

UNION COUNTY LOCALSOURCE

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SET FREE — Manuel Luna, Barbara Pierre, and Janiyah Aiken from Ms. Richert's class at Franklin Elementary School in Rahway set a butterfly free. Second-grade students at the school studied the life cycle of insects. Students were intrigued by watching caterpillars change into butterflies. After observing the caterpillars transform, the students set them free.

Contested primary results

In Union County, voters visited the ballot box on Tuesday night to cast their lot for local primary candidates. While many cities around the county saw no contested elections, there were others that featured heated exchanges, and some that featured many contested primaries.

In Rahway, the Regular Democratic Party faced off against the Democrats for Change in every ward in the city, and a third democrat, Wilbert Kirby, ran against the established parties in the 1st Ward. In Elizabeth, a fierce contest has taken place in recent weeks between challenger Oscar Ocasio and 20-year incumbent Chris Bollwage, with Ocasio recently going as far as to allege impropriety on Bollwage's part. Springfield saw a three-way fight for two 3-year terms on the Democratic ticket. And Linden saw two Democrats battle in out for one nomination for the 1st Ward Democratic candidate position. Also on Tuesday night, Roselle had a two-way fight for Councilman-At-Large and a three-way fight for 2nd Ward Councilman. And Union witnessed a four-way battle between Republican candidates vying for two nominations. Voters can be sure that all winners will be ready for a heated election season that awaits just around the corner.

For results, see page 16.

Elizabeth BOE president indicted for lunch money theft

Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

ELIZABETH — Nine months after school board president Marie Munn was arrested for allegedly stealing from the district's free lunch program by filing false applications for her children, a state grand jury has indicted her.

Although Munn continued to act as president of the school board since her arrest, according to a source close to the board, that will not continue for long. In fact, it was expected that by next week Munn will be removed from the board by the county schools superintendent.

There was, however, no mention of Munn's removal as board president by school district spokesperson Don Goncalves in a statement he released on

behalf of the school district last week right after Munn's indictment was announced by the attorney general.

But the district does make it clear that they have been continuing to cooperate with law enforcement authorities and even "studiously follow all regulations for auditing food lunch applications, taking whatever steps necessary to reduce fraud."

"The district has taken affirmative actions in an attempt to reduce the potential for fraudulent applications in the school lunch program as well as determining whether personal information on parents applications, which are confidential under federal law, had been illegally released to the public," the release noted.

The indictment, which came down last Thursday, charged Munn, 47, with third

degree theft by deception and tampering with public records or information.

According to Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiesa, the school board president filed false applications for the federally funded reduced lunch program, by "grossly understating her household income." Munn and her husband, the attorney general said, actually had an income over \$100,000 in 2008-9 and more than \$94,000 in three of the previous years she applied.

Chiesa said Munn filed the applications for the free or reduced price lunch program, which resulted in one or both children receiving benefits from 2006 through the 2011.

"You would think that the school board president of an Abbott district would carefully guard any resources dedicated to

helping disadvantaged children," the attorney general said in a statement, adding that Munn "shamelessly stole" \$4,549 from an Abbott district.

Division of Criminal Justice director Stephen J. Taylor said the indictment was a clear indication that the state was moving forward with prosecuting Munn.

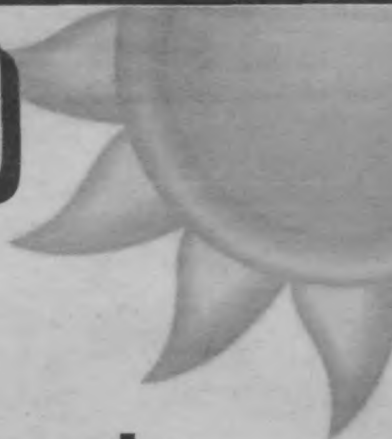
"We urge any member of the public who has information regarding suspected fraud involving the free lunch program or any other public assistance program to contact us," Taylor said.

Munn was originally arrested Sept. 19, 2011 along with two others, Peter W. Abitanto, 43, the husband of the head custodian for the school district and Angela Lucio, 36, an employee of the City of Elizabeth

See **BOE**, Page 4

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Woman gives birth to girl inside county courthouse

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

ELIZABETH — The courthouse usually runs like clockwork. People move quickly through the rotunda, heading quickly for courtrooms and offices, each on their own special mission. But for one particular visitor last Friday, a trip to the courthouse would become a visit she would never forget.

As nine-months-pregnant Ceciel Lopez, a preschool teacher in Elizabeth, came through the police check point at the front door Friday, she felt the first contractions of labor begin. As a mother of two other children, there was no doubt in her mind that her third baby was not going to wait until she could get to a hospital.

So Lopez told a courthouse guard she was in labor, which set in motion a series of events that within minutes resulted in delivery of a healthy baby girl on the Rotunda floor of the courthouse.

Thanks to some quick action on the part of several experienced individuals, including three sheriff's officers, Detective Brian Dustin, a 20-year veteran from Winfield, Anastasio Anastatos, a nine-year veteran from Clark and Daniel Bradley, a three year

veteran from Roselle Park, Lopez had a delivery team of professionals who knew exactly what to do when a baby decides to come into the world without any warning and very quickly.

The three men, trained in emergency medical services, quickly assessed the young mother's condition and agreed delivery was in progress and there was no time to waste.

Meanwhile, word spread throughout the courthouse that a woman was having a baby on the main floor of the rotunda and a crowd began to gather on the second and third floors, a perfect vantage point for viewing the pending birth on the main floor.

Elizabeth Fire Department EMS worker Carlos Gomez and Alyson Calwell joined the three other men and four minutes later, the baby girl was born, much to the elation of those watching from the floors above.

After some emergency after care, mother and her newborn daughter, Alyson, the same name of one of the EMS workers who helped deliver the baby, were rushed off to Trinitas Hospital where both were reported in excellent condition.

Officials shut down Dunkin' Donuts on Raritan Road

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

CRANFORD — The owner of the Dunkin' Donuts on Raritan Road learned a valuable lesson last week — never begin a renovation without first checking with the local construction and health departments.

The usually busy coffee and donut establishment was shut down and caution tape strung across the driveway after township construction official Rich Belluscio happened to drive by on his way home from work and noticed there was a very large dumpster next to the building. Around 8 p.m. he drove by the store again and saw contractor trucks in the driveway and immediately pulled over.

Belluscio, who also does double duty in the evening as the construction official for Roselle Park, discovered the owner had begun renovating without going through the usual channels required by local and state law.

"According to the health code, any owner of a food establishment that wants to renovate or remodel their business must submit plans to the health department," said Belluscio, who added the health department then has 30 days to review those plans.

But even at this point the owner still can-

not begin renovations. In fact, they have a long way to go before being given the go ahead by the township. And it can get complicated, especially if the owner is doing a "tear down."

"If they are putting in new plumbing or electrical work, they need permits to do that," the construction official said.

But the major problem, and one that could have affected customers, was the fact the owner began tearing down ceiling tiles and fixtures while the store remained open to customers.

That resulted in the local health inspector, Monika Jencik, shutting down the establishment because ongoing work was being done near exposed food products, namely trays and trays of donuts being purchased by the general public. Which, Belluscio said is a direct violation of the health code. For that Jencik slapped the owner with a very visible bright pink "Unsatisfactory" violation on the window, rendering the business closed until the owner complies with the law.

That sign tells customers that this particular business violated the local and state health code and has been shut down until they com-

See LEARNING, Page 6

Summit school teacher by day, rock n' roller by night

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

SUMMIT — Local elementary school students know him as mild-manner Mr. Fessock, but when school lets out Paul Fessock hits the stage with his band, Amp'd, playing gigs in restaurants, bars and street fairs around Union County and beyond.

Fessock's love of music is no secret to his students and co-workers — Amp'd also plays regularly at Brayton School, putting on an end-of-the-year rock concert for the kids.

Fessock bonds with students and former students who also share musical interests and sometimes visit his shows and even join their teacher onstage.

"Some of my students actually come to my shows and they play too," Fessock said.

Fessock, a South Plainfield resident, began playing guitar and taking music lessons in third grade and was playing in bands and writing material by high school. He says he was in his late twenties when he became more serious about music.

Fessock has a background in sports management and physical education, and holds a masters degree in education. He has been working at Brayton School for 12 years, teaching physical education to student in first grade through fifth.

Amp'd has been on the local music scene more than ten years. The five-member band plays live about 13 times a month, both on weekday nights and weekends.

Popular favorites include songs by Green Day, Foo Fighters, Tom Petty, Billy Joel and more.



Photo Courtesy of Amp'd

Amp'd, a Union County band featuring Summit Elementary School teacher Paul Fessock, makes a video. The band plays about a dozen times a month at venues all over the county, and soon Fessock will open a music school at the Mondo Building in Springfield called The World of Rock.

"Anything from the fifties on up," he said. "We do it all."

Fessock's personal tastes are quite eclectic, with his top favorites including Elvis Presley, Motley Crue and the Gypsy Kings.

The band also writes original material,

but Fessock said he has found crowds are less eager to hear it.

"I got a couple songs, but people want to hear stuff they know," he said.

However, Fessock said the band occasionally will throw in an original piece with-

out informing the audience members, some of whom mistake the tune for a classic and wonder why they have not heard it on the radio.

"Sometimes we play our stuff but we don't tell anyone," Fessock said.

After years of playing and teaching, Fessock is moving his love of music to the next level, opening a music school and shop in the city he has grown to love.

Dubbed the World of Rock and located in the Mondo building on Springfield Avenue, the shop is expected to open in a few weeks. He will take on instructors to teach kids guitar, bass, drums and keyboard.

Fessock said about a year ago, the parent of a former student bought the building and offered him a space in it.

Fessock explained the theme of the building is "eat, shop and play." World of Rock will fill the "play" aspect, with a spot for bands to play in the lower level next to his shop. Several other merchants are already moving into the building and will provide the other two components of the theme, Fessock said.

Fessock has gotten to know many of the families in the area and is excited about this opportunity to make his work a part of the downtown.

"It's a great town," Fessock said. "Ever since I've been here the parents and kids have been very supportive of what I'm doing."

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

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BOE president faces criminal charges over lunch program

(Continued from Page 1)
 and ex-wife of a principal in the district.

The complaints against Abitanto and Lucio charged them with third-degree theft by deception and tampering with public records. These complaints are still pending in court.

Third degree crimes carry a sentence of three to five years in state prison and a fine up to \$1,000.

The story, though, goes deeper than the arrests.

More than a month before Munn, Abitanto and Lucio were arrested last year, the school district claimed someone hacked into their computer system and took personal data, including social security numbers and incomes that were later leaked to *The Star-Ledger*.

The allegations were released in a letter to parents in the district dated Aug. 11 and signed by business administrator Harold E. Kennedy Jr.

"Based on very specific inquiries made by the newspaper *The Star-Ledger*, we have concluded they have been provided your protected information such as the

names of family members, social security numbers, addresses and income," the letter read.

The database, according to the letter, included families receiving the Federally Free and Reduced Price Meals Nutrition Program, which impacts 88 percent of the school district's population.

The board said at that time they would be launching an internal forensic review and turning their focus to protecting the identity and confidential information of the 20,000 families and 4,000 employees, which one source estimated could cost millions.

After the arrests last year the school district disagreed with the sequence of events, claiming that a full ten days before this information was released by the press they asked the state to investigate why and how their system was hacked.

Goncalves also clarified that in the spring when Abitanto's wife discovered her spouse had "erroneously filled out the application for reduced price or free lunches, she immediately attempted to pay back the district's food services."



Photo By Steve Ellmore
 SUPER HEROS - In Union, during the annual Memorial Day Parade, a pair of American 'superheros' turned out with their patriotic doll to show support for real life heros - veterans who died during combat.

Attorney General's office investigating councilwoman for alleged threat toward cops

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

HILLSIDE — The State Attorney General's Office is investigating a complaint against local Councilwoman Salonia Saxton, who has been accused by Hillside Police of threatening to use her political influence against the department last month.

The Union County Prosecutor's Office forwarded the matter to the Attorney General's office to avoid a conflict of interest, as Saxton previously worked for the Union County Police Academy.

According to local police, the incident occurred on May 18 at about 5:45 p.m. after Saxton had received a parking ticket on Liberty Avenue.

Lt. Vincent Ricciardi said an exchange occurred between Saxton and Officer Alberto Velez and Lt. Matthew Ross, during which Saxton threatened Lt. Ross's employment as well as the upcoming police union contract. Ricciardi said the ticket was for \$25.

On May 21, Ricciardi who is President of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 160, which represents the department's superi-

or officers, filed a complaint of workplace harassment on behalf of Ross and the membership of FOP Lodge 160.

"I can't recall an incident of this nature since I've been here," Ricciardi said. "We want the incident to be properly investigated and the appropriate action taken to prevent Ms. Saxton's threats from becoming a reality."

Ricciardi said he is not aware of any contact from Saxton or the township government to the police department regarding the complaint.

Saxton is a Democrat serving her first term on council. She took office Jan. 1 of this year. She could not be reached for comment by press time, but has reportedly denied making any threats.

Mayor Joseph Menza declined to comment on an ongoing investigation and said the complaint process did not involve him.

"However, if the allegations are true, there is no doubt in my mind she should be removed from council," Menza said.


Council President Angela Garretson could not be reached for comment by press time.

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BIKE SAFETY — The Mountainside PTA sponsored the annual second grade Beechwood School Bike Rodeo in May. The students brought their bikes, helmets, and locks to school in the morning and participated in a 'AAA' bicycle inspection performed by Mountainside Police.

UC towns named best places to retire, but only if you can afford it

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

You might be surprised where the best place to retire was in a recent survey. Here's a hint: it's not Florida.

According to a recent survey, Cranford came in at number 3 out of 476 towns by Inside New Jersey for its amenities for senior citizens. Also factored in was safety, affordability, number of services for seniors who want to stay in their home state as well as cultural and historical attractions.

Other towns in the county also placed high among the first 100 towns, including Kenilworth, at number 7, Union at number 10, Mountainside 22, Clark 24, Linden 43, Springfield 45, Rahway 50, Berkeley Heights 65, Scotch Plains 85 and Hillside 88.

Surprisingly, Westfield came in at 120, while Summit trailed behind at 180.

Residents of these towns, though, were not as certain their home town would be the best place to retire. Anna McQuire, 58, of Cranford felt someone "missed the boat on this one."

"I guess no one took into consideration how our taxes are here, or that the flooding we get every time there is a tropical storm just about wipes everyone out within a six-block area of the river," McQuire said.

However, this resident did agree that it would be nice to stay in the town she calls home, if only she could afford it when she retires.

"The way it looks now, I will have to work until I'm 70 in order to save enough money just to move to Florida. Imagine what it would cost if I decided to stay in Cranford. I would be working until I'm 90 with these taxes," she added.

McQuire's sentiments were echoed by residents in almost every town in the top 100.

Most people were surprised no one factored in taxes for those on a fixed income. Angie Ramonoski, 65, of Linden, though, who is just about to retire, explained the reason she would be staying in the town she had been in for all her life.

"I'm lucky. I have a great retirement package, solid investments and to tell you the truth, I really don't want to move away from my children and grandchildren," she said, adding her taxes are not "that bad."

"Who wants to move all the way to Florida where I don't know anyone and I have to keep coming back here to visit and help out my kids," the Linden resident added. "I'd be in the car or on a plane all the time."

Former Union resident Roberto Angelise, 72, said he now lives in Florida because he definitely could not afford the upkeep of his home or the taxes.

"I come up here to visit my daughter and grandkids in the summer because its too hot in Florida this time of year," he explained, adding that while he misses his old "stomping ground," the cost of living in Florida is lower for seniors.

"I have a little place there that cost me a fraction of the taxes I paid here and with my pension and social security, it was worth the move," Angelise added.

Rahway resident Jackson Edwards, 61, agreed that even though a home may be paid for, paying taxes on a fixed income would be difficult.

"Of course it would be nice to stay here and not have to leave, but I have to make sure I can swing it first. Right now it would be tight for the wife and I but she sure doesn't want to leave here and I can't say I blame her. Who wants to pack up and leave at our age. We have kids, grandkids and family and friends we have known for 40 years or more," he said.

Kenilworth resident Barbara Jankowski, 69, said she was planning on moving to North Carolina where her daughter lives in a few short months.

"I can't afford to live in New Jersey anymore," she said flatly, adding that once that might have been possible, "but not anymore."

"It's just too expensive to live here when I can go somewhere where my money will go further. Plus, my daughter is there and I can come back here to visit whenever I want," the borough resident said.

Josie Mathews, 72, of Clark, said she made a choice to stay in the township after her husband died, but she worries about taxes going up all the time.

"I guess us seniors just worry about money in general because when it's gone, what are we supposed to do. We have to think about if we get sick or need long term care and if all our money is going for taxes, then what," she said.



Photo By Paul Greulich

SCOUTS HONOR — During the Summit Memorial Day parade last month, Brownies from local Troop 251 marched to show their support for veterans who lost their lives in combat.

Learning the hard way to get permits, permission

(Continued from Page 3)

Jencik also made sure all the products on the shelves were discarded.

Belluscio said Jencik would be issuing summonses for beginning a construction project without getting the required health and construction department permits. The two township offices, the construction official said, work in conjunction when a retail food establishment is involved.

Belluscio explained that the usual procedure, according to the state of New Jersey Health Code, is for a business owner to submit plans to the local health department, which are then reviewed and sent on to any other township officials involved.

Ironically, the construction official said, Jencik actually stopped by the store Monday morning on her way to work to get coffee and noticed some minor work going on.

"The owner told her he was only doing a few minor things," he added. "When I went in

there they had the counters down to bare plywood, the fixtures down and the ceiling was down and open to the rafters."

"So we both essentially shut them down for violations," Belluscio said.

The construction official said the owner was informed that he had to submit renovation plans by an architect, as well as any electrical and plumbing changes, but as of Friday nothing had been submitted to the township.

"He just needs to come in with the proper documents and plans," said Belluscio, adding that if the franchise owner had gone through the proper channels, he would have only been closed four days.

"Now he could be closed a month or longer," the construction official said.

"Right now the ball is in his court," Belluscio added.

The owner of the business could not be reached for comment.

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HONOR GUARD — In Mountainside, plenty of residents turned out for the Memorial Day parade and the ceremonies that followed.




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Tickets still available for 'Sensory Theater'

It was announced that tickets are still available for the Sensory Friendly Theater series, a combination of performances, especially designed for children with autism and related disabilities at Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway.

As part of Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella's "Putting People First" initiative, the series is designed according to guidelines that help to reduce disturbances for youngsters who experience heightened sensory sensitivity.

Union County worked with Autism Friendly Spaces, LLC to design the series and the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn and the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside assisted in making the program possible.

The series of three performances includes "Tom Chapin and Friends" on June 10, "Little Red Riding Hood and Other Stories," presented by Pushcart Players on Oct. 7, and "Pinocchio," presented by the New Jersey Ballet on Nov. 4. There will be a charge for all seats, and performances will begin at 2 p.m.



MARCHING ORDERS — Members of the Clark Chapter of UNICO gather during the annual Memorial Day parade last week in Clark.



Dr. Patel is extremely thorough, sensitive, and takes the time I need to address all my questions. I drive all the way from Old Tappan just to see her!

— Tara M. Old Tappan, NJ

Dr. Patel has diagnosed me with a 10 cm cyst on my ovary. She removed the cyst laparoscopically. I went home the same day and I have no scar. I will forever be indebted to her!

— Neena A. Cranford, NJ

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Young scientists can explore nature with county's Bio Blitz

From Friday evening, June 8, through Saturday evening, June 9, Union County offers nature lovers of all ages the opportunity to get up-close and personal with wildlife in their own "backyard" during Bio-Blitz 2012.

Beginning at 5 p.m. on June 8, the annual outdoor event will organize teams of volunteer plant and wildlife specialists to scour three sections of Union County's Rahway River Parkway in Rahway, Clark, Winfield Park and Cranford in search of wildlife over a 24-hour period.

The primary purpose of Bio-Blitz 2012 is to gain a "snapshot" of the biodiversity in

the 384-acre Rahway River Parkway. Another important goal of the event is to raise public awareness of the importance of parkland as wildlife habitat and outdoor classrooms.

An outdoor, tented field lab and exhibit space in Rahway River Park, off St. Georges Avenue in Rahway, will serve as a base of operations.

Plant, fungi, insect, fish, bird, mammal, amphibian and reptile teams, and water monitors will collect and identify species from three sections of parkland.

Free nature-related programs for all ages will be offered throughout the event,

including evening programs from 5 to 11 p.m. on June 8; and from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 9. Free shuttle buses will be available to get participants to and from program sites. Programs will include: River & Lake Sampling; Owl Prowl; Wild Edible Plant Walk; Fungi Foray; Early Morning Birding, and more.

Bio-Blitz Bingo will offer younger "scientists" an opportunity to record their findings and enter a drawing to win nature-related prizes. A Junior Scientist tent will have young naturalists interacting with hands-on activities related to the natural environment. Union County's Trailside

Nature & Science Center staff also will be on-hand to offer guided walks and provide live animal exhibits.

Bio-Blitz 2012 is sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal, Kean University and the Rahway River Association, with partial funding provided by PSE&G.

For more information or to receive a brochure, call 908-789-3683 and leave your email address. Brochures also will be available at Trailside Nature & Science Center at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside.



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Trailside to offer digital camera classes

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Community Renewal have invited adults, ages 18 and older, to learn the basics of digital photography at a three-hour workshop on June 23 at the Trailside Nature & Science Center. The workshop will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be fees for the workshops. Space is limited. Pre-registration is required.

The June 23 workshop is conducted for anyone who wants to become more familiar with a single lens reflex digital camera or sophisticated point-and-shoot camera with manual settings. Pamboukes will bring clarity to topics such as focal length, aperture, shutter speeds and white balance. Composition and basic lighting strategies also will be addressed. Pamboukes has been an art and photography instructor in Boston, New York and New Jersey. She currently teaches at The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit.

Participants are requested to bring their camera system, with a fully charged battery, the manual and a tripod, if possible. For additional information about the Adult Beginners Digital Photography Workshop or other programs and upcoming events at Trailside call 908-789-3670 or visit www.ucnj.org/trailside.



Photo Courtesy of Union County/Jim Lowney

HONORING THE VETS — Union County Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella, left, and Freeholder Christopher Hudak, right, speak with Robert Jeans of the Kenilworth Veterans Center and VFW 2230 while placing American flags on the graves of veterans at the Graceland Cemetery in Kenilworth.

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County offers summer youth baseball league

The Union County Baseball Association has invited young baseball players, both boys and girls, ages 8 to 15, to register for its Summer Youth League baseball teams. This annual youth baseball program is sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Union County Baseball Association, and the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal.

"Since 1945, Union County has offered opportunities for young ballplayers to strengthen their skills and have fun during the summer," said Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "The Summer Youth League continues this long tradition of providing coaches, umpires, shirts and baseball caps to boys and girls who enjoy participating in baseball games at Warinanco Park."

All games during the Summer Youth League are played in Warinanco Park, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The games are coached and supervised by the Union County Baseball Association staff.

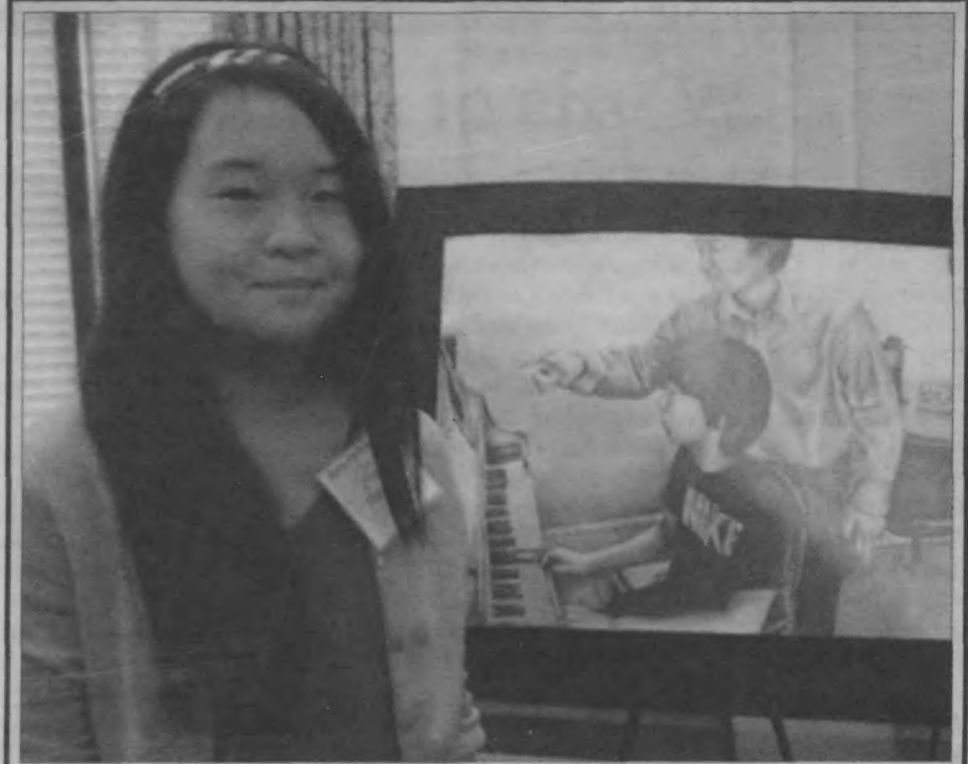
Sign-ups for the summer league will be held at the Warinanco Park Boat House in Roselle on Saturdays, June 9, 16 and 23, from 9 a.m. to noon each day. All those who register will participate in play.

Each player is required to bring a registration fee and a birth certificate to the sign-up. Players must be at least eight years old by June 22 and cannot be 16 before Aug. 1.

The Summer Youth League is divided into three divisions: a Teen League for 13-14- and 15-year-olds; a Major League for 11 and 12-year-olds; and a Minor League for 8, 9 and 10-year-old players. Registered players will be notified about Team Assignment Day and the first day of play. There will be no refunds after Team Assignment Day.

An awards picnic will be held on Aug. 3 to mark the end of the Summer Youth Baseball League.

For additional information please call 908-917-2523, or visit the Union County Baseball Association website at www.ucba-nj.org.



AWARD WINNING — Summit High School sophomore Deborah Lee is shown with her drawing, 'When Help Is Needed,' for which she won second place in an art competition for high school students sponsored by New Jersey's Department of Human Services.

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OPINION

Words of caution are needed

EDITORIAL

June is a festive month for community newspapers simply because it includes high school graduations. For several days, it seems the entire community is focused on the graduating class and all the traditions, ceremonies and celebrations that accompany that final send-off of high-school seniors. Perhaps the only single event that is similar to graduation day, although on a smaller scale, is a wedding, which also brings families together to mark the end of a certain way of life and the beginning of another. And similar to people worldwide throughout all of history, we observe such moments with celebrations.

And therein lies a lesson of caution. During these weeks, our graduating seniors often are tempted to use alcohol. Whether it's a devil-may-care drink from a bottle with friends in the parking lot before commencement ceremonies, or at a late-night party in a home where the parents have gone to the Shore for the weekend, alcohol is too often a part of teen graduation celebrations. And that can lead to trouble. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Association, alcohol-related accidents greatly increase for teenagers during the months of April, May and June, which is the season for both proms and high school graduation.

Let's face it: The thought of a teenager driving drunk is downright scary. They are inexperienced drivers who probably are unfamiliar with the effects of alcohol, and in many cases, they will be driving a borrowed vehicle. These factors will come into play if they need to make

split-second reactions to changing road conditions. And the damage these teens can cause in an accident could last a lifetime, or take a life.

Luckily, preventive programs are in place. Most schools offer a Project Graduation party, in which the graduates are provided with a safe, drug- and alcohol-free night to commemorate the milestone. And the police, well aware of the increase in underage drinking at this time of year, are on heightened alert. But the group that should be on the forefront of preventing teen drinking at this time of year is parents.

Certain precautions by parents seem like common sense: don't provide alcohol for an underage party; establish ground rules if your child stays home alone while you are away overnight; and keep a watch on the home alcohol supply to note any sudden disappearances. But there are also more active steps a parent can take, such as volunteering to chaperone at a school or private party, and having a talk with their child. Parents should not be shy about asking their children if adults will be on-site for the party they plan to attend, or who will be driving. And parents should also do their best to persuade their child to remain alcohol free and not to ride as a passenger in any vehicle if the driver or other passengers have consumed alcohol.

We urge all parents to speak with their child about alcohol during this graduation season. In the most effective way, give them the wisdom of your experience in these matters.

The cat is always away for some mice

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

One of the topics that seems to raise the blood pressure of taxpayers is rampant nepotism at the local and county government level. But employees who get jobs because of their political connections are not the only ones taking advantage on your tax dollar. Not by a long shot.

To be fair, there are hard working municipal and county employees who tow the line, work like dogs and never would do anything wrong. They come to work on time, never take municipal or county government property and don't take advantage of the system.

And then there are the others. The politically connected and not so politically connected who manage to get away with just about anything. Including committing crimes, not putting in a full days work for the wages they receive, attempting or actually breaking rules without a backward glance or using their power as an elected official to reap havoc.

Read on, my friends, you are going to love this column.

Just last week I happened to notice a municipal vehicle in the parking lot of a women's retail chain store in Linden. Of course I quickly turned around and cruised

REPORTERS NOTEBOOK

through the lot to check it out. I soon found out what town it was from, which happened not to be the town it should have been in at that time of day. Or any time of day. Shopping, by the way, is usually not on any list of municipal business, in case anyone was wondering.

Now, the administrator of this town was notified and I'm certain he will take it from there. Next time, though, the name of the person and the town goes in this column.

Over in Cranford there are a few cops in the township who seem to have a lot of time on their hands. Too much. Maybe this municipality needs to rethink just how many cops it takes to protect the township if they manage to find time to log onto CranfordTalk, a local blog that puts new meaning on getting down and dirty. Might be time to check out the computers and see who is doing what while they are on duty.

Things are pretty bad at the county level. I mean when you have a budget deficit the size of Montana and the only way out of the red is to layoff employees that can be pretty rough on those with families to feed. But not everyone is going hungry.

It appears the freeholders and other county officials attending meetings twice a month are still enjoying their pre-meeting Italian dinner spread, compliments of taxpayers. Are you kidding me? Who lays off employees and doesn't slash everything they possibly can. Like dinners that run \$350.

It doesn't matter if the freeholders come right from work or walk through a dessert without water before a meeting. It's not like they serve as elected officials gratis. They do get paid. Which means they can afford to pay for their own dinner. Anyone who eats on taxpayers' dime when people are being laid off should have a hard time swallowing that food in good conscience. Talk about not seeing the forest for the trees. This takes the cake. No pun intended.

I understand there are some township employees in Union who are in hot water. If you can call it that since all the dirt has been carefully swept under the political rug, so to speak. The fact these employees are politically connected, or their relatives are, is no surprise, though. Politicians always protect their own, even when they break the law.

The township did get rid of one employee in the building department who was

Continued on next page

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The Union County Board of Chosen Freeloaders

(Continued from previous page)
accused of sexually harassing a township resident but the township is still being sued over this seedy misadventure. Sorry, I should have said taxpayers, since they will be paying all those legal bills and any settlement that is awarded.

There are others who supposedly did things that, at first blush, sounded pretty bad. However, after talking with the township administrator, I discovered there were extenuating circumstances involved or the entire story was not known. I always check out rumors to ensure they are based in fact or that the tale was not added to along the way. In these particular cases, the people involved and their families could have been hurt by accusations that failed, perhaps on purpose, to disclose the entire story.

If you are going to send me information on any municipal employee, I will be checking it out. Only a fool would print rumors as fact.

Here is a juicy one. Why would a mayor defy all local and state health department rules just to keep a major retail food business in town? Well that's exactly what is going on in Springfield. It's one thing for a municipality to be business friendly, quite another to put the health of the community at risk.

Makes you wonder what Mayor Ziad Shehady will have to say if people get seriously ill and the township ends up being sued. Could it happen? You bet. People who ingest food that has not properly been handled or stored at the right temperature can get very, very sick. My guess is this mayor's ego is so big there is no room left for common sense. Maybe we should let him ingest some of that food. It might bring him to his senses real quick.

You would think the governing body would have thought out disbanding the board of health before following Mayor Pied Piper off a cliff. Radical moves like this are like throwing the baby out with the bath water. Sure the township may initially think they are saving money but let's be real here. Saving money will not cut it when people start getting sick. And they will. Food borne illness is no joke. It can kill the elderly or the very young.

Although the state does allow the governing body to assume the role of a board of health, do the citizens of Springfield really want five people with no experience in the health area to oversee such important areas as food store inspections, communicable diseases, food borne illnesses or the possibility of a widespread disease hitting the area? The H1N1 scare a few years back was just an example of how frightening this kind of thing can be for a community.

It's time for residents to attend a township meeting and start hammering the mayor and governing body with questions. They also need to air their views on this issue before the governing body adopts the ordinance to disband the board of health later this month. Because then it will be too late.

What the heck is going on over in Hillside? Seems that a council member decided to pull rank to get out of a parking ticket by threatening local police with retaliation during contract negotiations. Over a parking ticket?

Just goes to show you how some elected officials let the power go right to their head and they expect everyone to cower when they bellow orders. Looks like this one backfired, bigtime.

Although Salonia Saxton does have strong ties to county Democratic Chairman and political powerhouse Charlotte DiFilippo, she really should have backed down on this one. I mean, come on, the woman already has a \$65,000 a year county job and has let everyone know that if she gets laid off DiFilippo will find her another position pronto. Really? Somehow I don't see Charlotte taking a hit on this one, especially because Saxton is now a political liability in an election year that the Democrats likely do not want.

So there you go, just a few examples of what goes on while hard working taxpayers toil away in the salt mines. Nice huh? Yeah, makes you wonder why folks keep electing the same people over and over. It's beyond me. I just report this stuff and pay my parking tickets without a whimper. But, hey, so does the rest of the huddled masses out here in taxpayer land. We have no free pass, right?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanks to everyone for Memorial Day festivities

To the Editor:

This letter comes with sincere thanks to all who participated in honoring the men and women who served and/or lost their lives while defending our country's freedom. The Memorial Day Committee, Volunteers of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, Recreation and Parks Staff, Mayor and Township Committee, Clergy

Council, Cranford Police Department, Cranford Department of Public Works, VFW Post #335, Cranford Board of Education, TV 35, and many more, deserve thanks.

An extended thanks for the efforts of many other individuals who participated and volunteered their time and energy which made our Memorial Day parade a success.

Stephen Robertazzi
Cranford Recreation and Parks

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UNION NEWS

Gallery announces the opening of solo art show

The Les Malamut Gallery in Union has announced the opening of a solo show by abstract expressionist Rosanne Potter, through July 31. This is Potter's first comprehensive showing of her paintings - approximately 35 works on canvas - in New Jersey. A reception will be held today from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The show is arranged along the four walls of the gallery to demonstrate four phases of this multifaceted painter. Each wall represents a different aspect of Potter's work, revealing different styles and different palettes. This artist rarely represents the real world in her paintings, but instead combines colors and shapes to create responses in the minds of contemplative viewers.

The show moves viewers from the simplest stripes and squares of adjoining colors, through dynamic shapes segmented into blocks of pure color, to images floating on a simple horizontal, and finally, to a dynamic world of dreamscapes and metaphors.

As a young woman, Potter studied with the American Expressionist Clarence Giese in Vienna while on a junior year abroad from Rosemont College. She went on to earn a Ph.D. in English literature at the University of Texas, at Austin in 1975 and taught at the University of Texas at Austin and Iowa State University, 1974 to 1998. In 2005, she published a book of poems, "Key

West, Transit of Venus," illustrated by images of her early paintings.

All artwork is available for purchase by contacting the artist.

The gallery is located on the lower level of Union Public Library, 1980 Morris Ave. The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular library hours. It is handicapped accessible. For further information, visit lesmalamutartgallery.wordpress.com or call 908-851-5450.

Learn about the American Revolution, June 9, 10

Visitors will be entertained while learning about a couple from the American Revolution, the Rev. James and Hannah Caldwell on June 9 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and June 10 from noon to 4 p.m., at the Caldwells' home, the Caldwell Parsonage, at 909 Caldwell Ave., Union, and the adjoining barn will be open to the public. The site is listed on both the New Jersey and the National Registries of Historical Places.

The event will feature portrayals by actor Jeffrey Tew as James Caldwell, Cherokee Chief Fred Ross, French and Indian War re-enactors known as "The Frontier Guard," Stan Gurski as a Connecticut Farms militia man, and Jack Soroka as George Washington.

Admission is free. Refreshments and souvenirs will be on sale.

Hannah Caldwell Day, June 7, is the anniversary of the shooting of the wife of

Rev. Caldwell during the Battle of Connecticut Farms. Historians still debate the circumstances of her death: She was at home caring for three of her 10 children, when she looked out her bedroom window and was shot at close range by a member of the British force.

For more information, call Barbara La Mort at 908-687-0048.

Giant yard sale to take place June 30

The United Methodist Church in Union

has announced its Annual Giant Yard Sale will take place on June 23. Rain date is June 30. Vendors and private sellers can buy a table to sell their items that day.

Call the church by June 20 for more information at the office number, 908-687-8077. The church is located at 2095 Berwyn St.

The event is sponsored by the United Methodist Women of UMC in Union, which underwrites charitable and outreach-missions-ministry events and needs. Hamburgers and hot dogs, along with beverages will be sold.

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SPRINGFIELD NEWS

Town announces July 4 plans

The Take Pride in Springfield and The Fourth of July Committee has announced that Springfield's 2012 July 4 celebration. Highlighting the pre-fireworks entertainment will be two nationally recognized bands, The 1910 Fruitgum Company and Barbara Harris and the Toys. Harris, the original lead singer of the Toys, who has appeared on several recent PBS specials, charted a million selling number one hit in 1965 with "A Lover's Concerto." The 1910 Fruitgum Company, featuring founding member Frank Jeckell, also had a national hit in 1968 with "Simon Says," which was quickly followed by Gold Records' "1-2-3 Red Light" and "Indian Giver." In addition to their own hits they will play a mixture of popular 1960s and 1970s tunes.

The event will take place starting at 5 p.m. on July 4. The concert will start at 7:30 p.m. The Take Pride in Springfield Committee, which is comprised of local civic groups, the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce, members of the Township Committee and the Township's Emergency Management Organization, have banded together to plan this year's event. There will be a fireworks display in Meisel Field.

Starting at 5 p.m., there will be rides, a petting zoo, and food and beverages will be available for sale. There also will be a giant 50-50 raffle by the Springfield Rotary Club. According to 4th of July committee co-chairman, Scott Seidel, in the event of inclement weather, the fireworks display will be held on the next clear night. At this year's "family picnic" theme, the gates will open at 5 p.m. Families can bring chairs and blankets and have a picnic. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on County Park property. Emergency Management Coordinator and 4th of July Co-Chairman, John Cottage, has advised people to get there early for the festivities. Seidel noted that a limited amount of handicapped and preferred parking for guests is available on Meisel Avenue, which will be closed adjacent to the field between Southgate and Linden Avenue from 3 until 11 p.m. that day. The Garden State Fireworks Co. of Millington will provide the material and will set off the fireworks.

Assisting Emergency Management will be the Springfield Regular and Volunteer Fire departments, the Springfield Auxiliary Police, the Springfield CERT Team, Springfield Police Department and the Springfield First Aid Squad. Fencing and logistic support around the field is supplied by the Township Department of Public Works. Patrick Paoella, Springfield Chamber of Commerce co-chairman, said "the celebration is a group effort," and anyone wishing to help can call the Springfield Town Hall at 973-912-2200.

- Additional information will be available at www.springfield-nj.us.

Library's lunchtime film series to feature movies of Woody Allen, starts June 11

The Springfield Free Public Library will begin a new lunchtime film series, "Woody Allen: A Retrospective," on June 11 at 1 p.m. The series will continue every other Monday through Aug. 20. For specific titles and more information about the films, visit www.sfplnj.org or call 973-376-4930.

Admission is free. Patrons can bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served at 12:30 pm. Assistive listening devices are available upon request. The Springfield library is located at 66 Mountain Ave.

Funding for the film program is 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.

Upcoming programs at Springfield Library are free and open to the public

All programs at Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., are free and open to the public. Assistive listening devices are available upon request. Visit www.sfplnj.org for additional information.

The Book Discussion Group at the library has scheduled book discussions in June. On June 7 at 7 p.m., the group will discuss "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot, and on June 21 at 10 a.m., the discussion will be about "The Beast in the Jungle" by Henry James.

On June 11 and June 25 at 1 p.m., The Lunchtime Film Series will present "Woody Allen: A Retrospective."

Discussions take place at 7 p.m. in the Palmer Museum. Refreshments will be served. New members are welcome. To reserve a copy of the book call 973-376-4930 Ext. 229 or send an e-mail: questions@sfplnj.org.

The library will continue its lunchtime film series, "2011 Favorites: A Selection of last year's Hit Films," on May 14 at 1 p.m. This series will conclude on May 29. The library will be closed for Memorial Day on May 28. A new film series will begin on June 11. For specific dates and titles and more information about the films, visit the library's website www.sfplnj.org or call 973-376-4930.

Patrons can bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served at 12:30 p.m.

Sprint for Springfield Schools date set

The Springfield Education Foundation announced Sept. 30 as the date of the second annual Sprint for Springfield Schools 5K Run/Walk. After the success of the first annual event that generated more than \$12,000 for SEF, the committee has decided to move the 5K earlier in the fall race season.

Similar to last year, the Sprint for Springfield Schools 5K Run/Walk, a USA Track & Field Grand Prix event, will commence at 9 a.m. from the front parking lot of Jonathan Dayton High School, 139 Mountain Ave. There will also be a Fun Run for children under the age of nine which will also be held at Dayton.

Thanks to the support last year from community sponsors and individual contributors, all proceeds benefitted the Springfield Education Foundation.

The funds raised from the race will be used for curriculum enhancing mini-grants for the teachers, which will be announced at the end of the school year. Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor of the Second Annual Sprint for Springfield Schools 5K Run/Walk can contact Marie Madden at memadden3@aol.com.

Additional details on the race, will be announced. To be on the organizing committee or to volunteer for the day of the race, contact Steve Wolcott at stevewolcott@yahoo.com.

Resident to receive civic award

Bruce Bergen, a Union County attorney, has been selected by the Springfield B'nai B'rith to receive its 2012 International Citizenship and Civic Award.

The presentation will be made on June 13 at Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael, Springfield, by Joseph Tenenbaum, president, which covers all of Union County and is one of the largest B'nai B'rith units in New Jersey.

In announcing the selection of Bergen for the award, Tenenbaum praised Bergen for his high standards. Tenenbaum noted that Bergen, a Springfield resident and former longtime Springfield municipal attorney, has extensive legal experience in municipal, county and state organizations and is with the law firm of Krevsky, Silber and Bergen.

Bergen, active in Rotary, has served as special counsel for Runnels Hospital in Berkeley Heights and has assisted New Jersey residents in the organizations which he has guided, Tenenbaum said.



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To be listed call 908-686-7700

Regular Dems win big

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

RAHWAY — The city's first contested Democrat primary for council in many years was decisively settled this week, with voters choosing members of the Rahway Democratic Committee over a slate of Democrats For Change who ran with support from Mayor Rick Proctor.

Six ward seats went to Rodney Farrar, Michael Cox, Bob Bresenhan Jr, David Brown, Jennifer Wenson-Maier, and Samson Steinman.

Defeated were Miriam Lugo, Scott Caffee, Robert Huntley, Joseph Velotti, Justin Fuson and Renee Thrash. Wilbert Kirby, a separate Democrat candidate, was also defeated. Vote margins were substantial across the board. See unofficial results in chart at right.

The victors will go on to face a Republican slate in November that consists of Jeffrey Spatola, Benny Ortiz, Joseph Mikajlo, Lawrence C. Bodine, John Koenig, and James R. Barwick.

"I feel invigorated," said Bresenhan. "I feel my ward people are looking for a change. I think they're going to get a fresh face and some new ideas. I'm ready for November."

Steinman, who is currently serving as council president, described the race as "quiet", with no debates or dialogue between the two opposing camps.

"It's been real quiet from their side," Steinman said. "They have no platform and

they put out no literature."

Steinman said he is unsure how the two competing groups of Democrats compare in terms of their respective platforms and goals because he has seen and heard nothing from the opposing campaign.

Democrats for Change candidates could not be reached for comment. Proctor, who was impeached from the Rahway Democrat Committee this year, could not be reached for comment.

Steinman said he and his slate members were very busy talking with city residents in the weeks leading up to the election.

"The response has been overwhelmingly positive," Steinman said.

Steinman said the party's two newest candidates have handled themselves well in their first campaign.

Bresenhan has been involved in Rahway Democrat Party for about ten years. Farrar has been a community activist who is new to politics. Neither has run for elected office before. Farrar and Bresenhan are running in place of council members Jerry Scaturro and Robert Rachlin, who opted not to run again.

Rachlin said he chose not to run this year before he knew the primary would be contested. Rachlin said the difficulties between the mayor and council in the last year have made governing unpleasant and difficult.

"I've just grown weary of the toxicity in local politics here in Rahway," Rachlin said. "It's extremely unpleasant."

Bollwage beats Ocasio

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

ELIZABETH — Unofficial results from late Tuesday night show incumbent mayor Chris Bollwage to be victorious in the Democratic primary, defeating challenger Oscar Ocasio by a wide margin.

In the weeks preceding the primary, Ocasio attempted to throw a wrench in the efforts of Bollwage's campaign — a member of the Regular Democratic Organization — to retain in the mayor's seat he has held for the last 20 years. But his efforts fell short multiple times.

They fell short again Tuesday night when residents cast their votes strongly in favor of the longtime mayor, by a margin of 7,279 to 2,547. All results are unofficial until certified the Board of Elections.

Ocasio and the Democrats for Change came out fighting initially, determined to undermine Bollwage's long standing hold on the mayor's seat. But while the information they released questioned Bollwage's campaign efforts, it backfired.

Specifically, Ocasio sent out a press release saying he filed criminal charges against the mayor for attempting to intimidate seniors from voting by absentee ballot. However, Ocasio never filed criminal charges and the letter sent by the mayor to

seniors was completely legal.

Ocasio, the former director of planning and community development for 13 of the 16 years he worked for the city, was also among those in Bollwage's inner circle until 2010 when he resigned amid allegations of fraud and misconduct.

Although Ocasio denies doing anything wrong, depositions taken regarding certain properties that were purchased by those close to Ocasio revealed he may have skirted the law while director, investing in properties that left his intentions in question. Even though he was investigated by federal agents, no charges were ever filed against the former city employee.

With just two weeks until the primary LocalSource discovered Ocasio's campaign manager Sean Caddle was accused in 2010 of voter fraud in Houston, Texas for falsifying voter documents. Bollwage maintained a low profile during the primary season, preferring to focus on what he has accomplished during his 20 years as mayor of the fourth largest municipality in the state. Pointing to enhancing emergency services to creating jobs throughout the city and bringing new businesses to the city, the mayor remained committed to bringing the city with a 60 percent hispanic population to a higher level.

Contested primary election results

Elizabeth

Mayor

One 4-year term

Chris Bollwage-D*	7,279
Oscar Ocasio-D	2,556

Councilman-At-Large

Three 4-year terms

Manny Grova Jr.-D*	6,541
Patricia Perkins-Auguste-D*	6,321
Frank J. Cuesta-D*	6,547
Frank O. Mazza-D	2,343
Josue Anacius-D	2,106

Linden

1st Ward Councilman

One 3-year term

Christopher Kobilas-D*	247
Lisa A. Ormon-D	223

Rahway

1st Ward Councilman

One 4-year term

Rodney Farrar-D	267
Miriam Lugo-D	46
Wilbert Kirby-D	14

2nd Ward Councilman

One 4-year term

Micahel W. Cox-D*	88
Scott Caffee-D	35

3rd Ward Councilman

One 4-year term

Robert C. Bresenhan Jr.-D	193
Joseph Velotti-D	94

4th Ward Councilman

One 4-year term

David Brown-D*	337
Renee Bridges Thrash-D	156

5th Ward Councilman

One 4-year term

Jennifer Maier-D*	232
Robert Huntley-D	63

6th Ward Councilman

One 4-year term

Samson Steinman-D*	200
Justin Fuson-D	94

Roselle

Councilman-At-Large

One unexpired term

Christine Dansereau-D*	1,552
Eddie Rios Jr.-D	594

2nd Ward Councilman

One 3-year term

Ronald Hayman-D	288
Sylvia Turnage-D*	238
Erick Cedano-D	109

5th Ward Councilman

One 3-year term

Roy Locke-D*	360
Rosemarie Bullock-D	145

Springfield

Township Committee

Two 3-year terms

David Barnett-D	506
Margaret Bandroski-D	544
Bart Frankel-D	211

Union

Township Committee

Two 3-year terms

Robert T. Decker Jr.-R*	371
Jodi L. Ombaldo-R*	355
Christopher Hackett-R	431
Carol Segal-R	81

Incumbents are denoted by asterisks (*). All results are unofficial until certified by the Board of Elections



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Police in Union County respond to reported incidents

Clark

• May 22: Clark police responded to a report of a burglary to a residence on Carolina St. and Det. Walter Merfert subsequently arrested Michael Gardner, 35, an insurance agent of Clark, for burglary and theft. Also arrested were Justin Wolf, 23, a carpenter, of Westfield, for burglary and theft. Bail was set at \$15,000 for both men, who were subsequently transported to the Union County Jail.

• May 22: In the vicinity of Madison Hill Road, Clark Police Officer Pedro Oliveira arrested Michael Bulluck, 20, of Rahway, on outstanding warrants totaling \$2,600 for contempt of court. He was subsequently turned over to the Edison Police Department.

• May 23: At headquarters, Police Officer Thomas Sarnecki arrested James Barone, 40, of Princeton, on an outstanding warrant for contempt of court. He was subsequently transported to the Union County Jail.

Roselle Park

• May 16: Safia Adedimeji, a 26-year-old female, of Hillside was arrested by Det. Hussam Assad in Iselin for theft by deception and issuing bad checks stemming from a report filed on April 4. Adedimeji is alleged to have deposited two bad checks totaling \$6,200 into her account at the County Educators Federal Credit Union. Adedimeji was processed at the Roselle Park Police Department, then lodged into the Union County Jail after she was unable to post bail in the amount of \$25,000.

• May 22: Police officers were dispatched at 5:10 p.m. to the 400 block of East Clay Avenue for a report of a suspicious vehicle. The complainant reported that his 11-year-old son and two of his friends were followed home from school by a black male and a black female driving an older Honda. He stated as the group walked near the intersection of Bender Avenue at East Avenue, the suspects driving a silver Honda Civic, stopped in the roadway and watched the boys. The vehicle then drove past the group a few more times during their walk home. One of the boys reported the suspects appeared to be watching as he entered his home. He also stated they drove past his home a few times.

• May 26: Patrolman Nicholas Vaughan stopped a 2004 BMW for traffic violations at 10:04 a.m. on the block of East Westfield Avenue. During the roadside investigation, the driver was found to be in possession of synthetic marijuana labeled as "G13 pot-pourri." Patrolman Vaughan located the illegal substance in a cookie box on the floor of the car. The driver, Hugo Munoz, 24, of Elizabeth was charged with possession of a synthetic cannabinoid and several traffic violations. He was later released pending an appearance in Union County Superior Court.

• May 26: At 9:22 p.m., Roselle Park police officers were dispatched to the 100 block of West Lincoln Avenue for a report

POLICE BLOTTER

of an assault. The complainant, Rafael Mesa, stated that he got into an argument with two of his house guests and was then assaulted by both on the sidewalk in front of his house. Mesa identified one of his assailants as Carl J. Stark of Kenilworth. As officers were speaking to Mesa, Stark arrived back at the scene. Stark complained that he was the victim of an assault by Mesa, claiming Mesa punched him in the face causing him to fall and injure his leg. Stark had visible injuries to his face and leg but refused medical attention at the scene. Both Mesa and Stark were advised of complaint procedures.

• May 26: On May 28, a 54-year-old resident of Roselle reported that he was the victim of an attempted robbery while waiting in the drive-through line of McDonalds at approximately 12:30 a.m. on May 26. The victim reported that while he was waiting in his car, two individuals exited the car in front of his and tried to get in his car. The victim described the suspects as black males, between 20 and 30 years of age. He stated they ordered him out of the car, demanded his money while trying to gain entry into his car. He stated a third black male exited the suspect vehicle and started approaching him. The victim stated he felt in fear for his safety and reversed from the drive-through line and drove away from the suspects. Upon returning home, the victim discovered that the rear window of the vehicle was shattered and located a brick on the rear seat. The matter is being investigated by Det. Keith Wintermute.

• May 30: At 11:53 a.m., Patrolman Kevin Florczak stopped a 2011 Chevrolet for traffic violations on the 400 block of Woodland Avenue. During the roadside investigation, a passenger, Kevin Cordova, was arrested for possession of marijuana. Cordova, 20, of Roselle Park was found holding a small baggie of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. He was processed at the Roselle Park Police Department, then released pending an appearance in Roselle Park Municipal Court.

Cranford

• May 19: Cranford Police Officer Spencer Durkin arrested Matthew DiMarco, 24, of Cranford and Daniel Marrero, 26, of Garwood at 10:40 a.m. on South Avenue at Hollywood Avenue. Following an investigation during a motor vehicle checkpoint, Patrolman Durkin arrested and charged the driver DiMarco with possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia, and passenger, Marrero with possession of cocaine, possession of heroin and possession of paraphernalia. DiMarco also was issued motor vehicle summonses for failure to make repairs, CDS in a motor vehicle, failure to wear a seatbelt and failure to exhibit his driver's license. DiMarco and Marrero were given a Superior Court date of May 23.

• May 24: Patrolman Matthew Nazzaro arrested 16-year-old juvenile from Elizabeth at 2:30 p.m. at 135 Centennial Ave., CAP School on the report of a student with a gun. Following a brief investigation, a 16-year-old juvenile was taken into custody by Patrolman Nazzaro. The gun was determined to be a black semi-automatic BBgun. The juvenile is being charged with unlawful possession of a weapon and unlawful possession of a weapon inside of a school. The juvenile will have a Family Court date in June.

• May 25: A Cranford man reported that he was robbed while walking north on Birchwood Avenue. The 46-year-old man reported that he was walking toward Orange Avenue at about 5 p.m. when a Chrysler Sebring convertible, occupied by two Hispanic males, pulled in front of him and stopped. The passenger exited the vehicle and brandished a small black handgun, ordering the victim to surrender his backpack. Taken in the robbery was more than \$500 cash, an MP3 player and portable speakers.

The armed suspect is described as an Hispanic male with dark, short hair, possibly a "buzz cut," wearing a t-shirt. The driver was described as an Hispanic male in his mid-20s, wearing a green baseball cap and a black shirt. The vehicle color was described as "iridescent" and the convertible top was black; no license plate was observed. The suspects fled south on Birchwood Avenue toward Bloomingdale Avenue. Police are requested that anyone with information on this incident, or that may have seen the vehicle or occu-

pants, contact Det. John Swandrak at 908-709-7345.

• May 27: Patrolman Timothy O'Brien arrested Andres Bernal, 18, of Trenton at 2:55 p.m. on East North Avenue at Carpenter Place. Patrolman O'Brien stopped a 1999 Acura for motor vehicle violations. As a result of the investigation, the driver, Bernal, was charged with possession of marijuana under 50g and possession of CDS paraphernalia. Bernal also was issued motor vehicle summonses for possession of CDS in a motor vehicle and obstructed view. Bernal was released with a Cranford Municipal Court date of June 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Union

• May 23: An arrest was made by Union police at 2400 North Third St., Union High School, of a juvenile for an aggravated assault, resisting and delinquency after assaulting a school administrator.

• May 23: John Bouranel was arresting on Stuyvesant Avenue and Stanley Terrace for aggravated assault, possession of a weapon and eluding the police after he pulled a realistic pellet gun during a road rage incident.

• May 24: Police responded to a burglary at 2080 Springfield Ave., All Towns Auto, of an attempted burglary to a business. A window was pried, but no entry was gained. The timeframe was unknown.

• May 25: An arrest was made by Union police on Glenn Avenue of a juvenile for theft, and the fact that he ordered Chinese food to an address that was not his and attempted to flee with the food without paying for it.

Thanks to alert neighbor, cops nab alleged burglar

On May 25, Cranford Police arrested Michael Marione, 27, of Rahway and charged him with burglary, theft, criminal mischief and possession of burglary tools after he was captured leaving a Pershing Avenue residence. Marione also was charged with possession of a hypodermic syringe.

Police credited an alert neighbor, who witnessed Marione on the property wearing gloves and carrying a backpack. When she saw him attempting to enter the home, she contacted the Cranford Police Department and was able to give an accurate description to responding officers.

Detectives John Swandrak and Ryan Greco, and Detective Sergeant Christopher Polito, arrived within moments of the call and witnessed Marione leaving the home. They confronted Marione on the front lawn of the residence and placed him under arrest without incident. During the arrest, police recovered a backpack which contained jewelry, valued at approximately \$10,000, belonging to the resident of the home. Detectives also recovered a hypodermic syringe; burglar tools, including gloves, a flashlight, knife and utility tool, and nearly \$2,000 in cash.

Following a brief investigation at the scene, it was determined that Marione entered the home by forcing entry through a first floor window. Detectives also located and impounded Marione's 2012 Red Honda Civic, which was found parked on a nearby street.

Cranford Police Chief Eric G. Mason was quick to acknowledge the observant neighbor who broke the case. "Cranford is a community where people care about one another," he stated, "and in this case, the actions of one alert person prevented a heartbreaking loss of a family's personal property. I am proud of the people in this community, and I am proud of the officers and detectives that brought this case to a swift conclusion."

Marione was transported to the Union County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail. He was scheduled for a first court appearance on June 1.

KENILWORTH NEWS

Annual dinner meeting held by Friends of library

The Friends of the Kenilworth Public Library will hold an annual dinner meeting at 6 p.m. on June 19 at the Rustic Mill Diner, 109 North Avenue W., Cranford. Members and those considering joining the group are invited to attend. There will be a cost for the dinner. Call Library Director Dale Spindel at 908 276-2451 by June 12 for reservations.

Featured at the June meeting will be the election of officers. The incoming slate includes: Carolyn LoBianco, president; Carol Pappas, vice president; Barbara Morison, secretary, and Ann Stelzer, treasurer. The group will thank outgoing pres-

ident Dolores Graham for her leadership during the past four years.

The Friends of the Kenilworth Public Library is a volunteer organization dedicated to fund raising and providing other forms of assistance to the library. New members are welcome.

Book group talks 'Water for Elephants,' July 10

The book group of Kenilworth Public Library will meet at 7:15 p.m. on July 10 to discuss the best selling novel, "Water for Elephants," by Sara Gruen. Presented as the reflections of 90-something-year-old nursing home resident Jacob Jankowski, "Water for Elephants," takes readers back

in time to America at the start of the Great Depression, giving them a taste of what it must have been like to work for one of the small traveling circuses of that era. There also is a love triangle.

Participation in the book discussion group is free and open to residents Kenilworth and other communities, ages 18 and up. Because space is limited, preregistration is requested and can be done at the library or by calling 908 276-2451 during regular library hours. Previous experience with a book group is not required and new members are welcome. Copies of "Water for Elephants" will be available for check out at the circulation desk and residents from other communities are encouraged to

ask about ways they may be eligible for borrowing privileges at the Kenilworth library.

The library is located at 548 Boulevard. More information about the library can be found at www.kenilworthlibrary.org.

Historical Society holds special meeting, June 7

A special meeting of the Kenilworth Historical Society will be held at the Kenilworth Municipal Building on June 7 at 7 p.m. The gathering will feature a presentation by Dorothea Krihak, a local historian, who has conducted extensive research concerning Kenilworth's ties to the Revolutionary War. Krihak's discussion will focus particularly on the area known as Black Brook Park.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

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Morning Worship (Berkeley campus) - 11:00am

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Sunday School for All Ages - 10:00am

Evening Service - 6:30pm

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Family Night - Wed. @ 7:30pm
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Sunday Evening: 6:30 PM

Food Pantry (Wednesday) 5-6:45 PM

Wednesday Family Night: 7:00 PM

Spanish Service (Saturday): 7 PM

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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.

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JEWISH-EGALITARIAN CONSERVATIVE

CONGREGATION B'NAI AHAVATH SHALOM, 2035 Vauxhall Road (corner of Plane Street), Union, Tel: (908) 686-6773. Harvey Speizer, Spiritual Leader. David Gelband, President. Congregation B'Nai Ahavath Shalom is a Egalitarian conservative congregation with a full range of programs. DAILY SERVICES: Friday evening: 8pm; SATURDAY: 9:00am. Call for additional services.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

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Please address changes to:

Connie Sloan

1291 Stuyvesant Ave. P.O. Box 1596

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SUMMIT NEWS

Library to screen 'King of Devil's Island,' June 15

The Summit Free Public Library will screen the next movie in the Film Movement Series: "King of Devil's Island" June 15 at 12:30 p.m. This is a true story of the infamous Bastoy Boys Home Correctional facility in Norway. The film is unrated and is in Norwegian with English subtitles. It is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, and is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Doors open 15 minutes before the showing.

The library is located at 75 Maple St. For more information, call 908-273-0350, or visit the library's website at www.summitlibrary.org.

Two students win first place with PSA

Summit High School students Adam Roberts and Alan Guerrero produced a public service announcement, "There's No Age Limit," which won first place in the 2012 Union County High School Public Service Announcement Contest on the topic of teenage drinking. Summit High School will receive a \$1,000 prize.

The students were advised by Charlie Steiner, SHS's media literacy studio manager.

The awards will be presented at the Third Annual Union County School Taskforce Conference scheduled June 8 at the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.

The video can be seen at <http://vimeo.com/40740211>.

Brothers win awards at Math Kangaroo Competition

Second-grader Michael Wei and his brother Eric, a fourth-grader, received awards for their accomplishments in the 2012 Math Kangaroo competition. The boys are students at Summit's Franklin School.

Eric received a Gold medal and placed first nationwide and in New Jersey among fourth graders. Michael received a Silver medal and placed second nationwide among second graders and first among New Jersey's second graders.

Eric attained a perfect score of 96 points on 24 questions. Michael missed one and got 93 points out of a total of 96. Math Kangaroo is an international math competition with more than 6 million worldwide participants and about 10,000 United States participants. More information can be found at mathkangaroo.org.

Teacher publishes second play

Jeff Fluharty, fifth grade teacher at Jefferson School, has had his second play published. Information about the play, "Hydrangea Albright: Comedy or Tragedy?," can be found on

the Pioneer Drama Service website, the publisher of the play.

This is Fluharty's second play published by Pioneer. His first endeavor, "The Princess King," was performed more than 70 times last year at various schools and theaters around the country.

Fluharty is the advisor and director to Jefferson School's JAG drama program.

At Brayton School, Sign Language Club exposes youth to 'deaf culture'

The Sign Language Club at Summit's Brayton School allows students to experience the deaf culture as well as to learn the basics of American Sign Language.

The club is organized and advised by second grade teacher Lauren Senko, and its membership is open to third, fourth, and fifth graders.

The club is funded through an SEF grant and has met 10 times during the school year.

Among other meeting activities, students have taken part in a "silent snack" in which they had to "turn their voices off" in order to use their sign language skills to communicate and to become sensitized to what it is like to communicate using a different means.

At the last club meeting of the school year, which was held May 24, the students had a SKYPE video/audio conversation with Dan, a college friend of Senko's. Dan is deaf-blind and works with children as a counselor.

The students had prepared the following questions to ask Dan through the SKYPE connection:

"What is your name?"

"How old are you?"

"How do you call a taxi?" (Dan lives in a city.)

"What is your job?"

"How tall are you?"

"What is your favorite color?"

"Where did you go to college?"

"Do you like the Giants?"

"Through Dan's responses to their questions, the students realized that even though Dan is deaf-blind, he is an extremely intelligent individual and can do so many 'normal' things," said Senko.

"After Skyping with Dan, we reflected on the experience and sign language in general, and we came to a collective conclusion that being deaf is not as 'different' as people make it out to be," she said. "Since there are so many individuals with hearing loss in our schools and also, in the community at large, including me, I am hoping that the students can take their new found knowledge away with them and raise awareness about what they have discovered through these experiences."

School's musical groups recognized

Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School vocal and instrumental groups were recognized for their outstanding performances at the Music Carousel Festival.

The Bel Canto vocal ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, and Stage band competed in the festival, which was held May 18 in the Allentown Symphony Hall in Allentown, Pa. The Stage Band, conducted by teacher Alex Bocchino, received an "Excellent" rating. Bel Canto, conducted by Dan King, and Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Joann Manhardt, received "Superior" ratings.

"Even more impressive was the fact that the judges praised the professional look, decorum and excellent concert presence exhibited by the groups," said Tom Maliszewski, supervisor of Summit Schools Fine, Performing, and Practical Arts Department.

"The judges said Summit 'stood out' from among the more than 20 groups that competed."

Summit music teacher Francois Suhr provided piano accompaniment for the competition. Performing arts teachers, Steve Andrews, Michelle Brick, Steve Rapp, Barbara Vierschilling, Wayne Mallette and Ron Wells, served as chaperones and assistants.

Following the competition, the students enjoyed a day of fun at Dorney Park.

Kent Place has a new director of studies, effective July 1

Kent Place School, an independent, nonsectarian, college-preparatory day school for young women, has announced the appointment of Julia Gentile as the director of studies, effective July 1. Gentile, who has served as the Kent Place English Department Chair since 2007, as well as an Upper School English teacher, will now oversee the evaluation of instructional programs, curricular development and innovation in all subject areas and grade levels.

She will also work on professional development for faculty and staff and with department chairs in setting curricular goals.

Prior to coming to Kent Place, Gentile worked extensively at the secondary school level at such institutions as Governor Livingston High School, Arlington Central School District, Brown University Summer High School and NJ SEEDS Summer Program, among others. She graduated cum laude with a bachelor of art degree in English and Spanish from the College of Holy Cross and received an MAT from Brown University.

"Julia's expertise and professional experiences will add greatly to the Kent Place School community in this new capacity," said Head of School, Susan C. Bosland.

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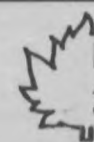


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The secret is out for a New Jersey native

On ABC reality TV series 'Secret Millionaire,' a Cranford native gives back in Newark

By Shira Kipnees
Correspondent

On Sunday, a former Union County local who is now a millionaire living in California came back to his roots to give back.

Scott Jacobs, 53, and his younger daughter, Alexa, 20, were shown on the ABC television show "Secret Millionaire" on the season premiere, which aired on Sunday at 8 p.m.

Scott is an artist who is mostly famous for being the official Harley-Davidson artist. The father-daughter duo went to Irvington and Newark for seven days where they lived on \$71.03 for the whole trip, the equivalent of welfare money for a family of two, and slept on cots while attempting to provide for themselves. They also volunteered with many different people and many different charities.

The premise of the "Secret Millionaire" series is that each episode follows a very successful and wealthy American for a week who must give up his or her lavish lifestyle, hide his or her identity, and live and volunteer in impoverished and dangerous areas and neighborhoods all over the country.

The goal is for the successful "millionaire" to discover worthy people and causes in need of donations and encourage others to give back to those who need it most. On the last day, the millionaire reveals his or her real identity and gives away a large amount of money as a donation.

Scott was chosen for the show after a friend of his sent an email to ABC saying that Scott would be a good pick for the show. Scott was ultimately approved for the show and Alexa was chosen to accompany him. Scott had seen the show a few times before and had been touched by it and decided he wanted to be a part of it. He had always given back and was always donating his art, but he decided it was time to "donate my heart," he said.

The show filmed in July when Scott and Alexa were sent to Newark and Irvington where they helped three major charities and some individuals. Those cities were chosen due to the dramatic contrast to current lifestyle the pair had been living, and due to the emotions that Newark and Irvington would bring back for Scott.

At one point, Scott was just seven miles away from where he spent part of his early life in Cranford, where his sister and one of his brothers live today, and four miles away from where one of his best friends from high school lives today, but he could not reveal his location to anyone who knew him.

Scott was born into a middle class family in Cranford. His family eventually moved to Westfield, where things started to go downhill when his parents turned to alcohol and his father became abusive. Scott's daughter, Alexa, was born in New Jersey, but when she was 4, the family moved to



Photo Courtesy of ABC

Scott Jacobs and his daughter, Alexa, reveal themselves during the ABC television show 'Secret Millionaire' and donate money to a charity in Newark. Jacobs is a native of New Jersey, having lived in both Cranford and Westfield.

San Diego, California, where they have lived ever since.

"While Alexa and I both knew that places like Irvington and Newark were out there, we had never really experienced it," Scott said. "Experiencing the poverty of these areas in person is totally different from just knowing about it."

"This experience was completely out of my comfort zone. It's something that was so crazy and so different that no one else can ever understand," Alexa noted.

One of the charities that Alexa and Scott helped out and found to be very worthy was the G.I. Go Fund, which finds veterans around Newark to try to locate and register the veterans so that they can get their benefits and food, clothing, hair cuts, and medical care. The veterans then meet once a week in a conference room every Thursday where they are able to get many things that they are unable to afford.

Alexa and Scott went out in the middle of the morning, at 3 a.m., and helped collect clothes while Subway donated food and Coca-Cola donated water.

"It was so sad to see what happened to

many of the veterans. Some of them had AIDS, or were addicted to drugs, or drinking a lot," Scott explained.

The pair also handed out brochures to try and get many of the homeless and the veterans to the conference room to get the things they cannot afford.

"While we only handed out brochures to 50 to 100 people on the street, there were 700 people on line that day. It was so emotional for us," Scott said.

Scott and Alexa formed many close connections with the people they met on the street.

"I became really close with one of the homeless guys, Ray, who told me his story," Alexa explained. "He lost everything in 30 days when he and his wife separated and he turned to drinking. I'm also really close with another girl who I met on the show who calls me her best friend and talks to me on the phone a lot."

"I talk to many of the individuals that I helped out on the show at least once a month," said Scott. "However, I think these people touched Alexa the most because she used to judge people a lot, and finding

them on the street and hearing their stories about their reversals of fortune really made her think. She never used to volunteer, now she volunteers a lot, especially at the food bank."

Alexa explained that her attitude completely changed with this experience on the show.

"I used to think 'go get a job, stop being lazy' but now I learned that anything can happen in an instant and that made me want to be a better person," she said. "What you have today may not be there tomorrow."

The most challenging aspect of the show for both Alexa and Scott was not living on the money they were allotted, but experiencing what the people on the streets have to go through every day. The duo only spent \$48 on food as they learned how to price shop.

"One of the hardest parts wasn't the mac and cheese or sleeping in a cot," Scott said. "It was having to experience what these people have to do every day and hearing their stories. People will still always be living on the street and will always be poor."

Continued on next page

'Everything you have can be lost,' said Alexa. 'You need to keep your priorities in check. There were people who lost everything but they were still so happy.'

(Continued from Page 20)

Alexa seconded what her father said, noting, "I wanted to help these people immediately, give them the money immediately or go out and buy things for them. That was the hardest part for me. Living in the house and on the money was not too challenging for us."

Both father and daughter took away many lessons from their time in Newark and Irvington, mainly that family is key and that everything material is inconsequential.

Scott summed it up by saying, "Everything I have is not the most important thing in life. Money is just a quick fix for people; you can't survive forever on just little bits of money alone. I want to be known for who I was, giving my heart to everyone."

"Everything you have can be lost," said Alexa. "You need to keep your priorities in check. There were people who lost everything but they were still so happy."

Scott and Alexa still continue to give back to different in-need communities, and urge others to do the same.

"We can all help out. We can all give a donation," Scott said. "My message is if you can afford my art, send money to or spend time with your favorite charity. If 100 percent of the 1 percent did what we did, the whole nation would be a better place and we could help so many people in need."

"I did this show now because I could and because I had the opportunity," he continued. "I could have bought my daughters a house with the money I donated and they never complained about giving the money away or part of their inheritance away. This show is about so many people doing so many great things, and about those people who give back and don't expect anything."

Alexa agreed with her father, adding, "I don't have the money to give away like my dad, but I have time, heart, and hugs to share and give away to others."



Photo Courtesy of ABC

On 'Secret Millionaire,' Scott Jacobs reveals his secret identity to Christopher Velazquez at a charity in Newark.

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ARTS & LEISURE

Mystery book for kids to 'bring joy to young children'

ON THE SHELF

BY BEA SMITH

Luis Rodriguez of South Orange, formerly of Union, certainly knows how to entertain children and at the same time, teach them important geographical facts that will remain with them for a long time.

As a result of his duties as the director of a child care center, Totri Child Care in South Orange, during which he learned how youngsters utilize their imagination, Rodriguez decided to write a children's book, which he co-illustrated and called "The Klampie Mystery." It was published by Mascot Books and is available at bookstores, such as Barnes and Noble, libraries and *amazon.com*.

Imagine — a mystery book for children, ages four to nine. Rodriguez explained during a visit to this office the other morning, that he created the book "just to bring some joy to young children. Once this is achieved, the story contributes to promote love for reading. Love for books."

"The Klampie Mystery," a truly delightful piece of work, with large, outstanding illustrations, and a cover design by Rodriguez, is preempted by an explanation and description of what an Australian koala is like. And despite the fact that some people believe a koala is a bear; it is not. The author also points out that a koala, who practically lives on eucalyptus leaves, can sleep about 20 hours during the daytime. It also can clamp its limbs around anything and hold tight.

And so, now that this bit of information is absorbed by the book's young readers, all readers, actually, the adventurous story of "The Klampie Mystery" gets underway. It appears that little Samantha Parker is about to travel with her parents from San Diego, Calif., to a little town near Sydney, Australia, to spend Christmas with relatives. There is a vivid map on the inside of the cover page and last page showing an airplane's trail from San Diego to Sydney.

Samantha's father has purchased a life-sized, stuffed koala for his daughter as a traveling companion during their 15-hour trip. And Samantha has named the plush toy "Klampie."

When they arrive at Aunt Sophie's and Uncle Tim's house, Samantha has learned that the weather is hot in the winter and cold in the summer. During a trip to a pic-

nic area, a real koala, who had been clinging to a tree in the forest, was found asleep when the tree was cut and its pieces carried away on a truck. Following a stop at a gas station, the real koala awakened, and found itself at a gas station next to the car carrying the toy koala, which was clinging to a backpack. It attempted to befriend the toy, which would not respond to its shaking it, and eventually "came loose" and rolled under the driver's seat. It was during this time that Samantha began hugging the real animal believing it was her toy.

As a result, the real Koala accompanied the family all the way back to the United States.

What follows becomes a real mystery to the characters and to the book's readers, the latter always wondering what will happen when Samantha discovers the truth. And what's really interesting is how everything gets straightened out in the long run.

Rodriguez, who was born in Bogota, Colombia, now an American citizen, came to live in Elizabeth.

"I worked in graphics, practically all of my life," he said in a pleasant accent. "I got married to Milena, lived in Union for a while, then moved to South Orange. That was when we began the child care business — in 1996. We called it Totri Child Care. Totri," Rodriguez grinned shyly, "was an affectionate name that my wife and I had for each other. We have about 37 preschool children and eight people to help us. Even our son, Jairo, who is 13 years old, almost an adult, who is into computers and animation and also plays tennis, will help out sometimes."

"In fact," he said proudly, "he did an animation for the dolls, and one of them was a koala."

Rodriguez explained that he happened to obtain a plush toy, a koala, and said to himself, "I've got a plush toy. Now, I've got to write a book." I'm also into new printing development. So, I started from scratch. I went shopping for clamps. And I got one of the girls at the care center to finish the doll. And," he recalled, "it actually took me less



Luis Rodriguez



than an hour to write that book. It really started writing itself. And I loved it. Basically, I did the first draft in one sitting."

Rodriguez mentioned that "I am an illustrator, too. I wanted it to be the best it could be. And I found an illustrator to help me. I had seen his work, and I loved it. The cover is mine, some of the illustrations are, too. I did the layout for the book, and the cover, even the lettering — 15 points — to make it easier for the children to read. It's creative, and it's fun. And I'm tempted to write a sequel to the book.

The author, who dedicated "The

Klampie Mystery" to Totrina and Yiyo, had offered the book to some of the youngsters in the care center. He beamed, "Some of the kids wrote me thank you notes."

"I wrote three more books; one is educational. I loved writing it, and it all comes easy for me."

"The Klampie Mystery" has clamped its way on the shelf of this reviewer's bookcase holding fast to a book with similar illustrations written for children called "The Esteem Engine." It will remain there until such time as the next Klampie makes its appearance.

July 18-22

We are taking our show on the road, as NJPAC and NJYT present this 1950's rock and roll fueled musical revue at Montclair State University's Alexander Kasser Theater



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ARTS & LEISURE



Mercado captivates at Paper Mill Playhouse

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

It's a thrilling experience for an audience to witness the making of a star before one's very eyes.

And that's exactly what happened at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn Sunday afternoon when the versatile, super-talented, beautiful 25-year-old Syesha Mercado bounded onstage to capture and enrapture an audience in her portrayal of the role of Ti Moune in the musical, "Once on this Island."

She's a delight in whatever she does up there — effortlessly dancing, singing, acting — unquestionably, a real star is being born!

But then, much credit must go to her enjoining, multi-ethnic cast, who offered the kind of support a forthcoming star commands and deserves. Mercado couldn't have been more blessed theatrically with nearly a dozen performers energetically dancing and singing in beautiful voices with and around her. And the audience filling in with thunderous applause after every number. It even cheered at the changing of the authentic scenery.

Undoubtedly, the ultimate reason for all of this enthusiasm came from Lynn Ahrens, who wrote the book and lyrics, and Stephen Flaherty, who wrote the music, in addition to Tony-nominated director Thomas Kail and choreographer, Bradley Rapier.

Actually, "Once on this Island," a 20-year-old vehicle, which had a Caribbean adaptation of Walt Disney's "The Little Mermaid," on Broadway in 1991, earned eight Tony nominations, and in 1994, it won the 1995 Olivier Award for Best Musical and Score. Flaherty and Ahrens have re-invented the score from this, their first Broadway production, and presented it in 90 minutes with no intermission to Paper Mill Playhouse audiences in all of its glory. It's still a winner — after all these years.

Set on an island in the French Antilles, the Storytellers

in the play enact in song and dance the story of a peasant girl named Ti Moune, who falls in love with a wealthy boy, Daniel, saves his life, during which they are briefly mated, then follows him back home — only to be scorned by his people. Her undying, powerful, sorrowful love for Daniel has the audience yearning for her success.

To the pounding music, conducted by Lynne Shankel, the Storytellers present their interpretation in song and dance of the plight of the love-starved Ti Moune. Ti Moune is first introduced as a child, wonderfully played by Courtney Harris. Adam Jacobs is seen as Daniel, Ti Moune's lover. Then there's Darius de Haas as Agwe, God of Water; Kevin R. Free as Tonton Julian, the exceptional Kenita R. Miller as Mama Euralie; the frighteningly wonderful Alan Mingo Jr., Papa Ge, the Demon of Death; Courtney Reed as Andrea; Saycon Sengbloh as Ezulie, Goddess of Love, Jerold E. Solomon as Amanda, and Aurelia Williams, Asaka, Mother of the Earth.

Outstanding among the numbers are "One Small Girl," "Waiting for Life," "Rain," "Discovering Daniel," the powerful "Pray," "Forever Yours," "Ti Moune," "The Human Heart," "The Wedding Sequence" and the Storytellers' "Why We Tell the Story."

"Once on this Island," is a first-rate production, which deserves a constant stream of musical-loving audiences. It is notably the final offering of the Paper Mill Playhouse season, which will end on June 24. The crowds should be flocking to the theater, not merely for its entertainment quality and value, but for those energetic, exceptionally rare performers up on that stage that make up "Once on this Island."

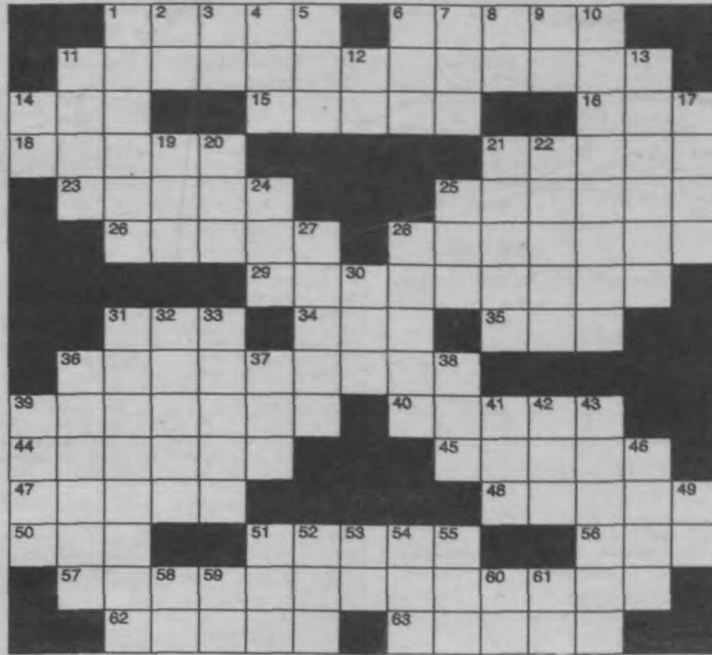
And, of course, there's a performer named Syesha Mercado, a future star, who will emphatically brighten the lights of the Broadway theater in years to come. It's nice to know that we, here in New Jersey, were there for her splendid beginnings.



Photo by Jerry Dalla

Top: Syesha Mercado and the cast of 'Once On This Island.' Above: Mercado, the star of the production, is sure to be a true star in the making, beginning here with her astounding performance. The show runs through June 24.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

1. Lots of crocus
6. Keep up
11. Green concern
14. Actress Farrow
15. Yemeni capital
16. Angry
18. Direct to a source for help
21. Area where Hobbits live
23. Decorative sticker
25. ___ d', seats you
26. City dwelling ranch vacationers
28. Set out
29. Reduplicate
31. Actress Zadora
34. Behave in a certain manner
35. Manuscripts, abbr.
36. Venetian waterman
39. Forgivenesses
40. Lowest layer of earth's crust (pl)
44. Cease to work at 65
45. ___ Castell, makers of pens
47. ___ Walker, "The Color Purple"
48. Took to the limit
50. Habitual twitching in the face
51. Bark of the paper mulberry tree
56. Actress Lupino
57. Keyboard partner
62. Family cyperaceae
63. Thou ___ do it

CLUES DOWN

1. Sore from rubbing
2. Prefix for do again
3. Old English
4. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.)
5. Marsh elder genus
6. Macaws
7. Authority to sign for
8. Morning
9. Atomic #58
10. Deep-seated hatreds
11. Fastened with a cord
12. Not out
13. ___ and feathered
14. Mister
17. Transfer property
19. European money
20. Radioactivity unit
21. Arabian greeting
22. Sword handles
24. Lower extremity
25. Adult male human
27. Airtight closures
28. Lots
30. Defunct phone company
31. Covered walkways
32. Relating to India
33. Love intensely
36. A language of the Celts
37. A single unit
38. Moroccan mountain range
39. Foolish person
41. Mayan of SW Guatemala
42. Goat and camel hair fabric
43. Discriminatory based on gender
46. Give advice, counsel
49. Ducktail haircut
51. Pull vigorously
52. Fed
53. 17th Hebrew letter
54. Mainland China
55. Doctors' group
58. Of I
59. Palladium
60. Not under
61. We

ANSWERS
APPEAR
IN OUR
CLASSIFIED
SECTION

HOROSCOPE

ARIES, March 21 to April 20.

Aries, your ambition will take you to new places this week. Channel your energy in a constructive method to make the most of this renewed vigor.

TAURUS, April 21 to May 21.

Taurus, now is the time to do slow and steady work, rather than experimenting with new methods. You'll have time for fun and some trial and error later on.

GEMINI, May 22 to June 21.

Gemini, for some reason you feel compelled to get started on something new in the next few days. This may be a job or a relationship, only time will unveil the secrets.

CANCER, June 22 to July 22.

Cancer, you will need to take an intellectual approach to solving what has been troubling you recently. Lists and careful consideration might be necessary.

LEO, July 23 to Aug. 23.

You have to approach someone who hasn't been doing his or her share of the work, Leo. Tread gently because there could be a very good reason why this person has been floundering.

VIRGO, Aug. 24 to Sept. 22.

Open yourself up to a new line of thinking, Virgo. There are many different possibilities that you may have overlooked before now. Try to expand your horizons.

LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23.

Embrace spontaneity this week, Libra. It could turn out to be something exciting and fun, which is just what you need at this time in your life.

SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 22.

Scorpio, take a step back and allow an upset family member a little breathing room this week. It's best not to add fuel to the fire in this particular situation.

SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 23 to Dec. 21.

Get out and try to meet some new people, Sagittarius. Constantly add to your collection of networking contacts, because you never know when you'll need to call in a favor.

CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan. 20.

Capricorn, though you can see quite clearly what you need to do this week, you may have to refrain from taking any action for some time. Try to be patient a little longer.

AQUARIUS, Jan. 21 to Feb. 18.

Aquarius, things have been going your way and you are getting more and more excited about the future. This influx of enthusiasm is just what you need.

PISCES, Feb. 19 to March 20.

Your big ideas are highly valued, Pisces. Let others know what you are thinking and don't be surprised if others ask for your advice.

SUDOKU

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

ANSWER APPEAR IN
OUR CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

							2	
6			8	3				
		4			6			3
					7		4	6
		5			3	2	9	
	2						7	
	5			1				7
	6		9					
		2			4	8		

Level: Intermediate

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLAINFIELD

POWERS KIRN, LLC
728 Marne Highway, Suite 200
Moorestown, NJ 08057
(856) 802-1000
Attorneys for Plaintiff (2012-0254)

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

Superior Court of New Jersey
Chancery Division
Union County
Docket No. F 006176 12

STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
Ana R. Ratamar

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon the Attorneys for Plaintiff, Powers Kirn, LLC, 728 Marne Highway, Moorestown, NJ 08057, an Answer to the Complaint (or Amended Complaint, if any) filed in a Civil Action in which The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee for CIT Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-1 is plaintiff and Ana R. Ratamar, et al., are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, within thirty-five (35) days after June 7, 2012, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, CN 971, 6th Floor, North Wing, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625, in accordance with the rules governing the courts. A \$135.00 filing fee payable to the Clerk of the Superior Court and a completed Case Information Statement must accompany your answer or motion.

The action has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing a mortgage dated February 9, 2007, recorded on February 20, 2007, in Book 12057 at Page 497&c made by Jose Imbachi and Margoth E. Quintero to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for The Citi Group/ Consumer Finance, Inc. and duly assigned to plaintiff, The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee for CIT Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-1, and concerns real estate located at 65-67 Westervelt Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060, Block 319 Lot 4. YOU, Ana R. Ratamar, are made a defendant because you are a lien holder in the above matter and so have an interest in the property being foreclosed as your lien or encumbrance is subject to Plaintiff's mortgage.

You are further advised, an individual who is unable to obtain an attorney may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling toll free 800-792-8315 (within New Jersey) or 609-394-1101 (from out of state). You may also communicate with a Lawyer Referral Service, or if you cannot afford to pay an attorney you may call the Legal Services Office. The phone numbers for the county in which this action is pending are: Legal Services (908) 354-4340, Lawyer Referral (908) 353-4715. File 2012-0254

Jennifer M. Perez, Acting
Clerk of the Superior Court
U294826 WCN June 7, 2012 (\$41.16)

UNION COUNTY

May 17, 2012

NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD

The Union County Utilities Authority has awarded the contract listed below, without competitive bidding, as professional services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a). This contract is being awarded after a solicitation through a Fair and Open Process in accordance N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. The contract, and the resolution authorizing them, is available for public inspection during regular business hours, in the office of the Clerk of the Union County Utilities Authority, 1499 Route 1&9 North, Rahway, New Jersey. The following contract have been awarded for a period commencing on May 16, 2012 and continuing through the Authority's next reorganization meeting in February 2013, upon the terms and conditions, including the hourly rates, set forth therein.

E. Bauch Zucker Hatfield as Labor Counsel to provide in conjunction with certain ongoing personnel matters and other legal services that may be needed, for a sum not to exceed \$25,000.00;

/s/ Joseph C. Bodek, Clerk
UNION COUNTY
UTILITIES AUTHORITY
U294829 WCN June 7, 2012 (\$19.11)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION

**NOTICE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL
PLACE TO PLACE TRANSFER
(EXPANSION OF LICENSED
PREMISES)**

TAKE NOTICE, that RENVYLE LLC t/a CONNOLLY'S IRISH PUB has applied to the Township of Union Board of Alcoholic Beverage Control for a Place to Place transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License #2019-33-004-004 to permit the expansion of its licensed premises to include an outdoor patio located at 2586 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083.

Those person who holds an interest in this license is:

Martin Connolly,
Managing Member 100%
15 Alpine Drive
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

Any information concerning the qualifications of such stockholder should be communicated in writing to Eileen Birch, Township Clerk, Township of Union, 1976 Morris Avenue, Post Office Box 3609, Union, New Jersey 07083.

Submitted by,
RENVYLE LLC
t/a CONNOLLY'S IRISH PUB
by: Robert C. Williams, Esq.
622 Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange,
NJ, 07052
(973) 736-4100
Attorney for Applicant

June 7, 14, 2012
U294932 UNL (\$49.30)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION

NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARDED

The Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Union, has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as a Professional Service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a). This contract and the Resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

BY ORDER OF THE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Eileen Birch, Township Clerk

Dated: May 22, 2012

Awarded to: T&M Associates
11 Tindall Road
Middletown, N.J. 07748

Services: 2012 Microsurfing Road
Improvement Program - Engineering
and Surveying Services

Time Period: May 23, 2012 to August
1, 2012

Costs: Not to exceed \$29,660.00
U294877 UNL June 7, 2012 (\$16.17)

UNION

POWERS KIRN, LLC
728 Marne Highway, Suite 200
Moorestown, NJ 08057
(856) 802-1000
Attorneys for Plaintiff (2011-2947)

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

Superior Court of New Jersey
Chancery Division
Union County
Docket No. F 010023 11

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
Alana M. Fenelus, minor

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon the Attorneys for Plaintiff, Powers Kirn, LLC, 728 Marne Highway, Moorestown, NJ 08057, an Answer to the Complaint (or Amended Complaint, if any) filed in a Civil Action in which Aurora Bank, FSB is plaintiff and Alana M. Fenelus, minor, et al., are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, within thirty-five (35) days after June 7, 2012, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, CN 971, 6th Floor, North Wing, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625, in accordance with the rules governing the courts. A \$135.00 filing fee payable to the Clerk of the Superior Court and a completed Case Information Statement must accompany your answer or motion.

The action has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing a mortgage dated January 12, 2007, recorded on January 29, 2007, in Book 12031 at Page 242&c made by Aaron Fenelus to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Home Loan Center, Inc., dba LendingTree Loans and duly assigned to plaintiff, Aurora Bank, FSB, and concerns real estate located at 1139 Sayre Road, Union Township, NJ 07083, Block 1704 Lot 67.

YOU, Alana M. Fenelus, minor are made a defendant because you are a lien holder in the above matter and so have an interest in the property being foreclosed as your lien or encumbrance

PUBLIC NOTICE

is subject to Plaintiff's mortgage. You are further advised, an individual who is unable to obtain an attorney may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling toll free 800-792-8315 (within New Jersey) or 609-394-1101 (from out of state). You may also communicate with a Lawyer Referral Service, or if you cannot afford to pay an attorney you may call the Legal Services Office. The phone numbers for the county in which this action is pending are: Legal Services (908) 354-4340, Lawyer Referral (908) 353-4715. File 2011-2947

Jennifer M. Perez, Acting
Clerk of the Superior Court
U294860 UNL June 7, 2012 (\$40.67)

UNION

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

Docket No. : F-17659-10
Superior Court of New Jersey
Chancery Division
Union County

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
Timothy W. Rigsby, his heirs,
devisees, and personal representatives,
and his, their or any of their
successors in right, title and interest

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC, ESQS., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 200 Sheffield Street, Suite 101, Mountaintop, New Jersey 07092-0224, telephone number 1-908-233-8500, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a civil action, in which Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. is plaintiff, and Timothy W. Rigsby, et al., are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey,

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-Virginia Seaside Lots-

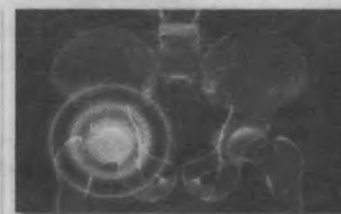
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PUBLIC NOTICE

May 17, 24, 31 June 7, 2012
U294013 PRO (\$148.96)

LINDEN

SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff's File Number: CH-12001917
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F3202508
County: Union
Plaintiff: ONEWEST BANK FSB
VS
Defendant: QUAYYIEM CUNNINGHAM
Sale Date: 06/13/2012
Writ of Execution: 04/10/2012
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

Concise Property Description

The property to be sold is located in the City of Linden.
In the County of Union and the State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 906 Lincoln Street
Block 106, Lot 12
Dimensions of Lot (approximately): 40' x 100'
Nearest Cross Street: Henry Street
Subject to: \$0.00

THE SHERIFF HEREBY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJOURN THIS SALE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$325,630.22
Three Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Thirty and 22/100
Attorney:
McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C.
216 HADDON AVE
SUITE 303
WESTMONT NJ 08108
(856) 858-7080
Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$333,057.60***Three Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Fifty-Seven and 60/100***
May 17, 24, 31 June 7, 2012
U294016 PRO (\$143.08)

LINDEN

SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff's File Number: CH-12002038
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F05930310
County: Union
Plaintiff: AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC
VS
Defendant: JAIMITO RODRIGUEZ AND EVELYN RODRIGUEZ
Sale Date: 06/13/2012
Writ of Execution: 04/23/2012
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
MUNICIPALITY: Linden
COUNTY: UNION STATE OF N.J.
STREET & STREET NO: 1624 Mildred Avenue
TAX BLOCK AND LOT:
BLOCK: 36 LOT: 7
DIMENSIONS OF LOT: 43' X 99.27'
NEAREST CROSS STREET: 257' from Grant Street
SUPERIOR INTERESTS (if any): NONE

The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice through publication.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim

PUBLIC NOTICE

and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.
JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$304,888.58***
Three Hundred Four Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Eight and 58/100***
Attorney:
POWERS KIRN - COUNSELORS
728 MARNE HWY
P.O. BOX 848 - SUITE 200
MOORESTOWN NJ 08057
(856)802-1000
Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$312,756.62 ***Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Six and 62/100***
May 17, 24, 31, June 7, 2012
U294010 PRO (\$139.16)

ROSELLE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BOROUGH OF ROSELLE
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2435-12**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 82 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSELLE ENTITLED "PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle that the Code of the Borough of Roselle, Chapter 82, is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 1. The Code of the Borough of Roselle, Chapter 82 ("Parks and Playgrounds"), Article I ("Hours of Certain Playgrounds"), is hereby deleted in its entirety.
SECTION 2. The Code of the Borough of Roselle, Chapter 82 ("Parks and Playgrounds"), by the addition of new Article I ("Hours of Parks and Playgrounds") to read as follows:
CHAPTER 82 ("PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS"), ARTICLE I - HOURS OF PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.
Section 82-1. The hours of use of all playgrounds and parks within the Borough of Roselle shall be limited to the hours of sunrise to sunset, daily, after which those playgrounds and parks shall be closed to use.

SECTION 3. If any portion or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, for any reason, be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of the ordinance which is hereby declared to be severable.
SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.
SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect after public hearing and final adoption and publication according to law.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing proposed Ordinance was introduced and read by title for the first time at a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Roselle held on May 16, 2012, and this Ordinance will be considered for final passage at a regular meeting of the Borough Council to be held June 20, 2012, at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, at Borough Hall, Council Chambers, 210 Chestnut St., Roselle, NJ, at which time and place all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

Lydia D. Agbejimi
Deputy Municipal Clerk
U294941 PRO June 7, 2012 (\$35.77)

PUBLIC NOTICE

MOUNTAINSIDE

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mountainside Board of Education and the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside will hold a joint meeting to foster community relations. The meeting will be held at the Beechwood School Susan O. Collier Media Center located at 1497 Woodacres Drive, Mountainside, NJ 07092, on Saturday, June 16, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.
U294940 OBS June 7, 2012 (\$7.35)

SPRINGFIELD

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

TAKE NOTICE that on the 19th day of June, 2012, at 8:00 P.M., a hearing will be held before the Springfield Board of Adjustment at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey, on Application #2012-6 regarding the appeal or application of Zucker

PUBLIC NOTICE

Realty, L.L.C. for a variance or variances or other relief so as to permit use of the property as a single-family home which is not a permitted use in the Neighborhood Commercial Zone on the premises located at 262 Mountain Avenue and designated as Block 1305, Lot 49 on the Township of Springfield Tax Map, as well as any further necessary variances.
The application, plans and survey are on file in the Annex Building, 20 North Trivett Avenue and are available for inspection.
Any interested party may appear either in person, by agent or attorney and present any objections which you may have in granting of this Application.
Bruce H. Bergen, Esq.
Attorney for Applicant
U294934 OBS June 7, 2012 (\$17.15)

SUMMIT

CITY OF SUMMIT

**Request for Informal Proposal
Commercial Real Estate/
Auction Services**

The City of Summit is accepting Informal Proposals to obtain professional services from a Commercial Real Estate Marketing/Auction Services firm for the sale of municipal property located at 2 Walnut Street, Summit, NJ. In accordance to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i), the Office of the City Administrator is soliciting proposals from vendors. If interested, please go to the City of Summit website at www.cityof-summit.org for proposal requirements and additional information. Sealed proposals must be submitted to the City Administrator no later than 12:00 PM on Friday, June 22, 2012.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Dated: 5/18/12
May 31, June 7, 2012
U294672 OBS (\$27.44)

CLARK

The Clark Planning Board's previously scheduled meeting for June 7, 2012 has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for July 5, 2012.
Lisa McCabe
Clark Planning Board Secretary
U294936 EAG June 7, 2012 (\$5.39)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the following applications were heard by the Township of Union Planning Board on **May 24, 2012** at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, Friberger Park, Union, N.J.

CALENDAR NUMBER	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT	PREMISES AFFECTED	ACTION REQUESTED	DECISION OF THE PLANNING BOARD
UTPB 2012-05	Maa Shivani LLC 1174 Morris Avenue Union Crescent LLC	Block 504 Lot 18	Major Site Plan, Variance	Approved by Resolution
UTPB 2012-07	2235 Springfield Avenue Bed, Bath and Beyond	Block 4919 Lot 5 & 10	Amended Site Plan, Variance	Approved by Resolution
UTPB 2012-08	700 Liberty Avenue	Block 3503 Lot 1.01	Amended Site Plan, Variance	Approved by Resolution

U294863 UNL June 7, 2012 (\$29.40)

Philip A. Haderer, P.E., C.M.E.
Administrative Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

ROSELLE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BOROUGH OF ROSELLE
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2432-12**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 113 OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO DESIGNATE A HANDICAP PARKING SPACE RESERVED FOR HANDICAP DESIGNATED VEHICLE

WHEREAS, the Police Department has received an application for a personalized handicap parking space pursuant to N.J.S. 39:4-197.5 along with the requisite \$25.00 fee; and
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have approved said application and the Municipal Clerk has collected the additional fee of \$150.00 for same prior to adoption of this ordinance.
BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle as follows:
Section 1. Article III of Chapter 113 of the "Code of the Borough of Roselle" is amended by adding the following to 113-29.2 -Handicap Parking Spaces.
A. The locations listed on Schedule XXIX, § 113-75, are hereby designated as restricted parking spaces reserved for use by a persons in front of a properties who has been issued special vehicle identification cards by the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-205, when using a motor vehicle on which is displayed a certificate for which a special vehicle identification card has been issued, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-206. All spaces indicated hereby shall be painted and signed in accordance with the applicable regulations issued from time to time by the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation.
B. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES; SCHEDULE OF RESTRICTED HANDICAP PARKING SPACES.
Any person parking a motor vehicle in a parking space restricted for use to persons who have been issued special vehicle identification cards or wheelchair symbol license plates by the Division of Motor Vehicles without such a special vehicle identification card or wheelchair symbol license plate shall be liable to a fine of \$250 for the first offense and, for subsequent offenses, a fine of at least \$250 and up to 90 days' community service on such terms and in such form as the court shall deem appropriate, or any combination thereof. This penalty provision shall apply to vehicles parked on public or private property.
Section 2. Article VI of Chapter 113 of the "Code of the Borough of Roselle" is amended by adding the following new section: § 113-75, Schedule XXIX: Restricted Handicap Parking Spaces as follows:
Chapter 113-74, Schedule XXIX - Restricted handicap parking spaces:

Address of residence	Street	Side	Name of Person	Placard #
515 W. 2nd Ave.	W. 2nd Ave.	South	Deborah Evans	P1087961

Section 3. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of the Ordinance shall remain valid and effective.
Section 4. All ordinances or part of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.
Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect after public hearing and final adoption and publication according to law.
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing proposed Ordinance was introduced and read by title for the first time at a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Roselle held on May 16, 2012, and this Ordinance will be considered for final passage at a regular meeting of the Borough Council to be held June 20, 2012, at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, at Borough Hall, Council Chambers, 210 Chestnut St., Roselle, NJ, at which time and place all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

Lydia D. Agbejimi
Deputy Municipal Clerk
U294933 PRO June 7, 2012 (\$76.44)

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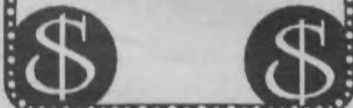


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MISCELLANEOUS

GARAGE/YARD SALES

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7	4	5	6	8	3	2	9	1
1	2	6	4	5	9	3	7	8
4	5	3	2	1	8	9	6	7
8	6	1	9	7	5	4	3	2
9	7	2	3	6	4	8	1	5

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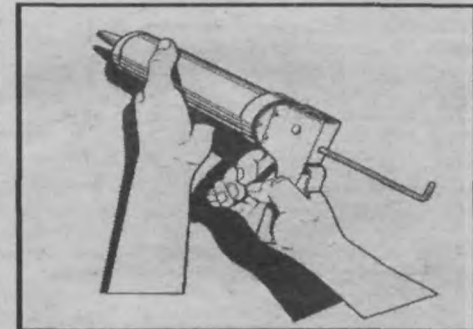
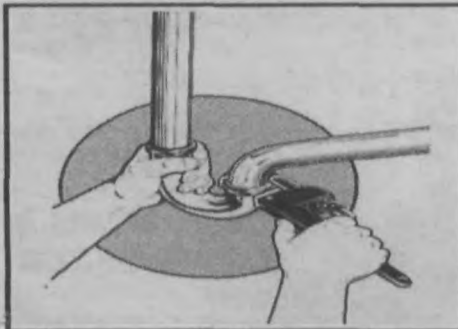
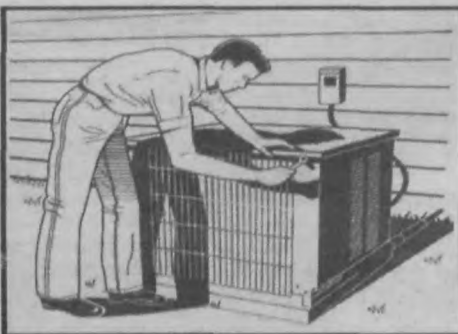
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SPORTS



Photo by JR Parachini

The Summit boys' lacrosse team captured its fourth consecutive state championship and seventh overall.

Summit boys' lacrosse wins 4th consecutive state crown

Sought Saturday's TOC title game at Kean

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

LIVINGSTON — Led by the charge of head coach Jim Davidson, his assistant coaches and the entire Summit bench, the Hilltoppers erupted when junior midfielder Tyler Carbone ran down the length of the field and fired the ball past Glen Ridge junior goalie Shane Doss.

At the time, with 11:39 to go in the fourth period, Carbone's shorthanded goal put the Hilltoppers up by six. Summit was clearly in control and looked unbeatable.

You might have said that was it — game over.

That was not the case.

Instead of packing it in, the underdog Ridgers — sparked by senior midfielder and leading goal scorer Jameson Smith — scored the next five goals.

Pulling to within one with 1:59 left, Glen Ridge won the face off and was able to fire three more shots in an attempt to tie the game.

Summit withstood the final Ridger attack, took possession with 38 seconds left and then managed to hold on for a dramatic 9-8 triumph in last Wednesday's Group 1 boys' lacrosse state championship game at Allen "Jake" Jacobson Memorial Field.

Summit led 5-2 at the half, 8-3 at the end of three quarters and 9-3 early in the fourth before Glen Ridge's valiant comeback attempt.

"For three-and-a-half quarters we had ball control," Summit head coach Jim Davidson said. "One of our goals was to keep them out of transition and you saw near the end how good they are in that area."

"Our kids refused to quit," Glen Ridge head coach Carl Houser said. "We were down 8-2 to one of the best teams in the country. We didn't get the win and don't have the hardware to show for our efforts, but I think we awakened a lot of people with the way we battled with Summit."

Summit captured its fourth consecutive state championship, won Group 1 for the third time, improved to 20-1 with its fifth win in a row and won 20 games for the fourth straight season.

The Hilltoppers previously defeated Pascack Hills, Johnson, Mahwah and Rumson to reach the Group 1 final.

"We're happy with the win," Davidson said. "At the end we got caught up and had some turnovers. Glen Ridge has a great program and this is a state championship game, so we knew they were not going to let up."

Summit won Group 2 in 2009 and 2011 and Group 1 in 2010 and 2012. The Hilltoppers captured Group 1 for the first time in 2005.

Glen Ridge, which finished 16-6, captured its first state championship last year when it won Group 1. Houser began the program in 2001 with a junior varsity team, with varsity beginning in 2002.

"I don't think many people thought we could hang with Summit," Houser said. "We have a lot to be proud of."

Summit senior midfielder David Kalin entered the game with a modest 12 goals. He led all players with three, scoring Summit's first to tie the game at 1-1.

See **HILLTOPPERS**, Page 37

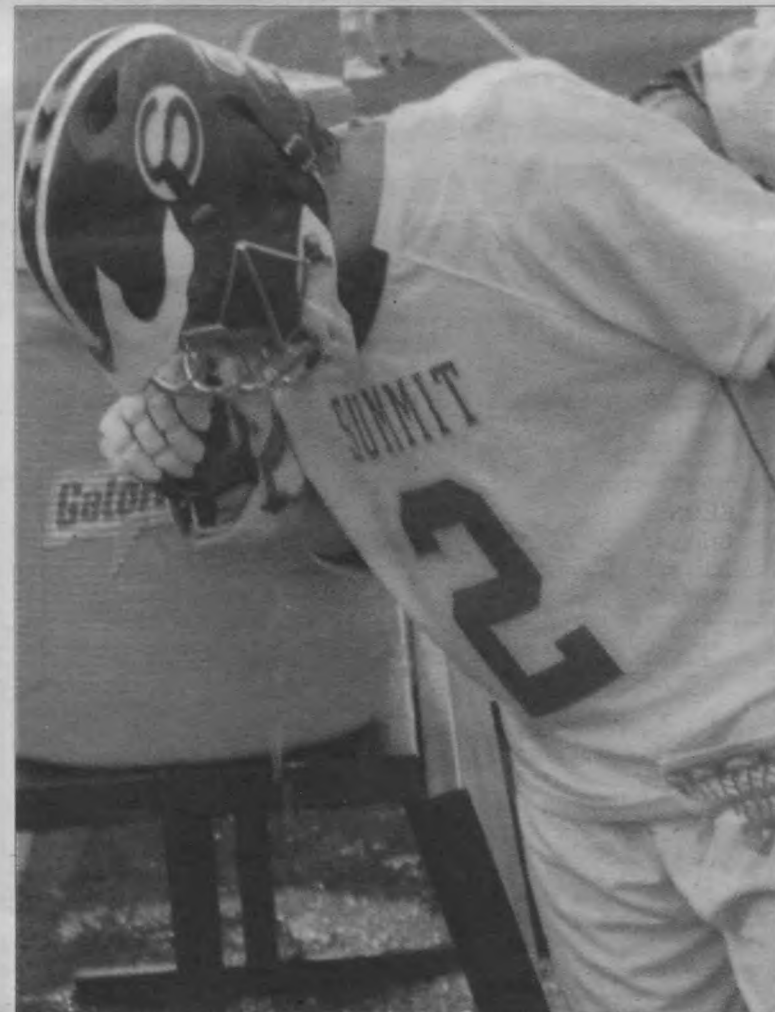


Photo by JR Parachini

Summit senior midfielder David Kalin led all scorers with three goals in his team's 9-8 win over Glen Ridge in last Wednesday night's Group 1 state championship game at Livingston. See TOC schedule on Page 37.

SPORTS

Summit garnered TOC's No. 2 seed

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

The boys' lacrosse Final Four was set and ready to go last night.

On Wednesday in the Tournament of Champions semifinals at Kean University's Alumni Stadium in Union it was to be third-seeded Delbarton vs. second-seeded Summit at 5 p.m. and then fourth-seeded Ridgewood vs. top-seeded and defending champion Bridgewater-Raritan at 7:30 p.m.

In last Saturday night's first round at Bridgewater-Raritan, Ridgewood ousted Chatham 6-3 and then Delbarton eliminated Montclair-Kimberley Academy 9-2.

The final is scheduled for this Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Kean.

Summit entered last night's semifinal with a 20-1 record and had won five straight since falling at home to Ridgewood 10-7 on May 15, which was two days after the Hilltoppers captured their fifth straight Union County Tournament championship and eighth overall.

Summit won at Delbarton 9-4 on May 2, with Hilltopper standout senior attackman Nick Kilkowski leading all players with five goals. Kilkowski entered last night's game with a team-high 79 goals.

Summit also defeated Delbarton 10-5 in last year's second TOC semifinal at Kean, which was the program's 68th straight victory and the state record. Summit then lost to Bridgewater-Raritan 6-5 in the TOC final.

Summit was seeking to reach a fourth straight TOC championship game. The Hilltoppers are 2-2 in TOC finals with wins in 2009 and 2010 and their other loss in 2005.

Summit is 88-3 in its last 91 games going back to the first game of the 2009 season. The only three teams Summit has lost to in the last four seasons were

The other three teams in the TOC semifinals - Non-Public A state champion Delbarton, Group 4 state champ Bridgewater-Raritan and Group 3 state champion Ridgewood.

Here's a look at Summit's last three losses and its records the past four seasons:

Tuesday, May 15, 2012: Ridgewood 10, Summit 7 - at Summit 2012: (20-1)

Saturday, June 11, 2011: B-Raritan 6, Summit 5 - at Rutgers 2011: (23-1)
2010: (23-0)

Wednesday, April 1, 2009: Delbarton 10, Summit 6 - at Summit 2009: (22-1)

BOYS' LACROSSE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS SEEDS:

- 1-Bridgewater-Raritan - Group 4 state champion
- 2-Summit - Group 2 state champion
- 3-Delbarton - Non-Public A state champion
- 4-Ridgewood - Group 3 state champion
- 5-Chatham - Group 2 state champion
- 6-Montclair-Kimberley Academy - Non-Public B state champion

FIRST ROUND:

Saturday, June 2

At Bridgewater-Raritan

Ridgewood 6, Chatham 3

Delbarton 9, Montclair-Kimberley Academy 2

SEMIFINALS:

Wednesday, June 6

At Kean University's Alumni Stadium, Union

3-Delbarton vs. 2-Summit, 5 p.m.

4-Ridgewood vs. 1-Bridgewater-Raritan, 7:30 p.m.

FINAL:

Saturday, June 9

At Kean University's Alumni Stadium, Union

Semifinal winners, 7:30 p.m.



Photo by JR Parachini

Summit was sparked, once again, by a strong senior class. The Hilltoppers sought to reach the TOC final for a fourth straight season.

Hilltoppers hold on to best Glen Ridge for Group 1 title

(Continued from Page 36)

He scored twice in the first quarter and once in the third, with his last goal putting Summit ahead 8-2 with 6:55 left before the fourth.

"It was our entire offense, overall," Kalin said. "We did what we practiced, which was pushing up and taking shots."

Scoring twice for Glen Ridge were Smith and senior attackman Matt Lander, with both of Lander's goals coming in the fourth, including the game's last.

Colin Goldstein gave Glen Ridge its only lead at 1-0 when he scored off a rebound of a shot by Smith that hit off the left post.

Those were the first two shots of the game, with the Ridgers reaching the scoreboard just 44 seconds into the match.

Smith scored his first goal with 47 seconds left in the third quarter, while junior attackman Joey Salvatelli and junior midfielder Stephen Ducey also scored in the fourth and junior attackman Nick Spitaletta late in the first.

"We knew that Glen Ridge had a great team and some really good shooters," Kalin said. "Down the stretch, defensively, we just had to keep our poise."

Both goalies made several fine saves, with Doss making two excellent stops in the second quarter and Summit senior Alex Salazar coming up big on several occasions.

"I give a lot of credit to Alex and our defense," Davidson said.

Sparked by players such as junior Will Shamim and seniors Will Weber and Stefano Stadlinger, Summit's defense made it difficult for Glen Ridge players to get a good angle for a quality opportunity.

That was until Glen Ridge scored four goals in a span of two minutes in the fourth to go from being down-and-out to having a legitimate chance to tie the game and win it. Smith fired shot after shot, with the ones that didn't go in not missing by much.

"Jameson has one of the best shots in the state," Houser said. "He won a lot of ground balls for us. He knew that there was the possibility that this could be his last high school game and he gave it everything he had."

When Summit was up 8-2, the Hilltoppers had to feel pretty good, considering leading scorer - senior attackman Nick Kilkowski - was held to just three shots and no goals up to that point.

"They were shutting off Nick," said Davidson.

Kilkowski entered with 79 goals and 22 assists.

"We looked for good matchups," Davidson said. "We felt like we could free up the middle. In the last five minutes we needed to take the air out."

To Glen Ridge's credit, Kilkowski was held scoreless.

The Ridgers also had two other outstanding scoring chances in the fourth quarter before their surge, with one of them just missing an empty net.

"We made too many mistakes, both mental and physical, in the first half and you can't do that against a team like Summit," Houser said.

NOTES: Summit is now 7-3 in state championship games, winning in 1981, 1983, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 and losing in 2001, 2004 and 2006.

Summit had a team in a state championship game in all three seasons this academic year, with football losing and ice hockey and boys' lacrosse winning.

• See Group 1 final scoring agate and years that Summit won state titles at story located at www.localsource.com - Union County Navigator.

SPORTS



Photo by JR Parachini

The Dayton baseball team was sparked by the solid pitching of, from left, junior right hander Chas Bohannon and senior righty Tommy Losito.

Dayton baseball produces a standout 20-5 campaign

Bulldogs win UCC's Mountain Division title

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

The Dayton baseball team saw its season come to a close last Wednesday afternoon in Bergen County after the Bulldogs were defeated by host Ridgefield 3-2 in eight innings in a North 2, Group 1 semifinal.

In a game that began the night before, second-seeded second-seeded Ridgefield managed to push across the winning run with a hit in the bottom of the eighth.

The game was halted in the bottom of the fifth with Ridgefield ahead 2-1 and up at bat. There were two outs and nobody on when the umpires stopped the game because of rain. Dayton tied the game at 2-2 when it resumed the next day.

The Bulldogs finished 20-5 and won 20 games for the first time since finishing 22-5 in 2005.

Dayton also went 12-0 to capture the Union County Conference's Mountain Division championship. Because the Bulldogs already clinched the division title they did not have to make up league games at home against Rahway and Union Catholic.

Dayton won the Valley Division crown in 2010 and moved up to the Mountain Division in 2011.

The 2005 squad won the Mountain Valley Conference's Valley Division title.

Dayton lost in the N2, G1 semifinals for the third straight year. The Bulldogs were defeated by High Tech 4-3 in Secaucus two years ago and last year were downed at home by Hoboken 6-0, with the visiting Red Wings scoring all of the game's runs in the top of the seventh after Dayton junior right hander Tommy Losito had to leave the mound after he cramped up.

Including 14-12 in 2010 and 17-7 in 2011, Dayton is 51-24 (.680) under third-year head coach Mike Abbate.

A decision by the coaches to move the game up to a 7 p.m. start on May 29 was made the day before on Memorial Day.

"We thought that would be better, especially because of the heat," Abbate said.

Dayton took a 1-0 lead in the top of the fourth when junior Chas Bohannon drove in courtesy runner Nico Izzì with an RBI-double. Losito began the inning with a double.

Ridgefield scored its first two runs off Losito in the bottom of the fourth. The first run was unearned and the second run was the result of a delayed steal. With runners on first and third, the runner from third slid safely under the tag at home plate.

Losito entered the game with an 11-0 record this season that included 9-0 as a starter. His three-year varsity career record going in was 25-2, including 6-1 as a sophomore and 8-1 as a junior.

Dayton defeated 14th-seeded Glen Ridge 2-1 at Brearley in a first round game May 24 and then the next day downed sixth-seeded Bloomfield Tech 8-1 at home in the quarterfinals. Losito tossed a six-hitter in beating Glen Ridge and Bohannon a four-hitter in halting Bloomfield Tech.

Top-seeded Dunellen defeated 12th-seeded Hoboken 1-0 in eight innings in last week's other semifinal.

Then in last Friday's final it was visiting Ridgefield defeating host Dunellen 6-4 for the championship.

In last year's final, Hoboken - as the 11th seed - lost at fourth-seeded Roselle Park 5-4 in the bottom of the seventh.

NEW PROVIDENCE SOFTBALL FALLS AT WHIPPANY PARK AGAIN IN THE NORTH 2, GROUP 1 FINAL

For the second straight season the New Providence softball team lost at Whippany Park in the North 2, Group 1 championship game.

The seventh seed this time, New Providence was defeated at top-seeded Whippany Park 7-0 last Thursday.

New Providence was the second seed last year when it lost at top-seeded Whippany Park 8-0 in the final.

New Providence reached the Union County Tournament semifinals last year and this year advanced to the final for the first time after coming back to eliminate third-seeded Westfield in the quarterfinals and second-seeded Cranford in the semifinals.

New Providence lost to Governor Livingston in last year's semifinals and this year's final. GL won the UCT last year and this year, repeating as champions for the first time.

Cranford baseball captures N2, G3 Sought Group 3 title game

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

In Tuesday's scheduled baseball Group 3 semifinals at neutral sites it was to be North 2 champion Cranford vs. North 1 champ West Milford and Central Jersey champion Freehold Boro vs. South Jersey champ Hammonton. The final is scheduled to be played at one of the three high schools in Toms River this Saturday.

Here's a look at last Friday's Group 3 sectional championships scoreboard:

NORTH 1

West Milford 4, Old Tappan 1 - at West Milford
West Milford was the third seed and Old Tappan the eighth.

NORTH 2

Cranford 7, West Morris 0 - at Cranford
Cranford was the top seed and West Morris the second.

CENTRAL

Freehold Borough 3, Monmouth Regional 0 - at Monmouth Regional
Freehold Borough was the eighth seed and Monmouth Regional the sixth.

SOUTH

Hammonton 6, Ocean City 1 - at Hammonton
Hammonton was the top seed and Ocean City the sixth.

COUGARS YIELD ONLY 1 RUN IN 4 SECTIONAL WINS

Cranford gave up only one run - sparked by the stellar pitching of senior right hander Kurt Rutmayer and junior left hander Ryan Williamson - in four sectional victories, all coming at home at Memorial Field.

Here's a look at who Cranford defeated to win North 2, Group 3 for the seventh time and for the sixth time under head coach Dennis McCaffery:

May 23: Cranford 5, Ferris 0 - First Round
Ferris was the 16th seed.

May 25: Cranford 1, Scotch Plains 0 - Quarterfinals
Scotch Plains was the ninth seed.

May 29: Cranford 7, Morristown 1 - Semifinals
Morristown was the 12th seed.

June 1: Cranford 7, West Morris 0 - Final
West Morris was the second seed.

Since 1997, Cranford has now won eight sectional titles. Cranford has won North 2, Group 3 in 1997, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2007, 2010 and 2012.

The Cougars also won Central Jersey, Group 2 in 2005 and reached the North 2, Group 3 final in 2001 and 2006.

Cranford began the week 20-4 and had won six in a row.

The Cougars were also in first place in the Union County Conference's Watchung Division with a 10-1 record. In second place was Westfield at 9-2.

Cranford won at Westfield 9-1 back on April 10 and still has to play the Blue Devils at home. If that game is not played, then Cranford is the division champion outright.

If the game is played and Cranford wins then the Cougars are still the champion outright.

If the game is played and Westfield wins, then the teams will share the title with identical 10-2 league marks.

Cranford has won three state championships, including Group 4 in 1971 and Group 3 in 1997 and 2010.

SPORTS

RC track program earns high praise

The tradition-rich track and field program was in the spotlight at Roselle Catholic High School's annual spring athletics convocation.

In addition to the usual hardware presented at the gathering of Roselle Catholic student-athletes, track team members walked away with special recognition in the form of the Gagliano Scholarship, Lyons Scholarship and the Carl Matthes Memorial Award.

Seniors Caitlin Gniazdowski and Gabe Reyes shared the Matthes Award, which is presented in memory of a man noted for his total dedication to the Roselle Catholic community. The award is presented to an RC student who's notable demonstrated dedication, perseverance, sportsmanship and commitment.

Members of Carl Matthes' family, including his widow, Geri, daughters and grandchildren attended the Convocation, as they do on an annual basis.

Gniazdowski, a Kenilworth resident, ran track in the spring and winter and played volleyball in the fall. Reyes was co-captain of the baseball team.

The (coach) Frank Gagliano Scholarship, presented to a member of the track and field team who embodies the characteristics and integrity that the legendary RC coach constantly sought from his student-athletes, went to junior Tolani Owade.

Antonio Spaienza, a junior thrower, received the Bernard T. Lyons Memorial Scholarship, which was established by Peter Lyons, a 1973 Roselle Catholic graduate. Spaienza received an award based on sportsmanship, personal integrity, discipline and teamwork in recognition of the values associated with the RC insignia.

The RC track team's coaching staff — Carmine DeNicola, Paul Irwin, Joe Cistaro, Mike Kennedy and Tom Hannen — helped distribute the scholarships and the awards.

The track team's Most Valuable Players were senior Christian Brown, and junior Danielle Franklin. MVP trophies were also presented to James Colgan for baseball, Margaret Forde for softball and Sean Cohen for volleyball.

MVP trophies were presented by RC Assistant Principal and former boys' basketball coach Pat Hagan. Opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Robert Stickle, Roselle Catholic's Principal, who also helped award scholar-athlete medals to students who made the honor roll while playing a spring sport.

A special presentation was made to RC President Brother Owen Ormsby, who's leaving the school on June 30 after a very successful 15-year stint as Campus Minister, Principal and now President. Brother Owen was a staunch supporter of the athletics program in all of his roles at Roselle Catholic and proud of the tradition of the Lions' athletic programs.

Borrowing a page from Yankees Hall of Famer Joe DiMaggio, who famously said: "I'd like to thank the Good Lord for making me a Yankee," senior student-athletes Angenny Rosario, Margaret Forde, Kevin Drastura and Tom DiPaola, helped present a plaque to Brother Owen that read: "We'd like to thank The Good Lord for making Brother Owen an RC Lion."

ROSELLE CATHOLIC'S CARL MATTHES AWARD

2012: Caitlin Gniazdowski & Gabe Reyes / **2011:** Luke Stinson
2010: Anthonia Ajumobi & Sheana Foster
2009: Stephen Krakowski / **2008:** Owen Hickey
2007: Kevin Fountain / **2006:** Eric SoHayda
2005: Jacqueline Biddulph / **2004:** Dan Kennedy & Jill Kropa
2003: Errol Ogilvie / **2002:** Andrew Biddulph
2001: Katie Hanselmann / **2000:** Laura McClelland
1999: Amy Kane & Karen Polchinski / **1998:** Jamaar Johnson

ROSELLE CATHOLIC'S COACH GAGLIANO SCHOLARSHIP

2012: Tolani Owade / **2011:** Julianne Kasprzyk
2010: Victor Porsenna / **2009:** Alex Almeida
2008: Gabby Mesaros / **2007:** Will Merkle
2006: Duane Santos / **2005:** Matt Shipe
2004: Nick Mauro / **2003:** Brian Vogler

ROSELLE CATHOLIC'S LYONS SCHOLARSHIP

2012: Antonio Sapienza / **2011:** Christian Brown
2010: Alex Acito / **2009:** Patrick Gora & Frank VanDerVeken



Photos courtesy of Roselle Catholic

Roselle Catholic track coaches Mike Kennedy, Carmine DeNicola, Paul Irwin, Joe Cistaro and Tom Hannen surround RC junior Antonio Sapienza, who was presented with the Lyons scholarship Award at RC's annual Spring Athletics Convocation.



Roselle Catholic MVPs holding their trophies at the annual Spring Athletics Convocation are, from left, Danielle Franklin for track, Sean Cohen for volleyball, Margaret Forde for softball, James Colgan for baseball and Christian Brown for track.



Senior student-athletes Margaret Forde, Angenny Rosario, Tom DiPaola and Kevin Drastura flank Roselle Catholic's President, Brother Owen Ormsby, who was presented with a Joe DiMaggio-esque plaque at RC's Spring Athletics Convocation.



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SPORTS



Johnson spring sports standouts, from top to bottom, are Kevin Eipel-lacrosse, Daniel Mullin-tennis, Nick Wrobleski-baseball, Michael Vieira-boys' track and field, Bobby Stulpin-golf, Alison Meagher-softball, Amanda Wnorowski-girls' track and field and Loretta Vill-student-athlete award.

Spring Athletic Awards recognizes AJ athletes

Last Wednesday the Johnson athletic department held its annual Spring Athletic Awards event.

The evening, sponsored by the Crusader Athletic Booster Club, was held in the Johnson auditorium.

All the spring athletic teams and their seasons were highlighted by their coaches, while letters and awards were handed out to the student-athletes. Over 120 varsity athletic letters were handed out throughout the evening. Participation in athletics at Johnson continues to grow.

The program continued with the Student Athlete Award, which was presented by Johnson Principal Rick Delmonaco.

The Student Athlete Award is given out each season to a student-athlete that is not only a champion on the field, but in the classroom as well.

The 2012 spring Student Athlete Award recipient was Loretta Vill.

The evening culminated with the announcement of the Most Valuable Players for each varsity team. The MVPs were Nick Wrobleski for baseball, Bobby Stulpin for golf, Kevin Eipel for lacrosse, Alison Meagher for softball, Daniel Mullin for tennis, Michael Vieira for boys' track and field and Amanda Wnorowski for girls' track and field.

"The Spring Athletic Awards was a wonderful event that allowed the administration, teachers, coaches, parents, and student-athletes a chance to reflect on a wonderful sports season, while honoring our student-athletes for their remarkable accomplishments," Johnson Athletic Director Gus Kalikas said. "Our teams, coaches, and student-athletes continue to raise the bar both in the classrooms and on the athletic fields and the Clark School District could not be more proud of their performance this past spring sports season."

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Track group winners include Cioffi, Wilson, Presley, James Meet of Champions is today in Old Bridge

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

Union County's top athletes excelled at last weekend's group championships, with the track and field season to conclude today with the annual Meet of Champions at Carl Sandburg Middle School's Lombardi Field in Old Bridge.

In the boys' competition, Governor Livingston finished second in Group 2 at South Plainfield's Frank Yost Field with 57 points, with Morris Hills winning with 72. Rahway placed fifth with 36.

Union County runners that won events included GL's Mike Murphy first in the 100-meter dash in 11.26, Rahway's Jerrel Wilson first in the 400-meter run in 48.58, Rahway's Jamel-Bolden Presley first in the 110-meter high hurdles in 13.92 and GL's Rendyll Moorman first in the high jump at 6-6.

In Group 1 at Old Bridge, Union County champion and Dayton junior Anthony Cioffi, who will play football at Rutgers beginning in 2013, captured the 100 in 10.86.

Cioffi's teammate, Tevin Knight, won the 200-meter dash in 22.396.

In Non-Public A at Old Bridge, Union Catholic finished second to Christian Brothers Academy 112-104.

Viking athletes that won events included Jordan Jimerson first in the 100 in 10.98, Alan Eke first in the 800-meter run in 1:51.69, Zach Ghizzone first in the 110-meter hurdles in 14.99 and Christoffe Scott first in the triple jump at 44-6.

In Non-Public B at South Plainfield, Oratory Prep was third at 45 points and Roselle Catholic seventh with 37. Pingry was first with 69.

Roselle Catholic senior Mike Marcano was first in the 100 in 11.27 and also the 200 in 22.36.

In the girls' competition, the only winner from Union County was Roselle standout senior and Rutgers-bound Kaprice James. In Group 2 at South Plainfield, James captured the 110-meter high hurdles in 14.54. Summit's Daria Chadwick was second in 14.55.

Haddonfield was first in the team standings with 62 points, while Roselle was fifth with 26.

In Group 4 at Old Bridge, Union finished sixth with 27 points, while perennial power Columbia was first again with 60.

Although Union did not have any winners, freshman Haisha Bisiolu and sophomore Jennifer Edobi stood out. Bisiolu was second in the 100 in 12.27 and third in the 200 in 24.93. Edobi was third in the 400-meter run in 56.33.



SCHOLAR-ATHLETES - From left, Kaprice James of Roselle, Baldwin Nieves of Roselle, Angeny Rosario of Roselle Catholic, Tom DiPaola of Roselle Catholic, Melissa Carle of Roselle Park and Brendan Leary of Roselle Park proudly hold awards from last month's Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference's (UCIAC) Scholar-Athlete Banquet at The Westwood in Garwood.