



Last Minute Gift Guide
This special publication is intended to provide local information to help everyone prepare for the upcoming holidays.

See Inside.



TOYS FOR TOTS

Fifth-graders from Madison Elementary School in Rahway decorate the Giving Tree. The children may select an ornament from the Giving Tree which designates whether to buy a toy for a boy or girl and at what age level.

Page 18

Bill Cosby



A COMEDY ICON

Sonya Kimble-Ellis of Union recently wrote a biography on the life of actor, comedian and activist, Bill Cosby.

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Merchants split on SID tax

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

The following story is the third in a continuing series about the Union Special Improvement District.

UNION — Discovering exactly how business and property owners feel about the services and promotions they are getting for their Special Improvement Tax dollars revealed there are both positive and negative opinions about this

issue. Every year since 1993, property owners in Union Center have paid regular property taxes and an additional tax called a special improvement tax that is supposed to fund promotions and services specifically for this district.

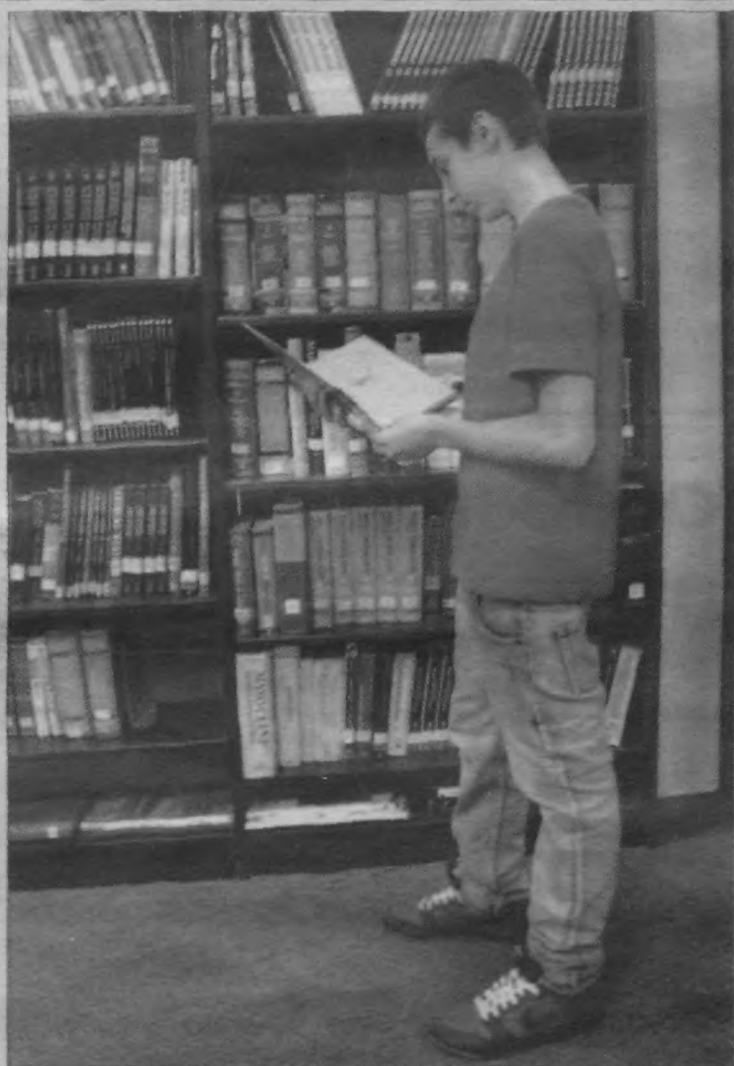
This year \$158,900 was raised by this special tax, \$55,000 of that number, or 35 percent, going towards SID Executive Director Michael Minitelli's salary. The other portion of his salary, \$68,259, comes from an additional posi-

tion he holds as director of Economic Development for the township, for a total income of \$123,259.

As SID executive director for the past 17 years, Minitelli felt the budgeted SID tax dollars have gone to good use.

"Without the SID, the center would be in much worse condition," the SID director said in an interview several weeks ago.

See BUSINESS, Page 13



PICTURE PERFECT — Springfield Free Public Library and Mack Camera of Springfield, recently honored the winners of the township's first photography contest. Clockwise from top, left: Peter Cook's entry 'Annual Beeznus'; Dylan Oliva's photo 'Kid in Library' and Darren Farbstein's photo titled 'Field of Dreams.'



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Students celebrate science and Sagan



A bulletin board in the Rahway Board of Education Office displays work completed by the children at Madison Elementary School. Madison students celebrated Carl Sagan Science Day during American Education Week. Sagan, grew up in Rahway and attended Rahway High School. After college he became a well-known astronomer, author, and lecturer. During his lifetime, he published more than 600 scientific papers and popular articles and was author, co-author, or editor of more than 20 books. Sagan wrote the novel 'Contact,' which, in 1997, became a major motion picture starring Jodie Foster.

Students learn fire safety

On Oct. 3, the Summit Fire Department kicked off this year's Fire Prevention Week with an open house event.

The theme of this year's message is "Beep, beep beep: A sound you can live with."

Although the event is nationally scheduled for the first full week in October, the event triggers tours and school visits for the entire month extending into November. This year, 33 groups have either visited the Summit Fire Department for fire safety presentations or we have presented demonstrations to community schools throughout Summit.

The events planned by Firefighter Joseph Moschello and Firefighter Thomas Kirkland at the open house on Oct. 3 included: touring the SFD Fire Safety House; repelling demonstration by SFD firefighters; tower ladder roof rescue demonstration by SFD firefighters; a confined space rescue demonstration by SFD firefighters and Merck Corporation's Fire Brigade and a demonstration of the decontamination booth by the members of the Merck staff.

Atlantic Health / Overlook Hospital provided health screening information.

Police investigate surge in graffiti

Roselle Park authorities urge local residents to report criminal mischief

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

ROSELLE PARK — Local police are investigating a sudden increase in criminal mischief in the form of graffiti in the borough.

"We've had about eight or nine incidents in the last 45 days," Detective Sgt. Manuel Jimenez said.

Most of the incidents occurred in November, with multiple offenses on East Grant Avenue and West Clay Avenue. Police reported the graffiti depicts let-

ters, names and vulgar words.

"There's nothing we can attribute right now to a specific group or gang," Jimenez said. "Right now it appears to be a random surge and we're trying to end it as quickly as possible."

No estimate of the cost of the damage is available.

Roselle Park Police Chief Paul Morrison advised residents to be on the lookout for suspicious individuals loitering in areas that may be likely targeted. Residents are also encouraged to contact police promptly when graffiti is

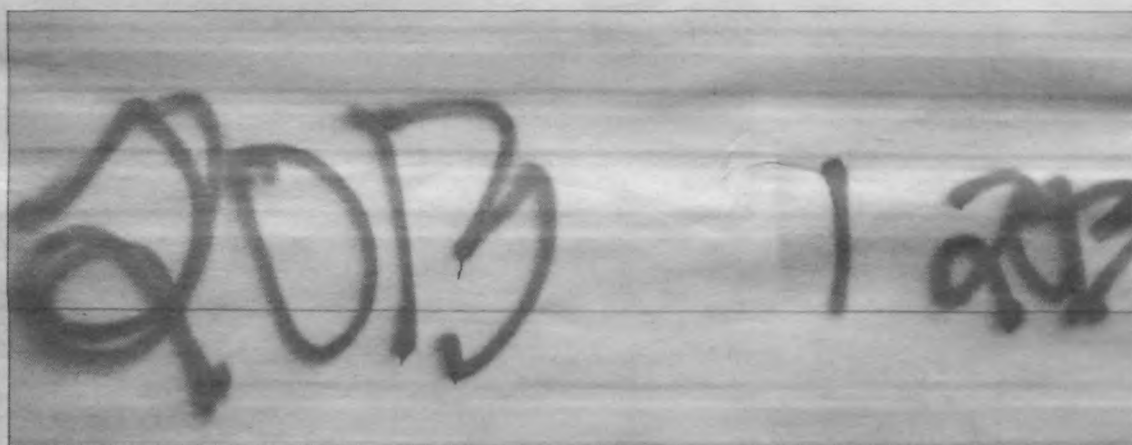


Photo courtesy of Roselle Park Police Department

Police in Roselle Park have seen a surge in graffiti in some parts of the borough. Buildings and other surfaces have been 'tagged' with letters, names and vulgar words.

discovered so that the "tag" can be documented. Removing the markings is also important, as lingering graffiti tends to attract additional vandals to the site.

"Property owners are reminded and urged to remove the graf-

ffiti immediately after it is reported to police and documented in order to deter any additional tagging," Morrison said.

Police indicated that graffiti on this scale is unusual in the borough. Jimenez said the bor-

ough saw a brief spike in graffiti last year but were able to arrest those responsible and clean up the damage in a timely manner.

Paul Greulich can be reached at 908-686-7700 ext. 121, or at pgreulich@thelocalsource.com.

ROSELLE PARK BRIEFS

Join Santa for a hot breakfast at RPHS

Roselle Park High School PTSA Project Graduation Committee invites residents to a breakfast with Santa on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

The festivities will take place in the Roselle Park High School cafe-

teria, 185 West Webster Ave. in Roselle Park. Bring your families for a hot breakfast, featuring freshly prepared pancakes, sausage, juices, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, milk, muffins and assorted other baked goods.

For information contact Clare Bulger at 908-347-7137 or via e-mail at clare.bulger@gmail.com

Church hosts holiday fair, pancake breakfast

Community United Methodist Church of Roselle Park will host its 38th annual Holiday Fair on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Highlights during the fair will be homemade crafts of varying types, homemade baked pies, the famous

cookie walk and nearly new items.

A pancake breakfast featuring pancakes, sausage, juice and beverages will be conducted from 8 a.m. to noon. This will be run by the Rotary Club of Roselle-Roselle Park. The Community United Methodist Church is located on Chestnut Street and Grant Avenue, in Roselle Park.

There is parking available at the church and municipal lot across the street.

All proceeds go to support the ministry and mission of the church and Rotary Club of Roselle-Roselle Park.

For information, contact the church office at 908-245-2237 or Jim Vigliotti at 908-245-2410.

MOUNTAINSIDE BRIEFS

Visit historic Hetfield house for the holidays

As winter approaches, activities surrounding the Hetfield House take on increased tempo at the historic Mountainside location.

Upcoming is the popular Gingerbread Open House, set for Sunday, where the historic house hosts a gingerbread extravaganza of crunchy delights.

"This has grown to be one of the most popular events that we conduct every fall," says Scott Daniels, historic committee chairman. "The old house itself seems to delight in the crowds and the delicious smells. Last year, we must have hosted over 100 guests, many of them children." Thanks to volunteer committee members, the house will be completely decorated to celebrate the event. One members' improvements can be seen already. For additional information, call Carol Goggi at 908-789-9420.

Governing body hosts monthly meetings

The Mountainside Borough Council will meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m.

All meetings take place at Mountainside Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East. Meetings are open to the public.

Teachers protest job cuts at Kean U.

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

UNION — Teachers, students and assorted activists have taken to the streets to protest the layoff of 12 professional staff employees at Kean University.

The layoff plan, which impacted a total of 26 university employees, was implemented to save \$2.3 million in a challenging 2011 budget. The layoffs were announced in September and will take effect March 1.

Despite low temperatures, a crowd was gathered outside Sen. Raymond Lesniak's district offices Friday afternoon to bring the issue to the longtime Democrat senator's attention. Lesniak could not be reached for comment by press time.

Larry Adams, vice chairman of the Essex-based social justice organization Peoples' Organization for Progress, said more than 100 people attended the rally.

"It's just a matter of political will, and we encourage Sen. Lesniak to use his political strength to rescind the layoffs," Adams said.

Director of Public Relations Stephen Hudik said Kean is facing the most difficult and painful budget in his experience there,

with the school's base state support being reduced by \$6.6 million for fiscal year 2011. The school can no longer apply \$1.9 million in federal stimulus funds or approximately \$2 million in furlough savings.

Hudik went on to say the Kean Federation of Teachers was unwilling to part with a 7 percent raise in 2011.

"If half the 7 percent increase were given up, we wouldn't be looking at these layoffs," Hudik said.

However, protesters said the union was willing to make give-backs in exchange for a no-layoff pledge. Hudik said the administration has worked to minimize the impact on students, sparing faculty and police officers from the layoffs. However, Kean University student Jonathan Brown said he has seen his educational opportunities dwindle as programs are cut. Brown said he wanted to major in social work, but the school dropped the program. He then opted to pursue philosophy, but that major was also dropped from the curriculum.

"It's frustrating because they promised me a world-class education when I transferred here,"



Photo By Paul Greulich

Students and staff of Kean University rally outside Sen. Raymond Lesniak's Union office in an effort to protest faculty layoffs at the university.

Brown said. James A. Castiglione, an associate professor of physics and president of the KFT, alleged that the people losing their jobs are victims of bias, pointing out that of the 12 professional staff members laid off, 10 were female, six were black and two were hispanic.

"There are serious concerns about the discriminatory impact of these layoffs," Castiglione said.

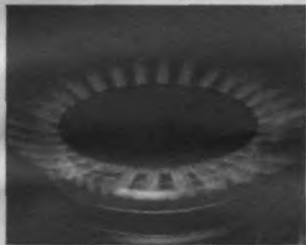
Hudik said the claim that the layoffs were motivated by racial biases is "offensive, completely false and totally inaccurate," pointing out that nearly half the 26 people being laid off are not members of any minority group.

"While the whole university system is affected by the recession, Kean is the only one following the layoff route," Adams said. "That starts to smell."

"It raises questions about the financial management of the institution," Castiglione added.

Hudik said he could not speak for other colleges. Other cost-savings measures undertaken include reducing non-salary expenses by \$2.4 million as well as the elimination or freezing of vacant positions.

"This is a real economic crisis and everyone across the country is being asked to make sacrifices and do more with less," Hudik said.



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News items:

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Union police play Santa for needy children in town

Toys donated through Santa in Blue program

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

UNION — Christmas should be a happy time of year, but tragedy, loss of job, financial woes or illness often leave families without presents for their children.

Thanks to the Union Police Department's Santa in Blue program, most of these families and children will have the Christmas they never thought they would.

Spearheaded by township Police Sgt. Michael Boll in 1995, the program has continued to grow year after year, fostered by a dedicated number of police officers who ensure every child in need, regardless of the reason, has presents to open on Christmas morning.

Boll deflects any praise that comes his way, preferring to keep the focus on the Santa in Blue program and the police officers who work tirelessly at gathering, wrapping and delivering presents throughout the township. He points out that they would not be able to do what they have done for the last 14 years without one special component.

"Because of the generosity of Union's citizens, last year's campaign resulted in over 3,000 toys being collected for children in need," said Boll. "It's important to remember that especially this time of year, there are too many children close to home who will be doing without. Kids who really do need someone to step in and help out when a tragedy happens.

Boll recalls one Christmas a few years back when a young father was in a terrible car accident and his wife was so devastated and overwhelmed she was unable to handle shopping for presents for her small children. According to Boll, that is when the Santas in Blue stepped in to help.

"When you hear a story like

that, it breaks you up," Boll said, adding that everyone worked together to provide the Christmas morning these children deserved.

"You have no idea how grateful people are that someone cared enough to help them out, or how grateful that young mother was," Boll said.

The department hears about the families in need from neighbors, teachers, school nurses and clergymen. After that they continue to fine tune the list until early December.

Usually they have 70 to 80 families in need of help and like to deliver four to five wrapped presents for each child.

However, while they receive an abundance of gifts for younger children from residents, there is always a serious gap when it comes to teens ages 11 to 14.

"Even though these kids are a little older, they still deserve a Christmas," Boll said. He stressed that even though this age group is difficult to buy for, things like board games, hats, gloves, scarves, backpacks for boys, beauty items, purses, wallets, makeup and perfume gift sets are always a hit.

The toys and other gift items have already begun to pile up in the lobby of police headquarters and they will until Dec. 23, when the Santa in Blue helpers prepare for the big delivery ahead. The township's Deputy Chief of Police Rick Landolfi is more than pleased to dedicate the space for Santa's helpers.

"The officers involved spend a good deal of their time involved in the welfare of children, especially around the holidays," said Landolfi.

After the toys are collected, PBA Local 69 will roll up their sleeves to help.

Leonardo Digena, PBA Local

69 president, is pleased that his organization is involved in this project, and proud.

"PBA local 69 has been involved in this holiday toy drive for several years and we are pleased with the overwhelming results we have seen in the past," Digena said, adding that "our goal is to have 2010 be the best year ever for this project."

In addition to providing toys and gifts for kids of families down on their luck or suffering from a recent illness or death in the family, the Santa in Blue program also helps special needs kids, Boll said.

Boll pointed out that while many towns are involved in the Marine Corps Toys for Tots drive, Union preferred something that would keep their donations right in the township.

"Don't get me wrong, it's a great program, but we wanted to make sure our Union families were covered," he explained.

After all the toys have been collected, Boll said, they are sorted and categorized by age, wrapped and distributed to local charities in time for holiday gift giving. Helping with this huge chore is the local PTA groups.

Anyone wishing to drop off an unwrapped gift for the Santa in Blue Program can do so at a number of locations, including police headquarters, 981 Caldwell Ave.; General Office Supply, 1071 Springfield Road; Multi-Chevrolet, 2675 Route 22 West; Planet Honda, 2285 Route 22 West and Union Pontiac, 2301 Route 22 West.

For information or to make a referral to the Santa in Blue program, contact the Community Police unit, 908-851-5063, or Sgt. Boll at 973-332-1556.

Cheryl Hehl can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 124, or chehl@thelocalsource.com.

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Santa Mail Box is at the Post Office from 11/26 to 12/22
Santa will answer all letters that have a return address

KENILWORTH BRIEFS

Pets up for adoption can be viewed online

New Life Boxer Rescue, Kenilworth, recently joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on *Petfinder.com*, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the internet. The site currently has more than 359,700 homeless pets listed, and it is updated continuously.

More than 13,600 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada, and other countries post their pets on the site. New Life Boxer Rescue pets may be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com/shel->

[shel-ter/NJ664.html](http://www.petfinder.com/shel-). A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the zip code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

Scouts will sell trees, wreaths this week

Kenilworth Boy Scout Troop 83 will conduct its annual Christmas tree and wreath sale at Kenilworth Veterans Center, located at 33 South 21st St. today and Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday and

Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The sale will continue Dec. 16 and 17, from 5 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 18 and 19, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. All trees and wreaths are fresh cut.

All proceeds go to finance the Troop for 2011.

For information, call Scoutmaster John Kozak at 908-276-8167.

Trustees to meet

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of Kenilworth will be held today.

All meetings are at 7 p.m. in the Activity Room of the library, 548 Blvd., Kenilworth, and are open to the public.

Pet of the week



Taco is a 2-year-old who's in need of a new home. He's a cuddly guy, but he can be a frisky if other dogs in the home come by when he's snuggling with his foster parent. He loves attention but he doesn't like to share. For information about Taco, contact All Star Pet Rescue of Linden at www.All-Star.PetFinder.com.

Third class of Sheriff's Youth Academy completes training

The Union County Sheriff's Youth Academy graduated its third class recently after two weeks learning about law enforcement.

More than 30 teens from across Union County took part in the Sheriff's Youth Academy, a program designed to familiarize young people with the role of a police officer. It operates similar to an actual police academy for teens interested in law enforcement.

"The Youth Academy aims to teach our kids about law enforcement and it is a great first step for those interested in the field," Sheriff Ralph Froehlich said during the graduation ceremony. "And from what I heard from these fine young women and men, we succeeded in all of our goals in this program."

Froehlich also thanked the officers from the various law enforcement agencies that participated in the program including the New Jersey State Police, the FBI, the Union County Police Department and the Union County Corrections.

"I especially would like to thank the chiefs from Berkeley Heights, Hillside and Elizabeth who provided the Youth Academy with full-time instructors for the course," Froehlich added.

Participants in the Youth Academy received hands-

on experience in a wide variety of emergency services and law enforcement functions and training. In addition, youths have the opportunity to learn respect for law enforcement through positive interaction during their time in the program.

"Showing them the human element of law enforcement helps our young people connect with officers in a way they never thought they could," the sheriff added.

The Sheriff's Youth Academy is not a 'boot camp' for troubled youth. In order to enroll in the program, the youngsters must have a minimum grade point average of 2.70, letters of reference and an essay explaining why the student would like to attend the Youth Academy. During the first week of the program, the teens engaged in a physical training regime twice a day while attending lectures on subjects such as crime scene investigations, K-9 and motor vehicle stops. They also received visits from representatives from several branches of the military, NJ State Police and the Secret Service. The second week of the academy involved class trips to the U.S. Marshall's Office in Newark, the Union County Fire Academy, the Union County SWAT Range and the Union County Jail.

Spotlight on Garwood & Westfield

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205/65R15	\$ 55.95
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225/60R16	\$ 71.95

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P2357515	\$ 77.95
P2357016	\$ 96.95
P2357016	\$ 97.95
LT2358516	\$122.95
P2657017	\$134.95



Linden Police investigate Park Avenue carjacking

Linden Police are investigating a carjacking that took place on Nov. 29 at 8:30 p.m. on Park Avenue. Two victims, a male and female, both of Staten Island, N.Y., had just left TGI Friday's restaurant and were entering their 2010 Infiniti FX35, in the parking lot when they were approached by two male suspects.

One suspect pointed a handgun at the female and pulled her out of the car. He forced her to the ground and took her cell phone from her waist.

A second suspect ordered the male passenger out of the vehicle.

The two suspects then entered the running vehicle and drove it out of the parking lot headed north on South Park Avenue towards East Elizabeth Avenue.

The victim described the suspect with the gun as a male, 22-25 years old, with a long, dreadlock hair style, wearing a black-hooded sweatshirt and a white and black checkered shirt pulled over his face. There was no description of the second suspect.

The plate number on the Infiniti is New York FEW2945. The vehicle is valued at \$50,000.

Officers who responded to the scene were able to review video footage of the parking lot which showed the suspects arrived in the parking lot in a dark-colored vehicle, possibly a Dodge Intrepid, which followed the victim's vehicle when it left.

The incident is under investigation and anyone with information is asked to contact Detective David Kother at 908-474-8556 or e-mail information to crimetips@police.lindenes-nj.org.

Clark

• Laverne Ford, 47, of Jersey City, was arrested on Nov. 23 at 9:27 a.m. at the Hudson County Jail for an outstanding Clark warrant for contempt of court. The arrest was made by Officer Thomas Sarnecki.

• Thomas Wansaw, 49, of Westfield, was arrested on Nov. 26 at 2:17 p.m. on Brant Avenue for outstanding warrants from Garwood and Kenilworth. The arrest was made by Officer Antonio Manata.

• Stephen Menakis, 18, and Michael Pares, 18, both of Garwood, were both arrested on Nov. 27 at 1:52 a.m. on Largo Lane for possession of a controlled dangerous substance.

The arrest was made by Officer George Marmarou.

Cranford

• Hayatulla Qalati, 30, of Linden, was arrested on Nov. 22 at 1

POLICE BLOTTER

a.m. after being pulled over on Stiles Street in Linden for not wearing a seatbelt. Through further investigation, the driver, Qalati, was arrested for possession of under 50 grams of marijuana and possession of narcotic paraphernalia. The arrest was made by Officer Spencer Durkin.

• Mary Milan, 49, of Cranford, was arrested on Nov. 27 at 11:55 p.m. after police responded to Centennial Avenue and Cranford Terrace on a report of a vehicle leaving the scene of an accident involving parked vehicles being struck.

The suspect vehicle was last seen heading down Wall Street. Police located the vehicle on Cayuga Road. Milan, the driver, was arrested for driving while intoxicated. She was also charged with careless driving, leaving the scene of an accident and failure to report an accident.

The arrest was made by Officer Eugene Perrotta.

• Six Cranford juveniles were arrested on the evening of Nov. 23 in two separate incidents related to an illegal scavenger hunt allegedly undertaken by Cranford High School seniors.

At 10:36 p.m. four juveniles were taken into custody at Willow Street at West End Place by Officer Daniel Norton for possessing property that did not belong to them, ranging from license plates, street markers, handicap signs and speed limit signs. The juveniles were taken into custody and released to their parents.

At 11:30 p.m. Officer Thomas Stiansen responded to a call from a resident on Harvard Road who allegedly witnessed two juveniles taking down a speed limit sign. Officer Stiansen responded and took both juveniles into custody.

All juveniles will be charged with receiving stolen property and criminal mischief in Juvenile Court.

Other items taken during this scavenger hunt were handicap signs, parking signs, hydrant markers and hood ornaments from vehicles.

The incident is still under investigation by the Cranford Police Department Juvenile Bureau. No stop signs were reported missing within the township of Cranford.

Hillside

• Two juveniles from Irvington were arrested last week for allegedly beating and robbing a woman on the Bloy Street overpass.

On Nov. 30 at about 1 p.m., the victim, a 24-year-old Springfield resident, was walking toward her car after getting off a bus on Route 22 when she was attacked. The victim suffered head trauma and lacerations to her arms and shoulders in the attack.

Police patrolling in the area, spotted the suspects running on Long Avenue, near Bloy Street. The pair fled toward the McDonald's restaurant on Route 22. Additional officers responded and searched the area, discovering one suspect hiding in a vehicle parked in McDonald's parking lot. The second suspect was apprehended inside the restaurant by Detective Lt. Richard Floyd.

Both suspects were positively identified as the individuals who robbed and beat the victim on the overpass and were placed in the Union County Juvenile Detention Center in Linden. They will be charged with robbery and aggravated assault.

The arrests were made by Lt. Michael Katsoudas and Detective Lt. Richard Floyd.

Kenilworth

• Hector Santana, 32, of Roselle, was arrested on Nov. 29 at 7:34 p.m. after police responded to Garden City Furniture on a report of an irate customer. Santana, who was alleged to have struck an employee and a customer, was arrested and charged with simple assault.

The arrest was made by Officers Mike Scanielo and Joe Balwierczak.

• Ellis Franklin, III, 20, of Linden, and two juveniles from Kenilworth were arrested on Dec. 1 at 8:25 p.m. on Kenilworth Boulevard after police responded to a report of suspicious persons. The three suspects were arrested and charged with possession of marijuana. The arrests were made by Officers Henry Obiedzinski and Len Lueddeke.

Linden

• Police are attempting to locate a missing person. Linden resident Martin Stofej, 34, was last seen on Aug. 5 wearing a light blue T-shirt, khaki shorts and a gray baseball cap. He is 5 feet, 7 inches tall, weighs approximately 140 pounds and has tattoos of a bar code on his left wrist and a set of eyes on his left forearm.

He also may have a shaved head and he works as a house painter. Anyone who may have seen this individual or knows his whereabouts is asked to contact Detective Eddie Adams at 908-474-8537 or e-mail eadams@police.lindenes-nj.org.

• Police are investigating the theft of a clothing collection container reported on Nov. 30 at 12:57 p.m.

The owner of Casings Inc., reported the theft of a metal charity clothes container from the parking lot of Pathmark on North Stiles Street. The container is valued at \$2,000.

The owner stated that he has had other thefts of these containers in the past few weeks and believes that they are being stripped and repainted or sold for scrap metal.

Anyone with information on this theft can contact Detective Frank Leporino at 908-474-8535 or e-mail crimetips@police.lindenes-nj.org.

Roselle Park

• Ronald Wright, 22, of Hillside, was arrested on Nov. 25 at 8:06 p.m. on West Grant Avenue after being pulled over for having a loud muffler.

An investigation led to the discovery of three small clear bags containing suspected marijuana. Wright was charged with possession of marijuana, a loud muffler and possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle. The arrest was made by Patrolman Kevin Florczak.

• Police are investigating a case of burglary reported on Nov. 26 at 7:54 a.m. on West Westfield Avenue. Police responded to Quality Auto Repair where officers observed that a forced entry had occurred. The manager advised police that between Nov. 24 and Nov. 26, approximately 20 catalytic converters were stolen from the location. The investigation is continuing.

• Luis Capo, 22, of Roselle Park, was arrested on Nov. 26 at 5 p.m. at the train station. A patrolling officer observed two males sharing a single cigarette in the tunnel area underneath the train platform. As the officer approached, he detected the smell of burning marijuana. Further investigation led to the discovery of a small clear baggie containing suspected marijuana in the possession of one of the males, Capo.

Capo was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana. The arrest was made by Patrolman James Kompany.

• Melvin Lorenzo, 22, of Rahway, and Ariel Nuez, 19, of Elizabeth was arrested on Nov. 26 at 9:05 p.m. on Locust Street after being pulled over for having a view obstruction.

An investigation led to the discovery of an open container of beer and a partially-smoked marijuana cigarette.

The driver, Lorenzo, was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana. He was also charged with a view obstruction, possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle and possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle. The passenger, Nuez, was charged with possession/consumption of alcohol by a minor.

The arrests were made by Patrolman Richard Gaylord.

• Police are investigating a case of armed robbery reported on Nov. 26 at 9:14 p.m. at the Delta Gas Station on East Westfield Avenue.

The victim stated that while he was on the phone with a friend he observed a male walking Eastbound on East Westfield Avenue

from the direction of Walnut Street. As the male approached the booth he pointed a black semi-automatic handgun and demanded money. The victim turned over approximately \$120 and the suspect then ran Westbound on East Westfield Avenue toward Walnut Street then turned right and ran northbound on Walnut Street in Roselle Park.

A check of the area revealed negative results for the suspect. Additional police units from Kean University and Union County Sheriff's Department canvassed the area with negative results.

The male was described as a black male about 5 feet, 8 inches tall with a thin build and short hair. He was wearing a black jacket, jeans, gloves and had a black bandanna covering his face.

• Roman Venditti, 27, of Roselle Park, was arrested on Nov. 28 at 11:42 p.m. on East Westfield Avenue after patrolling officers observed two males walk out from behind a vending machine at the Delta Gas Station and proceed up the driveway of an apartment building. Further investigation led to the discovery of a homemade smoking pipe with suspected marijuana residue. Venditti was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. The arrest was made by Patrolman Richard Gaylord.

• Vicente Melo, 19, of Elizabeth was arrested on Nov. 29 at 1:57 p.m. after being pulled over on Galloping Hill Road for failing to wear a seatbelt.

Further investigation led to the discovery of a partially smoked hand-rolled cigar containing suspected marijuana. Melo was charged with possession of marijuana, possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle and failure to wear a seatbelt. The arrest was made by Patrolman Nicholas Vaughan.

Union

• Joshua N. Cruz, 21, of Union, was arrested on Nov. 22 at 3:27 p.m. on Route 22 and charged with possession of marijuana. The arrest was made by Detective Kevin Kalendek.

• Justin M. Scoon, 20, of Union, was arrested on Nov. 22 at 4:30 p.m. on Route 22 for drug offenses. The arrest was made by Detective Kevin Kalendek.

• Christopher Brusgard, 23, of Union, was arrested on Nov. 25 at 1:07 a.m. on Caldwell Avenue and charged with driving while intoxicated.

The arrest was made by Officer James Gilleece.

The information published in Police Blotter is provide by local police departments in accordance with the Open Public Records Act. All persons charged are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Local towns mull sewer tax, 2% cap

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

Cranford and Springfield are in a catch 22 situation when deciding whether it is better to leave the sewer tax in or out of the 2011, state-imposed 2 percent cap restriction on their municipal budgets.

There was a large outcry by taxpayers when they received their sewer utility bills for the first time this summer and now the issue is once again rearing its head.

The problem began when governing body members in both towns were struggling to keep their budgets below this year's 4 percent state-imposed cap, which means taxes cannot increase more than 4 percent. Both municipalities decided they had no choice but to take the Rahway Valley Sewerage costs out of the tax bill and charge citizens separately for sewerage usage.

The decision to separate the Rahway Valley Sewerage usage from the property tax bills seemed like part of the answer to their budget problems. Unfortunately when the sewerage bills hit taxpayers mailboxes, residents did not feel the same way. It was yet another bill to pay, one that no one expected or wanted.

The issue became a political football for Democratic candidates running in both Cranford and Springfield, resulting in the Republican incumbent candidates losing their bid for re-election along with their newcomer running mates.

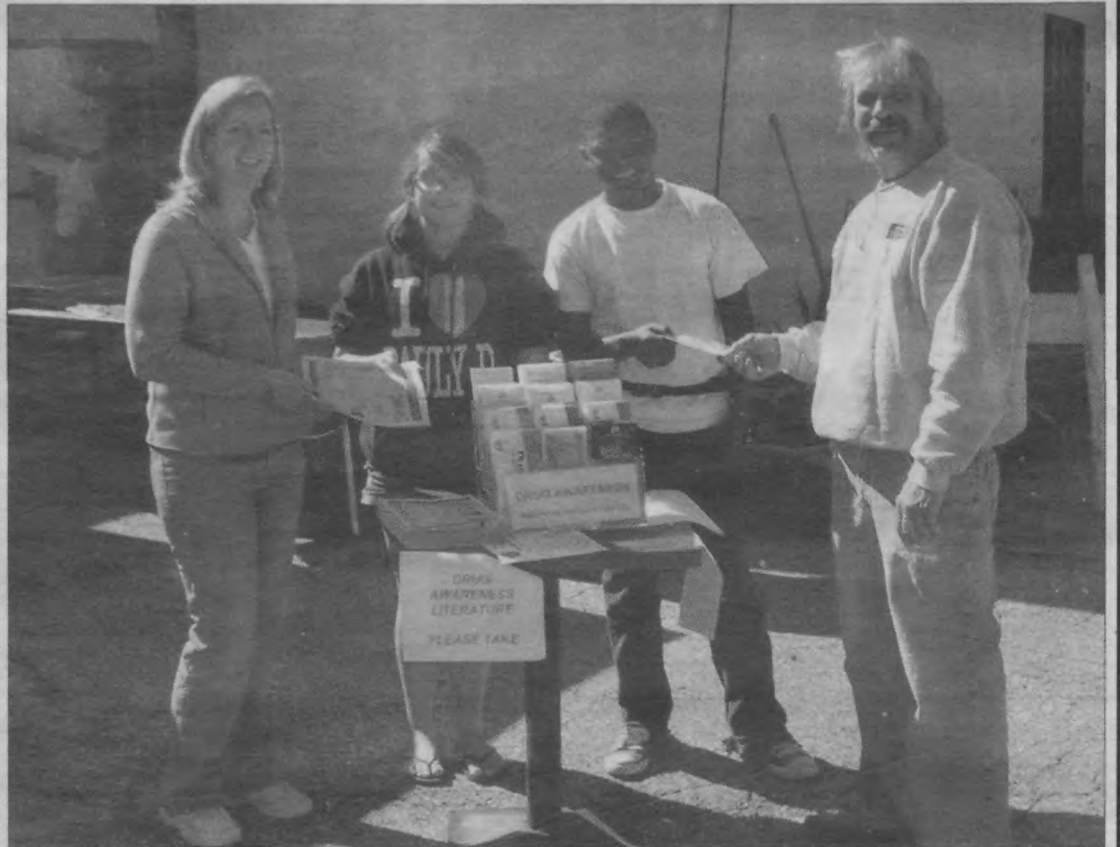
Hearing the clear message from taxpayers, the outgoing Republican majorities decided to introduce ordinances that would include the sewer charges in the municipal budget, back under the cap in 2011. But, although the Democrats in both towns decried the separation move of their advisories during the

campaign, they are now having second thoughts. Democrats like Springfield's Hugh Keffer and Cranford's commissioner-elect Kevin Campbell are having second thoughts about putting the measure back in the taxes because they know it will be difficult getting regular expenses under the cap in 2011, especially after state officials lowered the 4 percent cap to a 2 percent cap for the next budget year.

Cranford is especially behind the eight ball because they not only have to work with a 2 percent cap but also decide how to budget in a 25 percent RVSA increase, or \$375,000, on top of their annual sewerage bill of \$1.5 million.

In Springfield, where the \$1.9 million RVSA tab is projected to increase 17 percent, or \$323,000, Keffer and the two new Democrat-elect candidates, David Amlen and Richard Huber, are concerned that they will have to lay off as many as 40 of the town's 130 employees in order to meet the 2 percent cap restriction.

Spreading the word...



During the Springfield-Hillside Elks Lodge 2004's annual flea market event, Lodge members Stephanie Poranski left and Joel Marrin right, hand out and discuss Elks Drug Awareness literature with two local teens.

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Borough book group to discuss a classic

The book group of Kenilworth Public Library will meet in the library's activity room at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday for its annual pot luck holiday dinner, to be followed by a discussion of the classic tale, "The Little Prince," by Antoine de Saint-Exupery.

Written by Saint-Exupery in 1942 during a stay in the United States, "The Little Prince" has been translated into more than 190 languages, with a total of more than 80 million copies sold, making it one of the best-selling books of all time.

Although considered by many to be a children's book because of its illustrations and simple writing style, "The Little Prince" offers insights into life and the human condition that can also be enjoyed and appreciated by adult readers.

Participation in the book discussion group is free and open to all members of the general public age 18 and older, including people who reside in communities other than Kenilworth. No previous experience with a book group is required and new members are always welcome. Because space is limited, preregistration is requested and can be done at the library or by calling 908-276-2451 during regular library hours.

The library is located at 548 Kenilworth Blvd. For information about the library, visit www.kenilworthlibrary.org.

UNION BRIEFS

Friday

• There will be an **Alternative Gift Fair and Christmas Bazaar** at Faith United Church of Christ, 1340 Burnet Ave. in Union, on Dec. 10 from 3 to 6 p.m. and Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fairly traded African jewelry, musical instruments, ornaments and gifts will be available. There will also be an opportunity for alternative gift giving via donations to The Heifer Project and Bridge of Faith. Admission is free.

For information, call 908-688-4333 or visit the church website at www.faithuccunion.org.

Dec. 22

• On Dec. 22 at noon, the **Union Municipal Drug Alliance** will host a **networking meeting** at Adagio Bistro, 1020 Stuyvesant Ave., in Union Center.

Those who plan to attend should call 908-688-2800, ext. 3564. Lunch will be provided.

Upcoming

• This month, Union residents can register their homes for consideration in the **Safe and Sober Holiday House Decorations Contest**.

Prizes will be given in several categories and announced at the Jan. 1 reorganization meeting. This activity will be relatively cost-free to the citizens of the township and will engender community spirit and pride. From now, through Dec. 15, registration will be accepted by e-mail or regular mail. Send to pfernandez@uniontownship.com, or Paul Fernandez, Drug Alliance, Union Municipal Building 1976 Morris Ave.

For information contact Paul Fernandez 908-688-2800 ext 3564. Judging will take place from Dec. 16 to 24. Winners will be notified on Dec. 28.

Ongoing

• More than 17 departments and student organizations at **Kean University** have joined to collectively

spread some holiday cheer. Liberty Hall Museum, Premiere Stages, the Center for Leadership & Service and the Kean University Service Corp are among the groups collecting items for **Toys for Tots** through Dec. 15.

Kean urges the community to help needy young people in Union County by bringing an unwrapped gift for children up to 15 years old to Liberty Hall's Blue House or to drop locations throughout the campus. Drop locations include Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave., Union; Kean University's Main Campus, 1000 Morris Ave., Union; Kean University East Campus, 215 North Ave., Hillside and at various special events, including Premiere Stages' Holiday Readings Series from Dec. 9 to 11 at 7 p.m. The holiday-themed readings of new plays are free to the public with the donation of a gift for the campaign.

• **The Michael A. Kelly Post 2433**, Veterans of Foreign Wars of Union, and its Auxiliary, have announced that the Program Committee has prepared its agenda for 2010-2011.

The agenda includes many patriotic and community activities. Pearl Harbor Day, Loyalty Day and Memorial Day will all be dedicated to recognizing the service of veterans and community honorees. Parties will include celebrating the Auxiliary's birthday, the fall kick-off get-together, Oktoberfest, Christmas, the New Year and officer installation. Other highlights will be a casino bus ride and a Western Jamboree featuring Dottie Williams and her popular band.

The post will again be holding the very popular monthly international dinners.

• Union announced that **any resident who would like a tree planted** in their front yard or on their property may contact the Department of Public Works at 908-686-1922 or by email at DPW@uniontownship.com.



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Protect our police

Ask a resident which group of municipal employees they could least do without, and we believe the response would be nearly unanimous: police officers, but likely with a caveat: we can't do without them, but we can't afford ever increasing property taxes.

In many of our municipalities, work is in progress on budgets for the 2011 fiscal or calendar years. Municipal officials and members of governing bodies in some of those towns are having difficulty as they attempt to rein in expenses.

In a few cities, however, police officers are among a large group of municipal workers who face layoffs as city officials attempt to close large budget gaps. While we understand removing 10 officers would likely save more money than discharging 15 city hall employees, we believe this would be a classic case of "penny-wise and pound-foolish."

In the majority of Union County municipalities we serve, reported cases of crime declined between 2008 and 2009. When one looks at the statistics, the decline is noticeable in the heavily populated towns. We believe it is because police departments in most of those towns have the ability to maintain a constant presence on the streets — which acts as a deterrent to would-be criminals.

That presence — officers driving through a neighborhood or walking a beat — could be reduced if manpower were cut back.

We don't believe anyone would support a decrease in police presence. A strong police force deters crime and increases safety. Municipal officials should consider other options before resorting to police layoffs.

And as for municipal officials who have demanded officers "give back" salaries and benefits to save jobs, we believe that is a justifiable request if all other municipal employees are making the same sacrifice. And if elected officials have not already taken cuts, we ask, why not?

Finally, municipal officials and council members can moan about why there are budget deficits, but they were aware that aid would be reduced because of the condition of the state's finances.

Plans should have begun in March or April, not now, with demands being made in desperation.



Photo By Jim Lowney, county of Union

WELCOMING THE SEASON — Union County Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan, right, Vice Chairman Deborah Scanlon and Freeholder Alexander Mirabella attend the Union County Menorah and Tree Lighting Celebration during the 27th annual Holiday Nature Craft Show at Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside.

A lack of money for many priorities

The detailed report of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign gave us in the state lousy reviews in yet another area: structurally deficient bridges. In the county, the dubious distinction of the worst goes to the Route 22 bridge over Chestnut street in Union.

The report reads, "Built in 1929. Carries an average of 40,827 vehicles daily. Superstructure rated serious; substructure rated poor. Scored a sufficiency rating of 25.5 percent."

In an obvious pitch for more of the shrinking funds, Zoe Baldwin, Tri State New Jersey coordinator said, "It's not that the DOT hasn't prioritized, it's that they haven't had the money to fix them."

The timing of the report is directly related to another of those financially depressing reports that we seem to get daily. As Baldwin said, "The case here is the (state) Transportation Trust Fund will run out of money...While we have this trust fund renewal debate our bridges are still deteriorating."

From the Route 577 bridge over I-78 in Springfield — "superstructure rated serious" — to the Route 22 bridge over Liberty Avenue in Hillside with "deck rated poor, superstructure rated poor," the money issues are staggering.

Baldwin's group is eyeing the \$1.25 billion from the New Jersey Turnpike Authority that was going

Left Out

By Frank Capece

to be used for the canceled Hudson River Rail Tunnel to be used for bridge and road work. With mass transit advocates still seething over the killing of the ARC Tunnel, they will be none too happy to apply funds to non-rail projects.

Baldwin argues, "The high personal cost of bad roads and bridges is the wear and tear on vehicles that costs individuals money and on businesses because of time lost in traffic." The danger factor which comes to light is when the structures actually collapse.

Collapsing structures go beyond bridges. Reports estimate the state pension system will run out of money by 2019. This year alone the state's pension bill of \$3.1 billion was not funded by Gov. Chris Christie. Christie argues that he won't fund the system until the Democratic-controlled legislature enacts reforms. Meanwhile, just like the bridge over Chestnut Street in Union, the underpinnings can continue to deteriorate.

Worse than the infrastructure crisis are some of the solutions being proposed. At the top of the

list is the raising of the gas tax. With prices hovering at \$3 a gallon in the county, there is no real enthusiasm to the increase proposal. The counter argument is that the state is near the top already in every other type of tax. Down south in Washington, the Federal Deficit Commission proposed a federal increase in the gas tax up to 15 cents per gallon. The other painful proposals would eliminate subsidies for student loans, higher social security taxes, higher retirement ages and — perish the thought — elimination of the sacred home mortgage deduction.

Maybe the most interesting part of the past political campaign was the argument by Freeholder Daniel Sullivan saying that we all have an obligation to invest in future infrastructure projects just like our grandparents and parents before us accomplished.

On the automobile front, the alternative is to reduce the weight limit or actually closing the unsafe bridge. This idea of reducing the weight limit in terms of the expectations of what we want, what we get for our tax dollars and what we are willing to pay is on the table. Like Baldwin says, we have priorities but not the money to fix the problems.

An attorney, Frank Capece is a resident of Cranford.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A healthy holiday season

To the Editor:

To our Summit neighbors and friends, we need to look no further than downtown to know when the holiday season is upon us. Decorations on homes and buildings, tree lightings, sidewalks bustling with eager shoppers, carolers, and horse and buggy rides are all part of the atmosphere spreads holiday cheer and the feeling of community that you come to expect here in Summit.

This year, we at Overlook Hospital would like to add something to our downtown's yearly holiday festivities, and we thought a little good health would go well with all the good cheer. On Dec. 5, we opened a storefront site at 357 Springfield Ave. where, throughout the month, you'll find all sorts of fun and healthy activities.

Health screenings, lectures, healthy cooking demonstrations and activities such as yoga and Zumba, as well as crafts for children are among the ways you can treat yourself to a happy, healthy, holiday season in our downtown locale.

We're also thrilled that some of our neighbors in the community, such as the Red Cross and the Summit YMCA, will be joining us at this new site to offer a blood drive, adult exercise programs and children's activities. We welcome your input for services you would like us to offer in the future. We hope you enjoy this year's many festivities and program choices and wish you a happy and healthy holiday season.

Alan Lieber, president
Overlook Hospital
Summit

Mayor 'bullied' audience

To the Editor:

I am a homeowner in Clark. On Dec. 2, I attended a Planning Board meeting about a 55 and over, age-restricted, apartment complex that is going to be built near my home. The complex has been disguised as senior citizen housing, and will consist of four, four-story buildings that will house more than 300 people.

I, like many other members of our town, do not want this. I am concerned about Clark changing from a town into a city. I decided to go to this meeting to let my voice, as well as the democratic process, be heard. The board voted to build this complex; however, that is not why I am writing.

I am writing this letter due to the events that unfolded in the meeting. The lawyer for Garden Homes, the development company in charge of this project, started the meeting by presenting minor changes to the original proposal.

Following this, the floor was opened up to the public. I, among many others, jumped up to speak of our disapproval. Not one person in the audience spoke in favor of this project, and after one hour, our mayor, Sal Bonaccorso, stood up. Mayor Bonaccorso was not a member of the Planning Board for this decision, as this apartment complex will be in close proximity to his home; however, he had the right to speak as a citizen. He stood up and turned the podium that had been facing the Planning Board around, and began to chastise the audience for showing up to speak their mind. He spoke arrogantly to the audience for not coming to all prior meetings, when we, the members of the town, only found out about this project "through the grapevine."

When we tried to defend ourselves, the head of the Planning Board told us to be quiet and let the mayor speak, as this wasn't a town hall meeting. When the once reasonable audience turned angry as a result of the mayor's condescending tone and statements, the mayor walked away from the microphone stating, "It's a done deal anyway."

The planning board then closed the public process, however, three more people were wanting to speak and many more to follow. The board then voted, one by one, all in favor.

The entire meeting had turned into a disgusting dis-

play of bullying and of a government that has stopped caring about its residents.

To be clear, although there are many reasons as to why this apartment complex should not be built as proposed, it is again, not the purpose of this letter. Instead, I am writing about a town where the government has gone too far. I ask you, the people who are reading this, if the outcome of this meeting was a "done deal," then why the display of ego by Mayor Bonaccorso? Why the bullying?

I implore anyone with a conscience reading this to investigate that night's public meeting. Call the offices of Clark, and ask for transcripts or minutes of the meeting.

In his berating last night, Mayor Bonaccorso told us that Clark was voted 24th best place to live in New Jersey. I can honestly say that the mayor does not foresee the future, when that ranking will be much, much lower.

Mike Altmann
Clark

Holiday's true meaning

To the Editor:

The holiday season has arrived and with it comes the beginning of one of the holiest times of the year — Christmas.

Christmas is a busy time for everyone. People scurrying about buying gifts for loved ones and parties, dinners being planned. But let's not forget the true meaning of this holiday. It is the birth of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ. He was born to save the world. Gift-giving and parties are secondary to this fact.

On behalf of the officers and members of the Kenilworth VFW, Kenilworth Veterans Center Post 2230 and Kenilworth American Legion Post 470, I would like to extend season's greetings to everyone as we move into the holidays.

May your homes be blessed with the joy of the holiday season — good times, good friends, good health and may your life be filled with peace and happiness throughout the new year.

Last, but not least, let us extend a special thanks and best wishes to our service men and women presently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ask our good Lord to watch over them and protect them from those who wish us harm. Let us remember them in our prayers and pray for a speedy reuniting with their loved ones.

Edward J. Miller
Kenilworth

Policy on letters, columns

Union County LocalSource welcomes submissions from its readers. Letters to the editor or opinion pieces on any subject will be considered for publication on the opinion pages.

This opportunity also is open to all residents, officials and employees of Union County.

Union County LocalSource reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, content and style. Writers must include their name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

Letters must be no more than 500 words long. Longer pieces must be arranged in advance with the editor.

Union County LocalSource accepts letters to the editor and guest columns via e-mail. The address is editorial@thelocalsource.com.

Letters and essays also may be sent via U.S. mail to 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union 07083. For publication, all letters and guest columns must be received by 9 a.m. on Mondays to be considered for publication in Thursday's edition.

Letters received via e-mail must be on topics of interest, preferably in response to content that appeared in the newspaper. For purposes of verification, all letters must include a name, address and daytime telephone number.



DERMATOLOGY & LASER CENTER

Presented by
Patricia C. McCormack, M.D., F.A.A.D.
Diplomate, American Board of Dermatology
patriciamccormackmd.com

DRYING CIRCUMSTANCES

As winter approaches, you may want to take the necessary steps to ensure that your skin does not fall prey to cold (and heated) air's drying effects. As outdoor air grows chillier and inside air is heated, the humidity is wrung out of the air, a recipe for chapped skin and cracked lips. To prevent this occurrence, make a determined effort to apply a cream-based moisturizer to your skin daily. The best time to apply moisturizer is just after showering, when it will help trap moisture on the skin's surface. And speaking of shower (and bathing), it is best to avoid very hot water. Short, lukewarm showers or baths with gentle, non-irritating, no detergent-based cleanser are easier on the skin.

If you have any concerns

with your ski or its treatment, see a dermatologist for advice. At my practice, we provide expert care to help you maintain the health of your skin. Whether you have a general dermatology concern or are interested in cosmetic skin solutions, we are here to help. For an appointment, call 908-925-8877. The office is conveniently located at 822 North Wood Ave., Linden. New patients are gladly accepted. We have evening and Saturday hours for your convenience.

P.S. If you frequently wash your hands to prevent the transmission of germs, you can prevent soap and water from drying out your hands by following hand-washing with the application of moisturizer.

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271327

CRANFORD BRIEFS

Masonic Lodge to host C.H.I.P. Program

A C.H.I.P. Program, or Child Identification Program, will be sponsored by AzureMasada Free and Accepted Masons on Dec. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 478 South Ave., Cranford.

The C.H.I.P. program provides parents with a detailed record for identifying their child which is critical if the child ever goes missing. Parents will receive a fingerprinting card, a physical description, dental impression, DNA sample and a computer disc that contains the child's personal information. No appointment is necessary. First come, first served while supplies last. For additional information, contact Michael Anderson at mblitz81@aol.com or 908-230-6137.

Senior movies are for Cranford residents only. For information, call the Recreation and Parks Department at 908-709-7283.

Program offered for special needs kids

The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced a new program to be offered at the Cranford Community Center for special needs children called Movin' and Groovin'.

Special Needs Children will have lots of after school fun exploring music, movement and musical arts. Wear comfortable clothing to class. All children must be able to participate without parental assistance. Mentors will be provided as necessary. The program will take place Mondays from 4 to 4:45 p.m. for ages 6-12. For information, call the Recreation Department at 908-709-7283.

Go to the movies at the community center

The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced that the following movies will be shown the first and second Mondays during the month of December. Movies are shown in the audio-visual room at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave. at 11:15 a.m.:

Monday, "Knight and Day," a comedy-thriller starring Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz.

Library launches 18th year of book group

The Readers' Forum, the book discussion group of Cranford Public Library, will begin its 18th year. Titles and dates are: "One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd," by Jim Fergus, Dec. 20. All dates are Mondays. New members are welcome. Sessions start at 7 p.m. and are conducted in the library's Fridlington Room.

For information, call the library Reference Dept at 908-709-7272.

They've got backbone



The third grade class will never forget this lesson on bones. Carolyn Pancurak from St. Theresa School in Kenilworth is teaching her class about the bones in the human body. They created a backbone threading wagon wheel pasta and gummy lifesavers through twine. Then students studied the different movements the spine can make. Christopher Leon is working on his spine.

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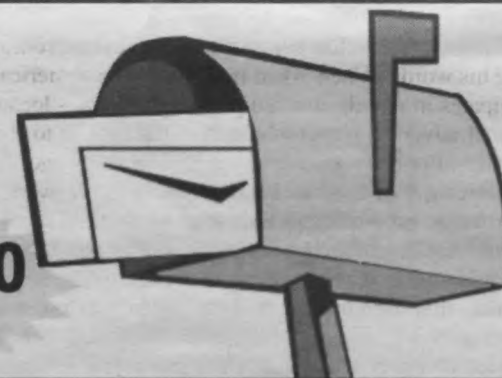
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Business owners discuss local SID tax

(Continued from Page 1)

Some property and business owners agreed with Minitelli, but others felt they were not getting their money's worth, or that these dollars could be used more wisely. Alan Hodapp, property owner and proprietor of Perkins Pharmacy since 1955, has mixed feelings about the SID and the tax money that funds it.

"My store is the smallest in the SID," he points out, noting that at 13-feet wide, his property does not receive a very large SID tax bill. This year, for example, Hodapp was charged \$287 for the SID tax, which equals \$1.025 for each \$100 of the assessed value of his property.

But while the decision to put a SID in place in Union was enough to rile up this longtime business owner some 18 years ago, his efforts to stop the township from moving ahead were not. Over the years, Hodapp has made it his business to attend SID meetings twice a month, but mentions that they are poorly attended by SID members.

"I'm usually the only person there, other than the board members, who are business or property owners," he said. Although he has always taken an active interest in how his SID tax dollars are spent, Hodapp is not interested in paying any additional dollars for Minitelli's newspaper advertising promotions.

A few doors down Juan Lopez, owner of Conca D'Ora bakery, has less than a favorable view of the center, summing up foot traffic in just a few words.

"Nothing is going on in this downtown," he said, bitterness lacing his words. When asked if he participates in any discounted promotional advertising that Minitelli advocates, Lopez seemed puzzled.

"I place my own ad in the *Suburban News*, no one came here to offer me any discount," he said. "I don't know what they are doing to promote this downtown, but it doesn't help me."

At Here's the Story, a bookstore in the center owned and operated by Joe Leo for the last 15 years, the opinion about the SID is completely the opposite.

Leo, who is the SID president this year and will again hold the title next year, is a strong supporter of the SID and Minitelli. He explains that he became involved in the SID five years ago because he had issues of his own as a business owner and he wanted to solve them.

"Overall, I felt I had to be a participant to see things change," he said. He also believes Minitelli has done a good job in promoting the center, despite the challenges he faces. "It's a lot of trial and error, everything is done for the posi-

tive," the business owner said, but admits that the SID director has his hands full. "He puts up with a lot."

As for the newspaper advertising promotions that Minitelli strongly suggests business owners participate in to draw shoppers to the center, Leo is an active participant and supporter.

"You can't beat it, I get two 2-inch by 3-inch ads for \$75. You can't go wrong with that kind of a deal," he said, confirming what Minitelli said in an interview previously that business owners pay for their own ads.

However, Leo pointed out that Minitelli pays for the banner ad that is usually at the top or bottom of a grouping of SID ads. He also occasionally pays the extra cost for color. According to other business owners, Minitelli brings a *Suburban News* ad representative into their store when he is going to do a promotion in that newspaper, and they are encouraged to participate. One business owner, who preferred his name not be used, said that while the ad cost was reasonable, he did not like being pressured to participate.

"Look, times are tough and we don't get a lot of shoppers during the week. I have bills to pay, and nothing for extras" he said.

He also had a problem with SID money being spent on the banner flags that line the sides of the street in the center.

"I don't know why Minitelli buys flags from the American Flag Company, or why they put them up and take them down. That costs a lot of money," the business owner said. "We should be using that money to promote the center."

The American Flag Company, previously located in Union Center, moved to Route 22 in Union a few years ago.

Bob Stevko, former owner of Mailboxes Etc. from 1991 to 2006, left with a bitter taste in his mouth regarding the SID and Minitelli. He explained that while many people think only property owners bear the financial burden of the SID tax, that is "far from the truth." Stevko said his landlord passed on 24 percent of the SID tax for him to pay.

"I figured if I was going to pay for a portion of that tax, I wanted to see something for my money," he said, but admitted he never was satisfied with Minitelli or the promotions he bought forth.

"For me it was not worth the effort because they closed down the street in front of my store and customers could not bring their packages in to me," Stevko said.

Although *Union County Local-Source* visited many center store owners for this article, the majority said they did not want to comment on this issue.



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CELEBRATING THE SEASON — Clark hosted its annual Winter Festival on Nov. 28. In addition to the lighting of a tree and menorah, residents were treated to horse and wagon rides, carriage rides, train rides, pony rides, a petting zoo, puppet shows, refreshments and a visit from Santa. The Recreation Department, local businesses and organizations sponsored the event.

SUMMIT BRIEFS

Housing Authority to meet at local city hall

The Housing Authority of Summit will meet Dec. 15 from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Janet Whitman room in city hall.

City introduces new way to pay tax bills

As of the November tax quarter, the city of Summit has enhanced its

services for residents by offering a new payment method.

Property tax payments can be made by direct ACH debit payment which will electronically debit your savings or checking account. This is at no cost to residents.

Go to the city's website, www.cityofsummit.org and click on the link for ACH direct payment application.

Complete the application and mail back with a voided check or

voided savings deposit slip. For information, call 908-277-9426.

City offers residents Dial-A-Truck services

The Department of Community Services of the city of Summit has revised their Dial-A-Truck program, effective immediately.

The Dial-A-Truck program is a service designed to assist residents of Summit with the disposal of large bulky items only; there is no

cost to the resident. Dial-A-Truck is not a general cleanup service or a collection of bags or boxes of trash and debris.

Items not picked up by Dial-A-Truck may be disposed of at the Transfer Station from Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Every three weeks the city collects up to five items that are too bulky or too heavy for residents to

take to the Transfer Station in personal vehicles.

Mattresses and box springs, large pieces of furniture and heavy appliances will be picked up by the Dial-A-Truck service. Small non-recyclable items may also be placed in with the weekly trash.

Board to host meeting

A workshop meeting of the Summit Board of Education will take place today at 7:30 p.m. in the Wilson School Board Meeting Room.

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SPRINGFIELD BRIEFS

Springfield Church to host event for parents

The First Presbyterian Church in Springfield will host its annual Parents Night Out and Santa's Workshop on Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Families may bring their children to the Parish House, 37 Church Mall, where children may stay until 9 p.m. Dinner, movies and the Santa's Workshop from 6:30 to 8 p.m. will provide the children with an opportunity to make Christmas crafts and gifts for family members.

Certified teachers will be present to supervise during the evening activities. This event is open to the public and all are invited to attend. Reservations are required.

Make Believe Ballroom will return to library

Take yourself back to 1935. You hear disc jockey Martin Block's voice on WNEW radio in New York. Block creates the illusion that he is broadcasting from a ballroom with the nation's top dance bands performing live and you enjoy the sounds of all your favorite big bands, crooners and canaries.

After running as a local program, the Make Believe Ballroom was nationally syndicated in 1940 and continued on and off on different venues and with different hosts until the late 1980s.

Now flash forward to Sunday, at 2 p.m. when the Make Believe Ballroom will come alive again at Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. The Ballroom Boys, Sid Josephs and Nick DeLuccia, will bring back those days with a musical journey through the 1930s, 40s, and 50s.

Hear the music of Harry James, the Dorsey Brothers, Glenn Miller, Frank Sinatra, Vic Damone, Bing Crosby, Doris Day, Peggy Lee, Dinah Shore and more. The Ballroom Boys will play international tunes, big band music and finish with a rousing patriotic finale.

DeLuccia plays guitar, banjo, mandolin and sings. Josephs plays piano and shares stories and trivia from the good ole' days. Travel back in time with the Ballroom Boys.

This program is made possible by the David Hendlin Memorial Fund. For information, call 973-376-4930.

'Musical' film series is set to begin at library

Springfield Free Public Library will begin a new lunchtime film series, "New York City Musicals," on Tuesday. The film series will be shown at noon every other Tuesday through Feb. 22. For specific titles and information about the films in this series, see the library's website www.sfpnlj.org or call at 973-376-4930.

Funding for the film 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 Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs and by the Friends of

the Springfield Public Library.

Admission is free. Patrons can bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be

served at 11:30 a.m. Assistive listening devices are available upon request. The library is located at 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield.

Maplewood's Springfield Avenue Partnership District Dollars



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The holidays are a time to celebrate with family and friends. The Springfield Avenue Partnership extends an invitation to Maplewood residents and visitors from neighboring communities to shop and dine on Springfield Avenue for the holiday season.

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- Ricciardi Bros Paint Store
- Top Hat and Tails
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- Woolley Fuel

The Springfield Avenue Partnership's business and restaurant owners extend holiday greetings and thanks to their customers.

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The Partnership will draw 20 winners to receive \$50 each in Springfield Avenue District Dollars good at participating Springfield Avenue District businesses and restaurants. District Dollars must be used by February 28, 2011. No purchase necessary. 18 years or older to enter.

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Hillside Catholic Academy tries to reduce bullying in schools

Hillside Catholic Academy launched the, "Be a Buddy Not a Bully" program on Nov. 9. The program encourages the students to create an environment of trust, caring and respect. This is the brain child of work by Angela Vasil and Hillside Catholic Academy student government.

"The person who has to learn to change is the bully not the victim," as told to an assembly of Hillside Catholic Academy students.

The day began with an introduction from Vasil of the program, which was followed by each member of the student body, faculty and staff signing a poster, which also served as a pledge, entitled "Be a

Buddy Not a Bully."

During the assembly, the students were given two pieces of paper. On the first they wrote of a time they felt they had been bullied. The papers were collected and then destroyed as a symbol that these incidents were in the past and gone. On the second piece of paper student wrote their names, they then handed them to the student next to them. That student was to write some quality they liked about that student.

The student government played an active roll in explaining the importance of the program by traveling from class to class describing how each person can be a Buddy

not a Bully and thus becoming a leader.

To insure that the program continues a "Be a Buddy not a Bully Box" will be placed in the main office. Students will be encouraged to write down any incident of bullying, anonymously.

The program had an instant effect on the students, "The program was great," said Yourkia Nazaire an eighth grade student. "I now know my place in stopping a bully."

Third grade student Tayla Gunn agreed, "It taught me that if someone bullies me, I simply walk away. You also have to help someone who is trouble."

The pen is mightier...



Franklin Elementary School in Rahway recently announced the winners of the Red Ribbon Week essay contest. From left: first place, Nicole Guardado; second place, Monique Boss and third place, Xavia Carter. These talented writers wrote outstanding essays and received a Barnes & Noble gift card.



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STUDENT UPDATE

Cranford resident received scholarship

Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, Maine, had its annual Sarah and James Bowdoin Day ceremony Oct. 22, to honor those undergraduates who distinguish themselves by excellence in scholarship, including Cranford resident Laura Newcomb, of the Class of 2011. Those students who are designated Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholars are in the top 20 percent of each class for the previous academic year.

Local student earns Quinnipiac honors

Alina Zoraian of Mountainside was inducted into the Tau Delta Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the National Communication Association Honor Society, during a recent ceremony at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn.

To be inducted into the honors society, communication students are required to have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.25 and a minimum communications studies grade point average of 3.25.

Two Summit residents chose to study abroad

Gettysburg College offers a rich and diverse range of off-campus study abroad opportunities. These programs supplement and enhance regular on-campus courses.

Elizabeth Curtin of Summit, a junior at Gettysburg College is spending the fall 2010 semester studying in Ireland.

Allison Mion of Summit, a junior at Gettysburg College is spending the fall 2010 semester studying in Austria.

SCHOOL ZONE

Local doctor speaks to concerned parents

"Concussions: Sign, Symptoms and Effects" was the topic of the most recent P.A.C.T. series of presentations for parents at Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School.

The P.A.C.T., or Parents and Counselors Together, series is sponsored by the school's Guidance Department and offers presentations for parents on interesting and relevant topics.

Dr. Joseph H. Rempson, director of the Atlantic Neuroscience Institute's Concussion Center at Overlook Hospital, conducted the presentation in the school auditorium on Nov. 18.

His talk focused on new research, diagnosis, and treatment of the mild traumatic brain injury known as concussion. Dr. Rempson described the signs and symptoms of concussion and discussed the impact of head injury on students' functioning and learning capabilities in school. He concluded the presentation with an opportunity for parents to ask individual questions.

Roselle Park students make new friends

The first Circle of Friends meeting took place at Robert Gordon School in Roselle Park on Nov. 23. The Circle of Friends is a program piloted this year by Arlene Terpening, teacher of the talented and gifted and Deb Cordes, child study team social worker.

The aim of this program is to bring students from different classrooms together to socialize while encouraging them to recognize and embrace learning differences in their fellow classmates. This lunchtime program included students from third, fourth and fifth grades.

They ate lunch, had a special snack and participated in a project together. A fun time was had by all and the students took advantage of the opportunity to make new friends.

As one student stated, "I wish we could do this every day."

Hillside HS educator receives scholarship

Hillside High School social studies teacher Marvin Garcia, a graduate student at Seton Hall University's Jewish-Christian Studies Program, received a Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies scholarship from SRTF Executive Director David Bossman, SRTF Administrator Marilyn Zirl and Marcia Robbins-Wilf at the Fund's recent Orientation.

Garcia received the Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf Honorary Scholarship.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund was created and named in honor of

Sister Rose Thering, in recognition and appreciation of her exemplary dedication throughout her life to improving Jewish-Christian relations through education, especially at the elementary and secondary school levels.

The goals of the Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies programs are to reduce prejudice born of ignorance and misperception, to promote means for conveying the richness of the Jewish and Christian traditions accurately and without bias and to foster cooperation among Jews and Christians in areas of common social welfare.

More than 350 teachers throughout New Jersey have bene-

fited from Endowment scholarships for their studies at Seton Hall University's Jewish-Christian Studies Program during the past 15 years, and have had an impact on more than 150,000 public, private and parochial school students at all grade levels.

Linden school hosts drug prevention event

The Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse in collaboration with the New Jersey National Guard sponsored a "Red Ribbon Fly In" program at Linden School No. 9.

The pilots, CW3 Steve Lampe and CW4 Mike Chaiko of the Army National Guard Counter Drug Pro-

gram shared information on Red Ribbon Week with the entire Linden School No. 9 student body.

The Linden Police Department had an assembly at the elementary school as well as other Linden schools to educate the children about drugs.

Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation reaching millions of Americans every year. By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events, young people pledge to live a drug-free life and pay tribute to DEA Special Agent Enriqui Kiki Camarena.

His tragic death opened the eyes of many Americans to the dangers

of drugs and the international scope of the drug trade. Students at Linden School No. 9 and all of the Linden Public Schools are gathering together in special events and wearing Red Ribbons to demonstrate that they will stay drug free.


St. Theresa's raised breast cancer funds

The Student Council Committee at St. Theresa's School in Kenilworth had a fundraiser for breast cancer awareness.

The children sold cards with pink ribbons to place on the wall at school and raised \$225.

Donations were \$1 and the proceeds went to The Susan G. Komen Foundation.

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 5:00 PM — Family Worship with Children's Pageant
 (all children are welcome to participate - Pageant rehearsal is at 3:30)
 10:30 PM — Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
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Two percent tax cap has some administrators nervous

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

The following is the second in a series about the impact a 2 percent cap imposed by Gov. Chris Christie will have on municipalities in 2011.

As 2011 fast approaches, local municipalities are facing a 2 percent budget cap that could require a change that few governing bodies are prepared to handle.

For decades residents have been accustomed to getting a lot for their tax dollars. In the past municipalities used surplus or savings to avoid raising taxes. But those days could be over. Last year was an indication of what could be in store in 2011 when the 2 percent cap goes into effect. With a 4 percent cap in place in 2010, many towns used employee furloughs and layoffs in order to meet the bottom line. With the cap slashed by half next year, town officials are facing what some have termed "a perfect storm" budget scenario.

The 2 percent cap imposed by Gov. Chris Christie means governing bodies will not be able to increase taxes more than 2 percent.

According to the Division of Continuing Studies at Rutgers University paper, "Moving Up in a Downturn: Management Challenges and Strategies for Municipalities," 2011 is likely to present the worst financial environment since the Great Depression.

They based this information on many factors, including information provided by focus groups made up of municipal officials from across the state. These focus groups met a total of 10 times between April 2009 and May 2010 to provide input on short and long term solutions to the fiscal crisis facing most of the 566 municipalities in the state.

While no elected official wants to raise taxes, most focus group participants admitted that traditional cost saving methods, at this point, would not be enough.

Personnel layoffs and furloughs topped the list of actions taken this year to reduce costs in some towns, but many officials did not see this option as one that would generate enough savings over the long term. Cranford township commissioner

Dan Aschenbach, who steps back into the mayor's seat in 2011, had definite opinions about what would work and what definitely was not a long term solution.

"I do not support furloughs because they are not a solution to budgets," he said, adding that this only resulted in a "one time cost reduction that has to be revisited every year." He also felt that this method of reducing a town's budget could put a municipality in legal jeopardy.

"In fact, the court ruled in 2010 that municipalities cannot do furloughs without negotiating with employees," Aschenbach said.

He preferred that if the township found itself with a budget problem in 2011 they use a different approach.

"I would ask that we consider trying a permanent change to work hours for municipal employees to take Friday's off in summer when the citizen demands are at their lowest and the cost of keeping the building open are at their highest," he said, mentioning that air conditioning costs alone would be dra-

stically reduced.

Aschenbach said he expects to try a different approach to the 2011 budget process by gathering 10 or more residents of the township with financial expertise "to ask hard questions so that we can ensure the budget is what it needs to be."

"I propose we put the administrators of these towns in a room and not let them come out until they have a few good ideas," he said, mentioning that he intends on contacting other mayors as well to try this idea out.

Other focus group participants felt that things like sharing services with other towns would no longer work and that only more drastic changes would work at this point. Focus group member and Clark Township Business Administrator John Laezza felt the same way.

"Forty years ago when I was in Trenton, shared services were brought up, but it's really not something consistent enough to solve the problems these towns are having," he said. "We have 566 towns in New Jersey and 350 of them have less than 5,000 people. If we com-

bined those smaller towns and had only 200 towns, that would solve a lot of our problems."

However, while other administrators and mayors bemoaned adhering to a 2 percent cap in 2011, Laezza was anything but concerned.

"When I came to Clark in 2001, they were bankrupt and we managed to pull out of that without furloughs or layoffs," he said. "So a 2 percent cap doesn't scare me."

There is consistent concern that the public and government are "in denial about the magnitude of the problems facing municipalities," the paper from Rutgers indicated, which led one focus group participant to suggest his own theory on how municipalities ended up in this "perfect storm" of financial difficulty.

"This is like boiling a frog. If you put a frog in a pot of water and slowly turn the heat on, the frog sits in the hot water before realizing that it has started to boil and he can no longer get out," said the participant in the report. The participant is an anonymous business manager.

Send crime tips to police via text, e-mail

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

One of the oldest and most useful tools available to law enforcement officers looking for a break on a tough case — the anonymous tip — has received a 21st Century update with the activation of the Crime Stoppers electronic tipline.

In addition to the 24-hour hotline, residents can now send information to county police via text messages and e-mail. The information can be submitted through a form at www.uctip.org or by texting "UCTIP" plus the message to 274637 (CRIMES). "These new high-tech tools will help officers respond to the needs of the public and get criminals off the streets that much sooner," said Ron Posyton, chairman of the cash crime tip program.

Detective Bridget Lawrence, who works with the Union County Prosecutor's Office, reported the electronic tipline will not require the hiring of additional personnel. Maintaining the system will cost about \$1,200 annually, she said.

Lawrence reported the tipline has been operating successfully since April, seeing 20 tips so far.

Officials hope to introduce the same program to schools as "campus crimestoppers." This would allow students in high school, middle school and possibly grade school to pass information on to police in the same manner. Tips pertaining to topics that are not law-enforcement matters, such as bullying, would then be relayed to the individual school district to handle as they see fit. "If we can keep our finger on what's happening in the schools, its going to make for a safer, happier community," said Bob Seger, a member of Crime Stoppers and a former Cranford Police Detective who worked in the juvenile department.

County Police Chief Daniel Vaniska said the electronic medium has not altered the tradition of anonymity utilized by Crime Stoppers in the past. "When someone sends a tip in, it goes to a third party, who forwards it to us and the appropriate police department," said Vaniska. "We do not have access to find out who they are and we do not want to. We are only interested in their information."

Vice Chair of Crime Stoppers Vito Gagliardi said the organization has proven its worth in its 25-year existence. "Many serious crimes have been solved as a result of the rewards we offer," Gagliardi said.

Crimestoppers is a volunteer organization that solicits public and private donations to reward people for information that lead to an arrest and indictment of criminal offenders. Crime Stoppers offers rewards of up to \$5,000. Callers are assigned identification numbers which they can later use to anonymously collect their reward.

The Giving Tree



Fifth graders from Madison Elementary School in Rahway are decorating the Giving Tree. The children may select an ornament from the Giving Tree which designates whether to buy a toy for a boy or girl and at what age level. Students are encouraged to participate in this charitable event and return a new unwrapped toy to school with the ornament tag attached, by Dec. 17.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Donate blood over the holidays at Overlook

Every minute of every day, someone needs blood. Give someone the perfect gift this holiday season and donate blood. The American Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive at Overlook Hospital Community Health "Downtown" location, 357 Springfield Ave.,

Summit, on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The actual donation takes about 6 to 8 minutes, during which you will be seated comfortably. The process is safe and sterile. Red Cross staff and volunteers will be available if you have any questions or concerns.

Bring your photo ID and the names of medications you are tak-

ing to donate. For questions about eligibility call the American Red Cross donor health line at 866-236-3276.

Overlook promoting health during holidays

Overlook Hospital is launching an exciting new initiative to further connect to neighbors in the Summit community and to strengthen the

relationship with the downtown Summit business community.

On Dec. 5, a storefront was opened at 357 Springfield Ave., Summit, where a bevy of fun and healthy activities will occur all month long to help our neighbors ring in a happy, healthy holiday season. Among the free offerings that will promote awareness of Overlook's services and keep the hospi-

tal in mind during a time when healthy living isn't at the forefront are health screenings, lectures, healthy cooking demonstrations, yoga, zumba and other relaxation programs and children's crafts.

Check out the calendar of events for details and join us for the ribbon cutting and reception to kickoff our holiday festivities at our downtown locale.

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NEW 2011 FORD EDGE SEL



\$198

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\$298
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\$317
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Bill Cosby revealed, honored in Union author's biography

All the facts on the life of actor-comedian Bill Cosby come alive in an impressive and inspiring book, written with care and admiration by Sonya Kimble-Ellis of Union.

The author has a wealth of experience in the arts and entertainment world as a writer, editor, columnist, publicist and journalist. She proves herself once more in an attractive book written not only for young adults, but for the entire public.

The book, "Bill Cosby, Entertainer and Activist," is a Black Americans of Achievement Legacy Edition, released this year through Chelsea House Publishers and can easily be found in libraries and book stores. Its marvelous photographs are in eye-filling attractive color, and its text, accurate and compelling.

It is one in a series of "key African-American leaders, their contributions and their influence on later generations."

Kimble-Ellis offers an intimate portrait of one of the greatest comedians in the history of entertainment, who also became renown as a philanthropist and community activist. She covers his early years with accuracy; the college student who was athletically minded and who believed in himself to such an

On The Shelf

By Bea Smith



extent that he dropped out of college to become a comedian in top clubs in New York and Las Vegas.

Her first chapters, "A Man of Many Firsts," "Humble Beginnings" and "I Want To Be A Comic," introduces a unique human being, from a poor family background, so intent on bringing enjoyment to audiences everywhere, that he turned himself inside out. The aches and pains of becoming the greatest of the greats are evident in Cosby's struggle up the ladder of fame.

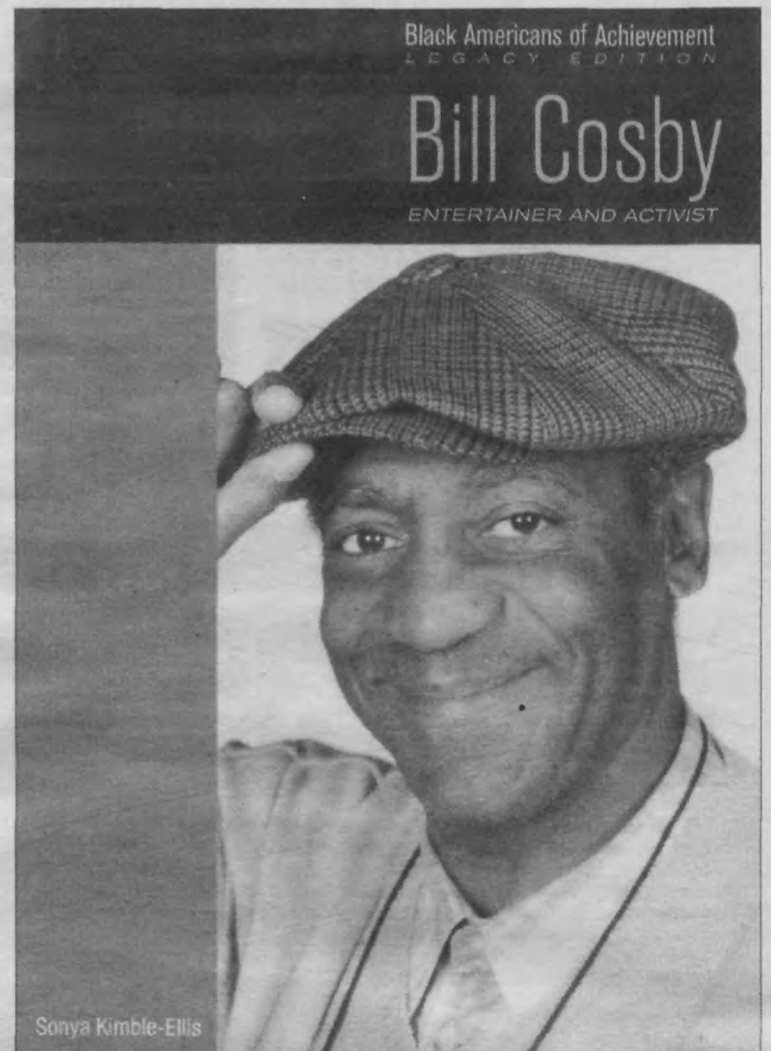
Kimble-Ellis pulls no punches in revealing the real human being in the man called Bill Cosby, a respectable man, who insisted on performing "clean comedy" wherever he was booked. And it worked for him.

The chapter covering "Cosby's Turn on Television," is informative and entertaining. It was on television when Cosby became a phe-

nomenal success, and it all started with appearances on the Ed Sullivan Show and The Tonight Show. He received an Emmy Award in 1966 for his work on the television series, "I Spy," then went on to star in "The Bill Cosby Show," "The New Bill Cosby Show," the "Fat Albert" cartoon series, which inspired comic books, children's books and lunch boxes. Cosby even permitted the Department of Health and Human Services to use his comic book characters in a book that discussed the dangers of alcohol. Not only did Cosby make a specific mark in the film industry, where he worked with other greats as Sidney Poitier and Harry Belafonte, but he earned a doctoral degree from the University of Massachusetts, plus many honorary degrees from other universities.

He was a man for all seasons and thrived on his accomplishments, when tragedy struck. His son, Ennis, was killed changing a tire on an off ramp. Cosby continued to work and entertain because in his mind, "the show must go on."

Kimble-Ellis also utilizes boxed information items that include "Did You Know?" and "In His Own Words," brief biographies of African-American greats, and a



selected works chapter.

This book, a pride and joy to Kimble-Ellis, should also provide the same to the man it honors. It is

a legacy of love. Certainly, it has reached the honorary roll section on the shelf of this reviewer's very special books.

Arts Guild New Jersey receives \$10,000 operating grant

Arts Guild New Jersey has received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey. The grant will fund general operating expenses.

"This grant from the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey will enable Arts Guild New Jersey to continue our important work in the presentation of visual arts and art education," said Lawrence Cappiello, Executive Director of Arts Guild New Jersey. "We are extremely grateful to Horizon Foundation for New Jersey for their recognition of the quality and quantity of the arts programs at the Arts Guild. Their general operating support grant will help us to meet the expenses for staffing and management that allow us to continue our work in arts programming this year."

"We are delighted to partner with Arts Guild New Jersey," said Lawrence Altman, Executive Director of the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey. "The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey is dedicated to supporting charitable organizations making an impact in



From left: Lawrence Cappiello, Executive Director of Arts Guild New Jersey receives a check from RSI Vice President, Greg Trowbridge.

the lives of people across New Jersey."

The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey promotes health and an improved quality of life across our

state by supporting charitable community organizations. For information about the foundation, visit www.HorizonBlue.com/foundation.

The Board of Trustees of Arts

Guild of New Jersey is also pleased to announce receipt of a generous contribution of \$3,500 from RSI Bank of Rahway for 2010 expenses. The RSI contribution was

approved by their Board of Directors and presented by Greg Trowbridge, Vice President for Operations to Lawrence Cappiello, the Executive Director of the Arts Guild.

RSI Bank, formerly the Rahway Savings Institution, is Rahway's oldest bank and has provided financial services in the town since 1851. Ronald McDonald House Charities / New York Tri-State Area Chapter has contributed \$6,700 to Arts Guild New Jersey for the Pre-K Art Education Program that we developed which is taking place this year in the four elementary schools in the Rahway Public School District. The Pre-K Art Ed Program, which began in 2007, provides weekly art instruction to the 4 and 5-year-old children in the Rahway Pre-K classes.

During the 2010-2011 school year, Arts Guild New Jersey will provide Pre-K art instruction on a weekly basis for 20 weeks thanks to grants from Ronald McDonald House Charities of \$6,700, Turrell Fund of \$3,000 and Target of \$2,000.

Kimble-Ellis' new book has a mix of 'history, drama and humor'

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

It appears that Sonya Kimble-Ellis of Union, a published author, freelance writer and editor, was destined to write an inspiring book about an inspiring man: Bill Cosby.

Her book, filled with history, drama and humor, is called "Bill Cosby, Entertainer and Activist," and is part of Black Americans of Achievement, Legacy Edition. It was published this year by Chelsea House Publishers. Her interest in writing such a book began with a conversation with her editor.

"Actually," Kimble-Ellis admitted, "I had been talking about the possibility of a book with the editors as part of their series. They had a list of people, and Bill Cosby was one of them, and one who I was interested in writing about. Over the years, I had become very familiar with Mr. Cosby and his career, and by writing it, it's become an accomplishment for me."

The author explained that "it took four months to write this book. I had never met Mr. Cosby, but I had worked with his public relations firm. And this book, which actually was written for students, and used as research, should be interesting to adults, too. I understand," she said, "that there were other books written



Sonya Kimble-Ellis

about Mr. Cosby. I wrote an outline, sent it to the editor, who thought it was a pretty good idea when I said I wanted to define what can go into each chapter. Once I figured out the way to do it, I submitted it to the editor, and he was very happy with it. I also submitted a lot of photo ideas for each chapter."

Kimble was born in Newark. "I grew up in Maplewood," she said, "graduated from Columbia High School and from Douglass College at Rutgers, where I majored in English. I wasn't sure whether I wanted

to be a writer or an entertainment lawyer. But it was in my sophomore year that I realized what I wanted to do. In the beginning, I began writing for newspapers and magazines in the arts and entertainment field. That was my focus from the beginning. I moved to Union with my husband, Michael Ellis, in 1999 and I love it."

She wrote her first book, a children's book, "Math Puzzlers," then assisted in writing Kidpreneur News, later known as Teenpreneur, an insert for Black Enterprise magazine. Her second book was called "Traditional African American Arts & Activities," published in 2002. She is a writing facilitator at Arts Access, an arts program at Matheny Medical & Education Center for individuals with disabilities.

"I plan to work on two other projects, a proposal on a book about women athletes, and a picture book on adventure and fantasy.

"Right now, I'm doing free lance writing for Patch on the website. Since March, I've been working with disabled adults. I travel to Peapack three times a week. And I've already completed a picture book called 'The Sand Castle Kids.' I've done a lot of research on a lot of projects. It really gives you more of an appreciation for the variety of aspects in this life."

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Celebrate the holidays in Rahway historic building

The Merchants and Drivers Tavern Museum Association will be hosting their annual Holiday Candlelight Evening Tour on Sunday, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the museum building located on the corner of St. Georges and Westfield avenues in Rahway. This year, as always the 215-year-old tavern building, housing the museum, will be decorated for the holidays as it might have been during circa 1800. All the rooms will be aglow in candlelight, and a costumed musician performing on period instruments will entertain the evening's guests with Christmas carols and 19th century holiday melodies.

This year's celebration will once again feature the holiday music of nationally

renowned musician and singer, Linda Russell. She entertains audiences with ancient carols, interwoven with Yuletide poems, folklore and even recipes.

For 20 years she has been creating holiday magic at churches and historic sites throughout the U.S. Her concerts of Christmas past delight and inspire audiences in search of old fashioned holiday traditions. Alex Shipley, Museum Director noted, "It's a wonderful evening for families and individuals of all ages, and Linda's music sets the perfect tone and mood. She always manages to get everyone to sing along and thoroughly enjoy the evening." The much anticipated holiday program is presented annually by the

museum to interpret and demonstrate how Christmas and New Year festivities might have been celebrated by travelers and local residents at a stagecoach inn during different periods of its historic existence in Rahway. Current day visitors can relax and enjoy the music, the food and the overall holiday atmosphere and feel as if they had stepped back in time to a Rahway of 200 years ago.

Visitors are also welcome to explore the 13 period furnished rooms, plus a unique, interactive exhibit on the history of transportation in New Jersey. In addition to the festivities, the Museum Gift Shop will be open for the evening and visitors will find items such as home décor, crafts, holiday

decorations, candles, pottery, furniture and the latest edition of the Lloyd Garrison Rahway series of Christmas cards. The shop, housed in the circa 1735 Terrill Tavern located behind the museum is open during museum hours through December to accommodate holiday shoppers.

All tickets can be purchased at the door. The price includes hearty appetizers, beer, wine, cider and soft drinks.

All proceeds will benefit the continued restoration and interpretation of the tavern building.

For information about the annual Holiday Candlelight Evening, call the Museum Director, Alex Shipley, at 732-381-0441.

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Teresa Politano/For The Star-Ledger

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New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble's production of Peter Tchaikovsky's 'Nutcracker' at Wilkins Theater in Kean University, Union, ran for one weekend only, last Saturday and Sunday.

'Nutcracker' ballet mesmerizes theatergoers, young and old

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

It appears that every little girl, who is exposed to any production of Peter Tchaikovsky's beloved "Nutcracker," dreams of one day being the leading role of Clara.

However, in the case of the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble's beautiful production of the "Nutcracker" ballet Sunday afternoon — at a sold-out performance in the Wilkins Theater in Kean University, Union — to the envy of all the youngsters, it was the lovely and talented Carolyn Modica, who portrayed Clara.

Swimming in the magically enticing music of Tchaikovsky, with creative choreography by artistic director Nancy Turano, the audience was mesmerized by the fine, energetic performances by the huge NJDTE cast. Its members, some of whom are professionals and others are obtaining pre-professional training with this group and several who have multiple roles, offered their very best to an appreciative audience that consisted of many little girls, dressed as ballerinas.

In celebration of its 40th year, the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble has provided a rare holiday fare. The well-known story of a long ago city in Germany, whose council president, Herr Silberhaus, and his wife, Frau Silberhaus, are host to a Christmas Eve party, is enacted with joy. Much to the happiness of the Silberhaus children, Clara and Fritz, they and their guests receive presents from Clara's Godfather, Dr. Drosselmeyer. There are lifesized dolls who perform, and among the toys distributed by Drosselmeyer is a nutcracker soldier for Clara. Fritz, in a jealous moment, steals the doll and stomps on it. Clara beds her injured doll, falls asleep after the party and at mid-

night, dreams about the dolls coming to life, and the toy soldiers, lead by the Nutcracker Prince, fights off an army of mice. She then takes a journey to the Land of Snow. And all during these intriguing performances, one could hear a pin drop.

In Act Two, Clara finds herself in the Kingdom of Sweets, where the Sugar Fairy offers a special performance. She is entertained by characters portraying chocolate from Spain, coffee from Arabia, Chinese tea, Russian gingerbread, Almond Marzipan and Mother Ginoge with her little Bon-Bons.

Joseph Fritz as Silberhaus and Elise Drew as his wife make a handsome couple, and Fritz, is played by, of all people, Mary Mallaney. To the surprise and delight of the ballet audience, the famous ballerina of the New Jersey Ballet Co., now ballet teacher and president of the NJDTE's board, Rosemary Sabovick-Bleich, makes an appearance as the Grandmother. Even if her dancing was limited in this role, she was truly appreciated as the audience wandered down memory lane. The principal members of the cast, Christie Partelow as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Clifford Williams as the Cavalier, Adrian Silver as the menacing, frightening looking Dr. Drosselmeyer, who also performs the Arabian and Ben Schultz as the Father and also as the Russian were truly overwhelming.

The others in the enormous cast contributed to a memorable afternoon at the Wilkins Theater, one that will stay with an audience long after the performance.

In fact, less than an hour later, while dining at a nearby diner, a family of four, seated behind this reviewer, featured a little three-year-old girl, clutching a Nutcracker doll, and humming the renown opening Tchaikovsky number from the ballet production.

"I like Clara," she announced to her family. "And I want to be just like her."

COUNTY NEWS

UC Sheriff's Office offers 'Tree of Hope'

Every holiday season for more than a decade, Union County Sheriff's Officers have set up their "Tree of Hope" in the courthouse seeking donations of toys and clothing for needy children throughout the county.

The "Tree of Hope" was first planted in 1997 when officers approached Sheriff Ralph Froehlich and related troubling stories of children who were going to experience a less than happy holiday season. The children the officers encountered were homeless or living in shelters, were victims of domestic violence or medically

fragile. Their parents or guardians did not have the financial ability to provide holiday gifts.

Every year since the sheriff and the "Tree of Hope" committee have erected a tree in the Union County Courthouse featuring paper ornaments. Volunteers make the ornaments and write a particular gift on each one.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS THIS WEEKEND

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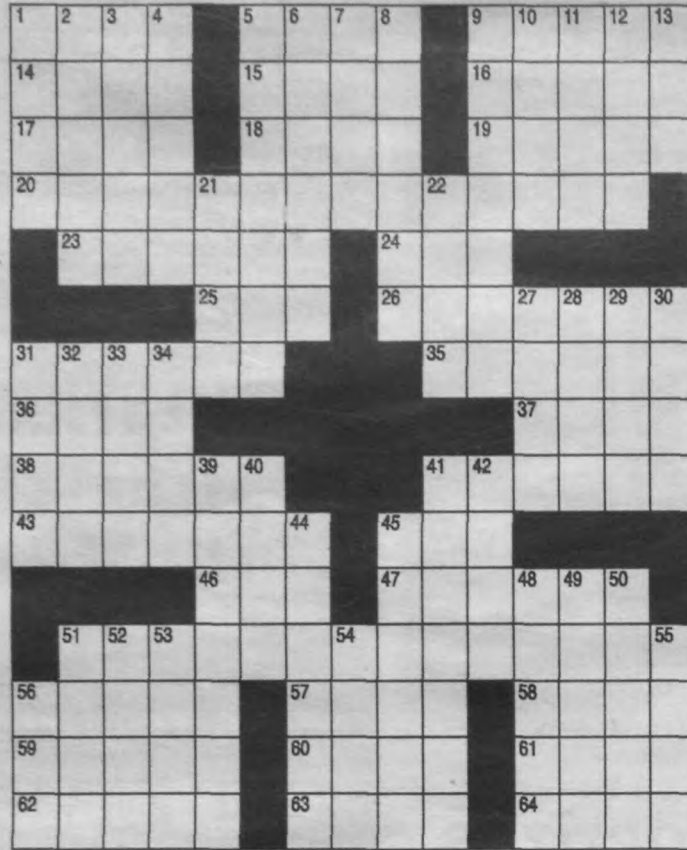


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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Curved supporting structure
- 5. Cleaning agent
- 9. A stout sword
- 14. Many serums
- 15. Modern Tell Mardikh
- 16. Roman god of the underworld
- 17. Maple genus
- 18. Scottish kinship group
- 19. Superior of an abbey of monks
- 20. Baywatch star
- 23. Bookworm
- 24. Autonomic nervous system
- 25. Chief Ouray's tribe
- 26. Famous hat brand
- 31. Tossed, cobb and tuna
- 35. Red + yellow
- 36. Freshwater duck genus
- 37. One who speaks Baltic
- 38. Removes furniture varnish
- 41. Filches
- 43. Shockingly evil or cruel
- 45. Mimic
- 46. Fixed in one's purpose
- 47. A Sioux
- 51. Bedroom bureau
- 56. White person, Hawaiian slang
- 57. A disdainful grimace
- 58. A Spanish river
- 59. Regions
- 60. Sparks
- 61. Close by
- 62. Herons, archaic
- 63. Let it stand (Latin)
- 64. Torn ticket receipt

CLUES DOWN

- 1. As fast as can be done, (abbr.)
- 2. Go over
- 3. _____ de la creme
- 4. Hurried
- 5. Lines that intersect a curve
- 6. Pumpkin-shaped
- 7. _____ Ladd, actor
- 8. They love to eat bamboo
- 9. Less thick or dense
- 10. Vestment
- 11. Swollen lymph node
- 12. British School
- 13. Decay
- 21. Give praise to
- 22. Prefix meaning "within"
- 27. Japanese sock
- 28. Clothing closing mechanism
- 29. Stare at
- 30. Fish entrappers
- 31. Fabric belt
- 32. Stake for new cards
- 33. = to 100 tetri
- 34. 7th Hindu month
- 39. Have ownership of
- 40. Hard fat bird cakes
- 41. Least dense
- 42. Wood hen
- 44. Leaf pores
- 45. Advance evidence for
- 48. US Olympic athlete Jesse
- 49. 10th Hebrew month
- 50. Chilean pianist Claudio
- 51. Int'l. relief organization
- 52. One who cultivates with a tool
- 53. Ardour
- 54. Garrison
- 55. Fruit of the service tree
- 56. Expresses surprise

ANSWERS APPEAR IN OUR CLASSIFIED SECTION

HOROSCOPE

Dec. 12 to 18

ARIES, March 21 to April 20. Aries, expect to turn heads this week because you have that special something that everyone else envies. You actually may find all the attention a little unnerving.

TAURUS, April 21 to May 21. Taurus, stop by to see a friend with whom you have lost touch. E-mail is one way to go, but it lacks the personal quality of a visit and face-to-face chat.

GEMINI, May 22 to June 21. Gemini, put personal feelings aside when dealing with a scenario at work. Think with your head and not with your heart this time around.

CANCER, June 22 to July 22. Cancer, save some more money before pulling the trigger on a big ticket item. It's better to be safe than sorry when it comes to finances.

LEO, July 23 to Aug. 23. Leo, now is the ideal time to dabble in real estate. Rates are low and

inventory is high.

If you have been thinking of buying a home, speed up your plans.

VIRGO, Aug. 24 to Sept. 22. Virgo, the time has come to explore a new occupation. Think outside your current career path. Change might be a good thing for you in the weeks to come.

LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23. Libra, adopt a more professional approach and attitude this week. If ever there was a time for taking a more mature approach at the office, it's now.

SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 22. Wishing and hoping won't get the job done, Scorpio.

Put a plan of attack into action and get moving. With you behind the wheel, you'll see results much sooner.

SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 23 to Dec. 21. Sagittarius, with so many things to juggle, it's a wonder you can get anything done correctly this

week. Somehow you will get everything done and make it out OK.

CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan. 20. Capricorn, you are thinking of doing something out of character but don't know what others will think of you. It's OK to go against the grain once in a while.

AQUARIUS, Jan. 21 to Feb. 18. Aquarius, when a spouse or loved one has some good ideas, follow through with them. You should share the credit and the glory with someone you care about.

PISCES - Feb. 19 to March 20. Pisces, do what you can to succeed this week. Otherwise you will regret that you didn't take every step possible.

Famous birthdays
Dec. 12, Jennifer Connelly, actress, 40; Dec. 13, Taylor Swift, singer, 21; Dec. 16, Flo Rida, rapper, 31; Dec. 17, Duff Goldman, chef, 36 and Dec. 18, Brad Pitt, actor, 47.

What's Going On?

FAIR

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY

December 11, 2010

EVENT: HOLIDAY FAIR
PLACE: Community United Methodist Church Chestnut Street and Grant Ave. Roselle Park, N.J.
TIME: 9am- 2pm
PRICE: Tickets \$6.00 adults, \$5.00 seniors, children
INFORMATION: Pancake Breakfast 9am-12:00pm
 Homemade Crafts, Home Baked Pies, Cookie Walk, Nearly New Items
 For Additional Information, please call church office @908-245-2237 or Rotary Member Jim Vigliotti 908-277-2410
ORGANIZATION: Community United Methodist Church, Roselle -Roselle Park Rotary Club.

SATURDAY

December 11, 2010

EVENT: 23rd ANNUAL FLEA MARKET and CRAFT SALE
PLACE: St. Thomas Parish Center, 1407 St. Georges Avenue, Rahway
TIME: 9 am to 3 pm
PRICE: Free Admission and plenty of parking available to customers
DETAILS: VENDORS WANTED
 Vendors are asked to call Andrea 908-217-6856 or Maryann 908-518-0107 for information and contracts. Contracts can be sent to potential vendors through email at stthomasfm@aol.com.
 Vendors offered beautiful jewelry, helpful household items and toys for children. Shoppers can find special prices on both new and gently used items. The St. Thomas kitchen staff will be serving tasty taylor ham and egg sandwiches for breakfast and hamburgers, hotdogs and kielbasi subs for lunch. Stop in for a mid-day lunch and stumble among bargains and treasures.
ORGANIZATION: St. Thomas Byzantine Catholic Church's committee

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What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non-profit organizations. It is PRE-PAID and costs only \$20.00 (for 2 weeks) in Essex or Union County and just \$30.00 for both counties. Your notice must be in are office by 4:00pm on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Office is located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union.

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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: **Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., P.O. Box 3109, Union, NJ 07083** or editorial@thelocal-source.com.

ART SHOWS

PATRICIA A. BENDER, an award-winning fine art photographer of Somerset, will exhibit at Bouras Galleries, 25 De Forest Ave., Summit. The name of the exhibit is "FRAMED NOUNS: PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS." The show is scheduled through December and is open to the public. Information can be obtained by calling Linda Cole at 908-277-6054. Bender attended classes at the Summit Visual Arts Center, after which she built her own dark room. She works with black and white film in the traditional wet darkroom and frequently creates multiple-image pieces with her small photographs. Much of her work centers on an exploration of the natural world and her images seek to capture the underlying harmony and balance of life on the planet.

ARTS GUILD NEW JERSEY will present "THE CHANGING FACE OF REALITY: REALISM IN ART," a lecture/discussion by nationally renowned artist and art professor, **MEL LEIPZIG**, on Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. The lecture will be at Arts Guild New Jersey, 1670 Irving St., Rahway. The public is invited to attend this admission-free event. The lecture is wheelchair accessible and assistive listening devices are available with two weeks advanced notice. In this presentation, eyes will be opened to the world behind the artwork. Leipzig is an accomplished and renowned painter, as well as a professor of art at Mercer County Community College. Leipzig is featured in the recently released book "Selected Contemporary American Figurative Painters," edited by Qimin Liu, introducing contemporary American realist painting to China.

On the first Thursday of each month, the city of Rahway will host an **ARTS DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE** in the downtown area between The Arts Guild on Irving Street and Seminary Avenue, and Elm Street at Irving Street from 6 to 9 p.m. These First Thursday events include visual arts exhibits, live music, crafts, play readings, free dance lessons and other arts activities at several locations in the area.

CONCERTS

Begin your holiday season at Enlow Hall, a new concert hall with precision acoustics when Kean Stage presents **THE BEST OF BROADWAY/HOLIDAY ON BROADWAY** on Sunday at 3 p.m. The production brings music from around the world in a celebration of Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa including hits from Broadway and film. Enlow Hall is located on the Nathan Weiss Graduate School campus of Kean

Stepping Out

University at 215 North Ave., Hillside. Tickets are available by calling 908-737-SHOW, and online at www.keanstage.com.

Hallelujah to long-time Masterwork Chorus members, **ERWIN AND ALEXANDRA PETRIE OF UNION**, who are singing a holiday classic. Led by Music Director Andrew Megill, the Masterwork Chorus and Orchestra will give a performance of "MESSIAH" at Community Theatre, **MAYO CENTER** for the Performing Arts in Morristown, on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

They will also give the only matinee performance of the work at **CARNEGIE HALL** on Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. Soloists will be a quartet of rising young singers: soprano Sara Pelletier, mezzo soprano Elizabeth Knight, tenor Steven Caldicott Wilson and bass Paul Max Tipton. Tickets for the Carnegie Hall may be purchased by calling CarnegieCharge at 212-247-7800, or by visiting www.Carnegiehall.org. For tickets to the Morristown performance on visit www.MayoArts.org or call 973-539-8008.

After a well received inaugural concert event last month, the new Te Amo Jazz music concert series, **TEATRO SI**, continues to celebrate the best of Jazz fusion performance that comes to us from various regions of Latin America. A selection of outstanding professional artists present their talents to a New Jersey audience at monthly concert performances that demonstrate the spirit of the young and established Latin American musician. The series continues at the intimate **RAHWAY ARTHIVE ART GALLERY**, located at 1495 Main Street in dynamic downtown Rahway on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. with the original and sophisticated Brazilian jazz sounds by percussionist **MAURÍCIO DE SOUZA AND HIS BOSSA BRASIL JAZZ QUARTET**. Advance purchase tickets are available online at www.BrownPaperTickets.com and enter Te Amo Jazz for event search. Reservations and information are also available by calling the **TEATRO SI** box at 908-301-9496. For event information, visit www.TeatroSi.com.

GUITAR VIRTUOSO, JESSE RIVERA will present a special **HOLIDAY CONCERT** for all ages on Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at **HILLSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY**. Rivera will sing seasonal tunes, play traditional music as well as Spanish songs. Speaker, songwriter and singer, he has recorded 11 CDs in both Spanish and English. His program is part of the series, "Arts Around the World" especially for young people and their families. All programs are free and open to the public. For information, contact the library at 973-923-4413, or visit the website at www.hillsidepl.org.

On Dec. 12 at 2 p.m., **SPRINGFIELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY** will offer musical entertainment from the Big Band era, performed by Springfield resident **STEVE AMES**. Ames, accompanied on the piano

by Edward Michaels, will sing all your favorite big band selections from Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, Harry James and more. On this, Frank Sinatra's birthday, there will be a special dedication to Ol' Blue Eyes. Ames performed at Catch a Rising Star in New York, in the off-Broadway show "Varieties 81" and has entertained in the Catskills, as well as on HBO, WWOR-TV, CTN and WEVD-FM shows. He is presently the host of his own cable-TV variety show "the Steve Ames Show." The library is located at 66 Mountain Ave. For information, call 973-376-4930.

VOCALIST AND GUITARIST PRESLEY will be performing a concert on Jan. 27 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at **LINDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 31 E. Henry St. It is designed especially for the music lovers who enjoy the variety and diversity of the eras. Presley will take you down memory lane to revisit classic favorites of Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Nat King Cole. Reminisce the 60's with selections from Elvis, The Beatles, Rolling Stones and more. For country music lovers, enjoy hits from Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kenny Rogers, Toby Keith and Kenny Chesney. And Presley can't leave out the famous New Jersey artists: Bruce Springsteen, Bon Jovi and Southside Johnny. For information, or to sign up for the program, call Dennis Purves at 908-298-3830, ext. 11.

RSI Bank presents **ORCHESTRA OF ST. PETER BY THE SEA** on Saturday at 8 p.m. at Union County Performing Arts Center. Come and welcome the holiday season with the elegance and grace of **FATHER ALPHONSE STEPHENSON** and the spectacular sound of the Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea for their annual holiday spectacular. Quite simply, it is a holiday tradition. The beloved Father Alphonse Stephenson provides humorous and personal anecdotes, perfectly tuned to the occasion. His 42-piece orchestra skillfully performs holiday classics with passion and precision that makes this a spectacular evening, not to be missed.

THE CONCERT ARTIST PROGRAM OF KEAN UNIVERSITY presents Latin American Mosaic today at 8 p.m. in Enlow Recital Hall featuring Martha Marchena, piano, and Lisa Hansen, flute. The concert will include engaging and lively Latin American music from Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Cuba and the U.S. The Concert Artist Program brings world-renowned performing musicians onto the faculty of the Conservatory of Music. Enlow Hall is a new concert hall with precision acoustics unmatched by most other venues in the region. Enlow Hall is located on the Nathan Weiss Graduate School campus of Kean University at 215 North Ave., Hillside. Tickets are available by calling 908-737-SHOW, and online at www.keanstage.com.

Get your holidays rockin' at "A VERY MERRY DOO WOP SPEC-

TACULAR" at UNION COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER on Friday. Seven of the greatest rock & roll acts will perform in this spectacular event headlined by Fred Parrish and the Satins. Also scheduled to appear are: Emil Stucchio & The Classics, Shirley Alston Reeves, Cleveland Still & The Dubs, Barbara Harris & The Toys, Johnny Farina and The Fireflies. Show time is 8 p.m. UCPAC is located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. Buy tickets online at www.ucpac.org or by phone at 732-499-8226.

KEAN UNIVERSITY'S CONCERT ARTISTS will perform sonorous arrangements for brass and percussion on Sunday at 3 p.m. in Kean Hall. Musicians performing include Charles Bumcrot and Jerry Bryant, trumpets; Lisa Pike, horn; Anthony Mazzocchi, trombone; Andy Bove, tuba and James Musto, percussion. Kean Hall is located on Kean's main campus at the Green Lane entrance just off of 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are available by calling 908-737-SHOW and online at www.keanstage.com.

HOBBIES

THE ROSELLE PARK CASANO COMMUNITY CENTER ART GALLERY is having a **PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST** with the theme "ROSELLE PARK IN WINTER — SHARE THE MAGIC." Entrants will be eligible to exhibit their submissions in the end of February gallery show. Roselle Park is a great place to live. Share the magic of your home town. Get out your camera and capture holiday decorations, snow on rooftops and porches, snowmen, children playing in parkas and Uggs. Anything winter is acceptable. Deadline is Feb. 7. Photographs must have been taken in Roselle Park. Even though we would like them to reflect the 2010-2011 winter season, we are open to photos taken in other years. Submit up to four of your best photos in digital "JPG" format at 72 dots per inch, or arrange to meet with Leona at the Art Gallery and show her your prints. You must be a resident of Roselle Park. You do not have to be a professional photographer or artist to enter. There will be two awards given: Best of Show and a Viewer's Choice. Call 908-241-5874 for details, or send photos to Beyond-Words@att.net.

THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, a tax-exempt public charity affiliated with the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, announced that discount advance tickets for its **2010 ANNUAL LIGHT AND SOUND SHOW** are now on sale at the club ticket window Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. or via the club's website at www.tmrcl.org at all times. The show will run Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the club building, located on Jefferson Avenue off Route 22 East in Union, behind the Home Depot. Show times are Fridays from noon to 10

p.m.; Friday from 7 to 10 p.m.; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The show features the club's world famous 1,600 square foot "HO Scale" layout. A 30 by 27 foot, double decked "N Scale" layout is also featured. Visitors will also be able to view the progress that has been made on the 60 by 80 foot HO Scale layout addition. Also returning is the "Classic Streamliners on Parade" program. This features exact HO scale replicas of several famous streamlined passenger trains from the post-World War II era, from locomotives to observation cars. For information, contact the Club at 908-964-9724 on Saturdays between 1 and 4 p.m. or 908-964-8808 for a recorded message, or by visiting www.tmrcl.org.

MOVIES

CRANFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY is continuing its ongoing **CLASSIC FILM NIGHT** every Thursday at 7 p.m. The films run the gamut from mystery, comedy and romance to thrillers and melodramas. To review the list of films in the series, visit www.cranford.com/library and click on "Events." The films will be shown at Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave. Admission is free and all are welcome. For information about the series, call 908-709-7272 and ask for Fran Houston or send an e-mail to cranfordlibrary@gmail.com.

CLARK PUBLIC LIBRARY offers free movies each week. Watch movies that have just been released to DVD each Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. Additional movies are shown each Monday and Wednesday at 1 p.m. For information, visit clarklibrary.org and click on the calendar tab or call 732-388-5999. This event is open to all ages, however, children younger than 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration can be done using their online calendar at www.clarklibrary.org, by phone at 732-388-5999 or in person.

SPRINGFIELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY will continue its lunchtime film series. For specific titles and information about the series, visit the library's website, www.sfpnlj.org, or call at 973-376-4930. Admission is free. Patrons can bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be served at 11:30 a.m. Assistive listening devices are available upon request. The library is located at 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield.

MUSEUMS

Clark Historical Society invites the public to visit **DR. WILLIAM ROBINSON PLANTATION**, 593 Madison Hill Road, throughout the year. It was built in 1690 and is Clark's first farm and homestead and is listed on the National and State registers of Historic Places. The Plantation House was closed in 2002 for renovations and recently re-opened its doors to the public. For information, visit www.clarkhistoricalsociety.org.

THE CRANFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY is proud to announce the creation of a "CHILDREN'S CORNER" at the Crane-Phillips House Museum this past winter.

OBITUARIES

Ursula Biedermann

Ursula Biedermann, 86, of Union died on Nov. 29.

Born in Kell, Germany, Mrs. Biedermann resided in Union.

Surviving are her husband of 60 years, Manfred, and a son, Peter.

The Morrison Funeral Home, Butler, handled the arrangements.

Tyree Brooks

Tyree Ahmad-Rashad Brooks of Hillside died on Nov. 27.

Surviving are three children, Tyianna Ahmad-Rashad, Tyneef Ahmad-Rashad and Taliyah Ahmad-Rashad; his parents, Trent Norman and Dianne Brooks, and three brothers and sisters, Rasheem Brown, LaKeisha Matthews and Trent Brooks.

The Cotton Funeral Service, Newark, handled the arrangements.

Margaret Colandro

Margaret Colandro, 80, of Union died on Nov. 30.

Born in Summit, Mrs. Colandro resided in Union for the past 30 years. She graduated from Summit High School in 1949 and attended Juilliard School of Music as a violinist. Mrs. Colandro was employed by the state of New Jersey, Department of Labor, in the Unemployment Division.

Surviving are three sons, Robert, Craig and Stephen; a daughter, Cindy Vuono; a sister, Claire Jazikoff, and five grandchildren.

The McCracken Funeral Home, Union, handled the arrangements.

Edward Cwiklinski

Edward Cwiklinski, 85, of Mountainside died Dec. 5 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Bayonne, Mr. Cwiklinski resided in Mountainside since 1962. He was a veteran of the Army and served during World War II. Mr. Cwiklinski retired in 1992 after a 44-year career with Public Service Electric & Gas Co., Sewaren. He was a longtime volunteer fireman in Mountainside and was a member of several bowling leagues.

Surviving are a daughter, Joann "Cookie" Semancik; a twin sister, Virginia Zyra; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The Dooley Colonial Home, Westfield, handled the arrangements.

Shirley Farrar

Shirley Farrar, 69, of Rahway died Nov. 26 in New York Hospital of Queens.

Born in Bertie County, N.C., she lived in Rahway for 52 years. She was a teacher with the Union County Educational Services Commission, Westfield, and was a member

of the Second Baptist Church of Rahway, where she was a deaconess, and the American Legion Post 499 Ladies Auxiliary, Rahway.

Surviving are a daughter, Susan Farrar; two sons, Robert and Rodney, and three grandchildren.

The Jones Funeral Home, Rahway, handled the arrangements.

James Howard Sr.

James R. Howard Sr., 84, of Union died Nov. 29 at home.

Born in Orange, Mr. Howard lived in Newark before moving to Union in 1971. He was a Navy veteran and served during World War II. Mr. Howard worked as a printer for Decker & Sons, Brooklyn, N.Y., before retiring in 1991.

Surviving are his wife of 60 years, Vera; two daughters, Rosemarie D'Andrea and Donna Eilber; a brother, John, other brothers; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The Bradley, Haerberle & Barth Funeral Home, Union, handled the arrangements.

Lt. Col. Paul Lewis

Lt. Col. Paul B. Lewis (Ret.), 93, of Rahway died Nov. 24 in St. Peter University Hospital, New Brunswick.

Born in Millen, Ga., Lt. Col. Lewis grew up in Rahway. He graduated from Rahway High School in 1936, where he was later inducted into the Hall of Fame. Lt. Col. Lewis attended Fisk University for two years and was inducted into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., before being drafted into the Army Air Corps.

During the early years of his career, he served as a member of the ground crew supporting the Tuskegee Airmen in Tuskegee, Ala. Lt. Col. Lewis later served in Europe during World War II, was awarded the Bronze Star and attended Officers Candidate School. After the war, he continued service in Japan, Europe, Eniwetok, the hydrogen bomb development, and several United States postings, ending with the command of the Army Reserve Center in Newark. After serving 20 years, Lt. Col. Lewis retired from the Army in 1961 and began his second career with the Social Security Administration. After another 20 years, he retired as a district manager and finished his career working for the Union County Division of Aging, with continued service with a variety of home health care and senior citizen services organizations.

Surviving are a sister, Anna Dillard; a brother, Lafayette; a daughter, Paula Hill; a son, Brett; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The Jones Funeral Home, Rahway, handled the arrangements.

Catherine MacAdam

Catherine H. MacAdam, 80, of Madison, formerly of Summit, died Nov. 30 in Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown.

Born in White Plains, N.Y., Mrs. MacAdam lived in Scarsdale, N.Y., and Summit before moving to Madison four years ago. She was a secretary for the Madison Board of Education at the Torny J. Sabatini School for many years before she retired in 2002. Prior to this, Mrs. MacAdam worked at Bull & Roberts Industrial Marine Chemical Co., New Providence, and before that, for the New York Railroad.

Surviving are four sons, George E., David K., Douglas C. and William T.; four sisters, Patricia Lafferty, Margaret Kelly, Ruth Gorham and Sue Kosche; a brother, Edward Hawkins, and four grandchildren.

The Madison Memorial Home, Madison, handled the arrangements.

JoAnn Miller

JoAnn Miller of Cranford died Nov. 27 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway.

Born in Cranford, Mrs. Miller moved to Edison in 1989 and returned to Cranford in 2010. She received a juris doctorate from Rutgers Law School, Newark, and was a member of the New Jersey Bar Association. Since graduation, Mrs. Miller had been employed by the Union County Prosecutor's Office in Elizabeth. She worked in the narcotics strike force until early this year, when she was promoted to supervisor of the drug court and pretrial intervention office.

Surviving are her husband, John; three sisters, Judy Novack, Linda Brewer and Cathy Mithel, and 12 brothers.

A memorial service was held Saturday at Sandy Hook National Recreation Area parking area.

John Paynter

John F. Paynter, 91, of Mountainside died Dec. 4 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Elizabeth, Mr. Paynter lived in Clark, Pompano Beach, Fla., and in Mountainside since 2008.

He was a maintenance supervisor with the County of Union for 28 years before retiring in 1984.

Mr. Paynter served in the Army during World War II in the Asia-Pacific Theater. He was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus.

Surviving are two daughters, Diane Delikat and Susan Ciurczak; a brother, Frank, and three sisters, Mary King, Betty Crotty and Ruth Sheridan.

The Dooley Funeral Home,

OBITUARY LIST

- ADONA — Patsy J., of Roselle; Dec. 3.
- BIEDERMANN — Ursula, of Union; Nov. 29.
- BLICHARZ — Mary Beth, of Springfield; Dec. 2.
- BREUER — Alfred M. Jr., of Cranford; Dec. 4.
- BROOKS — Tyree Ahmad-Rashad, of Hillside; Nov. 27.
- CAVICCHIOLI — Mario A., of Cranford; Dec. 4.
- COLANDRO — Margaret A., of Union; Nov. 30.
- CWIKLINSKI — Edward, of Mountainside; Dec. 5.
- DUNNE — Joan M., of Union; Nov. 27.
- FARRAR — Shirley, of Rahway; Nov. 26.
- HOWARD — James R. Sr., of Union; Nov. 29.
- KAUFMAN — William, of Union; Dec. 2.
- KLEISSLER — Trude Anita, of Union; Dec. 2.
- LEWIS — Lt. Col. Paul B. (Ret.), of Rahway; Nov. 24.
- LOVETT — Gloria, of Rahway; Dec. 2.
- MACADAM — Catherine H., formerly of Summit; Nov. 30.
- MILLER — Jo-Ann, of Cranford; Nov. 27.
- PAYNTER — John F., of Mountainside; Dec. 4.
- PENN-RUSSELL — Helen, of Linden; Dec. 1.
- PENNIX — Mildred L., of Rahway; Nov. 29.
- SEKELLA — Sally, of Springfield; Dec. 3.
- SNOWDEN — Albert M., of Rahway; Nov. 28.
- STEFANOVICH — Pearl, of Clark; Nov. 28.
- TURNER — Catherine, of Rahway; Dec. 3.
- WALCK — Edmunda O., of Linden; Nov. 28.
- WHITEHEAD — Nicolina, of Linden; Nov. 30.
- WYATT — George Thomas, of Hillside; Nov. 27.
- ZATORSKI — Virginia, of Union; Dec. 1.

Editor's Note: Not all of the names included in this listing will appear as full-length obituaries.

Cranford, handled the arrangements.

Helen Penn-Russell

Helen Penn-Russell, 77, of Linden died Dec. 1 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway.

Mrs. Penn-Russell was employed at Wal-Mart, Linden, as a sales associate for the past 10 years.

Surviving are two sons, John and Kenneth Penn; a daughter, Jeanine Patrick; a brother, John Pelak; nine grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Pearl Stefanovich

Pearl Stefanovich, 91, of Clark died Nov. 28 in the Clark Nursing Home.

Born in Dickson City, Pa., Mrs. Stefanovich lived in Irvington and Rahway before moving to Clark in 2005.

She was employed by American Can Co., Irvington, for many years before retiring. Mrs. Stefanovich was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Rahway.

Surviving is a grandchild.

Catherine Turner

Catherine Turner, 90, a lifelong resident of Rahway, died on Dec. 3.

Mrs. Turner graduated from Rahway High School. She received a bachelor's degree from Panzer High School, now a college of Montclair State University, and a master's degree from New York University. Mrs. Turner pursued a career as a physical education and health teacher, and taught in Milltown and Garwood before retiring

as a teacher at Kawameeh Middle School, Union. She was a member of the Suburban Golf Club, Union, where she also was a former women's club champion. Mrs. Turner was a member of Eastern Star, a past member of the Rahway Elks and a member of the Altar Guild of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rahway.

Edmunda Walck

Edmunda O. Walck, 89, a lifelong resident of Linden, died Nov. 28 at home.

Mrs. Walck was a saleswoman for Goerkes/Steinbach's department store in Elizabeth for 15 years and retired in 1979. Previously, she was employed by GAF Corp., Linden, and Epicur, Union. Mrs. Walck was a recent member of the Zion Lutheran Church, Rahway, and for 88 years, was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Linden, a church co-founded by her late parents, Adolph and Olga Lenser. While she was a member of the Ladies Aid Society and Couples Club, she also was a member of the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Linden Senior Social clubs.

Surviving is a daughter, Marlane Joback.

Nicolina Whitehead

Nicolina Whitehead, 91, of Linden died Nov. 30 in the Riverton Nursing Home, Rahway. Born in Montclair, Mrs. Whitehead moved to Linden 35 years ago.

Surviving are a son, James; a brother, Angelo Marano; two daughters, Dolores Cunningham and Nancy Barbato, and a grandchild.

LINDEN BRIEFS

Join Santa for breakfast at Presbyterian Church

The public is invited to have breakfast with Santa on Saturday, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Linden Presbyterian Church, located at 1506 Orchard Terrace in Linden. Proceeds will benefit the LPC Albert Johnston Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The breakfast with Santa will include pancakes, sausage, orange juice, tea and coffee.

Face painting, holiday music and a bake sale table will also be offered. Santa will be available for photos with each child at an additional cost.

Reservations can be made by calling the church hotline at 908-486-3066 by today.

Space is limited, so reservations are strongly recommended. Some tickets may be available at the door. Checks should be made payable to LPC Al Johnston Memorial Scholarship Fund. In case of bad weather, the Breakfast with Santa may be postponed.

Volunteers needed to help with tax returns

John T. Gregorio Recreation Center is seeking volunteers to assist with the 2011 Income Tax Program. Every year, for the past several years, volunteers have been trained in the preparation of Federal and State Tax Forms.

Volunteers will be expected to attend a three-day training session at the Gregorio Center. Training dates will begin in January and you will be notified of future dates. Upon completion of classes, the volunteers will then be able to assist low and middle income Linden residents with their tax returns.

If you have the interest and time to volunteer with the upcoming tax season, call the Gregorio Recreation Center at 908-474-8627 or visit the website at www.linden-nj.org. Last year's volunteers assisted with 1,500 tax forms.

Make and take holiday ceramics in Linden

The Department of Public Property and Community Services announces holiday ceramic classes for students in kindergarten through eighth grades on Dec. 16, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., and for adults from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. at John T. Gregorio Recreation Center, 330 Helen St., Linden.

The deadline for registration is Wednesday. Registration hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, go to www.linden-nj.org. Classes will be limited to 35 students. Registration will be accepted on first come, first served basis.

This is a one day, make and take project. All supplies are included. Each participant will paint and decorate a project to take home.

Linden Library to host Presley for concert

Vocalist and guitarist Presley will be performing a concert on Jan. 27 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Linden Public Library, 31 E. Henry St. It is designed especially for music lovers who enjoy the variety and diversity of the eras. Presley will take you down memory lane to revisit classic favorites of Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Nat King Cole.

You will reminisce the 60's with selections from Elvis, The Beatles, Rolling Stones and more. For country music lovers — you will enjoy hits from Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kenny Rogers, Toby Keith and Kenny Chesney and Presley can't leave out the famous New Jersey artists: Bruce Springsteen, Bon Jovi and Southside Johnny.

For information, or to sign up for the program, call Dennis Purves at 908-298-3830, ext. 11.

Donate your old car and help save animals

The time is right to look for deals and good prices on dealer inventory. With prices so low, don't trade in your older model, donate it to a worthy cause and help save the lives of needy animals in Linden.

Go to the All Star Pet Rescue website, click on the "Donate Your Car" icon and select "All Star Pet Rescue" as your charity of choice.

For information about the rescue, send an e-mail to AllStar-Pets@comcast.net or go to www.allstar.petfinder.com.

Linden Library to host blood drive Jan. 4

Linden Public Library will host a blood drive on Jan. 4 from 1 to 7 p.m. in the Columbia Bank Room. All eligible donors will receive a free T-shirt.

Adults: get in shape at Gregorio Center

The Department of Public Property and Community Services is offering to Linden adult residents daily use of fully equipped exercise rooms located at John T. Gregorio Recreation Center, 330 Helen St. and the Linden Multi Purpose Center, 1025 John St.

The exercise rooms are equipped with stationary bikes, treadmills, step climbers, rowers, a four station universal and locker area with showers.

There is a registration fee for the year. You must bring in proof of residency. It is free of charge to anyone older than 50.

Hours of operation at the Recreation Center are Monday to Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. For information call the center at 908-474-8627 or visit the website at www.linden-nj.org.

Library hosting food drive until Dec. 31

Linden Public Library, in conjunction with the other Union County Public Libraries, will be participating in a food drive through Dec. 31. Bring non-perishable food donations, 100 percent of which will be donated to a local food pantry, to the library.

Register now for city's annual flu shot clinic

The Linden Board of Health is currently registering Linden residents for its annual seasonal influenza immunization program.

While no definite clinic dates have been set, residents should register for a "flu shot" by calling the Linden Board of Health Office at 908-474-8409. Once registered, you will be notified of the seasonal flu clinic time and date.

Influenza, also known as the flu, is a viral infection which spread from person to person. Symptoms of influenza include fever, headache, sore throat, body aches and a severe and often prolonged cough. Health officer Nancy Koblis encourages all Linden residents, age 60 and older and all Linden residents with chronic illnesses to be vaccinated against seasonal influenza. Linden residents should call the Health Department at 908-474-8409 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. to register for a flu shot.

Linden seniors can be paired with 'older' pets

All Star Pet Rescue of Linden is striving to help more older dogs get out of the pound and into safe and loving homes.

Thanks to a grant from the "100 Women Making a Difference" organization, All Star is introducing the "Seniors For Seniors" program.

They want to encourage more "young at heart" seniors to bring an older dog into their home. For a nominal adoption fee, a senior dog would come fully vetted along with the basic necessities a dog would need to get started in their new lives. This includes a leash, collar, ID tag, food and water bowls, a comfy dog bed, some toys and treats and enough food for the first two months.

Anyone older than 60 who adopts a dog older than 7 years old is eligible for this program. For information, contact Program Director Ginny Werner at werner.ginny@gmail.com.

Library board to meet

The regular meetings of the Library board of trustees of Linden Free Public Library will be in the meeting room of the library, 31 East Henry St., Linden. All meetings scheduled for 2010 shall be on the following Mondays at 6:30 p.m.: Dec. 20.

The Staff of McCracken Funeral Home invites you and your family to our

THE TREE OF REMEMBRANCE DEDICATION

Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

McCracken Funeral Home

1500 Morris Avenue, Union • 908-686-4700

Please join us in dedicating our holiday tree in special tribute to those loved ones we remember this holiday season. Ornaments will be provided and those attending will have the opportunity to personalize and hang an ornament in memory of their loved one. The tree will remain on display throughout the holiday season.

RSVP (908) 686-4700. If you cannot attend the program please stop by the funeral home to place your ornament on the tree anytime after December 11th

The dedication is open to everyone. Please **RSVP** if relative and friends will be attending.

McCracken Funeral Home

1500 Morris Avenue, Union

908-686-4700

Robert E. Zonowith, Manager - NJ Lic. No. 4241

Ronald M. Mowad, Sr., CPC

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RELIGION

Grants used for CBH building upgrades

Summit Congregation Beth Hatikvah, a Reconstructionist Jewish community drawing families from four counties, was recently awarded a grant from Metrowest ABLE to help make its synagogue at 36 Chatham Rd., Summit, more accessible to those with special needs.

The grant will match funds to as much as \$2,000, which has already been raised by 13-year old congregant Evan Horowitz of Chatham as part of his Bar Mitzvah service project.

The grant money will be used to purchase audio equipment for the hearing impaired, make the build-

ing more wheelchair accessible, and help prevent sun glare for the visually sensitive. CBH is one of approximately 10 Jewish congregations to receive the grant money. For information, call 908-277-0200.

St. Michael's spreads cheer through music

St. Michael's Church in Cranford, will have an Advent and Christmas Service of lessons and carols on, Sunday at 4:30 p.m. The service features the Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, Youth Choir, school chorus, soloists, instrumentalists, and the 21 member 8-octave Handbell Choir.

The congregation will join in singing traditional favorites of the Christmas Season and hear the multi-choir music program perform, all under the direction of David Bower, director of music at St. Michael. The church is located at Miln and Alden streets in Cranford. There is no charge. For information contact 908-276-0360, ext. 231.

Send religious news

Union County LocalSource encourages congregations, temples, social and civic organizations to inform the editors about scheduled events and activities. Releases should include a phone number where a representative may be

reached during the day.

Send information to: Regional Editor at editorial@thelocal-source.com. Information can also be submitted through our website at www.localsource.com.

Trinity church hosts Advent events in Dec.

An Advent Lessons and Carols service will be at Trinity Episcopal Church on Sunday, at 4 p.m. Trinity is located at 205 North Ave. East — at the corner of North and Forest avenues — in Cranford.

"This special service highlights the message of Advent hope and preparation for Christmas with the reading of lessons of Scripture highlighted by special hymns and

music," said the Rev. Gina Walsh-Minor, Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church. The hymns will be sung by the Trinity Episcopal Church Choir and the music will be played by James Lenney, Trinity's Organist and Choirmaster, who will be playing the newly restored and expanded pipe organ. A reception will follow the service. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Union church to have 'Holy Hour for Life'

Holy Spirit Respect for Life Ministry will have its monthly "Holy Hour for Life" in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament praying "The Rosary for Life" on Jan. 5, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in

WORSHIP CALENDAR

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

CALVARY ASSEMBLY OF GOD "One Great Church - Two Locations!" Main Campus: 953 West Chestnut St., Union. 2nd Campus: 172 Springfield Ave., Berkeley Heights. www.CalvaryAssembly.tv 908-964-1133.

(Please note: All events and services are held at the Union campus unless otherwise noted.)

Sunday Schedule:
Morning Worship - 8:45am & 11:00am
Morning Worship (Berkeley campus) - 10:30am

*All Sunday morning services include childcare and Kidz Church for ages 2-10!
Sunday School for All Ages - 10:05am
Evening Service - 6:30pm

Weekday Schedule:
Ladies Bible Study - Wedn @ 10:00am
Family Night - Wedn @ 7:30pm
(includes Adult Bible Study, Boys & Girls programs)

Youth Night - Fri @ 7:30pm
College & Career - Fri @ 7:30pm

Visit us at: www.CalvaryAssembly.tv

UKRAINIAN EVANGELICAL ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
2208 Stanley Terrace, Union (908) 686-8171
Rev. Walter Cebula, Pastor

**Note: All services are in English.
(Ukrainian & Spanish translation available)

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening: 6:30 PM
Food Pantry (Wednesday) 5-6:45 PM
Wednesday Family Night: 7:00 PM
Spanish Service (Saturday): 7 PM

BAPTIST

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH, 640 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield. Rev. Clarence Alston, Pastor. Church phone (973) 379-1465. SUNDAY: 9:30 A.M. Family Bible School; 11:00 A.M. Worship Service. WEDNESDAY: 7:30 P.M. Mid-Week Service. Holy Communion every First Sunday. Nursery Care available every Sunday. If transportation is needed call the church office. Everyone is Welcome at Antioch.

PROGRESSIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, 1085 Main St., Rahway. Rev. Edwin M. Brown, Pastor. Church Phone 732-382-7360. Sunday: 9:00am Sunday School, 10:30am Devotional Service and Worship Service 11:00am. Wednesday: Noon Day Pray and Thursday Evening Bible Study at 7:30pm. Holy Communion every First Sunday.

JEWISH-TRADITIONAL CONSERVATIVE

CONGREGATION B'NAI AHAVATH SHALOM, 2035 Vauxhall Road (corner of

Plane Street), Union, Tel: (908) 686-6773. Dr. Leon J. Yagod, Rabbi Emeritus; Oscar Newman, Cantor; David Gelband, President. Congregation B'Nai Ahavath Shalom is a traditional conservative congregation with a full range of programs. DAILY SERVICES: Sun: 8:30am; Mon-Fri.: 7:30am; Friday evening: 8pm; SATURDAY: 9:00am. Torah class half hour before each service. Hebrew School: Sundays 9:30am.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH AHM YISRAEL, 60 Temple Drive, Springfield. 973-376-0539 - a friendly inclusive Conservative Egalitarian congregation, welcoming to the broader community of mature couples, singles, "traditional" Jewish families, gay and lesbian Jews, and interfaith families. Dedicated to enriching the lives of our community by providing an inviting environment for spiritual education and social interaction, we offer a year-round NAEYC certified Early Childhood Program, Religious School, Teen Institute, Men's Club, Women's League, Hazak (Seniors), minyan services twice daily, and a full variety of activities and Shabbat services for all ages. Visit www.tbaynj.org for service and activity dates and times or call (973) 376-0539. PLEASE JOIN US! Rabbi Mark Mallach (rabbi@tbaynj.org), Shiri Haines, Executive Director (execdirector@tbaynj.org)..

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHA'AREY SHALOM Springfield, NJ (973) 379-5387 visit www.shaarey.org Rabbi: Joshua Goldstein Cantor: Amy Daniels Inspiring services and creative programs and events. Religious School, PreSchool, active Sisterhood and Brotherhood, Renaissance (Seniors), classes, trips, speakers and much more.

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10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. English Worship
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ADULT: Variety of groups offering opportunities for ministry and fellowship
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REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, 229 Cowperthwaite Pl., Westfield, Rev. Paul E. Kritsch, Pastor. (908) 232-1517. Beginning Sunday, July 6, Summer Worship Times are as follows: Sunday Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible

METHODIST

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
301 Chestnut St.,
Roselle Park, NJ 07204
Phone: 908-245-2237
www.roselleparkumc.org
Pastor: Rev. Glenn A. Scheyching
10:30 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Sunday School
Childcare Available

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF UNION, Berwyn Street at Overlook Terrace, Union. Rev. James G. Ryoo, Pastor. Jonathan Schneider, Music Director. Church Office 687-8077. Parsonage 686-2412. Worship Service 11:00 A.M., Sunday worship includes a children's sermon, followed by Sunday School, and communion on the first Sunday of each month. All welcome. United Methodist Men's, Women's and Youth groups. Home Bible Studies 3rd Saturday each month.

MORAVIAN

BATTLE HILL COMMUNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH, 77 Liberty Ave., Union, 908-686-LAMB. Rev. Percival Gordon, Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:30 am. Sunday School 9:15 am. Women's Group meets first Wednesday of every month 1:30 pm. Men's Group meets every other Wednesday 9:00 am. Wednesday, Bible study and Prayer Group 7:00 pm.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

KENILWORTH GOSPEL CHAPEL Newark and 23rd Street, Kenilworth, 908-272-6131, Pastor Donald Dunkerton. Sunday 9:15 am Communion, 11:00 am Family Bible Hour and Sunday School for all ages, Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer and Bible Study,

(childcare provided), Friday 7:00 pm Youth Activities for Grade School age, Jr. High and Sr. High. kenilworthgospel.org

VICTORY CHURCH 950 Raritan Road, Cranford, NJ. 732-407-1543. Pastor Terry Hicock. Sunday Service 1pm Worship and Praise, Teaching and prayer for healing. Wednesday night 7pm. Bible study and prayer for healing.

PRESBYTERIAN

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1459 Deer Path, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092. You are invited to join us in Worship Services on Sundays at 10:30 am. This is a place for you to enjoy uplifting music and relevant messages that will energize and inspire you. We offer a warm and friendly environment with Bible study, Sunday school and active adult and youth groups. For further information, please contact Dr. Christopher Belden, Pastor at 908-232-9490.

CONNECTICUT FARMS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union. Rev. Roberta Arrowsmith, Pastor. Sunday Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation Class and "For Adults Only Education" at 10:00 a.m. Child care provided. Sound system for the hearing impaired. Coffee hour follows the service. Ample parking is provided. Men's, women's, and youth groups provide a variety of opportunities for participation. Church actively involved with the community through Vacation Bible School, "Friday Night Happening" for middle school youth, CF Food Pantry, weekday Nursery School, and Cub and Boy Scout Troops. Serving the community since 1730, Connecticut Farms is a vibrant, caring congregation committed to renewal and growth. We welcome all to join us for worship and fellowship. For additional information, call the church office at 908-688-3164 or log on to www.ctfarm.org.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RAHWAY Corner of West Grand Ave. & Church St., RAHWAY. Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month. Worship Service on Sundays at 10:30 am; Fellowship Hour 11:30 am; Nursery 10:30 am - 11:30 am. Please Join Us for Our Special Holiday Services: Advent Sunday Services - Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 12 & Dec. 19 at 10:30am. Friday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 11:00pm. Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. 732-382-0803 www.rahwayworship.org.

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 829 Salem Road, Union. Worship and Church School Sundays at 10:00 A.M. Nursery Care during all services. Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month. We offer opportunities for personal growth and development for children, youth, and adults. We have two children's choirs and an adult Chancel Choir. We also have a youth fellowship, regular adult

Bible Study, a Book Club and Summer Vacation Bible School. Come and worship with friends and neighbors this Sunday. Townley Church is a growing congregation of caring people. Church Office 686-1028. Rev. Christopher Taylor, Pastor.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD 210 Morris Ave. at Church Mall, Springfield, NJ 07081, 973-379-4320. Rev. Victoria Ney, Pastor. Sunday Worship begins at 10:15am. Fellowship Hour immediately follows the service. Church time nursery and Sunday School for infant to Pre-K avail. Sunday School for K-12th grade begins at 9:00am in the Parish House @ 37 Church Mall. For more information about Church groups and community activities or to contact Pastor Ney, please call the Church Office at 973-379-4320, or visit our website: SpringfieldPresbyterian.org.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

St. JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH COMMUNITY, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07081.973-376-3044. www.saintjamesparish.org SUNDAY MASS: Saturday 5:00pm (anticipated), Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30am and 12:00 noon. WEEKDAY MASS: Monday-Friday 7:30am, Saturday 8:00am. RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11:00am (any time by appointment).

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