TWO SECTIONS

Teens face drug charges following raid on pa

Student: Chemical use a common practice for high-schoolers

By David Learn **Managing Editor**

Three Clark teens are free after a police raid at a party being held at the Knights of Columbus Saturday evening.

The men — identified as Daniel Tice, 18, of 86 Jupitor St.; Jonathan Azevedo, 18, of 4 Rolling Hill Way; and Dominick Malanga, 18, of 6 Whitley Terrace - are all students at Arthur L. Johnson High School.

Superintendent of Schools Paul Ortenzio would not say what disciplinary action the school district might take against the teens, and was evasive when pressed for details about the school district's policy in general.

"Basically there is a confidentiality to student records and discipline," explained Board of Education Attorney Michael Gross. "It's not a public matter. It's a private mat-

That confidentiality extends to the students even though they are 18, Gross said.

A student at Arthur L. Johnson High School who attended the party said the three teens were all at school Tuesday morning.

In addition to making the arrests, police seized 200 tablets of Ecstasy, fewer than 50 grams of marijuana, two kegs of beer and \$464 in cash. The seized items are being held as evidence.

Tony Fiorillo, grand knight of the Clark Knights of Columbus, said the organization had nothing to do with the party. The Knights of Columbus has a policy of renting its Westfield Avenue hall out to other groups.

"It's a private party that had rented the hall for a college graduation," Fiorillo said Tuesday morning. "We had rented the hall for that. We didn't sell them no food, no liquor. I wouldn't even sell them no pizza."

Fiorillo said he also carded the party-goers and ejected three of them whom he believed to be too young for a party where alcohol would be served, despite their IDs.

The student, who spoke on the condition he not be identified, said the party was a birthday party for Anthony Pecorella, a senior at ALJ.

He also said that despite statements to the contrary, the Knights of Columbus made virtually no effort to prevent underage drinking at the party.

"The situation was that people who were obviously underage or with fake IDs were going in, and the owner of the club was sitting there, saying 'Do you have your ID?' They would say no, and he would say, 'Don't drink,'" the student said.

The student, who is younger than the legal drinking age, added that he drank alcohol while he was at the party and did not take any identification with him to the party. He left 15 minutes before the police arrived.

In a rare but candid insider's view of the high school culture, the student described an environment where drug and alcohol use, while not necessarily out of control, is

practiced more or less openly.

"With the upperclassmen in the high school it's existing, but it's much more controlled," he said. "It's with the underclassmen where the problem really lies. Because they've never been around it, they just jump in."

The student described himself as an occasional user of marijuana who began smoking it his freshman year.

"In Kumpf, you never heard of the stuff. I mean, obviously you've heard of it, but you've never seen it, except in a DARE officer's hands," he said. "But now you come into school and it's readily available to you. All you have to do is know somebody who knows somebody.

He added that he understands drug use to be on the rise among Clark middle-schoolers as well.

The arrests followed a monthlong narcotics investigation involving detective John Doherty, Lt. Kevin White, Sgt. Michael Pollock, Patrol Officer Steven Francisco and Patrol Officer Susan Ricci.

See POLICE, Page 2

First she began to go numb

By David Learn **Managing Editor**

Six years ago, Beth Adamusik started to lose feeling in her left foot. Over the next several days, the

numbness spread. It swept up her entire left side, reached her head, and began an inexorable descent down her right side.

At the same time, Adamusik started to lose her peripheral vision. Darkness crept in from the sides, blotting out more and more of the world until she was blind in one eye and had suffered an 80 percent vision loss in the

This all happened within three

A neurologist was able two weeks later to clear up the worst of Adamusik's symptoms with oral steroids, but her doctors were stumped by what had happened to her. In her late 30s and by nature an active, athletic and on-the-go person, the affliction had come without warning and left her devastated.

It was more than a year before she was diagnosed by a doctor as having multiple sclerosis.

Multiple sclerosis, or M.S., as it is commonly known, is an affliction that removes the protective fatty myelin sheath that surrounds the spinal column and brain. What causes the disease remains a mystery, but it leaves hardened tissue on the brain and along the spinal column and often can result in paralysis and a loss of muscle control.

Multiple sclerosis affects about 400,000 people nationally. It principally strikes people from 20 to 50, and is more than tree times as likely to attack women as it is men. Resear-



Despite suffering from multiple sclerosis, Armstrong Drive resident Beth Adamusik maintains an upbeat and chipper attitude, continuing as normal and active a life in the home and around the community as possible.

chers also have noticed a higher rate not "recovered." Some numbness the way I was," she said. "My legs of incidence in the Northern regions of the nation than in the South.

The disease follows one of two patterns, either putting its victims through alternating flare-ups and periods of remission, or gradually taking away more of their independence and mobility as it progresses.

In neither case is the disease considered terminal.

Adamusik, 42, falls into the former category. Within the last year, doctors have been able to get her condition to stabilize. Today she is walking again, often without the benefit of a cane, although she has one she needs from time to time.

Make no mistake, though: She has

remains in her feet, her depth perception is unreliable and her endurance is not what it once was.

"I was a very lucky person. I got everything back, which most people don't," she said. "People in their mid-30s are shut down. Some people get diagnosed with M.S, and they never get out of a wheelchair. They never get their eyesight back. That's just their first symptom, and — bam!"

The truth is, the disease has taken plenty from her. Adamusik no longer plays tennis, she is limited in how far she can drive, and she has to live with the knowledge that what mobility she has could vanish without warning.

"I'm always afraid when I turn the corner, that I'll return and go back to

will not do it. My legs will not walk more than half a block.

"At times it restricts me around

here. I had to hire a cleaning woman," she said. "I can't even push a vacuum. Last year I couldn't even cook dinner or cook meals." In a casual conversation around

the dinner table at her Armstrong Drive home or out in public, you might never notice that Adamusik has multiple sclerosis. She remains animated and vivacious, and when the subject does come up she is prone to laugh and make jokes about it.

"I have a superpositive attitude, but also every single day I take

Judge favorable to school appeal

By David Learn Managing Editor

School-repair advocates got some good news last month when an administrative law judge recommended that the Clark School District be allowed to repair its facilities.

The decision, made April 10 by Ken Springer after an all-day hearing Feb. 24, is the penultimate step in the school district's lengthy journey to get the necessary money for school repairs. Springer did not recommend the district be authorized to perform new construction, as the board had requested in two separate referendums. The amount he recommended includes \$19,204,980 in long-term

Springer's decision is a nonbinding recommendation only. The final decision will be made by state Commissioner of Education William L. Librera.

It was not known how soon Librera might make his decision. He has 45 calendar days from when he receives Springer's decision. He had not received the decision by Monday

"By the end of this week, we should know what day it officially came and when it's due from the commissioner," said Rich Vespucci, a spokesman for the state Department of Education.

In his recommendation, Springer notes that there is widespread support throughout the community for repairs in the school buildings despite the concerns several residents have raised over the Board of Education's spending record.

Despite lingering resentment over being saddled with expenses not shared by the defunct regional district, the Clark community appears to have reached a broad consensus that extensive renovation of the deteriorating high-school facility has become unavoidable," Springer wrote.

In contrast to that widespread support, Springer noted a sharp reluctance among the public to relieve overcrowding at the lower grade levels. Several residents, like the Township Council, although they asked Springer to recommend the repairs asked that new construction be disallowed for the immediate future.

The school board also failed to make a convincing case before Springer that student enrollment at the elementary schools would require new classrooms be built.

"The proofs are insufficient to show that students in Clark will be deprived of a thorough and efficient education unless new elementary classrooms are built," Springer wrote in his finding. "Absent an adequate showing that students in the district will be unable to attain satisfactory mastery of core curriculum content, that their learning will be seriously compromised or that their health and safety will be jeopardized, the need for improved facilities cannot justify overturning the will of the electorate."

The Board of Education began the appeals process last year, following the three different referendums in which the public rejected its pleas for the approval to embark on an ambitious spending plan meant to shore up the district's school facilities.

The first referendum, held Dec. 12, 2000, would have authorized the district selling \$31.4 million in school construction bonds to pay for repairs to the high school and other improvements throughout the district. Voters rejected that proposal by 22 votes. Two months later, on Feb. 27, the board submitted an identical proposal in a separate referendum.

Resident claims town ignoring mess it made

By David Learn **Managing Editor**

Before the township fixed Thomas Drive, the street was prone to flooding whenever it rained.

Last year, the township added a series of drainage basins to the street and greatly reduced the flooding problem. The problem, says resident Roger Ouilette, is the roadwork was flawed and that when it rains, water pools and stagnates at the end of his driveway, where it never did before.

Neither Township Engineer Richard O'Connor nor Business Administrator John Laezza returned calls seeking comment.

There was no water pooling at the end of Ouilette's driveway Tuesday afternoon from the showers earlier this weekend.

Ouilette said he spoke to O'Connor last year, when the engineer told him the township would withhold the contractor's escrow fees until the street was regraded.

"Of course it kept raining and no one did anything," said Ouilette.

Eventually, a clerk in O'Connor's office suggested Ouilette take his complaint to Laezza. Unable to connect with Laezza directly, Ouilette left him pictures of the pooling water and the substance of the complaint.

"He wrote me a nasty letter reprimanding me for bothering everybody down there," Ouilette said.

The letter, dated Nov. 15, explains that the township is aware of the problem Ouilette is reporting but was unable to remedy it at the time due to other pressing road needs.

Ouilette wrote back the next day, explaining that he was not asking for new work as much as he was seeking to have recent work corrected.

Now, nearly six months later, the problem remains and Ouilette is feeling more frustrated than ever.

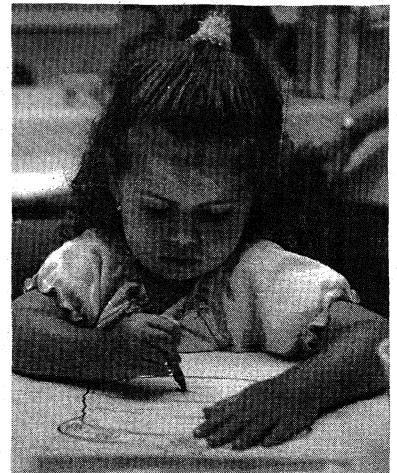
"We had a bad street that needed to be repaved, but we didn't have a problem where the water rolled over and refused to go down the drain," Ouilette said Friday. "It's the same thing on the other side of the street."

First Ward Councilman Frank Mazzarella said Tuesday night that he was unaware of any problems with uneven pavement on Thomas Drive, but would look into Ouilette's complaints to see if they have any merit.

"I'd like to have a chance to look at it first," Mazzarella said. "Once I have the chance to look at it, I'll call administration to see what can be



TIME FOR STORYTIME — Lauren Manst, 3, hugs her legs close to her chest and listens raptly as Youth Services Librarian Kathy Percoco conducts a storytime program for young children at Clark Public Library Tuesday.



After storytime itself is over, it's time to start drawing and coloring, and Anthea Daiantis turns to this particular task with the gravity only a toddler understands.

Welcome to THE EAGLE

How to reach us:

The Eagle is published every Thursday by Worrall Community Newspapers, an independent, family owned newspaper company. Our offices are located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07093. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed

Voice mail:

Our main phone number, 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to better serve our customers. During regular business hours, a receptionist will answer your call. During the evening or when the office is closed, your call will be answered by an automated

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To purchase back issues of The Eagle please call 908-686-7700 and ask for circulation. Additional charges may apply.

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The Eagle provides an open forum for opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed double spaced, must be signed, and should be accompanied by an address and day time phone number for verification. Letters and columns must be in our office by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that weeks They are subject to editing for length and clarity.

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Public Notices are notices which are required by state law to be printed in local weekly or daily newspapers. The Eagle meets all New Jersey State Statutes regarding public notice advertising. Public notices must be in our office by Tuesday at noon for publication that week. For more information, call 1-908-686-7700 and ask for the public notice advertising department.

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Driver arrested on unsettled fines

A motorist who allegedly was driving with a suspended license was picked up on more than \$3,000 in outstanding fines early last

Police arrested Thierry Piot, 25, of 76 Marcy Ave., East Orange, on contempt-of-court warrants from East Orange and Newark worth a total \$3,393, at 11:05 p.m. April 22.

Clark police also charged Piot with driving with a suspended licerse. A court date is pending on

· Police took custody of a man being held at Hudson County Jail on a contempt-of-court warrant from Clark, at 12:02 p.m. April 23.

Police took Gary M. Precilla, 35, of 1207 85th St., North Bergen, to Union County Jail pending his

POLICE BLOTTER

· Police charged Evelyne Bien-Aime, 35, of 436 Cherry St., Elizabeth, with shoplifting unlisted grocery items worth \$121 from ShopRite, at 1:06 p.m. April 23.

Bien-Aime was released on her own recognizance. · Police arrested Geoffrey Gel-

fand, 21, of 239 Lexington Blvd., at Raritan Road and Central Avenue at 8:29 a.m. April 25.

Gelfland was picked up on an outstanding contempt-of-court warrant. He was released on \$700 bail.

Police went to the Watchung Police Department to arrest musician Moses Priester III, 39, of 1400 Columbia Ave., Plainfield, at 10:38

Priester was released after posting \$1,132 bail on a contempt-ofcourt warrant

· Police arrested a 22-year-old Rahway man on a \$1,140 contemptof-court warrant from Linden at 1:45 p.m. Monday.

Daquan Capers, 22, of 1166 Brunswick Ave., Rahway, was handed to the Linden police.

Clark police also charged Capers with two unspecified motor-vehicle violations. A court date is pending.

· Police arrested a 29-year-old Irvington woman at the Newark Police Department on a contemptof-court warrant from Clark at 7:28 p.m. Monday.

Police took Cynthia Farris of 93 Ellis Ave. to Union County Jail after her arrest.

Police arrest 3 after raiding party

(Continued from Page 1) Tice was charged with underage

possession of an alcoholic beverage and released on his own recognizance at police headquarters.

Azevedo was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia because of an alleged crack pipe police found him with. He also was released on his own recognizance.

Malanga was charged with possession of marijuana, possession of Ecstasy, manufacturing/distributing a controlled dangerous substance, and possession of a controlled dangerous substance with the intent to distribute weekend," the student said. "It's at

it within 1,000 feet of a school zone. The student said he is unaware of anyone using Ecstasy during the party while he was there.

"No one was really on it, but the one person who ended up getting arrested had to pick it up in order to sell it or drop it off to anyone who wants it," he said.

The student described obtaining marijuana or more potent drugs is easy for Clark teens to accomplish. He called school itself "definitely the last place" a student would sell drugs.

"Most of the dealing is done on the

that time 'John Smith' would get into his car and drive around Clark.'

More arrests may be coming, depending on further investigation into the identities of people attending the party, police said.

If that happens, parents might be in for a shock if they consider drug use to be a problem unique to underachievers and at-risk students.

"There's no longer a distinction where the kids that are failing are doing the drugs," said the student. "Many honor students are able to handle occasional use of drugs and alcohol and retain their academic status."

Victim lives day to day with M.S.

(Continued from Page 1) advantage of, because I don't know if it's going to be my last day," she said. "I just have to be positive. I don't have time for this crap. I just don't. I'm way too busy."

Despite her upbeat approach to living with multiple sclerosis, getting to the point she's at now took time and the support of her family at friends.

At the onset of her illness, she said, Adamusik even told her husband, Gene, 38, that she would understand if he left her, and told her friends that she understood if they didn't want to continue their friendship.

Her offers fell on deaf ears.

"You find out that you have a lot of friends," she said. "I have friends who I really count on, who have really come to the forefront and taking my kids places."

Because she often is unable to take her children all the places she used to, Adamusik seizes upon the opportunities she does have since they come less frequently than they once did.

"M.S. is not just my disease. It's my family's," she said. "It has affected everyone in this house."

Just as celebrities like "Family Ties" actor Michael J. Fox have dedicated themselves to advocacy and research connected to diseases they suffer from - Fox has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease -Adamusik has channeled her energy and enthusiasm into the fight against multiple sclerosis.

The chief agency she works with is the greater North Jersey chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, which this week will sponsor a 6.2mile hike through Nomahegan Park on Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

Wearing T-shirts provided by Arena Sports Connexion on Raritan Road, her 31-member team, including

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M.S. is not just my disease. It's my family's. It has affected everyone in this house.'

– Beth Adamusik

two of her daughters, will walk the distance to raise money for the society. Her daughter Jenna, A team of 31 people will be walking on Adamusik's behalf, including her daughter Jenna; 11, has raised \$410. Her oldest daughter, Ashleigh Snow, 20, also will walk, and her youngest daughter, Lauren, 7, is assisting her mother at the finish line.

Such walks account for about 40 percent of the money raised annually for the North Jersey chapter.

In addition to the walk, Adamusik runs a 25-member support group for Union County victims of multiple sclerosis, called But You Look So. Good, with Julia Adams of Roselle Park. The group is sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

"It's a really very positive group. If someone has an issue, we'll listen and talk about it, and move on, but we're not going to dwell on it," said Adamusik.

The exact cause of multiple sclerosis still eludes medical science. No one is certain if it is caused by a virus or bacterium, or by possible environmental factors.

Adamusik's older sister, Carole Fishe of Georgia, also has multiple sclerosis, but statistically family members of the affliction's victims have only a minimally higher chance of developing the disease than those with no family history.

Even in cases where more than one

family member suffers from it, the symptoms can vary widely, as they do between Fisher and Adamusik.

"She struggles with it daily, but she's out doing her own thing. She's not using a wheelchair or a cane," said Adamusik. "It affects single person differently. That's the hardest thing about it."

But life goes on, and Adamusik refuses to let her affliction get her down. Her goal is to seize each moment as it comes and treasure every opportunity to do things with her family that she has.

"Every kids' softball that I can go to, every recital that I can attend, every honors society induction that I can go to, I'll go to," she said. "I am not defined by M.S. M.S. does not

Policy on weddings and engagements

Couples are encouraged to send their engagement and wedding announcements to the lifestyle editor. Announcements should be typed, doubled spaced or legibly handwritten and no longer than one page. All announcements should have a daytime phone number for verfication or if questions arise.

Information requested for engagements are parents names, high school name and town, college name, town and degree, name of employer and town where located, job title and the date of marriage.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by The Clark Eagle to inform residents of various community activities and governmental meetings. To publicize your community events, mail your schedule to: The Clark Eagle, Attn: managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union,

Friday

• The American Cancer Society and the Arthur L. Johnson High School Key Club will hold a Tricky Tray auction at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria,

Tickets cost \$6 in advance or \$8 at the door. Call Angie Maulbeck at 732-382-0910 to reserve tickets.

Saturday

· Clark Cub Scouts will hold its annual Rahway River clean-up at the

Winfield Park dam, with registration and breakfast from 8:30 to 9 a.m. . The Scouts hope to remove litter from the Robinson Branch of the river from the Parkway Bridge down to Rahway River Park.

For more information, call Joseph Seebode at 732-381-6853.

Sunday

· The Polish Cultural Foundation, 177 Broadway, will observe the anniversary of the May 3 Constitution in the Grand Hall at 3

Tickets cost \$10 for adults; students will be admitted free. For more information, call the foundation office at 732-382-7197.

· Step back in time as Municipal Historian Brian Toal takes you through the early development of Clark. View more than 200 photos showing Clark from the late 1800s through the present. Children are welcome to create a free Mother's Day craft.

The Clark history room, located in the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave., will be open from 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 732-388-3600.

Monday

• The Township Clerk's Office will be open until 4 p.m. for voters wanting to register by the deadline for the June 3 New Jersey primary election.

• St. Agnes Church will host its fourth annual golf fund-raiser at the Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield beginning at 11 am. Participation includes 18 holes of championship golf, a golf cart, driving range, a patio lunch, golf course refreshments, a deluxe cocktail and hors d'oeuvre reception, locker facilities and use of the clubhouse.

For more information, contact the rectory office at 732-388-7852.

• The Township Council will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 16 of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave.

Upcoming May 9

• The Polish Cultural Foundation will hold a Mother's Day dinner at 7:30 p.m. The event, to be held in the foundation's banquet hall, will include a hot buffet prepared by Maria Przybycien with a wine, toast, dessert and coffee.

Live entertainment will be provided by by Alfred Niemiec. Cost is \$20 a person. For reservations, call 732-382-7197.

May 14

• The Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 16 of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave. May 15

cafeteria of the Charles H. Brewer Senior Center, 430 Westfield Ave. For additional information call Lillian B, Krov at 732-311-

• The Clark senior monthly meeting will be held at 1 p.m. in the

May 17 • The Clark Health Department and Complete Care Medical Center of Scotch Plains, will offer free blood pressure, blood sugar and quick cholesterol screenings at Clark ShopRite, 76 Central Ave., between 10 a.m.

to 1 p.m. A two-hour fast is required for the blood sugar test. For more information, contact Health Officer Nancy Raymond at 732-385-3600, ext. 3045.

May 18

• Step back in time as Municipal Historian Brian Toal takes you through the early development of Clark. View more than 200 photos showing Clark from the late 1800s through the present.

The Clark history room, located in the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave., will be open from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, call 732-388-3600.

• The Township Council will meet at 8 p.m. in council chambers at the Public Safety Building, 315 Westfield Ave.

May 22

• The Board of Trustees of Clark Public Library will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Ayers Community Room at the library, 303 Westfield May 27

• The Planning Board will meet at 8 p.m. in the municipal courtroom in the Public Safety Building, 315 Westfield Ave. May 28

• The Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at 8 p.m. in Council Chambers, 380 Westfield Ave.

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EDUCATION

Celebrating you and me



Fifth-graders at Brookside Place School perform of "Celebrate You and Me," a show was about positive self-esteem and how to achieve it. Pictured are Hillary Joseph, Julie Gunning, Tom Marra, Maddie Johnstone, Anna Dugan, inside the "Esteem Machine."



Brookside Place School fifth-graders Robby Stratton, Brandon Hoffer, Katherine Fabian and Julie Gunning highlight some of the key themes of building self-esteem in their production of "Celebrate You and Me."

Hillside Avenue School names students to honor roll

Hillside Avenue School has named the following students to its all-A honor roll for the third marking period.

Sixth grade

Lyndsay Albert, Geena Alterbrando, Michael R. Baglieri, Michelle Cannon, Amanda Cardillo, Michelle Checchia,

Joseph Diaz, Mackenzie Dow, Michael Gaeta, Devon Garges, Jared Goeller, Catherine M. Goski, Edward Grabowski, Julianne Grandal, Edward Helmstetter,

Hannah Jenkins, Mia R. Korngruen, Anthony A. Laferrara, Elizabeth Lafferty, Jessica Longo,

James Molloy, Michael Nadolny, Daniel Petersen, Robert Poland,

Lindsey Rizkalla, Melissa Roberts, Deanna Russomanno, Niko J. Rydelek, Danielle Siani, Alexander Stone, Alexander Strong, Katherine Vanbenschoten,

Stephanie Walls, Erin Weber, Matthew Wegryn, Jaclyn Winnicki, Marta P. Wolfshorndl, Tanara Zamorski.

Seventh grade

Noah Anderson, Mark Doss, Alexa Fedorchak, Russell W. Jackson, Mark Kuczynski, Rachel A. Masterson, Rebecca Quinn, Laura A. Roberts.

Eighth grade

Breanne Durning, Jennifer Folinuse, Daniel J. Frieri, Natalie Laucius, Sean Molloy, Allison J. Schulz, Allison Stolte.

The following students made the A-and-B honor roll for the third marking period.

Sixth grade Robert Baer, Jenny Buontempo, Julia Cabrera, Ryan Cathcart, Shamsheer Cheema, Bianca Crimi, Nicole Curci, Andrew D'Uva, Stephen Dechiaro,

Jennifer Handy, Thomas Hearon, Jessica

Connor Koellner, Barbara Konopko, Angela Lavalle, Yianni Maris, James McArthur, Tara McDermott, Joseph Meter, Alicia Mitchell; Sebastian Moon, Michael Morgese, Christopher Munz, Toni Ann Murphy, Stephanie Neely, Brian Oliveira, Parth K. Patel, Angela Renna, Timothy Salerno, Tara Schultz, Catherine Uhle, Rita Uhle, Klaudia Zielonka.

Seventh grade

Mark B. Aguiling, Zachary Ahern, Adam Anstatt, Mark Bagniewski, Brad Bissett, Daniel P. Byrnes, Catrina A. Coffey, Robert A. Colaneri Jr., Dominque Collucci, Amanda J. Colucci, Rosemary M. Couto,

Arolonzo Davis, Lindsey De Luca, Amanda De Maio, Joseph Della Serra, Jennifer

Cassandra Flores, Bridget M. Guarisco, Drechsel, Michel Ellenbacher, Kristen M. Falzon, Raymond A. Felipe,

Kaitlin Goode, Samantha M. Guidon, Kristin Hardman, Thomas Hart, Tracey Hunt, Jonathan Jordon,

Ashli L. Kravarik, Gina Laferrara, Jonathan Lazariciu, Erin Leonard, Molly Malar, Daniel McMahon, Amanda Merwede, Nicole B. Molle, Daniel J. Moreno, Darnell Nicholas, Joseph Nyitray, Blake L.

O'Donnell, Michael Ozolnieks, Craig R. Palisamo, Melissa Pearl, Christopher Pilger, Brian Ray, Ashley M. Sandoukas, Andrew

Seiler, Simon Smith, Nicolas A. Taberna, William P. Torres,

Christian Vernaza, Julie Wagenblast.

Eighth grade

Jaclyn Alterbrando, Michael Andrews, Lauren Aslan, Erik Augenzucker, Stephen Backiel, Kimberly Baglieri, Corinne Brown, Jessica Buzar, Andrew Cannon, Jessica Clark, Nicholas M. Codella, Christopher Cook,

Jason D'Agostino, Dana Dechiaro, Franco Di Fabio, Glenn D. Eisenberg, Derek Englese, Amanda A. Floyd,

Sophia S. Gomez, Gary Gregory, Abigail Hansen, Allison Hearon, Jesse Hynes, Tara E. lauruzio.

Amanda Jenkins, Krystina Koblyinski, Julie Lafferty, Lisa Levonas,

Jenne V. Manchery, Jennifer Margherito, Andrew Maturo, Brittany McGinley, Mitchell A. Merman, Matthew J. Miller, Jaclyn M. Morgese, Melissa Nick, Kelly E. Noon, Kamila Pavezzi, Lacy Pettit,

Cindy Romero, Samantha Rose, Amanda E. Sanzone, Huong Storti, Joseph Touloumis, Rafael Townsend,

Kimberly Ulaky, Megan Ulrich, Karianne Weber, Derek Yates.

EDUCATION

Pupils invited to attend annual Camp Invention

The Cranford School District this July will host Camp Invention, a national summer day camp that encourages children to develop their innate creative abilities.

The camp will be held at Orange Avenue School July 28 to Aug. 1. The camp runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is for any student in first through fifth grades. Camp Invention is designed to

promote creative learning to providing children with hands-on, interactive activities that encourage creative solutions. Children participate in five inventive classes each day, which include disassembling old machinery and using the parts to make their own invention and exploring the science of flight.

Camp Invention was started in 1990 by The National Inventors Hall of Fame in Akron, Ohio, a nationally recognized, nonprofit, resource center for creative.

Camp Invention started in New Jersey in the summer of 1996. This year more than 450 camps will be offered nationwide, including 19 in New Jersey.

All camps are taught by district teachers and Camp Invention features a low staff-to-camper ratio, with one staff member for every eight campers.

There is a camp registration fee of \$190. After May 31 there is a \$9 late registration fee. This fee including snacks and a T-shirt. Registration is limited to 110 students.

Call 800-968-4332 or visit Web site at www.campinvention.org to register or for more information.

Students present concert at Hillside Ave.

Hillside Avenue School will present its annual seventh- and eighthgrade spring concert at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

The jazz and concert bands are under the direction of Thomas Siccia. The jazz band will perform "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown," by Jim Croce; "Tuxedo Junction," with solos performed by Zachary Ahem and Kevin Rumzie; "Rock 'n' Roll Part II"; "El Toco Rocko (Neeck)" and "YMCA."

The concert band will perform "America"; "Serengeti"; "Celebration and Sunset (an African Rhapsody)"; "Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame," including "Jailhouse Rock," "Twist and Shout," "Stand by Me" and "Wipe Out"; "Faculty versus Band (The Final Conflict)" and "Patriot and Festival," which will combine band with the chorus.

The chorus, under the direction of Tom Pedas, will perform Amanda McBroom's "The Rose," featuring soloist Natalie Laucius; "Jabberwocky," by Carol Jennings, based on the poem by Lewis Carroll; an arrangement of "Yakety Yak" by Roger Emerson; and a medley of tunes from "Les Misérables" featuring soloists Jen Margherito, Catrina Coffey, Joe McKenney, Michael Kieseling, Dana DeChiaro, Spencer Brooks, Peter Collier and Shannon MacMenamie; "Sanctus" and "Time to Say Goodbye," arranged by Carl Strommen and featuring soloists Kamila Pevezzi and Kevin Rumzie.

Annual school concert returns to Hillside Ave.

Hillside Avenue School will presents its annual elementary spring concert at 7:30 p.m. May 15.

The band, under the direction of Thomas Sicola, will perform "Apollo March," "March for Aida," "Rockology," "Dance Celebrations," "Wooly Bully" and "America the Beautiful." which will combine the band and cho-

The chorus, under the direction of Tom Pedas, will perform the New Zealand Maori folk song "Pokare Kare Ana," "Acronym Hymn," "Spiritual Jubilee" and Elton John's "Circle of Life," from "The Lion King."

The orchestra, under the direction of Maureen Power, will perform a traditional French folk song, "Allegro," "Shoe Symphony," "One Digit Ditty"

and "Swallowtail Jig."

CHS Booster Club wants president for fund-raising

The Cranford High School Booster Club is seeking a new president to lead fund-raising and awards activities for the 2003-04 school year.

The annual dinner for senior athletes and parents will be held May 21. Photos for the video presentation should be submitted by May 9.

The next regular meeting is at 8 p.m. May 13 in the Cranford High School cafeteria. For information on the booster club call Joan Bulthaupt at 908-272-6589.

Mother Seton honor roll

Cranford residents Elizabeth Samantha Belmont, Mary Catherine Bugel and Megan Ripka were among the students at Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark who earned second honors for the third marking period of the 2002-03 academic year.

To achieve second honors, she

must have obtained a minimum of all Bs and at least one A.

Union Catholic honor roll Several Cranford residents were

among the students at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains named to the first and second honor roll for the third quarter of the 2002-03 school year.

First honor roll

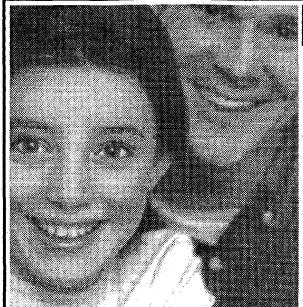
Michael Nowicki, Victoria Spellman, Christopher Varga and Allyssa Walls, grade nine; Joseph Cicchino, grade 10; Ryan Leonard and Kimberly Scutieri, grade 11, and Melissa Delatorre and Kaitlyn Kavalus, grade

Second honor roll

Alexander Cicchino, Lesley Hendricks, Anthony Lisciotto, Kevin Lubin, Anna Vicci, grade nine, and David Ault, grade 11.

To qualify for first honors distinction a student must have a grade point average of 3.6. Second honor roll requires a grade point average of 3.0.

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NEWS CLIPS

Bodian to present talk on lives of first ladies

An intimate look at the lives and accomplishments of America's first ladies of the 20th century will be the subject of a talk to be given at the Union YM-YWHA at 10 a.m. Tues-

The speaker is Nat Bodian of Cranford, author and historian, who has researched and lectured extensively on the lives of America's presidents.

Bodian will deal with each of America's first ladies, beginning with Anna Roosevelt, wife of President Theodore Roosevelt, in 1901, and continuing up to the present.

A highlight of his talk will be the numerous "firsts" of the various first ladies, including the first lady descended from Americans Indians, the first to vote in a presidential election, the first to give a speech in American Sign Language, the first to give a news conference, the first to be named after an Irish holiday and the first to be voted "The World's Most Admired Woman.'

Among the various contributions of the 18 first ladies to be discussed, Bodian will describe the personal efforts of one whose contribution was to bring Washington's famous cherry blossoms to the Tidal Basin, the first major public works project ever undertaken by a presidential wife.

Bodian also will discuss Eleanor Roosevelt, who assumed her husband's responsibilities when he became partially paralyzed and nearly blind after a massive stroke, and the first lady who served liquor at her husband's weekly poker sessions in the White House during Prohibition.

In addition to first lady accomplishments, Bodian will also touch on various other attributes of the first ladies: those considered to be most beautiful, intelligent and respected, those to act on stage and screen, to carry a gun, to know their husbands at the earliest age, and to live the

The program will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

For more information, call Susan at 908-289-8112.

The YM-YWHA is located at Green Lane and Magie Avenue in

Conservation Center recycles old phone books

Old telephone directories being replaced with new ones can be set at the curb with other recyclable materials or taken to the Cranford Conservation Center on Birchwood Avenue.

Printed telephones book - yellow or white pages - may be set out with mixed paper, bundled or in a brown paper bag. Mixed paper includes items such as catalogs, magazines, junk mail and cereal boxes.

Newspaper and corrugated cardboard are not included.

The Conservation Center will be open 9:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, and 9:30 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

The Conservation Center will be closed Thursdays for the rest of the year. Residents and businesses can drop off telephone books at the mixed paper container at the Conservation Center during normal operating

The center will be closed April 18

for Good Friday and April 20 for

2003 Yard Waste Permits for the Conservation Center are being sold through the mail. Interested residents should complete the application from the pink brochure. 2002 permits expire Tuesday.

Yard waste permits are required for dropping off branches, grass and yard trimmings.

A permit is not required to drop off other acceptable recyclable materials: newspapers, corrugated cardboard, mixed paper — no books — glass bottles, plastic type 1, 2 and 3 bottles, aluminum cans and steel cans.

For more information about Cranford's recycling program, call 908-709-7299.

Local author discusses presidential pedigrees

Nat Bodian, Cranford author and presidential historian, will speak on the heritage of America's presidents from George Washington to George W. Bush, at the first Wednesday luncheon of the Westfield Historical

The luncheon will take place at noon Wednesday at B.G. Fields Restaurant, 560 Springfield Ave.,

Bodian's talk will draw largely on presidential research done earlier in conjunction with a book of presidential curiosities and oddities.

In his talk, Bodian will detail the family heritage of each president. He also will discuss his findings on the relationships that existed among nearly half of the presidents.

Among the presidential ancestral backgrounds, he will mention three presidents descended from King Edward III of England, crowned in 1327; the president descended from King Henry II of England, crowned in 1154.; the president descended from

King David I of Scotland, crowned 1124; and the president descended from King Robert I of France, of the 11th century, father of William the Conqueror.

In addition Bodian will discuss the 10 presidents with ties to the American Revolution, one of whom fought, another whose father was involved, four whose grandfathers fought, and three whose great-grandfathers not only fought in the Revolution, but also crossed the Delaware with George Washington.

That talk will also deal with the eight presidents with Mayflower ancestry, and the presidential Mayflower descendent who also was the great-great-grandson of the Puritan settlers John and Priscilla Alden, whose marriage gave rise to the romantic legend made famous by Longfellow's poem "The Courtship of Miles Standish."

The talk on presidential ancestry will be Bodian's 10th before the Westfield Historical Society, and the fifth dealing with America's presi-

Regular attendees of the luncheon will be contacted by a telephone committee of the Society to verify their reservations. Space permitting, others may attend.

For more information, call 908-233-2930 by May 5.

Donors sought to boost fund-raiser for memorial

The Cranford Jaycees will hold a fund-raiser May 3 at the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex to support the WTC Memorial.

golf tournament, a hole-in-one event and a longest-drive contest. The Jaycees are seeking donations

The event will feature a miniature

for the fund-raiser. Desired donations include gift certificates, gifts for a

miniature golf hole and larger ticketed

items for all three events.

For more information, contact the Jaycees at 908-931-0160 or Chris Brawley at 908-497-0061.

Residents urged to show solidarity with U.S. forces

Concerned Citizens of Cranford and Kenilworth is urging residents on Saturday to show support for American troops by tying a yellow ribbon around trees on their property or on the antennae of their cars for the safe return of our soldiers.

"No matter what your views of the war may be our troops still need your support," a statement from the organization said.

Cerebral Palsy League benefits from oil changes

South Avenue Sunoco will donate \$5 to the Cerebral Palsy League for every oil change done at the station through December. The station is located at South and Lincoln avenues.

The Cerebral Palsy League provides services to improve the lives of children and adults with multiple disabilities and specific medical needs.

Programs include: Kaleidoscope Early intervention program for children younger than 3; the Come Play and Learn Early Childhood Educational Center, a childcare program for children 6 months to 6 years old; Jardine Academy, private schools serving children 3 to 21 years old with multiple disabilities, and the Vincent Coletta Vocational Center, providing a supported work environment for adults with disabilities.

For more information about the Cerebral Palsy League, call Melissa Travera at 908-709-1800, ext. 115.

Auxiliary police continue to seek new candidates

The Cranford Auxiliary Police is

seeking candidates who are interested in becoming auxiliary police officers.

This is strictly a volunteer organization that supplements the regular police department during emergen-

cies and at various town functions. Anyone 18 or older can apply. Candidates who are selected must attend training classes at the Auxiliary Police Academy in Scotch Plains.

Applications can be obtained from the police desk located in the Municipal Building at 8 Springfield Ave. The applications also can be downloaded from the municipal Web site at www.cranford.com/police by clicking on the "Forms" button.

This Web site also provides additional information on the auxiliary police.

For more information, call Capt. Ralph Gregson at 908-276-8875, evenings, or leave a voice message.

Legislators available

In addition to regular business hours on weekdays and one Saturday per month, the legislative office at 203 Elm St., Westfield, is open from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays.

The 21st Legislative District includes Cranford. For more information, call 908-232-3673.

Cranford historical group seeks membership boost

Cranford Historical Society is accepting new members.

There are three levels of membership: \$25, member; \$50, patron; and \$100 or more, benefactor.

Checks should be made to the Cranford Historical Society mailed to the Cranford Historical Society, c/o Hanson House, 38 Springfield Ave., Cranford, 07016.

For more information, call the society at 908-276-0082.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

APOSTOLIC

APOSTOLIC CORNERSTONE

Currently meeting at St. Lukes Episcopal Church 398 Chestnut Street, Union, NJ 07083 Pastor Michael Gibney 973-912-0522 or web site: WWW.NOPAST.COM Services: Sunday 11AM, Thursday 7:30 PM Sunday School 3-6 yr. olds, 7-12 yr. olds, Nursery Free Home Bible Course Available!
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Sunday 10 am Bible Study 11 am Worship Service 6 pm Evening Service Wednesday 7:30 pm Bible Study We are offering a private Bible Study at your convenience free for the asking. If you have a Bible question please call 908-

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Worship" Renewal Services, monthly (childcare available). We also offer full Christian counseling, addiction recovery groups, and many other fellowship groups Come visit us anytime at our Family Worship Center, 69 Myrtle Street, Cranford, NJ, 908709-9600. Clem Salerno, Senior Pastor.

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NOTE: All copy changes must be made in writing and received by Worrall community Newspapers no later than 12:00 Noon, Fridays prior to the following week's publication.
Please address changes to:
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GRACE M. Worrall Community Newspapers 1291 Stuyvesant Ave. Union, NJ 07083

semester of adult classes

Cranford Alliance Church is holding its spring semester of adult classes from 9 to 10 a.m. Sundays through

Alliance Church prepares

The series includes an in-depth study of the book of Ruth for women: a men's study on "Preparing to Win"; and a study for men and women on

"Christian Character." The classes are open to anyone at no charge.

For more information, call the church office at 908-276-1617.

About the Bible

"Journey of a Lifetime" is a study for interested students of all ages, providing a working knowledge of every book in the Bible, as well as a

close look at many of the significant chapters.

To make this journey more meaningful, a 226-page commentary filled with maps, charts and diagrams will be available. This study is designed in such a way that one may enter into the journey at any time or even for a

single session. Sessions covering the Old Testament will continue at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays for one year, until the New Testament study has been com-

Sessions meet in an informal setting in Cranford with the Rev. Frank Sforza of Trinity Pentecostal Holiness Fellowship.

For more information or to enroll, call 908-276-6244.

EVENTS

RELIGION

Ex-Hitler Youth to share memories of Nazism

Ludwig Knapp, noted author and essayist will speak about his experiences in Nazi Germany at 7 p.m. today in the audiovisual room of the Cranford Community Center.

Knapp, author of "Growing up Under Hitler: I was There," will relate how the Nazi regime manipulated the political, economic and emotional tenor of the times to enhance their rise to power.

His memoir highlights the labyrinth of deceit and death that reigned during the war years of Nazi terror and how the Nazi propaganda machine led to his induction into the Hitler Youth.

Knapp draws parallels between the situation in Germany between World War I and World War II and the current situation in totalitarian countries.

This is a fascinating tale of one man's experiences into the horror degradation of a country caught in the grips of a tyrannical regime. Admission is free. All are wel-

Jaycees golf fund-raiser will aid WTC memorial

The Cranford Jaycees will sponsor a fund-raiser for the Cranford World Trade Center Memorial at the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex from 9 a.m. to 7

p.m. Saturday. Competing in the miniature golf contest costs \$10 a person, with a \$5

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discount for families of four or more. Separate longest-drive and hole-inone contests cost \$10 for three balls. Prizes will be available.

For more information or to sponsor a hole, call Ralph Englese at 908-276-8514.

Residents asked to leave bags of food with the mail

The Cranford Post Office will conduct a townshipwide food drive for Cranford Family Care on May 10.

Mail carriers last year collected more than 2,000 pounds of nonperishable food. This year Cranford Family Care hopes to collect 5,000 pounds. The post office will deliver the food May 12 and 13 to the Garwood Knights of Columbus, where it will be sorted and delivered to the food

Volunteers should visit the Knights of Columbus between 11 a.m. and 5

Union County's women of note topic of lecture

From Colonial days to modern times, Union County has had its share of outstanding women, historian

Michael Yesenko notes. Yesenko, a former president of both the Union County and Union Township historical societies, will speak on some of these women at a joint meeting of the Linden and Cranford Leagues of Women Voters at 7:30 p.m. May 15.

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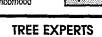
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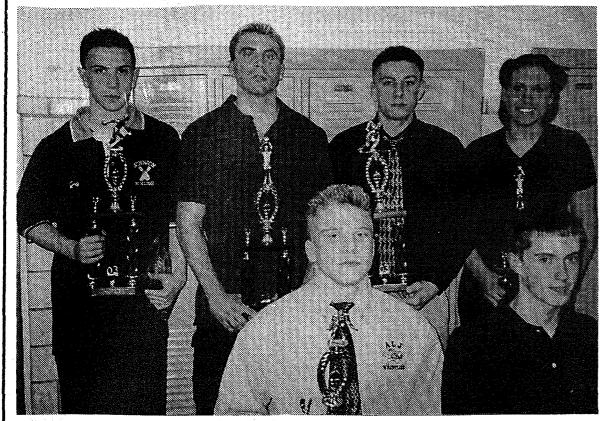
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The MVPs of their sports



Johnson High School winter MVPs include, front row from left, Alex Nowak-wrestling and Tim Syciarz-boys' track. Back row, from left, are Greg Hilyard-bowling, Shaun Griffin-boys' basketball, Jon Nudo-ice hockey and Samantha Parin-girls' basketball. Not pictured are Don Heeren for swimming and Tiffany Ingenito for girls' track.

Cranford softball team is stopped by Roselle Park Pemoulie pitches well against Panthers

By Jeff Wolfrum

ROSELLE PARK - Cranford High School softball coach Terry Biunno wanted her team to realize that its 2-0 setback to Roselle Park last Friday afternoon was just one regular-season game among many.

Staff Writer

"We lost because of little things, but they are fixable," Biunno said. "In the grand scheme of things, it's one game. I need the girls to keep that in perspective because we have a long way to go."

With the loss, Cranford's record dropped to 8-1, while Roselle Park improved to 8-0-1.

"Basically, all this game did was sew up the No. 1 seed (in the county tournament) for them," Biunno said. "We'll sit with either the two or three seed because Union hasn't

In the upcoming Union County Tournament, Roselle Park did get the top seed, with defending champion Cranford second and Union third.

In last year's UCT, Cranford defeated Roselle Park 1-0 in the semifinals and then won a 3-0 triumph over Union

in the final to claim its first-ever county crown. duel between Cranford's Christine Pemoulie and Roselle induced a ground out and popout to end the inning.

Park's Becky Riccitelli. Pemoulie hurled a five-hitter with three strikeouts and

no walks, while Riccitelli was slighltly better in giving up two hits with eight strikeouts and one walk. Cranford almost gave Pemoulie a lead in the first

inning when it put two runners on with two out. However, Riccitelli was able to get the final out to end the threat. The frame started off well for the Cougars as leadoff hitter Lauren O'Donnell beat out a bunt single and stole

second. After Riccitelli fanned the next two hitters, she gave up her only walk to put runners at first and second. However, that's as far as they would go as Riccitelli induced a

popout to end the inning. Riccitelli, as of Tuesday, had yet to give up a run this season.

"We felt confident going up against her (Riccitelli)," Pemoulie said. "We tried to go after her first pitch because it's usually a strike. We also tried to lay off her riser."

Roselle Park then used a two-out rally in the bottom of the inning to score the only runs of the game.

Riccitelli got things going by lining a single to center. Then after getting a 1-2 count on Erin O'Callahan, the Roselle Park catcher lined an RBI-triple to right-center to plate the first run.

Laura Bundy then followed by beating out an infield single to bring in the final run.

"I thought I had a strikeout on the pitch called a ball before the triple," Pemoulie said. "She just got a hold of the one pitch and hit it to right. The other run was scored on a little pop up that landed and was hard to catch."

Roselle Park threatned in the third, but Pemoulie came through to keep it a two-run game.

With one out, Riccitelli singled to left and then moved to third on an error.

Even though Roselle Park had two runners in scoring Last Friday's contest featured another fine pitching position with one out, it couldn't get them in as Pemoulie

Meanwhile, Cranford managed only one more runner through the final six innings.

That came on a one-out single to right by Kiera Zimmerman. However, Riccitelli quickly dampened the threat by retiring the next two batters.

"I was hoping for a better effort against her," Biunno said. "I expected to hit her better. We started to time her, so maybe we needed nine innings instead of seven. We gave away some chances by looking at a couple of pitches."

Pemoulie also gained momentum down the stretch as she retired the final nine batters in order.

"We just lost to a better team," Biunno said. "It's a long season, so we'll probably see each other again."

Golfers par for the course at Watchung Conf. event

Staff Writer

SCOTCH PLAINS - Consistency was the theme for many local golfers at Monday's Watchung Conference championship at Shackamaxon Golf Course.

Union's Melvin Sarmiento was a perfect example as he carded an 80. He had a 40 on the front nine, while accomplishing the same feat on the back nine.

"I just wanted to play my best and have fun," Sarmiento said. "I hit my drives pretty straight and my irons were good. My putting wasn't dropping for me."

Sarmiento was in the first group out, which included Cranford's Jason Occi, Westfield's Ryan Shallcross and Scotch Plains' Mats Notdane.

Notdane finished with a 40-43 for an 83, while Occi carded a 39-36 for 75 and a second-place finish. Shallcross won the individual title with a 34-39 for a final 73.

"They all brought the best in me," Sarmiento said. "They were all long, but I was with them. On one par-five, I outdrove Occi and Shallcross, so I needed just two shots to put it on the green. I then made a 30-foot eagle putt."

Shallcross, who won last year's Union County Tournament individual title, helped his team capture the Watchung Conference "A" Division title.

Westfield took top honors with a team score of 307, while Scotch Plains was second with a 331. Cranford was third with a score of 352, while Union was fourth at 387.

The Farmers received a 48-50-98 from Matt Mogelesky, a 67-56-123 from T.J. Conneely, a 56-55-111 from Tim Hoy, a 63-57-120 from Jon Helmstetter and a 50-48-

"I teed off well and drove the ball good," Fields said. Cranford, which had the services of Occi for the first time this year (he left right after the event to play in a Cranford baseball game), also received fine performances from the rest of the team.

Evan Herbert carded a 49-43-92, while Paul Montgomery was steady with a 48-47-97.

"I expected a little lower score, but I really didn't know the course," Herbert said. "I learned that the course was

Rob Argen posted a 44-52-96, while Tom Anthes did the same with a 47-49-96. Joe Vultaggio rounded out the group by shooting a 48-41-89.

'I was driving the back nine pretty well," Vultaggio said. "I had a birdie, which help me out a little bit, so I played pretty solid on the back nine. I tried to put myself in better position on the back nine, so I played a little

In addition to Shallcross's 73, Westfield got a 38-42-80 from Adam Karnish, a 38-41-79 from Garrett Cockren, a 37-38-75 from Jimmy Arbes, a 42-43-85 from Tom Delduca and a 50-45 from Matt Hodges.

"I played real consistently with a lot of pars," Shallcross said. "The greens were fast, but I'm used to fast greens. I play better on that kind of surface. I started off good, but I needed to get into a groove. On the back nine I really started to strike the ball well."

With his score of 75, Arbes placed third.

"Our team is good this year," Shallcross said. "I wasn't surprised we won the team title. We should do very well in the states.'

In addition to Notdane's 83, Scotch Plains received balanced scoring from Mike Sprung 40-42-82, Jack Davis 39-40-79, Chris Cooper 50-47-97, Rob Maloney 43-45-88 and Brian Halpin 43-44-87.

Even though Linden finished second to Plainfield for the "B" Division title, it did have two individual golfers place in the top three.

Michael Pisarski carded a 63-60-123 for a third-place finish, while Robert Cubala had a 53-51 for a 104 and sec-

ond-place honors. "I didn't play as well as I could, but I think that was because of the heat," Pisarski said. "The back nine wasn't as hot because it had some trees for shade. It was also a little straighter and that's the way I like it."

Cubala, who was participating in his first match of the season, was happy with his performance.

"The water gave me problems," Cubala said. "I also just tried to stay away from the sand."

Jonathan Koziol carded a 63-55-118 on 16 holes, while Amber Hughes shot a 61-45-106, also on 16 holes. The quartet managed to card a team total of 459.

"We don't have much depth," Linden head coach Jim Donachy said. "We were missing one of our golfers, so that hurt us. Most of the othergolfers have never played before, so they're doing the best that they can."

Plainfield took the "B" Division crown with a score of 409. Jonas Cleveland carded a 45-52-97 for first-place individual honors.

Dennis McCloud posted a 62-62-124, Sean Sauls a 54-52-106, Corey Morris 55-50-105 and Jennifer Pineda a 62-49-111 for 16 holes.

Elizabeth, Shabazz and Newark East Side were scheduled to compete, but didn't show up for the event.

assist king Nolan is new NJ

The Johnson High School boys' lacrosse team is used to record-setting performances. Senior attackman Kevin Nolan was the lastest Crusader to make his mark felt.

Nolan became the state's all-time assist leader Monday after scoring three goals and assisting on five others to spark a convincing 13-2 home win over Millburn. Most important to all was the fact that Johnson improve-

d to 5-3 with the victory. Nolan entered the game tied at 228 assists with 2002

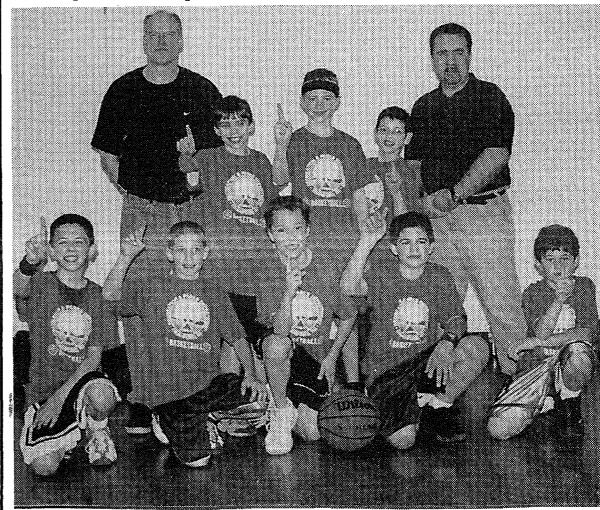
Princeton graduate Whitney Hayes and passed him early in

the contest on a feed from behind the cage to Wayne Giampino.

As of Tuesday, Nolan had 351 career points, third alltime in the state, while Hayes is second with 383. Nolan had 12 goals and 27 assists this season.

Matt Poskay, a 2002 Johnson grad, is the state's all-time leading scorer with a state-leading 362 goals and 106 assists for 468 points. Nolan assisted many of Poskay's

Hoop champions



The Spiders defeated the Badgers 64-44 in the Cranford Recreation Basketball League's championship game. Mike Nadolny and Joe Diaz scored 29 points each. The Spiders defeated the Dragons 75-71 in overtime to reach the final. Kneeling, from left, are Mike Nadolny, Anthony Petrowski, Bobby Poland, Joe Diaz and Chris Petrick. Standing, from left, are coach John Sigl, Scott Sigl, Tim Salerno, Matt Morone and coach Joe Diaz.

Clark Soccer Club tryouts upcoming

The Clark Soccer Club will be holding tryouts for traveling teams for the 2003-2004 season.

Tryouts will be held, rain or shine, at Bartell Park, which is located off Westfield Avenue in Clark at the end of Bar-

Attendance at the appropriate tryouts is mandatory. Tryouts for the different divisions are as follows:

May 16: Under 9 Girls, 8-1-94 to 7-31-96, 6 p.m. registration and 6:30 tryouts. Under 9 Boys, 8-1-94 to 7-31-95, 6 p.m. registration and 6:30 tryouts. Under 10 boys, 8-1-93 to 7-31-94, 7 p.m. registration and 7:30 tryouts. Under 8 Boys, 8-1-95 to 7-31-96, 7 p.m. registration and 7:30 tryouts.

May 30: Under 11 Boys, 8-1-92 to 7-31-91, 7 p.m. registration and 7:30 tryouts. Under 11 Girls, 8-1-92 to 7-31-94, 6 p.m. registration and 6:30 tryouts. Under 12 Boys, 8-1-91 to 7-31-92, 7 p.m. registration and 7:30 tryouts. Under 13 Boys, 8-1-90 to 7-31-91, 7 p.m. registration and 7:30 tryouts.

June 6: Under 14 Boys, 8-1-89 to 7-31-90, 6 p.m. registration and 6:30 tryouts.

More information about the soccer tryouts may be obtained by calling Liesel Krehan at this phone number: 732-382-3238.

United booters triumph The Cranford United 11-and-under boys' soccer team came back twice to capture a hard-fought 3-2 win over the Branchburg Stars last weekend.

Patrick Hartnett scored Cranford's second and third goals in the second half after the United was down 2-1 at

His game-winning goal was a 25-yard blast off a restart that a stunned Bordentown keeper had no chance to save.

Alex Porter, Pace, Ryan Lopes and Michael Sheehan controlled the tempo in the midfield, while Vince Fitzgerald hustled and created numerous scoring opportunities from his central striker position. Defenders Andrew O'Neill and Robert Ghiretti shut

down the Bordentown attack completely in the second half, aided by the play of Keith Powell and Matt Frediani on the left. "Man of the Match" honors went to Eric Walano, who

battled hard to win what seemed like every ball on the right From his right back position, Walano completely domi-

nated whatever player the frustrated Stars coach threw at Goalkeepers Patrick Kaskiw and Nick Cook were solid

in net and traded places on the left wing. Both also had several scoring opportunities while playing on offense.

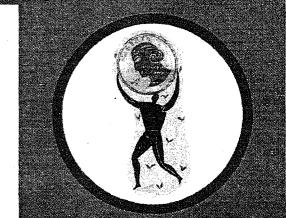
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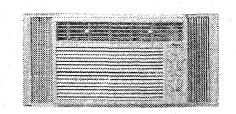
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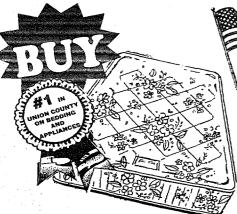
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Union County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2003 - SECTION B

http://www.localsource.com

The day before

It was akin to the rehearsal day before the wedding. The members of the Union Township Committee huddled outside the community's new train station Sunday evening before Monday morning's official dedication.

A few early travelers stopped by to discuss the route and give out praise. A diligent cleaning man wielded a mop on the floor of the station convenience store called Newsplus.

Left Out By Frank Capece

As the officials waited to do interviews with a local cable station, Committeeman Joseph Florio reflected, "As mayor at the time, I broke ground on the project with former Congressman Bob Franks. It has been three years but we finally got the project completed."

Committeeman Patrick Scanlon reeled off an impressive list of positive developments due to the new station. It means about a million dollars a year in revenue to the township. There will be easy access to Schering-Plough and Kean University.

The 468 new parking spaces appear like an oasis for commuters used to battling for spots in Roselle Park and Cranford. For parts of Elizabeth and Union, the commuters can walk to the train. The favorable impact on property values in the area was also not lost on the officials.

Scanlon focused on the future projects planned at the site like a new hotel, restaurant and "firstclass townhouses." He sees the impact of more growth because of the access. The sign on the platform calls the stop "Union -Kean University."

As the unofficial tour guide, Scanlon and friends checked out everything from the mosaic artwork called, "Union Due East — Union Due West," to examining the new see-through garbage containers reminding us how terrorism has changed so much in our lives.

The hands-on attitude was reflected in the negotiations with Kean for land swaps of property and the rise in calls to New Jersey Transit which Florio called "brisk."

The old Reisen lumber site on Morris Avenue was about to become a transit hub and spur growth. These officials were making sure that the little details were attended to before the crowd of state officials, New York television and transit types came to visit, praise and cut ribbons.

A new massive train station is a big deal worthy of some crowing and ribbon cutting. Transit guru William Wright recalls talk of the station three decades ago. He calls the stop a "win, win, win."

He points to the rail access to Schering-Plough as important. Wright speaks about providing "meaningful mass transit to people in Union County who previously

didn't have such access." See READY, Page B2

County budget calls for tax hike

By Mark Hrywna

Regional Editor Eight communities will see the county portion of their tax bills rise by at least \$100 this year if the county budget is approved.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders introduced the 2003 budget during its meeting April 24. A public hearing on the budget will take place at May 22 regular meeting, beginning at 7 p.m. on the sixth floor of the Administration Building in Elizabeth.

The \$340.7 million county budget calls for \$191 million to be raised through property taxes. The overall budget is up 1.8 percent over last year's \$334 million budget.

The property tax levy — the amount to be raised through property taxes - will rise by about \$17 million, or almost 10 percent, from last year's \$174 million. County officials say this year's increase is only \$3 million more than last year's \$14-million increase in the tax levy.

Last year's county tax hike calculated to about \$80 for the average Union County home, but that ranged from lows of \$4 in Winfield and \$28 in Roselle to highs of \$284 in Summit and \$175 in Berkeley Heights.

This year Summit again will see the largest tax increase, \$300 for the average home, followed by Westfield, \$175, and Clark, \$140. The lowest increases will be in Winfield, \$3, Roselle, \$26, and Berkeley Heights,

\$51. The average increase countywide is approximately \$93.

The board's Fiscal Affairs Committee reviewed the budget over the past two months after conducting budget hearings in February.

Revenues declined by \$13.5 million while costs jumped \$14 million, creating a \$27.5 million deficit at start of the budget process, County Manager George Devanney said.

Factors contributing to the county's tax hike include increases of \$5.2 million in insurance costs and \$1.5 million in public safety for increased security, additional county police and restructuring of the Prosecutor's Office. The county's investment income also dropped by \$3.2 million as did election board revenue, by \$450,000.

There is less money available from the federal and state governments, Freeholder Angel Estrada, chairman of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, said. "It's the reality of the world today."

Devanney pointed to several areas where the county saved money, such as \$300,000 by reducing the automotive fleet and eliminating the new purchase of vehicles; \$170,000 by having the Union County Utilities Authority pay the salaries of its solid waste investigators; \$200,000 through the reduction of seasonal employees, and \$249,000 through a hiring freeze on 135 vacancies through the first quar-

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<u>Town</u>	<u> 2002</u>	<u> 2003</u>	<u>Increase</u>	Open space	
Berkeley Heights	\$1,589	\$1,640	\$51	\$63	
Clark	\$1,006	\$1,146	\$140	\$42	
Cranford	\$1,106	\$1,218	\$112	\$44	
Elizabeth	\$615	\$675	\$60	\$25	
Fanwood	\$1,030	\$1,146	\$116	\$42	
Garwood	\$859	\$955	\$96	\$96	
Hillside	\$605	\$685	\$80	\$25	
Kenilworth	\$791	\$909	\$118	\$32	
Linden	\$678	\$733	\$55	\$26	
Mountainside	\$1,541	\$1,613	\$72	\$59	
New Providence	\$1,467	\$1,598	\$131	\$58	
Plainfield	\$607	\$660	\$53	\$25	
Rahway	\$620	\$675	\$55	\$25	
Roselle	\$548	\$574	\$26	\$21	
Roselle Park	\$657	\$730	\$73	\$27	
Scotch Plains	\$1,265	\$1,324	\$58	\$49	
Springfield	\$1,098	\$1,163	\$65	\$42	
Summit	\$2,446	\$2,745	\$299	\$99	
Union	\$732	\$836	\$103	\$30	
Westfield	\$1,706	\$1,881	\$175	\$69	
Winfield	\$67	\$69	\$2	\$3	
		Source: Union County Department of Fin:			c

The columns labeled 2002 and 2003 are the amount of county taxes for the average assessed home in that town. The column on the right is the amount, included in overall county taxes, for the dedicated Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

Celebrating Arbor Day

"We have tightened our belts, but we have not tightened our hearts," Freeholder Rick Proctor said in a prepared statement, adding the county averted layoffs in its workforce of more than 2,800.

Officials estimate about \$150,000 was saved by encouraging employees to take voluntary furloughs. Devanney said department directors and constitutional officers were among the hundreds of employees who helped to avert layoffs.

But Wally Shackell, a former Republican freeholder candidate who follows the board for the GOP, said the all-Democratic county governing body has not done enough to cut spending, or promote shared services that might cut costs.

"They're not cognizant of the fact that a recession is going on.

"Certain towns are going to be hit hard. It's a very harmful budget, especially to many suburban communities who'll bear the brunt ."

Gays seek equality

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer

On Oct. 30, 2001, Larry Courtney and Eugene Clark would have celebrated 14 years as committed lifetime partners. But on Sept. 11, 2001, Clark died in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

After mourning his loss, Courtney eventually filed a workers compensation claim with Cambridge Integrated Services Group Inc., the insurance company of Clark's employer.

The company said Courtney did not qualify for the benefits that Clark's employer had been paying because their relationship did not fit the criteria of "legally married."

Instead, Cambridge suggested that the benefits be paid to Clark's father, someone Clark had not seen or spoken to in more than 20 years.

"That did not matter to the insurance company," said Courtney in a prepared statement. "Nor did Gene and my 14 years together in a committed lifetime partnership. It was a heartless calculation by the insurance company compounding the terrible grief I was going through. We didn't fit the criteria. We weren't married." At a town meeting in Summit Uni-

tarian Church Tuesday night, representatives from gay and lesbian advocacy groups discussed strategies to make New Jersey the first state in the nation to recognize same sex marriages for lesbians and gay men.

The groups hope to accomplish their goal working through New Jersey's courts and legislature.

"We are seeking to use the courts and the Legislature to win protection and equality for our families," said Craig Adams, director of Education and Public Affairs at Lambda Legal, a law firm that filed a lawsuit against the state on behalf of seven homosexual couples seeking to win full and equal marriage rights for all gay and lesbian couples in New Jersey.

Another strategy that gay and lesbian advocacy groups are using so the state recognizes same-sex partnerships is on the legislative front, where Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg, D-Bergen, and Assemblyman Joseph Roberts, D-Camden, are preparing a bill that would revise statutes to recognize domestic partners.

Under the bill, any two people who live together, regardless of their relationship, could file as domestic

"It does not simply recognize homosexual domestic partners. It represents a variety of relationships," Ed Barocas, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, said.

The bill would allow gay couples to visit each other in hospital Intensive Care Units, require both private companies and the state to include gay partners as beneficiaries on health plans and allow gay partners to make critical health care decisions for their partners.

Currently, same-sex marriages are not legal in any state. However, in April 2000, Vermont approved legislation recognizing "civil unions" between homosexuals — a status just short of marriage.

New directory seeks to match resources

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer

Connecting those in need with those who can help, Union County's new volunteer directory offers a valuable resource to residents who are interested in volunteering and residents looking for help from volunteers.

"Hopefully it will link up people who want to volunteer with people who need volunteers," Freeholder Alexander Mirabella said.

The directory features a list of ongoing volunteer projects and contact information. It includes an alphabetical list of organizations and agencies, followed with a list of volunteer interests referenced by category. The directory includes information on nearly 50 organizations and 200 volunteer opportunities.

The directory, co-created by the United Way of Greater Union County, and the county's Office of Volunteer Services, will have an initial printing of approximately 2,000 copies. The directory will be available at county functions and in county buildings, and a copy will be given to each organization listed in

"We hope that it will be a real good program to fill a need," said Mirabella. "Volunteers are the life-blood of the community and we want to be able to help

Elizabeth-based United Way develops and supports programs addressing the critical needs of the community, including programs for children and youth, people with disabilities, seniors, families in crisis, and the hungry and home-

"Volunteers play a vital role in our Union County communities," Chief Executive Officer of the United Way of Greater Union County Elisse Glennon said in a prepared statement. "By reading to children at an after-school program, spending time with seniors at a local center, assisting in a cleanup project, or helping out in another of hundreds of possible ways, our volunteers offer their time and energy to make good things happen in our community."

Freeholder Chairwoman Deborah Scanlon said the county is always looking for additional volunteers.

"We used to have a directory of Union County services and it was cumbersome to say the least," said Scanlon. "We decided to work with the United Way and break it down so that there were volunteer services." The Office of Volunteer Services was created in 2001, allowing county res-

idents a greater opportunity to volunteer in the county and match those in need with volunteers.

"At the time it seemed like there was a void in the county," said Mirabella. "We weren't matching up people that wanted to volunteer with people that needed volunteers."

For a copy of the directory, call the Office of Volunteer Services at 908-659-

With the help of pre-schoolers, from left, Majiory Alache, Libia Romero and Luis DeJesus, Freeholder Angel Estrada and Jim Nichnadowicz, chairman of the Union County Shade Tree Advisory Board, plant a cucumber magnolia tree on Friday at The Loop in Watchung Reservation to commemorate Arbor Day.

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Pothole hotline available

After clearing twice the average amount of snow from the county's roads this winter, crews from Union County's Division of Public Works is shifting to repairing potholes throughout the county.

Public Works officials say that this was the worst winter in at least a decade for potholes. Periods of bitter cold interspersed with warmer weather caused roadways to buckle and heave, breaking open the road surface. Once ice forms in .hose breaks, a pothole is born.

Union County has three crews patrolling roads and patching the potholes called in by residents. Crews are making both temporary and permanent road patches. Two two-person crews are assigned only to temporary pothole repairs and two five-person crews are assigned to permanent patches.

In most cases, the pothole will be temporarily patched within 24 hours of being called in, and it will be added to the list of locations slated for permanent repairs.

Ready for commuters

(Continued from Page B1) Looking forward, Wright sees a time when a new rail tunnel across the Hudson will mean direct service for the line into New York without a transfer at Newark. Wright sees this opportunity at least three years away. "The wheels of mass transit grind very slowly, but they do grind."

Still, despite the future issues, tough negotiations with neighbors and labor unions on the project, a milestone was met. The 10-minute trip from the new station to Newark or 25 minutes to Penn Station is a reali-

The township officials finished their go through, satisfied that the next day's program would be successful as well as the daily visits of com-

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey and the Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor the following blood drives:

munity organizations.

Emanu-El.

is available.

offered each year include the New jer-

sey Bias Crime Officers Association,

the state senators and assembly repre-

sentatives from across the county,

Kean University, the Union County

Board of Chosen Freeholders and the

The annual Andrew K. Ruotolo Jr.

Award honoring the late Union Coun-

ty prosecutor and his dedication to

anti-bias efforts will be presented this

year to the Men's Club of Temple

once again, has invited every school

superintendent, religious leader,

police chief, elected official and area

legislator to its program. The prosecu-

tor has indicated that crimes fueled by

bias or intolerance face swift and cer-

tain prosecution because such acts

degrade public safety and the quality

of life for every resident in the coun-

and will include interpretation for the

hearing-impaired. Ample free parking

Electronics collection

Saturday at college

As in the past, the program is free

How can you get ride of old auto-

mobile tires, an old television, com-

puter monitor, fax machine or other

electronic equipment? Don't put them

out at the curb with the regular

household garbage. Bring them to be

recycled at Union County's next free

drop-off collection event on Saturday.

erly dispose of their old computers

and unwanted electronic equipment,

plus automobile tires, from 9 a.m. to 2

p.m. at the back parking lot of Union

County College, 1033 Springfield

Ave., Cranford, opposite Nomahegan

Park. Also being accepted will be

sen Freeholders, with funding from

the state Department of Environmen-

tal Protection, developed an environ-

mentally sensitive program, the first

of its kind in the United States to offer

the ability to recycle unwanted elec-

tronic appliances either through

municipal curbside collection or

depot drop-off.

The Union County Board of Cho-

ammunition and fireworks.

Union County residents can prop-

The Committee Against Hate,

Humans Relations Commission.

- Friday, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Galloping Hill Road.
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Knights of Columbus, 37-43 South Ave., Garwood; First Baptist Church of Union, Colonial Avenue, Union.
- Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Union Elks Lodge, 281 Chestnut
- · May 12, 4 to 8 p.m., Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield.
- · May 13, 6 to 9 p.m., Masonic Atlas Pythagoras, 1011 Central Ave., Westfield.

Donors must be 17 years of age. There is no upper age limit to donors provided they meet health requirements. Donors should know their Social Security number and bring a signed or picture form of identifica-

For more information, call the Blood Center at 1-800-652-5663, ext. 140, or the Red Cross at 908-353-2500.

Annual 'forum against hate' will be tonight

A special "humorous but heartbreaking" theatrical performance that deals with issues of tolerance and understanding will be part of this year's ninth annual community forum presented by the Union County Committee Against Hate.

Sponsored by the Union County Prosecutor's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Union County superintendent of schools, the "Standing Together Against Hate IX" program will feature Michael Fowling, noted actor, psychologist and poet, in a one-man theatrical presentation called "You Don't Know Me, Until You Know

In a gripping, fast-paced, 75minute performance, he will slip in and out of nine characters, male and female, who share their stories in an often funny, sometimes heartbreaking

Louis F. Allen, special agent in charge of the FBI in Newark, will open the two-hour program set for 7:30 p.m. tonight at Temple Emanu-El, 756 E. Broad St., Westfield.

COUNTY NEWS

Each year, the annual forum brings Computer monitors and televitogether business leaders, governsions are the source of about five ment professionals, law enforcement pounds of lead per screen. Up to 95 personnel and members of educationpercent of most electronic appliances al, religious, media, civic and comcan be recycled. This is a responsible way to keep hazardous heavy metals Other co-sponsors of the program out of the environment.

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

> Refrigerators, washers and dryers, microwaves, and air conditioners will not be accepted. Registration is not necessary. This computer, electronics and tire recycling program is open to Union County residents only, not

> The Union County Division of Public Works will also be at Union County College on Saturday to assist with the automobile tire recycling. County residents may bring up to eight tires — no rims — for recycling at no charge.

Union County's scrap tire management initiative is aimed at reducing the spread of the West Nile Virus. Too often, the stagnant water that collects in discarded tires behind garages is the breeding ground for mosquitoes that carry the virus.

For more information, visit the Union County Environmental Services Web site at www.ucnj.org/oem or call the Environmental Services Hotline at 908-654-9889.

MS Walk at Nomahegan

Registration is under way for the 15th annual Greater North Jersey Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Walk. Slated for Sunday, the MS Walk gives participants a choice of seven different routes in seven counties throughout the northern region of the state. Scenic walking routes have been mapped for Passaic, Bergen, Hudson, Morris, Union, Essex and Sussex counties.

Union County's walk is a 6.2-mile stretch at Nomahegan Park in Cranford, adjacent to Union County College on Springfield Avenue.

Participants may walk individually, or form a team of family, friends and co-workers. The Greater North Jersey Chapter has 363 teams already enlisted, some with more than 100 members. All walkers must raise a minimum of \$50. Last year, the average walker brought in \$237 or more for the cause.

Teams are comprised of a minimum of four people, including a captain or co-captains. The leading overall fundraising teams, along with Rookie Team of the Year, Largest Team of the Year and Best Team Tshirt will be recognized with special awards presented by the chapter.

The following are MS Walk routes in the seven participating counties: For more information, or to register, go to www.mswalk.org or call 201-261-WALK (9255).

Prevention Links awards

Prevention Links, a nonprofit substance abuse prevention agency which serves all of Union County will be presenting its Corporate Award to Worrall Community Newspapers at its third annual awards ceremony and fund-raiser on May 8.

Worrall Community Newspapers has been selected to receive the award because of its commitment to raising public awareness about substance abuse prevention issues. Currently, Worrall Community Newspapers, which is a family-run business, serves 23 communities in New Jersey.

The Alan Augustine Prevention Award, named to memorialize the former assemblyman from the 22nd Legislative District, will be presented to Herb Worthington, national chairman of the Veterans Against Drugs.

Worthington, a resident of Linden, helps counsel veterans as to their rights and benefits. He is an advocate for disabled veterans and has been involved with an supportive of Prevention Links, especially during the annual October Red Ribbon Drug Awareness Events. Worthington is an active member of both the Union County Coalition Advisory Board and the Local Advisory Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

The awards ceremony will take place at the Cranford Dramatic Club, with an hors d'oeurves reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. and includes a theatrical production of "Guys and

Anyone wishing to attend the May 8 event, either to support the agency or the honoree, can call Prevention

Links at 731-381-4100 for ticket information.

Prevention Links is dedicated to prevention and early intervention for alcoholism, tobacco, drug abuse, and other related problems. Proceeds from the evening will be used by Prevention Links, as it continues to provide educational programs, speakers, training, video, and free reference materials related to substance use issues to schools, special population groups, communities/civic organizations, municipal alliances, law enforcement, faith communities, legislators, and the general public throughout Union

For more information about the agency or for volunteer opportunities, call 732-381-4100 or check out their Web site at www.preventionlinks.org.

Outreach services

The Union County Division on Aging in the Department of Human Services has announced the May locations of the Outreach Services Program that offers seniors information and help with applications for a variety of important government assistance programs.

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders encourages elderly, isolated individuals who meet eligibility requirements to apply for vital services through the outreach program. These services can supplement the basic needs of the isolated elderly and sustain or improve their lives.

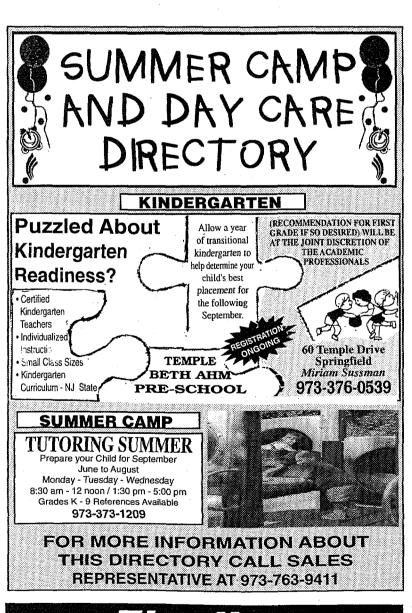
Union County representatives will be available at three locations in May to help residents complete the necessary applications for a multitude of programs, including gas and electric support, pharmaceutical assistance, home energy assistance, Supplemental Security Income, counseling on health insurance for Medicare enrollees, and the SHARE Food Pro-

Bilingual staff members will be available to assist the senior citizens.

The dates, times and locations for the outreach services are:

 Today, Garwood Firehouse, 415 South Ave., 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

 May 8, Roselle Borough Hall, 210 Chestnut St., Roselle, 1 to 3 p.m.



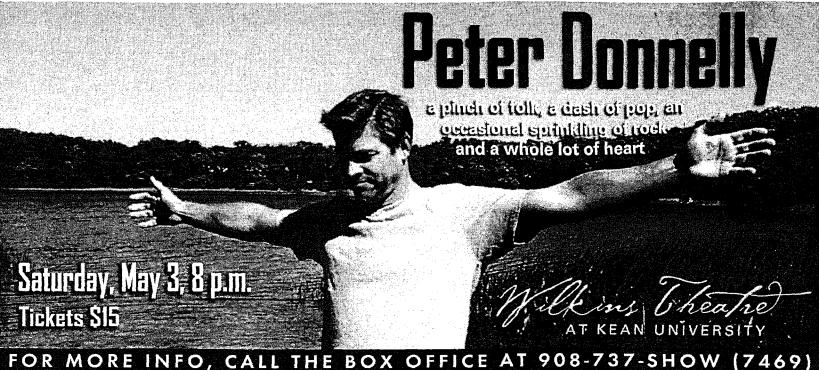




Internet Directory Agape Family Worship Center..... ...http://www.agapecenter.org ..http://www.americansavingsnj.com American Savings Bank..... Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce......http://www.compunite.com/bcc Burgdorff ERA.....http://www.burgdorff.com Crossroads Christian Fellowship....... Eye Care Center of NJ...... .http://www.eyecarenj.com First Night of Maplewood/So. Orange.....http://community.nj.com/cc/firstnight-soma ..http://www.springstreet.com/propid/389126 Forest Hill Properties Apartments..... ..http://www.grandsanitation.com Grand Sanitation. ..http://www.holycrossnj.org Holy Cross Church... Hospital Center at Orange...... ..http://www.cathedralhealthcare.org .http://www.century21jrs.com JRS Realtyhttp://www.lasalletravel.com LaSalle Travel Service..... Mountainside Hospital.. ..http://www.AtlanticHealth.org ..http://www.nutleypet.com Nutley Pet Center... ..http://www.petwatchersnj.com Pet Watchers.. ..http://www.rets-institute.com ..www.marykay.com/chandrac South Orange Chiropractic..... ..http://www.sochiro.com ..http://www.angelfire.com/ni/summitic Summit Area Jaycees. ..http://www.summitems.org Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad...... Synergy Federal Savings Bank.....http://www.synergyonthenet.com Trinitas Hospital.. ..http://www.trinitashospital.com ..http://www.turningpointnj.org Turning Point.. Union Center National Bank.... ..http://www.ucnb.com Unitarian Universalist Church..... ...http://www.firstuu.essex.nj.uua.org United Way of Bloomfield......http://www.viconet.com/~unitedway To be listed call 908-686-7700

T........

www.localsource.com



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vereen's concert has polish, but little magic

Appearing April 21 at Paper Mill: The State Theater of New Jersey, Broadway luminary Ben Vereen delivered some great moments, but failed to truly live up to his legend as a superstar.

Backed up in his one-man concert by a combo before a somewhat sparsely filled audience, Vereen performed a program consisting of jazzed-up Broadway tunes, pop songs and old standards. "The last time I saw you, I was 81 years old," he quipped to the audience, in reference to his 2002 turn at Paper Mill in "I'm Not Rappaport," a production which moved on to a short Broadway run.

After confusing "Camelot" -Paper Mill's current show - for "Carousel," Vereen launched into a medley of songs from his own Broadway resume, highlighted by a slow, ballad-like intro to "Aquarius" from "Hair." Sounding somewhat like Smokey Robinson, he then performed "Memory" from "Cats" with a touch of overacting, finishing with a spoken, inscrutable "Thank you, Father, thank you."

A nice arrangement for Vereen's combo marked "When I Was 17," followed by a performance of "I've Got You Under My Skin" that honored the composition nicely. Also notable for its instrumental arrangement was

Concert Scene

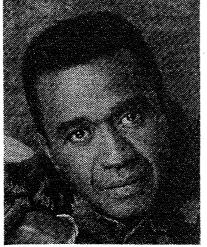
By Bill VanSant Associate Editor

"Something's Coming" from "West Side Story," which featured strains of the "Dance at the Gym" in the orches-

Vereen's seat break on "This Joint is Jumpin' " worked very nicely, but the technique didn't match the plaintive tone of "What's Goin' On?" later in the program.

His impromptu performance of "Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries" was quite enjoyable in its spontaneity, a commodity somewhat lacking throughout his other solo moments. Much of his act was reminiscent of O'Connor Flood, the cloying, pseudosincere showman he played in Bob Fosse's film "All That Jazz." On the whole, there was a touch too much Vegas and not quite as much Broadway as I would have hoped for.

Joining Vereen on stage for a handful of numbers were four of his "Rappaport" castmates - Jeb Brown, Rob McClure, Steven Boyer and Michael Pemberton — who provided doo-wop back-up that was born back stage during their Broadway run.



Ben. Vereen

"Workin' on a Chain Gang" and "Stand by Me" were given an added energy and charm by these four.

The arrival of young members of Paper Mill's education programs signaled both a high and a low point of the concert. While the songs the teens and kids performed with Vereen -"Love Train" and "Give a Little Love" - were infectiously enjoyable, Vereen brought the moment down somewhat by sternly admonishing the audience to give a standing ovation when their children enter the stage.

Had the truly pure moments of entertainment been spread out replacing those uber-polished moments - this concert would have been one show-stopper after another. As it was, only die-hard Vereen devotees came away having truly gotten their money's worth.

Actresses are brilliant in UCC play

As close to perfect as theater can get, "Having Our Say" at the Theater Project at Union County College is a thorough delight from beginning to

The two-character play, which originated at the McCarter Theater in Princeton before earning Tony Award nominations on Broadway, takes place in the Westchester County home of Sadie Delany, 103, and her 101year-old sister, Bessie. As the two maiden ladies prepare a meal for guests — us, the audience — they regale us with tales of their centuryplus years on Earth.

The play began life as an article for The New York Times by Amy Hill Hearth, covering the sisters' 100-plus years. It was this article that caught the attention of playwright Emily Mann at McCarter. Being a true story, actual people pop up as the sisters relate their fascinating tales -W.E.B. DuBois, Eleanor Roosevelt, Paul Robeson and Booker T. Washington were counted among their acquaintances and admirers.

Clearly an "actors' piece," the show stars Tamela Aldridge and company regular Daaimah Talley in twin bravura performances. Both actresses - decades younger than their characters - deliver a master class in theater craft as they take on the roles of the aged-but-not-too-infirmed sisters. Their body language is integrated into the emotional context of their roles, as

The **Boards**

By Bill VanSant Associate Editor

However, the real highlight of their work lies in the total believability of their characters. Whether in the subtle nuances they've woven through the characterizations or the complexity of their relationship, Aldridge and Talley create a complete reality in the Roy Smith Theater on UCC's Cranford campus.

Perhaps the greatest work is achieved outside the confines of the scripted dialogue. A wordless apology following a spat in Act II is breathtaking, as was the actresses' handling of a stray carrot last Saturday night fussing over the rolling root vegetable was handled as seamlessly as Mann's dialogue which they'd been rehearsing for weeks.

In addition, the physical life of the characters is buffed to a high polish. Particularly notable is the second act wherein the actresses busy themselves preparing a fancy meal in the kitchen, talking to us and each other the whole time.

Presented in three acts, the first primarily provides history of the family in the Deep South, with the second

covering the sisters' years as young women in Harlem and the third focusing on the latter years of their lives and careers. The set design by Fred Kinney and Carl Spataro beautifully uses the Project's "actor's point of view" set-up, allowing for a parlor, kitchen and dining room, with only one set change. The use of cherry and mahogany wood adds a warmth to the visual that makes the setting even homier. Joe Kehoe's lights and Michael Magnifico's sound add to whole as well.

However, the centerpiece of the technical aspects is the large projection screen behind the actors. Usually washed in a wallpaper-like pattern, the many photos the Delany sisters pull out to show us are projected in enlarged format on this screen, often overlapping, creating a collage of memory that only adds to the bittersweetness of the nostalgia.

Director Mark Spina and the Theater Project have proven once again that artistic vision and integrity are not line items and that magic can indeed be made without a Broadwayscale budget.

Do not miss this show - the Delany sisters may have lasted more than 100 years, but this gem will only be around another week.

"Having Our Say" runs through May 11 at the Theater Project at Union County College. For information, see the "Theater" listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page

Villella's company covers a wide range

Edward Villella's troupe from Miami that performed at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center last Friday was designed as "one size fits

If you like swing dancing, okay, there is the first act — "The Fox-Trot: Dancing in the Dark," written, directed and choreographed by Edward Villella himself. Act Two is "The Four Temperaments," choreographed by George Balanchine, for those who prefer ballet in its full structural form that shows that ballet steps mean something more than an arm lift or a leap. Act Three is the famous "Slaughter on 10th Avenue," with music by Richard Rodgers and choreographed by Balanchine — a blending of modern dance and slapstick.

This combination choice is like a Chinese dinner — choose one from column A, B or C - so eventually all aficionados are satisfied. Those who don't like classical ballet will prefer Villella's own "Fox-Trot." The time is World War II. It is a tale of a successful Poet who has gone stale and returns to his old neighborhood ballroom for inspiration. There he meets Ava, a Hollywood star - not Ava Gardener, we presume, but someone as "femme fatale" as her, for every man jumps to her bidding. Her first choice is the Poet. They dance to Duke Ellington's "Dancing in the Dark," a pas de deux that demonstrates the Poet's not having found true love. But Ava next signals another man. She dumps the Poet by giving him a marijuana cigarette to knock him out. When the Poet awakens, she is gone, and disillusion sets in.

Despite the simplistic plot, the music is lush and the dancing sensuous. Especially hypnotic was Jennifer

Shall We Dance?

By Astera Argyris A&E Correspondent

Kronenberg as Ava. In her uswept hairdo, she is the epitome of a jaded star in movement and appearance. Her two male partners dance with fitting emotion. The chorus line of gals in pompadour looks — a la Betty Grable - show off their gams and 1940s glamor. If you've grown up in the age of rock and roll or rap, the pace is too slow, although nostalgic for the old Ginger Rogers-Fred Astaire movies you've seen on cable channels - which is exactly, I suppose, what Villella wanted to do and

For ballet buffs, Act II -Balanchine's "The Four Temperaments" — begins like a ballet class rehearsal, with a bare stage and the troupe in rehearsal clothes As they go through their steps, it becomes more and more. To the music of Paul Hindemith, the troupe forms pattern upon pattern, demonstrating moods. Sanguinic and Choleric are represented by the female dancers and Melancholic and Phlegmatic by the male dancers. Here the Miami City Ballet group demonstrates the perfection of a body line. Avant-garde choreography is suggested as a male dancer in the center weaves through four female dancers, entwined, until they are one, resembling a body sculpture by Vigeland. That pattern is repeated in reverse with a female in the center. The dancers' bodies become parts of a kaleidoscope as they form and

reform, eternally resulting in a new, yet essentially the same, satisfying, culminating design. Modern choreographers may have gone further with such devices as the liberal use of video projections and even the experimental plot lines of Ivy Baldwin or daring nudity by Sarah Michelson, but Balanchine is still the master.

Balanchine shows his sense of humor in the third piece: "Slaughter on 10th Avenue." Richard Rodgers' classic score and Balanchine choreography would seem to be enough, but Edward Villella accentuates the slapstick in the plot by appearing himself in the small role of The Gangster. Indeed, the Gangster and the Russian ballet star step outside the curtain and let us overhear their gang hit. Resenting an American who took over his role and his girl, the Russain hires this Gangster to kill the American. "Gotcha," Villella says in the Gangster's gravelly voice. When told he has to sit through a ballet, he protests: "You shoulda told me!" Then he goes down into the audience and sits in the first row waiting for his moment. The high point is the sensuous ballet danced by the two principal soloists. This time, the prima ballerina has let her hair loose so it sways along with her nimble, sensuous body as she is gracefully lifted by her partner. After she is shot by mistake, the American carries her limp body through a routine. The Gangster is arrested by policemen who come down into the audience. Then - forget the plot - everyone comes back to life and dances a fast tap number to a glorious finish.

All in all, there are highs and lows, but the highs more than make up for

NJPAC Women plan luncheon The Women's Board Association

of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center will play host to its annual Spring Women's Board Luncheon no Mnday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the stage of Prudential Hall at NJPAC, 1 Center St., Newark.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$125 and may be obtained by calling Mindy Cohn or Karen Kessler of Evergreen Partners at 908-332-1100.

The event's sponsor - Neimen Marcus, Short Hills - will be presenting a discussion with Eric Javits, world-renowned millinery designer, accompanied by an informal presen-

tation of his work. Established in 1994, the NJPAC Women's Board Association is a self-supporting group comprising diverse members actively engaged in regional and national business endeavors, politics, cultural and social causes. As NJPAC ambassadors, the WBA members seek to increase awareness and educate the public about NJPAC, and to provide financial support for programs and educational activities through the annual luncheon in the spring and the annual gala in the fall.

"The NJPAC Women's Board Association luncheon has become one of the most eagerly awaited events each season since the arts center opened," said Sheila Klehm of Short Hills, co-chairperson of this year's event. "The luncheon attracts women from throughout the state, representing a wide circle of business, philanthropic, cultural and social leaders."

"It has come to be a great new tradition for New Jersey," added co-

chairperson Suzanne M. Spero of Chatham. "The luncheon is a great way to not only mix and mingle with old and new friends, but also to support the wonderful cultural and educational programs at NJPAC."

According to a representative of the WBA, for more than 20 years, Eric Javits has made an impact on the women's hat industry with new design directions. The Eric Javits look is instantly recognizable for its down-to-earth glamor. His trademark is elegance with gentility, married to function. Every season, Javits develops user-friendly designs that work for the most hardcore hat wearers. His shapes are known to flatter even the most challenging faces because he is an artist and treats his

designs as wearable sculpture.

The members of the annual Spring Women's Board Luncheon event committee are Barbara Bell Coleman, Newark; Mary Beth Backof, Short Hills; Judy Bedol, Montclair; Patty Capawana, Union; Patricia Chambers, Morristown; Christine C. Gilfillan, Madison; Abbie Giordano, Chatham; Marlene W. Guess, Maplewood; Megan Hagerty, New Vernon; Mamie Hale, Newark; Heather Binder Kapsimalis, Summit; Ruth Lipper, Summit; Lisa McInerney, Morristown; Trish Morris-Yamba, South Orange; Lynn Pagano, Short Hills; Pam Parsells, Bernardsville, Susie Voetsch, New Vernon, and Kathy Weaver, Livingston.



NJPAC Women's Board Association members plan the annual luncheon, scheduled for Monday, at the arts center. From left are committee members Suzanne Spero of Chatham, Sheila Klehm of Short Hills, Kathy Weaver of Livingston, designer Jay Strongwater, Barbara Bell Coleman of Newark, Nancy Taylor of Neiman Marcus and Mamie Hale of Newark.

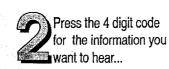
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NEWS CLIPS

Summit Playhouse goes back to 'High School'

Do you remember high school? Do you remember it fondly or did you block it from your mind the minute they handed you your diploma? Were you the homecoming queen, the funniest kid or were you hailed as the least likely to succeed?

High school memories are unique to each person and yet they are universal. The musical "Is There Life After High School?" is a sometimes serious, often touching, but always amusing reminiscence on the one experience virtually every American has in common: high school.

Opening this weekend at the Playhouse Association of Summit, "Is There Life After High School?" is a collage of songs and scenes as the cast members brace themselves for their high school reunions. As the alumni, some recent grads and some from long ago, return for their high school reunion, every memory — painful, funny or happy — will strike a cord.

The Playhouse production of "Is There Life After High School?," with a book by Jeffrey Kindley and score by Craig Carnelia, is being directed by John Vicich with musical direction by Bill Houpt. It features T.J. Balady, David Claypoole, Moggie Davis, Margareth DeJesus, Stephanie Fisk, Joseph LaFalce, Kyle San-Giovanni, Bobby Weitzenhofer and Jeslyn Wheeless.

Performances are this Friday and Saturday, as well as may 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. Matinees are 2 p.m. this Sunday and May 18. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students younger than 18. The Playhouse is located at 10 New first New Jersey appearance to England Ave., Summit. For infor- support his new CD, "Express mation, call 908-273-2192 or visit www.summitplayhouse.org.

Trailside sponsors annual Pet Fair festivities Sunday

The 24th annual Pet Fair will be take place at Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

Admission is \$1 per person, with children 6 and younger admitted free. Trailside's 24th annual Pet lair

promises an afternoon of fun for families and pets alike. The N.J. Sled Dog Club will demonstrate the pulling capacity of their dog team. The flyball dog club, "Great Balls of Fire," will perform twice during the afternoon's festivities and allow audience participation in between shows. Also scheduled to appear is the Skyhoundz Frisbee Dog Club with an amazing demonstration of canine athletics and the Union County K-9 Division will show off their police dogs' skills. The annual Stray Pet Contest for dogs sponsored by People for Animals will top off the afternoon's celebration. Interested parties may register their pet on event day at the "People for Animals" table for a \$1 fee.

Donnelly to appear in concert this Saturday

Peter Donnelly, a leading singer-songwriter of the wellestablished Provincetown, Mass., folk-music scene, will perform Saturday at 8 p.m. at Kean Univer-

sity's Wilkins Theater, 1000 Morris Ave., Union.

This performance is Donnelly's Cafe." The recording is an exploration of the human condition, covering mystical, cultural and political themes, which are filtered through beautiful melodies, poignant storytelling and occasional ironic humor.

Jennifer Vaughn, Kean sophomore and jazz vocalist, will open the show for Donnelly.

Tickets are \$15 for the general public; \$12 for Kean University faculty, staff, alumni and senior citizens, and \$10 for students.

For more information, or to reserve tickets, call the box office at 908-737-7468.

Union Music School has registration for summer

The Union Music School has announced mail-in registration for its 49th annual summer session, slated from July 1 through 31, 9 a.m. through 12:15 p.m. daily.

It will be held at Kawameeh Middle School, which is easily accessible from Chestnut Street or Morris Avenue in Union. Before and after care are also available daily for a nominal charge. Tuition is \$310 per child - \$300 before May 15 - with family discounts.

Many new courses in 2002 and 2003 for students in grades Pre-K thru 12 include Musical Art, Origami and Paper Art, Art With the Artists, Wood Sculpture and Design, Songwriters, and Creative Illustrated Advertising. Also, the musicals under consideration are "Alice in Wonderland" or a revue for grades three to seven, and "Little Shop of Horrors" for grades eight to 12; final selections depend on enrollment.

Parents wishing to have a brochure mailed to them with complete information are asked to provide their name and mailing address, preferably via e-mail, which can be sent to unionmusicschool@aol.com.

Faxes may be sent to 908-687-7332, and phone inquiries should be directed to Mrs. Frain at 908-851-6470. The Union Music School can reached via mail at P.O. Box 3566, Union, 07083-1895.

Exhibit marks anniversary

The Les Malamut Gallery in Union Public Library will be celebrating the 15th anniversary of its founding with an exhibition of "5x7" works donated by the artists.

Each art work, in all media, which will measure five inches by seven inches, will be sold in a silent auction starting at \$10. The artwork will be displayed throughout the library for viewing and bidding. Concurrently there will be individual shows in the

The gallery, founded in 1988, has held more than 125 exhibits of painters, sculptors and photographers by area and foreign artists. It has also hosted art shows for local and county art students.

The show will conclude with a reception May 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The "5x7" works and the gallery exhibits may be viewed during regular library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Chorus offers workshops

A cappella harmony — singing without accompaniment — is an unbelievable thrill and one of the hottest rages around.

Hickory Tree Chorus, this year's regional first-place winner, once again offers its popular, free "Women's A Cappella Workshop." Women singers of all ages and all voice ranges, from very high to very low, are invited to participate.

Workshop sessions are scheduled for three Wednesdays - May 14, 21 and 28 — at 7:15 p.m. at the New Jersey Youth Symphony rehearsal hall, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Master director Carolyn Schmidt will head the workshop with assistance from the chorus.

Participants will discover the joy of locking and ringing chords as they learn new vocal skills. The group will workshop two popular songs uniquely arranged in four-part harmony, a cappella style for women's voices. In addition to on-site work enhancing vocal quality and listening skills, singers may take home learning tapes for reinforcement of the music learned. Although some repetition will occur each week, participants are encouraged to attend all three weeks since different elements of the craft will be presented at each session.

Chartered in 1968, the 75-member Hickory Tree Chorus sings popular contemporary music, show tunes and ballads in four-part, a cappella harmony. This year, the chorus became the regional champions at the Philadelphia competition in March, capping its 27-year unbroken record of medalling at this contest with its highest score ever — 616 points.

For information about the workshop and directions, call 973-361-4799 or 908-522-1954. Send e-mail inquiries to HickoryTC@aol.com. Visit Hickory Tree Chorus on the Web at www.angelfire.com/nj/hickorytree.



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Arboretum to tour gardens

Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit will present "June in Bloom: Garden Tour 2003" on June 6 and 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each

This tour features six spectacular private gardens in Summit, Short Hills and New Providence.

Each garden on the tour .s unique. The garden of a 100-year-old home is considered another room of the house by its owners, complete with a lilac hedge "wall" and filled with the blues of Siberian iris, nepeta, asters and salvia with contrast provided by tree peonies, cameo quince and spirea. This garden is also home to a landmark Copper beech tree more than 200 years old.

Another garden is a quarter-acre lot transformed by its owners into more than 4,000 square feet of beds with 250 varieties of perennials, biennials, bulbs, ferns, ground covers, grasses, shrubs and flowering trees. There are bold, sweeping curves with peaceful niches like a stone "loveseat" built into the bank.

The tour also features a conifer garden with many rare and unusual specimens ranging from miniature to dwarf to full-size.

Admission to all six of the gardens is \$20 per person, if purchased in advance, and may be ordered from the arboretum by phone at 908-273-8787; by mail at Reeves-Reed Arboretum, 165 Hobart Ave., Summit, 07901, or through the Reeves-Reed Garden Shop. Dayof-tour tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at the Garden Shop.

County workshop addresses conservation of documents, photos

Have you ever worried about fires, floods, storms or leaks ruining your most precious property?

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will sponsor a workshop, "Prepare for the Worst: Disaster Planning Before, During and After," which will teach librarians, museum curators, organizations and individuals how to safeguard property against such emergencies.

The workshop will take place Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Twin Maples, home of the Fortnightly Club, located t 214 Springfield Ave. in Summit. Ample free on-site parking is available.

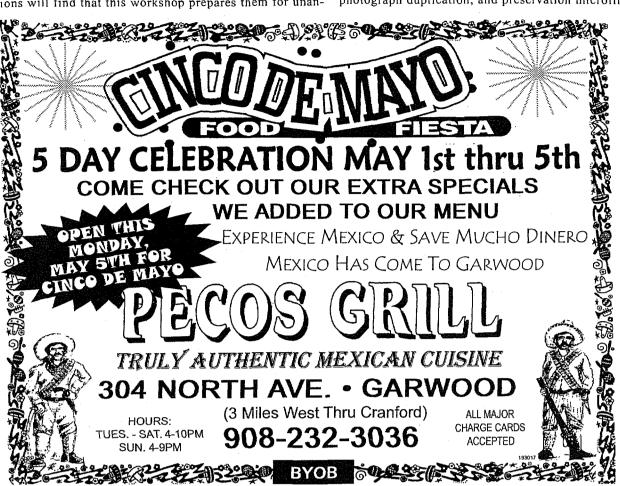
"Institutions that preserve material for future generations will find that this workshop prepares them for unan-

ticipated emergencies," said Freeholder Chester Holmes, liaison to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board. "Learning disaster planning techniques will prepare them to respond quickly to prevent emergencies from becoming disasters."

The workshop leader will be Lori Foley, field service representative with the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Mass. The center is the largest non-profit regional conservation center in the United States. It services include paper, book and photograph conservation; photograph duplication, and preservation microfilming.

Foley will examine the four facets of disaster planning — prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. Through the lecture, group exercises and demonstrations, this workshop will equip participants with information to create a disaster plan and the resources to execute a salvage operation.

The registration fee is \$20, or \$15 for each additional person from the same organization. To register or to request a workshop brochure, contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs by mail at 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, 07202; by phone at 908-558-2550, NJ Relay users dial 711, or by e-mail at scoen@ucnj.org.





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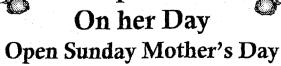
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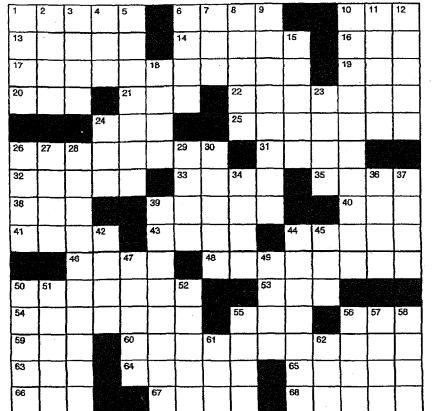
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- 1 Household appliance 6 Jeanne
- 10 Network 13 Sadistic 14 Mixtures
- 16 Stout 17 Jane/Alfred
- 19 Inlet 20 Encountered
- 21 Petrol 22 Terse satire
- 24 Malay gibbon 25 Block
- 26 Henrik/Maurice 31 Equine check
- 32 Characteristic 33 Secular
- 3527th U.S. president
- 38 Axe 39 Bellafonte
- 40 Swiss canton 41 Jekyll's alter ego
- 43 Fertilizer ingredient 44 Free-for-all
- 46 Blow one's horn 48 Sinclair/Owen 50 South American
- republic
- 53 French artist and poet 54 Hat ornament
- 55 Guido's note 56 Comprehend
- 59 Harass verbally
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- 64 Regard fixedly 65 Funereal music 66 Knight's title 67 Lost traction
- 68 Paid up **DOWN**

1 Fraudulent deal

LITERARY DUOS



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the creative self-expression that

these programs can foster. The

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for our students balanced with sub-

jects that prepare them for a life of

work and participatory inclusion in

a democratic society that is nur-

tured, strengthened and tempered

by the fine and performing arts,"

says William L. Librera, commis-

sioner of education. "After all is

said and done, so much of life is

viewed through 'the mind's eye.' "

2002-03 edition of "Class Act:

Learning Through the Arts" and to

find out about the myriad opportu-

nities available to engage young

people in the arts, write to New Jer-

sey Theater Alliance, 17 Cook

Ave., Madison, 07940; call 973-

593-0189 or send e-mail to

info@njtheatrealliance.org. NJTA

is requesting a \$5 donation to help

defray the mailing cost of this pub-

To receive a free copy of the

"We are providing an education

tion of "Class Act."

61 Dernier 62 Author of "Little Birds

Alliance offers its 'Class Act' guide

The New Jersey Theater Alliance, the consortium of professional theaters throughout the state, has published the 2002-03 edition of "Class Act: Learning Through the Arts."

"Class Act" is a comprehensive, annual guide to the educational and outreach programming available through the New Jersey Theater Alliance's senior and associate member theaters and other educational organizations of note. According to Alliance representatives, professional arts organizations are wonderful resources for life-enriching educational opportunities. Savvy educators and parents know that arts generate excitement, help strengthen social and communication skills, build self-esteem, awaken creativity, build communi-

ty and enrich a child's education. For more than a decade, "Class Act" has been an essential resource guide for those who want to expand the impact of the arts in their lives. New Jersey's arts organizations are making a difference in the enrichment of future generations through

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:

HALLIE T. SUBER, her heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and her, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED TO SERVE UPON ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, ESQS., plaintiff's attorneys whose address is 1139 Spruce Drive, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092-0024, telephone number 1-908-233-8500, an Answer to the Complaint and Amendment To Forecloseure Complaint filed in a civil action, in which AMERIQUEST MORTGAGE COMPANY is plaintiff, and HALLIE T. SUBER, et al., are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing bocket F-3362-03 within thirty-five (35) days after May 2, 2003 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the

their educational and outreach programming detailed in this publica-

- tion. Highlights include: In-school residences;
- · Assembly programs;
- · Touring theater companies; · Classes for students of all ages
- and abilities; • Summer programs for all ages; · Professional training programs
- and internships; · Teacher training and professional development workshops.

With the establishment of the New Jersey Department of Education's Core Curriculum Content Standards, New Jersey Theater Alliance senior and associate members are prepared to work with educators to help meet these requirements. It is well documented that exposure to and participation in the arts throughout young people's lives will significantly improve their learning ability in many other areas. Parents and educators can take advantage of these marvelous educational opportunities to not only improve overall learning, but to enrich children's lives through

PUBLIC NOTICE

relief demanded in the Complaint and Amendment To Foreclosure Complaint. You shall file your Answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex-CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, together with your check in the sum of \$135.00 representing the filing fee in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a Mortgage dated 07/20/2001 made by HALLIE T. SUBER as mortgagors, to Ameriquest Mortgage Company recorded on 08/02/2001 in Book 8415 of Mortgages for Union County, Page 213; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 70-72 Norwood Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey Bar Association by calling 609-394-1101. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 908-353-4715. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate

County of venue by calling 908-354-4349.

HALLIE T. SUBER, her heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and her their or any of their successors in right, title and interest are made party defendants to this foreclosure action because she executed plaintiff's obligation and mortgage being foreclosed herein and may be liable for any deficiency and because she is the owner of record of the mortgaged premises being foreclosed herein and for any lien, claim or interest she, her heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and her, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

DONALD F. PHELAN, CLERK SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC NOTICE

with the Legal Services office of the County of venue by calling 908-354-4349.

Let the Bible Speak

Locating the "Lord's Church" The ONE true New Testament Church **Back to Basics**

The Church of the Bible is the greatest institution on earth. It was designed and purposed in the mind of God from eternity, Eph. 3:10-11.

The New Testament Church is the divine origin, fully equipped for the "Lord's work" of saving souls, Lk. 2:11; 19:10; Heb. 5:8-9; Rom. 1:16; Acts 2:36-47; Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 4:16. Be honest with yourself. When YOU read your Bible, do YOU find the Catholic Church, Lutheran Church, Baptist Church, etc. including the TV religious hypocrites, listed? The Bible teaches that these human counterfeit churches and religious organizations are the works of Satan and his sevants; read Gen. 3:1-5; 2 Cor. 11:13-15; Matt. 7:21-23.

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(Matt. 16:18, Eph. 5:23, Rom. 16:16)

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What's Going On?

FAIR

SATURDAY May 3rd, 2003

May 3rd, 2003

EVENT: Vendor Fair

PLACE: Abraham Clark High School,
122 East 6th Ave, Roselle. Boys Gynasium (enter through 7th Ave parking lot)

TIME: 9am-4pm

PRICE: VENDORS WANTED

TABLES \$15 EACH

To reserve tables, please contact Sylvia.

To reserve tables, please contact Sylvia Wilson 908-245-3008 or Louise Andino 908-241-0235 ORGANIZATION: Abraham Clark High

School PTO. **FLEA MARKET**

SUNDAY

May 4th, 2003

EVENT: Flea Market & Collectible Show Outdoors (Indoors if Rain) PLACE:Belleville High School, 100 Passaic Avenue, Belleville, NJ (OFF JORALEMON ST) TIME:9am-5pm PRICE: New merchandise, crafts, col-

lectibles and garage/tag sale section! For information call 201-997-9535 ORGANIZATION: BHS Celebration

RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY May 10th, 2003 EVENT: Giant Rummage Sale PLACE: 25 Old Short Hills Road, Mill-

TIME: 9am-3pm PRICE: Clothes, sport goods, furniture,

toys, small appliances, many more. Cash only. Rain or shine. ORGANIZATION: Millburn/Short Hills Middle School PTO.

OTHER

SATURDAY May 3rd, 2003

EVENT: Mother's Market PLACE: Cedar Grove High School-Rugby Road, off Ridge Road or Rte 23

TIME: 9am-1pm PRICE: \$1.00 to benefit Canine Companions For Independence. 40 Tables of used/New Kids items. Great Bargains on toys, clothing, etc. For more information call 973-239-0621

ORGANIZATION: Junior Women's Club of Cedar Grove.

This newspaper is a reliable means of researching the community market. To boost your business in the community, call our ad department at 908-686-7700 today.

OTHER

SATURDAY May 10th, 2003

EVENT: The 25th Annual Glen Ridge Arts Festival PLACE: Ridgewood & Woodland Aves.

Glen Ridge (1 block off Bloomfield Ave.) TIME: 10am-5pm PRICE: Admission is Free. Featured will be fine art and crafts, including handmade jewelry, furniture, pillows, scarves, florals, pottery, quilts, woodwork, candles and soaps, toys, paintings, photography and more. There will be childrens' art activities. If rain, show will move indoors to Glen Ridge High School, same location. For more information call (973)783-

ORGANIZATION:Glen Ridge Arts Patrons Association

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non profit organizations. It is prepaid and costs just \$20.00 (for 2 weeks) for Essex County or Union County and just \$30.00 for both Counties. Your notice must be in our Maplewood office (463 Valley Street) by 4:00 P.M. on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at 170 Scotland Road, Orange, 266 Liberty St., Bloomfield or 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. For more information call 973-763-9411.

HOROSCOPE

May 5-May 11

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Pay attention while discussing business or finances. Make sure that you get all the facts correct on an official document to avoid penalties.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are the perfect communicator. Gather your thoughts and speak out on a pressing issue. Don't be afraid of negative feedback or criticism.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Play a behind-the-scenes role, and let others have center stage this week. Address your personal needs, which include rest and relaxation. CANCER (June 22-July 22): Dis-

cover ways you can benefit through a group connection. Friends request your support. Step up and show them how much you care. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A highly creative idea inspires you to move

beyond prior limits. Come up with a business proposal and put your dream or concept to the test. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Adventure is your middle name this week. Step out and dare to try some-

to travel. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): An investment opportunity sounds too good to be true. Do your best to keep your emotions out of it, and make a wise and logical decision.

thing new. Welcome an opportunity

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Your partners are a true reflection of you and what you are about. Play it smart and choose with care the people you allow close to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make health, diet and exercise a priority this week. Set goals you would like to achieve for yourself and strive to attain them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

Computers,

Liberal Arts,

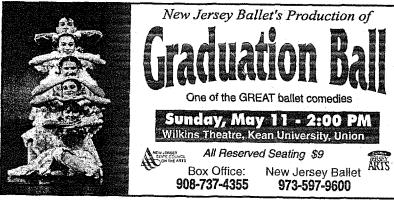
Science and more.

Expect an increase in social plans or activities. Put on your best dress and glow in the company of people with power and influence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look for balance between work and play. Eliminate tasks or duties that keep you from spending more time with your family.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Explore new forms or areas of communication. Keep an open mind, and you are sure to discover answers to questions you have long pondered.

If your birthday is this week, an optimistic attitude is the best weapon against doubt and fear during the coming year. When given the opportunity, don't hesitate to explore new ideas, cultures or unique schools of thought. Burning the candle on both ends best describes a probable situation. Beyond a wholesome exercise plan, play it safe and moderate your physical output.





What Are You Planning to Do With Your Summer?

Start your college career or Earn extra credits towards your degree.

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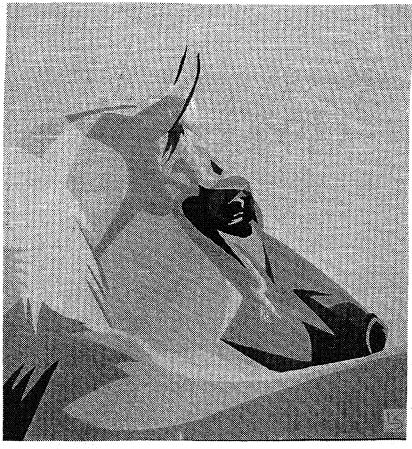
Classes in Business,

Union County College

Call (908) 709-7518 and register today!

Most Classes start May 27 & July 7!

Cranford - Hizabeth - Plaisfield Scotch Plains



'Moondance' by Lin Salerno is among the works on exhibit in 'Collaboration' at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union.

Exhibit at Malamut gallery is 'Collboration' of artists

A combined exhibit, "Collaboration," by Lin Salerno of Clark and Martin Kavanagh of Lakewood will be the next exhibit at the Les Malamut Gallery in Union Public Library.

The show will open with a reception Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is invited. The exhibit will run through May 14.

Salerno's love of horses is displayed in her dynamic acrylic interpretations and Kavenagh's interest in nature is viewed in his captivating photographs of the outdoors.

Salerno's art is a reflection of her deep compassion for the horse and other wildlife. Her self-taught approach to acrylic stylized interpretations combines with a genuine appreciation of her subjects that provides a unique perspective on nature. She has exhibited one of her acrylic horses in in the Gallery's Invitational Art show in April of 2002.

Kavanagh, an ardent hiker and kayak enthusiast, developed a keen interest and knowledge of the outdoors. Years of first hand observations have enabled him to capture the unique spirit and charm of his environment. Born in Dublin, Ireland, Kavanagh came to the United States in 1978. He was so impressed with America's opportunities "open to anyone willing to apply themselves" and the vast areas set aside for recreational and conservation purposes, that one he arrived, he "never looked back."

The gallery is open during regular library hours: Mondays to Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Ave. in Friberger Park, Union. For information, call 908-851-5450.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

©Worrall Community Newspapers Inc. 2002 All Rights Reserved Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., P.O. Box 3109, Union, New Jersey, 07083.

Westfield Glee Club to perform this weekend

The Westfield Men's Glee Club 78th annual spring concerts will feature special artist soprano Meredith Hoffmann-Thomson, who will sing a varied program including arias by Bellini and Donizetti.

The concerts will be performed Saturday at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Westfield, and Sunday at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Berkeley Heights.

Hoffmann-Thomson, is an accomplished musician, performing in opera, oratorio and recital venues. Although beginning her musical career as a bassoonist, she has won numerous vocal competitions, and participated as a singer in prestigious music festivals.

She has appeared as soprano soloist in the Brahms, Mozart and Faure "Requiems," the Haydn "Lord Nelson Mass," the Rutter "Magnificat," the Vivaldi "Gloria" and Handel's "Mes-

In January 2002, she performed the role of Ann Truelove in Stravinsky's "The Rake's Progress" with Opera McGill, and appeared that summer for 15 performances as Donna Anna in Mozart's "Don Giovanni" with the KomischeKammerOper Munchen in Germany. She reprised that role with Opera McGill in January 2003. A recipient of several awards at McGill, she has also performed recitals for many groups in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

In February, Hoffmann-Thomson received the Young Artist's Encouragement Award from the New Jersey section of the Metropolitan Opera's annual Lindemann Young Artist Competition. She was a competition winner in the 2001 University of Miami's summer program in Salzburg, performing in recital at the Carolino Augusteum Museum, and in the summer of 1999, was a participant in the Young Artists' Vocal Program at the Tanglewood Institute in

Lenox, Mass., appearing as a soloist in Mozart's "Solemn Vespers" in both the Koussevitsky Music Shed and Seiji Ozawa Hall. The previous summer, she won the sigma Alpha lota Award for Outstanding Female Musician at Hartwick College's Summer Music Festival and Institute, and was the 1999 winner of both the Westfield Men's Glee Club Scholarship Award and the Mountain Lakes MacDowell Club's Young Artist Vocal Award.

Hoffmann-Thomson's vocal study has been with Lucile Evans in Montreal and Donald Neil Roberts in New York. She is currently a senior in the Opera Department of McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Her program for the Men's Glee Club will include arias by Bellini and Donizetti.

For information about the spring concert, call Dale Juntilla at 908-232-0673.

Enrollment is continuing for summer workshops

The Westfield Summer Workshop is currently registering students for its 2003 summer program.

This five-week arts program, for children in pre-school through ninth grade, offers diverse courses which are highlighted in a 20-page comprehensive brochure, which includes an application for enrollment.

The WSW program will begin June 30 and conclude n July 31. It runs daily from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Edison Intermediate School, 800 Rahway Ave., Westfield.

Some traditional favorites in the Arts and Crafts Department include Cartooning, Intro to Art, Pottery, Needlework, Origami, Jewelry Making, and Basketry. Courses such as Wind, Wings and Wheels involve art projects that deal with the theme of transportation, while Puppetry, Mixed Crafts and Toy Design capture the imagination of young artists. In total, there are 73 separate sections of art courses offered this summer.

The Communications Department contains 22 courses, among which are those in Newsroom, French, Spanish and Video Production, while the Dance and Movement Department offers 24 sections of courses in Fencing, Taekwondo, Gymnastics, Dance/Pom and Hip Hop For stu-

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dents who enjoy performing, Musical Theater Chorus offers them a chance to display their singing and dancing talents. Younger students, in grades two and three, can take part in "Goin' Buggy," a musical production about insects, while middle school students will perform in "A Gershwin Portrait," a musical revue of the works of George and Ira Gershwin.

Keyboarding and Strings, as well as Vocal Ensemble, are offered in the Music Department. The 18 course offerings include participation in the Workshop Band, which will again play some selections during the theater production.

The Kaleidoscope Department offers 20 courses, some of which include Chess, Scientific Encounters and Kitchen Chemistry. Returning to the program this year is Think Tank, which allows students to use their mental skills to figure out word and logic puzzles and games.

A major change this year occurs in the Drama Department. A new program, N.J. Workshop Summer Theater, has been developed to incorporate the skills of singing, dancing, acting and set designing. The Drama Department will offer a chance for boys and girls in grade six through nine an opportunity to improve upon the many skills needed to stage a complete production. The course will also offer techniques for participants to help prepare them for other auditions throughout the year.

The workshop is fortunate to have such talented directors as Juan and Valerie Pineda of the Little Opera Company of New Jersey doing the directing and vocal directing respectively. These two performers combine their professional skill with their proven ability to work well with children of all ages. At the conclusion of the five-week program, students in this class will give four performances of "The Music Man" on the stage at Edison Intermediate School. This venue allows area students to get the experience of a professional program without having to travel out of the

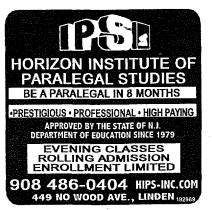
Among the 13 classes in the Drama Department, Children's Theater and Storytime Playhouse offer drama experience to novice actors

and actresses. Those who enjoy theater, but may not want to be totally involved in a major production, can register for Junior Acting Workshop or Playwriting.

The workshop also offers a preschool program for 4-year-olds, for either two, three or five days per week. The kindergarten class, which is a five-day-a-week program, is designed for children who will be entering school in September. These classes are divided into groups of approximately 12 children each, which allows for greater individual attention. Both pre-school and kindergarten mini workshops are self-contained and include activities in various types of arts, crafts, language, music and movement.

An afternoon program is available in conjunction with the Westfield YMCA. Students, accompanied by "Y" counselors, have lunch at the workshop and then continue with an afternoon of gym games, outdoor games, outdoor activities, theme days and trips, including two days of swimming at the "Y."

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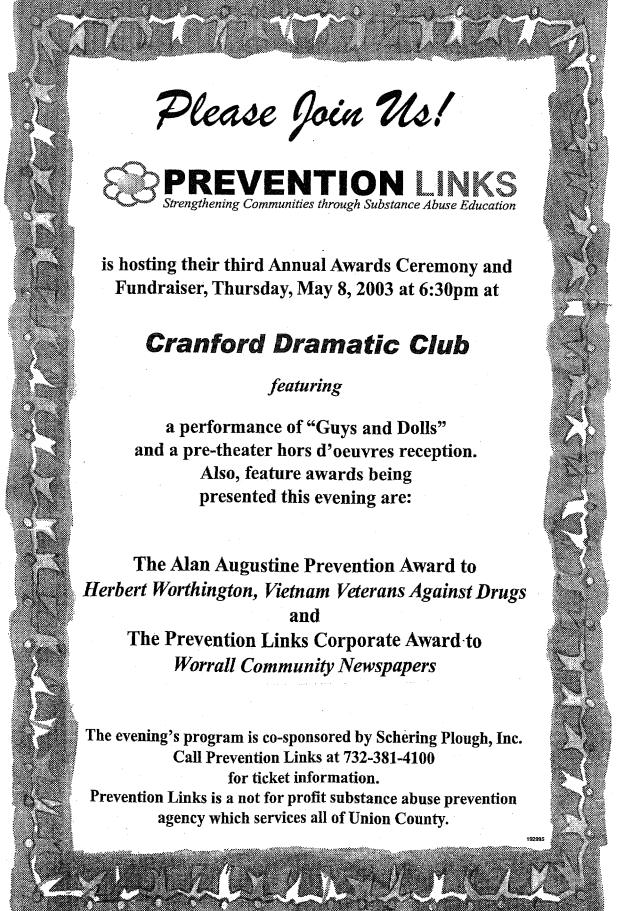


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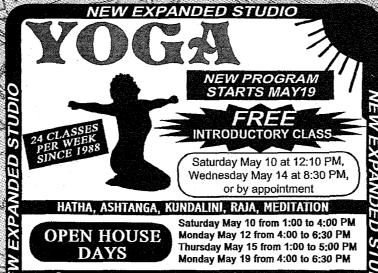
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Leisure The Codes Nobles South Cheese helps add some fun to the fiesta this Cinco de Mayo

food? It's time to expand your horizons beyond burritos and quesadillas.

This May 5, American Dairy Association and Dairy Council Inc. will help you celebrate Cinco de Mayo with easy-to-make versions of Mexican favorites, featuring authentic Hispanic cheeses.

Festivities on the fifth of May commemorate a single, historic victory for a small Mexican army over invading troops from France at the Battle Puebla in 1862. Cinco de Mayo — fifth of May — is a symbol of Mexican unity and national pride and is celebrated with parades, mariachi bands fiestas and food.

Think beyond the "Mexican blend" shredded cheeses or the spicy Jalapeno Jack you've used to top your nachos. If you're fortunate to live near a supermarket with an international section or Hispanic gourmet shop, discover the world of delicious cheeses that exist, such as Cotija, Chihuahua or Queso Blanco. Cheeses may also be ordered online at retailers such as www.specialcheese.com or www.quesos.com Or, try making your own Queso Blanco - it's easier than you think! — with this recipe

Dave Brown is a senior dairy cheese; should keep about one week.

Does your family love Mexican extension associate and has taught cheesemaking for nearly 40 years. He calls Queso Blanco just about the easiest cheese you could make. This cheese is sometimes served on the side of traditional Mexican dishes, such as rice and beans.

Warm one gallon of whole milk to 180 degrees. Stir the milk often to keep it from scorching. Stir in 1/2 cup vinegar, either white, cider or herb vinegar. You'll immediately notice the mixture separates into curds and whey. Stir for three minutes. Turn the heat off and let the hot milk set for a few minutes. The curds will sink to the bottom and clear green liquid whey will float on top.

Pour off and discard as much of the whey as you can - it might be easiest to do this by scooping it out with a measuring cup. Empty the remaining whey and the cheese curd into a colander lined with cheesecloth to drain the remaining liquid. Once the cheese has drained, your cheese is finished. If desired, mix in one or more of the following ingredients: 1 ounce of salt to taste, chopped jalapenos or chili peppers, herbs, or black pepper. Let your imagination be your guide. This cheese is delicious on crackers. Refrigerate leftover

The following recipes are courtesy of Karen Hursh Graber, a cookbook author, food and menu consultant and cooking teacher who lives in Oaxaca, Mexico. She writes a monthly online column for Mexico Connect and may be contacted at chapina@spersaoaxaca.com.mx. Her dishes include both the traditional Mexican cheese and easy to find American substitutions. For more great recipes, visit www.mexconnect.com.

Requeson is a soft, white cheese, similar to ricotta in consistency, though not as sweet. If ricotta is used in place of requeson, blending it with cottage cheese until smooth will produce a taste similar to true requeson. This recipe is quick, easy and can be prepared a few hours ahead if necessary, making it handy for parties. It's also delicious served with raw vegetables, such as peppers.

Requeson Botanero Con Totopos Requeson cheese with fried tortilla Yield: 8-12 servings

I lb. requeson, or a blend of ricotta and cottage cheese

½ cup milk (eliminate if using the ricotta-cottage cheese blend)

1 cup seeded, diced tomatoes ½ cup finely chopped green onions or scallions

1/4 cup chopped cilantro 3 to 4 jalapeno chiles, seeded or

not, according to taste

Salt to taste Totopos or tortilla chips, for dip-

Using a fork, blend the requeson and milk until a smooth consistency is achieved; alternatively, blend the ricotta and cottage cheese until smooth. Add remaining ingredients, mix well, and serve with totopos —

tortillas cut into triangles and fried in

vegetable oil until crisp — or tortilla

There are many versions of this soup, a specialty of the northern Mexican state of Chihuahua. Gouda cheese also works well in this recipe, which should be prepared immediate-

ly before serving. Crema De Queso Cheese Soun Yield: 4 servings

1 tablespoon butter 2 tablespoon flour 21/2 cups milk

1 cup evaporated milk 4 ounces grated Chihuahua cheese (Gouda may be substituted)

Salt and pepper to taste Dash nutmeg

In a medium saucepan, melt butter. Stir in flour and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Add the milk 1/2-cup at a time, using a wire whisk to stir constantly, keeping the consistency as smooth as

porated the mixture.

strips, fried and cooked in either a red or green sauce. Literally meaning "poor man's food," chilaquiles were undoubtedly invented as a way of using up leftover tortillas. They have evolved into a very versatile dish, with some rather sophisticated variations. The following version uses a red sauce; however, a green sauce is also very good.

Chilaquiles con Polo y Queso Chilaquiles with Chicken and Cheese

20 medium-size corn tortillas

possible. Add the evaporated milk, bring the mixture to a slow boil, and add the grated cheese, stirring constantly until the cheese melts and becomes incor-

Add salt and pepper to taste. Ladle into bowls, sprinkle each serving with a dash of nutmeg and serve immedi-

Chilaquiles are tortillas cut into

Yield: 6 to 8 servings

½ cup vegetable oil, or as needed

6 ancho chiles, seeded, deveined and soaked in hot water until soft 4 roma tomatoes, roasted and peeled

2 large cloves garlic, peeled

½ medium white onion, peeled 1/2 to 1 cup chicken broth, or as

needed 11/2 cups shredded Oaxaca, Jack, Gouda or Chihuahua cheese

1 chicken breast, poached and shredded thinly sliced onion, to taste 1 cup Mexican crema, creme

fraiche or sour cream (crema acida) Cut the tortillas into strips or wedges. In a large saucepan or cazuela, heat the oil, add the tortilla

strips and fry until crisp. Remove and drain on paper towels. Place the softened chiles, tomatoes, garlic and onion in a blender a puree until smooth. Pour the mixture into the same saucepan used to fry the tortillas, bring to a boil, lower heat

salt to taste. Place the tortilla strips in the hot sauce, add the chicken broth and cook until most of the sauce has been

and cook for about 15 minutes. Add

Distribute the shredded cheese and chicken over the chilaquiles. Garnish with onion rings and serve with

Fresh cheeses can be the key to a successful Mexican recipe

Cheese 101: This list of specialty Hispanic cheeses comes courtesy of www.specialcheese.com.

Fresh cheeses The most popular varieties of Hispanic cheeses are fresh, white cheeses with names like "queso blanco," "panela," "queso fresco," "queso del pais" and "queso para freir." These cheeses all share similar make procedures and have similar eating and cooking characteristics. Traditionally, they were made by local artisans and had shelf-lives of less than one week. They were literal-

unsold pieces were returned after five days. The key to understanding "fresh" Hispanic cheeses, is understanding that they do not melt. When heated, these fresh cheeses become warm and soft but do not

ly delivered to market wrapped in banana leaves and

lose their shape or run. This characteristic is essential in many Hispanic dishes — and a requirement that no common cheese can meet. For instance, many Hispanic dishes use cheese as a stuffing ingredient — Enchiladas and Chile Rellenos are popular examples. In such dishes, the use of common cheese as an ingredient results in the cheese melting during cooking and running out. However, use of queso blanco, for example, would allow the chef to present the diner with the cheese soft, warm and in the food, not running all over the plate. Thus, the chef is able to offer a truly superior end-dish by using queso blanco, an end-dish that looks and tastes better!

As another example, true Mexican refried beans have fresh cheese mixed into the dish during cooking, not merely shredded onto the surface as a garnish. The fresh,

white cheese usually used - panela - will not melt in the dish. Instead, the authentic refried beans dish offers the diner a delightful mixture of savory bean and refreshing cheese morsels.

Fresh Hispanic cheeses are mild tasting and crumbly. They are often eaten as snacks with tropical fruits — this is the Latin version of our U.S. treat of eating aged cheddar cheese with pieces of fresh apple. Fresh Hispanic cheeses are most often used as an ingredient - either crumbled onto a salad or cooked as part of a hot dish.

This mild-tasting cheese is the most popular cheese south of the border — both for snacking and cooking. It is wonderful to cook with because unlike American-type cheeses, it will become soft and creamy when heated but

will not melt. With this cheese, you can make cheesier stuffed chicken breasts, stuffed peppers, enchiladas and burritos. For a delicious, simple treat, cube the cheese and fry it on a hot skillet.

Panela

The most popular fresh cheese in Mexico, this cheese is mild, white and crumbly. Like queso blanco, it will not run when heated - it will get soft and creamy but will not lose its shape.

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Very popular among people from the Caribbean, this cheese is used frequently for frying because it resists melting even more than queso blanco. In fact, it is a variation of queso blanco that is similarly white and crumbly, but saltier.

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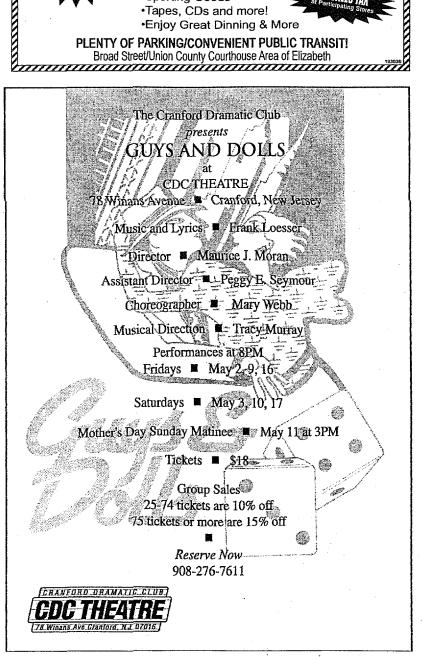
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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill VanSant, Worrall Community Newspapers, P.O. Box 3109, Union, NJ 07085.

ART SHOWS

SIDEWALK ART SHOW AND SALE will be sponsored by the Westfield Art Association on May 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout downtown Westfield; the rain date is May 17. For information, call 908-789-9444 or 908-232-

WATERCOLOR STYLES will be on exhibit at the Diverstity Art Gallery in Clark.

Gallery hours are Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m. and by appointment. The Diversity Art Gallery is located in the Union County Baptist Church, 4 Valley Road, just off the Clark Circle. For information, call 732-574-1479 or visit www.diversityart.com.

EIGHT WOMEN WORKING, works by eight graduate students, will be on display in the James Howe Gallery in Vaughn-Eames Hall at Kean Universi-

Gallery hours are Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and by appointment. Kean University is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union. For information, call 908-737-4411.

COLLABORATION, works by Lin Salerno and Martin Kavanagh, will be on exhibit through May 14 at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library.

Gallery hours are Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Ave. in Friberger Park, Union. For information, call 908-851-5450.

THE LES MALAMUT ART GALLERY in Union Public Library will celebrate its 15th anniversary with an exhibit of 5-by-7-inch works through May 14. A reception will take place May 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Gallery hours are Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Ave. in Friberger Park, Union. For information, call 908-851-5450.

THE SKULSKI ART GALLERY in Clark will exhibit photographic works by Krzysztof Anc, Stach Sieniawaski and Mietko Rudek, and tapestry by Ewa Rosiek-Buszko through May 16.

Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Skulski Art Gallery is located in the Polish Cultural Foundation, 177 Broadway, Clark.

For information, call 732-382-7197. VIEWS FROM THE REAL WORLD. an exhibit of black-and-white photography by Albert Neal and Glenn Podel, will be on display through May 16 at the Gallery at The Arts Guild of

Rahway. Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.; Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., and by appointment. The Arts Guild of Rahway is located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511, send e-mail to artsguild1670@earthlink.net or visit www.rahwayartsguild.org.

IMAGES FROM THE UNCON-SCIOUS, photographs of the sculpture of Lester Murphy, will be on exhibit at the Dolin Gallery of Rahway through Jamy 18. An artists' reception will take place May 18 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Gallery hours are Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m. The Dolin Gallery is located at the Union County Conservatory of Art and Music, 1348 Pierce St., Rahway. For information, call 732-815-1475.

COLOR AND LIGHT: "The Art of Janet Fish" will be on exhibit through May 28 at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit.

Gallery hours are Mondas to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 2 to 5 p.m. NJCVA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, 908-273-9121 or www.nicva.org.

CRITICALLY JAZZED, cut-paper collages of musicians and dancers by Kat Block, will be on exhibit Saturday through May 29 at Swain Galleries in Plainfield. An opening reception will take place Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m.

Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Swain Galleries is located at 703 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. For information, call 908-756-1707

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPI-TAL in Mountainside will exhibit the works of Virginia Cranwell, Gwen Han-

Stepping Out

Ion Howard and students of Les Amis des Arts throughout the month of May. CHS is located at 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

WESTFIELD ART ASSOCIATION will sponsor "Goose Walk," artistic renderings of Canadian geese, in stores throughout downtown Westfield from Saturday through May 31. An artist reception will take place Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at 251 North Ave., Westfield. For information, call 908-654-5900.

CHINESE PAINTER HSU DAN will have his work on exhibit in the Wisner House at Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit through June 3.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reeves-Reed Arboretum is located at 165 Hobart Ave. Summit. For information, call 908-273-8787 or visit the Web site at www.reeves-reedarboretum.org.

MILLBURN-SHORT HILLS ARTS CENTER will sponsor an exhibit of

see the 'Theater' listing on this page.

members' works through June 13 at

Overlook Hospital, 99 Beauvoir Ave.,

Summit. The gallery is open 24 hours

a day, seven days a week. For infor-

mation, call 973-538-7960, 973-267-

AUDITIONS

MYSTIC VISION PLAYERS of Linden

will conduct auditions for "Little Shop

of Horrors" May 12 and 14 from 7 to 10

p.m. at the John T. Gregorio Recre-

ation Center, 330 Helen St., Linden.

Being sought are performers 16 years

old and older. Auditioners should bring

sheet music in the rock style of the

show. Show dates are July 25 to Aug.

2. For information, call 908-925-9068.

AUTHOR LAURENCE YEP will

appear at Barnes and Noble of Spring-

field on May 9 at 7:30 p.m. to sign

copies of his new book, "Spring Pearl:

The Last Flower," the latest in the Girls

of Many Lands series from American

Girl. Barnes and Noble is located at

240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For

AUTHOR JEFF NEUGROSCHE will

appear at the Town Book Store of

Westfield on May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1

p.m. to sign copies of his new book,

"Emergence of Hope." The Town Book

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MYSTERY READING GROUP meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION BOOK GROUP, a monthly reading group featuring staff members' favorite books, meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

CONCERTS

FOLK SINGER-SONGWRITER PETER DONNELLY will appear in concert Saturday at 8 p.m. in Wilkins

ing Arts Center, 27 Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza, Elizabeth. Tickets are \$10. For information, call 800-255-3476 or visit www.njsymphony.org.

THE NEW JERSEY INTERGENERA-TIONAL ORCHESTRA will appear in concert May 8 at 7:30 p.m. at New Providence High School. Generaladmission tickets are \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door, tickets for students and senior citizens are \$4 at all times. For information, call 908-709-0084 or send e-mail to info@njio.org.

THE CONCORD SINGERS will present the spring concert May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church, Woodland Avenue in Summit. Suggested donation is \$10, with children younger than 14 admitted free. For information, call 973-514-1412.

THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY, based in Westfield, will perform Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus" on May 10 at 8 p.m. at the

DISCUSSION

MERCHANTS AND DROVERS TAVrative Arts at the Newark Museum, Jersey Culture in the Federal Period." The discussion will take place at the Merchants and Drovers Tavern, 1632 St. Georges Ave., Rahway. Tickets are \$7. For information, call 732-381-0441

JAZZ

THE GREG OSBY QUARTET and the Jason Moran Trio will appear in concert Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

JAZZ PIANIST ERIC MINTEL and the Eric Mintel Quartet will appear in concert May 16 at 8 p.m. at the Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St., Rahway. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. For information, call 732-381-7511, send e-mail artsguild1670@earthlink.net or visit www.rahwayartsguild.org.

JAZZ SAXOPHONIST SONNY ROLLINS will appear in concert May 16 at 8 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$15 to \$55.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

KIDS

KEAN UNIVERSITY'S 'CHILDREN'S HOUR' will present a bilingual production of "Ferdinand the Bull" Sunday at 2 p.m. in Wilkins Theater, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are \$6. For information, call 908-737-7469.

KEAN UNIVERSITY'S 'ON SCHOOL TIME' will present a bilingual production of "Ferdinand the Bull" Monday at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Tuesday at 10 a.m. in Wilkins Theater, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are \$6. For information, call 908-737-7469.

TRAILSIDE NATURE AND SCIENCE **CENTER** in Mountainside will sponsor "Brightwood Park Bird Walk" for children, adults and families May 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. Fee is \$2 per person. Trailside is located at 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside. For information, call 908-789-3670.

TRAILSIDE NATURE AND SCIENCE **CENTER** in Mountainside will sponsor "Moonlight Meander" for children 6 and older with an adult, adults and families May 14 from 7 to 8 p.m. Fee is \$3 per person; pre-registration is required. Trailside is located at 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside. For information, call 908-789-3670.

THEATER

PAPER MILL: The State Theater of New Jersey will present Lerner and Loewe's "Camelot" through May 18. Shows are at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, with matinees Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Special performances are the Conversation Series, Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the mezzanine; audio-described performances, with a sensory seminar 90 minutes prior to curtain, and signinterpreted/open-captioned performances.

Paper Mill is located on Brookside Drive. For information, call 973-376-4343, 973-379-3636 ext. 2438 for groups, or visit www.papermill.org.

TEMPLE EMANU-EL of Westfield will present the musical "Two by Two" in concert format Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adutts, \$5 for children, students and senior citizens. Patron tickets are available for \$18 per person, \$54 per family consisting of two adults and three children. Temple Emanu-El is located at 756 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call 908-232-6770.

THE ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE will present "Rain From Heaven" by S.N. Behrman through May 11. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens. The Elizabeth Playhouse is located at 1100 E. Jersey St. Elizabeth. For information, call 908-355-0077 or visit www.elizabethplayhouse.com.

THE THEATER PROJECT at Union County College will present "Having Our Say" by Emily Mann through May

11. Shows are in the Roy W. Smith Theater on the Cranford campus Thursdays to Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 Fridays to Sundays, \$7 Thursdays; student tickets are \$7 at all performances. UCC is located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call 908-659-5189.

CRANFORD DRAMATIC CLUB will present Frank Loesser's "Guys and ERN MUSEUM in Rahway will present Dolls" from Friday through May 17. Ulysses Grant Dietz, curator of Deco- Shows are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 3 p.m. May 11. Tickets are who will speak Saturday at 2 p.m. on \$18. CDC is located at 78 Winans "The Style of the New Nation: New Ave., Cranford. For information, call 908-276-7611.

THE PLAYHOUSE ASSOCIATION of Summit will present "Is There Life After High School?" by Jeffrey Kindley and Craig Carnelia Friday through May 18. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees Sunday and May 18. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students younger than 18. The Playhouse Association is located at 10 New England Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-2192 or visit www.summitplayhouse.org.

VARIETY

24TH ANNUAL PET FAIR will take place Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. at Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside. Admission is \$1; children 6 and younger are admitted free. For information, call 908-789-3670.

SECOND SATURDAYS COFFEE-HOUSE will take place the second Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit. Featured will be an "open mike" forum of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for future dates.

For information, call 908-273-3245. THE BACK PORCH in Rahway will present Open Mike Night every Thursday night, as well as solo artists and

bands on weekends. May 17: Not In That Order The Back Porch is located at 1505 Main St., Rahway. For information, call

732-381-6544. CROSSROADS, 78 North Ave., Garwood, presents a series of jazz, blues

ball-themed nights. Every Sunday: Sunday Football, noon to closing, see all the games with

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by Black Dog

May 9: Stanley Jordan, \$22

For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit www.xxroads.com

MOLLY MAGUIRE'S IRISH PUB. formerly Casual Times, in Clark will present entertainment in the coming weeks. Thursdays are Ladies Nights, and Sundays feature NFL games and \$2 drafts.

Molly Maguire's is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information. call 732-388-6511.

VAN GOGH'S EAR, 1017 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, will present a series of musical events. Tuesdays are "Acoustic Tuesday," some of which feature open mike from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer. Open mike participants sign up at 7:30 p.m., and get 10 minutes at the microphone. Jazz and blues are featured Sundays at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$3 for all Sunday concerts...

For information, call 908-810-1844.

WORKSHOPS

PREPARE FOR THE WORST: DIS-ASTER PLANNING BEFORE, DUR-ING AND AFTER' is the topic of a workshop sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders for librarians, museum curators, organizations and individuals. The workshop will take place Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Twin Maples, 214 Springfield Ave., Summit. Registration is \$20, \$15 for subsequent people from the same organization. For information, call 908-558-2550 or send email to scoen@ucnj.org.

WOMEN'S A CAPPELLA WORK-SHOP will be sponsored My 14, 21 and 28 at 7:15 p.m. by the Hickory Tree Chorus. Workshops will take place at New Jersey Youth Symphony Rehearsal Hall, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Admission is free. For information, call 973-361-4799 or 908-522-1954, send e-mail to HickoryTC@aol.com visit www.angelfire.com/nj/hickorytree.

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Theater at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$10 for students, and \$12 for senior citizens and Kean faculty, staff and alumni. For information,

call 908-737-7469.

'IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?' is the musical question being asked by the

Playhouse Association of Summit, beginning this weekend and running through May

18. From left are cast members T.J. Balady, Margareth DeJesus, Moggie Davis, Kyle

SanGiovanni, David Claypoole, Joseph LaFalce and Stephanie Fisk. For information,

THE ORCHESTRA OF ST. PETER BY THE SEA will appear in concert Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, East Broad Street and Mountain Avenue, Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for senior citizens older than 65, and \$10 for students 18 and younger, with Reserved Patron Seating available for \$60; proceeds benefit the Youth and Family Counseling Service. For information, call 908-233-2042.

SYMPHONY SUMMIT ORCHESTRA will appear in concert Saturday at 8 p.m. at Summit High School, Kent Place Boulevard, Summit. Admission is free.

THE WESTFIELD MEN'S GLEE CLUB will present its 78th annual spring concerts Saturday at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Westfield and May 4 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Berkeley Heights. Featured will be soprano Meredith Hoffmann-Thomson. For information, call 908-232-0673.

PIANIST MURRAY PERAHIA will appear in concert Sunday at 3 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$16 to \$59.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC at St. Paul's Episcopal Church will present the 11th annual Spring Concert on Sunday at 7 p.m. Featured will be the St. Paul's choir joined by soloists from the Metropolitan Opera and members of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. Donations will be accepted. St. Paul's is located at 414 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call 908-232-8506, ext. 17.

THE GREATER NEWARK YOUTH ORCHESTRA and the Greater Newark Chamber Orchestra will appear in concert Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Jefferson House Perform-

Presbyterian Church in Westfield, corner of East Broad Street and Mountain Avenue. A pre-concert lecture begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and senior citizens.

METRO RHYTHM CHORUS will appear in concert, "In the Spotlight," on May 10 at 8 p.m. at Union Catholic Regional High School, Martine Aveneu, Scotch Plains. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for children younger than 12 and senior citizens 65 and older. For information, call 908-638-6661.

DANCE

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER will appear May 9 at 8 p.m., May 10 at 2 and 8 p.m., and May 11 at 3 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$16 to \$69.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark, For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.nipac.org.

'DANCE JAM' will be presented May 10 and 11 at 2 p.m. in Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$8 for children 14 and younger.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark, For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.nipac.org.

NEW JERSEY BALLET will present "Graduation Ball" May 10 at 8 p.m. and May 11 at 2 p.m. in Wilkins Theater at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. The May 11 show will include storyteller narration. Tickets for the May 10 show are \$18 for the general public, \$12 for students and 16 for senior citizens, faculty, staff and alumni; tickets for the May 11 show are \$9. For information, call 908-737-7469.

SUMMIT FOLK DANCERS will sponsor evenings of international dance throughout the year at The Connection for Women and Families, 79 Maple St., Summit. Sessions are alternate Fridays from 8 to 10:30 p.m. Upcoming dates are May 9, which is an English country dance workshop, and May 23. The season closing party is June 13. Admission is \$2, or \$12 for half the season; workshops are \$5. For information, call 973-467-8278.

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SECRETARY.- LEGAL./ Real estate experience helpful, but not necessary. Full time/ Part time. Union area. Please fax resume: 908-964-0072 or call 908-964-8310.

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The man of sin who forbids men from marriage falls from Grace, lives in Sin (Apostasy); 2 Thess. 2:3-5, 1 Tim. 4:1-3. This false religious teacher, teaches demonic doctrine to prevent and deceive for self aggrandizement, 2 Cor. 11:13-15; 2 Pet. 2:1-3. God said that marriage is honorable, Gen 2:18-25; Heb. 13:4. Thus, both the Old and New Testament teaches the priest were married men. But Satan distorted the Word of God from the beginning until now, Gen

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SPRINGFIELD A WENDY Sands Sale, 37 South Derby Road, Saturday only 9:30am-3:30pm. (South Springfield Ave. to Lynn near Route 22 to Becker to Sale). Leather sectional sofa, goat skin dining table with chairs, mirrored console, TV's, desks, women's clothes, household goods etc.

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ELIZABETH, 5 Family , Algonquin Place, Saturday May 3th, 10a.m.-4p.m., rain date, May 4th, Clothes, Nick Nacks, Books.

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LINDEN, 606 KNOPF Street, Saturday, May 3rd, Sunday, May 4th. 9am-5pm. Rose velvet sofabed, maple kitchen set, walnut desk, sterling silver pieces, sewing machine, miscellaneous items.

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UNION 2265 VAUXHALL Road Saturday May 3rd 9:30am-5:00pm. Furniture, house hold items, clothing. Everything must go!!. UNION, 45 LAUREL Avenue, Friday, Saturday, May 2nd, May 3rd, 9am-9pm. Handyman's special's , tools, dishes, furni-

UNION, 834 REMMOS AVENUE, (Spruce Street to Remmos Ave, or Liberty Ave to Spruce St. to Remmos Ave). Multi-Family Sale. New mens suits, Reg \$300 to \$400, now \$50 to \$75.00. New mens sports jackets, Reg \$250 to \$300, now \$35 to \$50. Household items, toys, bikes, furniture, air conditioner, couches, and much more

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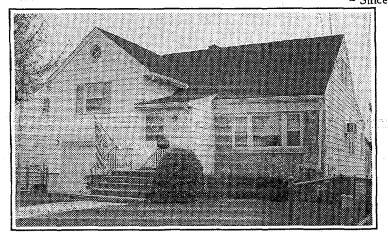




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Mortgage help is available from many sources for first-time homebuyers

There's no question about it. Buying a first home is a big financial commitment. In most cases, a home is the largest single purchase an individual or family will make in a lifetime. However, because of the tax advantages afforded to homeowners, buying a home also can be one of the best financial decisions you'll ever make.

Problem is, many would-be homeowners remain renters simply because they mistakenly believe mortgage lenders require that buyers come up with 20 percent of the purchase price as a down payment.

While it's true lenders feel it's less risky to work with buyers who are able to bring a substantial down payment to the table, the standard 20-percent requirement is fast becoming a relic of the past. In recent years, lenders have become more flexible in

working with first-time homebuyers by creating a variety of special programs that require only a small down payment. These programs, combined with the most favorable interest rates in two decades, have encouraged growing numbers of renters to consider the tremendous benefits of home ownership.

While the list of programs offered by individual lenders is too extensive to mention in detail, here are some common programs you are likely to come across as you work with your real estate agent to purchase your first home.

FHA mortgages allow home buyers to purchase a home with as little as a 5-percent down payment, and to finance all non-recurring closing costs. The current maximum loan amount in most urban markets is

\$151,725. In addition, borrowers are allowed to use up to 41 percent of their gross income toward paying mortgage debt — well above the ratio allowed under most private programs.

Department of Veterans Affairs mortgages allow veteran or active service personnel to purchase a home with no down payment, up to the current maximum price of \$184,000. However, there is no purchase price limitation for buyers able to make a down payment. Like the FHA program, VA borrowers can put up to 41 percent of gross income toward their mortgage debt.

Mortgages funded with mortgage revenue bonds and mortgage credit certificates typically require a minimum of 5 percent down and have interest rates that are 1.5 to 2 percent-

age points below conventional 30year fixed rates. These types of loans, offered by state and local housing agencies, are available only to firsttime homebuyers. There generally are income and purchase price caps that vary, depending on where you plan to buy.

Most major lenders offer privately insured mortgages, which generally require a 10-percent down payment, although some lenders offer loans with a 5-percent down payment to buyers with exceptional credit. These loans typically are not limited by maximum loan amount or purchase price limitation.

Through their networks of mortgage lenders, the Federal National Mortgage Association — Fannie Mae — and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation — Freddie Mac — offer community homebuyer program loans. These programs require a 5-percent down payment, 3 percent of which may be a gift. To further help buyers qualify, applicants may use 38 percent of their gross income. Currently, the maximum loan amount available through these programs is \$203,150.

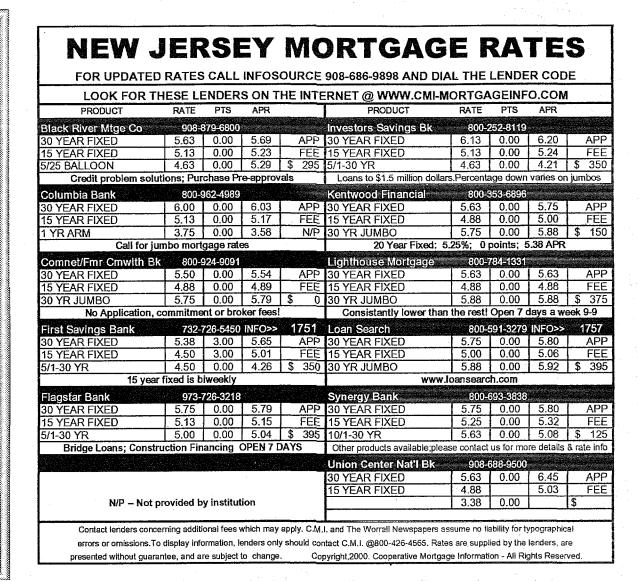
Clearly, there are a lot of options for first-time homebuyers. While lenders will be more than happy to share information about their own programs, you can save yourself a good deal of time by first selecting a professional real estate agent who is experienced in working with first-time buyers in the areas where you plan to buy. An agent who focuses on first-timers buyers will know from experience which lenders in your area offer a low down-payment program

that will meet your unique needs.

Today, taking the first step toward owning your own home is easier than before. Your real estate agent is your best resource for finding innovative ways to help you come up with a down payment and qualify for financing. There's certainly no need to wait until you've saved a 20-percent down payment.

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Simple precautions save money

By Jon Woods

Copley News Service

Have you ever been coming home and bumped into a neighbor standing out front? You pull your car over to talk to him and, next thing you know, you've been yakking about neighbor stuff for 10 to 15 minutes, and all the while your car has been running and you've had your foot on the brake.

Is this bad for the car? Well, it is not bad for the engine. I suppose one could idle an engine for a week or two and not hurt it any more than driving it for that period. Of course, this assumes that the oil is clean and the cooling system is in good working order.

Could idling your car for 10 to 15 minutes be bad for the transmission? Only if the cooling system isn't working properly. Other wise, the tranny will handle the idling just fine.

The problem in the above scenario is that you have your foot on the brake for 10 to 15 minutes. In many modern cars, that's not good. Modern cars have one thing about them that oldenday cars didn't have: a third center brake light. When this light is on, it

Have you ever noticed that your taillights are not as bright as the brake lights? Brighter means more energy is being used and more energy means more heat. The problem with the center brake light is that it is surrounded by a very small housing and, of course, as with everything else these days, the housing is made of plastic:

I've seen the plastic melt to where it covered the bulb and insulated it from its socket. One customer came in with a center brake light out and after investigating the situation we found that the bulb was indeed working, it just was no longer in the center taillight housing. It was in the trunk dangling from its wires after melting right through the back dash. I don't know if this is a fire hazard, but at least it makes the owner of the car have to foot the bill for a new housing instead of just a bulb.

So be careful of prolonged resting on the brake pedal. Most traffic lights

don't last more than three or four minutes, even though it may seem like an eternity, so they probably do not present a problem. But if you are stalled in a traffic jam or if you are simply yakkin' with your neighbor, put the car in park and get your foot off the brake nedal

Here's another one. Are you one of those people that absolutely hate to have to get gas? It wouldn't be so bad, but you just don't have a nanosecond to spare. Consequently, you repeatedly wait until not only is the gas gauge reading empty, but you also have that warning light on telling you that you're really pushing it. Well, this is another case in which modern cars are not as forgiving as the cars were in the olden days.

Modern cars are fuel-injected and, as such, they have electric fuel pumps. Electric fuel pumps get hot so the engineers in their infinite wisdom decided to locate the fuel pump inside the gas tank. This solved two things.

First, since electric fuel pumps are not very good at suction, being immersed in the gas made it easy to suck the fuel into the pump. The second blessing was that the gas acted as a coolant for the pump. Aha!

If the tank is almost empty, there is no fuel to cool the pump. Most pumps will take the abuse of a driver that constantly runs the tank bone dry that is, they will continue working until the warrantee is up. So if you don't want to have to replace your car's electric fuel pump, to the tune of \$200 to \$300, don't make a steady habit of running on empty.

In both of the above situations, your wallet will thank you.

Jon Woods is a certified master mechanic who hosts an auto talk show on station KSDO in San Diego and can be reached through his www.signonsandiego.com/market-

Dealer offers kid fingerprinting More than 3,000 children are reported missing each day in the U.S. Most are

place/autocenter.

found within minutes or hours and the story has a happy endings. Police officials say that time is critical in the recovery of missing children.

One major problem that costs precious time when a child is first reported missing is the gathering of current photographs, fingerprints and statistical information to assist law enforcement agencies.

While most children are quickly reunited with their parents, there is always the fear of the worst and that is what parents should be prepared for.

To help solve this problem, both the Union and Summit branches of Maplecrest Lincoln-Mercury will be sponsoring in May a fingerprint and photograph ID-card program for local children.

Parents should plan on attending this upcoming event even if they have a set of rolled fingerprints. The machine that will be used is digital and gives a superior quality print. The program will be provided by Maplecrest Lincoln-Mercury of Union,

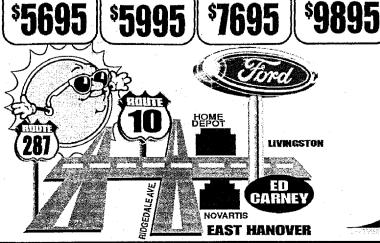
2800 Springfield Ave., Union, on May 8, from 1 to 5 p.m., and Maplecrest Lincoln-Mercury-Lotus of Summit, 68 River Road, Summit, on May 10 from 10 Operation KidSafe will take a child's picture using a digital video capture

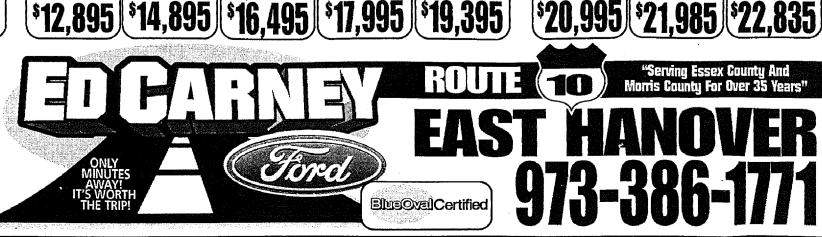
device that interacts with custom software. The software then captures the child's fingerprints, using a digital ink-less fingerprint capture device, and includes them as part of the child's file. The parent is provided with an 8 1/2by-11-inch printout, containing the photograph and fingerprints.

The only record of the visit goes home with the parent. The parent can use the copy they receive to turn over to law enforcement anywhere in the world to instantly aid in an investigation.









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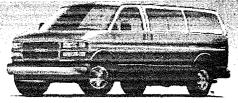
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