It depends how fast we can get the lawyers together."

Educators prepare for new HSPT test

By Dennis Schaal
Staff Writer

OK, try this one. A given number of students take a test. Willard scores a 50. Dave scores a 70, which happens to be the class average.

Here's the problem: Will raising Willard's score 20 points or lowering Dave's score by the same margin have a greater impact on the class average? Answer: the question and provide details of your reasoning.

If you're an 11th-grade high school student in December 1993 and you fear that your inability to answer this question just blew your chances at medical school — or even high school graduation — relax, help is on the way.

Kenneth Matfield, curriculum supervisor, and Betty Ruffley, director of basic skills, outlined a series of steps last week that the Union County Regional High School District will implement in September to ready the 256 students in the Basic Skills Improvement Program for the new 11th-grade High School Proficiency Test.

Formerly, the HSPT was given in the ninth grade, but starting in December 1993, it will be shifted to the 11th grade and rendered into a graduation requirement.

Matfield, during a discussion at the six-community region's Board of Education meeting at Governor Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights July 7, cited the "Willard" problem to illustrate the point that the 11th-grade test is not just a tougher version of the ninth-grade HSPT. The test will no longer assess basic skills in reading, math or writing, but will probe "higher-order thinking skills," as Superintendent Donald Meracink put it, including problem-solving and complex reasoning.

"We're being driven by a state program that constantly raises the bar for us to jump over," Matfield said. "It's not just multiplying two-thirds by three-fourths anymore. The new test goes way beyond that."

Ruffley outlined some of the changes in the skills program because of the altered nature of the HSPT: English and mathematics teachers, for instance, will no longer work in isolation, but will work as a team to tailor the basic skills program to a particular student's needs.

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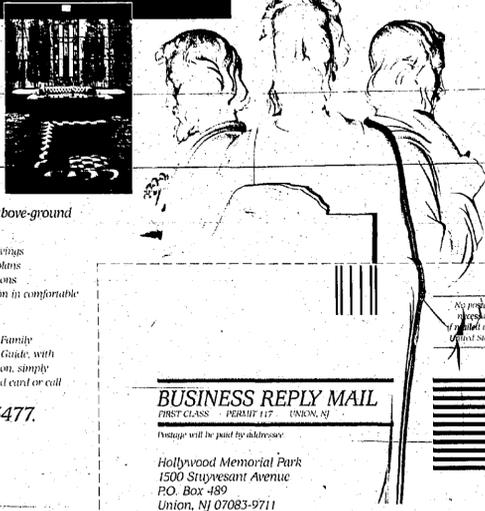
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Township: restore aid

By David Brown
Managing Editor

Springfield officials are appealing to the state to restore a significant portion of financial aid to the township which, as it stands, will not be provided.

According to reports from the Department of Community Affairs, Springfield stands to receive \$146,546 less in state aid than it did in 1991.

The decrease was the apparent result of misinterpretation of the legislation outlining the distribution of the \$305 million allocated to municipalities as discretionary aid for the current fiscal year.

The Township Committee adopted a resolution Tuesday appealing for the

restoration of the aid. Mayor Philip Kumos said he expects that the sum will be restored in full.

Kumos said he received word of a measure in the Assembly that would restore the formula used last year by the state in the distribution of the \$305 million aid package.

As it now stands, 65 municipalities stand to lose discretionary aid, while many others will receive significant increases.

"The formula they used this year actually penalized those municipalities for good fiscal management," Kumos said of the equation used by the Department of Community Affairs which channeled aid to those municipalities in direct relation to their tax rates.

V for victory, A for effort



The 1992 Traveling All-Star Team of Springfield had a tough season in the Suburban Girls Conference, finishing with a 2-9 record. Pictured for their all-star efforts were, back row from left, Ann Battinelli, Julia Keller, Michele DeNicolo, Dawn Woodruff, Laura DiCosmo and Chris Johannsen, front row from left, Carrie Sinclair, Tamih Sinclair, Lucy Cucchiello, Lauren Tuma, Chris Stacy and Chantale Navarro.



The championship Royals won the Upper League of the Springfield Recreation Softball League after staving off a four-game winning streak. Back row from left are Rachel Marx, Chris Johannsen, Heather Birch, Dawn Woodruff, Laura DiCosmo and Laura Sprezzari. In front from left are Melissa Savin, Lucy Cucchiello, Sabrina Pacifico, Jennifer Badalato, Joy Hirschfeld and Kristin DeAngelo. Cassandra Holt is not pictured.

news notes

Counseling service open to public during summer

Students, parents and graduates are invited to use the guidance and counseling services and facilities of the Union County Regional High School District during July and August.

The guidance office at each of the regional high schools — David Brearley in Kenilworth, Jonathan Dayton in Springfield, Governor Livingston in Berkeley Heights and Arthur L. Johnson in Clark — is open to serve students and parents from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday, throughout the summer.

New student registration, scheduling conferences and informational assistance are among the services available to all residents of the Union County Regional High School District. The regional district's student assistance counselor is also available in the regional summer school at David Brearley to counsel students with alcohol and/or drug-related problems and to assist their families.

Residents of Berkeley Heights, Clark, Garwood, Kenilworth, Mountaintide and Springfield are invited to use the guidance and counseling services and facilities of the Union County Regional High School District during July and August.

Civic Calendar

The Civic Calendar is prepared each week for the Mountaintide Echo and the Springfield Leader. To avoid conflicts in scheduling local events, please post dates, times and places as early as possible.

- Monday
 - Springfield Municipal Court begins at 6:30 p.m. at the municipal building.
 - The Springfield Environmental Commission meets at 8 p.m. at the municipal building.

- Tuesday
 - The Mountaintide Borough Council meets at 8 p.m. at Borough Hall.
 - The Springfield Board of Adjustment meets at 8 p.m. in the municipal building.

- Conning events
 - The July meeting of the board of trustees of the Mountaintide Public Library has been rescheduled to July 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the library.
 - The July 20 and Aug. 24 meetings of the Springfield Board of Education have been canceled. The board's next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at F.M. Claudineer School.

- Recycling Schedule
 - The Union County Utilities Authority will pick up newspaper, aluminum and glass in Mountaintide July 27, and in Springfield Friday and July 31.

Call the editors

Ever want to talk about something you think should be in the paper? Know something that might make a good story? Do you know someone who might be the subject of an interesting feature? Do you know of a sports story we don't? If the answer to any or all of the above is yes, call us at all of the above. In yes, call us at all of the above. In yes, call us at all of the above. In yes, call us at all of the above.

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Board of Trustees Cancellation Notice

The Kean College Board of Trustees' retreat scheduled for Friday and Saturday, July 24-25, 1992, has been cancelled.

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Presented by: Andrew Slaby, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.

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- Do you often have headaches or backaches?

If you have answered yes, you may want to consult a professional.

Let Andrew Slaby, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., Medical Director of Fair Oaks Hospital show you how to turn the natural stresses of life to your advantage, reduce emotional strain and be a healthier person during the times when stress is inevitable.

This program is free, but reservations are requested due to limited seating. Attendees will receive a free copy of a book pertaining to the topic of the lecture.

This program will be held at the Grand Summit Hotel, 570 Springfield Ave., Summit, NJ

For more information, or to reserve your seat, call **908-277-9016**

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The program of the Incentive Unit at the York Rehab Hospital was explained. Specific pain management techniques applicable for anglers was demonstrated and discussed by the membership.

Rauschart has worked in the field for several years after his retirement. He is also a certified addiction counselor and relapse prevention specialist in Pennsylvania.

In a move to maintain needed blood supplies during the summer, the Lions Club of Summit is sponsoring a blood drive in conjunction with the Summit Area Chapter of the American Red Cross on Tuesday.

The summer lunch program features a salad bar and a different entree each day of the week for \$2.50. These lunches will be available to the public through July 29.

The Summer Youth Employment Training Program, funded by the Union County Private Industry Council and administered by the Union County Regional High School District, provides career-oriented educational and employment opportunities for handicapped students.

For more information, call (201) 376-6300, Ext. 328.

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Backing up the July drive will be the Red Cross bimonthly drive scheduled for Aug. 2 between 2 and 7:30 p.m., also at the chapter house.

Blood coordinator Marie Babcock pointed out that the summer drives are important because of the need brought on by the season.

The Summit Area Chapter serves Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Passaic Township, Springfield and Summit.



MENDING HEARTS — The Essex-Union Chapter of The Mendocino Heart Project, Zigmund Witt, left, presents the check to Mendocino Heart Project President Dan Kalen. The Mendocino Heart Project is a non-profit organization in Berkeley, Calif.

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MEMBER FDIC

County officials launch campaign to promote Crime Stoppers effort

By Robert Wahlers Staff Writer
Union County law enforcement agencies banded together with NJ Transit officials last week to launch a "new initiative" to heighten public awareness of the Crime Stoppers program.

New Crime Stoppers posters, which contain the program's 24-hour hotline number, (908) 654-TIPS, and an explanation of how citizens can help police capture criminals, will be placed in approximately 45 buses that travel the county's major thoroughfares.

The posters were introduced during a ceremony in front of the county administration building in Elizabeth July 7.

In attendance were Union County Prosecutor Andrew K. Ruotolo, Sheriff

Robert Poynton, chairman of the Crime Stoppers program; Werner Rogers, chief of the NJ Transit police; and Springfield Police Chief William Chisholm, president of the Union County Police Chiefs Association.

"Law enforcement officers can't do the job alone. This is just one of the many initiatives we are taking to invite community participation in our efforts to reduce crime in Union County," Ruotolo said.

"The Crime Stoppers board felt that the placing of this message in public transportation would be an excellent place to get our message across to the community," he added.

Crime Stoppers coordinator Lt. Leo Uebelink of the Prosecutor's Office said that printing and graphics for the

posters were done by students at the Union County Vocational Technical School in Scotch Plains.

Uebelink said besides highlighting the Crime Stoppers logo and telephone number, the posters let citizens know that they can contact police anonymously if they have information about a crime.

"The posters also explain that citizens who provide tips which lead to the arrest and indictment of a suspect are eligible for cash rewards up to \$5,000," Uebelink said.

Ruotolo said the program is unique in the fact that individuals who call the Crime Stoppers hotline "have the opportunity to speak live with a law enforcement officer, 24 hours a day, seven days a week."



Officials gathered last week to introduce a new initiative to heighten public awareness about the Union County Crime Stoppers program. Posters that explain how citizens can help in the fight against crime will be placed on all NJ Transit buses that traverse the county. From left are Shirley A. DeLibero, NJ Transit executive director; Ron Poynton, chairman of the Crime Stoppers program; Werner Rogers, chief of the NJ Transit police; Union County Prosecutor Andrew K. Ruotolo; and Springfield Police Chief William Chisholm, president of the Union County Police Chiefs Association.

U.C. Health Commission expands watchdog role

By Clint Repak Staff Writer

Hazardous substance abusers in Union County, beware: The Union County Regional Environmental Health Commission is on the case.

An association of municipal health officials formed in 1985, the county's watchdog for air, noise and solid waste pollution, this year will take on the additional mantle of enforcer in identifying, controlling and muzzing out punishment for illegal hazardous substance releases.

UCREHC's role in dealing with hazardous materials means the county's volunteer Hazardous Materials Response Team will have an organized partner on the county level. County Emergency Management Coordinator Ben Laguna noted that at present the HazMat team provides emergency response to leaks and spills, while municipal health officials investigate and ensure the materials are adequately disposed of.

The commission is completing a work plan and readying to hire two full-time HazMat investigators — one for the HazMat team and one for the commission — in preparation for seeking state certification and final approval for the program from the county's Board of Chosen Freeholders.

According to Kevin Schermer, director of UCREHC, the time is long past for HazMat investigation on the county level. "We have a real need in Union County," he said. "We had 689 HazMat incidents reported to the State Department of Environmental Protection and Energy last year, and we're sure hundreds more went unreported."

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According to Kevin Schermer, director of UCREHC, the time is long past for HazMat investigation on the county level. "We have a real need in Union County," he said. "We had 689 HazMat incidents reported to the State Department of Environmental Protection and Energy last year, and we're sure hundreds more went unreported."

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embodiment of home rule, according to Sen. Filippini.

"The best part of the commission is that it works on a countywide, coordinated basis," he said. "Each town has input and voting power. It maintains an active voice in what the commission says and does."

Though UCREHC's embodiment of democracy in action has its drawbacks — July's meeting was canceled because of lack of quorum — an intimate corps of professional staff run the commission's daily affairs.

The administrative component consists of Schermer and five other administrative and investigative staff, as well as two support staffers, located in a small suite of offices on the second floor of Rahway City Hall.

The addition of HazMat response into the commission's scope is a logical step in its evolution. Since its formation seven years ago, UCREHC

has become the lead county agency in battling noise, air and solid waste violations. The director noted that the four facets are interrelated.

"Say someone drops off a couple of drums of a hazardous gas in a county park. One, it's illegal dumping. Two, as the material breaks down and the gas goes into the air, it becomes a problem of air pollution. And three, it's a hazardous material, and it has to be dealt with."

UCREHC's role in dealing with hazardous materials means the county's volunteer Hazardous Materials Response Team will have an organized partner on the county level. County Emergency Management Coordinator Ben Laguna noted that at present the HazMat team provides emergency response to leaks and spills, while municipal health officials investigate and ensure the materials are adequately disposed of.

Schermer expected that HazMat response has two facets, investigation and control. "Defensive action involves two aspects: identification of what's out there — who, what and where; and containment and control, which ensures that the material poses no further risk to the environment or the surrounding residents."

At present, the county is equipped only to handle the first step. The vol-

unteer HazMat team responds to emergency spills and leaks, identifies the substance in question and contains the spill. But municipalities, and more importantly the spillers, are responsible for getting the spills cleaned up and the materials hauled to a safe destination or disposal point.

UCREHC's response will take the place of the municipality health office, determining how and what happened and figuring out how to assess responsibility.

Schermer pointed out, "When an incident occurs, the primary responsibility is to find out who caused it, what went wrong and why. If there was a criminal or negligent act or if it was an unfortunate accident such as an equipment failure, we have to make that determination and act appropriately."

Appropriate action often will take the form of punitive financial steps against the responsible party.

Along those lines, the commission will attempt to recoup costs for response, materials and hauling, frequently in court with the help of the county Prosecutor's Office. For the past year and a half, UCREHC has worked with assistant prosecutors to convict illegal dumpers, and through the State Spill Act, levy fines. In its first year, 1991, the commission's investigators and prosecutors worked together to assess \$11,500 in fines from illegal dumpers, as well as hundreds of hours of community service.

Schermer said he expects that figure to rise dramatically this year.

The commission will prosecute HazMat offenders through its own intricate Spill Cost Recovery ordinance, which authorizes county HazMat services to recoup the cost of investigation, materials expended, enforcement and even trial costs.

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Section 2 - Addition of Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways...

Section 3 - Traffic Control Devices... The Township of Springfield hereby finds and declares that the present...

Section 4 - Emergency Control Plans... Any construction equipment, debris, signs or materials to remain on the highway...

Section 5 - Time Limits... The maintenance operations or utility work to be performed on the below listed streets...

Section 6 - Public Utility-Public Agency... Any public utility company or cable television company authorized pursuant to Title 40...

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people in the news

Vetter begins N.J. residency

Dr. Paul L. Vetter of Mountainide has begun his medical residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Cooper Hospital in Camden...

Lee named head of Triad Artists

Robert D. Lee, formerly of Springfield, has been named head of Triad Artists Inc.'s Television Division...

Ad company promotes banister

Jodi L. Ganster of Springfield has been promoted to assistant account executive by Linnet & Harrison...



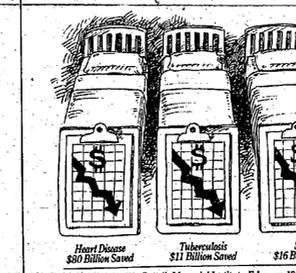
Jodi Ganster

Dr. Paul Vetter



Dr. Paul Vetter

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obituaries

Lillian Boodish
Lillian Boodish, 82, of Roselle Park died June 30 in Union Hospital. Born in Poland she lived in Newark and Maplewood before moving to Roselle Park in 1969.

Gretchen H. Forbes
Mrs. Gretchen H. Forbes, 79, of Springfield, who had been a Board of Education member and a volunteer with many organizations in the area, died July 9 in her home.

death notices

BETTYAS-Rose E. (nee Kelly), 60, of Union, died July 15, 1992, wife of Joseph A. Kelly, Sr. Burial services on Thursday, July 16, at 10:30 a.m. in the MCCORMACK FUNERAL HOME, 1600 Morris Avenue, Union, N.J. Interment: Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Union, N.J.

worship calendar

ALLIANCE
THE ORCHARD PARK CHURCH 1264 Vista Ave., Union, NJ 07084. Pastor: Rev. Hank Czerniacki. 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship. 10:30 AM Fellowship Hour. 10:30 AM Service. Service with Nursery and Junior Church available. Small Group meets weekly as follows: "A&C" Group (weekly, meeting of couples) meeting to develop relationships. Sunday 7:00 AM, call 321-4155. "Young Parents" (weekly with children) meeting to help new parents. Sunday 7:00 AM, call 321-4155. "Eggsy" (weekly) (those whose children have gone and gone leaving home to college or military). Tuesday 7:30 PM, in Union, call 481-2071. "Alliance Men" meets the 2nd Sunday of each month for breakfast and news of the local body. This group strives to meet the needs of the local church through "doing" call 481-2071 for location and time. "Alliance Women" meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month for breakfast and news of the local body. This group strives to meet the needs of the local church through "doing" call 481-2071 for location and time. "Alliance Youth" meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month for breakfast and news of the local body. This group strives to meet the needs of the local church through "doing" call 481-2071 for location and time.

SPORTS

Cutting Crew nips Opacity for Kenilworth League title

Cutting Crew captured the first Kenilworth Women's Softball League title with an 8-7 win over Opacity Funeral Home last Sunday at Brearley Regional High School. In other league action, Quick Flicks Video won its only game of the year last Sunday, posting a 12-7 victory over Amoroso Lino at the Harding School. Opacity handled Crew its first loss of the year, 5-1, last Tuesday in a makeup game played at Black Brook Park.

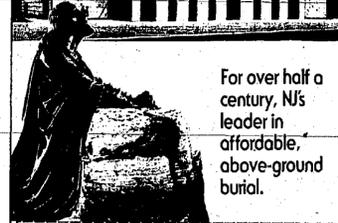
Women's Softball
Hanlon scored on a single by Danielle Coleman and a two-run double by May Hanlon tied the game. Hanlon scored the game-winning run on an error. All-Star Game Sunday The league's first All-Star Game will take place Sunday at Black Brook Park at 1 p.m. Team A will face Team B. Here are the rosters: Team A: Sheila Chickens, catcher (Opacity); Andrea Czarnocki, outfield (Quick Flicks); Tracy Dwyer, infield (Amoroso); Eliza Tuttle, outfield (Amoroso); Karen Stallings, infield (Opacity); Donna LoMonico, infield (Quick Flicks); Barbara Tyne, pitcher (Amoroso). The coaches are Ariel Roman, Randy Vena and Steve Rallis.

Saunders to play AAU hoops

Michelle Saunders of Dayton Regional High School will represent New Jersey in the National AAU Junior Olympics basketball competition. She will compete for the Lady Monarchs, an AAU team based in Belleville. The Monarchs will participate in fall sports physicals on Wednesday, Aug. 27. Field Hockey, Country, Gymnastics, Girls' Tennis, Thursday, Aug. 27; Field Hockey, Country, Gymnastics, Girls' Tennis, Friday, Aug. 28. Students must report to the health office by 8:15 a.m. with a signed permission form on the day they are scheduled for a physician. Physical forms are available in the high school's athletic office and are to be picked up prior to each student's physical. If a student chooses to have a physical by his or her personal physician, it must be performed after July 1, 1992, in order to be accepted for the 1992-93 school year for fall sports. Football registration Roselle Park's Pop Warner Football League is accepting registrations for the 1992 season. More information may be obtained by calling Pat Hines at 908-245-0187.

Entertainment Page 3

Classified Pages 7-12



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Six records set in Springfield's home-opening win

Following a split of meets against Madison and Summit, Springfield entered the week with a 2-1 record in North Jersey Summer Swim League Division 3 competition. Springfield (2-1) had a record scheduled at Millburn Tuesday (July 14). In return, home-to-face Morris Township, this Tuesday. Springfield improved to 2-0 with a 253-187 win at home over Madison July 7. Summit splashed Springfield 224-216 last Thursday in Summit. Springfield set six pool records in its home-opening win against Madison. Matt Roberts started off early, in the second event, breaking his own 100-meter individual medley record in the boys 12/under group. His record time was 1:22:60. Christine Johnson, in the next event, set a 100-meter IM record in the girls 13/over group with a time of 1:17:31.

YOUTH SWIMMING

Denzer placing second and third for the boys. Leah Demberger took second for the 11/2 girls, with Rehaia first for the boys. Springfield improved to 2-0 with a 253-187 win at home over Madison July 7. Summit splashed Springfield 224-216 last Thursday in Summit. Springfield set six pool records in its home-opening win against Madison. Matt Roberts started off early, in the second event, breaking his own 100-meter individual medley record in the boys 12/under group. His record time was 1:22:60. Christine Johnson, in the next event, set a 100-meter IM record in the girls 13/over group with a time of 1:17:31. The 8/unders were particularly impressive against Madison, taking home all but one first-place ribbon. Karen Bocian and Katie Tupper took first and second in the girls freestyle, with Russell Stewart and Drew DeCagna first and second for the boys. Disappointed with another win in the girls backstroke, with the team of David Pilepp, Bryan Demberger and Stewart sweeping for the boys. In the butterfly, Tupper took first for the girls and Pilepp, Demberger and John Cottage swept for the boys. To close out the evening, the team of Pilepp, Tupper, Bocian and DeCagna took the 8/under freestyle relay. In the other age groups, Nathan Denzer and Anthony DeAngelo took second and third in the boys 9-10 freestyle. Melissa Nardone took second in the girls 11/2 freestyle. Helene Jarrell took second in the girls 9/10 backstroke, while teammate Ryan Farrell set a record in the boys 9/10 backstroke, 25 meters in 19:50 seconds. Nardone took second in the 11/2 backstroke, with Chris Bocian and Chris Sino taking first and second for the boys. In the breaststroke events, for the 9-10-year-olds, Barbara Maul and Sarah Abelman took first and third for the girls, with Mike Zarewicz and Kristin DeAngelo taking second and third for the 11/2 girls. In the butterfly, Jesseale took second for the 9/10 girls, with Farrell and

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Roselle, Union leading the way

The top two teams in the Union County Senior American Legion Baseball League both started the week with wins Monday night. Roselle, which improved to 15-5, blanked Springfield 5-0 in Roselle. Union, upping its mark to 14-4, won at Rahway 5-1. With the loss, Rahway slipped to 13-6, but remained in third place.

The following are county records of some (those available) of the teams in the league, including Monday night results.

Roselle (15-2)
Union (14-4)
Rahway (13-6)
Linden (10-6)
Springfield (9-11)

The regular season comes to a conclusion next Thursday. The top six teams in the standings will earn playoff berths and the top two will receive first-round byes.

Mike Ligon continued his summer mastery of tight opposition by firing a five-hitter for Union against Rahway. He fanned 13 and did not walk a batter in raising his record to 5-0. Union took a 1-0 lead into the sixth inning before putting the game away with a couple of two-run homers. Chris Dumbler hit the first and Dave Melis (2-for-3) the second.

Prior to that victory, Union split two games at home last Sunday. It first defeated Elizabeth 17-4 behind winning pitcher John McClellan (3-1). Steve Ceterko (2-2) took the loss in Union's second game of the day, a 7-3 defeat to Westfield.

Springfield received a fine performance from left-hander Vince Cocilovo against Roselle, but could not push across any runs. Cocilovo (2-2) hurled a score-hitter. Dave Nitolo, batting ninth in the lineup, went 3-for-3 for half of the team's hits.

Springfield was given a win by for-

American Legion

feit last Sunday against Linden and had won two of three prior contests. Linden rebounded by sweeping a home doubleheader against Cranford Monday.

At home against Kenilworth on July 6, Springfield's Clayton Trivett hurled a two-hitter for a 2-0 shutout. He allowed a double in the first inning and an infield single in the second. Cocilovo went 2-for-3 with a run.

A "day" later against Berkeley Heights, Cocilovo fired a three-hitter in a 2-1 victory. Cocilovo helped his own cause by going 1-for-2 at the plate with a walk and stolen base. Springfield was defeated at Rahway 6-5 on July 8 despite Cocilovo's 2-for-4, two stolen bases, one run scored performance. Springfield took a 5-4 lead into the seventh inning before surrendering a two-run homer to Rahway's Steve Lombardi. Springfield had runners in scoring position in the bottom of the seventh, but could not get them home.

Americans, Nationals win

The Americans defeated the Nationals 6-3 in last Friday's Junior American Legion All-Star Game at Union's Rabkin Field and the Nationals edged the Americans 7-6 in the ensuing Senior Legion contest.

Union players that represented the Americans in the Junior game included pitcher Joe Giordano (struck out the side in one inning of work), Curran Marano (1-for-2) and Ed Hayver (1-for-2).

Lilola pitched one inning for the Nationals in the senior game. Also representing the Nationals were Springfield players Terence Young, Jay Desai and Trivett.

Union leads Junior circuit

Union defeated Clark 14-6 Monday

to improve to 14-0 in the Junior League. Union, last year's county champ, played at Watchung Hills Tuesday, hosts Watchung Hills today and plays at Rahway Saturday.

Prior to Tuesday's action, Union stood at 14-0-1 and Clark at 10-5. The regular season comes to a close Sunday.

Marco Caban (1-0) struck out seven in six innings for the win against Clark. Frank Fabio went 4-for-5 with two RBI, Hayver 3-for-3 with two RBI, Caban 3-for-5 with three RBI, Marano 3-for-4 with two RBI, Barry Marlet 2-for-3 and Ed Collins, Carlos Estevez and Giordano each 2-for-5. Union banged out 22 hits.

Union's top batting averages after 15 games are held by Shawn Mathison (.483), Fabio (.472), Marano (.455), Brent Mannix (.447), Marlet (.429) and Estevez (.405).

Marano was the RBI leader with 15, followed by Fabio's 13 and Hayver's 11. Nick Musciolo, Nick Alberto, Hayver, Mannix and Caban have hit each batted one home run. Giordano is the mound leader with a 4-0 record and 1.47 earned-run average (pitcher's ERAs are through the first 12 games). Joe David is 3-0 (1.64), Mannix 3-0 (1.48), Alberto 2-0 (1.81), Collins 1-0-1 (0.00) and Caban 1-0.

This week's sked

The following are the Union County Senior and Junior American Legion baseball schedules for the week:

Senior Legion
TODAY
Linden at Westfield, 5:45
Berkeley Heights at Kenilworth, 5:45
Union at Roselle Park, 5:45
Summit at Roselle Park, 8:00

TOMORROW
Summit at Berkeley Heights, 5:45
Elizabeth at Springfield, 5:45
Roselle at Rahway, 5:45
Watchung Hills at Cranford, 5:45
Union at Linden, 8:00

SATURDAY
Roselle Park at Linden, 10:30
Watchung Hills at Rahway, 10:30
Westfield at Springfield, makeup
SUNDAY
Cranford at Union, 8:00
Summit at Westfield, 8:00
Spartanburg at Linden, 8:00
MONDAY
Summit at Watchung Hills, 5:45
Union at Elizabeth, 5:45
Roselle Park at Springfield, 5:45
TUESDAY
Roselle at Linden (DH), 5:45
Scotch Plains at Watchung Hills, 5:45
Union at Cranford, 5:45
Springfield at Kenilworth, 5:45
WEDNESDAY
Summit at Springfield, 5:45

THURSDAY
Summit at Scotch Plains, 5:45
Cranford at Berkeley Heights, 5:45
Union at Roselle, 5:45
Linden at Roselle Park, 8:00
End of regular season

Junior Legion
TODAY
Watchung Hills at Linden, 8:00
Roselle 229 at Linden, 8:00
TOMORROW
Berkeley Heights at Roselle 229, 5:45
SATURDAY
Cabanitos at Roselle Park, 10:30
Union at Rahway, 1:30
SUNDAY
Roselle Roc at Berkeley Heights, noon
Cabanitos at Watchung Hills (DH), noon
End of regular season



Photo by Barbara Kabbala

Union pitcher Joe Giordano struck out the side in one inning of work during last Friday's Junior American Legion All-Star Game at Union's Rabkin Field. Giordano helped the Americans top the Nationals 6-3.

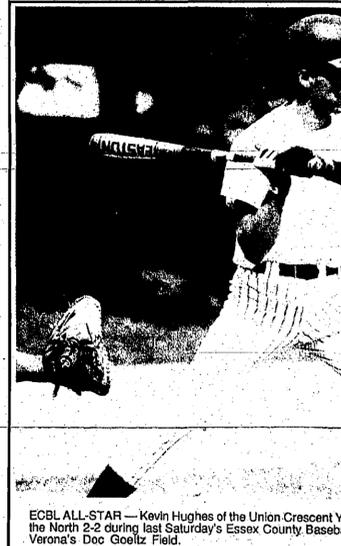


Photo by Barbara Kabbala

ECBL ALL-STAR — Kevin Hughes of the Union Crescent Yankees holds the North 2-2 during last Saturday's Essex County Baseball League All-Star Game at Verona's Doc Goeltz Field.

R. Park football team opens at home

The following are the fall sports schedules for Roselle Park High School:

Varsity Football
Sept. 25 Johnson, 7:30
Oct. 2 Bound Brook, 7:30
Oct. 9 at Middlesex, 7:30
Oct. 17 South Hunterdon, 1:00
Oct. 23 at Marlboro, 7:30
Oct. 31 at Roselle Park, 7:30
Nov. 6 New Providence, 7:30
Nov. 14 at Dayton, 1:00
Nov. 26 Roselle, 10:30

Boys' Soccer
Sept. 18 St. Pat's, 7:30
Sept. 21 at Johnson, TBA
Sept. 22 at Roselle, TBA
Sept. 24 New Providence, 4:00
Sept. 30 at Bound Brook, TBA
Oct. 2 Middlesex, 4:00
Oct. 9 at Roselle Park, 7:30
Oct. 6 at Cranford, 4:00
Oct. 8 at St. Pat's, TBA
Oct. 10 at Dayton, TBA
Oct. 13 Johnson, 4:00
Oct. 15 Berkeley, 4:00
Oct. 20 at New Providence, TBA
Oct. 22 Bound Brook, 4:00
Oct. 23 Cranford, 7:30
Oct. 27 at Middlesex, TBA

Field Hockey
Sept. 18 at Somerville, 4:00
Sept. 22 at Middlesex, 4:00
Sept. 24 at Berkeley, 4:00
Sept. 30 North Plainfield, 7:30
Oct. 2 at Gov. Livingston, 4:00
Oct. 6 Ridge, 4:00
Oct. 8 Middlesex, 4:00
Oct. 9 Summit, 7:30

Oct. 13 Brearley, 7:30
Oct. 15 at North Plainfield, 4:00
Oct. 16 Cranford, 4:00
Oct. 20 Gov. Livingston, 7:30
Oct. 22 at Ridge, 4:00
Oct. 29 at Summit, 4:00
Oct. 28 Westfield, 4:00

Sept. 15 New Providence
Sept. 16 at Middlesex
Sept. 21 Roselle Catholic
Sept. 22 at Cranford
Sept. 24 at Brearley
Sept. 30 Johnson
Oct. 1 at Bound Brook
Oct. 2 North Plainfield
Oct. 6 St. Mary's
Oct. 8 at New Providence
Oct. 13 Middlesex
Oct. 15 at Union
Oct. 20 Brearley

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CITY _____ address _____
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DAY _____ DATE _____ 19 _____
EVENT _____ will celebrate his/her birthday on _____
PLACE _____ (sister/brother)
TIME _____ and _____ of _____
PRICE _____ and _____
ORGANIZATION _____ (city) _____
Be sure to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the return of your child's photo.

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TIME _____
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ORGANIZATION _____
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Summer programs are 'family entertainment'

By Lisa Battilo
Entertainment Editor

Children's entertainment with a scientific flavor will be featured in the Trailside Nature and Science Center's summer programs. The center is located at Coles Avenue and New Providence Road in Mountainide.

Many of the programs offered, such as the nature workshops for children at the pre-school and elementary level, are aimed at children who are out of school for the summer.

On Aug. 6 and 13, there is a "Junior Bird Club" that focuses on birds and their habitats. This is for children in all age groups. For children in the third through fifth grades, there is an astronomy program titled "Captain Crash and the Cruisers" on Tuesday and Wednesday. And for youngsters in the sixth through eighth grades, there is "Trailside Rangers," which runs on Fridays throughout the summer. This class teaches the participants wildlife management and conservation techniques.

Betsy Ann Kelly, assistant director of the center, is especially enthusiastic about this offering.

"This is a real exciting program," she said. "A lot of kids become interested in the environment this way."

The center also has matinees on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. for children ages 4 and up.

The matinee series kicked off July 8 with a show by the Mumm Puppet Theater titled, "The Adventures of a Boy and His Dog in Outer Space." A Kelly said the program was unique

because it was performed completely in mime. "It was a funny, comic adventure," she said.

The matinee shows continue on Wednesday with the "Incredible Illusion Show" by Mime Resources International. The show will introduce the world of imagination through illusion, magic and juggling. "This will be followed July 29 by the film, "Winnie the Pooh," and Aug. 5 by "Dinosaur Dimensions." "Dinosaur Dimensions," which will also have an 11 a.m. show, is staged by the Crabgrass Puppet Theater. "It is a prehistoric romp," Kelly said.

On Aug. 12, Slim Buddy Productions will stage a show for a healthy environment and planet. It will include audience participation and contemporary music. There will also be an 11 a.m. show.

Bob Conrad will bring children "The Magic Rabbit Review" Aug. 19.

The special magic show will include rabbits and puppets.

The center also has planetarium shows for parents at least 6 years old. The Sunday show changes every two months and the program for July and August is "Secrets of the Summer Sky." The show is about the zodiacal constellations of Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio and Sagittarius.

While the Sunday planetarium shows can be seen all year, during the summer there are shows on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Tuesdays in July, there will be "Orbit in Space," a close-up view of the planets. And on Thursdays this month, there will be a celestial fireworks show featuring total eclipses, spiral galaxies and super novae.

The regular July Tuesday show will not be presented this Tuesday. Instead, "Podney the Rocket," a special show for children 4-6 accompanied by an adult will be featured.

On Tuesdays in August, the planetarium show is "All About Meteors." This will allow viewers to see meteorites on display and learn about the best time to view them. August Thursdays the show is "Moon Mysteries," a celebration of the first footprint on the moon. Aug. 20 is a special pre-school show that will explore day and night skies.

Kelly said the planetarium shows are suitable for the entire family. "They are very popular with families. It is reasonable, family entertainment," she said.

For further information, call (908) 789-3670.



Photo by Jerry Greenwald

Puppets such as the dog and bird above are part of Trailside Nature and Science Center's summer program.

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'42nd St.' presented

Toes are tapping and voices singing as 49 cast members prepare for Linden Summer Playhouse's 1992 production of "42nd Street." The musical will be held at Linden High School July 29 for senior citizens, and July 30, 31 and Aug. 1 for general public.

All performances will begin at 8 p.m. Free senior citizen tickets for the July 29 performance are available at the Gregorio Center in Linden 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Reserved seat tickets for the other performances may be ordered by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with choice of date and \$5 per ticket to LSP Tickets c/o 211 Lynn Lane, Westfield, 07090.

Members of the cast include Joshua Chavez, Chasmar Schreiber, Khari Jackson, Eric Hall, Eric Headley, Paul Burt, Howard Whitmore, Linda Ann Burt, Cella Pippin, Amanda Thom, Laura Scarnadella, Amleese Taylor, Terrell Roper, and Brian Tibbitt.

This rollicking musical from the 1930s includes 12 major dance numbers choreographed by Allison Doohey. A complete orchestra accompanies the dancers and singers who represent 10 Union County communities.

Costumes are under the direction of Sallie Ridgeway of Plainfield.

A non-profit, largely volunteer organization, Linden Summer Playhouse is funded in part by the New Jersey Council of the Arts through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

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DINING REVIEW

CAFE REPETTI

A favorite spot in Kenilworth, newly transformed, more casual but still a gourmet's delight

By Lillian Abracchiamiento and Dennis Schaal

Head waiter David Agnelli bounds from table to table at Cafe Repetti and greets his "audience" like a well-trained piano.

"To please the customer is beautiful," Agnelli says during a break in the action. One moment he's leading the entire restaurant assemblage in a chorus of "Happy Birthday" — "Lauder," he corrects, like an in-house conductor — and the next, bedecked in a floral tie like the entire staff, he's quietly explaining the genesis of Chicken Valtellina, inspired by his daughter.

This is the kind of friendly and professional service that customers have come to expect at Cafe Repetti, located at 572 Boulevard in Kenilworth, a stone's throw from Borough Hall.

General Manager Pat Vizzoni Jr., whose family has operated the establishment for some 10 years, noted that the restaurant reopened a month ago with an emphasis on casual dining, large portions and reasonable prices.

Chief Francesco Pizzuti has put together a very extensive and creative menu of Italian fare, both northern and southern, that ranges from the traditional Veal alla Marsala to gourmet Pizzas Per Uno — try the Pizza alla Casa with sliced banana and melon. There is also an innovative selection of more than 24 pastas.

Cafe Repetti was remodelled for the Grand Opening and it has a light, airy, casual feel. Soft pastel watercolor splashes the walls, lending the restaurant a charm all its own.

The atmosphere, with its easy access from the Garden State Parkway, is well worth a try. Its quality is of the highest and its value is terrific.

Vizzoni, the very knowledgeable general manager of this family business, explained that Cafe Repetti offers a happy hour Monday through Friday from 4:30-6:30 p.m. which includes a free buffet. The restaurant schedule is Monday through Friday for lunch, 11:30-2 and dinner 5-10 p.m. Dinner is served Saturdays 5-10:30. In September, Vizzoni said, the restaurant will be open Sundays.

Cafe Repetti is also ideal for private parties in The Balcony, which accommodates 30, and for receptions in The Garden Room, a newly decorated space with dance floor and private bar, that seats 150 guests.

A final word to all those who may be skeptical — try the banana and raisin pizza as a non-traditional dessert. It could easily become a favorite.

This column is intended to inform our readers about dining opportunities in the area.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

Doors make the difference

Many homeowners today are turning to remodeling to improve the major investment they have in their home. In some instances, of course, remodeling can be an expensive undertaking. Adding rooms, new appliances, re-roofing or re-siding all come with fairly high price tags.

Informed homeowners will look for ways to enhance the value and look of their home without a major cash outlay.

One of the most overlooked yet economical ways to change the look of a home and one that makes a dramatic design statement is to replace your interior doors. The average home has 14 doors, and that's where door designs come into the remodeling picture.

Whether doors are used to complete a total makeover of a room or home, or by themselves as an accent element, the correct choice of an interior door can add dramatically to the facing any remodeling project.

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The Tract Home

A job transfer moved this young married couple into a three-year old tract home. The tri-level three bedroom home is located in a fast-growing suburb of Chicago.

The home answered an immediate need for the couple, who were expecting their first child.

"We liked the location and price of the home very much, and it had plenty of room for the baby," said the homeowner.

"The decor needed work as it was rather plain. We saw the possibilities of redecorating it in a colonial motif similar to my parents' home," he said.

The homeowner planned to do all the work, except hanging the wallpaper, themselves. The home had vinyl-coated trim, white paneled walls and flat, unprinted doors that gave the appearance of an office building.

"We wanted the look of a colonial look, so the interior doors had to match the rest of our decorating scheme," the homeowner explained.

"We looked at a local lumber yard and examined pine, luan and the CraftMaster Colonial™ doors. Base door prices and looks were close, but CraftMaster. We saved more than \$95 per door compared to the other varieties by choosing the Colonial door.

"Besides the cost, the look of the doors speaks for itself. We are extremely happy with our choice," the homeowner concluded.

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The Condominium

"The doors looked so bad I sometimes left my closet open just so I wouldn't have to look at them," said the condo owner.

Mary lives in a two-bedroom condominium which was once part of an apartment complex. Interior doors were an important and noticeable design element in her home.

"My original doors were metal. They didn't always close properly, and they were always jumping their tracks. Earlier this year we undertook a major remodeling project for this complex which included new lobby design and landscaping as well as carpeting for the halls. As president of the owners' association I was very much involved in this remodeling, and I thought I would improve my home at the same time," she said.

"I was looking through a building trade magazine when I spotted a molded door ad. I liked how the doors looked, and I visited my local building material dealer. The price was right for my budget and the doors looked great. They came in the-looks so they fit into my closets perfectly and match the other rooms, too," she explained.

"I now can use my extra bedroom for guests without worrying about how to close the doors. The doors have improved the look and have added warmth to my home," she said.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

How to design an office that works

America was always a country of enterpriseness, and in today's world that means home offices springing up all across the nation. In fact, almost 30 million Americans now work out of their homes.

If you're one of the many who have decided it's time to work out of your house, be prepared for a whole new lifestyle. So warns Westinghouse Micarta, a company with more than a passing interest in the home office trend. Micarta decorative laminate is, after all, used in conventional offices, so it stands to reason that at-home entrepreneurs, too, can benefit from this material's good looks and easy care.

When you work at home, you will lose such benefits as leaving commuting and dressing-up behind. On the other hand, the dog is just as sure to bark just as an important client calls and cat hairs are the bane of later printers.

According to Wade Ferguson, Westinghouse Micarta's design expert, at-home entrepreneurs must try to create as professional an environment as possible.

"You work best in a space that's efficient," notes Ferguson. "You must be able to shut out kids, pets and other distractions, and the space must impress a visiting client with its professionalism."

Choosing Space

A separate room is best, of course. The garage, basement or an extra bedroom could yield office space, but remember that if clients are likely to visit, you must have direct access to the outdoors.

"You can't have a client walk through your kitchen to get to your office," warns Ferguson.

If you don't have room for a separate office, at least create a definite separation between living and working spaces. Ferguson suggests a room divider that provides storage as well as privacy.

"See a company that designs and fabricates custom furniture," advises Ferguson. "They will create a divider—or, indeed, a roomful of furniture—to suit your special needs."

Whether you have a separate office or just a corner, put decorative high-pressure laminate to work. Using this good-looking and tough material on cabinetry, shelves, files, desks and even walls will boost your professional image, and if, like most at-home workers, you're in charge of keeping the space neat, you will love its wipe-clean ease.

"You know how well laminate works on kitchen countertops, so naturally it's great for desk tops and other work surfaces as well. Durable materials are best for work surfaces, while luxurious high-gloss laminates are impressive on cabinetry. If you work with computers, you might also consider Micarta's anti-static laminate for desk tops.



Laminate makes beautiful sense for home offices. Here, a faux granite design by Westinghouse Micarta covers a built-in desk and cabinet, and a pale neutral laminate gives the computer desk design, or a birdseye look.

Laminate Fashions

Choosing laminate colors and design is the fun part of designing your home office, for Westinghouse Micarta offers an incredible range. There are colors ranging from pales to darks, from neutrals to brights, and designs include wood looks so real you'll fear getting splinters, high-fashion stone looks, and the new Indescent Accents collection of luminous laminates with embedded metallic or opalescent particles.

Ferguson feels that the wood looks are handsome choices for home offices.

"For a conservative image, go with rich traditional mahogany or cherry designs," he advises. "For a more contemporary look, choose pale oak or birch. If a high-fashion image is important, consider the new white-painted woods, the exotic lacewood

A kitchen isn't just a kitchen anymore

The modern day kitchen—part dining room, part family room, part home planning center. As the "heart of the home," today's kitchens have come a long way from their utilitarian, "cook-only" ancestors. On-the-run family members catch up with each other in the kitchen. Friends gravitate toward the kitchen during parties. Kids do homework, bills get paid and Mom takes a "quiet time" coffee break... in the kitchen.

According to William H. Ficken, vice president of marketing at Merril Industries, the nation's largest manufacturer of cabinetry for the kitchen, bath and home, cabinetry manufacturers are responding to these lifestyle demands on the kitchen. They are offering an expanded array of cabinet styles, sizes, components and storage and decorative accessories to meet the needs and diverse tastes of today's demanding and discriminating consumers.

More and more people want their kitchens to reflect the "look" of the rest of their home. Open floor plans with no walls between adjacent dining and family rooms call for cabinetry that is compatible with the furniture and decor of those rooms. As a result, manufacturers today offer cabinetry in a wide range of door styles, wood finishes and laminate colors ranging from traditional wood raised-panel cabinetry to sleek white Eurostyle looks.

"Manufacturers of ready-to-mount cabinets, such as Merril, also have expanded their accessory offerings to allow consumers to tailor their kitchens to their storage needs with such options as lazy susan cabinets, swing-out pantry units and appliance garages. Refrigerator and dishwasher door panels, crown moldings and multi-lens glass door cabinets are among the decorative accessories available that give kitchen designers touches."

"Cabinetry manufacturers today are responding to what consumers want in their kitchens," concluded Ficken. "And that's function and fashion."

To locate Merril dealers in your area, call toll-free 1-800-624-1250.

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