CLARK, N.J., VOL. 14 NO. 22

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004

myclark.com

TWO SECTION

# Four plan to run for seats on school board

By David Learn and Mark Hrywna

Voters should have their pick of at least four candidates for the Board of Education when they head to the polls April 20.

At presstime Tuesday, three newcomers had entered the race by completing the appropriate paperwork at the school board's administrative offices at Arthur L. Johnson High School. Incumbent Bruce Best said he plans to file soon.

The new arrivals are Carmen Brocato, a real estate appraiser and Westfield police sergeant from Sycamore Road; Sheri Sandler of Cromwell Court and Thomas Lewis of Mountain View Road.

Lewis could not be reached for comment by presstime Tuesday.

Best, an Adams Street resident now finishing his third year on the school board, will be up for re-election in April. He said he intends to file the requisite paperwork for his candidacy either this week or Monday.

The deadline for candidates to file is at 4

p.m. Monday. Terms also are expiring for school board Vice President Sheila Whiting, who remains noncommittal, and board member Joseph Papetti, who has decided not to seek re-election.

"Picking up a packet doesn't mean that they're going to file," said Best. "If it comes out to be uncontested, so be it. I think that what I've been a part of the last three years has been a positive, and I hope it'll continue."

Prospective candidates can pick up an information packet with details about legal qualifications for school board candidacy, campaign procedures, and the role of the school board member, published by the Published by the New Jersey School Boards Asso-

Information about the New Jersey School Ethics Act, important dates in the school election process, and briefing sessions for school board candidates are also included in the information packet.

For Best, the decision to run stems from a desire to help bring to completion some of the

tasks now before the school board, including contract negotiations, a superintendent search and a massive repair project of the district

"I'd like to complete everything I've been a part of," said Best. "I want to see negotiations completed. I want to be part of the completion for the superintendent search."

The school board is expected to finalize a pool of candidates to interview for the position of superintendent. Superintendent of Schools Paul Ortenzio will retire at the end of this school year.

"You still have the refurbishing that's going to come through," he said, referring to the \$19.2 million school repairs project that received approval from the state commissioner of education.

"I look forward to seeing who the new super's going to be, and seeing that their job is

Brocato said he was considering running either for the school board or for Township Council later this year. "I thought I could do more good for the kids" by serving on the school board. Three at-large seats on the Township Council, and the mayor's seat, are up for election in the fall.

"I do have experience in reality and in government," Brocato said, as he owns his own real estate appraisal firm and has been a sergeant in the Westfield Police Department for 19 years.

Brocato has been a resident of Clark for about nine years, having moved from Hillside where he was born and raised. He has two children, a son and daughter in fourth and third grades, respectively, at Valley Road

"I think it's a really great time for change on the school board," Brocato said, with three seats up and the district looking for a new superintendent.

Sandler is a technology specialist in the Millburn School District, where she has been employed for the last 16 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in education from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a master's degree in both at Frank K. Hehnly School.

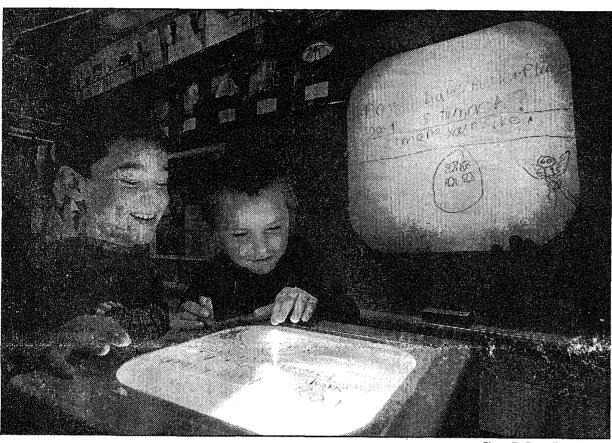
instructional education from Kean College, as well as additional credits in guidance. She is a regular presenter at at state computer and technology conferences.

Sandler said the school board must continue to improve communication with parents and advocates more teachers and educators serving on the board. "Our kids at the elementary level of missing out on state requirements," she said, something teachers would know.

"The administration is failing our kids," Sandler said, although certain members of the school board have been doing a good job of communication.

Sandler has served on a number of committees in the school district, including the building management committee, technology committees and principal's advisory committee.

A product of the local school system, she returned to live in Clark seven years ago. "I got a wonderful education and I'd like to see that my kids have the same." Sandler has a son in kindergarten and a daughter in third grade,



Photos By Reena Rose Sibayan First-graders in Mary Arrowood's class at Frank K. Hehnly School, Michael Palumbo and

# Anthony Tedesco, present their interpretation of an idiom using an overhead projector. Students do their own thing

# Hehnly School brings 'differentiated learning' to classroom

By Josh Saltzman Staff Writer

The lesson for all of them was the same. The students in Alessandra Savarese's second-grade class were learning about dinosaurs, and had all read a book called "It's Probably

Good Dinosaurs are Extinct."

But the students were not all doing the same thing - one group put together dinosaur puzzles; another tested their knowledge on a computer program, and another still made a poster with facts about the author and illustrator of the book.

Savarese, a teacher at Frank K. Hehnly School on Raritan Road, was using a classroom concept called differentiated learning - grouping students not only by ability, but by interest and other needs as well.

Teachers such as Savarese model their teaching on Carol Ann Tomlinson's book "The Differentiated Class-

The book says that teachers can meet children's different needs by altering the content, the process or the product in a classroom.

Changing the content might mean giving a child a simpler or more advanced math formula; changing the process could be having a child do Internet research instead of reading a book, or vice versa; changing the product would mean having a student produce a different final result, such as a report instead of a test, or even a per-

might be great at performing," Principal Joseph Beltramba said.

Unlike old-fashioned class groupings --- where a student would just be in "the slow group" in a subject - the differentiated learning groups are flexible. Students often switch groups for different tasks or subjects, so the groupings never become stigmas.

The technique increasingly is catching on among teachers at the elementary school.

"It's not a policy, it's just effective instruction," said Beltramba.

In Savarese's class, that meant a total of seven different activities going on at once.

### project to be issued by the fall By Mark Hrywna likely will still be favorable in the fall rejection in three separate bond refer-Regional Editor endums.

Bonds for school renovation

The Clark School District may bond \$19.2 million for its school renovation project by September or October at the earliest.

The Board of Education had been planning to issue bonds in May, which would have required debt payments to be included in the 2004-05 school budget. However, since the district will not bond until the fall, the board can avoid debt payments in next year's school budget if it chooses.

The district's bond counsel, Leah Sandbank of McManimon and Scotland, said during Tuesday night's school board meeting that the earliest the district would need to budget for bond payments is 2005-06. The debt payments would depend on the type of maturity schedule created.

"In a cloudy day, a little sunlight peeked through," Mayor Sal Bonaccorso said, since the financially strapped district now will not have to bond before the end of the school year July 1. The mayor has suggested temporary, short-term financing to ease the burden on taxpayers, before permanently financing the project.

If the board was "on a strong fiscal footing, I would say go ahead with permanent financing," Bonaccorso, who was in attendance Tuesday with several council members, said. "There's no right or wrong way," whether it's permanent or temporary financing.

"It would be wise for the board to have something" for debt payments in the 2004-05 budget, Superintendent of Schools Paul Ortenzio said.

"There have been questions regarding why we haven't sold bonds yet," Sandbank said, pursuant to Education Commissioner William Librera's decision to allow the district to go ahead with school repairs, despite voter

"There are steps that need to be taken," she said, and there have not been "final, eligible costs" determined for the scope of the project. The last preliminary, eligible cost was \$19.2 million for renovations, with 60 percent, or \$11.2 million, to be borne by local taxpayers, and 40 percent as a

state grant. Since the project was never approved by voters, specific figures have not been approved or "set in stone" at the \$19.2 million amount.

The final, eligible costs should be finalized by the end of July by the New Jersey School Construction Corporation which then will forward the figures to the state Department of Education. The DOE then will issue a final letter to the Clark School District that will determine the final local and state share of the project. Until the district knows what the local share of the project will be, it cannot issue bonds.

Once the final numbers are in. Sandbank will return to the school board with a number of recommendations on how to proceed.

A suggestion of issuing bond anticipation notes, for up to five years, would not fly, she said, because they cannot be issued until a bond issue is authorized by the state. Only in the the case of an emergent need, such as the roof at Valley Road School, can the district apply to the state for approval for a particular part of the \$19.2 mil-

lion renovations. Ortenzio reminded school board members that the district has yet to receive any reimbursement from the state for the emergency repairs to the roof at Carl H. Kumpf Middle School.

Sandbank discouraged issuing short-term bond anticipation notes, recommending instead to bond the full amount at one time since interest rates

while five years out, they could change dramatically.

"With interest rates what they are, it's not necessary for five-year anticipation notes," she said.

Sandbank said the total project cost could rise, due to inflation or changing the scope, but she expects it would not be more than \$4,000 or \$5,000. 'We're not talking about any major changes in the project.

"The scope of the project is not going to increase 25 percent."

Regardless, the Clark School District will be responsible for 60 percent of the cost while the state will pick up the remaining 40 percent.

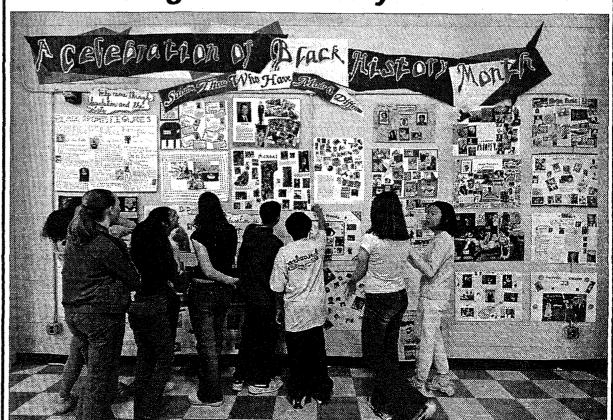
The only major change from the original project has been the heating plant and electricity. Ortenzio said the remaining generator area will be abandoned because of rehabilitation due to asbestos. Instead, a power house will be constructed outside the building with heat pumped into the building, he

The New Jersey School Construction Corporation, created by the state to oversee the landmark school construction projects, hired an architectural consultant to create plans and specifics based on the project submitted for approval by the district. The final cost will be based on those specific designs by the architectural firm hired, The Thomas Group.

Voters rejected three bond referendums - in December 2000, February 2001 and September 2001 - before the district appealed to the state commissioner of education. Clark was the first district in the state to go through the appeal process for failed school

referendum projects. "There's still a bit of interpretation necessary to figure out how the process can go as smooth as possible," Sandbank said.

### One group worked on a writing and formance. Celebrating black history illustration assignment: "We're draw-"A child that might not read well See STUDENTS, Page 2



Students at Carl H. Kumpf School browse the cafeteria wall on which they hung posters they made about black people who have 'made a difference,' in celebration of Black His-



Second-graders Kristen Camillo and Joseph Kaplan use Dino Puzzle cards to learn more about the extinct creatures in Alessandra Savarese's class at Hehnly School. Differentiated learning splits up students into different groups in the classroom.

# Welcome to THE EAGLE

How to reach us: The Eagle is published every Thursday by Worrall Community Newspapers, an independent, family owned newspaper company. Our offices are located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of

the telephone numbers listed below:

### Voice Mail:

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

### To subscribe:

The Eagle is mailed to the homes o subscribers for delivery every Thursday One-year subscriptions in Union County are available for \$26.00, two year subscriptions for \$47.00. College and out-of-state subscriptions are available. You may subscribe by phone by calling 908-686-7700 and asking for the circulation department. Allow at least two weeks for processing your order. You may use Mastercard, Visa, American Express or Discover.

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

## News items:

News releases of general interest must be in our office by Friday at noon to be considered for publication the following week. Pictures should be black and white glossy prints. For further information or to report a breaking news story, all 908-686-7700 and ask for Editorial

### Story reprints:

For permission to reprint any item printed in the newspaper you must call Tom Canavan at 908-686-7700. All material is copyrighted.

### Letters to the Editor:

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

The Eagle accepts news releases and opinion pieces by e-mail. Our e-mail address is

Editorial@thelocalsource.com e-mail must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. Advertising is also accepted by email under certain guidelines at ads@thelocalsource.com

# To place a display ad:

Display advertising for placement in the general news section of The Eagle must be in our office by Monday at 5 p.m. for publication that week. Advertising for placement in the B section must be in our office by Monday at noon. An advertising representative will aladly assist you in preparing your message. Call 908-686-7700 for an appointment. Ask for the display advertising

# To place a classified ad:

The Eagle has a large, well read classified advertising section. Advertisements must be in our office by Tuesday at 3 p.m. for publication that week. All classified ads are payable in advance We accept Mastercard, Visa, American Express or Discover. A classified representative will gladly assist you in preparing your message. Please stop by our office during regular business hours or call 800-564-8911, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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The Eagle is equipped to accept your ads, releases, etc. by fax. Our fax lines are open 24 hours a day. For classified please dial 973-763-2557. For all other transmissions please dial 908-686

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# Local man charged in drug offense

A Cook Street man was charged Sunday evening with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Eric M. Jensen, 23, of 19 Cook St., was arrested at 7:17 p.m. Sunday in his own home. He later was released on his own recognizance, pending a court appearance.

· Someone stole cigarettes from Quick Chek on Westfield Avenue at 4:08 a.m. Feb. 23.

No other information was avail-

• Emmanuel Pascoal, 30, of 191 Gibson Blvd., was arrested at 5:22 p.m. Feb. 17 on an outstanding warrant from Hillside.

Pascoal, wanted for \$3,934.50 in outstanding fines, was turned over to the Hillside Police Department.

 Police are investigating an unspecified instance of criminal mis-

# POLICE BLOTTER

chief at a Madison Hill Road home, reported at 5:45 p.m. Feb. 17.

• A Rutgers Road resident reported credit card fraud at 3:47 p.m. Feb. 19.

· Unspecified criminal mischief was reported at Multi-Care Health Center, 100 Raritan Road, at 7:33 a.m. Friday.

· Police arrested Steven C. Morris, 44, of 26 Ridge Ave., Apt. 2, Asbury Park, on an outstanding warrant from Neptune, at 12:32 p.m. Feb. 20.

Police provided no other information about the arrest, except to note that Pascoal was handed over to Neptune officials.

A vehicle was impounded from

the Crowne Plaza hotel on Valley Road at 4:12 p.m. Feb. 20 for having fictitious plates.

No other information was avail-

· Police arrested Stephanie Jackson, 36, of 519 Grier Ave., Elizabeth, on an outstanding contempt-of-court warrant from Elizabeth.

Jackson was released after posting

• Meldrey C. Watkins, 25, of 127 Ward Place, South Orange, was arrested at 10:07 a.m. Feb. 21 on an outstanding contempt-of-court warrant.

Watkins was released after posting an undisclosed amount of bail.

· A vehicle was impounded from O'Johnnies Hallmark Shop at 12:49 a.m. Sunday. The vehicle did not have valid registration or insurance, police

# Students go at different paces

(Continued from Page 1) ing an animal that doesn't make a good pet," said Veronica Zatko.

Jeffrey Corson chose to write about killer whales: "They can bite you, they're hard to get out of the water, probably bigger than your house, and they live in salt water," he said, explaining why the animal, like a dinosaur, would not make a good companion.

Another group did a Memory-style matching game. Every time they found two like dinosaur cards, they had to read and study the information on the cards.

Another worked on dinosaur-related vocabulary words, and had to identify and illustrate the words.

And another still worked on a "story map" involving a diagram of the book's plot.

The different activities not only addressed different abilities, but focused on mastering different skills according to the students' needs.

Beltramba said that differentiated learning is especially useful in classrooms where the students vary widely in abil-

"In some instances you need it more than in other instances." he said.

But students are not just given different assignments based on their skill levels. Students might get different

assignments because they respond better to one type over another, or because they show a particular interest in a certain method or subject.

Students often switch groups for different tasks or subjects, so the groupings never become stigmas. In Mary Arrowood's class, students sometimes are grouped randomly, and sometimes by need, with the result that they don't know the difference.

On Monday, Arrowood broke her students into groups for a lesson on idioms. The students all had the same assignment this time, to illustrate the idiom and prepare an explanation of it for the class, but the idioms were made from different ability levels.

One group illustrated "My nose is running."

"We had to make our noses running away from us," explained Jacob Palumbo.

Another worked on "Has the cat got your tongue?" which a student named Lucas explained as meaning "When you talk a lot and then you stop talking for a while."

Students illustrated this by showing a cat running off with a person's tongue.

"It's pleasantly surprising," Arrowood said of the differentiated learning techniques. "You give them something and see where they're going to go with it."

# AT THE LIBRARY

# Pajama Storytime

Come wearing your pajamas, if you like. For families with children of all ages.

Stories with a simple activity. Registration is requested. Meets from 7 to 7:30 p.m. March 8 and March 15.

Register by calling the library at 732-388-5999.

# Toddler time

For babies and toddlers up to 21/2 years old. This program includes nursery rhymes, songs, stories and movement activities.

No registration is required. Toddler Time meets from 10 to 10:20. a.m. today.

# Tots' Storytime

For children 2½ to 4. years old. Stories with a simple activity. Storytime meets 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Register by calling the library at 732-388-5999.

# Teenagers sought for advisory group

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Wednesday and March 17.

Clark Public Library is seeking teenagers to act as artists, book

reviewers, CD reviewers and movie reviewers.

The Teen Advisory Group will meet at 3:15 p.m. Friday and March 5, March 12 and March 26.

Call Youth Services Librarian Kathy Percoco at 732-388-5999 to register. You must be at least 11 years old to attend.

# 'Seussentenial' marks 100 years of Dr. Seuss

Clark Public Library is planning a celebration for the 100th birthday of Theodor Giesel, popularly known as

The Seussenteniel will be at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday. Come enjoy some classic Seuss stories, and join in an activity to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. For

Register by calling the library at 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.

The library Web site is www.clarklibrary.org.

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# 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.

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.

# Show at St. Thomas the Apostle Church hall, 1407 St. George Ave., Rah-This will offer an opportunity to see new trends in the EMS and fire

· Clark Lions Club will sponsor a flea market and collectibles show, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave.

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

**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,

Today

program for babies and toddlers up to 21/2 years old. The program runs

Saturday

all children 4 to 11 years old to its Annual Indoor Winter Carnival from 1

ets. The carnival will include fun, games and treats for all who attend.

· Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., will hold a Toddler Time

This program includes nursery rhymes, songs, stories and movement

· Osceola Presbyterian Church of Clark, 1689 Raritan Road, welcomes

Admission costs \$5 and includes 20 game tickets plus four snack tick-

Parking is available in the Osceola Church lot or across the street at

· Clark Volunteer First Aid Squad will host an EMS and Fire Trade

Attn: managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

from 10 to 10:20. a.m.

732-382-2155.

activities. No registration is required.

Sale items include new mechandise, crafts and collectibles, and a garage/tag sale section. For more information, call 201-997-9535.

 Clark Kiwanis Club will hold its annual spagnetti dinner from 1 to 5 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 559 Raritan Road.

Tickets cost \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens, and \$5 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Take-out is available. Tables for groups will be arranged.

For advance tickets to the spaghetti dinner, call Kiwanis Club Secretary Angie Maulbeck at 732-382-0910 during business hours.

# Monday

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

# Tuesday

· Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., will celebrate the 100th birthday of Dr. Seuss at 3:30 p.m. Come enjoy some classic Seuss stories, and join in an activity to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. For all ages. Register by calling the library at 732-388-5999.

### Upcoming March 8

• A Project Graduation meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Arthur L. Johnson High School, 365 Westfield Ave. March 9

• The Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Arthur L. Johnson High School library, 365 Westfield Ave.

# Ongoing

• The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program sponsored by Community Access Unlimited will again offer free tax assistance for Union County citizens who earn less than \$34,000 per year, are disabled or elderly.

The free tax assistance will be offered from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays, from Feb. 1 to April 15 at Clark Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 1213 Westfield Ave. Call 732-396-7100 for an appointment.



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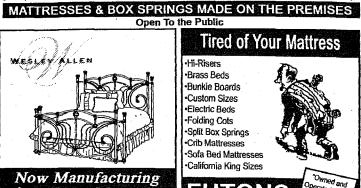


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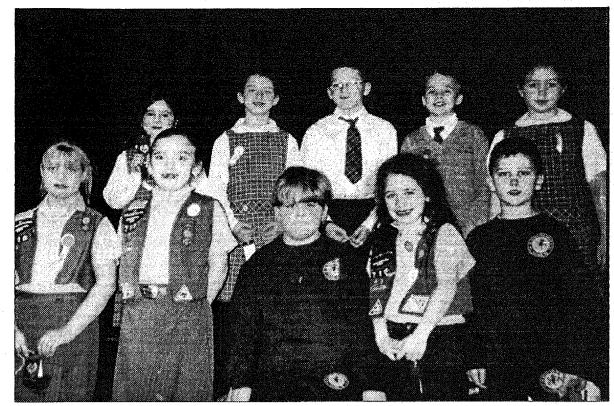
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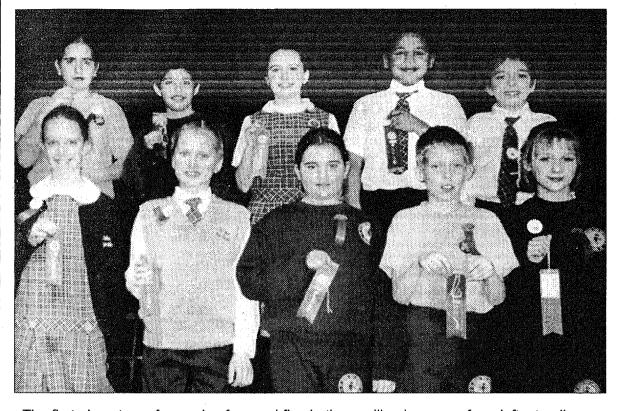
It's a money market account linked



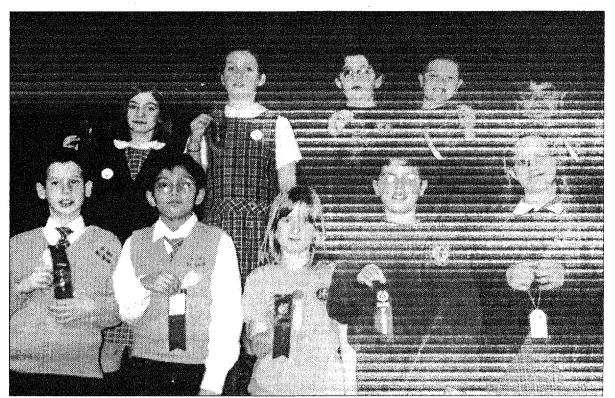
The first place team for grades two and three in the St. John the Apostle School's annual spelling bee was, from left, back row, Ryan Sexton, Jamie Spellerberg, Danielle Franklin, Krzysztof Goryca and Erin Roach; and bottom row, Brooke Enners, Thomas Hartnett, Alexandra Krowicki, Brittany Ferreira and Joseph Hickey.



The second place team for grades two and three in the spelling bee was, from left, back row, Christina Mendes, Carly Koppel, John Radil, Thomas Mohary and Kellie Orcutt; and bottom row, Alyssa Kania, Scarlett Starr, Sean Carolan, Erin Alexander and Matthew



The first place team for grades four and five in the spelling bee was, from left, standing, Christina Daugenti, Aristo Carranza, Ashley Sporer, Joe Majeski and John Cafiero; and front row, Emily Lubas, Brian Fritzsche, Tanya Pereira, Nicholas Parrish and Annie Cierpial.



The second place team for grades four and five in the spelling bee was, from left, back row, Melissa Halbeisen, Alex Bizub, Michael Henton, Brian Hartnett and Gerrober Condez; and front row, Evan Marques, Sunny Patel, Pauline Janowicz, Scott-Francis Belmont and Chelsea Gmiterek.

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# **SPORTS**

Sports Numbers Phone: 973-763-0700 Fax: 973-763-2557

# |68th UCT |Boys' Basketball

Defending champion St. Patrick's sought to reach a 12th consecutive final with a win over Hillside Tuesday night at the Dunn Center. The second semifinal pitted Elizabeth vs. Plainfield last night.

**Top 8 seeds:** 1-St. Patrick's. 2-Plainfield. 3-Elizabeth. 4-Hillside. 5-Roselle Catholic. 6-Westfield. 7-Linden. 8-Rahway.

PRELIMINARY ROUND Saturday, Feb. 14 At Linden

Gov. Liv. 56, New Providence 44 Cranford 79, Johnson 49 Dayton 58, Brearley 53 Monday, Feb. 16 At Rahway Union 69, Union Catholic 51

FIRST ROUND Tuesday, Feb. 17 At Dunn Center

Roselle 70, Oratory Prep 60

St. Patrick's def. Gov. Livingston Scotch Plains 75, Rahway 51 At Linden Roselle Catholic 57, Dayton 35 Hillside 70, Cranford 49

Wednesday, Feb. 18 At Dunn Center Linden 63, St. Mary's 61 Plainfield 61, Union 38 At Rahway

Summit 48, Westfield 43 Elizabeth 58, Roselle 56

QUARTERFINALS
Friday, Feb. 20
At Dunn Center
St. Patrick's 71, Scotch Plains 59
Hillside 58, Roselle Catholic 51
Saturday, Feb. 21
At Dunn Center

Plainfield 55, Linden 41
Elizabeth 75, Summit 67

SEMIFINALS
Tuesday, Feb. 24
At Dunn Center

4-Hillside vs. 1-St. Patrick's Wednesday, Feb. 25
At Dunn Center
3-Elizabeth vs. 2-Plainfield

FINAL Saturday, Feb. 28, 3 p.m. At Dunn Center Eliz./Plain. vs. Hill./St. Patrick's

# 29th UCT Girls' Basketball

The UCT semifinals were scheduled to take place at the Elizabeth Dunn Sport Center Tuesday night and last night.

On Tuesday night it was Rahway vs. top-seeded Scotch Plains. Last night it was third-seeded Linden vs. second-seeded Union Catholic.

A third-place game will be contested before the final tomorrow night at Roselle Catholic.

Top 8 seeds: 1-Scotch Plains. 2-Union Catholic. 3-Linden. 4-Dayton. 5-Plainfield. 6-Roselle Catholic. 7-Elizabeth. 8-Hillside.

PRELIMINARY ROUND Saturday, Feb. 14 At Rahway New Proy. 46 Kent Place 35

New Prov. 46, Kent Place 35 Mother Seton 47, Gov. Liv. 37 Union 53, Westfield 21

FIRST ROUND

Monday, Feb. 16
At Linden
Johnson 50, Hillside 46
Scotch Plains 56, New Prov. 23
At Rahway
Rahway 52, Plainfield 49
Oak Knoll 42, Dayton 36
At Cranford
Cranford 47, Elizabeth 37
Union Catholic vs. Mother Seton
At Roselle Catholic
Roselle Catholic 46, Roselle 43
Linden 58, Union 34

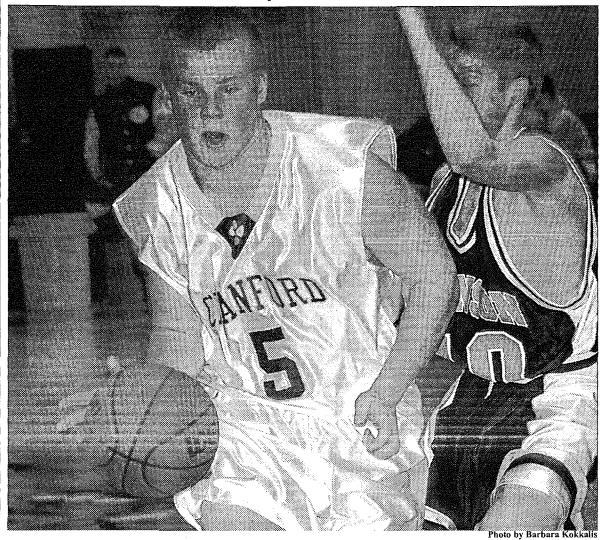
QUARTERFINALS
Thursday, Feb. 19
At Dunn Center
Linden 32, Roselle Catholic 30
Union Catholic 35, Cranford 33
At Rahway
Rahway 43, Oak Knoll 34
Scotch Plains 72, Johnson 33

SEMIFINALS
Tuesday, Feb. 24
At Dunn Center
Rahway vs. 1-Scotch Plains
Wednesday, Feb. 25
At Dunn Center
3-Linden vs. 2-Union Catholic

THIRD PLACE GAME
Friday, Feb. 27 at R. Cath., 6:30

FINAL Friday, Feb. 27 at R. Cath., 8 p.m.

# Tournament to wrap



The 68th Annual Union County Boys' Basketball Tournament will conclude Saturday with the championship game scheduled at the Elizabeth Dunn Sport Center at 3 p.m. Cranford, sparked by Chris Drechsel (No. 5), and Johnson clashed in a preliminary round game Feb. 14 in Linden, with the Cougars coming out on top by a 79-49 score. Both Union County squads will be absent from next week's state playoffs. Both will seek to rebound next year in their respective Group 2 sections.

# Cranford ice hockey team has big games upcoming Conference, state tournaments in the mix

By JR Parachini Sports Editor

The games are now much bigger as the high school ice hockey season is reaching its apex.

Cranford had its sights set on reaching the Central Conference-White Division championship game as it was set to play Verona in the Van Cott Cup semifinals.

Cranford earned the second seed and Verona the third. Verona ousted sixth-seeded Johnson 6-3 last Saturday at South Mountain Arena in West Orange.

South Mountain is where the championship game is scheduled to be played Saturday at 1 p.m.

Cranford began the week with a 12-6-2 record. The Cougars were tied by Chatham 4-4 last week, two days after downing Nutley 6-1 at Warinanco Ice Rink in Roselle.

J.J. Hoeffler netted three goals against the Raiders, while Joe Conte had six assists. Chris Della Serra had two assists and Sean Guthrie one goal.

Cranford has been sparked by the play of senior tri-captains Della Serra, Kurt Sigmund and Chris Ozolneiks. Della Serra began the week with 13 goals and 14 assists, Sigmund with six goals and eight assists and Ozolneiks with one goal and seven assists.

Hoeffler is the team's leading scorer with 27 goals and 17 assists for 44 points. Mike Davitt had 14 goals and five assists, Guthrie nine goals and seven assists and Seton Hall Prep transfer Joe Campagna eight goals and nine assists.

Conte had 18 goals and 26 assists and sophomore Corey Loforte one goal and nine assists.

Goalies Ben Streko and Tom Streko had impressive goals-against averages of 1.93 and 2.76 respectively.

Cranford reached the Van Cott Cup championship game last year in a 17-6-3 campaign. The Cougars were downed by Ridge 3-0 in a game that goalies Tom Streko and Drew D'Amico combined to make 24 saves. Ridge was the top seed and Cranford the second seed and the game was played at South Mountain.

Cranford then went 1-1 in the NJSIAA Public Schools State Tournament. The Cougars, seeded 19th, edged 14th-

Up for the rebound

seeded Hightstown 5-4 at Mercer County Rink in West Windsor before falling to third-seeded West Windsor-Plainsboro North 2-0 at Mercer County Rink.

Cranford is the 18th seed this year and is scheduled to host 47th-seeded Parsippany Hills next week in a first-round encounter at Warinanco Ice Rink in Roselle.

Cranford began the season with a 1-3 record and then rebounded to win four straight. Hoeffler and Conte scored in a 7-2 setback to Morris Knolls in the Cron Tournament semifinals Dec. 15. A sophomore left wing, Hoeffler scored three goals in an 8-1 win against Westfield Dec. 22 at Warinanco

Campagna scored the go-ahead goal in a 4-1 win over Westfield Jan. 7. Sigmund, Hoeffler and Davitt also scored. Ben Streko made 18 saves for the victory.

Hoeffler and Davitt had a goal and an assist and Ozolneiks and Della Serra scored in a 4-1 win over Nutley Jan. 12 at Warinanco.

Conte and Guthrie had three goals each in an 11-2 win over Wayne Valley Jan. 19. Della Serra had one goal and four assists

Campagna, Conte and Guthrie netted goals in a 5-3 setback to Montclair-Kimberley Academy Jan. 21 at Warinan-

Conte, a junior center, had three goals and Tom Streko made 19 saves to help Cranford best Summit 6-1 Jan. 26 at Warinanco.

Cranford then went on to post an 11-4 win over Johnson Feb. 2 at Warinanco, best Summit again 4-1 the next day at Warinanco and then down Verona 4-1 Feb. 9 at Warinanco.

In the win against Verona, Davitt netted three goals and Tom Streko was very sharp in goal, coming up with 28 saves.

Hoeffler had two goals in the third period to lift the Cougars past MKA 2-1 Feb. 11 at Clary Anderson Arena in Montclair. MKA entered with a 15-5 record that included one win over Cranford.

Conte and Della Serra notched assists, while Ben Streko was on his game with 29 saves.

# ALJ hockey falls in Van Cott Cup

# Crusaders will seek to rebound in Public Schools State Tourney

By Steve Carfagna Staff Writer

WEST ORANGE – Despite the three goals scored by Dan Kargus, the Johnson High School ice hockey team was unable to skate past Verona/Glen Ridge in the quarterfinals of the Van Cott Cup as the Crusaders were bested by a 6-3 score last Saturday at South Mountain Arena.

The Van Cott Cup playoffs consist of teams that skate in the White Division of the Central Conference.

In a 1-1 game going into the second period, Verona/Glen Ridge opened the game up by scoring three goals. With 9:09 remaining in the period, senior captain Chris Saling of Glen Ridge scored what wound up being the game-winning goal by spinning around in front of the net and somehow jamming the puck past Johnson goaltender Brian Klimchak on the lower glove-hand side to make it a 4-1 game.

Johnson, which fell to 8-9-3, jumped out to a 1-0 lead just 29 seconds into the contest when the Crusaders won the opening face-off, dumped the puck down the ice, got a shot off and then scored off a rebound. Kargus was assisted by Matt Nieroda.

In fact, the tandem also cut the deficit to 4-2 with 4:21 to go in the second period when Nieroda assisted Kargus again.

With Johnson now back in the game, the Hillbillies ended any chance of a comeback when MacIntyre scored his second goal off a deke on a breakaway to make it a 5-2 game going into the third period.

The Hillbillies put home another goal that made the score 6-2 with 12:41 remaining. Just 13 seconds later, Kargus scored his third on an assist from Lou DeMarzo to make it a 6-3 game.

The contest was called with 4:59 remaining because of an altercation on the ice between the two teams.

Verona, which improved to 10-9-4, outshot Johnson 28-13.

Others who contributed for Verona were Mike Galife and Larry Schiffenhaus, who both scored. Saling finished with two goals

In addition, Saling and Epstein were credited with two assists, while Schiffenhaus and Danny Harris were also awarded with assists.

The win over Johnson was the third for Verona this year. The Hillbillies topped the Crusaders 5-4 on Dec. 20 and 2-0 on Jan. 19.

**NOTES:** Johnson earned the 46th seed for next week's NJSIAA Public Schools State Tournament.

The Crusaders are scheduled to play at 20th-seeded Lakewood in a game that has to be completed by Tuesday.

Also in the Van Cott Cup playeffs, second seeded Cranford was to skets

Also in the Van Cott Cup playoffs, second-seeded Cranford was to skate against Verona, the third seed, yesterday afternoon at Warinanco Ice Rink in Roselle. Johnson was the sixth seed.

The other semifinal pitted top-seeded Montclair-Kimberley Academy against fourth-seeded Nutley. MKA earned a bye in the quarterfinals, as did Cranford, while Nutley downed fifth-seeded Summit 5-2.

The championship game is scheduled for Saturday at 1 p.m. at South Mountain Arena. Ridge defeated Cranford 3-0 in last year's final.

Cranford will also be playing at Warinanco Monday at 6 p.m. against Parsippany Hills in its state tournament game. Cranford is the 18th seed and Parsippany Hills the 47th

# Cranford, ALJ girls' in upcoming states

# Cougars to play Monday, Crusaders on Wednesday

Cranford girls' in North 2, Group 2

The Cranford High School girls' basketball team, which began the week with a 10-11 record after falling to second-seeded Union Catholic 35-33 in last Thursday night's Union County Tournament quarterfinals at the Elizabeth Dunn Sport Center, will play at Lincoln of Jersey City Monday in the first round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2 playoffs.

Seeding: 1-Chatham. 2-Essex Co. Market St. 3-Hillside. 4-Ridgefield Park. 5-Hanover Park. 6-Hoboken. 7-Lincoln. 8-Caldwell. 9-Harrison. 10-Cranford. 11-Rutherford.

First round, Monday: Harrison at Caldwell. Rutherford at Hoboken. Cranford at Lincoln.

Quarterfinals: Wednesday at higher seeds. Semifinals: March 5 at higher seeds.

Semifinals: March 5 at higher seeds. Final: March 9 at Cranford, 6 p.m.

Final: March 9 at Cranford, 6 p.m.

# Johnson girls' in Central Jersey, Group 2

The Johnson High School girls' basketball team, which began the week with a 17-5 record after falling to top-seeded Scotch Plains 72-33 in last Thursday night's Union County Tournament quarterfinals at Rahway, will host a Central Jersey, Group 2 quarterfinal round game Wednesday. Johnson will face fifth-seeded Bordentown or 12th-seeded South River.

Seeding: 1-Rumson-Fair Haven. 2-Neptune. 3-Shore Regional. 4-Johnson.

5-Bordentown. 6-Carteret. 7-New Brunswick. 8-Burlington Township. 9-Point Pleasant Boro. 10-Somerville. 11-Roselle. 12-South River.

First round, Monday: Point Pleasant Boro at Burlington Township. South River at Bordentown. Roselle at Carteret. Somerville at New Brunswick.

Quarterfinals: Wednesday at higher seeds. Semifinals: March 5 at higher seeds.

Final: March 9 at Bridgewater-Raritan, 7 p.m.

# Cranford, ALJ wrestlers gear for District 11

The Cranford and Johnson high school wrestling teams are preparing for this weekend's District 11 Tournament at Westfield.

Competition commences tomorrow night and concludes with the finals Saturday afternoon.

The top three finishers in each weight class advance to Region 3 competition Tuesday and March 5 and 6 at Union.

Johnson was sixth last year with 79 points and Cranford seventh with 72. Johnson finished 7-10 after falling to Highland Park 41-38 last Saturday. Cranford finished 8-8 after falling to Parsippany Hills 63-18 and to Whippany Park 45-28 last Saturday at Parsippany Hills.

Park 45-28 last Saturday at Parsippany Hills.

Cranford senior Steve Carbone is the retuning champion at 215.

# Cranford's Harlin in Sunday's track MOC

Cranford High School senior Mallory Harlin will be competing in Sunday's annual NJSIAA Meet of Champions at Princeton University's Jadwin Gym. Harlin was second in the girls' Group 2 3,200-meter run in 11:36.66 Feb. 15.

# Soccer scholarships available

Porter at 908-276-1490.

The Cranford Soccer Club is pleased to announce a Scholarship Award for a graduating male and female student/soccer player.

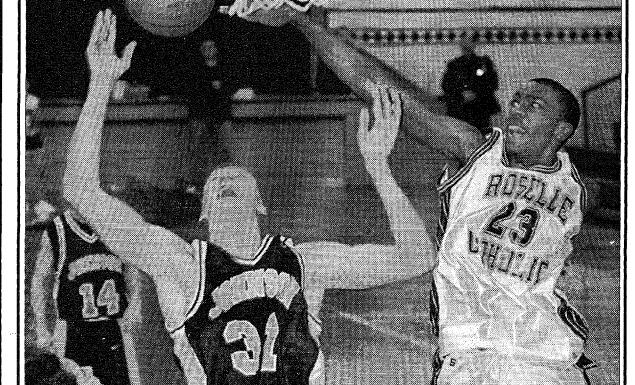
The applicant must be a resident of Cranford and have plans to continue their education at a post-secondary, accredited institution of higher learning.

Guidance counselors are asked to make the applications available to student/athletes.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 1.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 1.

More information may be obtained by calling Scholarship Committee members Henry Di Iorio at 908-276-7782, Oscar Vasquez at 908-276-8781 or Paul



The Johnson High School boys' basketball team, sparked by the stellar play of Steve Dunn (No. 31), won six games this year and proved competitive against fellow Mountain Valley Conference opponents.

STUDENT UPDATE

**WORSHIP CALENDAR** 

# AT THE LIBRARY

# Friends help raise funds

February is a short but important month, especially for the Friends of the Cranford Public Library. During this month, in addition to the 2004 membership drive, the group is launching two fund-raisers.

The first program is the Sweethearts of the Library campaign in which residents can replace older, worn out copies of popular classics. These books may be donated to either honor or to remember a special person. There is a display in the library of all the available book titles.

After making a selection, each benefactor will be given a red heart upon which to write a dedication to the "honoree." The heart will be placed in the library for all to see and a book heart will be placed in the library for all to see and a book plate will adorn the book.

The second fund-raiser is a penny collection in honor of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. There is a box in the main section of the library ready to receive your coins.

# Book sale this weekend

The Friends of Cranford Public Library will hold a used book sale Friday and Saturday.

The group is asking for donations of hardcover books, both fiction and nonfiction, in good condition, including children's books.

Also wanted are audiotapes of books, videos and compact discs. Donations can be brought to the circulation desk on the main floor of the library during library hours.

The book sale will run from 10:15 a.m. to noon Friday for members of the Friends group only, with a general sale from noon to 4:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

For more information, call 908-709-7272.

# Preschool storytimes

Cranford Public Library, 224 Walnut Ave., has announced its spring schedule of preschool story hours. The sessions will run through April 1. These programs are for Cranford residents and holders of paid Cranford out-of-town library cards.

The session for 3-year-olds will be held at 10:15 a.m. Tuesdays through March 30. Children must be 3 years old to attend. The sessions for 4-year-olds will be

held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays through March 31. Children must be 4 and not yet in kindergarten to attend.

There will be an additional drop-in session for 3-, 4- and pre-kindergarten 5-year-olds at 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays through March 30. This session is for

children who cannot attend the other sessions. No pre-registration is required.

There will be four sessions for 2year-olds and their accompanying adults of four weeks each session, to be held at 10:15 a.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays through March 3 and 4. The second sessions will be held from March 10 and 11 through March 31 and April 1. Pre-registration is required for these programs.

Registration for any group must be made in person by a parent at the

Registration is limited to a minimum 12 in any group, a maximum of 15 3-year-olds and 20 4-year-olds for each group.

An adult responsible for the child must remain in the library during story hour. An adult must accompany each 2-year-old in story hour.

# Ramapo names Hansen

to fall semester dean's list Eric Hansen, a 2003 alumnus of

Cranford High School, was named to the dean's list at Ramapo College. Hansen, a freshman, is majoring in environmental studies with a minor in

To qualify for the dean's list, a student must attain a semester grade-

point average of at least 3.5.

# Buontempo earns honors

Michelle Marie Buontempo of Cranford was named to the dean's list

APOSTOLIC

CORNERSTONE APOSTOLIC

at Seton Hall University's College of Nursing for the fall semester.

To earn dean's list status, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.4 or better during the semester.

# Kulinski makes dean's list

Julie Kulinski of Cranford has been named to the dean's list for the fall semster at Ramapo College, Mahwah.

A 2003 graduate of Cranford High School, Kulinski is pursuing a degree in biology.

To qualify for the dean's list, a student must attain a semester gradepoint average of at least 3.5.

# RELIGION

# Seminar offers healing in the grieving process

Have you ever felt like you have a place in your heart that just doesn't feel like it feel like there must be something more to the grieving process than this?

There are many causes of loss, not just death. Grieving is a process that we all go through at sometime in our life, yet we are not prepared for it. After a loss, we can feel alone and confused, wondering if what we are feeling is normal.

First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 Springfield Ave., is holding its ninth biannual seminar "The Jour-

ney to Wholeness," through February. The seminar, which has helped hundreds of people over the years, meets in Mettam lounge from 7 to 9 p.m. An ongoing support group from 7 to 9 Sundays is available after the seminar to facilitate further healing.

The program is led by two widows educated in the grieving process, including Patti Williams, a nurse and a certified pastoral bereavement counselor, who created this program in 2000.

Williams is joined by a psychologist with a private practice and who is an elder in the church. Trained facilitators help with the sessions and the small groups are homogenous in regards to types of loss.

Call the church office at 908-276-8440 to register. The sessions are free and all denominations are welcome.

# 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 March 7. 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 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.

# Temple, Methodist church partner for Cafe Shalom

United Methodist Church and Temple Beth El Mekor Chavim will host an evening of interfaith interaction from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. March 20 at the temple.

The evening will consist of music with a deejay, karaoke and socializing with hors d'oeuvres, salads, snacks, beverages, and desserts, for families and children of all ages.

Advance tickets cost \$20 per family or \$10 for singles. Tickets at the door cost \$24 per family or \$12 for singles. There is no charge for children younger than 18 who are accompanied by a parent.

Net proceeds from Cafe Shalom will be donated to the Cranford Fund for Educational Excellence, which provides supplemental funding for innovative projects by teachers within the Cranford School District.

This event, called Cafe Shalom, is part of Rabbi Akiba Lubow's "Find a Spark" social action program.

In his fourth year as religious leader of the temple, Lubow has created several programs throughout the year. The Find A Spark program encourages congregates to be involved in social action activities for the betterment of the community.

Lubow is also president of the Cranford Clergy Council. The Rev. Ed Hann is in his initial year at Cranford United Methodist Church, and also encourages his congregation to be active in community welfare proj-

For more information or for tickets, call the Methodist church at 908-276-0936 or the temple at 908-276-

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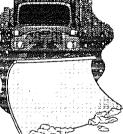
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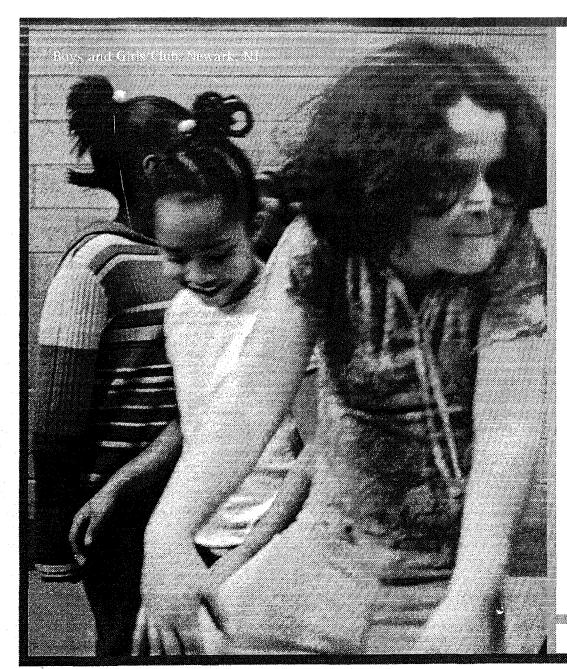
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# COMMUNITY FORUM

**EDITORIALS** 

# III-advised decision

In a series of hard blows to the Clark School District, the recent decision by Commissioner of Education William L. Librera is one of the more painful ones to be delivered.

Librera, as the state's top education executive under the governor, announced earlier this month that Clark has to pay approximately \$10 million in semiannual payments to Garwood and Mountainside, starting in April. In a year in which administrators are fighting what probably amounts to a losing battle to maintain district standards in a time of rapidly increasing costs, that's not just a tough blow. It's catastrophic.

In some respects, the commissioner's decision shouldn't catch anyone by surprise. Although Clark received some of the money of the former Union County Regional School District in 1998 and again in 2000, it was no secret either time that the formula for distributing that money was being contested, and following Mountainside's success before the state Supreme Court, it should have been obvious that the money Clark had received would need to be redistributed. From that perspective, there is a degree of sense to the contention that Clark officials should have planned ahead and left the money in the budget for that repayment.

None of that makes the commissioner's order to start payments this April any more feasible or any more sensible. Clark school officials contend that the assets that Clark inherited from the former regional district were spent in good faith, and are not available right now. And only an idiot familiar with the Clark district's current financial situation would insist that the money be repaid this April, out of this year's operating budget. The district already is dipping into surplus just to finish the current year in the black. This final expense will not be the proverbial straw to break the camel's back — it is, at a minimum, an entire second load, unthinkable and unconscionable in its weight.

The Clark Board of Education, appropriately enough, is addressing the situation in two ways. While it looks to the Legislature to assume these latest deregionalization costs, it also is appealing Librera's latest decision to the state Board of Education. Those are both wise moves, and we can only hope that the Legislature and the state board show more understanding of Clark's situation than has been demonstrated so far.

# Fair treatment

The Township Council and directors of the Clark Municipal Pool made a good decision recently to grant same-sex couples the same membership benefits as their heterosexual

The policy change is one that is overdue. A better time to have granted such recognition would have been last year, when the council was asked to extend family membership to a local same-sex couple.

Although the policy change probably will have the misfortune of being criticized by those unable to tolerate other lifestyles, the council deserves both recognition and commendation for making a difficult decision and acting to present the same treatment across the board, to all residents of Clark.

# Public relations

The people of Clark don't know what's going on with their school district. At least that's what Board of Education member Karen Amalfe argued at a recent school board meeting, prompting discussion about whether the district should make more of an effort to keep residents in the loop.

As important as an informed public is, we think the board would be pouring money down the drain if it goes that route money the board can't afford to squander, with cuts to staff and programs looking likely in the new year. Providing a free newsletter that is unlikely to be read by most recipients — assuming that students actually remember to take it home — hardly seems prudent.

This school board and this administration have been forthcoming with any amount of information about the district when the question is put forward. Whether it's details about the school facilities rehabilitation, the anticipated budget shortfall, expected payments to Garwood and Mountainside, or other details about the schools, no one has made any attempt to hide it or keep public information a secret. With the information being duly reported in the local news media, and occasionally in the regional news media as well, it's difficult to see what the point would be in providing yet another outlet for the same information. At some point, we have to assume some level of responsibility for keeping ourselves informed.

# The Eagle

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PAJAMA NIGHT --- The Valley Road School PTA Reading Committee sponsors its first Pajama Night. Amanda Dowzycki reads to, from left, Julia Valenti, Caitlin Murphy, Brendan Mulvihill and Katy Shriner. Students came in their pajamas, brought a blanket and were ready to relax and listen to several books. They enjoyed milk and cookies while fourth- and students fifth-grade read them a variety of books.

# A record-setting night for a 10-year-old boy

History was made the other day when 10-year-old Owen Montgomery completed his homework in five hours and two minutes, shattering the record of five hours and six minutes established by 10-year-old Alex Floss in

Here is the account of the spectacular feat as recorded by Owen's father,

2:45 p.m. Owen, who is in fifth grade and his sister Michelle, who is in third, burst through the front door and into the kitchen battling valiantly for possession of the last pudding cup.

3 p.m. After two tiny servings of pudding, my wife announces it is time for homework, signifying the moment where the paths of brother and sister diverge even though they remain less than a couple of feet apart at the kitchen table. Michelle follows the path leading to the completion of her homework while Owen pretends his

Note: Michelle loves school and her homework is always complete, always correct, and with penmanship so neat, you'd swear her imaginary friend was a typesetter. Owen is very bright but hates homework, and when confronted with it, displays the symptoms of someone who has been in a room filled with ether.

While Michelle is finished within the hour, that is often the minimum amount of time it takes for my wife to fully comprehend what my son's

Now By John Hartnett

homework assignments are for the day, and which books needed to complete those assignments are still sitting in his desk at school.

4 p.m. After comprehending what Owen's homework assignments are, he and my wife return to school to retrieve his math workbook and social studies book.

4:30 p.m. My wife explains to Owen that his math homework requires him to show the mean, median, mode and range for the list of numbers in his workbook.

Our son explains to his mother that he remembers the terms but not exactly. My wife admits the same and asks to see the math book. Our son informs her that the math book is at school. My wife asks him to explain why the math book is in school when she asked him not more than half an hour ago to identify what books he needed for his homework. Owen gets up to sharpen his robot. My wife instructs him to start on his social studies homework while she searches the Web for the math information.

Owen has been working on for the last 20 minutes. He says, "I thought you only told me to get the book out."

5:05 p.m. Owen is allowed to come out of his room. Math homework recommences.

5:15 p.m. Owen excuses himself to use the bathroom.

5:30 p.m. My wife runs upstairs to find out if our son has collapsed in the bathroom. Luckily he is still alive and watching TV. His vital signs are

5:45 p.m. Owen is allowed to come out of his room. Math homework recommences.

6:18 p.m. Math homework checks out and dinner begins. Everyone seems to be having a good time except my wife, who refuses to look up from a travel magazine.

6:27 p.m. Dinner ends abruptly to make way for social studies. Owen must memorize all the U.S. states and capitals and where they exist on the map for an upcoming test.

My wife instructs him to begin writing down all 50 states in alphabetical order so he can memorize them first. Owen insists he doesn't need to write them down, he knows them all already. My wife asks him to identify

6:28 p.m. Owen begins to write down the names of all 50 states...

7 p.m. Social studies ends and Eng-4:50 p.m. My wife returns and asks lish homework commences. Owen

to see the social studies homework must write the spelling words for the week five times each and then use each word in a sentence.

7:30 p.m. My wife examines his spelling first. She informs me that our son has an excellent chance of becoming a doctor because his penmanship is almost completely illegible. She tells Owen to rewrite the words. Owen insists he doesn't have to do that because the teacher never looks at the words. My wife starts to speak but then opts for her more ominous stare, which compels our son to begin his

8 p.m. Exhausted, my wife asks me to review Owen's sentences while she searches for a bottle of schnapps she remembers receiving last Christmas.

8:10 p.m. Owen presents his completed sentences to me.

8:12 p.m. Two are closer to haiku poems than sentences but I let it slide after one look at our son's beaming face as he realizes homework is finished and it's not even 8:30 yet. Our son has shattered the world homework record for 10-year-old boys!

Not one to rest on his laurels, Owen intends to break his own record again this year and believes his chances are excellent if he can convince his mother to stop meddling.

A frequent contributor to this newspaper, John Hartnett can be reached at johnhartnett@earlybirdpublishing.com.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Stealth trains are on their way

Invisible to most, the shadow government within the New Jersey Department of Transportation is selling out rural and suburban New Jersey to the onslaught of millions of containers of New York City trash and Port Authority marine

Collapsing under the influence of port expansion interests, NJDOT is quietly facilitating bits and pieces of railroad infrastructure that will allow Port Authority and New York City Department of Sanitation freight trains to infest New Jersey railroad lines, block automobiles and trucks at major roadways like Route 22, and interfere with commuter rail along shared sections of track.

Although it is fairly obvious that increases in freight train movements along the Reading system and Lehigh Valley Railroad will block traffic at grade crossings like Route 35 in Woodbridge, New Market Road in Piscataway and Inman Avenue in Edison, many residents do not realize that the Erie-Lackawanna system is also a freight line that has not had good access to freight shippers. But, that will no longer be the case.

Working in concert with the Department of Sanitation, the New York City Economic Development Corporation and the Port Authority, NJDOT is making New Jersey a very big target. NYCEDC plans to connect the Fresh Kills Landfill to the Staten Island Railway.

NJDOT handed out the contract that allowed the Port Authority to move forward to facilitate connections between the Staten Island Railway and the Chemical Coast Line.

NJDOT gave the County of Union the contract that allowed the Morristown & Erie to begin reactivation of the Staten Island Railway and the Rahway Val-

NJDOT is having New Jersey Transit pursue reactivation of the Lackawanna Cutoff, purportedly for passenger use, but the Lackawanna Cutoff was also renowned for its ability to move freight at 70 mph between Andover and Scranton, Penn.

What does all this mean? Aside from facilitating the movement of New York trash and marine cargo onto the Reading system through Woodbridge, Edison, Metuchen, South Plainfield and Piscataway? Aside from shunting all this freight onto the Lehigh Valley through Hillside, Cranford, Roselle Park, Roselle, Cranford, Clark, Westfield, Scotch Plains, Edison, Bound Brook, Flemington Junction, Pennington and Hopewell?

Notably, old and new rail infrastructure would allow trash from Fresh Kills and cargo from Howland Hook to use the Staten Island Railway to enter New Jersey and move through Linden and Roselle up to Cranford Junction. Using the Raritan Valley Line and the Lehigh Valley, trains could transfer onto the Rahway Valley Railway through Roselle Park, Kenilworth, Union, Springfield and Sum-

mit. At Summit, trains could move onto the Erie-Lackawanna and use the Gladstone Branch through New Providence, Berkeley Heights, Gillette and Stirling out to an old freight siding at Millington or anyplace else out to Far Hills, Peapack and Gladstone. However, most trash and freight traffic could move north into Chatham, Madison, Morristown, Dover and Andover at the Lackawanna Cutoff, where the connection to freight lines at Scranton, Penn., is being planned.

At Scranton, freight connections run due west to Taylor, Penn., where a garbage landfill is in operation. North of Scranton, cargo could move to Bingamton and Buffalo, N.Y., and beyond.

With New York garbage and cargo chomping at the bit, NJDOT has employed an "if you build the infrastructure they will come" mentality to place a target on the backs of rural and suburban communities throughout the state. Ultimately, the stealth train will become egregiously apparent as it rolls through, double-stacked with cargo and trash, blocking roadways and commuter rail of all who live anywhere close to its path.

· William T. Fidurski Clark

# Drug discounts not what county said

This is in response to the rambling explanation of Human Services Director Frank Guzzo of the county's drug plan as reported by Robert Misseck in The Star-Ledger on Jan. 18. What Mr. Guzzo's 1 to 50 percent plan has to do with the County's stated 20 to 50 percent is baffling.

I know it's a skunk when I smell its excrement. I know that the Union County freeholders' prescription plan is phony when I do some simple arithmetic and test it out at the pharmacy. That the freeholders' prescription plan would provide discounts of 20 to 50 percent to county residents over 55 is false and a gross mis-

From my personal experience, for the purchase of a name-brand drug listed \$233.79, I was given a discount of \$10.90. For the purchase of another namebrand drug listed at \$162.70, I was given a discount of 79 cents. These discounts fly in the face of the discounts of about \$45 and \$30, respectively, which I should have received under the county's stated 20 to 50 percent plan.

I have spent more than 40 years scrutinizing local governments, having held both elected and appointed offices in Roselle, where I was councilman and borough engineer; township engineer in Cranford; and even to this day I serve as engineering consultant to the Cranford Flood Advisory Committee.

I have kept abreast of local issues and stand prepared to speak out when ones like this one crop out.

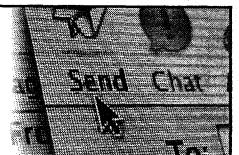
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# **OBITUARIES**

**Arthur Proctor** Arthur H. Proctor, 74, of Clark died Feb. 13 in Union Hospital.

Born in Elizabeth, Mr. Proctor lived in Gillette before moving to Clark 18 years ago.

He was a lithographer for Pace de Tourres Co., Moonachie, for 20 years and retired in 1992.

Mr. Proctor was a Marine Corps veteran and served during the Korean War.

He was a member of the Holy Name Society of St. John the Apostle Church, Clark; Sportsmen's Club of Clark, American Legion Post 328, Clark, and Knights of Columbus Council 5503, Clark.

Surviving are his wife, Dolores; a daughter, Cynthia Murphy; a son, Glen; three stepsons, Gary, Frank and Jeffrey Lacinski; two sisters, Marie Krommes and Genevieve Ignomirello; two brothers, Edmund and Raymond, and a grandchild.

# **Ernest Fendeis**

Ernest J. Fendeis, 60, of Clark, formerly of Roselle, died Feb. 17 in Union Hospital.

Born in New Brunswick, Mr. Fendeis lived in Edison, Garwood and Roselle before moving to Clark five years ago.

He was a mechanic for Globe Ground North America Inc. in Jamaica, N.Y., for the last 20 years. Previously, Mr. Fendeis had worked for Diamond Expansion, Garwood, for 20 years. He was a member of the International Auto Mechanics Local 447, an auxiliary member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Woodbridge, and a member of the Knights of Columbus, Garwood.

Surviving are his wife of 41 years, Jean; two daughters, Carolan Pickering and Theresa Pierce; three sisters, Evelyn O'Hara, June Britton and Susan Spanko; a brother, Jack, and two grandchildren.

# Stanley Macanka

Stanley F. Macanka, 88, of Clark, formerly of Linden, died Feb. 19 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway.

Born in Jersey City, Mr. Macanka lived in Linden for 17 years before

Surviving are his wife of 66 years, Madeline; a daughter, Patricia E. Pillar: a son, Stanley E.; a brother, Felix; three grandchildren and four greatgrandchildren.

moving to Clark in 1959.

He was a supervisor with General Motors, Linden, where he worked for 38 years and retired in 1974.

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# **EVENTS**

# Church invites children to attend indoor carnival

Osceola Presbyterian Church of Clark, 1689 Raritan Road, welcomes all children 4 to 11 years old to its annual indoor Winter Carnival on Saturday afternoon.

As part of its long-standing commitment to the children of Clark, Cranford, Winfield Park and neighboring towns, Osceola Church has planned a day of fun, games and treats for all who attend. Food and refreshments will be available.

The carnival will be held in Fellowship Hall from 1 to 5 p.m.; rain or shine. Parking is available in the Osceola Church lot or across the street at Grace and Peace Church.

Admission costs \$5 and includes 20 game tickets plus four snack tick-

# Trade show highlights trends in rescue work

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

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.

# **Lions Club sponsors** flea market, show

Clark Lions Club will sponsor a flea market and collectibles show, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave.

Sale items include new mechandise, crafts and collectibles, and a garage/tag sale section.

For more information, call 201-

# Support Kiwanis Club with spaghetti dinner

Clark Kiwanis Club will hold its annual spaghetti dinner from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Zion Lutheran Church, 559 Raritan Road.

the event for 11 years. It is being funded in part this year by Fleet Bank of Clark and Clark ShopRite.

"Both businesses have contributed greatly to our event each year, and we are appreciative of the efforts of Bank Vice President Robin Roszkowski and ShopRite manager Frank Juba," said Susan Dougherty, the club's current president. "We couldn't ever take on this project without the help of the area businesses like Fleet and ShopRite."

The spaghetti dinner is a daylong family event involving builders club students from Carl H. Kumpf Middle School and the Key Club members of Arthur L. Johnson High School who serve as waiters and waitresses.

As the parent organization of those two service organizations, Kiwanis Club oversees their activities, which

include projects with Habitat for Humanity, nursing home visits, walka-thons and fundraisers for children's charities.

The Clark Kiwanis Club funds scholarships to middle school and high school students for leadership conventions, for team building retreats, and incentive for service involvement in college.

Tickets cost \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens, and \$5 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Take-out is available. Tables for

groups will be arranged. For advance tickets to the spaghetti dinner, call Kiwanis Club Secretary Angie Maulbeck at 732-382-0910 during business hours.

# The Kiwanis Club has sponsored Aid Project Graduation at breakfast fund-raiser

There will be a breakfast fund-raiser for Project Graduation at the Gran Centurions hall on Madison Hill Road on March 14.

There will be continuous seating from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$12 for adults, and \$8 for senior citizens and children younger than 12.

For more information, call Diane at 732-388-4543 or Regina at 732-396-

# Breakfast to benefit victims of house fire

A breakfast to benefit the DaSilva family will be held from 9 a.m. to noon April 3 at Gran Centurions, 440 Madison Hill Road.

The DaSilvas lost their home in a fire Jan. 19 that also killed Joao DaSilva, 46. Advocates for a Better Clark is holding the breakfast to assist his widow and two sons.

Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$8 for children younger than 12. They are available at Arena Sports, cuts fitness for men and Gran Centurions, or by writing to Cuts Fitness for Men, P.O. Box 5578, Clark

For more information, call Sheila Whiting at 732-388-0848.

# **Country Western dinner** dance benefits St. Jude

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will sponsor the ninth annua! Country Western dinner and dance May 1 at the Gran Centurions, 440 Madison Hill Road, Clark.

Entertainer Danny Thomas founded St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The hospital is non-sectarian, non-discriminatory, and children are treated regardless of their ability to

At. St. Jude, scientists and physicians are working side-by-side seeking a better means of treating, but also the causes, cures, and prevention of luekemia, Hodgkin's disease. All findings and information gained at the hospital are shared freely with doctors and hospitals all over the world. Thanks to St. Jude Hospital, children who have these diseases now have a better chance to live.

The Country Western dinner and dance will feature live music by Miss Babs and the Kickin' Boogie Band, and DJ's Jim and Wanda York.

For information and tickets, call Ray Fleming at 732-382-7167.

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# **CLUBS IN THE NEWS**

# Wed. Morning Club learns about making sweatshirts

The Wednesday Morning Club, a woman's study group, has scheduled a Fine Arts Department meeting at the home of Luda Spokoyny at 1 p.m. today.

Doris Woglom will present a program on "Iraqi Treasures." New members are welcome.

For more information, call Marie Mastorakis at 908-272-6243.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed pro-posals will be received by the Township of Clark, Union County, New Jersey for

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF GRASS CLIPPINGS

and opened and read in public by the Township Clerk/ and or Business Administrator for the Township of Clark, Room 16, 430 Wastfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Thursday, March 11, 2004, at 10:00 a.m., prevailing time.

Specifications for the proposed work, prepared by John F. Laezza, Business Administrator, are on file in the office of the Township Clerk, Room 28, 430 Wastfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey, and may be inspected by prospective bidders during business hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
Bidders will be furnished with a conv of

the lownship clerk, Room 2s, 430 west-field Avenue, Clark, New Jersey, and may be inspected by prospective bidders during business hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Bidders will be furnished with a copy of the Specifications by request upon proper notice. Proposals must be made on the standard proposal forms in the manner designated in the Contract documents. Proposals must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the Bidder, and the name of the work on the outside; addressed to Mayor and Council, Township of Clark; and must be accompanied by a statement of Consent of Surety from a surety company authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the Township and either a Bid Bond or a Certified Check drawn to the order of Treasurer of the Township of Clark for not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, except that the check need not exceed \$20,000.00.

The Township reserves the right to require a complete financial and experience statement from prospective bidders showing that they have satisfactorily completed work of the nature required before awarding the Contract.

Proposals for this Contract will be accepted only from bidders who have properly qualified in accordance with the requirements of the Contract Documents.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities where such informality is not detrimental to the best interest of the Township. The right is also reserved to increase or decrease the quantities specifications.

The successful bidder shall be required to comply with the following:

A. Anti-Kickback Regulations under Section 2 of the Act of June 13, 1934, known as the Copeland Act.

B. The Affirmative Action requirement of P.L. 1975, c. 127.

C. The provisions of the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, Chapter 150 of the Laws of 1963, effective January 1, 1964.

D. All bidders are required to comply with the Regulations of P.L. 1999, c.238, "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act" when dealing with

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Clark, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey on February 17, 2004 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows: Title: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,000,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT. TO

\$1,000,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Purpose(s): (A) Reconstruction or replacement of roofs on the Municipal Building, Public Safety Building and Department of Public Works Building and related structural improvements, as needed, and (B) various renovations and improvements to the Municipal Building and other municipal facilities.

Appropriation: \$1,000,000 Bonos/Notes Authorized: \$950,000 Grants (if any) Appropriated: -0-Section 20 Costs: \$20,000 Useful Life: 15 years

Kathleen Leonard Township Clerk U1768 CCE Feb. 26, 2004 (\$19.13)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed pro-posals will be received by the Township of Clark, Union County, New Jersey for

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF LEAVES

and opened and read in public by the Township Clerk/Business Administrator for the Township of Clark, Room 16, 430

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(800) 576-1100 (888) 336-8400 REW YORK TOLL FREE NEW JERSEY TOLL FREE Spiegel & Utters, P.A., P.C.

Doris Taber from the Applied Arts/Home Life

Department will demonstrate the art of flower pot painting to the members of the Wednesday Morning Club of Cranford at the business meeting on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave.

Sandi Pells, president, will preside at the business meeting prior to the program. Pells would like all members to participate in the candycookie project at the Cranford Community Center on March 8 at 9 a.m. This yearly project supports local charities. Contact Barbara Hammerl for details.

Forthcoming department meetings:

• The Public Affairs department will meet at the home of Lee McArthur on March 9 at 1 p.m. Contact Alice Roberts for details.

• The Drama/Music department will meet at the home of Ludu Spokoyny on March 10 at 9:30 a.m. for a program on the history of Russian opera houses. Mary Crane will co-hostess.

· The Literature Department will meet at the home of Lee McArthur on March 11 at 1 p.m. Marge Schneider will lead a discussion on the book Lacy B by Sandra O'Connor.

Local women interested in pursuing topics of cultural interest such as antiques, applied art/home life, fine arts, drama/music or public affairs should call Marie Mastorakis at 908-272-6243. New members are welcome.

The Cranford Village Improvement Association held its annual Valentine's Day luncheon Feb. 10 at The Westwood in Garwood, with

# Valentine's luncheon

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**OBITUARIES** 

Edwin J. Scott, 71, of Bayville, for-

Born in Newark, Mr. Scott lived in

He was a manufacturing engineer

merly of Cranford, died Feb. 5 in Jer-

Cranford until 1992 when he moved to

Toms River and then to Bayville six

with Purolator Products Inc. of Rah-

way for 33 years and retired in 1988.

sey Shore Medical Center, Neptune.

Edwin J. Scott

marine resources and protection of flora and fauna.

Kathleen Leonard Township Clerk U1769 CCE Feb. 26, 2004 (\$86.25)

LEGAL NOTICE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustment (Zoning), Township of Cranford, County of Union, New Jersey will hold a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 8, 2004 at 7:45 p.m. in Room 107 of the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey and to hear the following case:

Application #Z02-04: James and Victoria Sweeney, Applicants, 32 Central Avenue, Block 184, Lot 15, Zone R-1 to permit construction of a front porch with less that the required front yard setback (136-30.6) and any such other variances as may be required.

Barbara Ginsberg Secretary U1772 CCE Feb. 26, 2004 (\$15.75)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Use





# VIA holds annual

entertainment.

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

PUBLIC NOTICE

Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Thursday, March 11, 2004, at 10:00 a.m., prevailing time.
Specifications for the proposed work, prepared by John F. Laezza, Business Administrator, are on file in the office of the Township Clerk, Room 28, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey, and may be inspected by prospective bidders during business hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Bidders will be furnished with a copy of the Specifications by request upon proper notice. Proposals must be made on the standard propposal forms in the manner designated in the Contract documents. Proposals must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the Bidder, and the name of the work on the outside; addressed to Mayor and Council, Township of Clark; and must be accompanied by a statement of Consent of Surety from a surety company authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the Township and either a Bid Bond or a Certified Check drawn to the order of Treasurer of the Township of Clark for not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, except that the check need not exceed \$20,000.00. The Township reserves the right to require a complete financial and experience statement from prospective bidders showing that they have satisfactorily completed work of the nature required before awarding the Contract.

Proposals for this Contract will be accepted only from bidders who have properly qualified in accordance with the requirements of the Contract Documents. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities where such informality is not detrimental to the best interest of the Township. The right is also reserved to increase or decrease the quantities specifications.

The successful bidder shall be required to comply with the following:

A. Anti-Rickback Regulations under Section 2 of the Act of June 13, 1934, known as the Copeland Act.

B. The Affirmative Action requirement of P.L. 1975, c. 127.

C. The provisions of the New Jerse

# NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARDED

The Township of Clark has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as a professional service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5. This contract and the resolution to the contract and the resolution in the office of the Municipal Clark

Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC Awarded to: Township Planner Service

Time Period:

February 17, 2004 -December 31, 2004 Fee: \$5,000.00 U1781 CCE Feb. 26, 2004 (\$7.50)

# NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed pro-posals will be received by the Township of Clark, Union County, New Jersey for SHADE TREE SERVICES

Clark, Union County, New Jersey for

SHADE TREE SERVICES

and opened and read in public by the Township Clerk and/or Business Administrator for the Township of Clark, Noom 16, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Thursday, March 11, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time.

Specifications for the proposed work, prepared by John F. Laezza, Business Administrator, are on file in the office of the Township Clerk, Room 28, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey, and may be inspected by prospective bidders during business hours between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

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vailing Wage Act, Chapter 150 of the Laws of 1963, effective January 1, 1964.

D. All bidders are required to comply with the Regulations of P.L. 1999, c.238, "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act' when dealing with repair, maintena

# TOWNSHIP OF CLARK NOTICE OF INTENTION

NOTICE OF INTENTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a Regular Council Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Clark, County of Union, State of New Jersey on Tuesday, February 17, 2004 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at a Regular Meeting at 315 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey on Monday, March 15, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. prevailing time, at which time and place all persons interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. concerning the same.

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL CHAPTER 2 SECTION 2-33 ET SEQ. OF THE

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK ENTITLED "ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WITHIN THE
TOWNSHIP OF CLARK" AND TO SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 2 OF THE REVISED
ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CLARK FOR THE CREATION OF AN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WITHIN
THE TOWNSHIP OF CLARK IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE ENABLING
LEGISLATION N.J.S.A. 40;56A-1 ET
SEQ.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Township of Clark previously adopted Chapter 2, Section 2-33 of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Clark entitled "Environmental Commission" which ordinance is in certain particulars at variance with and contrary to the enabling legislation provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56A-1 et seq.; and WHEREAS, the Township of Clark is desirous of repealing the existing ordinance which is in non-conformity with the foregoing statute and adopting an appropriate legislation; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Repeal
Chapter 2 of Section 2-33 of the Revised
Ordinances of the Township of Clark is
hereby repealed in its entirety.
SECTION 2: Establishment of Commission
The Township of Clark pursuant to the
statutory authority contained in N.J.S.A.
40A56A-1 et seq. hereby creates an Environmental Commission in and for the
Township of Clark and for the protection,
development or use of natural resources,
including water resources, located within
its territorial limits.
SECTION 3: Composition: Terms of

including water resources, located within its territorial limits.

SECTION 3: Composition: Terms of Office: Removal and Vacancy

The Commission shall consist of seven members appointed by the Mayor of the Township, one of whom shall also be a member of the Township Planning Board and all of whom shall be residents of the Township; the members shall serve without compensation except as hereinafter provided. The Mayor of the Township shall designate one of the members to serve as chairman and presiding officer of the Commission.

The terms of office of the first Commissioners shall be for 1, 2 or 3 years, to be designated by the Mayor in making his appointments so that the terms of approximately 1/3 of the members will expire each year, and their successors shall be appointed for terms of 3 years and until the appointment and qualification of their successors.

The Mayor or Governing Body of the Township may remove any member of the Commission for cause, on written charges served upon the member and after a hearing thereon at which the member shall be

A vacancy on the Commission occurring otherwise than by the expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the powers of appointment and removal hereby accorded to the Mayor of a Township shall be vested in the elected official designated or, where there is a vacancy in the office of mayor, in the duly designated Acting Mayor.

SECTION 4: Alternate Members
There shall be appointed 2 alternate members of the Commission. Alternate members shall be appointed by the Governing Body, and shall be designated

# **PUBLIC NOTICE** Alternate No. 1 and Alternate No. 2.

The terms of the alternate members shall The terms of the alternate members shall be for two years, except that the terms of the alternate members first appointed shall be two years for Alternate No. 1 and one year for Alternate No. 2 so that the term of not more than one alternate member shall expire in any one year. A vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of term shall be filled by the Governing Body for the unexpired term only.

An alternate member shall not be permitted to act on any matter in which he has either directly or indirectly any personal or financial interest. An alternate member may, after the public hearing if he requests one, be removed by the Governing Body for cause.

An alternate member may participate discussions of the proceedings but may not vote except in the absence or disqualification of a regular member. A vote shall not be delayed in order that a regular member may vote instead of an alternate member. In the event that a choice must be made as to which alternate members is to vote, Alternate No. 1 shall vote first.

SECTION 5: Powers of Commission

The Environmental Commission shall have power to conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the Township and may coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes, and may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purposes. It shall keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps and other wetlands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas, and may from time to time recommend to the Planning Board or, if none, to the Mayor and Governing Body of the Township, plans and programs for inclusion in a municipal master plan and the development of such lands.

SECTION 6: Acquisition by Commission to the approval of the Governing Body, acquire property, both real and personal, in the name of the Township by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise or lease for any of its purposes and shall administer the same for such purposes subject to the approval of the Governing Body, acquire property, both real and personal, in the name of the Township by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise or lease for any of its purposes and shall administer the same for such purposes subject to the terms of the conveyance or gift. Such an acquisition may be to acquire the fee or any lesser interest, development, right, encement (including conservation easement), covenant or other contractual right (including a conveyance on conditions or with limitations or reversions), as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect. Ilmit the fu

it.

SECTION 9: Studies and Recommendations

The Environmental Commission shall have power to study and make recommendations concerning open space preservation, water resources management, air pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance,

SECTION 10: Inconsistent Ordinance Any Ordinances or parts thereof inconsis-Any Ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 11. Effective Date
This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and upon publication according to Law.

Kathleen Leonard

All maps and papers relative to said application are on file in the Planning/Zoning Office, Cranford Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey and are available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M.

Any interested party or person or persons affected by this application will have an opportunity to present any objections of the proposed development. The Board does, however, have the right to exclude repetitious testimony in accordance with the rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Barbara Ginsberg

Estate of: PAULA M. FERRANCE, Deceased

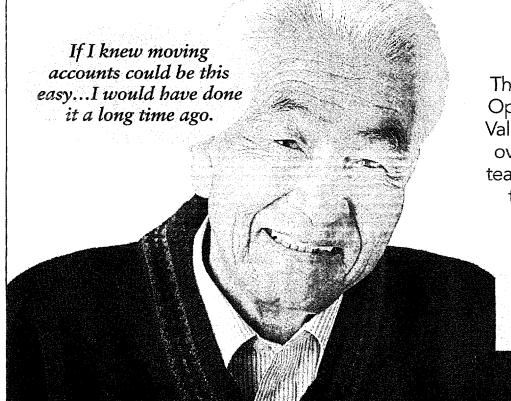
Pursuant to the order of James S. LaCorte, Surrogate of the County of Union, made on the 20TH day of FEBRU-ARY, A.D. 2004, upon the application of the undersigned, as EXECUTORS of the estate of said deceased, notice is hereby given to the creditors of said deceased to exhibit to the subscriber under oath or affirmation their claims and demands against the estate of said deceased within six months from the date of said order.

PAULA T. FERRANCE MARGARET M. FERRANCE EXECUTORS

ATTORNEYS
VENTURA, MIESOWITZ, ALBANO & KEOUGH
783 SPRINGFIELD AVE.
SUMMIT, NJ 07901
U1775 CCE Feb. 26, 2004 (\$9.38)

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# Professional Directory

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Lic.5694 Cert. 1124

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# description County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004 - SECTION B

# 15 minutes of fame

For some locals, their 15 minutes of fame may soon be at hand. Despite all the whining by the press and politicians, if the numbers break just right, New Jersey's June primary might be very important.

Come Tuesday, with 10 states having their Democratic primaries, if John Edwards can hold on, things could get interesting. The following week, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas will hold their vote, with Edwards having a chance to play catch-up.

# Left Out

By Frank Capece

Just think about it, the two Senators coming down to the wire. In an election where Howard Dean was the sure winner at one point, the road to the Boston Democratic Convention has to stop first in New Jersey. As the candidates and media converge, no more cracks about the Turnpike or "The Sopranos." Heck the good people of Union County have opinions and they want to hear them.

With the avalanche of cable stations like MSNBC and FOX. they will have to fill air space and we will be the only game in town. Just like in other states, can you see Chris Matthews having a beer at Frenchy's in Roselle Park to find out what is really on the common man's mind. County Democratic Party Executive Director Evan Parness can use his Brown University degree to give insightful views as to how Clark will go in the primary.

Party big-wigs like Charlotte DeFilippo, Chris Bollwage and Joe Suliga will be hot topics for interviews. As the candidates campaign, we can speak to them and maybe end up on C-SPAN's "Road to the White House" on Sunday night against "The Practice"on ABC. In an election where Kerry has spent \$7 million and Edwards raised \$700,000 in New Jersey last week, our views will really matter. A lot of other people will be needed to hold signs behind the candidates at events.

The process will involve more than just the Democrats. Even the local press become celebrities, of sorts. Tim Russert and Don Rather might seek the views of Worrall Editor in Chief Tom Canavan as to how the county will really swing. They did it in Iowa and other places.

It will give us all a chance to set out our views on people like Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan. Last week he dismissed concerns over outsourcing middle-class jobs. Easy for him considering his gig and his wife Andrea Mitchell's high-paying position at NBC. We can actually ask the candidates for president what they are going to do for victims of this loss of jobs.

The Republicans on the other can sit back knowing their candidate, President George W. Bush, has \$150 million ready for a General Election defense of his presidency. Still, they should pay atten-

Next year a healthy number of Republican candidates are gearing up to take on the poll-challenged incumbent James McGreevey. Since only Virginia and New Jersey will have elections for governor, it becomes a referendum on the president, whoever wins. I can see it now, with air time to fill, the election contest in the primary of Chris Christie, Diane Allen, and

others gets big coverage. Republican stalwarts like Bill Palatucci of Westfield, Mountainside Mayor Bob Viglianti and Tom Kean Jr. will be sought for on-air interviews. Clark Republican Chairman John DeSimone will be asked as to which way his town will go. Canavan will be grilled as to which way the county is really heading. Don't you love it when all politics are local?

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

# New youth jail slated in Linden

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer

Union County's new juvenile detention center will be constructed on Edwards Street in Linden.

The county will pay \$4.3 million to acquire four acres of property at 1075 Edwards St., located off of Routes 1&9. The county expects to acquire the land within the first two weeks of

Union County Manager George Devanney said the county had been negotiating to acquire the Linden site since the end of last year.

"The construction and purchase of the site has been put into the hands of the Improvement Authority now," he said.

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders approved a loan of \$4.3 million to the county's Improvement Authority for the implementation of the project at its Feb. 5 regular

After the site is purchased, designs for the new facility will be laid out and then bids for the actual construction of the project will be reviewed.

Devanney said the county hopes to break ground on the facility sometime this year.

"The Improvement Authority is looking at a number of options to potentially fast-track the project," he

To speed up the project, the county might accept bids simultaneously for the designs and construction. The

loss of approximately \$160,000 in 2002.

lican freeholder candidate.

payers of Union County."

tion right now?"

equipped and better suited to operate an arts center."

of annually contributing grants to the arts center.

\$29,000 and Rahway contributed just over \$50,000.

ney said.

By Joshua Zaitz

Staff Writer

Center in Rahway it has not come up with an estimated cost or formal plan to

economic development investment," Union County Manager George Devan-

come from to purchase the arts center, however, he anticipates the county

Although the county is still interested in purchasing the Union County Arts

"We're not looking at it as an arts center project. We're looking at it as an

Devanney said the county has not discussed in detail where the funds will

With continually rising property taxes and the state in such a financial grid-

lock, some people have questioned whether the county should get itself

involved in the arts business; an industry which typically is not a money maker.

Consumer Affairs, the arts center's total revenues in 2002 were approximately

\$900,000 while total expenses were approximately \$1.06 million, an operating

According to documents filed by the arts center with the state's Division of

"As a taxpayer, I would be very concerned that Union County is contem-

plating purchasing an arts center that runs at a \$160,000 deficit," said Stuart

Kline, a member of the Fanwood Borough Council and Republican freeholder

candidate last year. "There may be parties in the private sector that are better

arts center, said Wally Shackell, a watchdog for the GOP and two-time Repub-

"However, we don't believe that taking this approach is beneficial to the tax-

The Republican party does not see the benefit of the county purchasing the

'We want to see a viable arts center like anybody else," said Shackell.

"They have been contributing to the Union County Arts Center. Why sud-

According to 2002 tax documents, Union County contributed \$75,000 to the

arts center; the most out of any government entity. That same year, the state

contributed \$1,104 to the arts center, the state's Council on the Arts contributed

denly go out and buy it?" said Shackell. "What's wrong with the current situa-

process could save six months toward completing the project.

While no estimates are available on how much the entire facility will cost to build, the average cost to build a single cell in New Jersey is approximately \$200,000. The new juvenile detention center will have a minimum of 86 beds, which, based on the average cost, would total \$17.2 million.

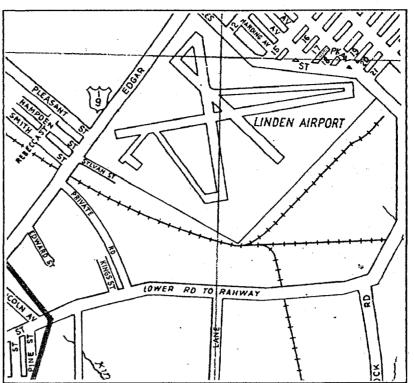
Following the suicide of an inmate last spring, the state's Juvenile Justice Commission mandated that the county build a new juvenile detention facility to replace the George W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center in Elizabeth.

The commission also capped the number of detainees house at the facility at 34.

The county has yet to determine what it will do with the George W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center once the new facility is completed but is exploring a number of options, all of which will generate revenue, a spokesperson said.

Linden Mayor John Gregorio said he had discussions with the county in regard to constructing the new juvenile detention center in his city.

"There's not much I can do if they've decided to do it," he said. "It's not in a residential zone and I told the county that I'd be very disappointed and I'd do everything I could to stop them from putting up a place that looked like a prison with barbed wire. They promised me that wouldn't hap-



Source: Hagstrom Map Company Inc.

Union County will acquire a four-acre parcel of land on Edward Street in Linden, in the lower left corner of this map, for \$4.3 million to construct a new juvenile detention center.

said he didn't have any concerns or objections about the new facility being located so close to Rahway.

"The area is predominantly commercial space back there - warehouses and things like that," Kennedy said. "I think it's a good fit in a densely populated county."

The county will continue to send some of its juvenile detainees to facilities outside the county as it awaits the purchase of the site and construction of a new youth jail.

Union County's detention center, county is only averaging 16 a day.

Rahway Mayor James Kennedy located on the seventh floor of the parking garage next to the county courthouse, had been approximately 50, prior to the state's mandated cap.

Last year, freeholders allocated \$1.1 million for the purpose of housing additional juvenile detainees at facilities outside Union County.

This year, freeholders allocated \$1.5 million for the same purpose. The county doesn't anticipate using the entire amount of money.

The number of detainees housed outside Union County last year aver-The average daily population at aged about 30 a day. This year the

# **New faces** will be on board

http://www.localsource.com

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer

Freeholder Lewis Mingo will not seek re-election to his third term on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders while John Wohlrab has become the last candidate interested in filling a vacancy next month.

Mingo, a retired executive with NYNEX and a Plainfield resident, will finish the remainder of his term, which expires on Dec. 31. It is expected that Plainfield Council President Adrian Mapp will replace Mingo on the Democratic ticket.

"The freeholder board offered me the opportunity to be able to help people, to focus on children and seniors,"

"I'm going to miss that opportunity from that level."

Since last June, when Plainfield Mayor Albert McWilliams defeated Assemblyman Gerald Green, D-Union, to become the city's Democratic chairman, it's been expected that Mingo, a Green ally, would not receive the party line this year.

Mingo said that he "can't deny" that his decision to not seek re-election has to do with the change in Democratic leadership in Plainfield.

"The local people, if they think that there's another way to go, if they think that they need to express things in a different form or fashion, then I guess that's what politics are all about," said Mingo.

While freeholders are elected atlarge, Democrats have historically selected at least one seat to be filled by a Plainfield resident and the city's municipal chairman generally has had input on who that is.

"The top candidate in my mind would by Adrian Mapp who is currently on the City Council in Plainfield," said McWilliams. "He is the senior member of the council."

Regarding not seeking re-election, Mingo cited his desire to pursue personal and family goals. He said his wish is to allow the Plainfield leadership the opportunity to put forward a member of its own team on the freeholder board.

"They're looking for something different, whatever that might be," he said. "I had a good run. I have nothing

After having conversations with Mingo, McWilliams said he wasn't sure whether or not the freeholder would pursue re-election. However, McWilliams said he was not surprised by Mingo's decision.

"I think he was a good freeholder and he served his time on the freeholder board with integrity," said McWilliams.

In 1998, Mingo was appointed to fill the seat of Walter McNeil of Plainfield, who resigned to become the city's administrator.

McNeil said he was surprised that Mingo has decided not to seek re-election. However, McNeil, who is currently the executive director of the Plainfield Housing Authority, said he has no interest in reacquiring his former seat on the board.

Mapp, who has served on Plainfield's governing body for seven years and has been a city resident since 1979, said he was honored to be considered as a possible replacement for

"My financial background would certainly be an asset to the freeholder board," said Mapp, who is a certified public accountant at by Bristol-Meyers Squib in Plainsboro.

Mingo not seeking re-election will mark the second change to the current freeholder board this year.

State. Sen. Nicholas Scutari, D-Union, will resign his seat on the freeholder board on Monday. Wohlrab is the front-runner to replace him.

Linden Councilman Eugene Davis had expressed interest in the seat, but announced last week that he will support Wohlrab.

Linden Mayor John Gregorio had been adamant that Scutari's replacement hail from Linden. Scutari is lifelong Linden resident. Wohlrab is a native of Linden and purchased a home in the city last month.

Once Scutari resigns, the Union County Democratic Committee has 30 days to conduct a special election among delegates and elect a replace-



ment and that'd be great," he said. Devanney said the motive behind acquiring the arts center is to showcase it as a centerpiece in a revitalized downtown Rahway.

"By and large the reason we're doing this is for an economic development benefit for the city of Rahway," said Devanney. "They've got a major econom-

ic redevelopment ongoing." Rahway is in the midst of a \$100-million private redevelopment project downtown. The redevelopment includes additional housing, a parking deck,

library and recreation center. The arts center area was rezoned by Rahway and designated an arts center

district, which helps the area receive grants. Rahway Mayor James Kennedy said he thought it was a great idea for the

county to purchase the arts center. "The Union County Arts Center is certainly the jewel of the arts district," he said. "Without that, the rest of it doesn't make a whole lot of sense. The coun-

ty, I believe, sees the merits of having a county facility." Union County Arts Center Interim Executive Director Donna Sandorse said that by the county taking over the center it can pour in much needed money to refurbish the facility, including the addition of air conditioning, which would

allow the arts center to extend its programs into the summer months. A study, commissioned by the county last year, was charged with determining the feasibility and cost of renovating the 75-year-old facility.

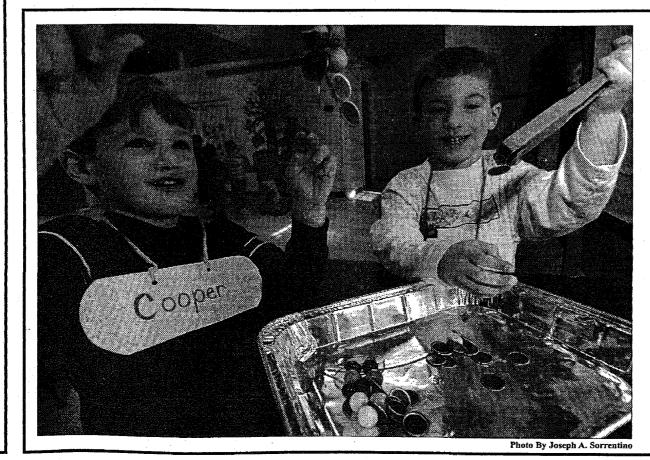
Currently, the arts center's season typically ends during the last week in May. The facility is too hot in the summer to have performances during later

"It will hopefully enable us to complete some of the renovations that need Shackell questioned why the county can't just continue its current practice to be done," said Sandorse. Sandorse said she was hopeful that the county would also expand the facil-

"It will enable us to present programming that we haven't been able to do,"

Some of those programs might include larger-scale theater productions and

maybe dance productions. "Right now we don't really have a backstage area," said Sandorse. "With the expansion we'll be able to present that type of programming."



HANGING AROUND — Cooper Heisey and Liam Holbert discover the wonder of magnets during a children's workshop last week at Trailside Nature and Science Center Mountainside.

# Horseback riding lessons

Spring is just around the corner, and the Watchung Stable, a facility of the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, is busy preparing for the beginning of horseback riding lessons.

All applicants for the beginners' program must be 9 years of age or older. Assignments to classes are based upon riding ability as determined by the Watchung Stable management. Applicants with previous experience may be asked to demonstrate their riding ability in order to be placed in the appropriate class.

Some classes are still available at various times, Tuesday through Saturdays. Students are required to purchase uniforms and helmets.

The stable also features adult lessons, for persons age 18 or older, beginning the week of March 23. Adult classes are available on Sundays at 12:45 p.m., Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

All registrations and fees must be submitted in person at the Watchung Stable, 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside. Office hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. daily.

For more information and to obtain registration materials, call 908 789-

# Week of events at UCC set to conclude today

Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford, will conclude a week of events entitled, "Overcoming Hatred/Creating Community."

Three days of events were dedicated to creating a more civil society through an understanding of the roots of hatred. The series of events is sponsored by JP Morgan Chase Foundation, the Union County College Foundation, and individual donors. All the events are open to the public and the entire college community. There are no admission fee and seating for each event is based on a first-come, firstserved basis

The final day of events begins today at 11 a.m. in the Roy Smith Theater, on the Cranford campus at 7 p.m. "The Globalized Woman" will be presented by Erica Polakoff, professor in the Sociology and Women's Studies Department at Bloomfield College.

At 7 p.m., also in the Theater, "Fate

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Did Not Let Me Go - A story of the Holocaust with Stephen Ollendorff', will be presented. This is the amazing story of a mother's last letter to her son that was delivered 45 years after it was sent by her as she was sent to a concentration camp.

The final event at 7 p.m. will be held in the cafeteria on the Plainfield campus. The film "Compensation" will be shown which interweaves the stories of two couples in Chicago nearly a century apart, these tales explore the dynamics of discrimination the couples face — being African-American and hearing-impaired and how it affects their lives in different times.

For more information on the week's events, call the Development Office at 908-709-7505. For directions to any of the college's campuses, visit

If you or someone attending with you is in need of special accommodations due to a disability, call Barbara Milne, coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 908-709-

### Free tax assistance

RSVP and AARP both offer free tax assistance to senior citizens and other lower-income taxpayers at locations throughout Union County.

To request an appointment, taxpayers must call the site in their local community and bring with them their 2003 records of income, deductions, property tax bills, and their 2002 income tax file. Last year, volunteers aided more than 2,600 citizens with their tax returns.

Free tax assistance will be offered from early February until April 15 at the following locations:

· Berkeley Heights Free Public Library, 290 Plainfield Ave., 908-464-

• Clark Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave., 732-388-3600.

• Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave., 908-709-7283.

• Elizabeth Free Public Library, 11 S. Broad St., no appointments necessary. Tax help on Thursdays from Feb. 5 to April 15, 9 a.m. to noon.

· Kenilworth Free Public Library, 548 Boulevard, 908-276-1451.

Mountainside Free Public Library, Constitution Plaza, 908-233-0115.



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# **COUNTY NEWS**

· New Providence Senior Center, 4th Street, 908-665-0046.

• Plainfield Senior Center, 305 E. Front St., 908-753-3506.

· Plainfield Free Public Library. 8th and Park avenues, Plainfield, 908-753-3506.

Senior Citizen Annex, 1036 Esterbrook Ave., Rahway, 732-827-

· Casano Community Center, 314 Chestnut St., Roselle Park, 908-245-

· Scotch Plains Free Public Library.

Bartle Avenue, 908-322-5007. · Springfield Free Public Library,

66 Mountain Ave., 908-376-4930. Union Senior Center, 968 Bonnel

Court, 908-851-5290. • Community Center, 558 W. Broad

St., Westfield, 908-232-4759. • St. Helen's Parish Center, 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield, 908-232-

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.

# Fun Run March 6

The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee will sponsor its annual "Finnegan's Wake" and Guinness Fun Run on March 6 at the Knights of Columbus Council 253, Union Avenue, just off Morris Avenue, Elizabeth, from 2 to 6 p.m.

Admission is \$15 per person, which includes food, beer and soda. There will be continuous live Irish-American entertainment featuring "The Mike Bryne Band." The Parade Committee will be saluting all the Union County police departments at the fund-raiser.

For information, call Lynn Raymond at 908-965-4969, the Knights of Columbus at 908-355-2253, Kathy Rotando at 908-352-1477, Ray Lynch at 908-272-4940, Liz Welsh at 908-486-7118 or Kevin Dowling at 732-594-1763.

Registration for the Guinness Fun Run is \$25 which includes admission into Finnegan's Wake, T-shirt and complimentary beverages, will start at 11:30 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Council 253. The race will commence at 1:30 p.m. and end at the start of the Finnegan's Wake.

# Community blood drives

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

• Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1550 Irving St., Rahway.

• March 7, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Helen's Church, 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield.

• March 8, 4 to 8 p.m., Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plain-

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

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

# Senior outreach services

The Union County Division on Aging in the Department of Human Services will bring its Outreach Services Program for senior citizens to five locations in March. The Outreach Services Program offers senior citizens information and help with applications for a variety of important government assistance programs.

Elderly, isolated individuals from throughout the county who meet eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply for vital services through our outreach program. Services can supplement the basic needs of the isolated elderly and sustain or improve their

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

Staff members will conduct private interviews on request.

The Outreach Services Program will visit the following locations in March:

 March 4, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Roselle Borough Hall, 210 Chestnut St., 908-245-5600.

• March 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Elizabeth Center Apartments, Community Room, 809 Pearl St., 908-351-5332.

 March 19, 10 a.m. to noon, PRO-CEED Office, 1126 Dickinson St., Elizabeth, Spanish/English, 908-351-

• March 25, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Peterstown Community Center, 408 Palmer St., Elizabeth. Congregate nutrition site, call 908-353-9806 if you'd like to make a reservation for

 March 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: El Centro, 525 E. Front St., Spanish/English, 908-753-8730.

Union County representatives will be available to help residents complete the necessary applications for a multitude of programs, including gas and electric support, pharmaceutical assistance, home energy assistance, Supplemental Security Income, and counseling on health insurance for Medicare enrollees.

For more information on the Outreach Services Program and other programs offered by the Union County Division on Aging, call the division's toll-free number at 1-888-280-8226.

# Children's museum fund-raiser April 18

The Children's Museum of Central New Jersey will sponsor a Wee Run Wild 5K Run, Kids Sprints, and Kids Amusement Fair April 18 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union.

The Wee Run Wild 5K will take place at 8:30 a.m., the Kids Sprints at 10:15 a.m. and kids amusement fair from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

all; runners must pre-register. Kid sprints are for children ages 2 to 11.

Entry fees for the 5K run are \$17

The kids amusement fair is open to

by April 12, \$20 after April 12, kids

To register, call 732-381-0318 or www.oymp.net.

Proceeds from the event will be used to build the Children's Museum of Central New Jersey.

The Children's Museum of Central New Jersey is a non-profit organization dedicated to establishing a completely interactive, hands-on museum serving the needs and interests of children. Through exhibits and programs, visitors discover the joy of exploration and the power of play in a wholesome, safe and welcoming environment.

Deliberately named, the Children's Museum of Central New Jersey serves as a regional centerpiece, a gathering point for individuals and institutions from all over central New Jersey.

If you would like more information about joining the quest to create a children's museum, contact CMCNJ, PO Box 3073, Westfield, 07090 or cmcnj.org.

# Discount prescription drug program available

Union County residents are eligible for discounted prescription drugs under a program announced by the Union County Board of Chosen Free-

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

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.







This

ANTQUE C O R N E R

Antique shopping offers the opportunity to spend an afternoon in many ways. The shopper can take a nostalgic journey where childhood memories are stirred; have a history lesson by identifying furniture from different eras; search for the perfect treasure to add to a home, or just get away from it all and relax

dealers display and sell furniture, glass, china, estate jewelry, linens, paintings and prints, all reflecting the dealer's own personal taste as well as an interest in either various periods of history or an area of special interest. All periods of American furnishings are represented from primitive to Victorian to Mission. In addition to American furnishings, the shopper can find everything from French, English and German furniture and wares to early imports from the Far East. The merchandise at the Summit Antiques Center ranges from the fabulous to the funky with everything from treasures from the 18th Century to memorabilia from the 1950s. This eclectic mix offers the shopper a wonderful haven and

there is always something for everyone in the constantly changing inventory. The Summit Antiques Center is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

at 511 Morris Ave., Summit. 908-273-9373.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# N.J. Ballet set to return to Kean

New Jersey Ballet Company, the state's leading ballet troupe, will open its Saturday Night Series at Wilkins Theater, Kean University, Union, on Saturday with a company premiere, two works that are still new to the repertory, and a handful of revivals.

The program will introduce the ground-breaking work of choreographer Davis Robertson to central New Jersey audiences. Known as a dancer as well as choreographer, Robertson has been a member of the Joffrey Ballet since 1993. As a choreographer, his credits include "Zug Zwang," a quartet choreographed in collaboration with Alex Kaschock, inspired by the strategic maneuvers of a chess game, and "Cobalt Blue," which premiered at a benefit performance in 1996. Robertson made national news in 1997 with "Portrait of Hitch," which incorporated both Joffrey and wheelchair dancers. New Jersey Ballet will perform a contemporary pas de deux Robertson called "Unequalibrium."

Other program highlights include not one but two new works which were first seen in Morristown's Community Theater last fall. Both are by choreographer Ali Pourfarrokh. The first, a piece for two couples called "Evocations," is set to the second movement of Maurice Ravel's Piano Concerto in G. The second, a tango, is a white-hot reimagining of the Latin dance form, with music by Mariano Mores and Giraldo Rodriguez. Pourfarrokh thrilled audiences and critics in his last two works for New Jersey Ballet. "Facets" met with tremendous acclaim in the spring of 2002, and "Ariel," which premiered in 2001, went on to make The Star-Ledger's top 10 list of new works. A veteran choreographer with dozens of ballets to his credit, Pourfarroukh is a former principal with American Ballet Theater, Joffrey Ballet, and the Harkness Ballet. He spent 10 years as director and choreographer for the Alberta Ballet in Canada and currently serves as director of the Eglevsky

Ballet on Long Island.

Also on the program are two popular showpieces not seen in recent years. The first, the grand ballroom scene from "Paquita," is a dazzling display of technical virtuosity and classical form with a spicy Spanish flavor. The other, "Le Combat," tells the story of a doomed love between a beautiful Saracen maiden and a Crusader. Choreographed by William Dollar in the period following WWII, with music by Rafaello de Banfield, "Le Combat" creates a vivid picture of warriors on horseback, distant battlefield drums, and the final, fatal tragedy of war. Series subscriptions are still available.

The Feb. 28 performance is the first of a series of three New Jersey Ballet Saturday Night Concerts at Kean University this spring. The other performances will be the company's new full-length production of "Giselle" that critics have called "splendid" and "a triumph" on April 24, and "An Evening of Pas de Deux" on May 22. All performances begin at 8 p.m. Individual tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for senior citizens, and \$15 for students with ID. Subscriptions to the complete series are priced at \$66 for adults, \$54 for senior citizens, and \$42 for students with ID. For information and reservations, call the Wilkins Theater box office at 908-737-4355 or New Jersey Ballet at 973-597-9600.

New Jersey Ballet's extensive performance schedule is made possible in part by support from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by corporate, foundation, and individual contributions. The company has been designated a major arts institution by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for "artistic excellence, substantial programming, and broad public service." For more information and a complete performance schedule, visit the New Jersey Ballet Web site at www.njballet.org.

phers into a prominent area of New

Jersey worthy of examination, conser-

scape and Architecture," and "Digital Photography." Participants in all the

workshops will focus on the activities,

architecture and natural environments

of the historic Cape May area and will include a walking tour of the area,

shooting sessions, discussions, cri-

tiques, and hands-on opportunities. The streets, shoreline and spring blos-

soms of Cape May during this time of

the year will supply each participant

with an abundance of photographic

by Stein to make meaningful images

of people, landscapes, and architecture

that are personal and unique. The

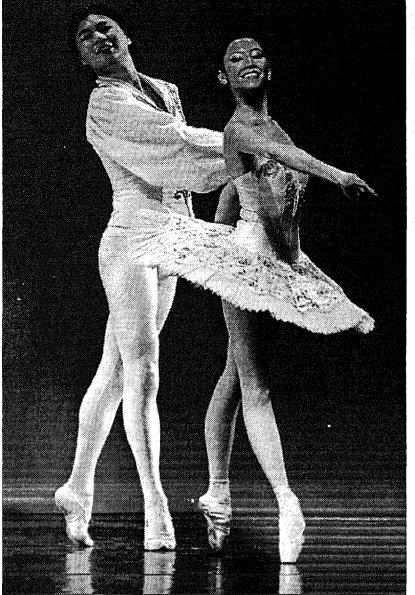
The Cape May Photography Masters Workshop will be led this year by Harvey Stein, noted professional, teacher and author. Given April 14 to 18, this workshop is designed for intermediate and advanced photographers. The goal is to highlight a variety of techniques and approaches used

possibilities.

The workshops vary in levels from experienced to beginner with topics such as "The Master Photography Workshop," "Creative Techniques," "Hand-Painted Photography," "Land-

vation and discovery.

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.



New Jersey Ballet principals Saule Rachmedova, right, and Tuvshin Bold will dance the leads in the ballroom scene from 'Paquita' on Saturday at Kean University.

Ori to lead photo workshops in Cape May

# NJB gets ready for 'Činderella'

Children's show is set for Sunday at Kean

New Jersey Ballet Company will present its production of "Cinderella" on Sunday at a 2 p.m. matinee for children and families at Kean University's Wilkin's Theater.

"Cinderella," choreographed by New Jersey Ballet resident choreographer George Tomal to music by Prokofiev, is a two-act romp through the well-known fairy tale where wickedly funny stepsisters trip over themselves trying to act like ladies and the hours of the clock come to life and dance before the audience's very eyes!

"Cinderella" is the first in a threeconcert series for children.

On April 25, NJB will reprise its famous double-bill of "Peter and the Wolf" and "Beauty and the Beast;" and on May 23, back by popular request, the company will present the American classic, "Tom Sawyer" by David McNaughton.

"Children are enchanted when stories are brought to life through dance and narration," says company director Carolyn Clark, "The combination is a very effective introduction a classical art form."

All tickets for New Jersey's Ballet's "Cinderella" at Kean University are \$10. Subscriptions to the threeconcert series are \$24.

For information and reservations, call the box office at 908-737-4355 or New Jersey Ballet at 973-597-9600.

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emphasis is on developing each stu-Nancy J. Ori, well-known photogdent's own distinctive style while crerapher of architecture and landscape, will lead several groups of photograating a new portfolio of images from

the Cape May area. Tuition is \$300.

A recent addition to the New Jersey Heritage Photography Workshop

series is the Creative Photography Techniques Workshop taught by Nancy Ori. This workshop will provide insights into Polaroid manipulation techniques and Polaroid transferring techniques. It runs April 18 to 21,

with a fee of \$250. This includes use of all the equipment and art supplies necessary to try the techniques being presented. No photography experience

See CAPE, Page B9



'Easter Parade NYC' by Harvey Stein captures a moment in time. Stein will be among the accomplished photographers joining Nancy J. Ori in leading the annual workshops sponsored in Cape May. This year's sessions will take place in April.



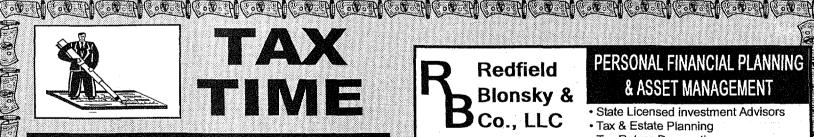
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# **ACROSS**

- 1 Rapscallion 6 Attempt 10 Sorvino, of "At First
- Sight"
- 14 June, of '40s musicals
- 15 Stockings 16 Faulkner title man
- 17 Perform penance 18 Russian metropolis
- 19 Emmy winner Delany 20 Impress, and then some
- 21 All about cheese?
- 24 Reagan's attorney general
- 25 Antigone's sis
- 26 Eritrean capital 29 West Coast gridder
- 30 Adoptee's query?
- 36 Ages and ages and... 37 Slithery swimmer
- 38 Wacky
- 40 Drawing of high-fiber
- foods?
- 45 Digits: abbr.
- 46 Patriotic tune
- 47 Buckeye 51 Temporary breathing
- 53 Shipboard accommodations
- for stowaways? 55 Elec. Guitar attachment
- and the Detectives'
- 59 Swine chow
- 60 Paddle boat
- 62 New Jersey city
- 63 Luce founded it 64 With wings
- 65 Dewrinkle
- 66 Calendar contents 67 Gabriel, of music

# DOWN

inklings this week.

your life for granted.

take you to the top.

- 1 Pygmalion playwright
- 2 Roman orator
- 3 Claim
- 4 Bishop and pawn 5 Likes better

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will

come to recognize friendship as a

valuable possession. Do not make the

mistake of taking the special people in

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): It is time

to earn the recognition, fame and for-

tune you desire. Follow up on a pro-

fessional opportunity that is likely to

CANCER (June 22-July 22): New

friends or associates are drawn to you

for your honesty and integrity. Speak

out on a political or philosophical

about joint resources are likely to

cause friction or confusion among the

sharing parties. Play it smart and put

issue with passion and truth.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Q

6 Gets rid of Puss 7 The Velvet Fog 8 Sailing 9 Waffle variety

**PERIODICALS** 

- 10 Polite palindromic address
- 11 Up in arms

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

- 12 Rambled aimlessly 13 Stupefy
- 22 Clean a pipe 23 Salinger story girl
- 24 Taiwanese island
- 26 Overwhelm 27 Restaurateur Toots
- 28 \_\_\_\_ -War 29 Stir up
- 31 Affirmative votes 32 Section of a journey
- 33 Prince Valiant's lady 34 Ancient German

39 Unit of resistance

41 Minuscule pest

43 Warbled

44 Patella

compound

51 Bouquet

50 Singer K.T.

56 Dust speck

42 Scout's hallmark

47 Diacritical daggers

49 Certain organic

52 Paint alternative

54 Nobelist Wiesel

55 Premed course

57 Juror, in theory

61 Stout relative

48 Patch Adams specialty

See Answers on Page B11

# What's Going On?

# **FLEA MARKET**

SUNDAY February 29, 2004

EVENT: Flea Market and Collectible

PLACE:Clark Municipal Building, 430

TIME:9am-5pm DETAILS: Indoors & Outdoors. Great items including new merchandise, crafts. collectibles, and a garage/tag sale section! For information call 201-997-9535. ORGANIZATION: Sponsored by: Clark

### SATURDAY

February 28th, 2004 EVENT: Big Indoor Flea Market PLACE: Roselle Catholic High School, 1 Raritan Road, Roselle

TIME: 9am-pm PRICE: Call for ticket information 908-ORGANIZATION: Roselle Catholic High School Mothers' Club

### SATURDAY March 6th, 2004

EVENT: Flea Market
PLACE:140-144 Bloomfield Ave., Mont-

PRICE: VENDORS WANTED. For more information call 973-673-7975 or 973-

ORGANIZATION: Bright Hope Baptist

# **FLEA MARKET**

# SUNDAY

March 7, 2004 EVENT: Flea Market, Craft and

Collectible Show PLACE:Belleville High School, 100 Passaic Avenue, Belleville NJ (Off Jorale-

TIMÉ:9am-5pm **DETAILS:** Indoors & Outdoors. New merchandise, crafts, collectibles, and a garage/tag sale section! For information call 201-997-9535.

ORGANIZATION:Sponsored by:BHS

# **RUMMAGE SALE**

777 Liberty Avenue, Union

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY** March 5th, 6th, 2004 EVENT: Rummage Sale PLACE:Battle Hill Community Church,

TIME:Friday -9:30am-4:00pm
Saturday -9:30am-12noon
INFORMATION: Come and find a treasure. Refreshments will be served. For more information call 908-686-LAMB ORGANIZATION: The Moravian women of Battle Hill Community Church

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# **OTHER**

**FRIDAY** February 27, 2004

EVENT: ACAP sponsors a Friday Night Talk presented by Sheila Zaretsky, Ph.D. entitled "Surviving Adolescence" PLACE: The Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis, 769 Northfield

Avenue, Suite LL2, West Orange INFORMATION: Dr. Zaretsky will discuss how we can help teenagers develop the scope of judgement they need during a risky phase of life. Also help parents,

teachers and clinicians immunize them-selves against the cruel things teens need to say. All are welcome. For seating reservations

call 973-736-7600; e-mail:speud@aol.com;

internet www.acap-online.org
ORGANIZATION: Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis.

# SATURDAY

March 6th, 2004 EVENT: St. Patrick's Day Dance- Featuring Willie Lynch PLACE: Roselle Catholic High School, 1 Raritan Road, Roselle

TIME: 8:00- 12:00noon
PRICE: \$25.00 per person For tickets.
Call Erin Sweeney 908-245-2332 or
908-245-2350

ORGANIZATION: Roselle Catholic High

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.

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# Bill VanSant, Editor

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# ARTS CLIPS

tion about the Pearl Street Gallery,

contact the Union County Division of

Cultural and Heritage Affairs by writ-

# Scholis is on exhibit

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders announces the opening of an exhibit of paintings by Dario Scholis of Elizabeth in the gallery space at the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl St. in downtown Elizabeth.

"Mr. Scholis won the competition to design the city of Elizabeth's 9-11 commemorative monument," said Freeholder Chairman Angel G. Estrada. "The 8-foot monument that pays special tribute to the Elizabeth residents who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, is in the new pedestrian plaza in front of the historic Midtown Train Station. We are proud to display paintings by this talented artist."

Scholis was born in Ecuador and studied art at the Escuela de Bellas Artes of the Universidad Central del Ecuador and at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C. His work has been exhibited in cities throughout the United States, Europe and Latin America.

Scholis' painting are on display at the Pearl Street Gallery through March 15. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fri-

"Mr. Scholis works in mixed media, acrylics and intaglios in colorful, traditional South American and contemporary styles," said Freeholder Mary Ruotolo, liaison to the Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board. "We thank Dario Scholis for sharing his inspired and distinctive Maplewood, NJ 07040

732-499-8226 or visit the Web site at Union County artists - whose www.ucac.org. works can be hung on a wall - interested in exhibiting in the gallery are ·Saturday, 8 p.m.: Gospel Fest starring Yolanda Adams. Tickets \$40, welcome to apply. For more informa-

> \$35, \$26. · March 20, 8 p.m.: The Black Brothers and The Aoife Clancy Band.

> Tickets are \$40, \$35 and \$30. · March 21, 3 p.m.: Duck Soup

Ladies: The Music of Duke Ellington." All tickets \$35.

• March 27, 8 p.m.: The Amazing

· April 3, 2:30 p.m.: Movie Matinee, "Sons of the Desert" with Laurel and Hardy. All tickets \$5.

# all of the terms in writing.

HOROSCOPE March 1-7

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do not ARIES (March 21-April 19): Importurn your back on an opportunity for tant information is somehow revealed an ideal partnership. Abandon your through your subconscious. Pay attendoubts and allow a new relationship to tion to your dreams or other intuitive grow into something special.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Clutter or disorder in your work space can be a big distraction. Sort through that mountain of paperwork on your desk and clear your mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Cheer-

best describe your mood this week. Enjoy a variety of social interactions with friends and loved ones. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional serenity is your reward for

and be at peace. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Talking openly and communicating your feelings is the best way to uncover a resolution for an emotional dilemma. Speak from the heart.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Avoid impulsive or extravagant spending without thinking about the consequences. This would be a great time to design a workable budget.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Bridge the gap of understanding between you and a partner or mate. Be willing to compromise on issues that are important to the relationship.

If your birthday is this week, your energy or participation level goes up and you can't help getting excited about the possibilities that are facing you during the coming year. Growth and expansion is indicated through public contact. Go out and shake hands as you meet and greet clients, friends or prospective partners face to face. Avoid unnecessary arguments and work to blend your ideas instead

Also born this week: Ron Howard, Jon Bon Jovi, Chastity Bono, Jake Lloyd, Shaquille O'Neal, and Tammy Fave Bakker.

# ful and optimistic are the words that

understanding and supporting your loved ones in their time of need. Relax of pulling things apart.

# **REUNIONS**

• The following schools will conduct reunions in the coming months: Scotch Plains High School Class of 1994, 10-year reunion, May 15.

25-year reunion, July 24. Battin-Jefferson High School, Elizabeth, Class of 1974, 30-year

Union High School Class of 1979,

reunion, July 31. Hillside High School Class of 1964, 40-year reunion, July 31. Governor Livingston Regional

of 1974, 30-year reunion, Aug. 7. Union High School Class of 1974,

High School, Berkeley Heights, Class

30-year reunion, Aug. 28. Jonathan Dayton Regional High School, Springfield, Class of 1969, 35-year reunion, Oct. 8.

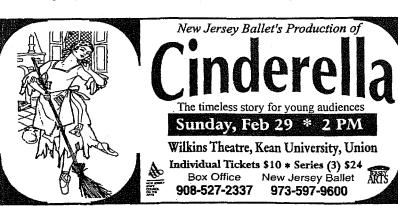
Plainfield High School Class of 1954, 50-year reunion, Oct. 9.

Westfield High School Class of 1974, 30-year reunion, Oct. 23. Hillside High School Class of 1954, 50-year reunion, Nov. 20.

Governor Livingston Regional High School, Berkeley Heights, Class of 1979, 25-year reunion, Nov. 26. Union High School Class of 1969,

35-year reunion, Nov. 26. For information on any of the above reunions, write to Reunions Unlimited Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown, 07726; or call 732-617-

· Union High School Class of





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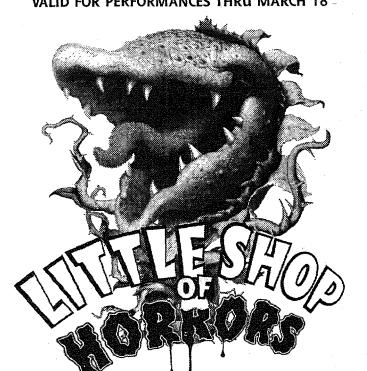
Paquita - Combat - Tango Box Office: New Jersey Ballet 908-737-4355 973-597-9600

1954 will conduct its 50-year reunion

June 19 at the Sheraton Woodbridge. For information, call Jan Murawski at 732-381-1763.

# June 4 to 6, 2004. For information, write to Class of '54 Ruenion Committee, 250 Globe Ave., Union, · Linden High School Class of 1959 will conduct its 45-year reunion





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# ing to 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, 07202; calling 908-558-2550, NJ Relay users can dial 711; or sending e-mail to cul-Magic Show. All tickets are \$10. · March 26, 8 p.m.: "Sophisticated turalinfo@ucnj.org. UCAC lists future gigs Kreskin. Tickets are \$40, \$30. The Union County Arts Center in Rahway has announced Winter/Spring 2003-04 75th Anniversary season. For information, call



(201) 935-3900 Continental Airlines Arena (201) 460-4370 Continental Airlines Arena

(212) 465-MSG1 Madison Square Garden (212) 465-6080 Madison Square Garden

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MAR. 18 - APR. 11

(Sat. APR. 10 shows subject to cancellation by NHL Playoff Games.)

# Five new faces are appointed to board

appointment of five new members to its Board of Trustees. The new appointeees are Jerome Aresty, Marc E. Berson, Ruthi Zinn Byrne, Eric Pryor, and Todd Rechler.

"These five newly appointed board members and all they bring to the board combines with the dedication and talent of the existing board members to establish a diverse and prominent group of directors," said Paper Mill Board Chairman Kenneth Thorn. "We look forward to their vision and leadership as we work toward strengthening the institutional position of Paper Mill Playhouse regionally and nationally."

The new board members are:

· Jerome Aresty of Morristown, a longtime supporter of Paper Mill, is a senior advisor to Alfred Dunner Inc., a major family-owned clothing company. A 1951 graduate of Rutgers, Aresty has contributed greatly to his alma mater by developing major scholarship programs with 50 students receiving financial aid annually, and is a major donor to Rutgers athletic program and their program for Jewish Studies. He has served on the Executive Committee for the Board of Rutgers Foundation. Aresty is noted for his philanthropic and civic generosity.

· Marc E. Berson is chairman of the Fidelco Group in Millburn, and the recently named chairman of the Newark Bears Professional Baseball Club Inc. A practicing attorney since 1968. Berson serves as Of Counsel to the firm of Stern, Greenberg and Kilcullen in Roseland. Berson has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center since its inception more than a decade ago, and also serves on its Executive Committee. He is also a Public Member of the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority; a trustee of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, of the New Newark Foundation, and of the Daughters of Israel Geriatric Center; and is a member of the Board of Overseers of the Rutgers University Foundation. A native of Newark, Berson received an undergraduate degree from Rutgers College in New Brunswick, and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law in Newark. He resides in

· Ruthi Zinn Byrne is founder and owner of Zinn Graves and Field Inc., Public Relations and Marketing. In recent years much of her professional time has been devoted to the communication and management of health care issues. Clients range from sole practitioners to major institutions such as the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. In the case of the Garden State Cancer Center, internationally renowned for its cutting edge research, she spearheaded the formation of the GSCC's Foundation's Board of Trustees. She serves on the board of directors of Clark/Bardes Consulting National Advisory Board, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory Board of Rutgers Business School, the advisory board of New Jersey Medical School, the Executive Committee of New Jersey 300 and is an advisor to the board of the Garden State Cancer Center. A resident of Short Hills, Bryne is married to former New Jersey Governor Brendan Bryne.

· Eric Pryor is president of the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit, a major art school and exhibition showplace. Previously he was the executive director of the

Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn has announced the Center for Arts and Culture of Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration and a Professor at Medgar Evers College, City University of New York. He has served on the board of Pratt Area Community Council Inc. and as an artist advisor to the New York Foundation for the Arts, and for the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority where he advises the MTA on construction of new subway art projects. He is a graduate of the Institute for Not-for-Profit Executive Management Program, Columbia University Graduate School of Business, and holds a BFA in painting from Wayne State University and an MFA in painting from the Tyler School of Art, Temple University. A resident of West Orange, Pryor is married with one child.

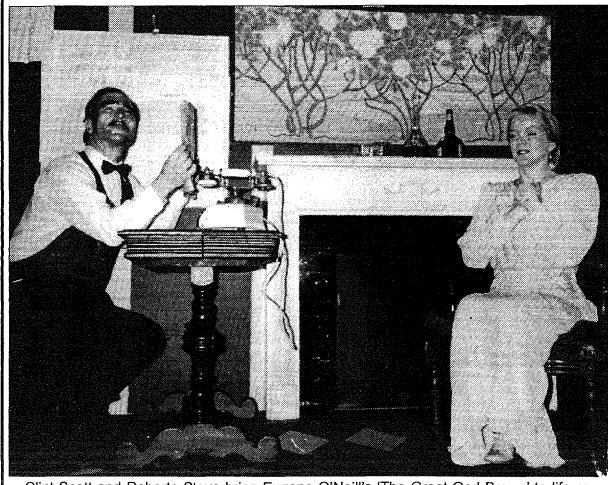
> · Todd Rechler serves as a corporate senior vice president and managing director of the New Jersey division of Reckson Associates Realty Corp., one of the largest publicly traded REITs in the New York tri-state area. Based in the New Jersey Division's headquarters in Short Hills, Rechler oversees the company's 2.3 million-square-foot New Jersey portfolio. Additionally, Rechler serves on the company's Operating Committee, which charts Reckson Associates Realty Corp.'s future direction. Rechler is active in several philanthropic, non-profit and civic organizations. He is a board member of the Westmont Montessori School and chairs its Long-Range Planning Committee. He is an avid supporter of the New Jersey Make-a-Wish Foundation and the children's charitable organization, "All-Stars Program." Rechler holds a bachelor of science from Roger Williams University as well as both the RPA - Real Property Administrator - degree from BOMI and CPM - Certified Property Manager — degree from New York University. Rechler is married with two children and resides in

> The 2003-04 Paper Mill Playhouse Board of Trustees Kenneth H. Thorn, chairman; William A. Tansey III M.D., vice chairman; Michael Gennaro, president and CEO; Carolyn Ferolito, vice president; Hilton M. Jervey, vice president; Robert T. Saltarelli, treasurer; Angelo Del Rossi, president emeritus; Gov. James E. McGreevey, honorary chairman; Shirley Aidekman-Kaye; Barbara Baldwin; Felix M. Beck; Robert M. Berkowitz; Joan L. Bildner; Floyd H. Bragg; Jane Burgio; Linda M. Distelrath Ph.D.; Gary F. Goldring; Robert B. Heintz; Edward Marlowe; Robert W. Parsons Jr.; Charles A. Pascarella; Stephen J. Rotella; Sharon F. Sandbach; Janet Sherlund; Elliot I. Stupak; Robert Szerlip; and Mary Ellen Waggoner.

> The 32-member volunteer board of trustees oversees all business affairs of the Paper Mill, and assists the theater in achieving its artistic mission and financial goals.

> For more than 60 years as one of the country's leading musical regional theaters, Paper Mill Playhouse, a not-forprofit arts organization, is supported in part by grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, in addition to contributions from many corporations, foundations, businesses and individuals. Paper Mill is a member of the Theater Communications Group, the National Alliance for Music Theater, the Council of Stock Theaters, and the New Jersey Theater Alliance.

# Kept in a jar by the door



Clint Scott and Roberta Steve bring Eugene O'Neill's 'The Great God Brown' to life on stage at the Elizabeth Playhouse. The classic drama runs Fridays to Sundays through March 7. For information, see the 'Theater' listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page

# Arts Guild to present Perdomo, diMura

Premiere is Friday

On Friday at 8 p.m., the sixth season jazz series at the Arts Guild of Rahway presents pianist/composer Vince diMura and his acclaimed ensemble, the George Street Project, in the concert premiere if a new spoken word jazz opera, "A Poet in Harlem," with music by Vince diMura and libretto by Nuyorican poet Willie

Tickets for this event are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Tickets are now on sale at the Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St. at Seminary Avenue in Rahway. Call 732-381-7511 for tickets and information.

This concert is partly funded by a grant from the Union County Arts Foundation and is a coproduction with the Puffin Cultural Forum in Teneck where the program began.

"A Poet in Harlem" has a libretto by Nuyrorican poet Willie Perdomo, and is taken from his 1996 publication, "Where a Nickel Costs a Dime." The program will be augmented with a special tribute to Billie Holiday and with dramatic readings of poems by Pulitzer Prize-winner Yusef Komunyakaa and Nobel Prize-winner Toni

A veteran performer and composer, Vince diMura has showcased his pianistic gifts in recitals at concert halls throughout North America, Canada, and Latin America. His performance schedule has taken him from Aguascalientes, Mexico to Seattle, Wash., and to hundreds of venues in the New York metropolitan area.

Recently awarded a 2000 Fellowship in Jazz Composition from the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation/New Jersey State Council on the Arts, diMura's most recent CD, "Imperfect Balance," is currently on the Internet Amazon.com through CDnow.com.

Perdomo is the author of "Smoking Lovely," just released in October. His work has been included in several anthologies including "Metropolis Found," "The Harlem Reader," "Poems of New York," "Bum Rush the Page: A Def Poetry Jam." His work has also appeared in The New York Times Magazine, Bomb, Russell Simmons' One World Magazine, and Pen America.

About two or three years ago, diMura heard Perdomo at the Nuvori-

bought his first book, "Where a Nickel Costs a Dime." After meeting each other in the spring of 2002, diMura asked, and received permission to set much of the book as a jazz opera. The opera is organized into a series of tableaus, the titles of which are taken from the poem, "Prophet Born in Harlem," which was written for James Baldwin.

These tableaus are book-ended by extended opening and closing sections, which include the dedication, a ballet about the cover of the book, and the first and last group of poems. Interspersed within the eight tableaus are three recitatives that describe the main character of the opera, "The Poet." But other characters abound. We meet street preachers, hustlers, junkies, Caribbean witches, even Billie Holiday and Lester Young, show up in the fabric of these tableaus.

Performers for a "Poet in Harlem" include pianist-composer diMura, tenor saxophonist Ralph Bowen, narrator Kyle Sutton, keyboardist Eric Ebengay, bassist Dan Fabricatore, drummer Chris Brown drums, and back-up vocalists Anne Darie and Charlisa Consuelo, with special guest,

# Kent Place Gallery shares its 'Secret' with art fans

Place Gallery in Summit will present developing something of a "Open Secret," an exhibit of works by Montclair resident and artist Karen Nielsen-Fried.

For the past five years, Nielsen-Fried has worked exclusively with not figurative, though I always mean encaustics, incorporating oil sticks for there to be a sense of psychologiand collage. Through her work, cal presence." Nielsen-Fried wants to connect the richness of visual life and the poetry of human experience to explore themes of identity, loss, passage of time, memory, and transcendent experience. The title of her show, "Open Secret," suggests a tantalizing ambivalence, almost impossible to join together as one concept. It suggests a gathering of and a reflecting on something shared, but not acknowl-

Adds Nielsen-Fried, "My work is process-oriented; I work intuitively and with an openness to the colors, imagery, patterns and fragments which

Now through March 5, the Kent occur to me as I paint. Over time, I am day from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery. The visual/emotional lexicon. Some objects occur repeatedly in different paintings, as do some of the basic structures of the paintings. My work is

> Prior to devoting herself fully to making art, she was a practicing art therapist and pursued advanced training in analytic psychology at the National Psychological Association for Psychoanalysis and the Institute for Expressive Analysis. She holds a B.F.A. in printmaking and drawing from Binghamton University, and a master of professional studies in art therapy from Pratt Institute. Nielsen-Fried's work is shown extensively in New Jersey and in New York, and she is represented in numerous private collections.

The opening reception will be Fri-

exhibit is free and open to the public. The Kent Place Gallery, located in Summit on the campus of Kent Place School, is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by appointment with Judy Lapides, director. For more information, call 908-273-0900, ext. 332.



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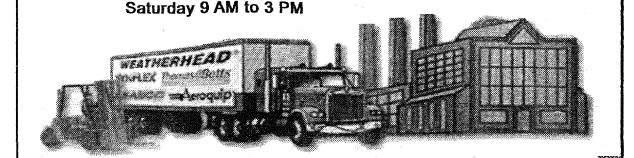
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THE BACK PORCH in Rahway will

present Open Mic Night every Thurs-

day night, a disc jockey every Friday

night, and solo artists and bands on

Saturdays. Happy Hour is 4 to 7 p.m.

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\$3 Long Island iced teas. Mondays are

Mexican Mondays with \$2 shot spe-

cials, \$2 Coronas, \$2 margritas and \$1

tacos. Wednesdays are Ladies Nights

Main St., Rahway. For information, call

CROSSROADS, 78 North Ave., Gar-

wood, presents a series of jazz, blues

and comedy concerts, as well as foot-

and poetry; "Live at Instant Coffee," 8

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Every Tuesday: Jazz Jam, all pints

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Saturday: Jersey Jams/Jersey

For information, call 908-232-5666

Cares event with Anthony Krizan,

Kathy Phillips, Hot Sauce, and others

THE INTERNET LOUNGE in Fanwood

will present Open Mic/Karaoke Night

on March 7 at 7 p.m., featuring spoken

word, stand-up comedy, and music.

The Internet Lounge is located at 256

South Ave., Fanwood. For information,

call 908-490-1234 or visit the Web site

SECOND SATURDAYS COFFEE-

HOUSE will take place the second Sat-

urday of each month at 8 p.m. in the

Fellowship Hall of the Summit Unitari-

an Church, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit.

Featured will be an "open mic" forum of

music, poetry, comedy and perform-

ance art. Refreshments are served.

Admission is \$4. Talent is sought for

or send e-mail to info@secondsatur-

VAN GOGH'S EAR, 1017 Stuyvesant

Ave., Union, will present a series of

musical events. Tuesdays are

"Acoustic Tuesday," some of which fea-

ture open mic from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk

singers, poets and comedians, fol-

lowed by a featured folk performer.

Open mic participants sign up at 7:30

p.m., and get 10 minutes at the micro-

phone. Jazz and blues are featured

Sundays at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$3

for all Sunday concerts, unless other-

to 11 p.m., a Chris Fiore Benefit

Chris Kasper, 9 to 10 p.m.

Sunday: The Steve Minzer Band, 8

Tuesday: Open mic, 8 to 9 p.m.;

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5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

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

PHOTOGRAPHER GINA BELLANDO will have her work on exhibit in the Freeholders Gallery on the sixth floor of the Union County Administration Building through Friday.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays to 8 p.m. The Union County Administration Building is located at Elizabethtown Plaza at Rahway Avenue, Elizabeth. For information, call 908-558or send e-mail 2550 culturalinfo@ucnj.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 through March 8.

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.

ODYSSEY WITH AN OPEN EYE, works by photographer Sheilia Lenga of Union, will be on exhibit at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library through March 10.

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

THE FACE IN THE MIRROR, artists' self-protraits, will be on exhibit at the Arts Guild of Rahway through March

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 1670 Irving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511, send e-mail to artsguild1670@earthlink.net, or visit www.rahwayartsguild.org.

PAINTINGS BY DARIO SCHOLIS will be on exhibit through March 15 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.

18TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL JURIED SHOW will be on exhibit at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit through March 17.

Gallery hours are noon to 4 p.m. daily. NJCVA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, call 908-273-9121, send e-mail to info@njcva.org,

or visit www.njcva.org. PAINTINGS BY MATT JOHNSON will be on exhibit in The Commons at

Union County College in Cranford through March 22. The Cranford campus of UCC is

located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, including exhibit hours, call 908-709-7155.

PRINTMAKERS OF NJCVA - an exhibit of etchings, monoprints, collagraphs, photo transfers and relief prints — will be on exhibit from March 7 through April 30 at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit. An opening reception will take place March 7 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Gallery hours are Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. NJCVA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, call 908-273-9121 or visit www.njcva.org.

# **BOOKS**

AUTHOR ANDRIA HALL will appear

# Stepping Out

May 15: Sonia/Disappear Fear, with

June 12: Songwriters in the Round,

Westfield concerts are presented at

hosted by Jessica Owen, Springfield

June 19: Zoë Lewis, Westfield

the First United Methodist Church, 1 E.

Broad St., Westfield; Springfield con-

certs 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

SANCTUARY CONCERTS in Berke-

ley Heights will present musical acts in

April 10: Bluegrass Festival, featur-

Concerts are presented at Union

ing the Travis Wetzel Trio, String Fever,

Village Methodist Church, 1130 Moun-

tain Ave., Berkeley Heights. For infor-

mation, call 973-376-4946 or visit

ORCHESTRA will appear in concert

Friday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey

Performing Arts Center in Newark.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St.,

Newark. For information, call NJSO at

800-255-3476 or NJPAC at 888-466-

5722, or visit their respective Web sites

www.nysymphony.org

RAHWAY VALLEY JERSEYAIRES

Barbershop Chorus will appear in tyhe

43rd annual Novice Quartet Competi-

tion on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Rah-

way High School, Madison Avenue,

Rahway. Admission is free. For infor-

mation, call 888-480-0901 or visit

THE PACO DE LUCIA SEXTET will

appear in concert Saturday at 8 p.m. in

Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Per-

forming Arts Center in Newark. Tickets

Newark. For information, call 888-466-

YOLANDA ADAMS will appear in

Gospel Fest at the Union County Arts

Center in Rahway on Saturday at 8

p.m. Tickets are \$42 to \$68. UCAC is

located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway. For

information, call 732-499-8226 or visit

KEAN UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE

ARTISTS will appear in concert, "A

Perfect 10," on Monday at 8 p.m. in

Wilkins Theater on the Kean campus,

1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are

\$10. For information, call 908-737-

SOPRANO ELLYN LOMACK CRAW-

FORD will perform a concert honoring

Marian Anderson and Leontyne Price

on March 7 at 4 p.m. at Trinity Episco-

Cranford. A \$10 donation is suggested.

PATTI LUPONE will appear in concert,

"Matters of the Heart," on March 12 at

8 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New

Jersey Performing Arts Center. Tickets

Newark. For information, call 888-466-

MASTERS OF MEXICAN MUSIC will

be presented by Kean University on

March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Wilkins The-

ater, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets

are \$25 for general admission, \$19 for

senior citizens and Kean alumni, and

\$15 for students and children. For

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information, call 908-737-7469.

5722 or visit www.nipac.org.

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5722 or visit www.nipac.org.

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St..

www.geocities.com/rvjerseyaires.

SYMPHONY

at www.coffeewithconscience.com.

March 13: Michael Smith

March 26: The Bobs

www.sanctuaryconcerts.org.

Tickets are \$17 to \$69.

www.njpac.org.

are \$11 to \$55.

www.ucac.org.

are \$13 to \$59.

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NEW

opener Chris Glenn, Westfield

today at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield to sign copies of her new book, "The Walk a Work: Seven Steps to Spiritual Success on the Job." Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

AUTHOR WENDY MASS will appear Friday at 4 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield to sign copies of her new book, "Leap Day." Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-

AUTHOR JOHN HARVEY will appear Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Town Book Store of Westfield to sign copies of his new book, "Images of America: Maplewood." The Town Book Store is located at 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, For information, call 908-233-3535 or visit the Web site at www.TownBookStore.com.

DR. SEUSS' 100TH BIRTHDAY will be celebrated Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Barnes and Noble of Clark. The event will feature storytime, games and more for children. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

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-

ING 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.

**EDISON ARTS SOCIETY WRITERS'** CIRCLE, led by Cheryl Racanelli, meets the second and fourth Mondays 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.

CLASSICS BOOK CLUB meets the second Tuesday 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.

CLOAK AND DAGGER READING GROUP will meet the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble of Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-

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.

the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at

BILL COSBY will appear March 6 at 2 and 8 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$13 to \$59.

Newark. For information, call 888-466-5722 or visit www.nipac.org.

# CONCERTS

COFFEE WITH CONSCIENCE CON-CERT SERIES in Westfield and Springfield will present a series of artists through June at two locations through June.

March 20: We're About Nine, with opener Devon Sproule. Westfield

April 17: Caroline Aiken, Westfield

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MYSTERY READING GROUP meets 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

# COMEDY

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St.,

March 13: Songwriters in the Round, hosted by Bob Malone, Spring-

May 8: Songwriters in the Round, hosted by Ritt Henn, Springfield

# DANCE

NEW JERSEY BALLET COMPANY will present an evening of premieres and revivals Saturday at 8 p.m. in Wilkins Theater at Kean University in Union. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for senior citizens, \$15 for students with ID. Kean is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union, For information, call 908-737-4355 or 973-597-9600, or visit www.njballet.org.

THE BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY will be presented Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$31.

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

BALLET HISPANICO will appear March 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. and March 7 at 2:30 p.m. in the Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, Tickets are \$43.

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

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY will appear March 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Wilkins Theater at Kean University in Union. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$19 for senior citizens and Kean alumni, \$15 for students and children. Kean is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union. For information, call 908-737-4355.

# **FILM**

FILMMAKERS SYMPOSIUM will be sponsored Mondays through May 10 at the Loews Mountainside. The 12-week session comprises two sub-sessions: now through March 29, and April 7 through May 10. Fee is \$131 for six weeks, \$249 for 12, plus a \$20 registration fee. For information, call 800-531-9416.

# **JAZZ**

THE ARTS GUILD OF RAHWAY will present "A Poet in Harlem," a spokenword jazz opera with music by Vince DiMura and libretto by Willie Perdomo on Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. The Arts Guild of Rahway is located at 1670 lrving St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-7511, send inquiries via email to artsguild1670@earthlink.net, or visit www.RahwayArtsGuild.org.

# **KIDS**

REEVES-REED ARBORETUM in Summit will sponsor workshops for children 3 to 7 years old weekday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. February: "Candy Making"

March: "Owls"

Reeves-Reed Arboretum is located at 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-8787, ext. 15, or visit www.reeves-reedarboretum.org.

NEW JERSEY BALLET COMPANY will present a matinee performance of "Cinderella" in its series for children Sunday at 2 p.m. in Wilkins Theater at Kean University in Union. Tickets are \$10. Kean is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union. For information, call 908-737-4355 or 973-597-9600, or visit www.njballet.org.

**NEW JERSEY BALLET COMPANY** will present "Sleeping Beauty" on March 13 at 2 p.m. in Victoria Theater at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$19 for

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# adults, \$10 for children younger than

NJPAC is located at 1 Center St., Newark. For information, call 888-466-

# **OPERA**

CHAMPAYNE ENTERPRISES will present "The Shop" by Monique Singleton on Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Ritz Theater, 1148 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. Tickets are \$25 and \$35, with group rates available. For information, call 908-753-8888, 908-241-6800 or 866-871-4247, or send e-mail to mobetter-

ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE in Elizabeth will present "The Great God Brown" by Eugene O'Neill through March 7. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens. The Elizabeth Playhouse is located at 1100 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. For information, call 908-355-0077 or visit the Web site at www.ElizabethPlayhouse.com.

SUMMIT PLAYHOUSE will present "The Imaginary Invalid" by Ferenc Moliere from Friday through March 13. Shows are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and March 11, 2 p.m. March 7. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students. Summit Playhouse is located at 10 New England Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-1292 or visit

CRANFORD REPERTORY THEATER will present "The King and I" by Rodgers and Hammerstein from March 13 to 21 at the Orange Avenue School in Cranford. Shows are Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$13 and \$15. For information, call 908-272-1388 or 908-276-3787.

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE in Millburn will present "The Chosen" by Aaron Posner and Chaim Potok through March 21 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 Con-

20 at 2:30 p.m., and March 21 at 7:30 ance March 21 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.

# VARIETY

PEKING ACROBATS will appear March 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Prudential Hall at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Tickets are \$11 to

5722 or visit www.njpac.org.

KEAN UNIVERSITY will present the Carl Rosa Opera Company in Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" on Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Wilkins Theater on the Union campus, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are \$25 for the general public, \$19 for senior citizens and Kean alumni, and \$15 for students and children. For information, call 908-737-

# THEATER

plays@aol.com.

www.SummitPlayhouse.org.

versation Series, Thursdays at 7 p.m.in the mezzanine, today through March 18; audio-described performances, with sensory seminar 90 minutes prior to curtain, March 18 at 2 p.m., March p.m.; and a sign-interpreted perform-

Summit will sponsor a series of workshops and trips on fragrances. Tuesday: Aromatherapy with Debbie Quinn

March 10: Bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show

Reeves-Reed Arboretum is located at 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-8787 or visit www.Reeves-ReedArboretum.org.

# www.localsource.com

# Internet Directory

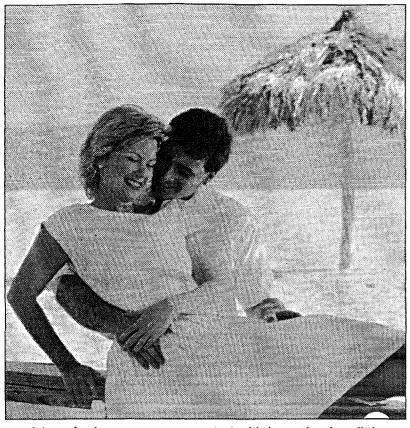
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# Travel insurance can ensure honeymoon memories

honeymoon seem willing to invest significantly in the trip.

In fact, honeymoons account for a \$7 billion-a-year industry, with newlyweds spending an average of \$3,719 on a honeymoon, according to Conde Nast Bridal Infobank.

"The honeymoon is the start of married life. The goal is to make the trip as magical as possible, and for many young people that means making their first foray into the world of luxury travel," explained Yolanda Crous, senior travel editor of Bride's magazine.

Couples should, however, be prepared for unforeseen circumstances that could hamper carefully made plans.

"I advise couples to buy travel insurance. Honeymoons are not only financial investments, they're emotional investments and the last thing you want is for the biggest trip of your

Most happy couples planning a lifetime to be postponed or taken away from you entirely," Crous emphasizes. "It's worth spending a little extra money to save yourselves the frustration further down the road."

> A leading travel insurance provider recommends that honeymooners carefully investigate travel insurance options to find one that meets their specific needs. "Travel insurance is a great value-about five to seven percent of the total cost of a trip. For such a relatively small investment, couples buy peace of mind in a very economical way," said Beth Godlin, senior vice president of Access America.

> "Decide whether you want insurance that covers travel supplier bankruptcy, trip cancellation or interruption and delays due to missed connections or lost baggage," Godlin advises. "Also, if you are traveling overseas, you may want to consider getting concierge and emergency assistance

Crous suggests couples use travel agents when planning their honeymoons because "if something problematic happens, they have help at their fingertips."

Travel agents can be a great, independent source of information and can recommend insurance that best suits each traveler's needs. When purchasing insurance, ask about coverage that provides protection for:

- · Airline, tour, cruise or other supplier bankruptcy;
- Trip cancellation and interruption for other reasons;

· Accidents before or during your honeymoon that might prevent travel-

· Missed connections, travel or

 Concierge and emergency assis-For more information on travel insurance, talk to your travel agent or

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baggage delays; and

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# **ARTS CLIPS**

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# Crafters are being sought

The Morristown CraftMarket, one of the most prestigious shows of fine American crafts in the country, is inviting applications from artisans interested in participating in the 2004

The 2004 Morristown CraftMarket, the 28th annual show, is planned for Oct. 22 to 24 at the National Guard Armory in Morristown. The deadline for applications is April 1.

Exhibitors at the Morristown Craft-Market show and sell exquisite handcrafted pieces, ranging from stunning jewelry and woven clothing to magnificent stained-glass panels, handblown glass vases and ornaments, stylish leather and canvas bags, elegant handmade paper, striking ceramic vessels, brilliant and hand-painted silk scarves, sleek hand-carved wood furniture, and whimsical wooden toys.

The nationally recognized, juried Morristown CraftMarket is sponsored by the nonprofit Kiwanis Club of Randolph as a benefit for worthy arts- and crafts-oriented projects and community service organizations.

To send for an application to be part of the 2004 Morristown Craft-Market, write to Barbara and Michael Feno, technical directors, Morristown CraftMarket, P.O. Box 2305, Morristown, 07962-2305; fax an application request to 973-263-2866; or call 973-895-3356.

# Lenga returns to gallery

Making a return appearance, Sheilia Lenga of Union will hold her second solo exhibit of photographs in the Les Malamut Art Gallery in the Union Public Library on Morris Avenue.

Since her first show in the gallery seven years ago, Lenga has traveled extensively and developed an unusual and keen perspective of her subjects. Thus the title of the exhibit, "Odyssey With an Open Eye," is very appropri-

The exhibit will continue through

Although Lenga has been a photographer since she was a child, her father, a famous artist, wanted her to become a pianist. She studied at the Juilliard School of Music and performed concerts with her violinist brother, Mark. After marriage and raising three children, she was ready to pursue her true love - photography. She has since studied at the New School of Social Research and photographic workshops across the country.

She is continuing her love of music and is a board member of the New Jersey Jazz Society. She is on the board of many photographic organizations, the Westfield Art Association, the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs, the Cranford/Millburn Camera Club, the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit, the Photographic Society of America, and the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

Some of her other solo exhibits include Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside: the Westfield Art Gallery; the Jewish Community Center of Edison; the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts in Westfield; the North Edison Library; and Traders of the Lost Ark, New Hope, Pa. Many of her group exhibits include the Westfield Art Association; the Watchung Arts Center; the New Jersey Photo Forum; the Diversity Arts Gallery in

Clark; and the Arts Guild of Rahway.

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

# 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.

# 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 www.summitchorale.org or from 973-

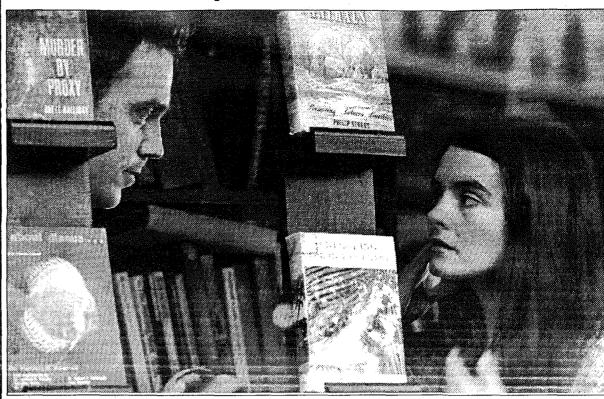
• Brahm's Requiem - Nair's gala 762-8486. farewell concert at 8 p.m. on May 1, at Under the leadership of music a location to be determined. The director and conductor Garyth Nair, Summit Chorale is one of the state's chorale will be accompanied by a full most respected choral organizations, now in its 95th year. It is composed of Additional information and tickets

non-professional singers, chosen by

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.

Save your newspaper for recycling.

# Silver screen premiere



'Wilbur Wants To Kill Himself,' starring Jamie Sives, left, and Shirley Henderson, is among the films — along with 20 others — to premiere in the Filmmakers Symposium this spring. For information, see the 'Films' listing in the Stepping Out calendar on Page B6 or call 800-531-9416.

# SCHOOLS, ÖKIDSÖ & CAMPS

# Summer camps being offered by Children's Specialized for special-needs kids

Children's Specialized Hospital will offer both overnight and day camps for supervison of camp coordinators. Campers must be able to shower, toilet, eat children with special healthcare needs this summer.

A week-long overnight camp will be offered in the Pocono Mountains of Hawley, Pa. during the weeks of June 27 to July 3 and July 4 to 10. A week-long day camp will also be provided in Westfield during the weeks of Aug. 2 to 6 and Aug. 9 to 13.

"We think it's important that children with physical and developmental disabilities have an opportunity to enjoy the summer camp experience," said Donna Provenzano, Children's director of recreation therapy. "The camping experience — outdoor activities, socializing with peers, arts and cultural programs — is an important part of growing up for all children. The camp fosters success, friendships, and youth development."

Camp Skycrest is a week-long overnight camp that is a collaborative effort with the Phillipsburg/Easton YMCA. The camp, available June 27 to July 3 and July 4 to 10, is designed for children ages 8 to 12 and is held in the Pocono Mountains. Campers must be able to follow directions and safety rules with the physical or developmental disabilities offered in collaboration with the West-

and dress with minimal supervision. If campers require mobility assistance due to the hilly terrain of the campus, a golf cart is available for transportation; however, campers must be able to sit and balance safely in a golf cart.

Owned an operated by the Phillipsburg/Easton YMCA, Camp Skycrest is situated on 115 hilltop acres near Lake Wallenpaupack and is accredited by the American Camping Association. A certified recreational therapist from Children's Specialized will supervise college students pursuing careers working with special-needs children and serve as camp staff. Facilities include cabins, pools, nature trails, pond, athletic fields, cafeteria, craft centers, go-cart track, and a recreational hall. Campers enjoy a wide range of activities including crafts, campfires, special events, fishing, swimming, canoeing, and cooperative sports. Transportation to the camp is available at a nominal fee. The cost for camp is \$860 per week and financial assistance is available.

Camp Sunshine and Summer Fun Camp are day camps for children with

field YMCA. Camp Sunshine is for children ages 5 and 6; Summer Fun Camp is for children ages 7 to 11. Campers will participate in arts and crafts, swim lessons, theme weeks, games, sports, recreational swim, and field trips. To be eligible for the camp children, must be able to follow directions and safety rules under proper supervision. The cost for camp is \$300 per week and financial assistance is available.

For more information on these camps, call 888-244-5373, ext. 5484.

An affiliate member of the Robert Wood Johnson Health System, Children's Specialized Hospital is the largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital in the United States. The hospital provides specialized care for children with chronic illnesses as well as evaluation and treatment for common childhood developmental concerns at 10 sites statewide including inpatient hospitals in Mountainside and Toms River. Children's cares for patients from birth to age 21, providing a wide array of medical, developmental, educational and rehabilitative services. The hospital offers centers in brain injury, spinal cord dysfunction, education and rehabilitation technology, respiratory care, and ambulatory services.

# Stars of Tomorrow announces new program for this summer



Stars of Tomorrow Half-Day campers participate in 'Costume Day,' one of the specialty days such as 'Mismatch Day,' 'Crazy Hat Day,' 'Wacky Hair Day,' and more.

Stars of Tomorrow Performing Arts Camp in Cranford has annunced a new program for the summer of 2004: the Half-Day Afternoon Program.

This program is for students entering kindergarten through second grade in September of 2004; it starts June 28 and ends July 23. Camp hours are from 12:45 to 3:30 p.m.; extended hours are available. Campers may register for the full four weeks of the program or choose one-, two-, or threeweek options. Classes in improv, games, and crafts along with Specialty Days such as "Costume Day," "Crazy Hat Day," "Mismatch Day" and more are being planned. Tuition for the full four weeks is \$350; weekly tuition is \$100 except for the week of July 5, which is \$80 due to the holiday clo-

Kristen Baldoni Sztancsik is director of the morning and afternoon Half-Day Programs. During the school year, she is a second-grade teacher at Brookside Elementary School in Cranford. Sztancsik is also a dance instructor at the Cindy Smith Dance Studio, where she has been a dance student for more than 20 years, studying tap, jazz, ballet, pointe, lyrical,

& girls

hip-hop and modern. She has performed with the Cranford Repertory Theater, as well as assisted with the choreography on CRT's productions of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Once Upon a Mattress," "Oliver!," "Anything Goes," "The Wizard of Oz," "Fiddler on the Roof," "West Side Story," and "Grease." She was the former director of Stagestruck Kids' Half-Day Program and CIT Program for three years prior to working with Stars of Tomorrow. She has a B.S. in elementary education and B.S. in psychology. In May 2004, Sztancsik will receive her master's in professional developments in education.

Sztancsik will be assisted by Amy Helbig, a senior at Watchung Hills Regional High School, who developed her love for performing at a very young age. She has been a member of her school's band and chorus since the fourth grade. She is a valued member of the stage crew and has worked on shows such as "Jekyll and Hyde," "Godspell," and "Footloose." Helbig was one of the first members of her school's Improv Club. Outside of school, she is a treasurer and fundraiser coordinator for her church's youth group. She has been a dance student for the past 10 years and also a member of the Junior Statesman of America.

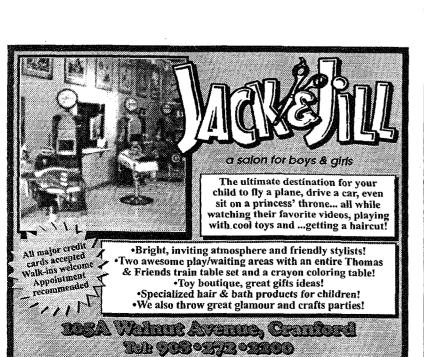
The half-day campers may also have the opportunity of working with other Stars of Tomorrow camp veterans: Tony Smith Sr., Tony Smith Jr., Megan Muckelmann, and Jennie

An open house will take place March 28 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Cranford United Methodist Church. Join camp organizers in a free dance and drama workshop; all are welcome. Registration is ongoing for all 2004 programs; several programs are nearing capacity, so register early. For more information about programs, visit www.StarzOfTomorrow.com or call 908-276-5053.

An open house will take place March 28 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Cranford United Methodist Church.

# **Bill VanSant. Editor**

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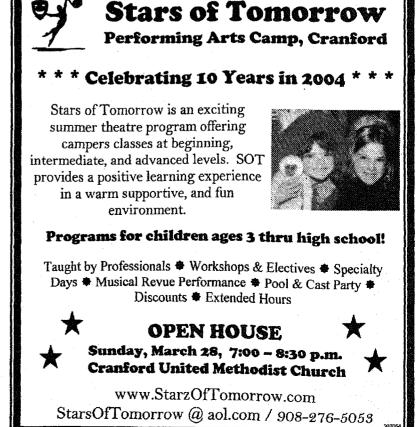




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# Cape May workshops to cover variety of photographic techniques

(Continued from Page B3)

is necessary. Participants will have very creative results with low-tech equipment. This one is lots of fun for all ages.

A new addition this year to the series is the Hand-Painted Photography Workshop with Carolyn Bross. Bross is a very popular and experienced teacher and exhibitor. Participants will learn to enhance their black-and-white photographs a step away from reality and interpret the images in many different ways to enhance the mood the artist wants to convey. Bross and Ori will conduct evening critiques and outdoor photo shooting sessions to help sharpen participants' insights and skills in the craft of photography. This workshop is for any level of photographer working with any camera and has tuition of \$250.

The new addition, Landscape and Architecture Photography with Alternative Cameras, was by student request and will be taught by Ori. This workshop will provide insights into the many different kinds of alternative cameras being used today by creative photographers including, but not limited to, pinhole cameras, disposable cameras, the Widelux and other panorama cameras, the Holga and Diana Cameras, digital cameras, and the manipulation of Polaroid SX-70 and 600 film images. Use of alternative cameras has led to many evolving artistic forms. They invite experimentation and photographers continue to use them for creating work that is very personal and unique.

For the beginning or intermediate photographer looking to try something new, these sessions will provide basic instruction on all cameras being used, as well as instruction on normal 35mm cameras. All students will have the oppor-

tunity to try a variety of cameras and techniques in order to expand the artistic tographic techniques, and loves to see her students grow in creativity through the limits of their photography. Lots of time for one-on-one discussions and critiques. Tuition of \$300 includes use of all cameras. Black-and-white film and processing will be provided for all formats.

The last workshop being offered is the Digital Photography Workshop taught by Dot Kuehn and is designed for beginner or intermediate photographers. Here the participant will have the opportunity through the hands-on instruction to begin to understand this often-overwhelming field.

The choices in cameras, printers, and software are endless and confusing. The purpose is to help the photographer make the most of the digital camera, learn the new language and tools of digital photography, and expand creativity while creating new images with Cape May. Photography is still about expressing a vision; all that has changed with digital photography is the way photographers capture and manage photographs. Deciding what is needed and how to effectively use and master what you have is the key to growing in this field and producing the images you love.

A tuition of \$250 includes location shooting and lots of feedback, discussions on seeing photographically, downloading and software packages, printing, and e-mailing photographs.

Ori finds working with photographers at all experience levels to be quite rewarding and gives special emphasis to beginners. She has designed each workshop around providing an opportunity for participants to exchange experiences while learning. She has a casual style and enjoys simplifying sophisticated pho-

"Their enthusiasm constantly reminds me of how magical the photographic process really is and helps me look at my own work with a fresh view," Ori said. In existence since 1990, the New Jersey Heritage Photography workshops also offer a scholarship annually funded by Jeiven Pharmaceutical Consulting in Scotch Plains.

Ori, with more than 25 years experience as a professional photographer, is also a widely exhibited fine artist. Founder and director of the New Jersey Forum and Heritage Workshop Series, Ori has also become an experienced teacher through the years of affiliation with the Ansel Adams Workshop in California, the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit, the Summit-area community schools, Peter's Valley Craft Education Center, Somerset Art Association, the Morris Museum, and the Watchung Adult School.

All workshop activities will be centered around the comfortable atmosphere of a private cottage within the historic district of Cape May.

All workshops take place during and around the Tulip Festival, which is a very special time of year in Cape May and offers numerous photographic possi-

Participants are responsible for their own meals, accommodations and transportation during each workshop. Some inexpensive rooms are available at the cottage where the workshops are held. For information and registration, contact Ori directly at 908-790-8820.

# Healthy Living

# Merck marks 100 years of innovation and progress

opened the doors to a manufacturing facility in Rahway that reflected his commitment to the advancement of science and medicine.

One hundred years later, his enduring values and sense of purpose live on in this central New Jersey commu-

Today, George Merck would hardly recognize the sprawling corporate campus his original facility has become. From two building and 20 employees in 1903, the location in Rahway/Linden has grown into one of Merck and Co. Inc.'s most important research and manufacturing sites. With 150 buildings and 4,300 employees, Merck's Rahway/Linden site is one of the largest employers in Union

Merck executives and employees joined Sen. Jon Corzine, D-N.J., community and business leaders, other elected officials and members of the Merck family for a Centennial Celebration recognizing a century of operation in Rahway/Linden. The event focused on the site's history of meeting major challenges in developing pharmaceutical innovations and the ingenuity of Merck employees who have contributed to the site's growth and vitality over the years.

of Merck's finest achievements, none

A century ago, George Merck of which would have been possible without the important contributions of countless Merck people," said Merck Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Raymond V. Gilmartin. "Because of Merck employees, we have enjoyed a century of discovery and millions of people throughout the world have enjoyed longer, healthier

> The Rahway/Linden site has been at the forefront of Merck's ability to transform scientific discoveries into breakthrough medicines. Through the years, employees at the site have developed processes that made lifesaving drugs commercially viable, including penicillin, Vitamin B1, cortisone, the breakthrough hypertension medicine Cozaar, and Crixivan, one of the first medicines to treat patients with HIV/AIDS. Innovations rooted at Rahway/Linden have also helped patients with glaucoma, arthritis and serious infections. The processes developed at Rahway/Linden are used in manufacturing around the world.

> "We all share the hope that 100 years from today, those who come after us will be able to look back on their century, celebrate their own breakthroughs, and marvel at how far they've come," Gilmartin said.

The Centennial Celebration, a "Rahway is the birthplace of some year-long series of events, focused employees' attention on 100 years of

accomplishments at Rahway/Linden. Special events have included displays of Merck memorabilia, historical lectures and the assembly of a time capsule containing items about Merck's scientific and engineering achieve-

The Centennial also served as the centerpiece for a year-long community celebration, in recognition of Rahway/Linden's role as an active neighbor within the community. Special community events have included a Variety Showcase for employees and other local talent, as well as sponsorship of the city of Rahway's fireworks spectacular in July, a Fire and Life Safety Expo/Community Day in September, and a Merck Employee/Family Day at the historic Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum in Rahway. **About Merck** 

Merck and Co. Inc is a global research-driven pharmaceutical products and services company. Merck discovers, develops, manufactures, and markets a broad range of innovative products to improve human and animal health, directly and through its joint ventures.



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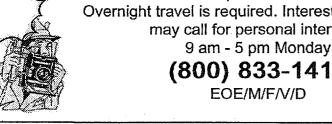
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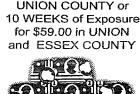
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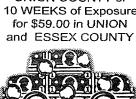
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Our featured agent, Joe Signorella, has consistently been the "Top Producer" in the Coldwell Banker Union office. Joe has now achieved the Distinguished Sales Club award for being a member of the "Million Dollar Club" and "Circle of Excellence" for the past 10 years. For the second achieved the Coldwell Banker

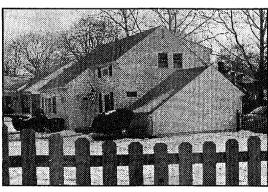
Presidents Circle and will be attending the Coldwell Banker International Business Conference at Mandalay Bay Hotel in Las Vegas.

If you are considering buying or selling your home and

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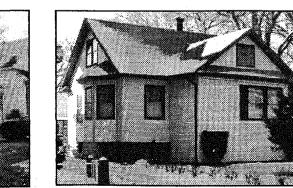
UNION - Attractive Colonial Features LR, FDR, Ig EIK, 3 BR's, Den/Office, 1.1 Baths, Fin Bsmt w/Bar, New Gas Heating Unit, New Berber Carpet, H/W Firs, Sec. System & Att. Gar. Must see!
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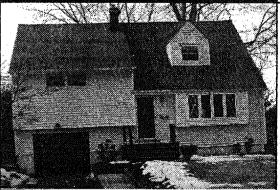
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# Home sales on upward trend

At the start of each new year, people make resolutions, set goals and plan ahead. Since many of their goals are financial, consumers and investors alike pay attention to what industry professionals project for the next 12 months. Real estate has become an area of particular interest to consumers, as the market has reached historic heights the last two years. Projection for 2004 promise a continuation with this trend.

Based on actual figures from David Lereah, chief economist of the National Association of Realtors, existing home sales were 5.57 million in 2002 and 6.7 million in 2003, an increase of 9.1 percent. The association predicts home sales will be 5.85 million in 2004, which would make it the second-best year in the real estate industry's history.

Pat Hoferkamp, president and chief operating officer of Burgdorff ERA and a leader in the New Jersey real estate market, said that, "Although mortgage rates will increase slightly, the pulse of the real estate market will continue to be strong in 2004. Real estate is a sound investment, and it has been a driving force in bolstering this economy.'

Some consumers question the continued viability of the housing market. in some cases even referring to it as a bubble. Hoferkamp counters, however, "There is no housing bubble. We are currently in a sellers' market due to the combination of an incredible pool of buyers and a low inventory of available homes."

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While homes stay on the market a little longer than they did last year, inventory continues to move at a steady pace.

"If any particular property stays on the market too long, it is probably because the price has been set too high," said Hoferkamp. "The key to positioning your home is finding the proper price that will appeal to buyers. Remember, buyers ultimately determine the value of a home, not sellers."

To further demonstrate the strength of the housing market, Hoferkamp points to one trend in the New Jersey real estate market that takes advantage of the economy and real estate investments: consumers are purchasing second homes, weekend getaways that are within several hours driving distance from their main residencies.

"People live hectic lives and have become disenchanted with the idea of having to plan months ahead for a one-week vacation via plane to a tropical destination. Instead, the more appealing option has been to turn on their favorite radio station, put the seat belt on, and take the scenic route to one's own private location, complete with rest and relaxation amenities," she said. "Furthermore, many second homes, such as shore houses, are rented out when the owners are not using them, making them a great investment opportunity."

The "work hard play hard" philosophy is another contributor to the second-home buying trend.

"These consumers are buying upscale penthouses in New York City

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to enjoy the lifestyle of the city shopping for the latest fashions, indulging at exquisite restaurants, dancing at the hottest night spots, and taking the family to museums and Broadway theater," says Hoferkamp.

Still another trend that began several years ago and should continue in 2004 has homeowners moving to upscale residences. No longer are homes looked upon as only providing

places to find solace and luxury. Buyers increasingly seek oversized kitchens, a jacuzzi in the master bedroom, and extra space for entertaining guests. "These upscale buyers sell their existing homes to established families, who in turn sell their home to first-time buyers, and the real estate cycle continues," said Hoferkamp.

"The makeup of first-time buyers is also changing," said Hoferkamp.

States, it is projected that, over the next five to seven years, immigrants will comprise the majority of firsttime buyers. And there is nothing quite like pursuing the American dream of homeownership."

Founded in 1958, Burgdorff ERA is the top-producing ERA real estate firm in dollar volume nationally, with 16 offices and more than 700 sales associates in New Jersey. The ERA independently owned and operated offices in the United States and in 30 countries.

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# by Jill Guzman

The "Real" Professional in Today's Real Estate World

"GOOD OLD FASHIONED SERVICE" In today's real estate world so consumed with computers and technology, we are constantly hearing about different types of brokerages including computer brokers, "discount" brokers, etc., etc., who are trying to convince the public to save one, two, three, or even four thousand dollars on their fces. This article has been written to shed some light on and discuss the importance of the "Real" real estate Professionals to acknowledge those Professionals whose lives have always been and will continue to be truly dedicated to their profession and their clientele.

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You are a homeowner and you are exploring the possibility of selling your home. What does this signify to you? It is most likely that

1) Your home is your largest asset in monetary value. 2) Your home has been the building block of your life-it is where Johnny, who is now graduating high school, took his first step seventeen years ago! A "Real" real estate professional knows and will understand these two factors and guide you toward a successful closing

The "Real" real estate professional has a NAME, a FACE, and a CHARACTER. He is not a dot-com! He will guide you through the processes of selling your home and will be there every step of the way: from open houses to pre-qualifications to inspections to offers to closing and even after!!!

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He will personally show your home with pride, and point out the fireplace where your family gathers on holidays and the playroon where Johnny first learned to read. Can this be proudly pointed out on a "Virtual Tour" or logging onto the Internet? There are many real estate professionals in our community in our state, and in our country who pride themselves on this type of service, and as one of these service-oriented brokers for many, many years, I am acknowledging the 100% client service and the "Real" estate professionals who dedicate to it.

We hear and see on the media technological real estate brokers who claim that Realtors must change large commissions to pay for "plush" offices. As a down to earth, family-oriented Realtor, my agency offers a simple home-style atmosphere where every client feels comfortable with a cup of coffee.

Our clientele has been built over the years by word of mouth; one happy homeowner to another in this manner no matter how technological our society

Hats off to the "Real" Real Estate Professionals

(This article was written by Jill Guzman of Jill Guzman Realty, Inc. Look for Jill's column, 'Let's Ask Jill', in your local

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# Thank you Jill Guzman



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> Sincerely, Frank & Betty Alvarez" Jill Guzman Realty, Inc.....R

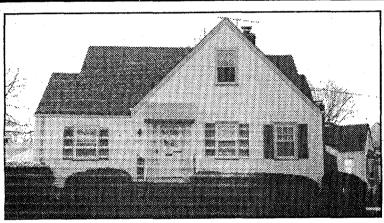
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# Weekly Mortgage News

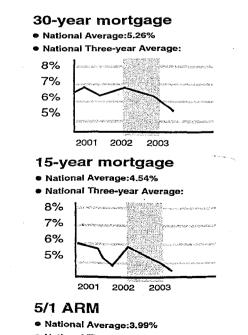
McLean, VA - In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (FRM) averaged 5.58 percent, with an average 0.6 point, for the week ending February 19, 2004, down from 5.66 percent last week. Last year at this time, the 30-year FRM averaged 5.84 percent. This is the lowest the 30-year FRM has been since the week ending July 11, 2003, when it was 5.52 percent.

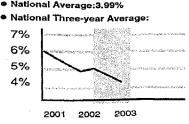
The average for the 15-year FRM this week is 4.87 percent, with an average 0.6 point, down from last week's average of 4.96 percent. A year ago, the 15-y FRM averaged 5.21 percent. This is the lowest the 15-year FRM has been since the week ending July 11, 2003, when it was 4.85 percent. One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.53 percent this week, with an average 0.6 point, down from 3.57 percent last week. At this time last year, the one-year ARM averaged 3.81 percent. This is the lowest the one-year ARM has been since the week ending July 4, 2003, when it averaged 3.49 percent.

(Average commitment rates shou! be reported along with average fees and points to reflect the total cost of obtaining

"Mortgage rates this week are at seven month lows and teetering on the 45-year low levels of last summer," said Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac chief economist. "There continues to be no sign of inflation on the horizon and, as a matter of fact, core inflation is at a generational low. This is good news for housing, as low mortgage rates make homeownership more available to a broader segment of society."

National Averages -





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DODGE DURANGO, SLT, 1999 fully loaded, excellent condition, 65,000 miles, asking \$12,400. Call 973-564-7721.

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# BMW X3 is pure driving pleasure

# By Mark Maynard Copley News Service

Some of the new sport utility vehicles have enough computerized electronics to do a NASA launch, and the learning curve for the new owner gets

longer and more complicated.

Hard to believe, but BMW did not reinvent the SUV when it laid out the plans for its smaller X3, based on the compact 3-Series sedan.

BMW did that when it designed the larger, 5-Series-based X5 and called it a "sports-activity vehicle."

SAV or SUV, I can appreciate the company's hand-wringing to put a name with this transportation concept that has been smudged by less-than-considerate SUV drivers. But the X models are not so much trucks as just good BMWs.

good BMWs.

Unlike the Volkswagen Touareg - a well-done but complex expression of the SUV - the X3 from BMW does not require extensive instruction from a

sales rep.

Everything is pretty much laid out for intuitive operation. Even with all-wheel-drive and all the electronic driving aids to keep the X3 shiny side

And like a BMW, the X3 features a driving position unhindered by complex and swoopy styling. The driver has a command seating position.

A tilt and telescopic steering wheel fine-tunes comfort and control, and the ample rim of the leather-covered steering wheel fits in the hand, so well that it inspires driving with both hands on the wheel.

X3 comes in two all-wheel-drive models: X3 2.5i with a 184 hp, 2.5 liter inline six-cylinder and six-speed manual transmission for a starting price of \$30,995. The uplevel X3 3.0i, the one you'll most enjoy driving, comes with a 225 hp, 3.0 liter six-cylinder for \$36,995. The five-speed Steptronic automatic shifter adds \$1,275.

Add a couple of option packages, sport package with 18-inch wheels, sport seats and stiffer suspension and premium package with the 10-by-10-foot Panorama sunroof and leather upholstery, and the sticker is into the low \$40,000s.

A topline Jeep Grand Cherokee will come close to that, but the transaction price could be negotiated by several thousand dollars. Don't expect to do such dickering for the BMW.

The X3 saves costs by a more basic interior than the X5. The not unattractive krinkle-kote texture to the soft-touch plastic is very similar to the style of the Cadillac SRX, which itself is a big step up in quality for that GM division.

If a more fashionable interior is desired, get the X5, though the buyer doesn't get much more room in that bigger model.

The X3 is just 4 inches shorter, a half-inch narrower and 600 pounds lighter. The cabin area is but 1.5 cubic feet smaller, but the cargo area is a surprising 2 cubic feet larger.



The X3 comes in two all-wheel-drive models: X3 2.5i with a 184 hp, 2.5 liter inline six-cylinder and six-speed manual for a starting price of \$30,995, and the X3 3.0i with a 225 hp, 3.0 liter six-cylinder for \$36,995.

And when the calculator tallies the bottom lines, the topline X3 is \$15,200 less than the topline X5 and the base X3 is \$10,000 less than the base X5.

The X3 is more fun to rip around in, and with the bigger engine and automatic shifter it will do 0-60 mph in 7.9 seconds, though it feels more forceful from 30 upward.

The Steptronic has three modes: basic automatic shift, sport-mode shift and manual. In "drive" mode the shift timing seemed slow - for max fuel economy - but move the shifter to the sport mode and the accelerator action is much more responsive.

Fuel economy isn't great at 16 mpg city and 23 highway, but that does include the added pull of all-wheel drive. The 17.7-gallon tank requires premium.

The sport suspension will feel quite firm for those new to a BMW, but it's appreciated when zipping through corners. There is no body lean and no whiplash to passengers as the suspension compresses and releases. Just like a good BMW car.

Among my gripes: The brushed aluminum trim pieces on the interior door grab handles showed scrapes and scuffs. The spring-action front ash tray cover wouldn't latch; and the Panorama sunroof, when open, inflicts painful buffeting at speeds above 40 mph.

The back door opening is a little narrow, and if the front seats are moved back the foot space is tight. And while there are five seat belts, the center rear position is compromised by the transmission tunnel. While this BMW is technically an SUV, it performs like a passenger car with an SUV shape.

The difference between an SUV and the X3 might be in the wheels. Scrape one on a curb in the trucky SUV and you mutter "Oops." Scrape a BMW wheel and the words are much more coarse.

# 2004 BMW X3 3.0i

Body style: Unitized steel chassis, four-door, five-passenger SUV

Drive system: Front engine, all-wheel drive xDrive with all-wheel electronic traction control

Engine: Aluminum, DOHC 24-valve, inline 3.0 liter six-cylinder with variable valve timing

Horsepower: 225 at 5,900 rpm Torque: 214 foot-pounds at 3,500

rpm
Transmission: Steptronic fivespeed automatic, standard, six-speed

manual Acceleration: 0-60 mph, 7.9 seconds; top speed 130, 137 with V-rated

tires
Fuel economy: 16 mpg city, 23
highway, 17/25, with manual trans-

mission)
Fuel tank: 17.7 gallons, premium unleaded recommended

Base price: \$36,995, including \$695 destination charge; price as tested, \$42,545

Options on test vehicle: Premium package at \$3,300 includes panorama sunroof, auto-dimming rearview mirror, wood trim, leather upholstery and BMW Assist; Sport package at \$1,599 includes sport suspension, sport steering wheel, 18-inch all-season tires, sport seats and shadowline trim; coldweather package at \$750 includes heated front seats, headlight washers and ski bag

Warranty: four years/50,000 miles limited coverage with free scheduled maintenance

Where assembled: Austria

Competition: Acura MDX, Lexus RX 330, Porsche Cayenne V-6, Infiniti FX35, Volkswagen Touareg
Pluses: Sophisticated equipment

but uncomplicated driving enjoyment.

Minuses: Aluminum trim pieces showed scrapes and scuffs; painful buffeting from the Panorama sunroof

at speeds above 40 mph; back door

opening is a little restricted if front

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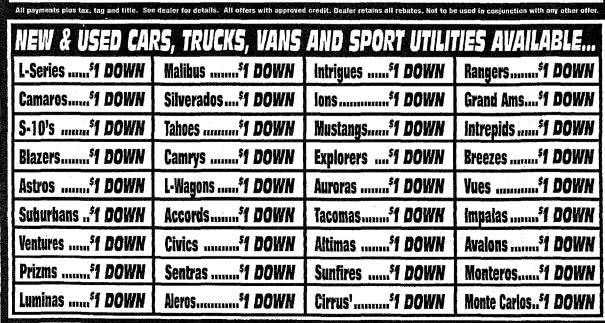
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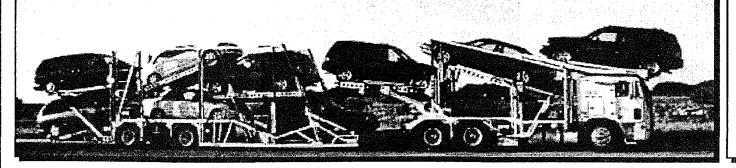




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Ext-Cab Auto w/Overdrive, 6 Cyl., P/Steering, P/Brakes, A/C, AM/FM Stereo w/CD & Cass., Radial Tires, Antilock Brakes, 28,726 Mi., Stk#14043-A, Vin#18184918.

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4 ryl, auto, p/sir/brks/winds/ lks/mirrs, air, cass, fil, cruise, r/def, sunrf, airbags, cloth int, alloys, A/S radials, 35,895 mi. 51k#6404. VINEPLOA5589. LIKE NEW 3500 BLUE EXPRESS 12 PASS VAN 4 DR 8 cyl, auto, p/str/brks, air, om/fm stereo, filt, cruise, airbags, A/S adials, 35,715 mi. Sik#89343. YNAF11130207.

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B cyl, auto, "/str/ABS/ winds/ liss/mirrs/sents, eig. cass/cd, filt, cruise, r/del, roof rk, airbous, leath blas, alloys, security sys, A/S rodiak. 22,360 mi. shc#40190A. YIMF11A12704.

1999 SUBARU LEGACY OUTBACK AND 4 DR 4 cyl, custe, p/str/ABS/winds/Bcs/mins, cit, coss, filt, cruse, t/def, roof rk, cirhogs, cioth blds, olloys, security sys, A/S rodials, 66,759 ml. Sth#6474, YNEXI 646551.

1999 CHRYSLER SEBRING IXI CONVERTIBLE 6 cpl, auto, pl/str/ABS/hinds/lts/mirry/seats, air, \$ act, fill, curise, eithous, eillors, security sps, A/S matrick. 19,600 mi. Scherle/72. VHHF1660064.



TRAILBLAZER LT 4X4 4 DR b cyl, auto, p/str/ABS/winds/lks/ mirrs/seats, air, cd, fit, cruise, r/def, oitbogs, doth bkts, clays, A/S rodiak, 31,403 mi. SNE#E448, YNE#2211246.



2000 LEXUS RX300 AWD



2001 TOYOTA **SEQUOIA LTD 4X4 4 DR** 8 cpl, cute, p/st/ABS/ winds/ lks/mirts/seats, air, cass/al, tit, cruse, t/bel, coal dt, airboop, leath bkts, seaurily sys, allays, A/S radials, 25,209 mi. ShL#40407A, VINFT 5004256.

2000 LINGOLN

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