

# THE CLARK EAGLE

CLARK, N.J., VOL. 14 NO. 14

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myclark.com

TWO SECTIO

## Schools plug budget hole with repairs mor

By David Learn  
Managing Editor

Clark school administrators believe they might be able to head off a potentially disastrous budgetary shortfall — but it's going to mean leaving some repair projects undone.

Barre and Co., an accounting firm from Union, has predicted the school district will face a \$423,700 shortfall in its overall budget by the end of the school year, without corrective action. By law, school districts may not end a fiscal year with a deficit.

State help with the shortfall is likely to come only in terms of help figuring out what to cut. The state Department of Education has no fund to assist strapped districts.

"Once a district has a shortfall in terms of

its budget, there is no remedial funding that comes from the department to a district," said Ron Rice, a spokesman for the DOE.

The solution school administrators now are arranging involves making sure there is enough money allocated for specific budget items where administrators are certain a shortfall will occur — such as the payroll, special education transportation costs and utility bills — by taking money out of less essential budget items, like maintenance.

"We're going to rob Peter to pay Paul," Schools Business Administrator William Takacs said Monday afternoon.

In practical terms, the district does not anticipate any immediate layoffs to its nine-member maintenance staff, but repairs will be

ranked by importance. At some point, the district could run out of supplies for its maintenance staff and be unable to replace them, Takacs said.

"The only thing we will do is essential stuff — basically emergency repairs," he said. "If a window breaks at this point, we're going to have to decide 'Do you repair the window or board it up.'"

The Barre report also had outlined other areas where the district potentially could save money, such as reducing the \$70,000 allocated for substitute teachers.

That suggestion was made on the opening months of the school year, when teachers had used few of their allotted sick days — before flu season hit. Takacs said already about a third

of the district staff has taken sick days because of the flu.

After the maintenance budget has been tapped, the district will begin tapping the \$343,000 it maintains as district surplus. To use that money, the district needs only to inform Union County Superintendent of Schools Glenn Tillou.

Beyond that is a state-mandated \$808,000 in surplus. State statute requires the district maintain a minimum 3 percent of its budget as surplus each year, that the school district may use only with Tillou's express permission.

"We've been told that he won't approve it," Takacs said. "We still don't have an explanation why we can't use it, what it's there for if we can't use it."

Takacs is relatively confident the money will last to the end of the year, but he still admits to a degree of uncertainty.

"It depends on how serious things will get between now and June," he said.

The projection gets even gloomier into the next year, when Takacs predicts the district will need a budget of at least \$2 million more than it will be allowed under the state's budget cap.

That projection assumes that enrollment stays exactly the same as it is now, that teachers receive no salary increases in the contracts now being negotiated and that the district budgets the full amount for line items now underbudgeted, such as the transportation fees. See BUDGET, Page 2

## Athletes warned of illness

Spinal meningitis fells Newark coach

By David Learn  
Managing Editor

The school district and Health Department are recommending that members of the high school wrestling team be screened for possible meningitis infections.

The recommendation follows the death this past weekend of a wrestling coach from Barringer High School from bacterial meningitis. The coach, whose identity was not available at presstime, had been at Arthur L. Johnson High School for a wrestling match Dec. 22.

Parts of the school the coach visited were cleaned on Monday morning by Aramark, the school district's outside custodial service. Details on what they used to clean the school were not available.

Calls to municipal Health Officer Nancy Raymond were not returned, but a recording on her voice mail instructs callers to contact Complete Care Medical Center in Scotch Plains with concerns about possible infection. The school district has recommended concerned parents or team members contact Union Hospital.

Municipal and school staff who were present at the game also have been notified. Mayor Sal Bonaccorso said that a police officer who was present for the wrestling match was screened for a possible meningitis infection, but tests came out negative.

Meningitis is an infection of the cerebrospinal fluid that surrounds the spinal column and the brain. Symptoms typically include a stiff neck, headaches and fever, although it can lead to nausea, disorientation and drowsiness and ultimately death.

There are about 17,500 cases of bacterial meningitis reported each year. It can be treated through a regimen of antibiotics.

The disease is not considered one that can be transmitted by breathing the same air as an infected person, although it can be spread through coughing and saliva, as well as prolonged regular contact.

"We're keeping our fingers crossed until we know all the results," said Bonaccorso.

By Monday afternoon, there had been no reports of the illness appearing in Clark residents.

### Offices closed

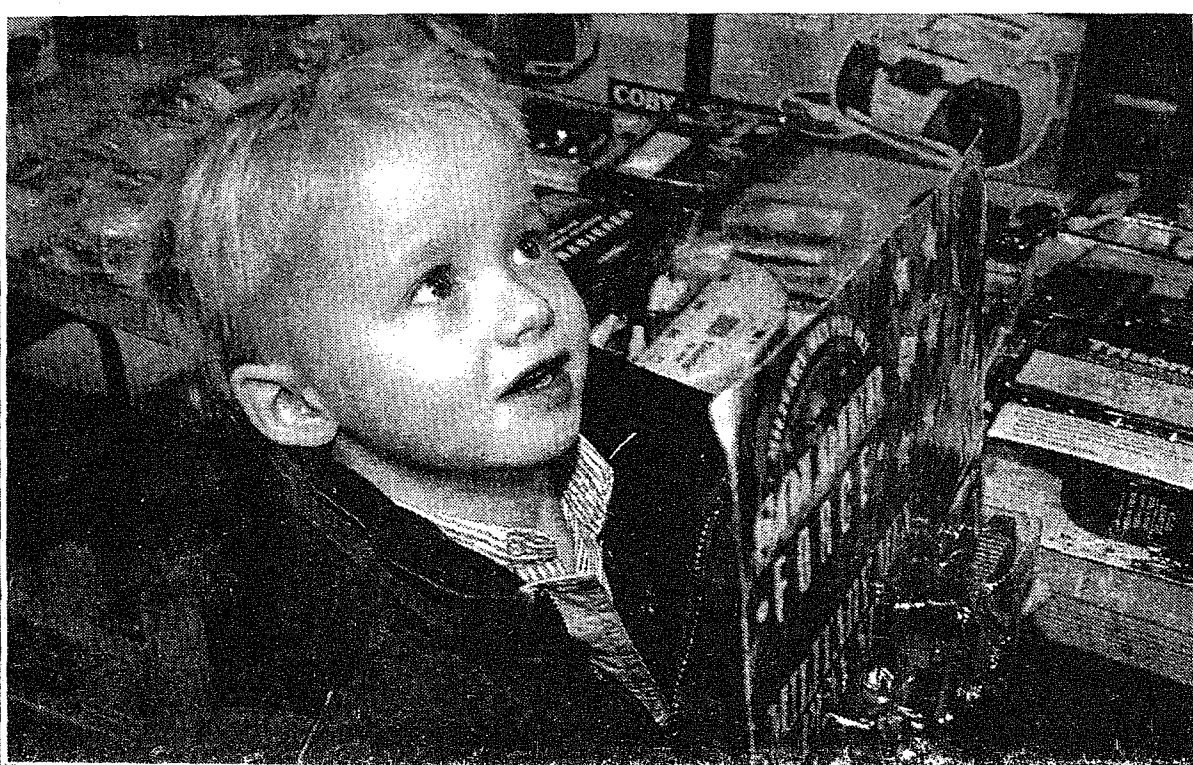
The offices of this newspaper will be closed Thursday in observance of New Year's Day. We will reopen Friday.

Our normal deadlines and schedule will return for the Jan. 8 edition.

The deadlines for the Jan. 8 edition are as follows:

- Legal advertising — 10 a.m. Tuesday.
- Lifestyle, including church and club news, etc. — noon Friday.
- Letters to the editor — 9 a.m. Monday.
- What's Going On — 4 p.m. Monday.
- Display ads — 5 p.m. Monday for Section A and noon Monday for Section B.
- Sports news — 9 a.m. Monday.

### Just one more gift



Christmas is over, but the need for gifts remains in the eyes of many a boy and girl. Jordan John Hovanec, 4, certainly thinks so, as evidenced by his earnest desire for a military action figure at a craft and flea market at the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building on Sunday.

Photo By Barbara Sokkalis

## 2003: Year of school news

By David Learn  
Managing Editor

When the final tally is counted for 2003 in Clark, it will be the school district where the biggest events happened.

2003 was the year that Superintendent of Schools Paul Ortenzio retired, marking an end to 19 years of his superintendency in the district. It is the year the district sold the former Abraham Clark School to the Polish Cultural Foundation, and it is the year the district made an unprecedented and ultimately successful appeal of a referendum on school repairs.

Proceedings on the appeal began Feb. 24, when the board spent a good part of the day arguing before Administrative Law Judge Kenneth Springer that it needed to sell \$31,425,430 in construction bonds to present Clark children with a state-mandated thorough and efficient education. Voters had rejected those arguments in December 2000 and February 2001.

Springer ultimately agreed with the board, but only partially. In an April 10 decision, he recommended to Commissioner of Education William Libera that the school district be given authority to enter into \$19,204,980 in

long-term debt for school repairs. The state will be responsible for any cost overruns.

Libera took Springer's advice, and on June 30 he gave the school district permission to enter into the debt.

Included in the work are replacing the high school's steam-driven heating system to one driven by hot water, rewiring the electric system to bring it up to code, replacing the window panes in the high school with more energy-efficient double-paned ones and bringing the district into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Libera's decision ended a process that took nearly three years, beginning in December 2000, when the Board of Education asked residents to approve the \$31.4 million repair and construction project. Voters rejected that request by a 20-vote margin in a public referendum.

Two subsequent referendums, one for the same proposal and one for a smaller one, also were rejected.

During the course of the referendum appeal, the Board of Education presented voters with a budget for \$27.2 million that they approved April 15.

The budget has continued to be a source of headaches. See SCHOOLS, Page 2

## March start seen for library work

By David Learn  
Managing Editor

Groundbreaking on an addition to Clark Public Library could begin in less than two months, depending on the bids the township receives from interested contractors.

Approved on March 17, the addition would increase the interior space of the library about 75 percent. The Township Council has authorized borrowing \$1.75 million to pay for the project.

"I'd want to start sometime by mid-end of February," said Mayor Sal Bonaccorso. "Hopefully by the end of that month, we'll have groundbreaking."

The expansion of the library was one of the biggest stories of early 2003, anticipated by Mayor Sal Bonaccorso in his January state of the township address as a return to progress and good government.

The council had first considered the library expansion in spring 2002. It failed to receive the supermajority required for passage when then-council members Dolores "Dee" Memmer, Rich Kazanowski and Martin Ferrara all voted against it.

After the three were voted out of office, an all-Republican council gave the library expansion its unanimous approval when it came up for a formal vote.

The council on July 21 approved hiring Arcari and Iovino Architects of Little Ferry to perform design work on the project for up to \$89,900.

The expansion will involve erecting a new front wall closer to Westfield Avenue and adding about 8,900 square feet to the 12,000 square feet already in the library.

Other plans include expanding the second floor, providing more computer stations and reconfiguring the library's basement to create more community meeting rooms.

What the construction work will mean for day-to-day operations of the library remains to be decided. Business Administrator John Laezza has been discussing an arrangement with

*"If the builder comes in and says, 'Get everyone out of here, and I can save one month, two months' labor,' then I would definitely consider it."*

— Sal Bonaccorso

Cranford in which Clark residents would be able to visit that township's library on Walnut Avenue for the duration of the construction project.

"It's hard to work around people and the existing library," said Bonaccorso. "If the builder comes in and says, 'Get everyone out of here, and I can save one month, two months' labor,' then I would definitely consider it."

The township already has solicited bids on the project. If none of the bids comes in below the \$1.75 million the council wanted to spend, officials may need to revisit that amount and decide whether to borrow more money or scale the project back.

The \$1.7 million figure was decided upon in 2002, when the idea of expanding the library first surfaced. When the Township Council voted on the expansion that spring, in the two years that will have passed since discussion first started, it's possible the project will have increased in cost enough.

"It's almost two years later," said Bonaccorso. "If it's a hundred grand more or two hundred grand more, we might want to go ahead and borrow the money."

The annual tax impact could range from \$10 to \$30 a year for the owner of the average Clark house, assessed at \$118,000, depending on the availability of grants and donations to offset construction costs.

## Cops charge driver with sex offense

By David Learn  
Managing Editor

A bus driver from Cliffwood Beach is free on bail after being charged with criminal sexual contact inside Clark.

Thomas Gill, 52, of 69 Rosewood Drive, Cliffwood Beach, was released after posting \$10,000 bail shortly after his arrest in Old Bridge on Dec. 17. His arrest followed a two-week investigation by Detective Kevin Shackleton.

A warrant for Gill's arrest alleges that between Oct. 1, 2002, and Nov. 11, 2003, Gill grabbed the breast of a 43-year-old woman identified only as a bus driver named E.G., spoke to her in a sexually explicit and harassing manner and on two separate occasions tried to pull her head into his lap.

He is charged under the warrant with two counts of criminal sexual contact. The alleged offenses are not considered sexual assault under New Jersey law.

Gill, whose home phone number is unlisted, could not be reached for comment.

Shackleton began his investigation

Dec. 1, after E.G. entered police headquarters to lodge a complaint.

Police said little more about the incident, except that it occurred in the vicinity of the Garden State Parkway circle at Exit 135.

Mother Seton Regional High School, an all girls Catholic high school that draws students from the region, is located directly off the traffic circle, but police would not give more specific information about where the alleged incidents occurred than that it was at the traffic circle.

Police also would not identify the bus company that Gill and the woman work for. The warrant does not indicate whether they work for the same bus company.

Gill is not listed on the Megan's Law sex offenders Web site registry as a past offender. The Web site lists only offenders who are considered to be a high or moderate risk for repeat offenses.

The charge is answerable in state Superior Court in Elizabeth. No information was available about when a hearing would be held on the charges.

## Swinging on the green



Photo By Joseph Sorrentino

It may be time for Old Man Winter to drive everyone inside, but on Monday afternoon, Frank McGuire of Clark was more concerned with getting some driving done outside, on the greens of Galloping Hill golf course in Kenilworth. The sunny weather isn't meant to last; on Monday night, the long-range forecast calls for sun only through Thursday.



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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. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below:

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by The 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, NJ 07083.

Thursday

- New Year's Day. Offices of *The Clark Eagle* will be closed. We will reopen Friday.

Sunday

- The Polish Cultural Foundation will hold a traditional Christmas program at 4 p.m., at the foundation's banquet hall, 177 Broadway. In the Polish tradition, Christmas carols are sung from Christmas to Feb. 2. Guests will hear an interesting arrangement of Christmas songs, stories and poetry. At the end of the program there will be sing-along with the artists. Admission costs \$20 per person, and includes concert and traditional Polish buffet. Reservations are due before Dec. 27, by calling 732-382-7197.

Monday

- The Township Council will hold its annual reorganization meeting at 8 p.m. in the municipal courtroom, 315 Westfield Ave.

Wednesday

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

Upcoming Jan. 8

- The Friends of Clark Public Library will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave.

Jan. 13

- The Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Arthur L. Johnson High School library.

Jan. 15

The Clark Seniors will meet at 1 p.m. at the senior center, 450 Westfield Ave. Free blood pressure, blood sugar and quick cholesterol testing are available before meetings, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call Lillian B. Krov. 732-381-3823.

Jan. 27

- The Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Arthur L. Johnson High School library.

Jan. 28

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

Feb. 7

- Clark Benefit Fund Inc. will host its 11th annual Winter Benefit Ball at The Westwood in Garwood from 7 p.m. to midnight, featuring an open bar, cocktail hour, dinner and dancing to the music of "Be Our Guest Entertainment." Tickets are available by calling Kim Carnovale at 732-382-1556. The executive committee is creating an advertisement journal to distribute at the ball. Call Donna Kircher at 732-382-8714 for details.

Feb. 28

- Clark Volunteer First Aid Squad will host an EMS and Fire Trade Show at St. Thomas the Apostle Church hall, 1407 St. George Ave., Rahway. Admission costs \$3. This will offer an opportunity to see new trends in the EMS and fire communities. For more information, call Chris at 732-574-0214 or Rob at 732-382-2155.

Ongoing

- Bishop Justin J. McCarthy Knights of Columbus Council 5503 offers monthly family dinners. Meals cost \$8 for adults, and \$3.50 for children 4 to 10 years old. Children age 3 and younger are admitted free. For more information, call Grand Knight Tony Fiorillo at 732-340-9781, or the council home at 732-574-9067.
- Skulski Art Gallery, 177 Broadway, is presenting an exhibit of tapestry by Nina Kedzierska and photography by Jim Hons, through Friday. The gallery is open to the public 5 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call Aleksandra K. Nowak at 732-382-7197.

Schools led the news in Clark in year 2003

(Continued from Page 1)

for board members and administrators alike as proponents of programs cut to make the budget work have protested.

Chief of these was a gymnastics program that ultimately was reinstated after parents and students raised the necessary money to finance the program privately.

More recently, the board has been embroiled in a projected budget shortfall of more than \$400,000. District administrators hope to avoid cutting academic programs by cutting the district's repair and maintenance budget instead.

The district was able to apply some of the money borrowed under Libreria's order to make emergency repairs to a leaking roof at Carl H. Kumpf Middle School. The roof was due for the repairs anyway, but by August the roof had deteriorated to the point that the state Department of Education agreed the repairs couldn't wait.

The entire roof project, done with far less disruption to classes than had been anticipated, cost about \$90,165. The roof had been leaking over the school's art room and two science rooms.

None of the three affected rooms had been seriously damaged by the leaks, although there was concern that the damage could lead to complications like the mold and bacteria problems found at Arthur L. Johnson High School in the 2001-02 school year.

Despite the obvious relief at the successful referendum appeal, Ortenzio ultimately chose to retire from his post, effective June 30. The board has been told it will need to spend about \$10,000 to find a new superintendent.

Ortenzio has been dogged by controversy in recent years, particularly about the contract he negotiated for himself about three years ago that gave him an 8 percent raise. He now earns \$159,800 a year, making him one of the highest-paid superintendents in the county.

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Burglar strikes at Windsor Diner

Police are investigating an early-morning burglary at Windsor Diner from the day after Christmas.

Alarms at the Raritan Road eatery went off at 5:03 a.m. Dec. 26, police said. A man answering the phone at the diner declined to answer questions about the burglary.

No other information was available.

Police and firefighters alike responded to an oven fire at a Skyline Drive residence, at 12:59 p.m. Dec. 24.

Firefighters extinguished the fire. Police did not report any injuries or property damage.

A Hilltop Avenue resident reported being the victim of identity theft, at 8:31 a.m. Dec. 16.

Multi-Care Health Center, 100 Commerce Drive, reported being the victim of credit card fraud, at 12:30 p.m. Dec. 16.

Police found a car reported stolen from Newark in the ShopRite parking lot, at 9:25 p.m. Dec. 16.

Police provided no other information about the car.

An Allen Court resident reported being the victim of credit card fraud, at 2:16 p.m. Dec. 17.

Gary Rice, 43, of 38 Dickens Road, North Brunswick, was arrested at 9:25 a.m. Dec. 18 at the Middlesex County Detention Center.

Rice was arrested on an outstanding contempt-of-court warrant, and was jailed in lieu of \$2,185.

Police are investigating a reported incident of criminal mischief at a Maple Street residence.

The incident was reported at 11:35 p.m. Dec. 19.

Unlisted items were reported stolen from a motor vehicle parked in front of a Raritan Road residence, at 5:38 p.m. Dec. 22.

A separate incident was reported at an Oak Ridge Road resident, at 8:15 p.m. Dec. 22.

Police provided no other information about either incident.

Badee Shabazz, 34, of 519 Brace Ave., Perth Amboy, was arrested at 3:34 p.m. Dec. 23 on an outstanding contempt-of-court warrant.

Shabazz was taken to Union County Jail in lieu of unspecified bail.

Somebody tried to steal the headlights off a motor vehicle parked along Lake Avenue, according to a complaint made at 4:14 p.m. Dec. 23.

No other information was available.

Police reported an unspecified incident of criminal mischief to a Raritan Road business at 7:28 p.m. Dec. 23.

No other information was available.

Budget woes likely to worsen in '04

(Continued from Page 1)

connected with special education.

With all those assumptions holding true, the district would need a \$30 million budget for 2004-05, but probably would be allowed a base budget of only \$28 million. The district would be allowed to exceed that base budget amount, if it gains voter approval in secondary and tertiary budget questions.

"This is a game we play every year," said Takacs. "It's just harder and harder, but we cut expenses every year."

A hefty chunk of the cost overruns comes from special education, an area where the district's hands are tied by government regulations.

On April 15, voters approved a \$27.4 million budget for the school district, which included about \$300,000 for transportation costs associated with Clark special-education children whose needs require out-of-district service.

Under the law, the district is obligated to provide education for all its special-needs children, including those who join the school district after the budget has been approved.

On expenses related to special education alone, the district already is \$126,000 overbudget for special-education students because of post-budget enrollees.

There are 261 special-education children enrolled in the Clark schools, 41 of whom require out-of-district placement.

"The problem with special education costs specifically is most of those are driven by federal mandates," said Rice, the DOE spokesman. "There's not much the state can do to provide funding for federal mandates."

Other areas where the district faces shortfalls were unforeseeable. The district's salary obligations went over-budget this year because the district had to hire four new staff members it had not anticipated in budget preparations, and retained a business teacher whose position originally had been cut from the budget.

Additionally, the budget the Board of Education presented to voters on April 15 already allocated \$70,000 less for heat and other utilities than the district spent in the 2002-03 school year.

The district recently learned that the rate it pays for gas heat has increased 34 percent, leading to perhaps as much as a \$20,000 shortfall, where only a \$7,000 shortfall originally had been anticipated.

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## EVENTS

## Foundation offers traditional Xmas program

The Polish Cultural Foundation will hold a traditional Christmas program at 4 p.m. Sunday, at the foundation's banquet hall, 177 Broadway.

In the Polish tradition, Christmas carols are sung from Christmas to Feb. 2. Guests will hear an interesting arrangement of Christmas songs, stories and poetry.

The program will feature Mariusz Gienza, Zbigniew Szczypior the organist and cantor at the St. Stanislaus Church of Newark, and Anna Podolak, a renowned actress of movie, films and theater.

At the end of the program there will be a sing-along with the artists.

Admission costs \$20 per person, and includes concert and traditional Polish buffet.

Reservations are past due.

Call 732-382-7197 for more information.

## Rutgers professor speaks on Poland, the E.U.

The Polish University Club of New Jersey will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21 at the Polish Cultural Foundation, 177 Broadway.

The meeting will consist of regular and new business, as well as a presentation of interest to our members. Presentations vary monthly and touch on a variety of subjects.

January speaker Jan Kubik is the director of the center for Russian, Central and Eastern European Studies at Rutgers University and a professor in the political science department. He will speak to on Poland and the European Union.

Kubik holds a master's degree from Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, and a doctorate from Columbia University.

His interests include the post-Communist transformations in East-

ern Europe and the relationship between cultures and politics and contentious politics.

## University club holds 76th anniversary ball

The Polish University Club of New Jersey will host its 76th anniversary ball at the Airport Marriott Hotel in Newark, on Feb. 7. Honored at the dinner portion of the ball will be PUC Outstanding Citizen of The Year, Christine J. McMullan.

Proceeds from the ball will be applied to the Polish University Scholarship Fund.

Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 p.m.; dinner at 7:30 p.m. with an open bar throughout the evening. The individual cost of the dinner dance is \$90 a person; \$65 a student; a choice of chicken, filet mignon, or salmon can be ordered for the dinner. The Music House Band will provide music for the dancing pleasure

of those attending.

The scholarship ball is the highlight of the Polish University Club's winter season and should not be missed. Tickets can be obtained by calling 908 889-8988 from Dec. 12 to Friday. After Friday, call 732-382-4281.

The club meets at 7:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at the Polish Cultural Foundation, 177 Broadway.

## ALJ Booster Club meets in high school library

The A.L.J. Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 5 in the library of Arthur L. Johnson High School, 365 Westfield Ave.

Meetings are held in the library at 7:30 p.m. the first Thursday of every month.

For more information, call Jim Molloy at 732-388-4543.

## Clark Benefit Fund seeks advertisers

Clark Benefit Fund Inc. will host its 11th annual Winter Benefit Ball at The Westwood in Garwood on Feb. 7.

The Mardi Gras theme event will feature an open bar, cocktail hour, dinner and dancing to the music of "Be Our Guest Entertainment" from 7 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets are available by calling Kim Carnovale at 732-382-1556. The executive committee is in the process of creating an advertisement journal, which is given out at the ball. Call Donna Kircher at 732-382-8714.

Clark Benefit Fund has raised nearly \$125,000 during the past 11 years. This organization aids Clark youth and athletic associations, PTAs and other community groups based on their "wish list" requests.

The money also has endowed scholarships for seniors attending Arthur L. Johnson High Schools who

have demonstrated their commitment to volunteerism.

Members of Clark Benefit Fund include Kimberly Carnovale, Lori Eipel, Donna Kircher, Cynthia Seng and Donna Roglieri.

## Trade show highlights trends in rescue work

Clark Volunteer First Aid Squad will host an EMS and Fire Trade Show on Feb. 28.

The trade show will be at St. Thomas the Apostle Church hall, 1407 St. Georges Ave., Rahway. Admission costs \$3.

This will offer an opportunity to see new trends in the EMS and fire communities.

Vendors are still needed for this event on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call Chris at 732-574-0214 or Rob at 732-382-2155.

## OBITUARIES

## Richard Lykes

Richard B. Lykes, 78, of Clark died Dec. 20 at home.

Born in Newark, Mr. Lykes lived in Union before moving to Clark 52 years ago.

He was an installation supervisor with New Jersey Bell in Linden, where he worked for 37 years before retiring in 1983.

Mr. Lykes was an Army veteran of World War II. He was awarded a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

Mr. Lykes was a member of the American Legion Post 328 in Clark and the Telephone Pioneers of America.

Surviving are his wife of 54

years, Shirley; a son, Richard J.; two daughters, Susan Krick and Nancy Thompson; a sister, Lorraine Whinham; and seven grandchildren.

## Carl Cutrone

Carl "Collie" Cutrone, 84, of Kenilworth, formerly of Clark, died Dec. 27 in Union Hospital.

Born in Newark, Mr. Cutrone lived in Clark before moving to Kenilworth 35 years ago.

He was a general manager and cook at Jimmy Buff's Italian Hot Dog in West Orange before retiring six years ago.

Mr. Cutrone was an Army veteran of World War II. He saw action

at Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland. Mr. Cutrone was a recipient of the Purple Heart.

He was a member of the Italian-American Club of Newark.

Surviving are two sisters, Mary Librizzi and Rose Toth; two stepsisters, Antoinette Maffiori and Jenny King; and his companion, Helen Cippola.

## Jack Gigantino

Jack A. Gigantino, 76, of Clark died Dec. 24 in Rahway.

Born in Newark, Mr. Gigantino lived in Clark for 44 years.

He was a government meat inspector for the Department of

Agriculture in Newark for 28 years and retired in 1987.

After retiring, Mr. Gigantino worked in the quality control department of Wakefern Supermarkets, Edison, for seven years and then was a ranger at the Oak Ridge Golf Course in Clark.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Mr. Gigantino was a member of the American Legion and a past president of the Lions Club, both of Clark.

He also belonged to Clark Senior Citizens and the Holy Name Society of St. Agnes Church, Clark.

Surviving are two daughters,

Linda Stout and Gail Paiva; a son, Jack; three brothers, James, Leonard and Michael; eight grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

## Leonard Sonenthal

Leonard Sonenthal, 77, of Clark died Dec. 22 at home.

Born in Newark, Mr. Sonenthal moved to Clark 35 years ago.

He was a police lieutenant for the Newark Police Department, where he worked for 33 years and retired in 1987.

Mr. Sonenthal was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, the Policemen's Benevolent Association and the Retired Supervisor Officer's

Association, all in Newark.

Surviving are his wife, Doris; two daughters, Mindy Morelli and Shari Rodriguez; a brother, Carl; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

## Neyde Cardoso

Neyde Cardoso, 92, of Linden, formerly of Clark, died on Dec. 22.

Born in Belem, Brazil, Mrs. Cardoso lived in Miami and Clark before moving to Linden six years ago.

Surviving are a daughter, Virginia Araujo; a son, Alberto; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

## AT THE LIBRARY

## Winter children's program kicking off in January

Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., has begun its winter activity schedule for children.

"We are offering programs for toddlers, preschoolers and school-aged children," said Kathy Percocco, the youth services librarian.

Included in the line-up will be Readers' Theater, for elementary-age children who can read; programs for toddlers and traditional morning and evening storytimes.

The winter program schedule will run from January through March.

For more information, call 732-388-5999.

## Join Clark Public Library at absolutely no cost

Clark residents, employers and employees of Clark businesses are invited to come to Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., to get a free library card.

The only thing needed to get a library card is valid identification and proof of living, working or attending school in Clark.

A library card entitles the cardholder to all available library services, including borrowing any of the books, videos, audio books, music compact discs and more.

For more information, call 732-388-5999.

## Videos, DVDs available for rental at low cost

Videocassettes and DVDs are available for adults and young adults 16 and older with a valid library card. Children younger than 16 may not use a parent's card to borrow.

Library patrons may borrow a total of four videos or DVDs for up to three days. A nonrefundable \$1 service charge applies to each feature film borrowed.

Library patrons with a discount card, sold by the Friends of the Clark Library and available at the library for \$10, can borrow one free video or DVD from the library each Tuesday.

Library users can reserve material

online at [www.clarklibrary.org](http://www.clarklibrary.org).

The library will hold reserved videos or DVDs for one day before giving them to the next person on the waiting list or returning them to the shelf.

Videos and DVDs must be returned to the circulation desk in the library because the outside drop box damages the material.

Fines for overdue videos and DVDs are 50 cents a day. There is a \$5 fine if videos are placed in the outside book drop, and a 50-cent fine for videos that are not rewound. Damaged videos or DVDs are assessed a \$25 replacement cost, plus a \$3 service fee.

Head cleaners are lent free of

charge but must be checked out at the desk.

For more information, call 732-388-5999.

## Check blood pressure at free monthly clinic

Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., holds a free blood pressure clinic in the Ayers room from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month.

For more information, call 732-388-5999.

## Club matches wits, skill over chess board

Fancy a nice game of chess?

Chess enthusiasts are welcome to drop in for a game from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Fridays.

The chess club meets in the small meeting room in Clark Public Library's downstairs area.

For more information, call 732-388-5999.

## Reserve must-read books from a home computer

Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., offers a remote service that allows library cardholders to place reserve holds on books from their own home computer.

For more information, call 732-388-5999.

## SENIOR NEWS

## AARP chapter seeks potential members

The Clark Chapter 3733 AARP will meet at 1 p.m. Jan. 9 in the Charles H. Brewer Senior Center, 400 Westfield Ave. Social hour, with refreshments, begins at noon.

Guest speaker will be a representative from Vitalize, a geriatric care management practice located at 136 Central Ave.

Vitalize specialists arrange many services for senior citizens, including companionship, relocation services, physicians referrals and legal service.

The chapter meets at 1 p.m. the second Friday of each month.

The following trips have been scheduled:

• March 15 — Doolan's Luncheon Theater, St. Patty's Day Festival, luncheon at Doolan's with choices. \$62.

• April 21 — King Henry's Pocono

Mountain Opry. Full course luncheon with choices, "This Is My Country." \$58.

• May 12 — Renault Winery 7 Casino, luncheon at Winery and on to Atlantic City \$39.

• Sept. 15 — Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum's, 7 South St., Seaport. Luncheon at area restaurant with choices \$62.

Ongoing activities include the Volunteer programs at Runnells Hospital, under the leadership of Marian Connolly.

The chapter invites area residents with membership in the National AARP to join the local group and enjoy the social gatherings, trips and volunteer programs and to keep abreast of matters of interest to retirees and those anticipating retirement.

Ongoing AARP activities include volunteer programs at Runnells Hos-

pital under the leadership of Marian Connolly.

For more information, call Ann Miskovic, AARP trip coordinator, at 732-388-4033.

## Free blood pressure, sugar tests offered

The Clark Seniors will meet at the senior center, 450 Westfield Ave., at 1 p.m. Jan. 15. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month.

Free blood pressure, blood sugar and quick cholesterol testing are available before meetings, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call Lillian B. Krov. 732-381-3823.

## Senior bus service

For free senior bus service, call the Municipal Building at 732-388-3600 from 9 to 11 a.m. one day in advance to reserve a seat on the bus, Mondays

through Fridays, except holidays.

Call the same number if it becomes necessary to cancel a reservation. The schedule is subject to change.

Mondays: morning, ShopRite; afternoon, Clark shops, library, Municipal Building.

Tuesdays: morning, Union Plaza, Pathmark/National Wholesale Liquidators; afternoon, Watchung/Blue Star.

Wednesdays: first Wednesday, Woodbridge Mall; second Wednesday, Menlo Park Mall; third Wednesday, Woodbridge Mall; fourth Wednesday, Middlesex Mall; if a fifth

Wednesday, Woodbridge Mall.

Thursdays: morning, ShopRite; afternoon, Clark shops, library and Municipal Building.

Fridays: morning, A&P, KMart

## Newspaper's policy on weddings, engagements

Couples are encouraged to send their engagement and wedding announcements to the lifestyle editor. 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 verification or it time a questions arise. Information requested for engagements are parents names, date of wedding, where the wedding took place, who officiated, who attended the bride and groom, high school name and town, college name, town and degree, name of employer and towns where located, job title and where the couple honeymooned and will reside.

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## RELIGION

## First Baptist ends year with special service

First Baptist Church of Cranford, 100 High St., will close out the year today with a watchnight service.

The service will begin at 9:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner.

The service will include times for thanksgiving and prayers for world peace, the nation, the sick and the homeless. Each worshipper will have an opportunity to participate.

The service also will include a period of meditation and worship.

## Adult Forum turns focus to special-needs pupils

The Adult Forum of Calvary Lutheran Church, 108 Eastman St., Cranford, will present a discussion on how to advocate for students with special needs within the public school system at 9:45 a.m. Sunday in Fellowship Hall of the Education Building behind the church.

Pamela Milazzo of Empowered

ADDvantages LLC in Westfield, specializing in attention deficit/hyperactivity deficit, executive functioning and academic and advocacy coaching, will speak on "Strategies for Becoming a Confident Educational Advocate for the ADHD or Special Needs Students."

The presentation is designed for parents, counselors and teachers of special-needs students.

High school and college students with special needs also are invited. Milazzo will discuss the strategies and

tools needed to help special-needs children be successful in school and career. She focuses on the importance of self-advocacy, not only for parents, but for the students.

A former teacher and family lawyer, Milazzo is a graduate of the ADD Coach Academy and chapter coordinator for the Union County Chapter of CHADD, a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by ADHD.

For more information, call the church at 908-276-2418.

## Walk the Labyrinth and uphold tradition

First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 Springfield Ave., is sponsoring an ongoing series of open labyrinth walks.

The next labyrinth walk is scheduled for Sunday. Participants are invited to come and walk the Labyrinth any time between 1 and 4 p.m., but walks

should begin by 3:30 p.m. so they can finish by 4 p.m. Walks are held the first Sunday of every month.

Walks will be held in Bates Hall. The community and surrounding towns are invited to participate.

Walking the labyrinth is an ancient spiritual practice of prayer and meditation.

For more information on the labyrinth walks, call the church at 908-276-8440.

## AT THE LIBRARY

## A mile of pennies sought for room

How many pennies laid edge to edge does it take to cover one mile?

The answer is 84,440 — the number of pennies Friends of Cranford Public Library hopes to collect on behalf of the library's children's room.

The group is distributing 150 red plastic banks to children who visit the children's room, and is asking participants to fill the bank with pennies and return it by Monday. The banks have been provided by Commerce Bank of Cranford.

Friends of Cranford Public Library plans to use the money to buy books and other materials for the children's room collection.

For more information, call 908-709-7272.

## Readers hit the books together in special forum

The Reader's Forum, the book discussion group of Cranford Public Library, is in its 11th year of reading and discussing literature.

Titles and dates for 2004 are:  
• "Dreaming Water" by Gail Tsukiyama, Jan. 12.  
• "Disobedience" by Jane Hamilton, Feb. 9.

• "White Teeth" by Zadie Smith, March 8.

• "The Magician's Assistant" by Ann Patchett, April 12.

• "The Family Orchard" by Naomi Eve, May 10.

The forum has been led since its inception by librarian Muriel Baumwoll and still boasts a number of original members. New members are welcome at any time.

Sessions start at 7 p.m. and are held in the library's Robert J. Fridlington Room.

For more information, call the library at 908-709-7272 or e-mail the library at library@cranfordnj.org.

## Raise money by donating used inkjet cartridges

Cranford Public Library, 224 Walnut Ave., is participating in a program that offers cash for empty inkjet printer cartridges.

Dropping used ink cartridges off at the library, rather than throwing them in the trash, will raise money to supplement the library's book budget.

Cartridges must be in boxes, so library officials recommend putting the used cartridge into the box for the new cartridge.

Cartridges can be dropped off at the main desk of the library.

The program does not include laser printer cartridges.

## Yearbooks wanted

Cranford Public Library, 224 Walnut Ave., is seeking Cranford High School yearbooks for 1933 and any years prior to 1933, 1935 through 1937, 1939 through 1948, 1958 through 1956, 1958 and 1959.

To donate a yearbook, call Ben Stanley, Fran Houston or John Malar at the library at 908-709-7272, or e-mail the library at library@cranfordnj.org.

## Home businesses helped by upcoming seminar

Representatives of the New Jersey Chapter of SCORE will provide a free seminar titled "How to Start a Home-Based Business" at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave., at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 14.

The program is sponsored by Cranford Public Library. SCORE, which has headquarters in Washington, D.C., is a nonprofit association dedicated to entrepreneurial education and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide.

SCORE's 10,500 retired and working volunteers provide free business

counseling and advice as a public service. SCORE is a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

For more information about the program, call 908-709-7272.

## Delivery, pick-up service offered for homebound

Cranford Public Library, 224 Walnut Ave., offers delivery and pickup service for residents who are homebound. The service is compiling a group of volunteer drivers.

Any Cranford library cardholder who is homebound, either permanently or temporarily, may call the library to request help.

If you are interested in the service and do not have a Cranford library card, you can participate either by coming to the library to get a card, or by requesting a library representative or volunteer to come to you.

For more information or to sign on as a volunteer, leave a message at the reference desk at Cranford Public Library at 908-709-7272.

## Library resources on Net

The Cranford Public Library catalog is available on the World Wide Web.

To access the library's catalog online, go to the Web site [www.cranford.com/library](http://www.cranford.com/library) and click on "Search the library catalog." In order to access account information, place reserves, and create bibliographies, patrons must have a Cranford library card and a personal identification number, available at the library main desk.

Users can search the library's collection by author, title, subject and keyword, and can perform advanced searches by combining search terms.

Patrons with Cranford library cards also can reserve books online and maintain online bibliographies. They also can check to see what items they have on loan and their due dates.

The library is located at 224 Walnut Ave. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The library also has added four prominent online resources to its Web site. Additions are JerseyCat, CountryWatch, the AccuNet/AP Multimedia Archive, and Q and A NJ.

JerseyCat, a service of the New Jersey State Library, lets the public search the catalogs of many New Jersey libraries and library systems simultaneously.

CountryWatch is a comprehensive source of sociodemographic, cultural,

historical, economic, political, environmental and corporate information on each of the 192 countries of the world.

The AccuNet/AP Multimedia Archive contains thousands of photos, plus graphics, text and audio, from the Associated Press.

To access CountryWatch or the Multimedia Archive, click on Online Resources near the top of the library page, or click the button marked Additional Online Resources.

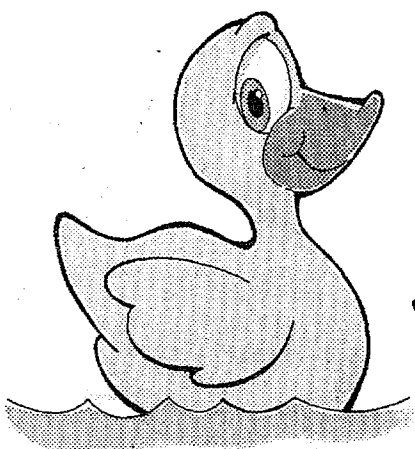
Q and A NJ is a network of experienced New Jersey librarians offering free live, interactive search assistance to New Jersey residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To access the service, click on the Q and A NJ logo.

Also available from the library page are the Cranford Public Library catalog, EBSCOhost, NovelList, the Custom Newspaper Database, Contemporary Authors, and Facts on File.

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

## Attention churches and social clubs

This newspaper encourages congregations, temples, social and civic organizations to inform the editors about scheduled events and activities.



## FIRST BABY OF 2004

WHO WILL THE FIRST BABY BE? Are you expecting a Special delivery? If you're expecting a bundle of joy around the first of the year, you can win a bundle of great prizes for you and baby from the participating sponsor's listed below. Just refer to the official guidelines listed here and best of luck to all of you!

## - GUIDELINES -

1. Parents must be a resident of Clark or Cranford
2. Ballots must be received at our office at 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, N.J. 07083. No later than 5 p.m. Jan. 5, 2004. (Ballots may be phoned in.)
3. The first baby born after the stroke of midnight, Dec. 31st will be declared the first baby provided the ballot has been received before deadline in guideline number 2 and is substantiated by birth certificate, physician's certification, town records or other official record accepted by judges.
4. Ballots even for earlier babies cannot be accepted after the deadline has passed.
5. Entrants agree that pictures of the baby, the mother and the father may be published in this newspaper to announce and publicize the 1st baby.
6. The decisions of the judge will be final.
7. In the event that no ballot is entered by Jan. 5, 2004 the search will be extended another week.
8. Envelope must be marked "First Baby" in lower left hand corner.
9. Employees of the newspaper or any participating firms or their families are not eligible to enter.
10. First Baby applies to First Baby born in one of the respective towns.

**The Entry Ballot for Clark or Cranford FOR THE VERY FIRST BABY BORN IN 2004**

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Baby's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mother & Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ AM \_\_\_\_\_ PM

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Attend. Physician \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Physician \_\_\_\_\_

Certification Submitted \_\_\_\_\_ (Birth Certificate, Etc.,)

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Parent of Baby

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# COMMUNITY FORUM

## EDITORIALS

### Way to go

In a year that looked like the Grinch might have stolen, if not Christmas itself then at least a Christmas tree, the Clark Democratic Party has come through with a sample of what community holiday spirit can be.

For the past 10 years, residents of Clark and Rahway alike have enjoyed a tree-lighting celebration at Madison Hill Road and Westfield Avenue. Organized by a group of volunteers from Clark's downtown, the celebration failed to happen this year as the pool of volunteers has dwindled from nearly 40 to barely a handful. The township administration, claiming it lacked the time to prepare something else, said it would make sure a ceremony happens next year.

What's noteworthy is that the Democratic Party didn't seize this as an opportunity to make political points. There were no angry declamations against the all-Republican council for failing the community, no public sniping about poor leadership or anything of the sort. In short, there was no political posturing, just action.

The party unfortunately wasn't able to intervene in time to save the entire celebration, but it was able to raise the money to pay the electric bill associated with having the tree lit the rest of the season. That's a good step, and the effort shows a community focus rather than a political one, something that voters are more likely to respond to in the long run when it comes to the polls.

With the leftover money, organizers hope to start preparing for a Christmas tree lighting next year. As they do, organizers should plan for a celebration less excessive than in previous years, and also should make an effort to involve the business community along Westfield Avenue so it can benefit from the influx of potential customers when the tree is lit next year.

Nearly losing the entire event this year also should awaken residents to the need for volunteers to keep the celebration going. To offer your time and services, call Joe Pisapia at 732-381-5541. Donations are being accepted at Clark Holiday Decorating Committee, 33 Westfield Ave., Clark, N.J. 07066.

### Party sensibly

Tonight is New Year's Eve. As many other unofficial holidays in America, there are established traditions associated with this, the final evening of the year. Some people draft long lists of New Year's resolutions in hopes of improving themselves. Families have been known to prepare a specific meal for either tonight or tomorrow morning to assure good luck in the coming days.

On the public side, hundreds of thousands of people will crowd into Times Square to see the dropping of the ball, which marks the beginning of the new year. And those members of the Polar Bear Club will awaken New Year's Day and jump laughing into the Atlantic Ocean, no matter what the water temperature.

But for most of us, the traditional New Year's Eve is spent at a social gathering, from small dinners to huge, noisy parties that explode into gaiety at the stroke of midnight. And for nearly all those gatherings, the refreshment of choice is alcohol. If you have any doubt about this, late this afternoon peek inside nearly any liquor store and observe the long line of customers at the cashier station.

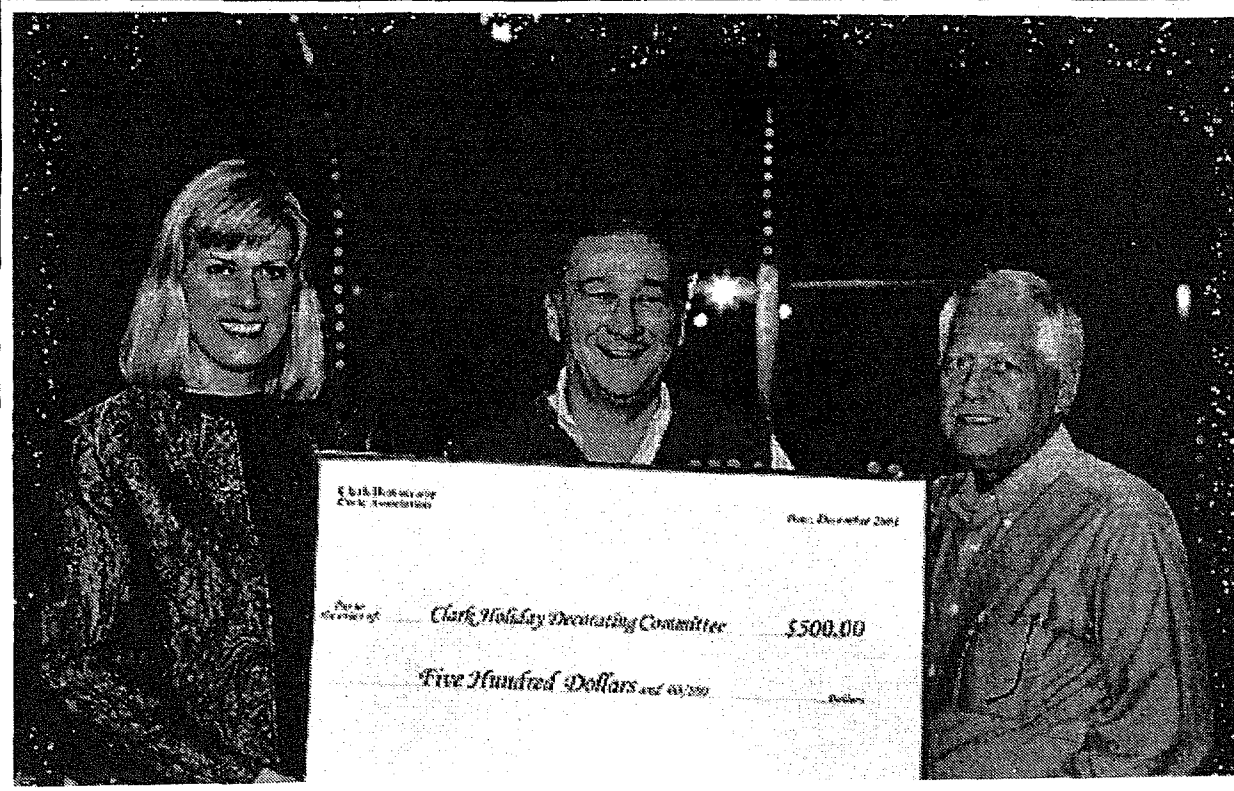
The alcohol is what presents a problem tonight, because many people will be tempted to drive home when they shouldn't be anywhere near a steering wheel. They may be infrequent drinkers, unaware of the effects of their impairment. Or they might feel their inebriation is hidden by the cover of darkness. Or they simply may not care, although that would probably not be the excuse they would give the police officer if they were stopped at one of the many nocturnal checkpoints established during the holidays.

We urge all party-goers not to restrict their revelry, but to party sensibly. Go light on the alcohol. Sip a glass of water after each drink. Enjoy a mocktail. Take along a designated driver. Better yet, take a cab. But no matter what, celebrate the arrival of the new year without putting yourself or your neighbors in danger of an alcohol-related auto accident.

We wish all our readers and advertisers a full, happy and safe 2004.

*"It is unreasonable what some assert, 'that printers ought not to print anything but what they approve'; since if all of that business should make such a resolution, and abide by it, and end would thereby be put to free writing, and the world would afterwards have nothing to read but what happened to be the opinions of printers."*

- Benjamin Franklin, printer, statesman 1731



**HOLIDAY GIVING** — Clark Democrats teamed up with Stan Constantin, owner of Mosun Chinese Cuisine Restaurant, at a recent holiday party to help keep the tree and Menorah lighting celebration in Clark. Standing with an oversize check to Joe Pisapia, co-chairman of the Clark Holiday Decorating Committee, right, are Clark Democratic Chairwoman Nancy Sheridan, left, and Constantin.

## Annual speeches can sound awfully familiar

### County Seat

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

"We plan to bring together personnel from the juvenile and family court, probation, youth service and social services to work together addressing problems of juvenile offenders."

"In the face of shrinking tax revenues, reduced federal and state dollars, higher unemployment, higher crime, and a host of other serious economic and social issues that impact on the county budget," the freeholder board has managed to keep tax levy increases minimal, to 3 to 5 percent.

"Almost 80 percent of the county's budget is mandated, with little or no control over these expenses. State or federal government says the county must provide services like criminal justice system of the courts and jails but they give us no money to pay for the services yet they tell us what we must do."

You might be surprised to know that those remarks were delivered by the chairman at the annual reorganization meeting of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders...in 1994.

"We cannot re-create the boom years of the 1980s when business expanded, and housing values soared," incoming Chairman Frank Lehr, one of five Republicans on the board at the time, said back then.

"People were not afraid of losing their jobs the way they are today, and gain as much momentum, at least publicly, as it has now."

The more things change...

Other highlights of Lehr's 1994 reorganization speech: construct a new train station in Union; dredge Port Newark-Elizabeth; construct a twin span for the Goethals Bridge in Elizabeth; secure vital links from Newark International Airport to downtown Elizabeth and extend these to the western part of Union County to Cranford and Plainfield.

By 1997, Democrats had gained a majority on the nine-member freeholder board and nixed plans to build a new juvenile detention facility in downtown Elizabeth, where the Prosecutor's Office is now housed. The project included a parking garage and cogeneration plant, driving the price tag past \$40 million.

Since then, at least two committees have looked at potential sites for a new facility; Summit officials threatened secession at the suggestion of sitting it in their city; and the county purchased, and later sold, property that one time was planned to house a new detention center. But not until a suicide at the facility last spring did it gain as much momentum, at least publicly, as it has now.

Lehr's speech was delivered 10 years ago but some of the topics are virtually the same today; almost generic. There's the "keeping taxes in line while battling increased costs," and state-mandate, state-pay arguments that you might hear from just about anyone, anywhere, Democrat or Republican.

In 1994, the county budget was \$264 million, with \$148 million coming from property taxes. Last year, the budget was \$344 million, \$191 million from property taxes. County Manager George Devanney will present his executive budget for 2004 to freeholders no later than Jan. 15.

Initial discussions indicate it will be a better year for the county than 2003. "Last year was the toughest year," Devanney said, adding that the county has "turned the corner" in terms of creating some tax stabilization, and rather than a diminishing surplus, the board will have a healthier reserve. Part of that he attributed to cost cutting.

In the late 1990s, with the help of the state taking over the cost of the court system, the freeholder board — by then dominated solely by Democrats — was able to keep the tax levy steady, and in some years even reduce it slightly.

Record surpluses also allowed the board to come up with initiatives like the Freeholder Scholars Program and municipal grant programs like Down-

town Union County and Project Pocket Parks.

The county isn't quite as flush with money as it was five years ago, as evidenced by some of the more frugal initiatives in recent years. But there's always the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund freeholders can count on.

Last year, the freeholder chairwoman, Deborah Scanlon, announced several trust fund-related initiatives for 2003: Preserve Union County, which provided \$500,000 in grants to local historical societies, and a \$1 million grant to help develop the Children's Museum of Central Jersey. The \$5.45-million acquisition of the 13-acre Esposito Farm in Clark also was announced at last year's reorganization meeting.

The trust fund, approved by voters in 2000, collects \$0.15 per \$100 of assessed value, about \$40 for the average county homeowner, raising about \$7 million annually. This is money that will be there every year until 2021, whether or not county property taxes are increased.

It's a safe bet that Angel Estrada, in his address as 2004 chairman on Sunday, will count on the trust fund for at least some of the programs in the new year.

Mark Hrywna can be reached at mhrywna@thelocalsource.com.

## To diet well, know when the calories don't count

### The Problem Solver

By Robert B. Lapidus

There are a number of diet plans on the market these days. Some of them are pretty good. But most would-be dieters fail to stick to them long enough to shed those unneeded pounds.

The reason for this is that these designer diets fail to include the "it doesn't count" rule. As a result, most dieters find themselves frustrated, unhappy and most of all — hungry.

But the majority of these diet dropouts could be eliminated if only the "it doesn't count" rule were made a part of their program.

For example, it doesn't count if you eat when you are standing up. This applies at cocktail parties, weddings and similar functions. All around you people are nibbling away at the cocktail franks and the assorted

canapes. You are left eyeing them enviously while you clutch your bottle of mineral water.

This proves to be so upsetting that you order a second helping of prime rib during the sit-down portion of the festivities, thus undoing two weeks' worth of dietary discipline and sacrifice.

It doesn't count if you are at someone else's home. To turn away your host's specialty because it happens to

contain a few unnecessary carbs would be very ungracious. You easily could make up for your excess the next day and rest assured that you would not be excluded from the guest list for the next function.

It doesn't count if it is a Sunday. After all, what are Sundays for if not to reward yourself after a week of toil? And it certainly doesn't count on a holiday. Only a grinch could deny you the pleasure of a helping of cherry pie a la mode on a feast day.

And, if it happens to be a holiday that falls on a Sunday, and you are at someone else's home, you have hit the "it doesn't count" trifecta.

Most people are aware that it doesn't count if you are eating outdoors. This rule is necessary to cover you for picnics and backyard barbe-

cues for next season. It is an important rule because everyone knows that food tastes so much better eaten out of doors.

Of course, we probably do not even have to mention the one "it doesn't count" rule that everyone knows and follows. It doesn't count if no one sees you eat it.

These rules of "it doesn't count" are crucial to dieting success.

True, if you follow them you probably will not lose much weight. But at least this way you will be much less surly and a lot more pleasant to be with. And most importantly, you won't be hungry.

Robert B. Lapidus is a resident of Clark and a frequent contributor to this newspaper.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Don't fall for scams that offer wealth

To the Editor:

This is the time of the year when many scams take place by very smart entrepreneurs. P.T. Barnum said, "There is a sucker born every minute." If he was correct that means that there are 1,440 suckers born every day. Obviously, there are scam artists who become wealthy because there are millions of suckers just waiting to be "suckered." I recently received through the mail a brochure with some of the following articles highlighted: "Double your money," "Incredible investment opportunity," "A dollar stock that could become \$10."

Somehow, I must have been placed on the sucker list as a good prospect to be suckered. To receive this information and other small stock recommendations, I was only asked to subscribe for one year for \$399. If you read the fine print on each page and the disclaimer, it clearly advises that the subscription magazine is for information and entertainment. Yes, entertainment. It also clearly states that you should not invest in stocks they recommend without due diligence and consulting with an investment adviser. If you subscribe to their advice, they have made it very clear in fine print that you do so at your own risk. Any takers? Umm, the stock does appear to have great potential. Don't be suckered.

Bob Barrett  
Clark

### Continue to give to Salvation Army

To the Editor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the people who so generously contributed to our red kettle campaign during the holidays. Although we didn't meet our financial goal, we were able to help more than 200,000 people with food and children's toys. Thank you. Your generous support all year long allows us to help needy people throughout New Jersey.

But I am worried. Our donations are down at this time by more than 10 percent, yet there are so many people in our state who are struggling. Our economy is on the rise, but it will be a while before the improvement is felt by many of the people we serve. Still, there are many people in dire straits due to loss of employment and salary cutbacks. And, costs for services are on the rise. Many people are struggling to pay their bills, hoping something will be left over for food. Others, the homeless, are simply struggling to survive through the winter.

Salvation Army shelters have been consistently full and often people are turned away for lack of room. Safety laws forbid crowding and limit the number of homeless in shelters. But where are they to go? And who will feed them? My heart is heavy knowing that The Salvation Army cannot help everyone. At least not without more financial support.

Major Stephen Banfield  
N.J. State Commander

### The Eagle

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Published Weekly Since 1999

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## WHAT? WHY?

HERE'S A CHANCE for all readers to share their answer to questions presented in this column. We will publish responses a week later. Send comments or suggest another question to WHAT and WHY, P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083 or e-mail to editorial@thelocalsource.com. Please include your town name.

**IS IT REALLY BENEFICIAL TO NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS THAT THE PARKWAY AND TURNPIKE AUTHORITIES HAVE MERGED? AREN'T THE APPOINTED EXECUTIVES STILL BEING OVERPAID?**



## English writers offer much for the modern gardener

Anyone who has every studied English literature at a liberal arts college has at least a passing familiarity with the Bloomsbury Group.

For those who studied something else, suffice it to say that the Bloomsbury Group was a collection of Englishmen and women, mostly writers and painters, with the odd diplomat or economist thrown in, whose careers flourished during the first third of the 20th century.

Some of their names have survived — Virginia Woolf, Vita Sackville West, John Maynard Keynes and Dora Carrington. They and their friends lived, at least early in their careers, in the Bloomsbury section of London, without benefit of the word processing equipment and antidepressant medication that make the artistic life so much more bearable today.

When not engaging in creative pursuits, they were often in pursuit of each other. As my college English professor said of the Bloomsbury coupling situation, "The permutations were endless."

So what do these people, now long gone, have to do with gardening?

A lot, as it turns out. To begin with, London was and is home to many public squares. Those in the vicinity of Bloomsbury were, as the name suggests, full of flowering plants, making the whole area gardenlike.

But the connection between working the earth and pursuing creative fulfillment was much more personal for many members of the group.

### The Gardener's Apprentice

By Elisabeth Ginsburg

The best known Bloomsbury gardener was Vita Sackville West, born to the aristocracy, married to diplomat Harold Nicolson, and author of many literary works, including "Orlando," which was made into a 1992 movie starring Tilda Swinton.

Vita made two great gardens in her life, Long Barn near Weald in Kent County, and the other, more celebrated one, at Sissinghurst, also in Kent. Thousands of visitors still cross Sissinghurst's threshold every year, and many of them go specifically to see Vita's "White Garden," with its refreshing planting scheme of white-flowered and silvery leaved specimens.

Vita's letters to her husband, Harold, are filled with descriptions of garden developments and plans. For 15 years — from the late 1940s to the early 1960s — she also wrote a garden column for the "Observer," an English newspaper.

Though her literary output was significant, Vita Sackville West is probably better known today for her garden writing.

Then there was Dora Carrington, an artist who preferred to be known by

her last name only. She is best remembered now for her paintings of flowers and her 17-year relationship with biographer Lytton Strachey, who wrote "The Eminent Victorians," a work still read in many colleges today.

Carrington and Strachey lived together in the county of Berkshire, where Carrington grew all kinds of flowers including tulips, dahlias, peonies, roses and sunflowers. Many of those blossoms, especially tulips, were also the subjects of Carrington's paintings.

When the artist, her husband and Strachey all moved to a larger house, she planted tulip beds and flower borders, with an emphasis on varieties that were useful for cutting and painting. Though Carrington committed suicide at the age of 38 after Strachey's death, she lived a life full of flowers.

Virginia Woolf has enjoyed a surge in popularity lately due to the 2002 film "The Hours," which garnered lots of publicity for Woolf and even more publicity for the prosthetic nose that actress Nicole Kidman wore while portraying her.

Woolf and her writer husband, Leonard, lived at Monk's House in Sussex where she often did her writing in the garden house. As is often the case in English country gardens, the Woolf garden had a formal section bounded with walls and yew hedges, as well as a more naturalistic orchard area that came alive with daffodils in the spring. The vegetable garden

reportedly was Leonard Woolf's domain.

Virginia Woolf's sister, Vanessa, was a prominent post-Impressionist artist. She married art critic Clive Bell, and lived with another artist, Duncan Grant.

Her country house, Charleston, near Lewes in Sussex, was a gathering place for other members of the Bloomsbury Group and a staging ground for some of their relationships. The walled, cottage-style garden contained artistic elements, such as mosaics and sculpture. Flowers were deployed in a painterly way, with the emphasis on color groupings.

Vanessa Bell's garden is still maintained by the Charleston Trust, a private group.

Knowing about the Bloomsbury Group's dahlias and dalliances will not help you get your African violets through the winter or rid you of the whiteflies on your expensive yellow Clivia.

However, it might inspire you to sit down with a book of Vita's garden writings, or Virginia Woolf's novel, "Mrs. Dalloway," or a book of Dora Carrington's pictures, such as "The Art of Dora Carrington," by Jane Hill, Thames & Hudson, 1994.

When the wind is howling and the sleet is coming down sideways, such diversions might just keep a gardener from stir-craziness.

— Elisabeth Ginsburg is a frequent contributor to this newspaper.

## Train ride offers memories and a glimmer of hope

The screeching wheels of the train making the sharp turn into the pit of Ground Zero brought back a flood of memories of the destroyed buildings, but it also raised a glimmer of hope in my otherwise pessimistic heart.

A few Sundays ago, I was on the second train that returned PATH commuter service to lower Manhattan. I was there with my family because it marked a special moment that I wanted to remember and one I wanted my children to be a part of.

My memories of the PATH station at the World Trade Center go back many years, to a time when I was still in college and working part time for a shipping company in Hoboken while my better half was working for the Statue of Liberty ferry service out of Battery Park in Manhattan.

The short train ride into the city was as normal as walking across the street for us. That all changed Sept. 11, as did many things for many people.

### Reporter's Notebook

By Steve Reilly  
Staff Writer

But the return of the PATH train means something more than a commuter link. It symbolizes a seed planted deep in the ground — a new beginning for a wounded city and a shaken population.

The train ride Sunday into the new station was nothing like those short hops many years ago. It was, without a doubt, an emotional return for everyone I saw wandering through the new station.

The look on most people's faces as the train began the quick journey from New Jersey to New York through the tunnel under the Hudson River was a quiet, distant stare that only someone remembering a painful moment has

glazed in their eyes.

As the train reached the New York side of the river crossing and began to curve into the pit of Ground Zero, each and every rider turned to the windows to see what lay before us.

The train broke from the tunnel into the sunlight that filtered down from the skyscrapers. From the windows, the empty shell of Ground Zero was painfully visible.

The PATH train took us on a route rarely accessible to the public, curving around the long ramp that carried the last steel beam out of the pit, riding along the foot of the slurry wall that continues to hold back the Hudson. These were images that I had seen thousands of times on television, but all seemed new to me as I peered through the window of the train.

As the PATH cars reached the station platform, the conductor announced "This is the World Trade Center." It was hard for many of the riders to hold back their tears.

The train stopped on an open-air platform that sits at the bottom of the pit. The reality of the emptiness of Ground Zero surrounds the platform and demands a certain reverence from all who pass.

Along the outer edges of the station were transparent screens that had quotes of notable historical figures that proclaimed the spirit of the city and gave a perspective to the moment.

But what could not be conveyed in words is the atmosphere that surrounds the new commuter hub and the void that remains.

The only way to describe it is hope. Despite the memories of the painful day and the knowledge that thousands of lives were lost on this spot, life had returned to the streets around Ground Zero.

No matter what is built at this place, it will forever be the place where the Twin Towers once stood. And no matter how much time goes by, this place will always be special.

## CLUBS IN THE NEWS

### Crane's Ford DAR gains national recognition

The Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution recently received the national DAR silver level award 2002-03 in chapter achievement for meeting DAR objectives in education, patriotism and volunteerism.

Mavis Serafin, chapter historian, earned the 2003 national DAR "Best National Defense Editorial Award" by a DAR member for her article, "Though imperfect, Constitution has served America well."

Her award formally was recognized and the article was reprinted in the national DAR "Congress Herald" publication and the New Jersey DAR "State Bulletin." It first appeared in *The Cranford Eagle* in September 2002.

Chapter registrar Carolyn Youngs announced three new members: Judy Swan of Cranford, Karen Faulks of Westfield, and Carole Thompson of Cape May Courthouse, formerly of Westfield. To achieve membership, each documented her ancestry to a Revolutionary War participant, as required by DAR.

Jessie Innocenti of Cranford and Janet Korba of Lakewood, formerly of Cranford, were among six members recognized this year for service longevity. Innocenti and Korba each

have been members for 25 years.

The chapter is participating in the Cranford High School Service Learning Program with the cooperation of Peter Clark, social studies department chairman.

Students are working on the American "Veterans' History Project," a national DAR program, in conjunction with the Library of Congress to document the history of all U.S. war veterans.

Also proposed is a project to research the grave sites of Cranford's Revolutionary soldiers.

The judging phase of the annual DAR American History Essay Contest for students grades five to eight in Cranford schools is in progress under Serafin.

On Dec. 13, the chapter held a joint holiday meeting with the Francis Hopkinson-Monmouth Court House chapter at Cranbury Historical Society Museum, Cranbury, which is a state and national historical district. These were arranged by program chairwoman Bonnie Turner of Mountain-side.

There was a memorial service for chapter member Florence Allen on Dec. 19 at First Presbyterian Church.

Allen joined DAR in 1944 as a charter member of Crane's Ford and served as regent 1950-53. She died Dec. 4 in Florida.

### Wed. Morning Club looks at retro Cranford

The members of the Wednesday Morning Club, a woman's study group, will be entertained with the film, "Retrospect of Cranford," by David Holden at a business meeting at 10 a.m. Jan. 7 at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave.

The following department meetings have been scheduled:

- The Literature Department will meet at the home of Arlene Walsh at 1 p.m. Jan. 8 to hear Frank Huckel present a program on "Flannery O'Connor: A Life," by Jean Cash.

- The Public Affairs Department will meet at the home of Dot Woglom at 1 p.m. Jan. 13. Nelson Dittmar will speak about the Environmental Commission, of which he is a member.

- The Drama/Music Department will meet at the home of Jan Yacker with co-hostess Lucille Makoski at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 14. Ruth Mysiak will lead a discussion on "Jazz Revisited."

- The Antiques Department will meet at the home of Doris Taber on at 1 p.m. Jan. 19 to hear Taber speak on "All About Gnomes."

- The Fine Arts Department will meet at 1 p.m. Jan. 22 at the home of RoseMarie Gatto. Gatto will lead the program, "Comparison of Rafael and Perugino."

- The Applied Arts/Home Life will

meet in the Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave., at 10 a.m. Jan. 26. Cora Foltz will instruct the members on how to make a tri-corner winter scarf.

Local women interested in the club, can call Marie Mastorakis at 908-272-6243 for more information.

### First Camera Club meeting set for Jan. 12

The Cranford/Millburn Camera Club will hold its first meeting of the winter at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 12 in Room 201 on the second floor of the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave.

Dorothy Otto, a member of the New Jersey Federation on Camera Clubs, will present a program on "Still Life and Glass."

On Jan. 26 there will be a competition on flowers at Millburn's Taylor Park, located between Main Street and Whittingham Terrace. The judge is Chuck Moore, a member of the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs.

Members may enter three prints and three slides in an open competition and three slides in the assigned subject of flowers.

For more information, call Ruth Mysiak at 908-272-1434.

Sell it with a classified ad, 1-800-564-8911.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Homeland security is our heritage

To the Editor:

The Civil Air Patrol is celebrating 62 years of volunteer service to America. Since Dec. 1, 1941, when the organization was formed, CAP has protected the home skies. In the early days of World War II, CAP performed anti-submarine patrols and was responsible for saving countless lives and merchant ships from disaster. Today Civil Air Patrol, as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, is involved in homeland security with more than 64,000 trained volunteers, 1,700 operational units, 530 aircraft and 1,000 vehicles.

Sept. 11, 2001, was a tragic day for America. CAP responded with the first aerial survey of the World Trade Center disaster site and provided air transportation for federal officials days after Sept. 11. CAP patrolled the waters off Cape Kennedy prior to the last shuttle and provided homeland security support during the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City flying 534 hours of airborne reconnaissance.

CAP conducts 95 percent of all inland search and rescue in our country as tasked by the U.S. Air Force saving an average of 100 lives per year. Our units provide airborne imagery of critical infrastructures such as dams, pipelines, bridges, power plants, seaports and more.

The CAP Cadet programs offer our nation's youth the opportunity of aerospace education, college scholarships, powered and glider flight training scholarships, International Cadet Exchange program and more. Aerospace Education initiatives support the community with hundreds of workshops at colleges and schools. Classroom materials, teacher training and other educational aids are provided at no cost to America's teachers by CAP. The Civil Air Patrol is a vital organization that prepares our youth morally, physically and mentally as leaders of tomorrow.

New Jersey has 27 units based throughout the state. We are looking for cadet and adult members who want to make a difference in their personal lives while contributing to a strong America. For squadron locations, contact me at 201-768-8313 or pa@njwg.cap.gov. Visit the Web site, www.cap.gov. Homeland security is our heritage.

Major Lisa Van Clief, public affairs officer  
New Jersey Wing Civil Air Patrol  
Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

### Our policy on letters and columns

*The Eagle* welcomes submissions from its readers. Letters to the editor or opinion pieces on any subject will be considered for publication on the opinion pages.

Letters must be no more than 500 words long; longer pieces must be arranged in advance with the editor. *The Eagle* accepts letters to the editor and guest columns via e-mail. The address is editorial@thelocalsource.com.

Letters may be sent via U.S. mail to 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, NJ 07083. All letters and guest columns must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication in Thursday's edition.

## OBITUARIES

### Marion Fedush

Marion Fedush, 89, of Cranford, formerly of Elizabeth, died Dec. 16 in Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth.

Born in Roselle Park, Mrs. Fedush lived in Elizabeth before moving to Cranford in 1952.

She was a clerk in the receiving department of Wilson and Jones, Elizabeth, for 33 years and retired in 1969.

Surviving are two sisters, Anne Kinasczuk and Pauline Makuch.

### David Goldberg

David Goldberg, 93, of Cranford died Dec. 22 in the Ashbrook Nursing Home, Scotch Plains.

Born in Bayonne, Mr. Goldberg lived in Jersey City for many years before moving to Cranford three years ago. He was a salesman with Harris & Rosenberg Co., Bayonne, for more than 40 years before retiring.

Mr. Goldberg was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Bayonne Jewish War Veterans and the Bayonne Aid Progressive.

Surviving are a son, Ross; a daughter, Cynthia McMann; two sisters, Edith Trupin and Lillian Goldberg; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

### Lois A. Damm

Lois A. Damm, 76, of Cranford died Dec. 22 in the Ashbrook Nursing Home, Scotch Plains.

Born in Jersey City, Mrs. Damm lived in Roselle before moving to Cranford in 1956. She worked in the human resources department of the United States Gypsum Corp., Clark, for many years and retired in 1987.

Mrs. Damm was a graduate of the Drake School of Business in Elizabeth. She was a member of the Mission Division of First Presbyterian Church and the Side-By-Siders Singers of Cranford. Mrs. Damm also was a volunteer at Ashbrook Nursing Home.

Surviving are two sons, Jeffrey Curtis and Christopher W. Damm.

### Doris McDaniel

Doris I. McDaniel, 93, of Pitman, formerly of Cranford, died Dec. 19 in the Pitman Manor, Pitman.

Born in Indianapolis, Mrs. McDaniel lived in Cranford before moving to Pitman 11 years ago. She

worked for Eli Lilly and Sons many years ago.

Mrs. McDaniel attended Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., and was a member of the Phi Mu sorority. She was active with the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts, both in Cranford, and the Parents and Friends Association of Vineland State School.

Surviving are a daughter, Sheryl; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

### Marie H. Klein

Marie H. Klein, 88, of Cranford died Dec. 18 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Newark, Mrs. Klein lived in Manasquan for 25 years before moving to Cranford 10 years ago. She was a secretary for the pastor of St. Catherine's Church in Hillside for 13 years and retired in 1978.

Mrs. Klein was a member of the Manasquan Democratic Club. She also was a member and chairwoman of the Manasquan Tree Commission and a member of the Rosary Society at St. Catherine's Church, Elizabeth.

Mrs. Klein was a founder and a director of the 800 Lincoln Avenue East Library in Cranford.

Surviving are a son, John; a daughter, Catherine Washbourne; two brothers, Joseph and Robert Weber; and two grandchildren.

### William J. DiTulio

William J. DiTulio, 90, a lifelong resident of Cranford, died Dec. 24 in the Cornell Hall Convalescent and Rehabilitation Center, Union.

Mr. DiTulio was the owner and president of Winwood Custom Home-builders, Cranford, which built more than 100 custom homes in Cranford, Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Middletown before retiring several years ago. Earlier, Mr. DiTulio had owned the DiTulio Disposal Service in Cranford with his late brothers. He was a corporal in the Army during World War II.

Mr. DiTulio was a founding member of the Cranford First Aid Squad and a member of the Lions Club of Cranford.

Surviving are two daughters, Lisa Orrico and Suzanne Hilaire, and two grandchildren.

# BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

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# SPORTS

Sports Numbers  
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## One of the year's best

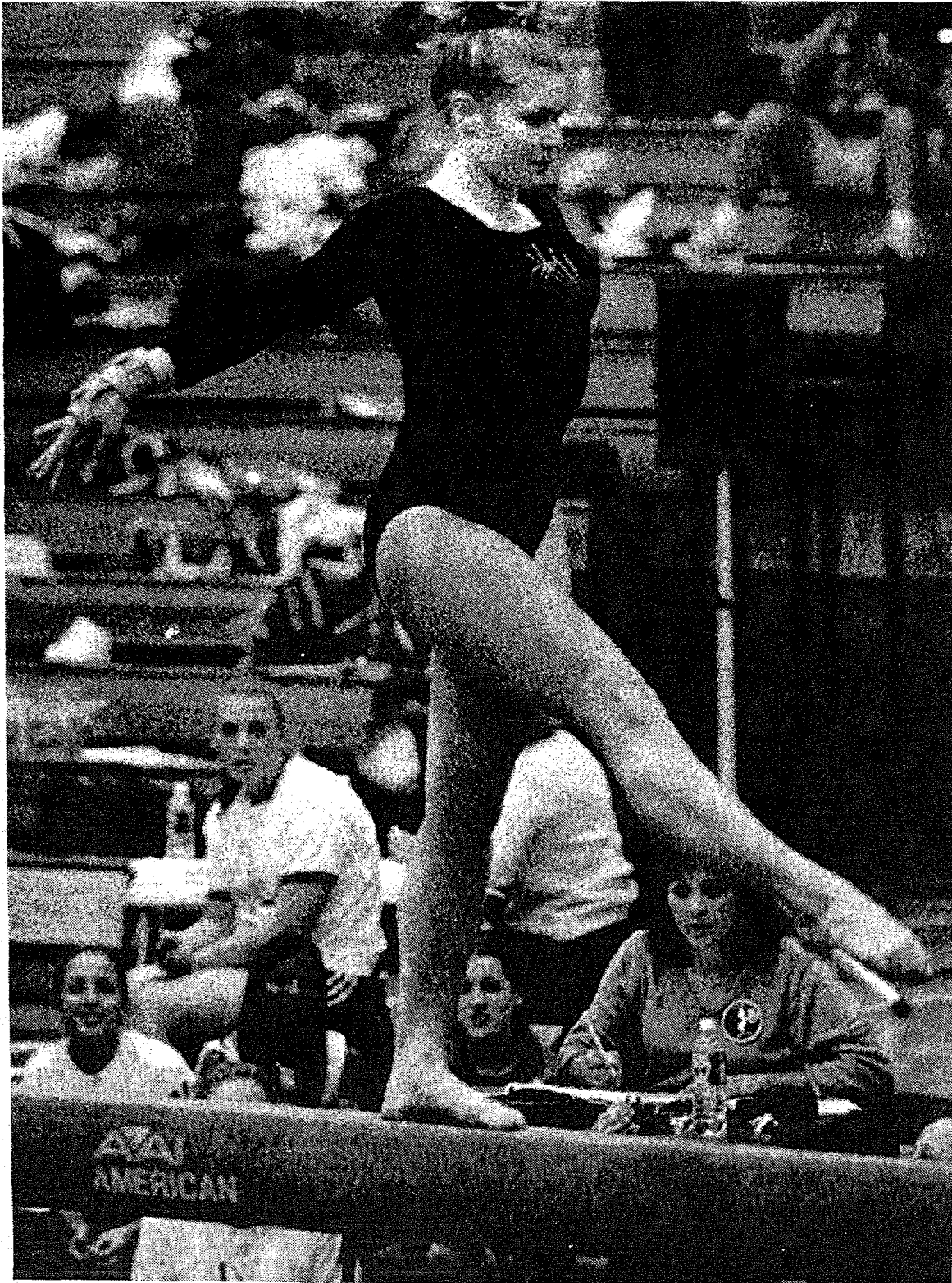


Photo by Reena Rose Sibayan

Cranford High School senior Bridget Murphy proved to be among the top gymnasts in the state the past four seasons. The Union County Tournament champion finished fourth in the state this year and will attend the University of Rhode Island on scholarship.

## Johnson boys' hoops squad has Dunn well in early going

By Jeff Wolfrum  
Staff Writer

Having done well so far this season.

Led by the steady play of the Dunn brothers, the Johnson High School boys' basketball team has raced out to a 3-1 record heading into the new year.

The Crusaders dropped their first game of the season Sunday night in the final of the Roselle Park Tournament, losing a 61-53 decision to Morristown-Beard.

"It was a very close game the whole way," Johnson head coach Anthony Calandra said. "It was like a heavyweight fight played with a lot of intensity."

Leading at halftime 34-31 and at the end of the third quarter 47-46, Johnson could only manage six points in the fourth quarter, while Mo-Beard's Garry Garriss scored 10 of his game-high 20 points in the stanza.

"They started to pound the ball inside and control the offensive glass in the fourth quarter," Calandra said. "We can take away knowing we can play with a good team at a high level."

Johnson was paced by senior center Steve Dunn, who finished with 18 points.

The 6-7 Dunn has averaged 19 points and 11 rebounds in the Crusaders' first four games.

"Steve has really given us a great inside presence," Calandra said. "A lot of college coaches have already come to see him play."

Dunn and younger brother Bobby, a 5-8 sophomore guard, helped the Crusaders reach the final the night before when Johnson defeated Roselle Park 85-73 in first-round action.

Steve Dunn netted 11 of his 22 points in the second quarter to feature a 23-19 effort that put the Crusaders in front 38-33 at halftime. Bobby Dunn sank 12 of his 20 points in the third quarter as Johnson built a 67-53 advantage.

A trio of juniors round out the Crusader starting lineup. Dan Castaldo is a 5-10 guard, while Andrew Murin and Drew Serdin are 6-2 forwards.

## Cranford swimmers compete against GL

The Cranford High School swimming teams turned in several outstanding performances although they came up a bit short against Governor Livingston on Dec. 22.

In meets at Memorial Pool, the boys' were bested 69-51, while the girls' fell 121-49.

"This was the fourth meet in a row where we've swam against some of the better teams in the state," Cranford coach Barbara Kolesa said. "I was glad to see the boys swim competitively against GL. I'm sure the girls will improve as the season progresses."

In the boys' meet, GL started with three first-place finishes, but Cranford took second in these races. The 200 medley relay team of Steven Walano, Lee Krinzman, Chris Judge and Brian Woglom; Mike Merrick in the 200 freestyle and Woglom in the 200 individual medley placed second.

Cranford won the next two races, capturing the 50 freestyle behind Krinzman and the 100 butterfly behind Krinzman to narrow GL's lead to seven points.

"In our three wins, we have had very balanced scoring," Calandra said. "All five starters have averaged in double figures."

The rest of the Johnson roster includes 6-2 senior forward Tim Berry, 6-2 senior forward Alex Szydowski, 6-1 senior forward Rick Trani, 5-9 senior guard Frank Bartolick, 6-4 junior center Yousef Amer, 5-9 junior guard Mike Sanzo, 6-2 sophomore forward Kevin Loalbo and sophomore guard Chris Greet, who stands 5-9.

"We run a motion offense to take advantage of our inside game, but we also have some guys who can shoot three-pointers," Calandra said. "On defense, we play a matchup zone with some man-to-man mixed in."

Defense is an area Calandra hopes his team will improve upon as the season progresses.

"We've been scoring a ton of points, but have also given up a lot on the other end," Calandra said. "A perfect game for us would be to score in the 50s and hold teams in the 40s."

With goals of reaching nine wins and finishing above the .500 mark to qualify for the state playoffs by the Feb. 7 cutoff date, Calandra is extremely happy with his team's early season performance.

"We're off to a nice 3-1 start, but we open the new year with a big week of conference games," Calandra said. "It should be a big test for us."

Johnson is scheduled to host Mountain Valley Conference-Valley Division for Union Catholic on Monday and then play at North Plainfield on Jan. 8. The Crusaders are then scheduled to host Governor Livingston the next day.

"The school has never won a conference crown, so we want to definitely try to achieve that this year," Calandra said. "The kids have worked hard over the summer, so I'm feeling pretty good about what we can do this season."

### Girls' capture R. Park Tournament

Johnson's girls' team defeated Mount St. Mary's 40-32 and Hanover Park 39-27 to win the Roselle Park Tourney.

"Things were looking good after the 100 butterfly," assistant coach Donnelly said.

Cranford and GL took turns capturing the next two races of the meet.

With a win in the 200 freestyle relay behind Woglom, Krinzman, Walano and B.J. Feligi, the margin was narrowed to five points.

GL won the last two races to forge the final score. Neither the 500 freestyle relay or the 4x100 freestyle relay was contested.

The girls' did not fare as well. GL took first place in all the races.

Second-place finishes were turned in by Hayley Brown in the 200 IM, Lauren D'Elia in the 50 freestyle and by the 200 freestyle relay team.

"GL has a real good team this year," swimmer Laurel Klappholz said.

"I was proud of the way we swam, even though it didn't show up in the score. Nobody was intimidated."

## Grapplers getting in gear for the bigger tournaments

### 29th Union County T. competition Feb. 6, 7

This is the time of season where wrestlers are just getting into shape.

Many area grapplers are competing in holiday tournaments this week, seeking to excel in tournament competition that will prepare them for later in the season.

The first big tournament for local wrestlers will be the 29th Annual Union County Wrestling Tournament Feb. 6 and 7 at Union High School.

The Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference, serving Union County student-athletes for more than 50 years, is sponsoring the 29th Annual County Wrestling Tournament.

Union High School will be the site once again for this highly-competitive tournament.

The seeding meeting is scheduled to take place at UHS five weeks from tomorrow, Feb. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

The schedule of rounds is as follows:

**Friday, Feb. 6:**

5 p.m.: Pre-preliminary and preliminary.

7:30 p.m.: Quarterfinals.

9 p.m.: Consolation Preliminary.

**Saturday, Feb. 7:**

10 a.m.: Semifinals and Consolation Quarterfinals

11:30 a.m.: Consolation Semifinals.

2 p.m.: Consolation Semifinals, 3rd, 5th places.

3:45 p.m.: Awards Presentations.

4 p.m.: Finals.

Participating teams include: Cranford, Brearley, Elizabeth, Governor Livingston, Johnson, Linden, New Providence, Oratory Prep, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle Catholic, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Union and Westfield.

If weather is questionable, the number to call will be 908-241-3099 or log on to Roselleparkschools.org. Click on the high school symbol and then click on athletic announcements.

This prestigious Union County Tournament is sponsored by the Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference under the supervision and direction of Frank J. Cicarell, Executive Director.

The UCIAC wishes to thank the Union Board of Education, administration and staff for hosting this great wrestling tournament. Special thanks also to the entire tournament staff, especially Bill Parsons, Union High School Athletic Director and Ron Bubnowski, Union High School Wrestling Coach.

This tournament has always featured outstanding sportsmanship on the part of fans, coaches and wrestlers. Let's keep the 2004 tournament at a high level.

Special thanks to Martino Studios from Kenilworth for serving as "UCIAC Official Wrestling Tournament Photographer." Order forms will be available for the purchase of photos.

Medal presentations include:

**Bob Behre:** The Star-Ledger sportswriter for wrestling.

**Herb Farrell:** Former wrestling coach at Cranford, two-time state champion and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Len Zanowicz:** Former longtime wrestling coach at Scotch Plains and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Mike Sorrentino:** Former wrestling coach at Scotch Plains and Gov. Livingston and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Dick Matarante:** Former President of the New Jersey Wrestling Official Association and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Jerry Sachs:** Former Millburn wrestling coach, seeding chairperson for this tournament and judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Sam Appello:** Former Roselle Park wrestling coach and former President of the Union County Wrestling Coaches Association.

**Frank Cicarell:** Executive Director - Treasurer of the UCIAC and Director of Physical Education for the Elizabeth Public Schools.

**Fred Stueber:** Former Rahway wrestling coach and former President of the Union County Wrestling Coaches Association.

**Bill Parsons:** Director of Athletics for Union High School and co-director and host for this prestigious tournament.

**Gary Kehler:** Former Athletic Director and coach at Westfield and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Steve Povolac:** Former J.P. Stevens wrestling coach, New Jersey state champion, great supporter of USA Wrestling and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

**Rick Harner:** Former Elizabeth wrestling coach, member of the Advisory Planning Committee and author of souvenir program.

**Harry Frezza:** Veteran sportswriter for the Bridgewater Courier News and great advocate of the sport of wrestling.

**Brian Luciani:** Brearley wrestling coach and President of Union County Wrestling Coaches Association.

**James Shriner:** Roselle Park Athletic Director and three-time Union County Tournament champion.

**Tony/Carlos Garay:** Former great Rahway wrestling champions, state place-winners and contributors at Rahway and Union County for many years.

**Jack Adriance:** Former Dayton wrestling coach and a judge for the Outstanding Wrestler award.

Here's a look at the 2003 Union County Tournament:

**Team Standings:**

1. Roselle Park 257

2. Scotch Plains 220.5

3. Rahway 192.

4. Westfield 142.

5. New Providence 139.5.

6. Brearley 92.

7. Gov. Livingston 89.

8. Cranford 84.

9. Elizabeth 83.5.

10. Johnson 75.

11. Union 69.5.  
12. Linden 56.5  
13. Plainfield 39  
14. Roselle Catholic 13  
15. Oratory Prep 8.

**Champions:**

103 - Darion Caldwell, Rahway

112 - Ed McCray, Rahway

119 - Steven Mineo, Scotch Plains

125 - Amin Queen, Elizabeth

130 - Nick Zangari, Roselle Park

135 - Ethan Powell, Westfield

140 - Mike Fullovan, Gov. Livingston

145 - Lee Tomasso, Westfield

152 - James Garrison, Roselle Park

160 - Charlie Bachi, Scotch Plains

171 - Andrew Silber, Scotch Plains

189 - Shane Mallory, New Providence

215 - Shawn Coughlin, Gov. Livingston

HWT - Matt Loomis, Scotch Plains

**Union County Wrestling Tournament History:**

Year, Team Champion and Outstanding Wrestlers

2003: Roselle Park. Darion Caldwell, Rahway and Lee Tomasso, Westfield.

2002: Roselle Park: Dan Appello, Roselle Park and Greg Donofrio, Cranford.

2001: Roselle Park. Altay Vigilante, Brearley and Barry Stein, Union.

2000: Roselle Park. Dan Appello, Roselle Park and Tim Marcantonio, Gov. Livingston.

1999: Roselle Park: Craig Frost, Roselle Park and Ishmael Medley, Elizabeth.

1998: Roselle Park. Craig Frost, Roselle Park and Nik Fekete, Cranford.

1997: Roselle Park. Bill Crecca, Roselle Park.

1996: Rahway. Tom Wysocki, Rahway.

1995: Rahway. Eric Swick, Roselle Park.

1994: Union. John Sachs, New Providence.

1993: Roselle Park. Pat McCafferty, Roselle Park.

1992: Westfield. Paul Jordan, Westfield.

1991: Roselle Park. Willie Carpenter, Cranford.

1990: Westfield. Mauricio Rios, Elizabeth.

**Four-time individual champions:**

1985-1988: Larry Guarino, Union

1993-1996: David Bubnowski, Union

1996-1999: Craig Frost, Roselle Park

1999-2002: Dan Appello, Roselle Park

**UC Coaches Award / Union County Coach of Year**

2003: T. Ralph "Pug" Williams award: Stueber, Rahway

2002: Mike Torino, R. Park and Dave Bello, S. Plains

2001: Joe Lospinoso, Brearley and Glen Kurz, Westfield and Dom DiGiacchino, Cranford

2000: Carlos and Tony Garay, Rahway and Brian Luciani, Brearley.

1999: John Ranieri, Sr., R. Park and Mike Artigliere, S. Plains

1998: Roger Cassett, Plainfield and Dave Bello, SP

1997: Steve Povolac, J.P. Stevens and John Silveira, Elizabeth

1996: Jerry Sachs, Dayton Regional and Fred Stueber, Rahway and Sam Appello, Roselle Park

1995: Al Lilley, Union and Fred Stueber, Rahway

1994: Gerry Nisivoccia, Elizabeth and John Mineo, Gov. Livingston

1993: Len Zanowicz, Scotch Plains and Fred Stueber, Rahway

1992: Hosia Payne, Elizabeth and Gary Bremer, New Providence

1991: Rick Brodman, Summit and Sam Appello, Roselle Park

1990: Mike Sorrentino, Scotch Plains and Don MacDonald, Westfield and Rick Jacono, Dayton Regional

1989: Phil Esposito, New Providence and Fred Stueber, Rahway

1988: Ernie Finizio, Roselle Park and Gerry Nisivoccia, Elizabeth

1987: Gary Kehler, Westfield and Fred Stueber, Rahway

1986: Herb Farrell and Gerry Nisivoccia, Elizabeth

1985: Walter Shallcross, Union and Sam Appello, Roselle Park

1984: T. Ralph Williams, Roselle Park and Charles Ferrara, Cranford

**With the seeding meeting set for Feb. 5, the 14 reported weight classes include:**

105, 114, 121, 127, 132, 137, 142, 147, 154, 162, 173, 191, 217 and 277.

**Format of Tournament:**

**Form of Wrestling:** 1st- and 2nd-place winners will have four matches, while all other place winners could have 5 to 6 matches, with an additional match (7) if they draw a pre-preliminary match.

A loss in the pre-preliminary round (the out bracket) will eliminate a contestant from further competition.

A wrestler who loses in the preliminary round will only be eligible for the consolations if his opponent makes it to the semifinal round.

All matches in the consolations (wrestlebacks) will be 2 minutes; 2 minutes, 2 minutes. (New rule to be applied.)

Team scoring will continue throughout the wrestling back.

Team scoring will be to the 6th place.

**Awards:**

**Teams:** 1st place, 2nd place.

**Individual:** Medals for: 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place.

Ribbons for: 4th place, 5th place and 6th place.

**Outstanding Wrestlers:** 105-142 and 147-277.

**T. Ralph "Pug" Williams:** Contribution to Union County Wrestling.

Others include:

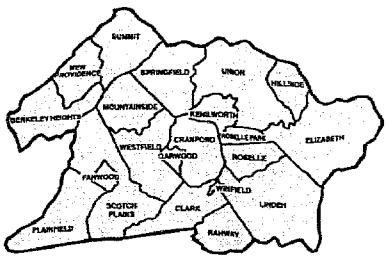
**Union County Coach of the Year and Most Pins.**

## Applications available to umpire baseball and softball

Applications are now being accepted for candidates wishing to become baseball/softball umpires in the New Jersey State Baseball Umpires Association. Interested can-

didates may obtain an application by sending a self addressed-stamped envelope to: David R. Klein, 37 Bryant Ave., Bloomfield, N.J. 07003. Classes begin Feb. 4.





# Union County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2003 - SECTION B

http://www.localsource.com

## Catching the wave

As reported, a major chunk of the Union County Democratic power structure joined the state leadership in the early endorsement of Howard Dean as their standard bearer. In the past, while the candidates trekked in New Hampshire, Iowa and South Carolina, our state took on the role as a cash cow, always near the top in terms of contributions per person to candidates.

Picking winners in the presidential sweepstakes is always dicey. The John Glenn, Mike Dukakis and Joe Biden efforts saw a lot of local Dems come up empty. Still, a fund-raiser in nearby Essex County a week before the 1992 New Hampshire primary saw a chunk of Union County Democrats raise money that helped stabilize the faltering campaign of a young Arkansas governor named Clinton.

## Left Out

By Frank Capece

Catching the right presidential wave can be heady stuff. Clay Constantinou, an Essex lawyer, caught the wave by becoming a tenacious fund-raiser for Clinton. He was later named ambassador to Luxembourg. There are no guarantees. This time Constantinou is a major fund-raiser for the faltering campaign of Sen. John Kerry.

Union County Democrats had a friend in Washington during the Clinton years. It included visits to the White House and spiffy Christmas cards. The personal pictures with former President Clinton and Vice President Gore, still adorn a lot of offices of the party faithful.

On the other side of the political fence, Cranford lawyer and Republican fund-raiser William Palatucci is a member of an elite fundraising group known as Pioneers. Going back some four years ago, Palatucci organized countless trips for major fund-raisers for then Texas Gov. George W. Bush. It has made Palatucci a force in Republican national affairs.

Still, the Dean candidacy is unique in the role of presidential politics. The next "Union County Meet Up" of the campaign is Jan. 7 at Springfield Public Library. The Web site claims 161,286 supporters who joined the campaign via computer. Assemblywoman Linda Stender, an early supporter, talks about a Dean presidency which will reclaim the country for the struggling middle class.

In her endorsement, Union County Democratic Chairman Charlotte Defilippo said, "Dr. Dean is a visionary who will bring executive experience to the White House and a proven record in expanding health care to the previously uninsured improving children's education inside and outside of the classroom."

Rahway Mayor James Kennedy remains a key supporter of Kerry. Mayors Chris Bollwage of Elizabeth and Albert McWilliams of Plainfield are still uncommitted. The state's senior senator, Jon Corzine, while acknowledging the front-runner status said last week about Dean, "Some will be concerned about his attitude, which is not fleshed out completely, about laying down initiatives on re-regulating the economy."

I still like the scenario that the Democratic primaries leave at least two major candidates standing, with New Jersey deciding the nominee in June. Talk about being a real king maker.

More realistically, if Dean does prevail, Union County Democrats will be sitting pretty at the Democratic convention the last week of July in Boston. That still leaves open, of course, the General Election where recent polls put the popularity of President Bush at 63 percent, the highest in the third year since Jimmy Carter. But the analogy about shifting sands is for another day.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

## Expansion of center started

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

Construction on the nearly \$5 million addition to Union County's Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside has begun.

The three-story addition will increase the museum's total floor area by more than 17,800 square feet, bringing the facility's total square footage to 25,717.

Plans for the renovation of Trailside have been in the works since 2001, after it was determined by county officials that the facility needed additional classrooms for school groups, scouts and adults; a variety of exhibit areas; and adequate office space for staff and naturalists.

"We have a unique, educational opportunity in the Watchung Reservation for school-aged children," said Department of Parks and Recreation Director Charles Sigmund, explaining that Trailside currently does not have enough classroom space to accommodate all the interested children. "We need to

expand and we're doing that."

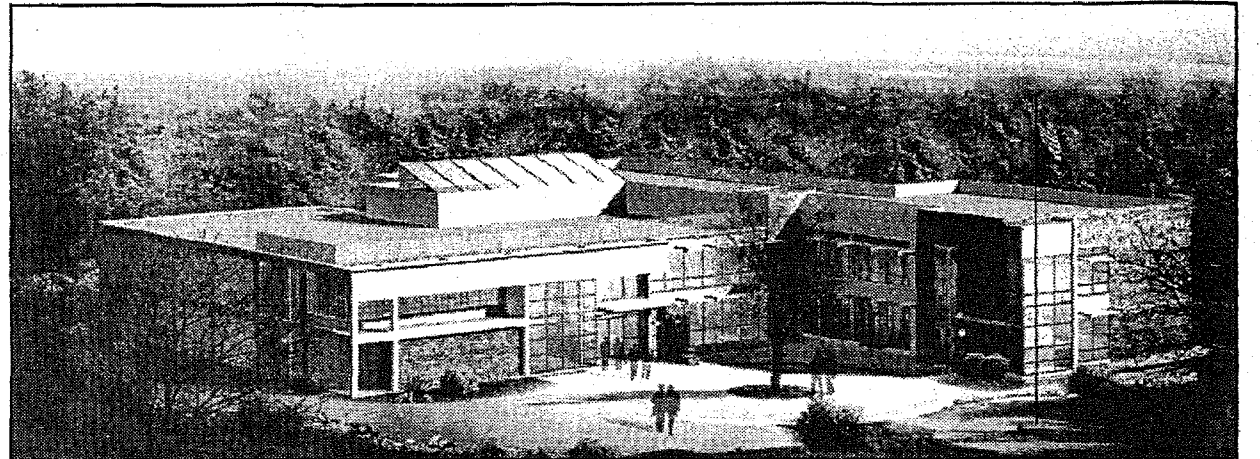
Trailside is located in the Watchung Reservation, a 2,000-acre preserve containing forests, three ponds, swamps, streams, springs, fields and more than 13 miles of color-coded hiking trails.

In July, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders allocated \$1 million from the county's Open Space, Recreation and Historic Trust Fund to help offset the cost of the Trailside construction.

Voters approved the trust fund in a November 2000 referendum that established a tax of \$0.15 per \$100 of assessed value dedicated to open space, recreation and historic preservation purposes.

The \$1 million from the Open Space Trust Fund was added to \$3.6 million in capital funds already approved for the project.

Farmingdale-based Hall Building Corporation, which received a \$4,985,400 construction contract to complete the expansion, broke ground on the project about a month ago.



Union County's plans for Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside will bring the facility to more than 25,000 square feet. Construction on the \$5-million expansion is under way and expected to last 12 to 18 months.

Construction is scheduled to take between 12 and 18 months.

Construction on the three-story facility will include on the lower level: collection and storage units, restrooms, an audio/visual preparation area and studio, discovery room and attraction area; on the main level: a multi-purpose room, classrooms, a kitchenette, additional exhibit space, a gift shop, a reception area, restrooms; and on the upper level: three additional classrooms, exhibit space, staff offices, an exterior terrace and restrooms.

Currently, Trailside offers programs such as forest ecology, the geol-

ogy of the Watchung Reservation, as well classes dealing with aquatic life, reptiles and birds.

Most of Trailside's programs take place outdoors — field trips and nature walks. However, Sigmund said once the museum has additional classroom space Trailside's programs will be enhanced indoors as well.

Limited programming is being offered at the museum while construction takes place, he added.

"The staff is trying to do the best they can under difficult circumstances," said Sigmund.

The Trailside visitor center is open daily from 1 to 5 p.m. and contains

exhibits on reptiles, featuring live snakes and turtles.

The Natural History Museum is open daily from 1 to 5 p.m., April through November and during winter school vacations. The museum is open weekends only from December through March.

The museum features exhibits including the mammals of the Watchung Reservation, birds of the Watchung Reservation, the art of taxidermy and fluorescent minerals. The museum also has a discovery room for children, featuring hands-on exhibits and live animals during the summer months.

## Protests louder, more frequent in 2003

Rail, geese, center brought citizens out

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

The more things changed in 2003, the more Union County stayed the same.

Despite anti-train protests and residents voicing their displeasure over retroactive pay raises and the killing of geese on county property, incumbents in Union County swept the 2003 General Election, winning legislative and freeholder races.

Incumbents Democrats Deborah Scanlon, who served as the 2003 Freeholder chairwoman; Chester Holmes and Alexander Mirabella, defeated Republican, Green Party and independent candidates to retain their three-year seats on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The only new face to gain a seat on the Legislature was actually a familiar face to Union County residents. Freeholder Nicholas Scutari won the Senate seat in District 22, after incumbent Sen. Joseph Suliga dropped out of the race on Sept. 26, citing alcohol-related problems after an incident in an Atlantic City casino where a woman filed a harassment complaint against him.

### Railroad

Residents in five Union County towns sued the county to stop the reactivation of the Staten Island and Rahway Valley, earlier this month. However, Union County Superior Court Assignment Judge Edward Beglin ruled that the state's courts do not have jurisdiction over the matter and the case belongs before the Surface Transportation Board, a federal agency that oversees railroads.

The reactivation of the rail lines would bring trains through seven municipalities in Union County.

The agreement between Morris-

town and Erie Railway Inc. and Union County to reactivate the rail lines was ratified in May 2002.

For the last year, residents in Kenilworth, Roselle Park, Roselle, Summit and Springfield have voiced opposition to the reactivation, which residents and officials in those towns claim will cause a disruption and could also be a safety hazard. The line will also run through Linden and Cranford, which did not join the suit.

The county cannot legally stop the train but it did sign a operating agreement allowing for the maximum amount of control over the railroad, county officials contend.

According to the freeholders, the railroad will provide short-line service within Union County. Freight moved along the lines must either originate in the county, or have a final destination in the county.

### Open space acquisitions

Originally, the county had set a goal of acquiring 100 acres of open space in 10 years. The county surpassed that goal in 2003, seven years earlier than it had anticipated.

The county was able to acquire a total of 104 acres of open space since the Open Space, Historic and Recreation Trust Fund was approved by voters in 2000.

In 2003, the county acquired two pieces of property: the 23-acre Ponderosa Farm in Scotch Plains, for \$10 million, and almost five acres on Green Lane in Union at a cost of \$3.4 million.

In three years, the county has acquired four pieces of property at a total cost of slightly more than \$26.3 million.

The county spent \$7.5 million to acquire 63 acres in Summit in 2001 from New Jersey-American Water

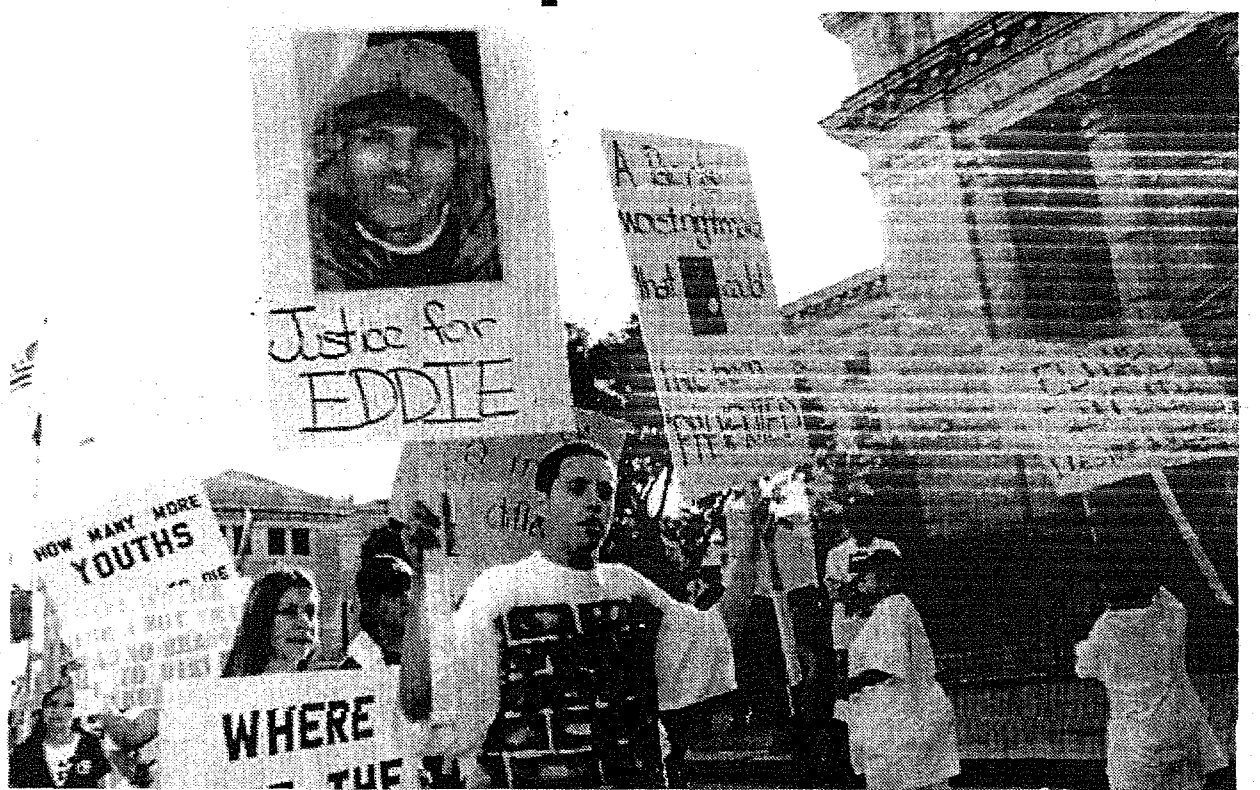


Photo By Reena Rose Sibayan

Demonstrators took to the sidewalks outside the county courthouse in Elizabeth in the fall, protesting conditions at the county's juvenile detention center following an inmate's suicide in the spring.

Co., as well as \$5.45 million in 2002 for the 13-acre Esposito Farm in Clark.

### Juvenile detention center

The county has not disclosed a site or purchased land to build a new juvenile detention.

For the last two months, county officials have said they are examining three undisclosed sites.

Following the suicide of an inmate last spring, the state's Juvenile Justice Commission mandated that the county build a new juvenile detention center facility to replace the current George W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center, located on the seventh floor of the parking garage adjacent to the county complex in Elizabeth.

Union County has been planning or studying the construction of a new facility for the past decade. A site adjacent to the Goethals Bridge in Elizabeth was purchased in 1999 for a new center but eventually sold several years later.

The commission also capped the number of detainees housed at the center to 34, which cost the county at least an additional \$1.1 million this year as it sends detainees to other centers in neighboring counties.

Elizabeth-based United Youth Council, a youth activist group, is looking into taking possible legal action against the county.

In September, the group threatened to begin civil disobedience — including sit downs and blocking streets. However those actions were stopped after meeting with county officials.

The council and county representatives were able to compromise five demands concerning the detention center. The demands included the shutting down of the facility and sending juveniles elsewhere, the termination of the director of the detention center, developing a strict health and safety policy, developing a plan that will include education, motivation, recreation and self-esteem activities for youths; and the establishing of a juvenile center citizens advisory board that includes youth representatives.

### Children's museum

In June, the freeholders approved the funding of \$1 million for the planning and development of the Children's Museum of Central Jersey's physical structure and exhibits.

The money will be provided over 18 months, coming from the county's Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust fund.

The 13-acre Esposito Farm in Clark had been considered for the nonprofit organization's museum. However, Clark residents voiced their opposition to the construction of the

museum in that location. This prompted the freeholders to instead place the children's museum near Liberty Hall on Morris Avenue across from Kean University in Union.

In July, the children's museum received initial funding of approximately \$250,000, with quarterly payments to follow.

Children's Museum of Central New Jersey plans to raise approximately \$12 million for the project to be completed.

### Construction projects

The county began several construction projects in 2003, including renovation of the Union County Administrative Building in Elizabeth, a new police headquarters in Westfield, an expansion at the county's Vocational-Technical School in Scotch Plains and an addition to the Trailside Nature and Science Museum in Mountainside.

The \$1.5-million renovation project at the Administrative Building will add two handicapped public bathrooms on the first floor, where there currently are no public bathrooms; a delivery entrance in the rear of the building; an enlarged front entranceway, which will be pulled out approximately 10 feet where a heated area will be created with automatic doors.

The county's new police headquarters is scheduled to be completed by next fall.

The three-story building on North Avenue East will be the new home of the Union County Police Department, the Union County Division of Emergency Management and the prosecutor's forensics laboratory. The 51,209-square-foot facility will include on-site parking for 169 cars and 22 emergency vehicles.

The \$13.5-million project calls for the demolition of the existing building, as well as overall site improvements such as new lighting, landscaping, decorative fencing and paving.

See 2003, Page B2

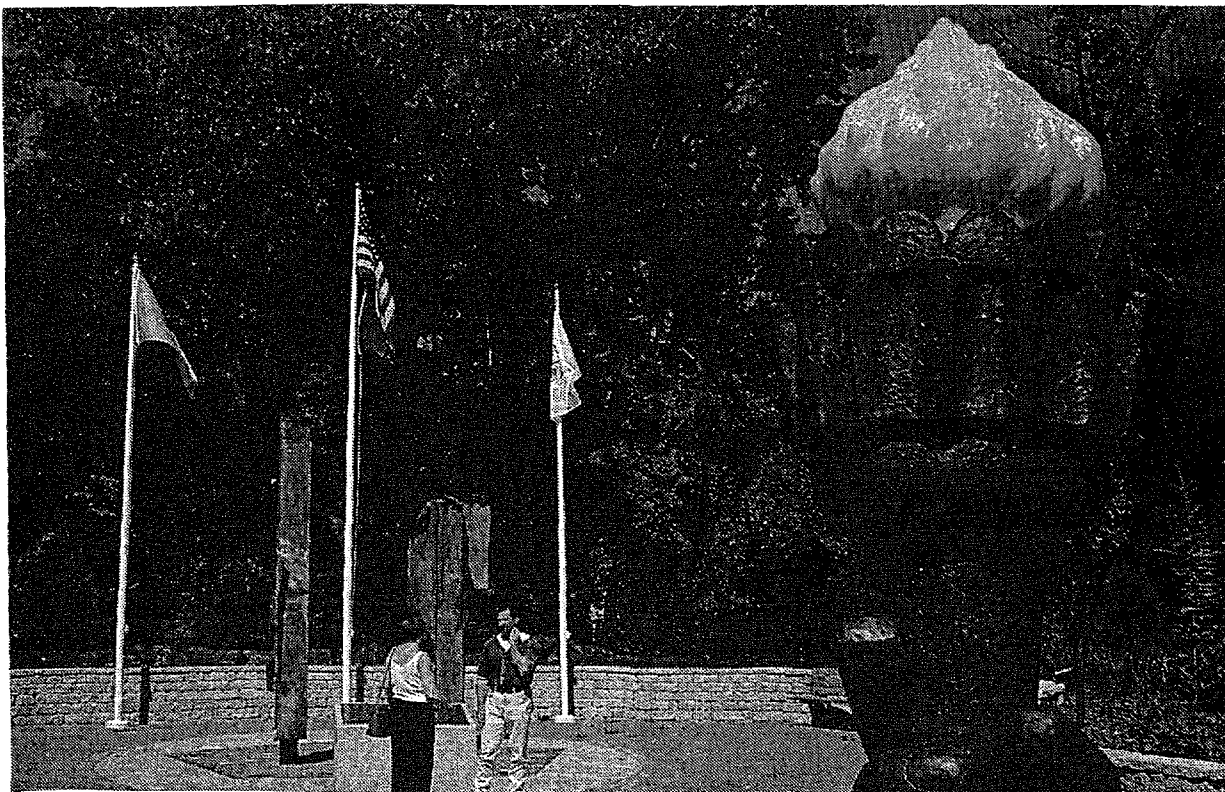


Photo By Joseph A. Sorrentino

Construction of Union County's memorial to local victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks was completed with a dedication ceremony in September.



# 2003: The year in review

(Continued from Page B1)

The new building will include a 5,000-square-foot communications center, for public safety, emergency and county use, and child inspection bays, and will be linked via computer to the main county building operations center at the Union County Courthouse.

In July, the freeholder allocated \$1 million from the county Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund for the expansion of the Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside.

Earlier this month freeholders approved a nearly \$5-million contract to Farmingdale-based Hall Building Corporation to complete the three-story addition, which will increase the museum's total floor area by more than 17,800 square feet, bringing the facility's total square footage to 25,717, adding classrooms, exhibit space and storage areas.

Unforeseen electrical problems delayed the completion date for the expansion of the Union County Vocational-Technical School until mid-February.

The 69,000-square-foot, \$14-million expansion will allow the vocational-technical high school to make the transition from a shared-time program to a full-time basis. The project will add 12 academic classrooms, three computer labs, four science labs, a multimedia center/library, nurse's office, administration office, and fitness center and gym, which will serve as multipurpose room for theatrical productions.

State construction funds provided 40 percent of the funding, approximately \$5.6 million, with the remainder, approximately \$8.4 million, coming from the county.

## Geese

Last July, residents were outraged by the way the geese were "removed" from four county parks. The county contracted with a company that used a gassing method to suffocate the animals.

Although Union County had a permit allowing the killing of 2,700 geese who inhabit county parks, only 700 geese were removed.

The two-day goose control effort took place on July 1 and 2 at Echo Lake Park in Mountainside, Nomahegan Park in Cranford, Rahway River Park and Warinanco Park in Roselle.

The geese were congregating in large numbers throughout the county's parks. The parks were providing geese with their ideal habitat: long expanses of short mowed grass.

County officials maintained that the geese were a health problem. Due to the geese's fast digestive system, their fecal material was spread throughout the county's parks.

The fecal material washes into the waterways when it rains. Whenever fecal chloroform is added to a waterway, it can cause problems. It adds nitrates to the water, which creates additional algae, which reduces the dissolved oxygen in the water, which

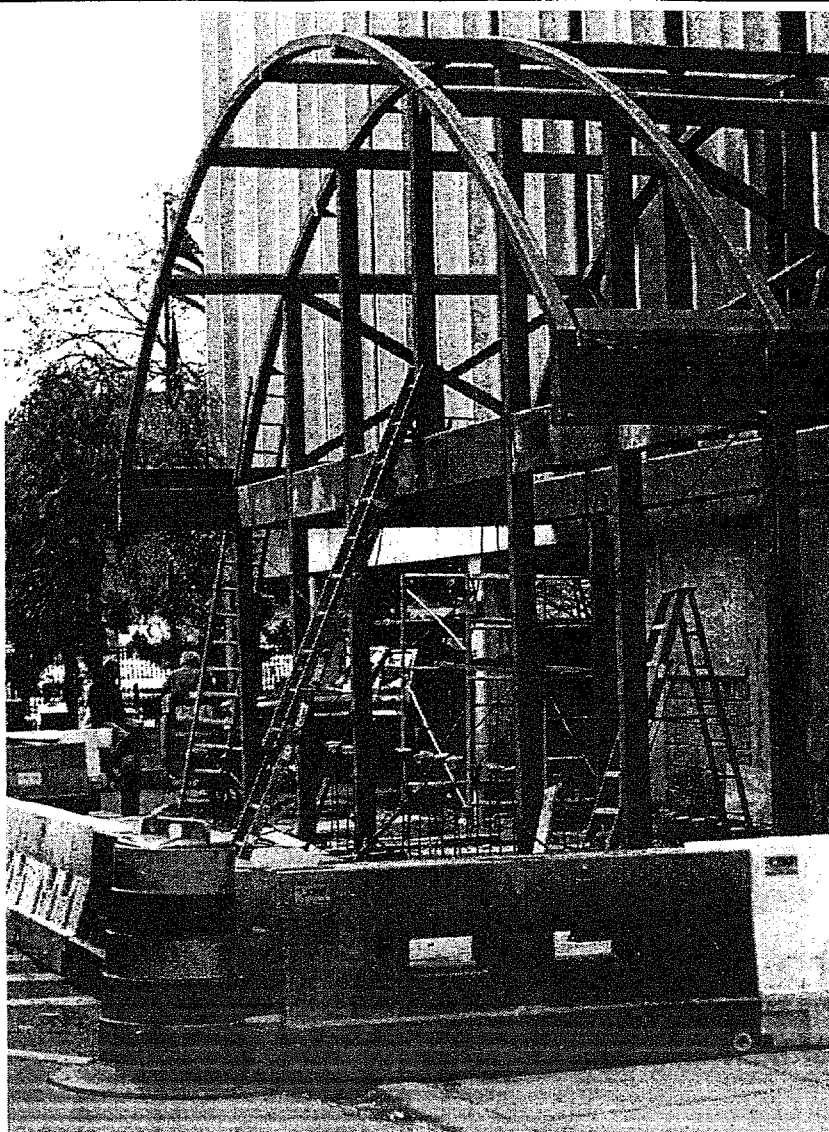


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Renovations to the atrium at the Administration Building in Elizabeth were among a number of construction projects that got under way during 2003, in addition to expansion of the county Vocational-Technical School and county police headquarters.

kills off much of the fish population.

The added nitrates in the water reduce the water quality and quality of life for the animals living there.

Before opting for the elimination of the 700 geese, county officials claimed they had tried several options to control the animals, including border collies and motorized boats to scare the geese away, fishing wire strung around the lakes, the planting of shrubs and small trees around the lakes and the treating of the grass with non-toxic chemicals.

## Sept. 11 memorial

Two years after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Union County dedicated its memorial honoring the victims.

The county lost 60 men and women on Sept. 11, both at the World Trade Center and on Flight 93, which crashed in Pennsylvania after passengers stormed the cockpit of the hijacked airplane.

The memorial, which resides at Echo Lake Park, is in the shape of the infinity symbol, a figure-eight on its side, and measures 100 feet from end-to-end and 50 feet at its widest points. The designs for the monument incorporate two beams from the original World Trade Center, which the county acquired from New York City in September 2002. The beams, measuring seven feet and weighing more than 1,000 pounds, are featured prominently in the memorial, within a pentagon-shaped brick area, which pays tribute to the attack on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

A stainless-steel plaque inscribed with the names of all Union County victims is affixed to the granite pentagon.

There is also a liberty torch, honoring those lost on Flight 93.

The memorial was designed by Walt Patrylo of the Union County Division of Engineering, with the concepts approved by the freeholder board and the September 11 Memorial Public Advisory Committee, which included approximately a dozen citizens appointed by mayors of towns who were affected by the Sept. 11 attacks.

## Retroactive pay raises

Despite pleas from their constituents not to approve retroactive pay raises, the freeholder board approved pay hikes for department heads, constitutional officers, the county manager and themselves at a December board meeting.

A 3.75-percent increase for the freeholder board made them the fifth highest-paid county governing body in the state, trailing only Hudson, Essex, Monmouth and Ocean.

The county manager received the highest pay increase at 6 percent, with other department directors receiving pay hikes anywhere between 2 percent and 5.5 percent.

A 4-percent pay raise was given to the four Board of Elections commissioners and the three constitutional officers, including the county sheriff, county clerk and county surrogate.

All raises are retroactive to Jan. 2, 2003.

# County awarded housing grant

The County of Union has won a \$3.67 million competitive federal grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The monies will be used to fund the county's existing Continuum of Care strategy to assist families with children find affordable housing and services.

"The demand for subsidized housing increases each year," said Freeholder Chairwoman Deborah Scanlon. "With this grant we will be able to provide transitional housing for persons moving from homelessness."

The Union County Department of Human Services applied for the competitive grant, with applications received from throughout the county. This year's grant is the second largest won by the county.

"With the national economy struggling, it is so important to take advantage of any program that brings federal funds to the county," added Scanlon.

"Finding the money to fund important projects such as these is always difficult," said Freeholder Vice Chairman Angel Estrada. "But due to the hard-working individuals in

our Department of Human Services, this competitive grant will go a long way in helping provide relief for the homeless."

Along with subsidized housing, permanent housing through family homes and condo units for individuals and families will also be made available thanks to the grant.

The grant money will be distributed to the following agencies and organizations: Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth, \$1,219,680; Community Access Unlimited, \$59,464; American Red Cross Tri-County Chapter, \$57,901; New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, \$121,968; Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Union County, Inc., \$738,838; YMCA of Eastern Union County, \$837,632, and YWCA of Eastern Union County, \$638,792.

"This financial assistance will help those in need in several ways," said Estrada.

"Not only will housing be provided, but also job training, health care, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment and child care will be available as well."

## Counselors association selling '04 books

The Union County School Counselors Association is selling Entertainment '04 Books to fund "We Care" awards granted to chosen high school students in Union County.

Students who have made significant contributions in their communities and in helping others in need are chosen by guidance counselors throughout the county to receive these monetary awards in recognition of their good deeds.

Entertainment Books offer discounts for fine dining, casual dining, special attractions, hotels, airlines, movies, dry cleaning, and car washes to name a few. Books are available covering the northern, central, and southern sections of New Jersey at costs of \$20 and \$30.

To obtain books, call Carmine Venes, president of UCSCA, at 908-233-1086.

## Dean Meetup Jan. 7

Union County for Howard Dean has announced that its next regularly scheduled Union County Meetup will be Jan. 7 at Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield, from 7 to 8:45 p.m.

Agenda items will include voter registration, outreach activities, and the latest information regarding the campaign. There will also be a discussion of community activities for "Generation Dean". Whether to volunteer or just to learn more, all are invited to attend.

For more information, call Fran Middleberg at 973-912-4309. Further information can be found on the Web at <http://dean2004.meetup.com>.

## Nominations sought for Women of Excellence

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Commission on the Status of Women are accepting nominations for the 12th annual Women of Excellence Awards.

The commission is looking for outstanding women nominees of Union County who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following categories: Arts and Humanities; Business/Entrepreneur; Community Service; Education; Government; Law; Law Enforcement; Medicine/Health Care, and/or Women's Advocacy.

The women selected from the nominees will be honored at The West-

## COUNTY NEWS

wood, 438 North Ave., Garwood, on March 12 at 7 p.m.

Due to the overwhelming interest in this annual event, the Union County Commission on the Status of Women is encouraging all nominations to be submitted as soon as possible.

To submit a nomination, send a cover letter, resume and biographical statement about the woman, highlighting her accomplishment in a particular category to Joan Abitante, 322 Dietz St., Roselle, 07203.

For more information, call Abitante at 908-241-4889.

## Tax volunteers sought

RSVP and AARP both are recruiting seniors, 55 and older to volunteer to help prepare tax returns for the elderly, frail, low-income and disabled citizens of Union County.

Tax counseling will be offered at various sites within Union County. A special tax law training session will be offered free at Community Access Unlimited for the volunteer tax counselors in early January.

During December and January, men and women volunteers receive tax training, directed by U.S. Internal Revenue Service and New Jersey Tax Department, in order to give free income tax help to seniors and lower-income taxpayers in the February to April tax season.

For more information, call Sal Conforti, AARP Union County tax aide coordinator, at 908-351-9050 or Jim Walsh at 908-276-3152.

If you are interested in becoming an RSVP volunteer tax counselor, call Steve at 908-354-3040, Ext. 369.

## Discount prescription drug program available

Union County residents who are 55 years of age or older, as well as qualified disabled residents of any age will be eligible for discounted prescription drugs under a program announced by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Discounts can range from 20 percent to 50 percent depending on the prescription's classification as either a brand name drug or its generic equivalent.

AddHealth Inc., a Clinton-based company specializing in healthcare saving programs will administer the plan. To sign up, all it will take is one call to AddHealth's toll-free number, 1-800-733-8546.

Residents will have the ability to fill their prescriptions at neighborhood

pharmacies, or a national chain store.

There are no income or asset limitations to qualify for the county's program. However, residents who are currently enrolled in state-funded prescription coverage programs may already have maximum discounts on their prescriptions.

The enrollment form must be returned with documentation that includes a clear, legible copy of the applicants drivers license or a utility bill reflecting a Union County residence, and, if handicapped and under age 55, documentation reflecting disabled status. Coverage should begin seven to 10 business days after the application is received and approved.

Only a single card is needed if both husband and wife meet the eligibility requirements. Both names will be listed for just one enrollment fee.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, of Union County's 522,541 residents, 117,976, or 22.6 percent, are age 55 and older.

## Volunteers sought

The YWCA of Eastern Union County, 1131 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth, is seeking volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, call Lynn at 908-355-1500, ext. 18.

## Grants are available to help fight litter

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders invites non-profit groups to fight litter in parks and playgrounds, along stream banks, and on the streets by participating in the Union County Clean Communities Program.

Funds are available to non-profit groups of 10 or more volunteers who are willing to clean up targeted Union County parks, streams and roadways.

Each non-profit group must agree to provide a minimum of 10 workers. The Union County mini-grants will be based on the number of volunteers, with the grants ranging from \$100 for the smallest group to \$300 for a group of 40 or more volunteers.

Union County received nearly \$25,000 in state funds generated by the Clean Communities Act and is making these funds available to community groups that volunteer their time and energy.

To request a mini-grant application for more information about the Clean Communities Program, contact the Union County Bureau of Environmental Services, 300 North Ave. East, second floor, Westfield, 07090, or call 908-654-9890.

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Tuesday, January 27 (9:30 am - 11:00 am)

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Fri., January 30 (9:00 am - 11:00 am)

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Images show the best of arts in 2003

By Bill VanSant  
Associate Editor

It may not have been an easy year, but 2003 proved the age-old adage of "the show must go on."

Between the national crisis surrounding the war in Iraq and Gov. James E. McGreevey's infamous cut to the state's arts budget, arts entities in New Jersey were faced with somewhat diminishing audiences and drastically diminishing dollars.

However, the arts continued to remain alive and well in the state, as evidenced by the photographs on these pages.

As 2003 draws to a close, we look back on the images of the year, glimpses into the area's many success stories on stage.

Among the highlights of the arts in the Union County area were the Cranford Dramatic Club's "The Dinner Party," which earned Mary McGhee of Cranford the 2003 Perry Award for Best Set Design; a pair of brilliant productions from the Theater Project at Union County College, "Pterodactyls" by Nicky Silver and Emily Mann's "Having Our Say," which both opened and closed the season, becoming the only production to be revived by the Theater Project in the same year; some all-star appearances at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway; the expansion of a popular concert series; and work done throughout the county

to cultivate the next generation of artists.

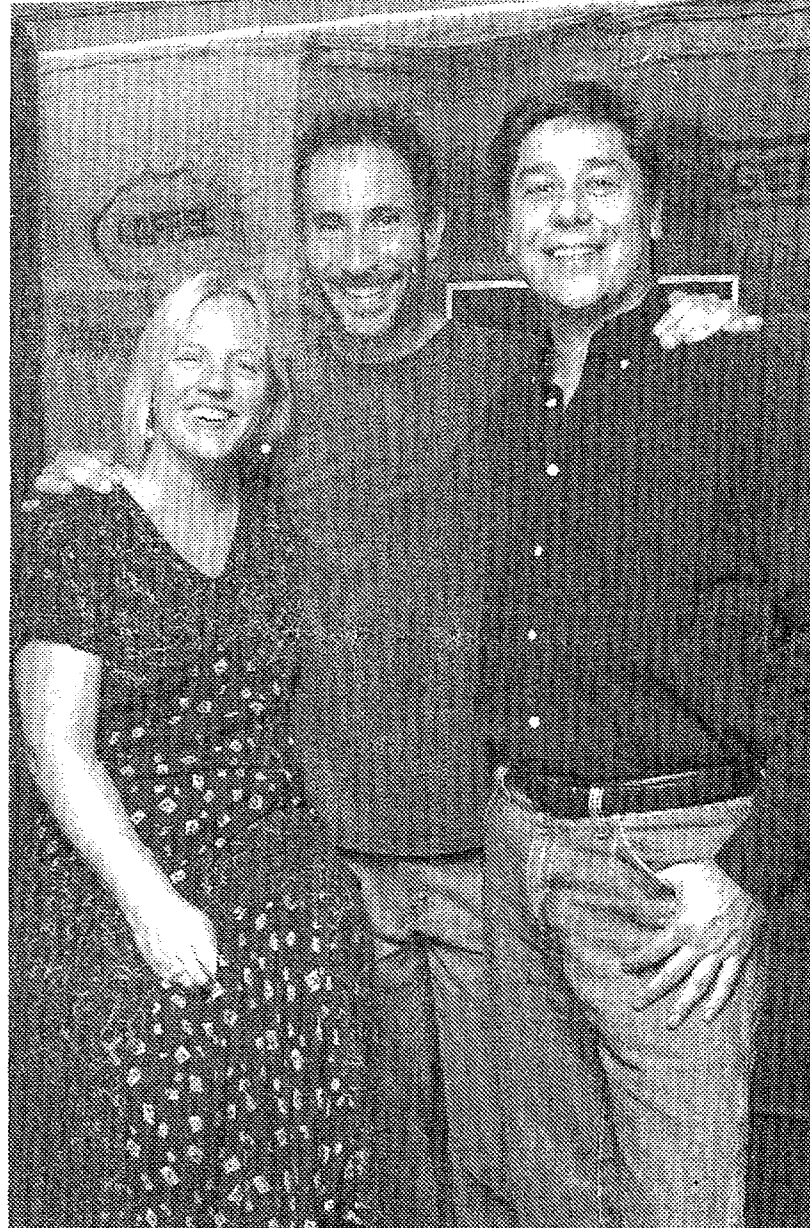
From old classics to new works, music to theater to dance — the arts continued to thrive against the odds.



Scenic artist Stephanie Lalor of Linden works her magic on the set for 'The Dinner Party' last February at Cranford Dramatic Club. The set design by Mary McGhee of Cranford earned the 2003 Perry Award for Best Set Design in September.



Turning in twin bravura performances in Emily Mann's 'Having Our Say' at the Theater Project at Union County College were Daaimah Talley and Tamela Aldrige in April/May and again in November.



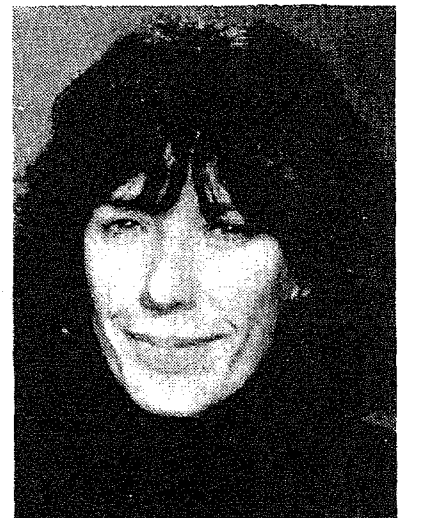
The Coffee With Conscience Concert Series in Westfield and Springfield expanded into Summit in 2003, making it a tri-town series benefiting local charities. Among the 2003 entertainers were, at left, Valerie Vigoda of the folk-funk trio GrooveLily in June and, at right from left, Mindy Simmons and Jay Mankita, joining series producer Ahrrre Maros of Westfield in October.



Turning in a breathtaking performance as Eliza Doolittle in George Bernard Shaw's 'Pygmalion' at the New Jersey Shakespeare Theater was Victoria Mack, joined by Paul Niebanck as Henry Higgins in the September production.



Paper Mill: The State Theater of New Jersey delivered a production of Lerner and Loewe's 'Camelot' in April that was fit for a king. Bringing to life the roles of King Arthur and Guenevere were Brent Barrett and Paper Mill regular Glory Crampton.



Among the celebrity faces to grace the stage of the Union County Arts Center in Rahway in 2003 were, from left, actor Jack Klugman in 'On Golden Pond' last February, singer Dionne Warwick in October, and Lily Tomlin in her one-woman show, 'An Evening of Classic Lily Tomlin' in November.

## UCAC announces winter lineup

The Union County Arts Center in Rahway has announced its Winter/Spring 2003-04 75th Anniversary season. For information, call 732-499-8226 or visit the Web site at [www.ucac.org](http://www.ucac.org).

• Jan. 17, 4 to 8 p.m.: Diamond Jubilee Cocktail Party with special guest Uncle Floyd. All tickets are \$25.

• Jan. 23, 8 p.m.: Movie, RKO tribute, "King Kong" with Fay Wray. All tickets are \$5.

• Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m.: Matinee Movie, RKO tribute, "Swing Time" with Fred Astaire and Ginger

Rogers. All tickets are \$5.

• Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m.: Movie double feature, "My Favorite Wife" and "Citizen Kane." All tickets are \$5.

• Jan. 25, 2:30 p.m.: Silent film, "My Best Girl" with Mary Pickford with live theater organ accompaniment. All tickets are \$5.

• Feb. 20, 8 p.m.: "My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra." All tickets are \$5.

• Feb. 21, 8 p.m.: Richard Nader's Doo Wop Reunion Tour with Lou Christie, Emil Stucchio and The Classics, and The Chi-

clettes. Tickets are \$40, \$35 and \$30.

Other events include "Martin Luther King Jr.," Feb. 22; a Gospel Fest, Feb. 28; The Black Brothers and the Aoife Clancy Band, March 20; Duck Soup Magic Show, March 21; "Sophisticated Ladies: The Music of Duke Ellington," March 26; The Amazing Kreskin, March 27; the Westfield Symphony Orchestra, April 17; "An Evening With Joy Behar," April 24; a Cinco de Mayo celebration, May 8; and several silent and "talky" movie presentations.

### Bill VanSant, Editor

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Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to 463 Valley Street, P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, NJ 07040

### Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news: Church, club and social - Thursday noon.

Entertainment - Friday noon.

Sports - Monday noon.

Letters to the Editor - Monday 9 a.m.

General - Monday 5 p.m.

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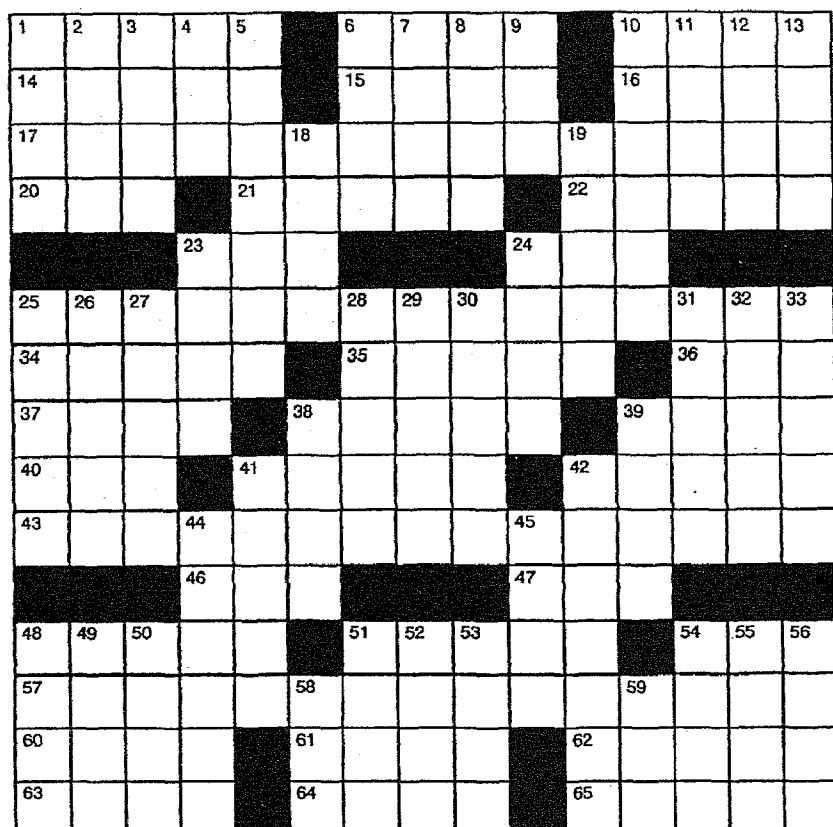
## ACROSS

- 1 Italian basso  
6 Region  
10 Small amount  
14 Acrylic fiber  
15 Ointment  
16 Architect Saarinen  
17 Line one of theme  
20 Hamflisch hit  
21 Wrathful  
22 Lyric poem  
23 Turkish official  
24 Yoko —  
25 Line two  
34 Volcanic residue  
35 Calendar abbreviation  
36 Self  
37 Adherents: suffix  
38 Posh accommodations  
39 Implored  
40 Celtic sea god  
41 Granted  
42 Came up  
43 Line three  
46 Emmet  
47 Purpose  
48 Prize  
51 Minimum  
54 Watering place  
57 Line four  
60 Pituitary hormone: abbr.  
61 Melville title  
62 Contaminate  
63 Copacetic  
64 Barbie, for one  
65 Vacuous

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- 1 Manhattan district  
2 Mesabi Range product  
3 U.S. magazine

## VACATION FIASCO



COPELEY NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

- 4 Hawaiian dish  
5 Shades of blue  
6 Writer Seton  
7 Epithelial  
8 Mystery writer's name  
9 Nabokov novel  
10 Tyrant  
11 Make over  
12 Moistureless  
13 Fashion  
18 Khachaturian  
19 Wild geese  
23 High cards  
24 Monster  
25 Brads  
26 Bone prefix  
27 Unit of heat  
28 Chopin work  
29 Felon  
30 Surpass  
31 Spartan serif  
32 Emit  
33 Western entertainment  
38 Dispatched  
39 Graduation function  
41 Apt.  
42 Shake up  
44 Down to basics  
45 Level: Brit.  
48 At a distance  
49 Texas city  
50 New Testament book  
51 Roomy conveyance, for short  
52 Organic compound  
53 Military acronym  
54 Vessel  
55 Confined  
56 Pretentious  
58 Carew or Laver  
59 Brimless headgear

See ANSWERS on Page B10

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## Bill VanSant, Editor

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## HOROSCOPE

## Jan. 5-11

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Your peers recognize you for your professional contributions. Stand up and take a bow. Handle a financial problem with the utmost discretion.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Venture out and derive the most pleasure from travel and exploring the unknown. Plan to visit someplace you have never been before.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21): It's OK if you choose to ignore the bottom line and put your money to work in a company you believe in. Support a worthwhile cause.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22): You are very much in tune with the moods and needs of a partner. Reach out in a time of doubt with answers, suggestions and guidance.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Collect on a promise, favor or debt owed to you by a co-worker. Be willing to compro-

mise in a negotiation and avoid a standoff over a minor issue.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Diversity adds spice to your social life. Try your hand at a variety of different opportunities to meet new people and forge new friendships.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Your energy is centered around home and family this week. Take on a redecorating or domestic improvement project, but stay within your budget.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Discuss a financial agreement with an accountant or counselor, and make sure that any deal you agree to is put in writing. Read the fine print.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let your expensive taste outweigh your means. Balance your bills and fiscal responsibilities with your income and resources.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The stage is set for personal self-expression. Put your best foot forward and

show off your many creative talents and abilities.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): This is a great time for artistic or musical activities. Whenever you are feeling down, lift your spirits with happy tunes and fine art.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Friends are a major source of joy and inspiration. Spend time around upbeat people who will push you to be more open, positive and loving.

**If your birthday is this week**, you have a very expansive and personally enriching cycle kicking in during the coming year. Information that was once hidden comes to light and points you in the right direction for easily attaining your goals. Take time to clear up a misunderstanding or to set the record straight on a bogus charge or accusation. Political or philosophical interests are highlighted.

**Also born this week:** Robert Duvall, Louis Braille, Mel Gibson, Cuba Gooding Jr., and Paul Revere.

## History is in bloom at Reeves-Reed Arboretum

"Susie Graham Reeves joined the Summit Garden Club in 1919, a time when the home gardening movement closely followed the migration toward country living that transformed this area of New Jersey into suburbia,"

reads a recently printed historical guide at Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit.

Reeves' garden later became Reeves-Reed Arboretum, which has been open to the public since 1974.

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By reservation	R.S.V.P. to the Admission Office at 908-273-0900, ext. 254 or email: admission@kentplace.org

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## What's Going On?

## FLEA MARKET

**SUNDAY**  
January 4th, 2004

**EVENT:** FLEA MARKET, CRAFT & COLLECTIBLE SHOW  
**PLACE:** Belleville High School, 100 Passaic Ave., Belleville, NJ (Off Joralemon St.)  
**TIME:** 9am-5pm, Indoors & Outdoors  
**DETAILS:** New merchandise, crafts, collectibles, and a garage/tag sale section! For information call 201-997-9535.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Sponsored by: BHS Cheerleaders



## OTHER

**THURSDAY**  
January 15th, 2004

**EVENT:** ACAP Open House: Celebrating our Masters Degree in Psychoanalysis  
**PLACE:** The Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis, 769 Northfield Avenue, Suite LL2, West Orange  
**INFORMATION:** The ACAP in affiliation with Centenary College established the first graduate degree granting program in Psychoanalysis to be offered in New Jersey. Fall semester classes are now in session. Applications for the Spring 2004 semester are now being accepted. For information and seating arrangements, please contact 973-736-7600 or e-mail (speud@aol.com) via the internet (www.pcni.org). All are welcome.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis.

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.

Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-564-8911.

## ARTS CLIPS

## Teen Arts Touring Exhibit

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders sponsors the 2003 Teen Arts Touring Exhibit at Elizabeth Public Library, 11 S. Broad St., through Sunday.

The exhibit consists of 50 pieces of art selected from more than 600 visual art works shown at the county Teen Arts Festival in March at Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs in the Department of Economic Development.

The exhibit is open to the public. For assistive services or more information, call the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, 07202. Telephone 908-558-2550; Relay Service Users call 711.

## Hospital shows artists

Children's Specialized Hospital, the largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital in the United States, will exhibit the work of the New Jersey Photography Forum and pencil artist Jerry Winick of Little Falls throughout the months of December and January.

Nancy J. Ori of Berkeley Heights and Michael Creem of Summit started the New Jersey Photography Forum in 1995 as an opportunity for professional photographers, photo educators and serious amateurs to meet and discuss their work, share expertise, advance skills and explore exhibit possibilities. The forum just completed a one-month show at the Watchung Arts Center and this exhibit now moves to Children's Hospital for two months. Approximately 50 photographs were selected from the membership of the forum by several noted judges.

Winick is an artist who uses a pencil as a painter uses a paintbrush. He has taken the art of pencil drawing to new heights. Winick's style of photorealism is so unique that most people, when viewing his work for the first time find it difficult to imagine that these drawings are done with only a pencil.

The artist has been drawing

most of his life and is a teacher of pencil drawing at Pencilworks Studio, which he owns. Winick has won more than 300 awards and his work may be found in numerous private collections and museums in the New York metropolitan area.

Monthly exhibits are sponsored by the Auxiliary at Children's Specialized Hospital. All artwork is available for purchase with a portion of sales benefiting the Auxiliary.

All artwork is available for purchase with a portion of sales benefiting the Auxiliary. Admission is free and exhibits can be viewed from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. by entering through the hospital's East Wing entrance, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside.

For information, call 908-233-3720, ext. 5379.

## UCC seeks new plays

There are still a few openings for the monthly playwright's workshop at The Theater Project, Union County College's professional theater company.

The workshop meets once a month, in addition to a monthly script-in-hand public performance/discussion of one of the plays in development. Organizers are particularly interested in writers who can contribute to the process of the other participating playwrights.

Playwrights interested in developing their work through readings and critiques by actors, directors and other writers should submit scripts, self-addressed stamped envelopes with a cover letter, including a brief summary of writing background to: Mark Spina, The Theater Project, Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford, 07016.

## Theater explores history

The Union County Arts Center located in downtown Rahway announced its plans to reach out into the local community for archival

material related to the theater's rich history.

In preparation for its 75th anniversary season, the Union County Arts Center, formerly the Rahway Theater, will seek submission of archival material from local residents. Selected material will be on display for the 2003-04 season in the theater's inner lobby starting this fall.

All submissions will become property of the Union County Arts Center archives unless other arrangements are made in advance.

For more information, call 732-499-0441, ext. 602. To mail any items to the Arts Center, use the theater's address: 1601 Irving St., Rahway, 07065.

## Chorale plans its season

The Summit Chorale has announced its 2003-04 season.

• Madrigals, art songs and the Durufle Requiem will be presented in concert at 8 p.m. on March 6, at Central Presbyterian Church, 70 Maple St., Summit.

• Brahms' Requiem — Nair's gala farewell concert at 8 p.m. on May 1, at a location to be determined. The chorale will be accompanied by a full symphony orchestra.

Additional information and tickets can be obtained from the Web site at www.summitchorale.org or from 973-762-8486.

Under the leadership of music director and conductor Garyth Nair, Summit Chorale is one of the state's most respected choral organizations, now in its 95th year. It is composed of non-professional singers, chosen by audition.

The chorale maintains a reputation for adventurous programming of lesser-known masterpieces in addition to popular works. It is Chorus in Residence at Drew University.

A subscription to your newspaper keeps your college student close to hometown activities. Call 908-686-7753 for a special college rate.





Taking a chance on newer works, Paper Mill Playhouse kicked off 2003 with productions of 'Romeo and Bernadette,' above, starring, from left, Rosie DeCandia, Andy Karl, Adam Monley and Natalie Hill, and 'Blue,' below, starring Michael McElroy and Leslie Uggams. Both shows earned high critical praise for the Millburn theater.



Photo by Reena Rose Sibayan

The Theater Project at Union County College delivered a production of Nicky Silver's 'Pterodactyls' in September that was equally hysterical and harrowing. From left are actors Matt McCarthy, Liz Zazzi and Gary Glor.



## Deadline nears at NJPAC

The deadline for free registration to earn an audition in the fourth annual New Jersey Performing Arts Center "Young Artist Talent Search" is just around the corner.

Applications postmarked on or prior to Jan. 1, 2004 are free. A \$15 application fee must accompany application forms postmarked between Jan. 2 and Feb. 1; and a \$20 fee must be included with applications postmarked between Feb. 2 and March 1.

Audition applications may be obtained online at [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org) or by calling the Talent Search Hot Line at 973-353-8009.

Initiated three years ago, the weekend event conducted by NJPAC's Arts Education Department provides artistically talented young people with opportunities to audition for more than 225 openings in any of its five arts training programs. Auditions will take place March 27 and 28 at the Lucent Technologies Center for Arts Education on the NJPAC site. Last year, more than 500 young artists from every corner of the state auditioned over the two-day weekend.

The Talent Search, made possible through the generosity of the Independence Community Foundation and the NJPAC Women's Board Association, gives students the opportunity to audition for *The Star-Ledger* Scholarship for the Performing Arts, Jazz for Teens, Jeffrey Carollo Music Scholarship, and Summer Youth Performance Workshop. Also, a preliminary audition will be held for the NJPAC/Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theater Summer Musical Program.



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**Bill VanSant,**  
**Editor**

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releases to the entertainment  
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Valley Street, P.O. Box 158,  
Maplewood, NJ 07040

## Weather extends miniature show at Swain

Historic Swain Galleries, a family-owned art enterprise in Plainfield since 1868, will celebrate "A 135th Christmas Weekend" with a "Christmas Miniatures" exhibit of small-scale art by 19 noted gallery artists this month. The exhibit continues through Jan. 30.

Due to inclement weather in early December, the opening reception has been rescheduled for Jan. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m.

The multi-media showcase of

"Miniatures" features the works of Douglas Allen, Judy Banyas, Kat Block, Nancy Brangaccio, Patricia Brentano, Leslie Delgyer, Mark deMos, Andrew Engel, Helen Jacobs, Timothy Jahn, Carroll Jones, Louis Lanza fama, Nat Lewis, Karen McCormack, Paul McCormack, Richard Nagrodsky, Dean Ostrum, John Reilly, and S. Allyn Schaeffer.

The exhibit continues through Jan. 30, Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30

a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. at Swain Galleries, 703 Watchung Ave. in the historic Crescent District of Plainfield.

On view will be florals, portraits, still lifes, landscapes, animals and wildlife and more in oils, watercolors, acrylics, gouaches, pastels, cut paper collage, pen-and-ink, colored pencil, calligraphy, and others.

For more information, call 908-756-1707.

**Community Dining Guide**

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**Blimpie is fresh and friendly**



By Bill VanSant  
Associate Editor

"Fresh" and "friendly" are two words that best describe Blimpie in Union Center.

The famous-name eatery is equally famous for the freshness of its food, and the Union location is no exception. In fact, the freshness of the ingredients is paramount to the management, which describes the fare as "only Blimpie-quality meat."

My dinner recently consisted of a hot roast beef sandwich with Swiss cheese - Finlandia Swiss, to be precise. Topping my sandwich were lettuce, tomato and onion, with mayonnaise, vinegar, and seasonings.

The sandwich was heated to perfection, warm enough to be a "hot meal," but no so hot as to burn the mouth. The balance of ingredients was perfect, allowing each element its own "voice" while still retaining the harmony of flavors. The roast beef, in particular, was wonderful: very lean, cooked to a pinkish-brown medium, and deliciously seasoned.

While there, I also sampled some of the other Blimpie fare. The ham was wonderfully flavorful, as was the tuna salad. The Provolone was light on the palate while still retaining the cheese's natural tang.

The establishment - on Stuyvesant Avenue just off Morris Avenue - is bright and welcoming, making it perfect for a midday lunch or an early evening supper. Also, its proximity to the Union Theaters makes it a great choice for an after-movie snack.

In addition to the traditional hot and cold subs for which Blimpie is famous, diners can also select from an array of salads, breakfast choices, and the new Wrap sandwiches. The Union location also offers catering services for off-premises events. Eat-in and take-out are available.

Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week, with the establishment staying open until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Blimpie is located at 1008 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. For information, call 908-624-9979 or send faxes to 908-624-9978.

Whether for eat-in or take-out, a convenient lunch or an after-movie snack, Blimpie of Union has exactly what every diner wants: quality food served in a bright, clean environment by a friendly staff.

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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, 463 Valley St., P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, NJ 07040. Faxes may be sent to 973-763-2557.*

ART SHOWS

**BOURAS GALLERIES** in Summit will exhibit the works of the Mountain Gallery Artists through the end of December.

Gallery hours are by appointment. Bouras Properties is located at 25 Deforest Ave., Summit. For information and to schedule an appointment, call 908-277-6054.

**CONTEMPORARY TAPESTRY**, works by Archie Brennen and Susan Martin Maffei, will be on exhibit at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit through Sunday.

NJCVA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, including gallery hours, call 908-273-9121 or visit [www.njcva.org](http://www.njcva.org).

**COLOR AND TEXTURE**, works by Eli Serfaty, will be on exhibit at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library to Jan. 21.

Gallery hours are Mondays to 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 1880 Morris Ave. in Friberger Park, Union. For information, call 908-851-5450.

**CHRISTMAS MINIATURES** will be on exhibit at Swain Galleries in Plainfield through Jan. 30. An opening reception will take place Jan. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. Swain Galleries is located at 703 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. For information, call 908-756-1707.

**2003 TEEN ARTS TOURING EXHIBIT**, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, will be at Elizabeth Public Library, 11 S. Broad St., through Sunday. The exhibit is open to the public. For assistive services or more information, call the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, 07202. Telephone 908-558-2550; Relay Service Users call 711.

**PORTFOLIO**, the works of photographer Barbara Wirkus, will be on exhibit through Jan. 30 at the Pearl Street Gallery in the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Pearl Street Gallery is located at 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth. For information, call 908-558-2550, NJ Relay users dial 711; or send inquiries via e-mail to [culturalinfo@ucnj.org](mailto:culturalinfo@ucnj.org).

**CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL** in Mountainside will exhibit the works of Jerry Winick and members of the New Jersey Photography Forum throughout December and January. CHS is located on New Providence Road in Mountainside.

**AN EDGE IN SPACE/A SPACE IN TIME** will be on exhibit at the Arts Guild of Rahway from Jan. 11 to Feb. 6. An opening reception will take place Jan. 11 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.; Thursdays 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 p.m. The Arts Guild of Rahway is located at

Stepping Out

1670 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511, send e-mail to [artsguild1670@earthlink.net](mailto:artsguild1670@earthlink.net), or visit [www.rahwayartsguild.org](http://www.rahwayartsguild.org).

**FROM THE ROCKIES TO THE PACIFIC**, works by photographer Marie Burns, will be on exhibit in the Wisner House at Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit from Tuesday through March 8. An artist's reception will take place Jan. 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. Exhibit hours are weekdays, 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 [www.reeves-reedarboretum.org](http://www.reeves-reedarboretum.org).

AUDITIONS

**SUMMIT CHORALE** will conduct auditions for all voice parts — SATB — on Tuesday and Jan. 13 by appointment at Drew University in Madison. Call 908-684-0995 to schedule an appointment for Jan. 6; call 732-698-1433 to schedule an appointment for Jan. 13. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at Drew. Upcoming concert dates are March 6 and May 1.

BOOKS

**BOOKS BY WOMEN, ABOUT WOMEN** meets the first Wednesday 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.

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

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN INTERESTS** meets the second Thursday of the month at 8 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.

**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.

CLASSES

**SPRING SEMESTER COURSES** are offered at duCret School for Art, Plainfield. Day and evening courses are offered on a full- or part-time basis. Classes meet once a week for three hours. The spring semester begins Jan. 19 and ends May 14. For more information and course availability, call the school at 908-757-7171, fax 908-757-2626 or visit [www.ducret.edu/](http://www.ducret.edu/).

CONCERTS

**COFFEE WITH CONSCIENCE CONCERT SERIES** in Westfield and Springfield will present a series of

artists through June at two locations through June.

Jan. 17: Stephanie Corby and Chris Rosser, Westfield

Feb. 14: Songwriters in the Round, hosted by acoustic duo Open Book, Springfield

Feb. 21: DaVinci's Notebook, Westfield  
Westfield concerts are presented at the First United Methodist Church, 1 E. Broad St., Westfield; Springfield concerts are presented at Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall, Springfield. Tickets are \$12 and include refreshments. For information, call 908-232-8723 or visit the Web site at [www.coffeeewithconscience.com](http://www.coffeeewithconscience.com).

**SANCTUARY CONCERTS** in Berkeley Heights will present musical acts in the coming weeks.

Jan. 10: David Roth  
Jan. 24: Comic/singer-songwriter Cheryl Wheeler

Concerts are presented at Union Village Methodist Church, 1130 Mountain Ave., Berkeley Heights. For information, call 973-376-4946 or visit [www.sanctuaryconcerts.org](http://www.sanctuaryconcerts.org).

**NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** will appear present "The Dvorak Centenary: Inspiring America" from Jan. 9 to 25 in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, as well as at other locations in the state. Tickets are \$17 to \$79.

Jan. 9: "Dvorak's American Concerto," 8 p.m., \$17 to \$69

Jan. 11: "Dvorak's American Concerto," 3 p.m., \$17 to \$69

Jan. 16 and 17: "The Bohemian Dvorak," 8 p.m., \$21 to \$79

Jan. 22: "From the New World," 7:30 p.m., \$21 to \$79

Jan. 24: "From the New World," 8 p.m., \$21 to \$79

Jan. 25: "From the New World," 3 p.m., \$21 to \$79

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call NJPAC at 888-466-5722 or NJSO at 800-255-3476, or visit their respective Web sites at [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org) or [www.njsymphony.org](http://www.njsymphony.org).

**RETUMBA** will appear in the Three Kings Day Celebration on Jan. 10 at 2 p.m. in the Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$10 for children younger than 14.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY INC.** will perform Joseph Haydn's "Mass in Time of War" and four motets by Anton Bruckner on Jan. 17 at 8 p.m. at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, East Broad Street at Mountain Avenue. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$10 for students and senior citizens.

**BERLIN STATE OPERA ORCHESTRA** will appear in concert Jan. 20 at 7:30 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.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**CHILDREN OF UGANDA** will appear in "Tour of Light," a concert of music and dance, Jan. 24 at 2 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$10 for children younger than 14 years old. A parent-child workshop is offered in conjunction with the performance; fee is \$11

for adults, \$6 for children.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**EAST-WEST ENSEMBLE** will appear in concert Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$26.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

DANCE

**STARS OF THE ROYAL DANISH BALLET** will be presented Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$13 to \$59.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**NAI-CHI CHEN DANCE COMPANY** will present "The Year of the Monkey" on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. in the Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$10 for children younger than 14.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**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. Admission is \$2, or \$12 for half the season; workshops are \$5. For information, call 973-467-8278.

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

DISCUSSION

**JOURNAL WRITING GROUP**, led by professional life coach Jami Novak, meets the fourth Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

**WRITERS' WORKSHOP** will meet every other Monday at Barnes and Noble in Springfield, 240 Route 22 West. For information, call 973-376-8544.

HOBBIES

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

JAZZ

**THE JUILLIARD JAZZ ORCHESTRA** will appear in concert Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$36.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**LINCOLN CENTER JAZZ ORCHES-**

**TRA** will appear in concert Jan. 23 at 8 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.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

KIDS

**CRAFT TIME** for children ages 5 to 10 years old will take place every Monday at 11 a.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

**BARNES AND NOBLE**, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will sponsor Tales for Tots Preschool Storytime, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m., and the Kids' Writing Workshop, Saturdays at 10 a.m. For information, call 973-376-8544.

POETRY

**POETRY OUT LOUD!** will take place at Barnes and Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

**OPEN MIKE POETRY NIGHT** takes place the second Sunday of every month at 7 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

SINGLES

**DINNERMATES** and Entrepreneurs Group invites business and professional singles to dinner at a local restaurant; wine and mingling is at 8 p.m., dinner is at 9 p.m. Two age groups are available. For information on dates and locations, call 732-822-9796 or visit [www.dinnermates.com](http://www.dinnermates.com).

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

THEATER

**PAPER MILL:** The State Theater of New Jersey will present "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" by Charles Busch from Jan. 7 through Feb. 8. Shows are Wednesdays to Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 p.m.; matinees are Thursdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. Ticket are \$30 to \$67.

Special performances are the Conversation Series, Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the mezzanine, Jan. 15 to Feb. 5; audio-described performances, with sensory seminar 90 minutes prior to curtain, Feb. 5 at 2 p.m., Feb. 7 at 2:30 p.m. and Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m.; and a sign-interpreted performance Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Paper Mill is located on Brookside Drive in Millburn. For information, call 973-376-4343 or visit the Web site at [www.papermill.org](http://www.papermill.org).

VARIETY

**SINGER-SONGWRITER CRAIG CARNELIA** will appear in Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chase Room as part of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's "Cabaret at the Chase" series. Tickets are \$46.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St.,

Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**TAKE 6** and guest speaker Gwen-dolyn Boyd will appear in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$15 to 37 for adults, \$18 for children younger than 14; tickets for the pre-performance reception are \$31.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org).

**UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER** in Rahway will present its Diamond Jubilee Benefit and Cocktail Party on Jan. 17 at 7 p.m., featuring Uncle Floyd. Tickets are \$25. UCAC is located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-499-8226 or visit [www.ucac.org](http://www.ucac.org).

**THE BACK PORCH** in Rahway will present Open Mike Night every Thursday night, a disc jockey every Friday night, and solo artists and bands on Saturdays. Happy Hour is 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, with \$1 drafts and \$3 Long Island iced teas. Mondays are Mexican Mondays with \$2 shot specials, \$2 Coronas, \$2 margaritas and \$1 tacos. Wednesdays are Ladies Nights and karaoke.

Jan. 10: Bad Attitude  
Jan. 17: Vertigo

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 and comedy concerts, as well as football-themed nights.

Every Sunday: Live comedy, funk and poetry

Every Monday: Open Mic Night, Happy Hour all night

Every Tuesday: Jazz Jam, all pints are \$2

Every Wednesday: Hi-Fi Wednesdays with G.L.O. with DJs and musicians; Corona, Cuervo, Margaritas, \$2 all night

Every Thursday: Rolling Rock beer, \$2 all night

Today: New Year's Eve with Brother John Brown

For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit [www.xxroads.com](http://www.xxroads.com)

**THE INTERNET LOUNGE** in Fanwood will present Open Mic/Karaoke Night on Sunday at 7 p.m. Cover is free. The Internet Lounge is located at 256 South Ave., Fanwood. For information, call 908-490-1234 or visit [www.theinternetlounge.com](http://www.theinternetlounge.com).

**MOLLY MAGUIRE'S IRISH PUB** 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.

**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 mic" forum of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for future dates.

For information, call 908-928-0127 or send e-mail to [info@secondsaturdays.org](mailto:info@secondsaturdays.org).

**VAN GOGH'S EAR**, 1017 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, will present a series of musical events. Tuesdays are "Acoustic Tuesday," some of which feature open mic from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer.

Sunday: The Peter Kikadakis Band  
For information, call 908-810-1844.

[www.localsource.com](http://www.localsource.com)

Internet Directory

Agape Family Worship Center.....	<a href="http://www.agapecenter.org">http://www.agapecenter.org</a>
American Savings Bank.....	<a href="http://www.americansavingsnj.com">http://www.americansavingsnj.com</a>
Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce.....	<a href="http://www.compunite.com/bcc">http://www.compunite.com/bcc</a>
Burgdorff ERA.....	<a href="http://www.burgdorff.com">http://www.burgdorff.com</a>
Crossroads Christian Fellowship.....	<a href="http://www.ccfcou.org">http://www.ccfcou.org</a>
Eye Care Center of NJ.....	<a href="http://www.eyecarenj.com">http://www.eyecarenj.com</a>
First Night of Maplewood/So. Orange.....	<a href="http://community.nj.com/cc/firstnight-soma">http://community.nj.com/cc/firstnight-soma</a>
Forest Hill Properties Apartments.....	<a href="http://www.springstreet.com/propid/389126">http://www.springstreet.com/propid/389126</a>
Grand Sanitation.....	<a href="http://www.grandsanitation.com">http://www.grandsanitation.com</a>
Holy Cross Church.....	<a href="http://www.holycrossnj.org">http://www.holycrossnj.org</a>
Hospital Center at Orange.....	<a href="http://www.cathedralhealthcare.org">http://www.cathedralhealthcare.org</a>
JRS Realty.....	<a href="http://www.century21jrs.com">http://www.century21jrs.com</a>
LaSalle Travel Service.....	<a href="http://www.lasalletravel.com">http://www.lasalletravel.com</a>
Mountainside Hospital.....	<a href="http://www.AtlanticHealth.org">http://www.AtlanticHealth.org</a>
Nutley Pet Center.....	<a href="http://www.nutleypet.com">http://www.nutleypet.com</a>
Pet Watchers.....	<a href="http://www.petwatchersnj.com">http://www.petwatchersnj.com</a>
Rets Institute.....	<a href="http://www.rets-institute.com">http://www.rets-institute.com</a>
SkinCare Products.....	<a href="http://www.marykay.com/chandrac">www.marykay.com/chandrac</a>
South Orange Chiropractic.....	<a href="http://www.sochiro.com">http://www.sochiro.com</a>
Summit Area Jaycees.....	<a href="http://www.angelfire.com/nj/summitjc">http://www.angelfire.com/nj/summitjc</a>
Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad.....	<a href="http://www.summitvms.org">http://www.summitvms.org</a>
Synergy Federal Savings Bank.....	<a href="http://www.synergyonthenet.com">http://www.synergyonthenet.com</a>
Trinitas Hospital.....	<a href="http://www.trinitashospital.com">http://www.trinitashospital.com</a>
Turning Point.....	<a href="http://www.turningpointnj.org">http://www.turningpointnj.org</a>
Union Center National Bank.....	<a href="http://www.ucnb.com">http://www.ucnb.com</a>
Unitarian Universalist Church.....	<a href="http://www.firstuu.essex.nj.uua.org">http://www.firstuu.essex.nj.uua.org</a>
United Way of Bloomfield.....	<a href="http://www.unitedwaybloomfield.org">http://www.unitedwaybloomfield.org</a>

To be listed call  
908-686-7700

FROM THE STAFF AT  
WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

Season's Greetings And Happy New Year

Walter Worrall

David Worrall

Raymond Worrall

Nancy Worrall

Peter Worrall

Lee Wollenberg

Terri Dassing

Barbara Henry

Betty Squillante

Anne Rysinski

Fran Petrien

Felicia Mason

Judy Gillen

Paula Squillante

Bev Schwarz

Nancy Coraggio

Kate Spencer

Dennis Pellicano

John D'Achino

Maryann Olivo

Linda Scricco

Virginia Sanchez

Steve Sutterlin

Butch Whitmore

Nick Borrelli

Clara Manning

Ruth Dombrosky

Cindy Klimchock

Wayne Klimchock

Selene Christian

Tom Yauch

Jim Wiggins

Ann Sutula

Bill Young

David Van Deventer

Helene Kamens

Sherry Marcus

Faye Mc Dowell

George Gannon

Bob Pisaeno

Laura Durning

Jenelle Roberts

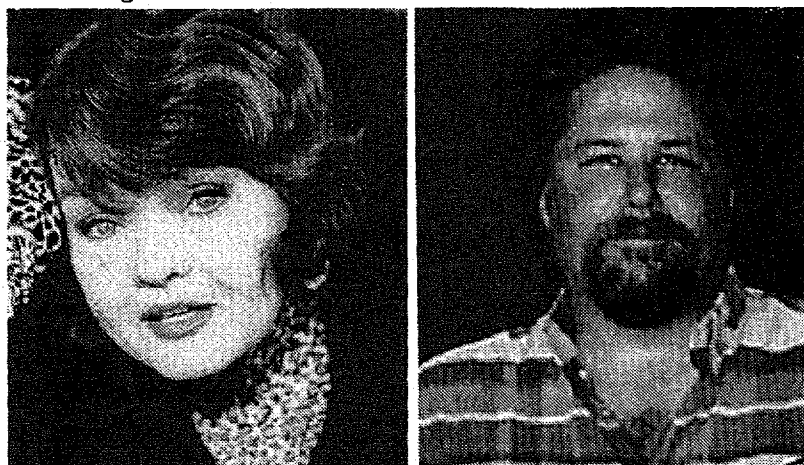
Karen Williamson

Al Carlone





Designated by Worrall Community Newspapers in October 2003 as 'Artists Making a Difference' were, above from left, Lawrence Cappiello, the Arts Guild of Rahway; Ahre Maros, Coffee With Conscience Concert Series; and below, Margareta Paslaru, Summit's TV36; and Mark Spina, the Theater Project at Union County College.



Author-playwright Bill Mesce Jr. of Linden, left, congratulates Manoah Finston of Springfield on winning the 2003 first prize in the Young Playwrights Competition sponsored by the Theater Project at Union County College in February.

#### Bill VanSant, Editor

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Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to 463 Valley Street, P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, NJ 07040



Gracing the steps of the von Trapp villa in an outstanding production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's 'The Sound of Music' at Paper Mill: The State Theater of New Jersey were, from top, Elizabeth Lundberg, Daniel Plimpton, Krista Pippi, Nicholas Jonas, Allison Brustofski, Tiffany Giardina, and Caroline London. At the center of the show was a mesmerizing performance by Amanda Watkins as Maria.

# New Years Greetings

## 2004

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# Award-winning satire receives New Jersey premiere at Paper Mill

Paper Mill Playhouse kicks off 2004 with the New Jersey premiere of Charles Busch's comedy "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife." Directed by Carl Andress, "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" opens Jan. 7 runs through Feb. 8.

The cast for Paper Mill's includes Daytime Emmy Award-winner Robin Strasser as Marjorie Taub, Lenny Wolpe is Dr. Ira Taub, Meg Foster as Lee Green, Ariel Shafir is Mohammed, and, from the original Broadway cast, Shirl Bernheim as Frieda. The production team of "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" includes set designer Michael Anania, costume designer Miguel Huidor, lighting designer F. Mitchell Dana, and sound designer Duncan Robert Edwards.

Tickets at \$30 to \$67 are on sale now. Student rush tickets are \$16 available day of performance with current I.D. Call the Paper Mill box office at 973-376-4343.

"The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" is the story of Marjorie Taub, an Upper West Side culture vulture who is in the throes of a mid-life crisis, when a glamorous childhood friend reappears for a mysterious visit and shakes and transforms her world. This deliciously devious social and sexual satire is filled with wicked fun and delightful surprises. Marjorie is a woman known to all, brought to hilarious life in a way not before seen.

"The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" began as a six-minute sketch about a disaffected housewife that Busch wrote and performed in his one-person show, "Flipping My Wig." Busch took the piece in a different direction after seeing the Broadway revival of Edward Albee's play "A Delicate Balance." According to a *New York Times* interview, Busch started thinking, "Wouldn't it be funny to take these Jewish characters and put them in a rather cryptic Albee or Pinter play?" Specifically, the murky relationship between two women and a man in Harold Pinter's "Old Times" provided a blueprint for "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife." "I didn't intend it to be a genre parody, just a mysterious storyline with very un-mysterious characters," says Busch. In March 2000,

Manhattan Theater Club produced "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife," starring Linda Lavin, Tony Roberts, Anil Kumar, Shirl Bernheim, and Michelle Lee. It was nominated for a Drama Desk for Best Play and won the Outer Circle Critics John Gassner Award and received a Tony nomination for Best Play. It reopened on Broadway in November 2001, and ran for 777 performances.

Playing Marjorie Taub, Robin Strasser received a 1982 Emmy Award for Outstanding Actress in a Daytime Drama for her work on "One Life to Live." Strasser has been one of the best-loved and most-hated performers in that genre for nearly 30 years. In addition to Dorian Lord on "One Life to Live," she created the role of Rachel Davis on "Another World" and played Christina Karras on "All My Children." A native New Yorker, Strasser graduated from the High School of Performing Arts and attended the Yale School of Drama. Her Broadway theater credits include the Pulitzer Prize-winning "The Shadow Box" and "Chapter Two." Strasser was a founding member of the American Conservatory Theater, and has worked at the Williamstown Theater Festival and the Mark Taper Forum.

Lenny Wolpe returns to Paper Mill to star as Dr. Ira Taub. Paper Mill audiences will remember Wolpe for his performance as Herbie opposite Betty Buckley in the revival of "Gypsy." Wolpe's recent theater credits include the Broadway revival of "The Sound of Music" and Goodspeed's "The Baker's Wife." He is a favorite performer at Pittsburgh CLO, Sacramento Music Theater and the L.A. Reprise series. Wolpe created the role of Ed Koch in the off-Broadway musical "Mayor." Television audiences have seen him on "Six Feet Under," "Ally McBeal," "King of Queens," "ER," and "Strong Medicine."

As Lee Green, Meg Foster returns

to Paper Mill where she starred in Neil Simon's "The Dinner Party" as Gabrielle Buonocelli. Foster has appeared in more than 50 movies for the silver screen and television. She was the original Cagney in the television series "Cagney and Lacey." She has made more than 30 guest appearances on TV series and sitcoms ranging from "Bonanza" to "The Cosby Show" and from "The Twilight Zone" to "ER."

Reprising her Broadway role of Frieda is Shirl Bernheim, who last appeared at Paper Mill in the 1976 production of "Grease" as Miss Lynch. Her other theatrical credits include "Old Lady's Guide to Survival," "Over the River and Through the Woods," "Steel Magnolias," "Social Security," and "The Man Who Came to Dinner." Bernheim has been seen on screen in "I'm Not Rappaport," "Broadway Damage," "Guiding Light," "Law & Order," and "The Sopranos."

Making his Paper Mill directorial debut is Carl Andress, who most recently directed Charles Busch's award-winning "Shanghai Moon" at New York's famed Drama Dept., co-starring Busch and B.D. Wong, as well as its workshop incarnation at Theater for the New City. He made his off-Broadway debut directing and co-starred in Charles Busch's "Queen Amarantha" at the WPA Theater. Other directing credits include a revival of Neal Bell's "Two Small Bodies" at the John Houseman Theater; John Kuntz's solo show, "Star@%ers," at the Ohio Theater; "The Hermitage of an Exiled Smoker" for the New York Fringe Festival 2003; as well as the annual "Times Square Angel" among many others, for the "Matinees Classiques" performance series.

"The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" is playwright Charles Busch's first script to play on Broadway, although he has long held a cult following as an

actor and female impersonator in New York's off-Broadway and off-off-Broadway theater scene. Busch is currently represented on Broadway as the author of the Boy George musical "Taboo." Busch is the author and star of such plays as "The Lady in Question," "Red Scare on Sunset" and "Vampire Lesbians of Sodom," which ran five years and is one of the longest-running plays in off-Broadway history. He wrote the screenplay and starred in the film version of his play, "Psycho Beach Party." He recently starred in the film version of his play, "Die! Mommie! Die!" for which he won a 2003 Sundance Film Festival award for Best Performance. Last winter Busch starred in a new production of his play "Shanghai Moon" for which he was nominated for a Lucille Lortel Award and a

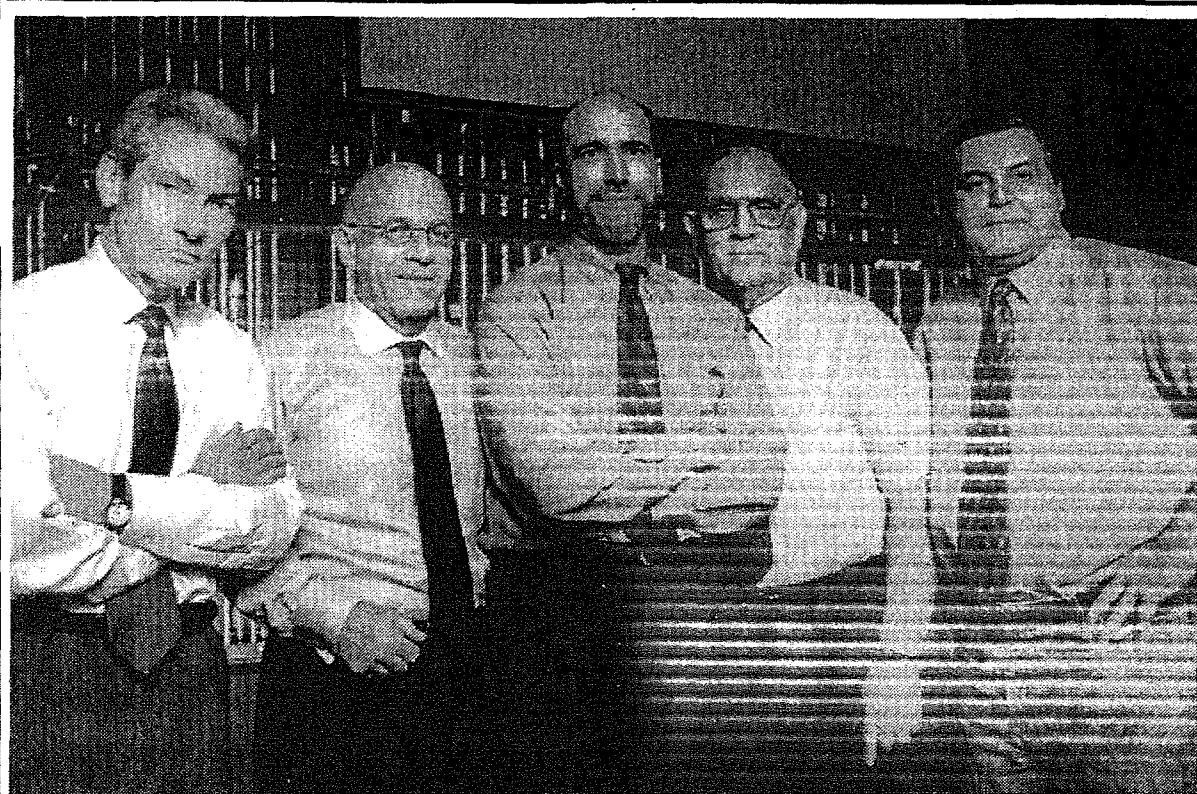
Drama League Award. He was also given a special award for career achievement at the 2003 Drama Desk Awards. He has appeared for two seasons as Nat Ginzburg in the HBO series "Oz." Busch graduated from Northwestern University and is a member of the Dramatist's Guild.

The performance schedule for "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" is as follows: Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and Saturday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 to \$67 and may be purchased by calling 973-376-4343, at the Paper Mill box office on Brookside Drive in Millburn, or online at [www.papermill.org](http://www.papermill.org). Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express accepted.

About the theater

Paper Mill Playhouse, located on Brookside Drive in Millburn, is barrier-free and completely accessible to people with disabilities; the TTY box office number is 973/376-2181 for patrons who are hearing impaired. For each production, Paper Mill offers audio-described performances for the visually impaired, as well as sign-interpreted and open captioned performances for the hearing impaired. Braille and large-print programs, as well as infrared listening systems are also available for selected performances. For information on group sales for groups of 20 or more, call 973-379-3636, ext. 2438.

Children younger than the age of 4 are not permitted into main stage shows. "The Tale of the Allergist's Wife" contains adult language and situations.



Taking a stand in 2003 against Gov. James E. McGreevey's much-maligned cuts in arts funding were the heads of the state's leading arts organizations. Joining in the fight were, from left, Angelo DelRossi, then-president and executive producer of Paper Mill: The State Theater of New Jersey; Lawrence Goldman, CEO of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; Lawrence Tamburri, then-president of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra; Lee Blasi, president of American Federation of Musicians, Local No. 16; and Bill Lynch, business agent for International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

## CAREER & EDUCATION

### Nicole's Yoga Center greets the new year with lineup of classes

#### Open houses begin next Monday

The newly renovated 2,500-square-foot studio of Nicole's Yoga Center, located at 94 North Ave. in Garwood, will start the Early Spring Session the week of Jan. 12.

An open house is scheduled for Monday from 1 to 5 p.m., Jan. 8 from 1 to 5 p.m., Jan. 10 from 1 to 4 p.m., and Jan. 12 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Free yoga introductory classes are offered on Saturday at 12:10 p.m., and Jan. 7 at 8:30 p.m. New students that would like to start the program before Jan. 12 can visit the free evaluation and introduction classes on Mondays at 10:50 a.m. or 8:20 p.m. or Thursdays at 5:20 p.m. Visitors to these classes should call or send an e-mail to schedule an appointment.

Nicole Mode founded Nicole's Yoga Center in 1988, and is dedicated to maintaining the purity of the art of yoga; the studio teaches yoga exclusively. The center is open year round and offers 24 yoga classes per week, with daily morning, afternoon and evening programs designed for every level of ability, physical condition, age, etc. Mode's yoga is more than just a form of exercise; it is an holistic experience that benefits the body, mind and spirit. The center offers five different levels of classes where four types of yoga are practiced: Hatha yoga, the objective of which is to transform the human body to make it a worthy vehicle for self-realization; Asthanga yoga consists of different practices — breath control, posture, concentration, meditation, moral observance, and self-discipline; Kriya yoga is the union between the male and female cre-

***Stress symptoms are reduced and the nervous system is refreshed and enlivened. Meditation is the process of removing attention from conditions and circumstances.***

ative principles; Kundalini yoga is the final realization of the self.

Mode's method of studying yoga is orderly and progressive: step by step instructions, proper posture performance, breathing, meditation, and visualization techniques are used during each class. The center offers classes for back activities, breathing, weight reduction, Yoga for Children, Yoga for Seniors, and teacher-training programs.

The Restorative Yoga class consists of exercises done on the floor or chair for people with disabilities. A series of movements are performed with great attention and without pain. This class will utilize Asanas — posture — to develop balance, limberness, and strength. Benefits are proper alignment, increasing circulation and flexibility, and a reduction of stiffness in the hand, wrist, knee and ankle joints. Special props are utilized to stabilize the spine and open the body to meet the outlines of Asanas. That class is recommended for people with limited possibilities and stiffness in joints, post-surgery and cancer patients, and pregnant women.

The Yoga Back class is experienced in a sitting or lying down position. This class is well suited to people with respiratory problems, asthma, back problems, cardio-vascular difficulties, etc. The student will learn to use core techniques while breathing awareness is recognized within each posture. Benefits include restoring balance, hip-joint opening, expansion of the thoracic cage, strengthening stomach and back muscles, reducing cardio-vascular stress and normalizing muscle tone.

The Yoga for Children class, for 6- to 10-year-olds, is designed to be adapted to any level of ability of the children. They will practice basic posture, breathing technique, and philosophy that explores subjects such as taking care of their bodies, developing their attention spans, and recognizing their uniqueness. Yoga is a gentle, non-competitive form of exercise that promotes flexibility, strength and coordination.

All of Mode's yoga classes end with meditation and visualization. The secret of a successful meditative experience is to relax and to allow constructive adjustments of mental states. Stress symptoms are reduced and the nervous system is refreshed and enlivened. Meditation is the process of removing attention from conditions and circumstances. Mode is the choreographer of all classes. She creates each meditation and visualization, which is always offered at the end of each class.

For information, call 908-789-6426 or visit the Web site at [www.nicolesyogacenter.com](http://www.nicolesyogacenter.com).

### INSTANT DECISION DAYS

JANUARY 5-9 & 12-16

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO APPLY FOR SPRING!

**Bring** high school transcripts (or G.E.D.) and all college transcripts.

**We'll evaluate your transcripts, make a decision, and offer you admission—all in one day!** Plus we'll waive the \$30 application fee.

**Interested in applying for Financial Aid?** Bring a copy of your 2002 tax return to receive a financial aid estimate.

**No appointment necessary.** At 262 South Main St. in Lodi, NJ, our hours are 9am to 7pm Mon.—Thurs. and 9am to 4:30pm on Friday.

Open to all new and transfer students, full-time & part-time undergraduates. Admission is based on eligibility.

## FELICIAN COLLEGE

LODI AND RUTHERFORD, NJ CAMPUSES • [WWW.FELICIAN.EDU](http://WWW.FELICIAN.EDU) • (201) 559-6131

### Time doesn't stand still. Why should you?

Classes beginning in January will be offered on Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings

INFORMATION SESSION  
WED. JANUARY 7  
AT 6:30 PM  
CALL  
201-559-6055

**Would you give up one night a week to complete your bachelor's degree in 18 months?**

Attend class one night or one Saturday a week, one five-week course at a time.

Benefit from a distributed learning program that combines traditional classroom instruction with online learning.

Earn credit for professional or life experiences.

Info Session to be held in Blessed Mary Angela Hall on the Rutherford Campus

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60 PRIOR COLLEGE CREDITS OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE REQUIRED TO ENROLL



# Community Classified

**Call 1(800)  
564-8911**

## SALES HOURS

Monday through Friday  
9:00 AM - 5 PM  
After Hours Call  
973-672-4100  
Selection # 8100

## ADDRESS

Classified Advertising  
Worrall Newspapers  
P.O. Box 158  
Maplewood, NJ 07040

Phone: 800-564-8911

Fax: 973-763-2557

Offices where ads can be placed in person:  
**UNION COUNTY**  
1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union

**ESSEX COUNTY**  
463 Valley Street, Maplewood  
170 Scotland Road, Orange  
266 Liberty Street, Bloomfield

## NEWSPAPERS

**UNION COUNTY**  
Union Leader • Echo Leader  
The Eagle (Cranford/Clark) • The Leader  
Spectator Leader • Gazette Leader  
Rahway Progress • Summit Observer

**ESSEX COUNTY**  
News-Record of Maplewood & South Orange  
West Orange Chronicle • East Orange Record  
Orange Transcript • The Glen Ridge Paper  
Nutley Journal • Belleville Post  
Irvington Herald • Vailsburg Leader  
The Independent Press of Bloomfield

## RATES

**CLASSIFIED RATES**  
20 words or less.....\$20.00 per insertion  
Additional 10 words.....\$6.00 per insertion  
Display Rates.....\$25.50 per column inch  
Contract Rates Available  
Blind Box Number.....\$20.00 per insertion

## BEST BUY

**CLASSIFIED COMBINATION RATES**  
Ad appears in all 18 newspapers  
20 words or less.....\$30.00 per insertion  
Additional 10 words.....\$10.00 per insertion  
Display Rates.....\$47.50 per column inch  
Contract Rates Available

## DEADLINES

In-column 3 PM Tuesday  
Display - Space reservation 5 PM Friday  
Ad Copy 12 noon Monday  
Business Directory 4 PM Thursday

## ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments: We make every effort to avoid mistakes in your classified advertisement. Please check your ad the first day it runs! We cannot be responsible beyond the first insertion. Should an error occur please notify the classified department. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc., shall not be liable for errors or omissions in cost of actual space occupied by item in which error or omissions occurred. We can not be held liable for failure, for any cause, to insert an ad. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc. reserves the right to reject, revise or reclassify any advertisement at any time.

## CHARGE IT

All classified ads require prepayment. Please have your card and expiration date.



**SEARCH YOUR LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS ON THE INTERNET**  
[www.localsource.com](http://www.localsource.com)

E-Mail your ad to us at  
[ads@localsource.com](mailto:ads@localsource.com)

OR Fax: your ad to us at  
(973) 763-2557

## CLASSIFIED SPECIALS

### GARAGE SALES

30 words \$31.00 or \$45.00 combo  
Garage Sale signs, price stickers, balloons,  
helpful hints, inventory sheet and Rain  
Insurance.

### ECONOMY CLASS

20 words \$8.00 or \$12.00 combo items for  
sale under \$200.00 One item per ad price  
must appear.

### AUTOS FOR SALE

20 words - 10 weeks \$39.00 or \$59.00  
combo no copy changes

## EMPLOYMENT

### HELP WANTED

\$1,480 WEEKLY POSSIBLE!! Starting Next Week!! No experience necessary. Mailing our brochures from home Full Time/ Part Time. Easy! Free info. Genuine opportunity. Call now 1-800-821-5769 24hrs

\$250 to \$500 a week. Will train to work at home helping the U.S. Government file HUD/FHA mortgage refunds. No experience necessary. Call Toll Free 1-866-537-2906.

CLERICAL, UNION graphic design company from 9am-3pm, Monday thru Friday. Computer experience required. Non-smoker. 908-964-5533.

DATA ENTRY, Clark based company looking for conscientious, dependable people for entry level positions. Will train but must have basic computer skills. Fax resumes 732-882-1220 or e-mail [Polphn@largedoc.com](mailto:Polphn@largedoc.com).

DATA ENTRY Could Earn \$15/ Hour and up! Medical Billing Training Provided. PC Required! Call 7 Days 1-800-935-1311 extension 308

DRIVERS - OTR Drivers. \$1,100 Average Weekly! 100% Conventional Fleet. Comprehensive Benefit Package. Passenger Program. Some Regional Opportunities Available. For more information call Smith Transport, Inc. at 1-888-467-6484.

DRIVERS COVENANT Transport. Teams and Solos check out our new pay plan. Ask about our Regional Dedicated Runs. Owner Operators. Experienced. Drivers, Solos, Teams, and Graduate Students. Call 1-888-More-Pay. 1-888-667-3729

DRIVERS. CFI New Pay Plan. 3-6 months experience. \$.28/ cpm; 6-12 months experience. \$.30/cpm; 1 year + experience. \$.32 cpm. Also new lease purchase plan with \$0 down !! 1-800-cfdive, [www.cfdive.com](http://www.cfdive.com)

DRIVERS -1 YEAR OTR Required; up to .38cpm Rider Program; 99% no touch freight; 10-14 days out; plus no NYC! J&R Schugel 800-871-1822.

EARN \$1,000- \$3,500 WEEKLY!! Taking Simple Surveys Online! \$75.00 Per Survey! Free Registration! Guaranteed Paychecks! Free Government Grants! \$10,000-\$250,000 Never Repay! Everyone Qualifies! Incredible Opportunities!! [www.FastCashAtHome.com](http://www.FastCashAtHome.com).

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY, must have experience with A/P, Word Processing, Flexible hours. Fax resume 973-564-9725.

**\*\*GOVERNMENT AND Postal Jobs\*\*** Public Announcement. Now hiring up to \$47,578. Full/ Part positions. Benefits and training for application and information 800-573-8555 Dept.P369. 8am-11pm/ 7 days. E & E Services.

HAIR STYLIST, experienced/ license to work in Linden/Roselle area. For great opportunity call 908-482-6498.

LIVE-IN/ live out. nanny for 4 and 3 year old in West Orange. Driver preferred, \$250 weekly. 973-736-9693 leave message.

MANAGEMENT/ OFFICE. Busy local company looking to fill the following positions: Office Manager/ Assistant, Customer Service, Order Packers, Part/ Full Time. Fax or mail resume and include position of interest and desired salary range: BMA Inc., 941 Brighton Street, Union, NJ, 07083. Fax: 908-686-3470.

MEDICAL BILLER/ Collector, Full Time. Minimum 2-3 years experience required Medical Receptionist, Previous experience in fast paced medical practice necessary. Fax resume: 908-964-7646

POSTAL JOBS \*\*Announcement/ Public USPS2475\*\* Up to \$29.16 Hour, Application/ Information. Free Call. Now hiring 2003 Federal hire- Full Benefits, 1-800-892-5144 extension 97 ntafillwusps

SALES:MOBILITY SCOOTER Specialist. Seeking proven Sales Managers capable of earning potential, \$1000 per week plus monthly overrides for Managers who can train. Join the king of the Lead business. Call Phillip Dennison or Brian Chait. 1-877-828-3731. Craftman Mobility Scooters.

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## HELP WANTED

SALES OVER 500 Weekly Goal Potential! If someone did it...so can you! 2-3 confirmed appointments daily. Benefits available. Call Catherine McFarland. 888-566-9144.

### SECRETARY/SERVICE DEPT.

Excellent full time opportunity Monday thru Friday for a reliable, confident self-starter to learn and assist in all phases of our service business. Phones, computers, filing, typing. Excellent benefits including health, dental and 401k. Salary negotiable. Off street parking. Non-smoking office in Union. Please fax resume to Mr. Frank 908-964-5008.

SHOP! SHOP! SHOP! Pose as customers and get paid. Secret shoppers needed for local stores, restaurants and theaters. Flexible hours. e-mail required. 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6069.

### EMPLOYMENT WANTED

GENTLE RESPONSIBLE woman seeks night time watch/care position with elderly or children. 10:00pm-7:00am. Excellent references. Jean. 973-985-1173, 973-672-5911.

NEED A HUSBAND? Lee does everything hubble promised, but never got around to it. Home maintenance/ Repairs. 973-760-4799 or 973-763-6093

### CHILD CARE

### EUROPA DOMESTICS

Housekeepers, Nannies, Elder Care From Around The World Competent, Intelligent & Thoroughly Screened  
10 Overhill Road, Oakhurst, NJ  
(732)493-0339

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUY NEW JERSEY for \$379! The New Jersey Press Association can place your 25-word classified ad in over 150 NJ newspapers throughout the state - a combined circulation of over 2 million households. Call Diane Trent at NJPA at 609-406-0600 extension 24, or e-mail [drent@njpa.org](mailto:drent@njpa.org) or visit [www.njpa.org](http://www.njpa.org) for more information (Nationwide placement available).

REACH OVER 1.5 million households! The New Jersey Press Association can place your 2x2 Display Ad in over 130 NJ weekly newspapers for ONLY \$995. Call Diane Trent at NJPA at 609-406-0600 extension 24 or e-mail [drent@njpa.org](mailto:drent@njpa.org) for more information. (Nationwide placement available).

### PERSONALS

ADOPTION: LOVING, Active, happily married couple eager to start a family. Wonderful home with big yard in quiet neighborhood. We will be great parents. Call us 1-877-591-7265 or our attorney 1-800-801-1313 for more information.

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING adoption? We can help! We specialize in matching families with birth mothers nationwide. Toll Free 24 hours a day 866-921-0565. One True Gift Adoptions.

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Quick And Convenient!

## INSTRUCTION

### INSTRUCTION

EXPERIENCED REMEDIAL Tutor: Reading Skills (Phonics); Help with Homework: Reading Comprehension; Writing Papers: Elementary Math; SAT/ GEPA. GRADES 3-12. For Brochure, References 973-763-3059.

LEARN TO Ice Climb! Introductory Ice Climbing Seminars at Smuggler's Notch, Vt. February 8-10 Or 12-14 2004. (Private dates also available) No experience necessary. [www.GoTack.com](http://www.GoTack.com) Click on "Ice Climb Vermont."

## MISCELLANEOUS

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BEDROOM SET-7 piece. Sleigh bed, dresser/mirror, chest, night stand. Brand new. Suggested \$3000 sell \$975. 732-259-6690.

BEDROOM SET- 5 piece. New in box. List \$1299 sacrifice \$565. 732-259-6690.

DINING ROOM - Cherry set with 1 piece hutch, table/ chairs, new in boxes list \$2200, sell \$825. Can deliver. 732-259-6690.

FREE 4-ROOM DIRECTV System Including Installation! FREE 3- Months HBO (7 movie channels) with subscription. Access 225+ TV channels. Digital quality picture/ sound. Limited offer. Restrictions Apply 1-800-963-2904.

FREE CELLPHONES FREE Pagers. Free Unlimited calling from home phone to anywhere in US, Canada, or Puerto Rico! Free! Free! Free! Call Now 1-800-561-0174

MATTRESS SET. New Queen double pillow top in bags, with warranty \$165. Can deliver. 732-259-6690.

MATTRESS-FULL size set. Ortho/plush, new in bags. \$110. Call 732-259-6690

SPA/ HOT TUB. 7' Spa, with lounge, 30 jets, redwood cabinet. Many upgrades. Still in crate with warranty. Cost \$7000, sell \$3595/ best offer. 973-292-1118.

TARGET 10 MILLION Homes With Your Ad Advertise your product or service, approximately 10 million households in North America's best suburbs by placing your classified ad in nearly 800 suburban newspapers just like this one. Only \$995 (USD) for a 25-word ad. One phone call, one invoice, one payment. Ad copy is subject to publisher approval. Call the Suburban Classified Advertising Network at 888-486-2466.

### WANTED TO BUY

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

**ANTIQUE & OLDER FURNITURE,**  
Dining Rooms • Bedrooms,  
Breakfronts • Secretaries, Etc.  
Call Bill  
973-586-4804

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QUALITY AIR Conditioning & Heating, Inc. Gas, steam, hot water and hot air heat. Humidifiers, circulators, zone valves, air cleaners. Call 973-467-0553, Springfield, NJ

## CARPENTRY

\* CROWN/ TRIM MOLDINGS  
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\* REPLACEMENT WINDOWS / DOORS  
\* CERAMIC / PORCELAIN TILES  
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908-686-6455

**JOE DOMAN** 908-686-3824 DECKS Alterations/Repairs, Kitchens, Attics, Bathrooms, Basements Remodeled No Job Too Small or Too Large.

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### COMPUTER SERVICES

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? We provide installation, networking and general troubleshooting. Get corporate-level help at small office rates. Steven 973-275-9802. [www.brierassociates.com](http://www.brierassociates.com).

### CONTRACTOR

MELO CONTRACTORS, Inc. "There is no substitute for experience". Additions, Renovations, Dormers, Kitchens, Painting, Wine Cellars, Decks, Baths. Over 38 years top quality work at affordable prices. 908-245-5280. [www.melocontractors.com](http://www.melocontractors.com)

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Asphalt Driveways • Extensions  
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Retaining Walls • Versa-Lok  
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Driveways • Parking Lots  
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"If it's Electric, We Do it!"  
Interior and Exterior, Lightning, Repairs,  
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Residential, Commercial, Industrial  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Call Tom  
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Professional Service Owner Operator  
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**A free press  
is the strength behind democracy.**

At Worrall community Newspapers, reporters learn what it takes to become good reporters. Why? Because reporting for one or more of our weekly newspapers means becoming involved in the communities we serve. From news stories to features, from council coverage to police blotters, from community events to the Board of Education, reporters are the eyes and ears of all of our readers.

Worrall Newspapers, which publishes 18 newspapers serving 26 towns, has openings for reporters in its Essex and Union County regions. If you think you have what it takes to be a reporter, send resume and clips to tom Canavan, P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083, or fax to (908) 686-4169.

Be part of a company whose mission is to preserve democracy.  
Worrall Newspapers is an equal opportunity employer.



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Attics, Basements, Garages, yards, Fall  
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**CARLSON BROTHERS ROOFING**  
CAPE COD \$2500  
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Price includes: Removal of old shingles,  
Dumpster, Cleanup complete, Install ice  
shield, felt paper, 25 year GAF shingles.

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**SERVICES OFFERED**

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**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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**ALL CASH Candy Route.** Do you earn up to \$800/ day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 Machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND.

**OWN 5-10 ATM Machines.** in prime high traffic locations. Continuous residual income. \$10K minimum investment required. 800-388-1785.

**VENDING ROUTE!** Coke/Lays/Mars/Water. Professional income and equipment. Financing available with \$7,950 down. Call 877-843-8726 no hype.

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See PUZZLE on Page B4

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OR LON NARD EERO  
HOLIDAY PLANS DID  
ONE IRATE EPODE  
AGA ONO  
NOT COME TOGETHER  
ASHES THURS EGO  
ITES SUITE PLED  
LER CEDED AROSE  
SOME ONE FOR GOT TO  
ANT AIM  
AWARD LEAST SPA  
FACTOR IN WEATHER  
ACTH OM OO TAIN T  
ROSY DOLL EMPTY

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

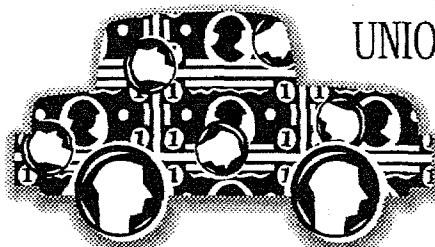
Let Us Help You  
With Our

**AUTO SPECIAL**

20 words - 10 WEEKS of Exposure for \$39.00 in UNION COUNTY

or 10 WEEKS of Exposure for \$59.00 in

UNION and ESSEX COUNTY

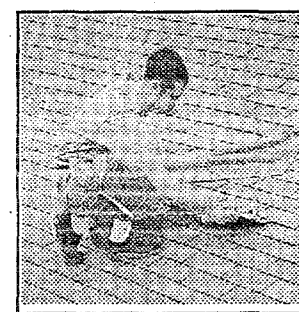
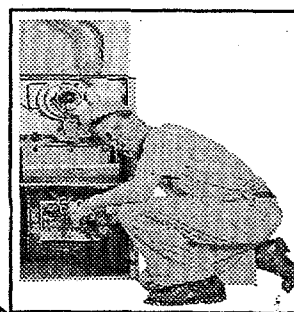


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Union And Essex Counties

For More Information Call  
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1-800-564-8911



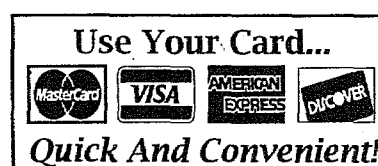
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BABY HIGH CHAIR IN  
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**CLASSIFIED**

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WHAT'S GOING ON**

**ASK ABOUT  
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1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....

8.....9.....10.....11.....12.....13.....14.....

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# REAL ESTATE

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"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." "We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

### APARTMENT TO RENT

BELLEVILLE/BLOOMFIELD, 2-1/2, 3 room apartments. New kitchens and baths. Utilities included. \$800 & Up. Convenient to NYC buses, trains. No pets. No fee. Susan, 973-429-8444

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BELLEVILLE, STUDIO, and 1 bedroom in quiet, old world building, free heat and hot water, 24 hour management, security building, laundry - Pre Winter Move In Special. 973-759-8537.

BLOOMFIELD, STUDIO, private entrance, new eat-in kitchen with separate sleeping area, \$750. Call 973-537-1106.

MILLBURN, STUDIOS: \$875-\$925. Available immediately. Includes heat/ hot water/ gas/ parking, laundry facilities. No pets. 973-564-6556 after 6pm.

**NEWARK-NEAR HILLSIDE STUDIO 1 AND 2 BEDROOMS**  
Very Spacious, Nice Quiet Building & Neighborhood. Near Transportation Superior Service Program  
**ON SITE SECURITY**  
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Call Ms. D. for appointment  
973-705-8488

SPRINGFIELD, MODERN 1 bedroom. One bedroom with den. 2 Bedrooms includes appliance package, central air & heat. 973-467-7877.

### UNION

-5 Large rooms  
Modern Kitchen, carpet,  
Convenient West Chestnut area.  
\$1,300/month + utilities.  
CHESTNUT REALTY  
908-296-0263

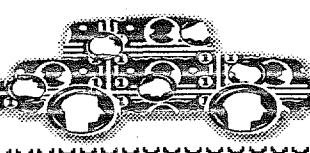
## ADVERTISE

Let Us Help You  
With Our

**AUTO SPECIAL**

20 words - 10 WEEKS  
of Exposure for \$39.00 in  
UNION COUNTY or 10  
WEEKS of Exposure for  
\$59.00 in UNION and  
ESSEX COUNTY

For More Information  
Please Call The Classified  
Department 1-800-564-8911



## HOUSE TO RENT

NO RENT! \$0 DOWN HOMES Government and Bank Foreclosures! No credit OK. O to low down! For listings 800-501-1777 extension 193. Fee.

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WEST ORANGE. Main Street location, 800 square feet, 2 offices and reception area. Share utilities. Parking. Available January 2004. 973-746-4825

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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Demyen of Westfield is tops for October

Elaine Demyen, a consistent top achiever in the Burgdorff ERA, has been named Sales Agent of the Month for October. As a sales agent, Demyen has sold seven units with a dollar volume of more than \$2.4 million.

Demyen has received many distinguished awards. She has earned the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence Sales Award silver level for 1998-2002, and the bronze level in 1989, and 1992-97 and has also been honored with the NJAR Distinguished Sales Award for 2000.

She has been a real estate professional for 16 years, specializing in Cranford, Westfield, Scotch Plains and the surrounding areas. Elaine was also named for the Burgdorff President's Elite for 2003.

George Kraus, vice president/manager of the Westfield office, said, "Elaine is a wonderful professional in our office. Her outstanding efforts in service to her clients' needs are what distinguish her as a top agent in our industry. Elaine has a vast knowledge of Union County and has a comprehensive understanding of the area."

Demyen contributes to the community through her work and commitment. You may contact Demyen at her direct line, 908-233-6326, or send an e-mail to her at Elaine-Demyen@burgdorff.com.

The Burgdorff ERA Branch office is a full-service real estate center located at 600 North Ave. West, Westfield. For real estate assistance, or to inquire about a career in real estate, call the office at 908-233-0065. You

can find the company on the Web at www.burgdorff.com where you can find more about the Westfield office and the market area served, individual Web pages for each sales associate, electronic listings and directions to the Burgdorff ERA office.

Founded in 1958, Burgdorff ERA is the nation's top-producing ERA real-estate firm in sales dollar volume. The company consists of 700 sales associates and 17 offices. The international ERA real estate network includes more than 2,500 independently owned and operated brokerage offices with more than 28,000 brokers and sales associates in all 50 of the United States and 28 other countries.

NRT Incorporated, the nation's leading residential real estate brokerage company, is a subsidiary of Centand Corporation.

### Henderson now a member of Miracle Network Home

Linda Henderson, a sales associate at RE/MAX Properties Unlimited in Summit, has joined the national RE/MAX Children's Miracle Network Home Program. Under this program, Henderson will donate a specified amount of money to the Children's Miracle Network per sales transaction.

Henderson will display a colorful "Miracle Home" rider on top of her RE/MAX yard signs. This signifies to the home buyer and seller that their transaction helped make a positive change in the lives of local children.

"The Miracle Home Program is a great opportunity to give back to the community," said Henderson. "It's a wonderful feeling knowing that with

every house I sell, I am making a difference in a child's life."

To contact Linda Henderson, call RE/MAX Properties Unlimited in Summit at 908-522-9444.

RE/MAX is the exclusive real estate sponsor for CMN, a national non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for children's hospitals. This year, RE/MAX associates made a record contribution of \$7 million to CMN. Locally, funds raised by RE/MAX Properties Unlimited benefit Children's Specialized Hospital - an affiliate of the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital with locations in Mountaintide, Fanwood, Toms River, Newark, Union and Elizabeth, and Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University in New Brunswick.

The hospitals associated with CMN treat children with all types of afflictions such as cancer, heart and muscular diseases, birth defects, AIDS and accident victims. They pride themselves on treating the whole child, rendering service based on

need, not the ability to pay.

### Sample wins honors as Top Producer of the Year

Prudential New Jersey Properties sales associate Dianne E. Sample has been honored as the Summit office's Top Producer of the Year.

"Dianne has set a high standard of excellence and we are all very proud of her achievements," said Karen Hedges, manager of Prudential New Jersey Properties' Summit office.

A New Jersey Association of Realtors' (NJAR) Circle of Excellence Gold and Silver member since 1987, Sample achieved the Gold Level award again in 2002. She is also a lifetime member of the NJAR Distinguished Sales Club. This top award-winner is also a member of the Gold level of the elite Chairman's Circle for 2002, listing her among the top 2 percent of Prudential agents nationwide.

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Let's Ask Jill

by Jill Guzman

### Look for the R and the MLS

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The "MLS" signifies Multiple Listing Services and assures you as a home owner that your home will be offered to all Real Estate professionals in the MLS ensuring top activity and then many more offers which lead to a better price!

Caveat Emptor - let the consumer beware! Make certain when listing your home that the Brokerage will offer you the type of activity you deserve by placing your home on the MLS. Many discount brokers do not offer that opportunity for your home, they promise to save you money in the long run, cause you to sell your home under its value, there by costing you a substantial amount! We at Jill Guzman Realty, Inc. now proudly celebrating our 15th year of success, pride ourselves on the "R" that stands next to

our name and the Garden State MLS in which we place our homes as per owners request. We take pride in ourselves for having received the honor of being the #1 in Elizabeth in value brought to homeowners.

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## Dodge Tomahawk is a bike from the future

By Laura Byrd  
Copley News Service

There it sat like a computer-generated caricature out of a James Bond movie. A gleaming brushed aluminum motorcycle crouched in an angular, menacing package that only a designer with audacity would dare create.

It was stunning and bizarre at the same time.

The Dodge Tomahawk concept motorcycle is a Viper V-10 engine with just enough bike wrapped around it to qualify as a motor vehicle.

"I've been everywhere around the world with this bike," says Bud Bennett, owner of Restoration Motorsports in Wixom, Mich., the fabricator of the Dodge Tomahawk concept motorcycle. "And its appeal spans all generations and every country."

It's an appeal that includes automotive journalists so bent on midlife crisis they become Harley-Davidson owners and avid riders, as I have.

Apparently, gear heads and people in crisis recognize each other, so Bud offered me the chance to fire up the Tomahawk and climb aboard.

A Harley never sounded like this: Squeezing the clutch was a grit-your-teeth effort, and praying that I was in neutral took my breath away.

That is until the V-10 thundered to life, and I couldn't stop the grin that spread from ear to ear.

Wow! A rev of the throttle, and the Tomahawk is like a missile ready to launch. It scurried with torque, and I decided to pass for now on the chance to set the rocket in motion.

It's wonderful, but it's over the top. Completely and totally, over the top.

"It's the weirdest thing we've ever built, and we've done all sorts of outrageous things," Bennett says.

Outrageous is a fitting word, considering the Tomahawk has only two gears, an excessive four wheels and brake calipers the size of dinner plates. And despite its considerable size and weight, there's no kick stand.

The rear wheel has two independent drives on swing arms that are

locked together by a hydraulic cylinder at the push of a button. This creates a stability between the two rear wheels that holds the bike in place.

The exhaust, head and taillights are arranged vertically between the two front and rear wheels.

It is air-cooled with the help of two 18-inch radiators on either side of the body. They force air from the front end to the back, preventing the aluminum frame from heating up. The fuel cap is in the front fender, and the turn signals at the tips of the grips.

Technically, the Tomahawk is a car. Motorcycles have two wheels, not four, and that's something the designer will change should the bike actually go into production.

"We would reduce the front wheel from two down to one," says Chrysler's Mark Walters, the designer who envisioned the Tomahawk. "To build it as a motorcycle, it would have to have no more than three wheels."

But considering the presence of the Tomahawk, that isn't likely to affect demand.

"We'd only make 55 of them, with a price of about \$250,000 each," he says.

Really? Like there are 55 buyers who would take this real-life incarnation of a Mad Max machine out on the street, and pay a quarter of a million dollars to do it?

"We have 15 people lined up now," Bennett says, "including a Harley-Davidson dealer who just wants one to sit in his showroom. You'd be surprised. I've had people offer to send me cash now."

### 2003 Dodge Tomahawk Concept Motorcycle

Frame: Milled aluminum, four wheels  
Drive system: Twin forklift chains  
Engine size and type: Dodge Viper V-10  
Horsepower: 500 at 5,600 rpm  
Torque: 525 foot-pounds at 4,200 rpm  
Transmission: Two-speed  
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