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CLARK, N.J., VOL. 14 NO. 36

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myclark.com

TWO SECT

School board debates advertising district salaries

By David Learn
Managing Editor

The Board of Education is expected Tuesday night to discuss a proposal to publish the salaries of all district employees on an annual basis.

The salary list, which would be included in the agenda to a June board meeting, would include salaries paid to school administrators, teachers and other staff. To Tom Lewis, the board member pushing for the list, it's a matter of keeping the books open to the public.

"It's very simple. I think that I ran on open communications," he said. "I'm not out to publish anything in *The Star-Ledger*, but there has to be some openness."

The district has 241 full-time employees who receive benefits, and another six full-time employees who do not, plus aides and other part-time employees. Custodians and lunchroom workers, since they are employees of an outside contractor, would not be included in a list of district workers and their salaries.

"What they pay their employees is their

business," said board attorney Michael Gross. He noted that the amount of money the school district pays those contractors is a matter of public record, however.

There is no legal prohibition against the board choosing to publish the salaries of its employees, since the salaries are paid with public tax money, nor is there a logistics problem in compiling the information for public dissemination.

"We've got the list," school Business Administrator William Takacs said Tuesday

afternoon. "I can get it to you in 10 minutes if I need to."

The dilemma before the school board is whether it is necessary, appropriate or even prudent to publish the salaries in the way Lewis is suggesting. If the district were to do so, it would be doing so for the first time, and at a time when the board is negotiating a new contract with the Clark Education Association.

At the May 27 meeting, board President James Rooney expressed reservations over the proposal for that very reason.

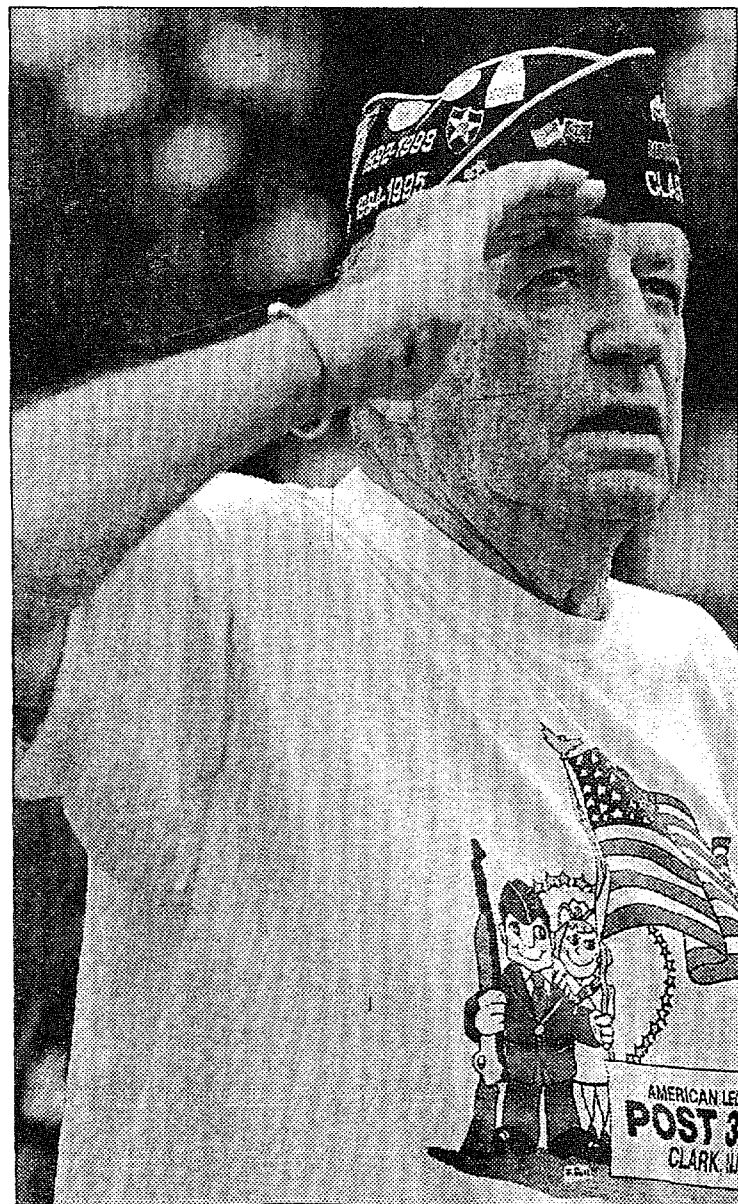
"Rooney's taking that position, and it's a good position," said Lewis. "I have some reservations because they are in the middle of teacher contracts."

But while Lewis agrees that it would be bad policy to release salary information in September, he believes a June notice would not carry the same perception, particularly since the salaries that would be published include administrative and other salaries as well teacher salaries.

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Photos By Reena Rose Sibayan



REMEMBER THE FALLEN — Members of the Clark community and neighboring municipalities assemble in front of Arthur L. Johnson High School to commemorate the sacrifice made by the Clark veterans of America's wars during a Memorial Day service following the parade Monday morning. Above, Boy Scout Kevin Walsh, 12, of Troop 145 bears Old Glory with dignity throughout the service. At left, a war veteran raises his hand in salute to the flag and all that it represents, while below, Girl Scouts from Troop 165 plant flags at the veterans monument during the service.



Township icon Versusky, 96, dies

By David Learn
Managing Editor

To the average Clarkite, "Old Mike" Versusky was a friendly, talkative and helpful man who hung out at the Merchants of Venice on Westfield Avenue.

To his family, he was Uncle Mike, an avid outdoorsman, someone who always made time for other people and who left a lasting mark on the township he called home for 81 years.

Versusky was laid to rest yesterday at St. Mary's Cemetery on Madison Hill Road in a grave next to the one that holds his mother. He died after 10 p.m. Friday in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway after complaining only that morning of not feeling well. He was 96.

"In a way, that's the way he would have wanted to go," said Ted Pryll, the son of Versusky's sister, Edith Pryll. "His body couldn't fight the little bit of pneumonia, and one thing led to another."

As they speak of him, Versusky's relatives do so not from under a burden of grief, but with admiration and respect for a life that they consider well lived. To the last, Versusky had an active mind and even his physical activities were curtailed only gradually by a body that could no longer keep pace with his mind.

"He and I played golf together until three years ago," said Richard Marhold, Versusky's nephew by marriage. "It's not that he was an invalid after that. It was just tiring."

One of Versusky's chief passions was the outdoors. Marhold recalled that Versusky loved to go on fishing trips to Ontario, Canada, and to go ice fishing on Lake Champlain in New York.

"From the '50s and through the '70s, even into the early '80s, he'd alternate living in Canada and here," said Marhold. "There were years where they used to drive to a point where they could drive no further, and they would get a plane to fly them in."

The fishing trips made Versusky and his companions local celebrities when they returned, said Pryll, who described the older man as a second father. He recalled how the fishermen would return to Clark and share their catch with the neighborhood.

"They were like heroes returning from war," said Pryll.

A self-taught man who never attended school past seventh grade, Versusky went on to learn the electrician's trade through a correspondence course and left his mark on the township.

Among his other accomplishments, Versusky installed the town-

ship's first traffic light, at Central Avenue and Raritan Road. He also

outfitted the Westfield Avenue business corridor with electric wiring, and when he was stationed in Massachusetts with the Coast Guard from 1942

to 1945, he rewired the entire base.

"At one point of time, he probably wired half the homes in Clark," said Marhold.

Versusky funneled his skill with electrical devices into Clark Electric, a business he owned and operated for 16 years at the site of what is now Merchants of Venice.

Relatives described Versusky as forthright and direct. When a potential customer revealed that he had bought an appliance somewhere else, Versusky would give them directions to the store they had bought the appliance, and refuse to make the repairs himself.

"If he liked you, he liked you," said Marhold. "If he didn't like you, he didn't like you. Simple as that."

In 1964 he was hospitalized for surgery, and retired from business.

"He came out of the hospital and said, 'That's it. I quit,'" said Pryll.

In addition to his skill with electrical devices and wiring, Versusky had a knack for other crafts that require skilled hands, such as handmade wooden rowboats. He recently had finished making one for his grand-nephew.

To the last, Versusky retained a sharp mind, relatives say. He regularly stretched his mind — even teaching himself to speak French for his trips to Canada and earning a living by investing in the stock market himself — and encouraged others to be similarly agile mentally.

"I think that's how he got so far," said Pryll. "I guess we should all have a life like that."

Born in Lowell, Mass., Versusky lived in New York before moving to Clark 81 years ago.

He was a founding member of St. Agnes Church, Clark, and a member of the church's Holy Name Society. He continued to attend Mass faithfully throughout his life.

Versusky was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 5503, American Legion Post 328, the Rotary Club, the Clark Historical Society and the Fishing Club, all of Clark.

He is surviving by a sister, Edith M. Pryll.

Suspect in assault arrested after chase

By David Learn
Managing Editor

An Essex County man was charged with possession of a stolen vehicle after a chase through three counties Tuesday.

The chase ended in the arrest of Antoine D. Boston, 20, of 130 Prospect St., East Orange, after the 2000 Jaguar he was driving crashed at an intersection in East Orange.

The Jaguar had been reported stolen in Fairfield on May 22.

The chase began around 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, when Woodbridge police alerted Clark officers that the Jaguar, involved in an assault in Woodbridge, was headed into Clark. Woodbridge police also reported that they believed Boston to be armed.

Clark Officer Eric Richter saw the Jaguar on the Garden State Parkway

and gave pursuit, accompanied by backup, Officer Glenn Griffin.

The Jaguar led the Clark officers 10 miles up the Parkway, to Exit 145, where it got onto Route 280 and entered East Orange.

The chase ended shortly after the Jaguar was involved in an accident at Park and Clinton avenues. Police did not say if anyone else was involved in the accident, or whether there were injuries.

Boston fled the accident, but was captured on foot soon after. He was charged with the possession offense, as well as with eluding police and several unlisted motor vehicle offenses.

No bail information was available at presstime Tuesday. Additional charges may be pending from the Woodbridge Police Department, Clark officials said.

Clark veterans included on D.C. memorial

By Donna Kardos
Correspondent

Almost 59 years after the end of World War II, the lives of 89 World War II veterans from Clark were honored Saturday during the dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

One of those veterans, Clark resident Joseph J. Luckasz, attended the memorial's dedication. For Luckasz, it also was the culmination of his efforts to add the names of 12 Clark veterans who were killed in action.

Luckasz knew none of the veterans personally, but became interested in honoring their memories because he lives in Clark today and feels it is important that the township's veterans who were killed in

action be remembered.

To enter the veterans into the registry, Luckasz became a charter member of the registry himself.

Luckasz contributed to the war effort as a fire-fighter for the Air Force of England from October 1943 through October 1946.

Luckasz received certificates honoring the lives of the 12 veterans Clark lost in the war after he had entered their names into the directory for the memorial.

To display the certificates for the 12 veterans, he built his own memorial, which has been standing in the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building for the past three years.

The certificates on the display feature the name of each veteran killed, how and when each was

killed, and which branch of the military they belonged to.

A picture of the World War II memorial, along with a print of a Norman Rockwell war picture, also adorn the display.

The memorial ended up at the Municipal Building after Luckasz spent more than half a year working on it and showed it to Mayor Sal Bonaccorso.

The mayor liked it and said he wanted to have it, Luckasz said. He suggested that it be put on display in the Municipal Building.

The sold-out dedication ceremony on Saturday was the culmination of an 11-year effort to honor the World War II generation, authorized by Congress in 1993.

See CLARK, Page 2

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St. John's musical concert



Students at St. John the Apostle School in Clark participated in their annual Instrumental Music Concert on May 11. The students performed on the piano, guitar, saxophone, trumpet, clarinet and drums. Pictured are students with instructor Brian McCabe, who presented the students with their music awards after the concert.

Board mulls publishing salaries

(Continued from Page 1)
And there's also the matter of finding a time that would be ideal and not rife with the potential for misuse or for controversy. "Next year it's the administrative contracts," Lewis said. "When's it going to be the right time? Is the right time after they get their raise, and everybody's going to be more upset?" Lewis is likely to have a tough sell with some of his colleagues on the Board of Education. Board member Wendy Griffin, now in the third year of her first term on the school board, has concerns that such a move not only would alienate teachers, but could raise problems when the board introduces a new operations budget to the public in 2005. "I really don't see the good coming out of it," Griffin said last week. "It's public information. People should be aware it's public information.

But my feeling is that it could possibly be used for the purpose of gossip around the Clark pool. That would only be harmful." Lewis' counterargument is that putting the information forward would let the public see how their tax money is spent and could engender greater support for the budget when it goes before the public for approval next April. "The people aren't asking," said Griffin. "I've never heard anyone from the public say, 'I want a list of salaries.'" Although Lewis said he can name about 20 school districts that publish staff salaries in a meeting agenda, the practice is not particularly widespread in the state, said Mike Yaple of the New Jersey School Boards Association. "We've heard of it being done, but just as part of a contract renewal, but

just as the salary guide," said Yaple. The association does not keep track of which districts make such statements their custom, and offers no guidelines to boards considering publishing salary rolls. "Initially when they did it in my district, I had reservations, but it's in the open now," said Lewis, a vice principal and athletic director in the Rahway School District. "I'm more about openness and having a Board of Education that's pro-education, pro-schools, period." For her part, Griffin is unconvinced that Rahway's example is enough reason for the Clark board to adopt a policy change. "Where did Rahway benefit from doing that? He hasn't really shown me that," said Griffin. "If he could sit down and show me something how it actually helped, I will change my mind. But I don't think he can do it."

Clark vets named on memorial

(Continued from Page 1)
The World War II Memorial is the first national memorial dedicated to veterans of the war. Construction for the memorial on the National Mall began in 2001. The memorial opened for public viewing on April 29.

There are 5,671 names of World War II veterans from New Jersey in the directory for the National World War II Memorial. The directory can be accessed, and entries can be added to it, at Web site www.wwiimemorial.com. "As historian, as councilman, I

always say that when young children see veterans — or those guys with the funny hats, I like to say — they should go up to them, give them a hug, and say thank you," said 4th Ward Councilman Brian Toal. "We do owe them a thanks. Our freedom today is because of them."

AT THE LIBRARY

Experience the magic of Harry Potter bingo

In honor of the premier of the film "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" on Friday, Rahway Free Public Library, 275 E. Milton Ave., will hold two Harry Potter bingo sessions for Clark and Rahway children on June 2 in the library auditorium. Harry Potter picture bingo will be held from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Children must be at least 2 years old and be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. For older children who can read well, there's Harry Potter bingo. This program will run from 7 to 7:45 p.m.

Because of limited seating, sign-up will start 30 minutes before each program begins in the Children's Department.

Return library materials to Municipal Building

Residents can return library materials borrowed from either the Clark or Rahway public library to a drop box in the front of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building. The drop box will be emptied several times a day, with material taken to Rahway Free Public Library for check-in.

Clark residents who reserve library material will be called as soon as the requested item becomes available. Reserved items can be picked up at the circulation desk at Rahway Free Public Library, Milton Avenue and Main Street.

The Rahway library is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays; and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information, call Clark Library Director Maureen Baker Wilkinson at 732-388-5999, or via e-mail at mbwilkinson@clarklibrary.com. The Clark library is expected to reopen later this year.

HEALTH

Springtime is here; watch out for rabies

Clark is indigenous to many types of wildlife due to its natural waterways, deciduous woodlands and suburban geographic boundaries. Types of wildlife include raccoons, opossums, skunks, groundhogs, moles, squirrels and rabbits. Clark also supports a large rodent population. Rabies is a viral disease which is transmitted through saliva of a rabid animal introduced by a bite or a

scratch. All warm-blooded animals can be infected by the rabies virus. Since wildlife does not always appear sick or exhibit the symptoms of rabies, it is advisable to avoid contact with wildlife. Some animals such as skunks and raccoons, which are primarily nocturnal, may be seen during the daytime. This does not mean that they are rabid. Their homes may have been disturbed, it may be breeding season, or they may be foraging for food for their young.

West Nile surveillance
The Clark Health Department has resumed its annual West Nile virus surveillance. Only crows in good condition will be submitted for testing.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by The Clark Eagle to inform residents of various community activities and governmental meetings. To publicize your community events, mail your schedule to: The Clark Eagle, Attn: managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

- Monday**
- The Department of Public Works will collect residential recyclables. Newspaper, magazines, junk mail, catalogs, notebooks, office paper, telephone books can now be put together in a paper bag or tied with string.
 - Co-mingled glass, aluminum, steel and plastic containers can be mixed together in a sturdy reusable container no larger than 32 gallons.
 - The Township Council will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 16 of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave.
- Tuesday**
- There will be an exhibit of student art in the Arthur L. Johnson High School auditorium from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The show will include a wide range of work, including drawings, paintings, mixed-media, photography, ceramic pieces and sculpture. The exhibit will be up for one day only.
- Wednesday**
- The Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet from 8 to 11 p.m. in Room 16 of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave.
- Upcoming June 21**
- The Department of Public Works will collect residential recyclables. Newspaper, magazines, junk mail, catalogs, notebooks, office paper, telephone books can now be put together in a paper bag or tied with string.
 - Co-mingled glass, aluminum, steel and plastic containers can be mixed together in a sturdy reusable container no larger than 32 gallons.
 - The Township Council will meet at 8 p.m. in the municipal courtroom, 315 Westfield Ave.
- June 22**
- The Planning Board will meet at 8 p.m. in the municipal courtroom, 315 Westfield Ave.
- June 23**
- The Board of the Clark Public Library will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the local history room of Rahway Free Public Library, 275 E. Milton Ave., Rahway.
- For more information, call 732-388-5999.
- June 24**
- Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad, 875 Raritan Road, will hold a blood drive from 3 to 8:30 p.m.
- June 28**
- The Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet from 8 to 11 p.m. in the municipal courtroom, 315 Westfield Ave.
- Ongoing**
- Bishop Justin J. McCarthy Knights of Columbus Council 5503 offers monthly family dinners. Meals cost \$8 for adults, and \$3.50 for children 4 to 10 years old. Children age 3 and younger are admitted free. For more information, call Grand Knight Tony Fiorillo at 732-340-9781, or the council home at 732-574-9067.

SENIOR NEWS

Education continues at Brewer center

Instructor Phyllis McGarry will provide line dancing lessons in the Brewer gym from 10 a.m. to noon Monday, June 14, 21 and 28. Instructor Anthony Troncone will teach Contemporary American Issues, a Union County College L.I.F.E. class, from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday. Evelyn Panish will lead exercise sessions in the cafeteria from 9 to 10 a.m. today, Tuesday and June 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 and 29.

Health screenings precede insurance talk

The Clark Senior monthly meeting will be held at 1 p.m. June 17 in the cafeteria of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave. For more information, call Lillian B. Krov at 732-381-3823.

AARP chapter seeks potential members

Clark AARP Chapter 3733 will meet at 1 p.m. June 10, at the Charles H. Brewer Senior Center, 450 Westfield Ave. The following trips have been scheduled: Sept. 15 — Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum's 7 South Street Seaport.

Luncheon at area restaurant with choice of \$62.

- Oct. 11 — Octoberfest at the Brownstone, \$58.
 - Nov. 3 — Pocmont Luncheon Theatre, "Broadway Revue" \$61.
 - Dec. 7 — Three Little Bakers "2004 Christmas" \$72. Cape Cod, MA June 14-18 \$369 Double, Triple, Quad occupancy; \$453 Single occupancy.
- For more information on trips contact Ann Miskovich, AARP trip coordinator at 732-388-4033.

Ongoing projects include knitting lap robes and shugs, collection of pennies for expenses; magazines, jigsaw puzzles, etc. for the Veteran Hospital; VNA Layette items for needy infants and collection of small gifts for bingo prizes at the Runnels Hospital.

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

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

Senior bus service

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

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Kumpf School names pupils to third-quarter honor roll

The following students have been named to the Carl H. Kumpf Middle School principal's list for the third marking period of the 2003-04 school year.

Principal's list

- Eighth grade: Gabriela Canella, Michael Keenan, Chelsea Oddi and Nicole Pandolfo.
- Seventh grade: Casey Dunn, Brynne Falkowski, Collyn O'Kane, Nicole Paserchia, Loralyn Sortino, Jennifer Tamagnini and Colleen Treacy.
- Sixth grade: Lisa Hagen, Ronald Tsung and Kevin Walsh.

High honor roll

- Eighth grade: Stephanie Amalfe, April Baton, Jennifer Conti, Michael Cowell, Vincent DeVecchio, Erica DeRosa, Stephanie DosSantos, Katelyn Durkin, Diana Falzone, Jessica Foley, Anthony Giamella, Luke Ginoc-

chio, Kevin Judd, Olha Kalynchuk, Danielle Kane, Britany Klingaman, Krista Lombardi, Nicholas Massarelli, John Monagle, Michael Mullin, Anne Nelson, Michael Newby, Dan Nguyen, Sondra Parin, Melina Partisinevelos, Melissa Pastor, Gabrielle Rimmaudo, Eric Rodrigues, Julianne Sanchez, Loralyn Sarabia, Jaimee Saracen, Tara Shannon, Steven Socha, Nicholas Stebbins, Nicholas Thomas, Jordana Trani, Robert Zebrowski, Arianna Lei Zizza and Elizabeth Zwierzynski.

- Seventh grade: Jeanamarie Banta, Shumita Basu, Gabriella Capobianco, Erin Closs, Nicole Colucci, Caroline Conway, Marissa Curti, Colleen Davey, Cristoforo DiNucci, Claire Felter, Amanda Gaspar, Catherine Goncalves, Sabrina Hayes, Kimberly Juzefyk, Jason Kim, Sunah Kim, Irene Lambert, Phyllis Lee, Cassandra Martin, Kelly Muller, Eric Ottenstein, Maria Palermo,

Robert Perez, Joshua Powers, Robert Raimundo, Christopher Roberts, Christopher Rodrigues, Shawn Ryan, Nina Sinicropi, Richard Spellerberg, Danielle Stern, Brooke Tropeano, Christopher Villaverde, Frederick Walck and David Weiner.

- Sixth grade: Morgan Atanasio, George Bogner, Kelsey Borden, Michelle Bradford, Megan Brattole, Colin Cieslak, Ryan M. Collins, Connor Durkin, Anthony Falzone, Mariah Fiore, Katelyn Gaffney, Eric Ginocchio, Ryan Jendrek, Christopher Judd, Marissa Kane, Shawn Keating, Christina McArdle, Joseph Mignoli, Kathleen Mulligan, Lindsay Oddi, Patrick Ozarek, Anthony Poysick, Jessica Racanelli, Theresa Renna, Brielle Stigliano and Andrew Villari.

Honor roll

- Eighth grade: Jennifer Casazza, Marissa Di Cosmo,

Frederick Illg, Meghan Jacobi, Gina Marie Kirwin, Patricia Matejek, Brittany Murray, Stephanie Roman, Jacquelyn Stulpin, Anthony Vargas and Daniel Yusupov.

- Seventh grade: Bradley Brown, Ryan Conrad, Katherine Carrier, Megan Etzel, Alyssa Faede, Alyssa Jacob, Matthew Klimchak, Edward Maye, Allison Nozza, Mariel Rutano, Erica Seng and Christopher Tylutki.

- Sixth grade: Giovanna Casazza, Michelle Coyle, Joseph DeRosa, Samantha Eaton, Kyle Eipel, Dominic Feminello, Daniel Foley, David Geller, Daniel Jamroz, Joseph Keenan, Sharon Kim, Danielle Kohen, Jennifer Lambert, Jade Light, Lauren MacDermant, Samantha Mazzucco, Zachary T. Miller, Kimberly Mogensen, Michael Nicholson, Francis Pandolfo, Tiffany Picinisco, Sergio Ribeiro, Mia Valente, Emily Vargas and Nicholas Villaverde.

STUDENT UPDATE

Association awards scholarship to Patel

The Elizabeth branch of the American Association of University Women will award \$750 in scholarships to three young women graduating from high schools in the Union County area.

The 2004 scholarship recipients include Dupal Patel of Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark.

Patel was selected from a large pool of applicants from the Union County high schools in the branch's area. Selections were made on the basis of qualities of scholarship, character, leadership and demonstrations of service to their schools and communities.

As a winner, Patel will receive a letter of congratulations, best wishes for continued success, certificates of commendation and checks for \$250

for use toward their college expenses. Principal Robert Taylor will present her with these during graduation exercises.

The 2004 awards mark the 24th year the Elizabeth Branch Scholarship Awards have been presented. The program began with a single \$100 award in 1981 and has grown gradually to as many as 12 awards at \$250 each, totaling \$3,000.

In the past 24 years, the branch has awarded \$26,250 to a total of 141 young women of Union County.

Funds for the program have been raised through donation drives, a memorial and tribute program, raffles, book sales and garage sales. All funds received have been reserved for the scholarships since all work is done by volunteers.

The Scholarship Selection Committee includes Betty Edwards, Anne O'Sullivan, Jeannette Simpson and

Stephanie Laucius, chairman.

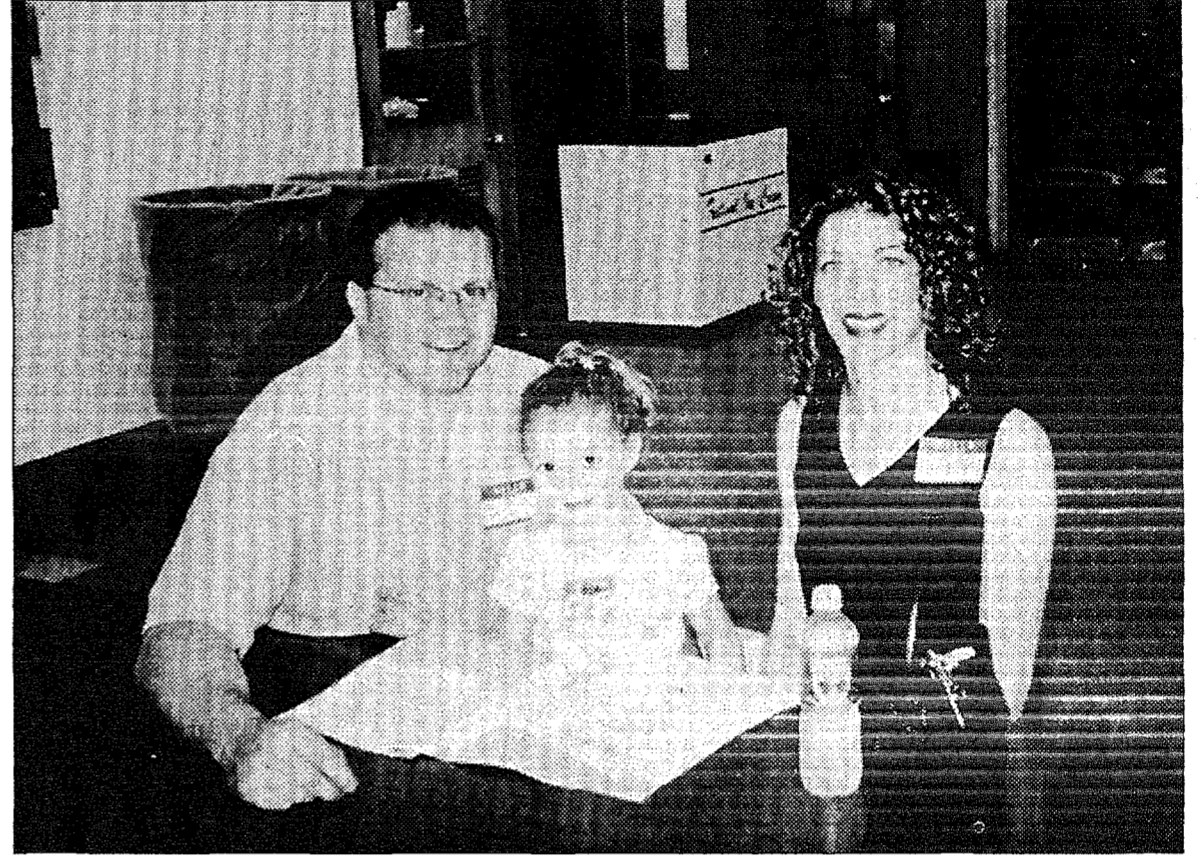
Samecki awarded 200 Club scholarship

Each year The Two Hundred Club of Union County awards a four-year scholarship to five sons and daughters of active uniformed police and firefighters in Union County.

The competitive scholarship will be presented this year to Joseph A. Samecki of Clark, who plans to attend Penn State University. Scholarships are awarded for four years providing the recipient maintains a high level of performance and grading.

The Two Hundred Club is one of the largest scholarship programs in the county. The awardees were presented with their scholarships at the 35th annual valor award luncheon honoring police and fire heroes in Union County.

Kindergarten introduction



Morgan Bothe and her parents attend an hourlong introduction to kindergarten at Valley Road School. Children visited the two kindergarten classrooms and met the kindergarten teachers, Adrienne Dubitsky and Linda Voros. Parents gathered in the cafeteria, where they met Principal Shirley Bergin and other school staff. When the children returned to the cafeteria, they enjoyed juice and cookies and received a coloring book and crayons provided by the PTA.

EVENTS

Spears choreographer to teach at Clark studio

Dance students can learn to hip-hop from a pro this July at the Center for Dance Education, 75 Bartell Place.

Darrin Dewitt Henson, who acts as a choreographer for musicians like Britney Spears, N'Sync and Christina Aguilera, will teach a hip hop class at the center July 15 and 29. This class is a workshop for children 10 and older.

Henson is promoting his new video "Darrin's Dance Grooves 2," and his new hip-hop clothing line.

Registration is limited and will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrants must leave payment and a phone number to reserve a spot. For more information, call 732-388-6088.

The Center for Dance Education also runs a summer camp for children

6 to 8 and 9 to 11 years old.

The camp covers different styles of dance, including ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical and yoga, and runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays from July 5 to July 30.

The Center for Dance Education also provides classes for children 3 to 5 years old from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in July, with classes focusing on ballet, tumbling and creative movement.

Intensive workshops for intermediate and advanced students are offered from 6 to 8 p.m. every night.

For more information, call the center at 732-388-6088.

Class of 1978 plans Ash Brook golf outing

The Arthur L. Johnson High School Class of 1978 will sponsor a

golf outing at Ash Brook Golf Course July 24.

The course is located at 1210 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains. The cost is \$75 per person, for golf carts, awards, door prizes and food that will be served at the beginning, the turn, and an Italian-style buffet dinner afterward.

Besides classmates, the golf outing is open to men, women, spouses, friends, family members and the general public. All ages and abilities are welcome. The buffet dinner is available separately for \$25.

Reservations are due by July 21. Participants must be at the course by 10 a.m. July 24. The buffet dinner will start around 3 p.m.

For more information, call Norm Marocci at 215-431-6108, or send an e-mail to ALJClassOf1978@yahoo.com.

Gardenscape program



Three generations of the Miele family of Clark joined in helping the township and Cub Scout Troop 145 in the first phase of the new Gardenscape program, at Westfield Avenue and Riverside Drive and Miller Avenue. Sitting is France Miele, 96, a lifetime Clark resident. Also shown are Judith Brougham, the idea maker for the project; Scott McCabe, leader of Cub Scout Pack 145; Vicki 'Miele' Cook, daughter of Mrs. Miele, and also a lifetime Clark resident; Mary Ellen Brennan and her sons, Jonathan and Michael Brennan, and Township Council President Al Barr.

EDUCATION

Mother Seton places third in math league

Mother Seton Regional High School's varsity team placed third for the season out of 25 teams in the Catholic Schools Mathematics League. The league is comprised of teams from New Jersey and New York.

Seniors Ludny Charles of Irvington, placed 10th in this contest out of about 250 students.

The junior varsity team placed second out of 29 teams in this competition. Sophomore Nicole Telleri of Clark placed fourth.

The combined second, third place finish is the best of all the teams in the Catholic Schools Mathematics League.

Mother Seton team racks up trophies

When sophomore Erica Pimenta asked her new English teacher, Marylou Motto, to moderate a forensics team in October 2002, Motto didn't quite know what to say.

"To tell the truth," said Motto, "I was new to high schools and not quite sure what a forensics team was. But Pimenta, a Rahway resident and fine student at Mother Seton, kept talking, and I became interested. Before I could turn around, less than two hectic weeks later, we were at our first tour-

namment — and winning our first trophies." The Mother Seton Regional High School Forensics Team has been winning trophies for two years now.

A member of the Newark Catholic Forensics League, the Mother Seton team attends six competitions each year. The league, which enrolls public and private high schools, is this year the fourth ranking league in the nation, so the competition is spirited.

The Mother Seton students are more than up to the challenge. This year along, the 15-member team has won 37 awards.

At the final meet, the Mother Seton team earned seven trophies, including fifth place overall at the meet and fourth place overall for the year. That day, they also named students who had earned the right to compete nationally. Thousands of students from high schools nationwide will gather for the annual national tournament, this year, to be held in Boston on Memorial Day weekend.

"We were thrilled to have four students qualify," said Motto. "I'm especially pleased that each one works in a different event."

The four from Mother Seton include one sophomore and three juniors.

Motto is effusive in her praise of the team and the school: "Studies show that women in all-girl high schools achieve more than those who

attend co-ed schools. One of the reasons for this, I believe, is that they learn to trust their own voice, both in the classroom and outside. All the young women on the team are self-confident and wonderfully supportive of one another. Their record speaks for itself."

Recently, the school's record has been "speaking louder than usual."

According to Joan Barron, assistant principal, Mother Seton teams have been particularly successful of late.

The junior-senior Current Events team placed third nationally among 57 teams and the freshman team also placed nationally among 17 teams.

In the New Jersey Science League, Mother Seton's Chemistry I team is first place in the district, and the biology and physics teams are in third place.

The varsity team of the Catholic Schools Mathematics League placed third for the season out of 25 teams from New Jersey and New York. The junior varsity team placed second among 29 teams.

This combined second- and third-place finish is the best of all the teams in the Catholic Schools Mathematics League. Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, enrolls young women in ninth through 12th grades, focusing on quality Catholic education with an emphasis on "academic excellence and Seton spirit."

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North Shore Animal League
116-883-2575
www.nsa-animal.org

EDUCATION

Hey! Remember when?

Hey! Remember when...
We all sat three-in-a row,
But then I'd get moved again,
And I wanted to shout "No!"

Hey! Remember when...
We'd start laughing and talking,
(Well, usually we'd actually be talking)
And I'd get moved yet again,
Then start walking?

Hey! Remember when...
We sat together,
And acted like we were ten,
And complained about the cold weather?

Hey! Remember when...
We took our break,
And got a pen,
To write down the jokes we would make?

Hey! Remember when...
We had a whole lot of fun in English class,
Doing all that fun and crazy stuff?
I hope we continue to be like this,
Even if things get tough!
— Sara Dankosky

Ice cream

I love ice cream
Until the very last scoop;
I would love it more
If it didn't make your stomach droop.

Then one day it happened
My most fantastic dream;
Before my friends I stood
On the world's largest ice cream.

It was a little scary
I do have to admit;
Cream I would get on my pants
So I could not sit.

There was so much ice cream
I was sure that I would drown;
But I was then to realize
I had to eat my way down.
— Blaire Fraser

My backyard

The grass of plush green
Wet by the dew of morning
Moist upon my feet as I walk barefoot
Among the tall grown trees

Whoosh!
The wind blows through my hair,
As I swing on my swing set
Soaring as high as the hawk,
Perched upon my favorite tree.

The deer, as graceful as a ballerina,
Bounds across my yard
Occasionally stopping to graze
Fleeing with the slightest notion of movement.

The feelings of safety,
The peacefulness,
The beauty, a sanctuary,
My backyard.
— Alyssa Kempinski

Moon, moon, shine on me

Moon, moon, shine on me.
When I go to sleep,
When I need light to write,
or someone to talk to,
You're my number-one choice.
So when you're feeling bright
Shine into my window,
and help me go to sleep!
I need you now,
more than ever!
I need that one special thing,
to brighten up my night,
so it doesn't seem so dark!
Moon, moon, shine on me!
— Dana Malangone

Published on this page are some original poems by seventh-grade students of Jennifer Brooks and Julie Isaacs.

My Sounder Poem

You are a flower, says the boy,
Growing on the treacherous grave.
You gave us help and lots of warmth,
While staying very brave.

You helped us eat when we were hungry,
Though stealing was the case.
Then three men barged throughout door,
Starting a big dog chase.

They hit you and then locked you up,
Trapping you in the carriage.
But brave Sounder came about,
Not willing to break his marriage.

When panting Sounder came out running,
The white man took out his gun.
Then shot poor Sounder in the head,
Sounders' life was not yet done.

The boy looked for days and days,
While thinking of his poor dad.
And when the boy finally found Sounder,
Thoughts of his father he had.

The thoughts talked to him,
Telling him to move on.
From the fact his father died,
His sadness was now gone.
— Will VanWhy

The death of time

I sit on the patio of weathered stone.
I look out to the garden.
The garden of love,
The garden of deceit,
The garden of anger.
Beautiful bushes with nothing to bear,
With beautiful flowers flourishing everywhere.
Out of the way of all this beauty lies a single flower.
In a patch of its own,
Waiting for death to take it.
Because all beautiful things have one flaw.
And all beautiful things must wither and die
To the death of time.
— Jake DeCotiis

Hope

Hope looks like a floating cloud as soft as a cotton ball
that someday will fill with rain drops;
It sounds like a dove as peaceful as the American flag,
splashing into a deep blue river;
It smells like a rose as strong scented as nature perfume;
It feels like a dream, as elegant as a butterfly's wings;
It tastes like whip cream, as light as a bird feather.
— Ashley Kreig

Frustration

Frustration is a never-ending hill;
It smells like anticipation waiting to get out;
It looks like an animal, trapped in its cage;
It tastes like a bitter lemon, sweet and sour;
It sounds like an echoing scream, far into the mountain
yet never being heard,
It feels like we're almost there but not even close.
— Sam Lamsis

Clear Blue Skies of Yonder

Clear blue skies of yonder,
beckon me forth and I run
through grassy hills
to the edge of the horizon,
to where earth meets sky,
where the hearts of dreams dwell.

The skies are not always blue
and the sun does not always
shine on my fate.
All the hills look the same
and I get lost.
Sometimes after I stumble
on one pebble too many.
I think,
What am I doing out here?
Some things are meant
to stay dreams.

Sorrow

Sorrow looks like a tear stained face after an unbearable night of weeping;
It sounds like the screech of brakes just before a major crash;

It smells like burning ashes as the result of an undying flame;

It feels like your heart breaking in two after telling the one you love the most they can no longer be yours, then feeling the longing for them after they're gone, because you know you can never have them again;

It tastes like salty flesh before a renewing tissue wipes the sorrow away.
— Kate Williamson

Fear

Fear looks like a candle, unwilling to burn;
It sounds like a screeches for help;
It smells like a predator coming to get you;
It feels like little needles going into every part of your body;
It tastes like a warhead that makes your body shiver.
— Rachel Jacquin

Love

Love looks like an opportunity that never ceases to amaze you;
It sounds like a dull beat that will never startle or scare you;
It smells like the smell of roses rushing up your nostrils;
It feels like your heart opening up to accept another's;
It tastes like cotton candy slowly melting in your mouth.
— Will Gardner

Freak the mighty: His Heart

His heart was strong and brave,
But could withstand no more dragon slayings,
Bridge crossings, or horseback journeys.
The days, weeks, months,
Passed by like minutes,
And then were over.
To return no more.
Where magic and bravery filled the air,
His heart was kind and caring,
Protecting here and there,
For that lives were owed to it.
But were lost when it was gone.
His heart was like no other,
Kind, caring, brave and strong,
But most of all,
It was loved by all,
Never to be truly lost.
No matter where it wanders,
His heart will last forever,
In the lives that it touched.
— Sara Dankosky

Things we'll never see

there are some things we'll never see
that you wouldn't understand
the hopes and dreams inside of me
begin to fade away
keep my world nearby
just blowing in the wind
there must be a way to get down
floating on this dark cloud
the vultures of death
are flying overhead
and running from eagles
makes things so much worse
so I'm here down on my knees
falling from the earth
so you've come to my rescue
I need the life back in me
— Jaman Frenche

I run up and down
these hills,
chasing my golden sunrise
of a dream.
I laugh,
I cry,
I scream,
but I keep going.

After many days,
months, weeks and years,
of running,
I get there,
and know it was worthwhile.

My golden sunrise of a dream
is the most beautiful thing
I've ever seen.
It shines with
the light of the world,
the light that kept me going.

Sounder: I'm still here

Knock, Knock...Someone is at the door.
Crash...Down comes the door.
Police now standing where there was once a door,
Waiting to take father away.

They dragged him out, down to the wagon,
Tears emerging from other's eyes...Weep, Weep
Horrible sights, screaming in my mind...No! Don't go!
They tied father-up, as if tying a dog to a garden post.

The horses began to move...Clip Clap ClipClap
The wagon almost out of sight...there is Sounder,
Running after father.

Police yelling, horses stopped.
Them yelling at Sounder to get away..."Get away you stupid dog!"
But Sounder never moved, like a live statue.

Bang, Bang, Bang...Sounder now lies on the ground.
He gets up, half alive, and limps into the forest.
Will he ever come back I think to myself.

Sounder's ear, under my pillow, like a tooth I just lost.
I will treasure this forever.
I'm hoping you will come back home to me.
Waiting, Waiting, Waiting.

I'm still here Sounder,
Waiting, Waiting, Waiting...Waiting for you to come home.
— Chelsea Nigro

Love

Love looks like an enduring colorful dream;
It sounds like the echoing harp of the heavens' orchestra;
It smells like sweet honeysuckle;
It feels like a gentle caress on your face;
It tastes like a fountain of sweets flowing through your mouth.
— Alanna Augustine

One, Two

One two,
I love you
Three Four
So why'd I kick you out the door
Five Six,
I thought we didn't mix
Seven eight,
But we met by fate
Nine ten
Take me back again
— Krystin Orrico

One, Two

One Two,
What did you do
Three Four,
Shut the door
Five Six,
This is not a fix
Seven Eight,
Why are you late
Nine Ten,
Now you have detention again!
— Kimberly Kripaitis

for so long.

The most amazing thing
about my beautiful sunrise of a dream,
is that when it rises, it does not
set.
Even at night
its radiance outshines
the stars in the sky.
It is my eternal lighthouse.

Clear blue skies
beckon you forth
so come and run
through grassy hills
to the edge of the horizon
to where earth meets sky,
where the hearts of dream dwell.
Come and chase your sunrise.
— Julia Maddera

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**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, June 28, 2004 at 7:45 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey and to hear the following case:

1. Application #33-03: Pedro Bonet Cabrera and Magda Mayol, Applicants, 12 Woods Hole Road, Block 162, Lot 8, Zone R-1, to permit construction of a porch and expansion of an existing garage with less than the minimum required front yard setback (136-30.6); and less than the minimum required combined side yard setback (136-30.8).
2. Application #210-04: Tom Caramancia, Applicant, 44 Princeton Road, Block 120, Lot 17, Zone R-3, to permit construction of a fence which will exceed the maximum height permitted and location for the side yard (136-23.1.2).
3. Application #207-04: Joe and Liz Shrier, Applicants, 202 Hillside Avenue, Block 550, Lot 15, Zone R-2, to permit construction of a porch and expansion of an existing garage with less than the minimum required front yard setback (136-30.8).
4. Application #212-04: Jeffrey and Mary Sterling, Applicants, 225 Pawnee Road, Block 117, Lot 3, Zone R-2, to permit construction of an addition with less than the minimum required rear yard setback (136-30.9).

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 to 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, Secretary
U75915 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$24.38)

**LEGAL NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID**

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board of Education of the Township of Cranford in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, by authority of said Board, solicits sealed bids for pupil transportation. Bids to be received at the Business Office of the Board of Education, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, NJ 07016 on Tuesday, June 8, 2004, at 9:00 A.M. prevailing time on June 8, 2004.

**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
FOR THE 2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR**

Specifications and full information may be obtained upon application at the Business Office of the Board of Education, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, NJ. Bids must be in strict compliance with specification. Bids must be submitted on the bid forms provided. Bids not submitted on such forms may be rejected. Bids must be endorsed on the outside of the sealed envelope with the name of the bidder, the bidder's address and the name of the supplies, equipment or service for which the bid is submitted (Pupil Transportation Services). It is understood and agreed that bids may be delivered before or at the time and place specified for the opening. The Board of Education assumes no responsibility for bids mailed or misdirected in delivery.

The Board of Education of the Township of Cranford, in Union County, New Jersey reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids for the whole or any part and waive any informalities in the interest of the Board of Education. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening thereof.

Bidding shall be in conformance with the applicable requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq. pertaining to the "Public Schools Contracts Law". Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) Affirmative Action.

By order of the Board of Education of the Township of Cranford, Union County, New Jersey.

Robert J. Carfagno
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

DATE: May 28, 2004
U76256 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$22.50)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Clark Planning Board will hold a special public meeting on June 15, 2004 at 315 Westfield Avenue in Council Chambers at 7:30 to discuss the application of Hollander Hill Associates, Block 28, Lots 3 & 4.

Lisa McCabe
Clark Planning Board Secretary
U76399 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$4.13)

PUBLIC NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
PLANNING BOARD**

The Planning Board, Township of Cranford, County of Union, New Jersey will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 107 of the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey to hear the following case:

1. Application #P05-04: David and Amy Robinson, Applicants, 14 Forest Avenue, Block 312, Lot 3, R-1 Zone, To permit construction of an addition within a flood fringe area (136-42C).
2. Application #P04-04: Valley National Bank, Applicants, 113-117 South Avenue West, Block 402, Lots 19 & 20, B-3 Zone, To permit construction of a new bank with waiver from driveway design standards (136-23 G.(1), less than the required number of off-street parking spaces (136-23 G.(3)(a); less than the minimum setback (136-23 G.(3)(c)(5); no off-street loading or unloading space provided (136-23 G.(4); to permit free standing sign in the B-3 zone (136-23 H.(8); to permit drive-in use including banks and financial institutions in the B-2 and B-3 zones (136-35 B.(3)(a) and (b)).

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 to the proposed development. The Board does, however, have the right to exclude repetitious testimony in accordance with the rules of the Planning Board.

Edward M. Schmidt
Board Secretary

U75913 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$20.25)

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

TAKE NOTICE that on the 24th day of May, 2004, the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union took the following actions:

1. Application #Z03-04: Adopted resolution memorializing the approval of variances to Steven and Theresa Juzefyk to permit construction of a new residential dwelling which will exceed the maximum height permitted and driveway waiver on Garden Street, Block 285, Lot 1.01 as designated on the Township Tax Map, also known as 106 Garden Street in the R-4 Zone.
 2. Adopted a resolution memorializing the action and recommendations of the 2003 Annual Report.
 3. Application Z04-04: Carried the hearing on the application of Michael and Joanne Morreale. Applicants to permit construction of an addition with less than the minimum rear yard setback (136-30.9) on premises at 4 Davis Street, Block 223, Zone R-3 to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board to be held on June 14, 2004.
 4. Application #33-03: Carried the hearing on the application of Pedro Bonet Cabrera and Magda Mayol, Applicants to permit construction of a porch and expansion of an existing garage with less than the minimum required front yard setback (136-30.6); less than the minimum required combined side yard setback (136-30.8) on premises at 12 Woods Hole Road, Block 162, Lot 8, Zone R-1 to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board to be held on June 28, 2004.
- Barbara Ginsberg, Secretary
U75914 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$19.13)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, the following action was adopted at the Public/Executive Meeting of the Clark Board of Adjustment, held on May 24, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. The application of Frank T. Battistella was granted permission for: extending out front dormer on second floor and enclose front porch at the property located 18 Florence Drive, Clark.

The file papers for the above decision are available at the Clark Township Building Department, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, N.J. for public review during 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Frank T. Battistella
U75918 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$7.50)

LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, the following action was adopted at the Public/Executive Meeting of the Clark Board of Adjustment, held on 22 March 2004, at 7:30 p.m. The application of Kathleen & Michael Whittington was granted permission for: extend out front dormer on second floor and enclose front porch at the property located 18 Florence Drive, Clark.

U76450 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$4.88)

**NOTICE OF AWARD
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

The Cranford Board of Education met on May 24, 2004 and awarded the following contract amendment for professional consultation services pursuant to 18A:18A.5a(1). The resolution of award and the contracts listed below are available for public inspection in the Office of the Board Secretary located at 132 Thomas Street from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday thru Friday.

Name	Nature of Award	Contract Period	Additional Contract Amount Not to Exceed
Advanced Physical Therapy	Physical Therapy Services for Special Education Students	2003-2004 school year	\$30,500.00

Robert J. Carfagno
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

U75997 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$21.39)

PUBLIC NOTICE

N.J. The file papers for the above decision are available at the Clark Township Building Department, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, N.J. for public review during 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Michael Whittington
U75919 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$7.50)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the ordinances of the Township of Cranford, and the statutes of the State of New Jersey, NOTICE IS HEREBY served upon you that an application for development (NC 204-04) to be located in a R3 Zone, on the premises known as 4 Davis Street, Block No. 259 Lot No. 3 has been submitted by Michael and Joanne Morreale of 4 Davis Street the development is located within 200 feet of property owned by you and involves a rear yard addition and requires the granting of relief from zone requirements that require 30 feet and any such other variances as may be required in order to allow a rear yard encroachment of 7.53 feet.

USE VARIANCE X.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment will conduct a public hearing on this matter on June 14, 2004 at 8:15 P.M. in Room 107, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey. Any person or persons affected by this application will have an opportunity to present any objections you may have to the proposed development. The Board does, however, have the right to exclude repetitious testimony.

All documents relating to this application may be inspected by the public Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. in the Planning/Zoning Office, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey.

Michael G. Morreale
Applicant
U75994 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$15.38)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: Applicant: Hollander Hill Associates L.L.C. Address: 1049 Raritan Road, Clark Block 28 Lots 3 and 4 has applied for preliminary subdivision approval and preliminary site plan approval for:

Property Street Address: 637-639 Raritan Road Block 28 Lots 3 and 4

FOR THE PURPOSE OF: Subdividing the property into 4 lots to be developed with 4 single-family dwellings and an access road/cul-de-sac.

This matter will be heard by the Clark Township Planning Board at a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2004 in the Municipal Court Room, 315 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey. Any person or persons affected by this matter may have an opportunity to be heard at said meeting. Copies of the application and plans are on file and may be examined at the Building Department, Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey during regular business hours.

HOLLANDER HILL ASSOCIATES L.L.C.
By: s/Rudolph E. Daunino, Member
U76426 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$14.25)

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
PLANNING BOARD**

TAKE NOTICE that on the 19th day of May, 2004, the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union took the following action:

1. Application #P03-04: Granted approval of retail services to Sofia Perez on Block 189, Lot 6 as designated on the Township Tax Map, also known as 32 North Avenue West in the B-1 zoning district.
- Edward M. Schmidt
Board Secretary
- U75920 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$6.38)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS: Sealed bids were advertised in this publication on Thursday, May 20, 2004 to be received and opened at the Cranford Board of Education, Lincoln School, 132 Thomas Street, Cranford, NJ 07016 on Tuesday, June 8, 1004 at 9:00 A.M. for REPAVING OF WALNUT AVENUE SCHOOL DRIVEWAY. This bid has been cancelled.

Robert J. Carfagno
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

DATE: May 28, 2004
U76010 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$6.00)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CLARK
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2004
430 WESTFIELD AVENUE
ROOM 16 - 8:00 PM
CLARK, N.J. 07066

RE: Resolution - Legalized Games of Chance

U76450 CCE June 3, 2004 (\$4.88)

OBITUARIES

Elsie Mae Franklin

Elsie Mae Franklin, 87, of Kenilworth, formerly of Mountainside and Cranford, died May 24 in Union Hospital.

Born in Keyport, Mrs. Franklin lived in Mountainside and Cranford before moving to Kenilworth in 2000.

She was a computer typesetter for the *Scotch Plains Times* before retiring in 1977. Previously, Mrs. Franklin was

a computer typesetter for the *Hunterdon County Democrat* in Flemington.

She was a member of the American Baptist Women.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Mrs. Franklin was a Girl Scout leader and a Sunday school teacher, both in Roselle.

Surviving are her husband, Richard E.; a daughter, Janet Mae Zahumeny, and two grandchildren.

Margaret Kern

Margaret E. Kern, 97, of Cranford died May 29 at home.

Mrs. Kern was a supervisor for Monsanto, Kenilworth, for many years and retired in 1973.

Earlier, she was a supervisor with Western Electric, Kearny.

Surviving are a son, Donald E.; three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Cranford student Lindsay Baer wins scholarship from 200 Club of Union County

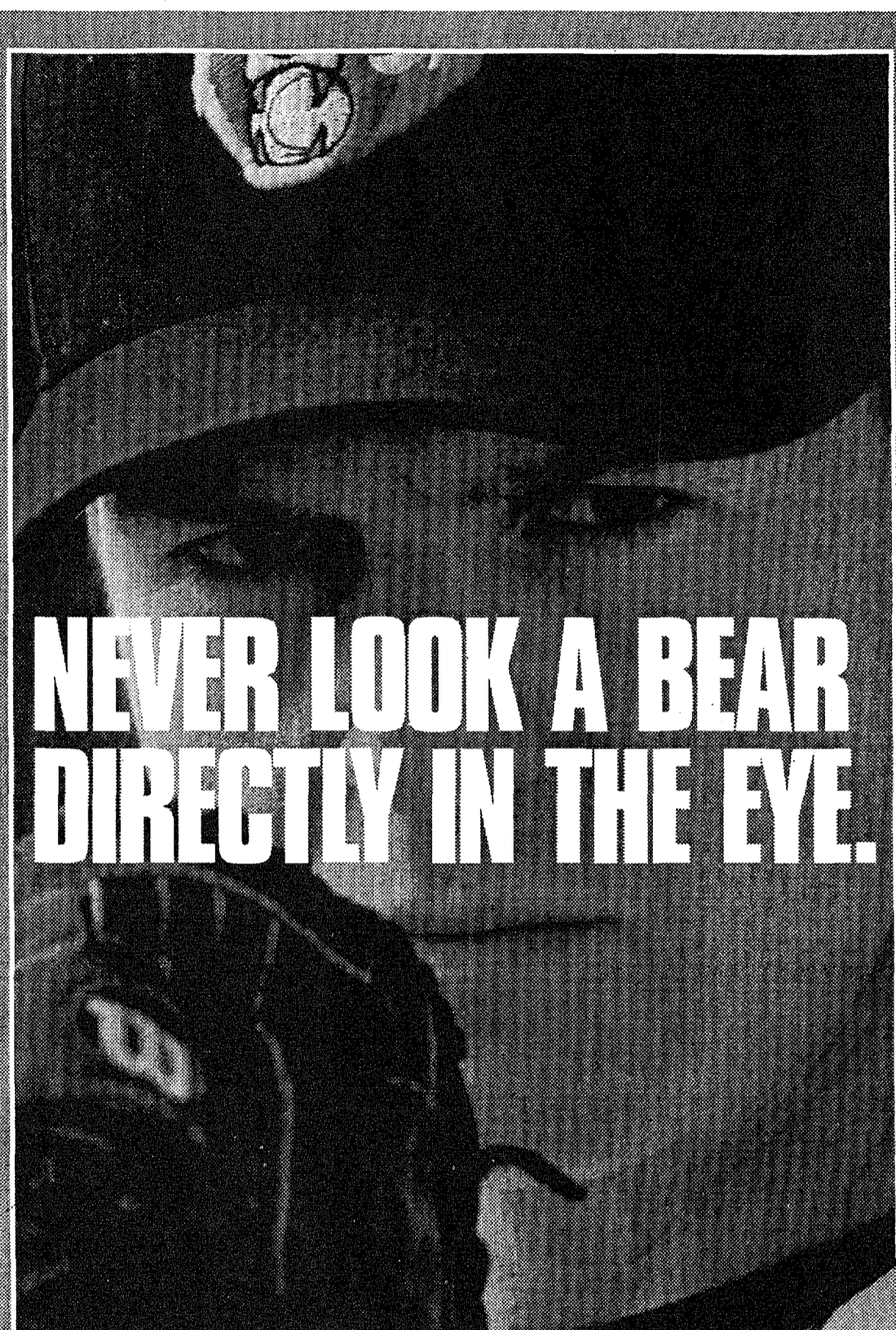
Each year The Two Hundred Club of Union County awards a four-year scholarship to five sons and daughters of active uniformed police and firefighters in Union County.

The competitive scholarship

will be presented this year to Lindsay A. Baer of Cranford, who will attend Georgetown University.

The scholarships are awarded for four years providing the recipient maintains a high level of performance and grading.

The Two Hundred Club is one of the largest scholarship programs in the county. The awardees were presented with their scholarships at the 35th annual valor award luncheon honoring police and fire heroes in Union County.



THU. June 10: 2004 Newark Bears Baseball Card Sets*, Firefighter Tribute Night with Firefighter Olympics

FRI. June 11: Teacher Appreciation Night

SAT. June 12: 4H Club Seeing Eye Puppies Night

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Ronald Aronds
Attorney at Law

115 North Union Avenue
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Fax: 908-272-8897

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Good idea

One of the good things about having three new members on the Board of Education is that an entire one-third of the board is approaching the job without unnecessary preconceptions of how to do things. They have new ideas of how the board can do things, and those ideas can be nuggets of gold.

Case in point: Board member Sheri Sandler, one of the three new members on the board, last week suggested some changes to the board's meeting format. Out of the many ideas, suggestions and questions floated by the new contingent on the board in the past month-and-a-half, her proposal to showcase a different school program each month far and away has to be the best yet.

Programs such as this already are used to great effect in neighboring school districts such as Cranford and in other school districts across the state. Spotlighting individual classrooms and programs engenders support for and pride in the school's efforts to educate by providing communication in the best possible way — it provides a venue for parents to see what their children are doing, not to hear about it, not to read about it, but to witness it firsthand. Doing it year-round, shifting the spotlight from one school to another during the year, ensures that the support does not wax and wane with the moon, and can lead to increased parental involvement year-round.

Less desirable is Sandler's suggestion of cycling school board meetings through the four district schools. In this, we believe predictability is an ally to be embraced and not an opponent to be supplanted. Holding meetings at the same time and place twice a month makes it easier for everyone — board members, school officials and particularly the public — to attend. Move the meetings to a different school once each month and you risk losing the very people Sandler and other board members are stressing they want to maintain better communication with.

Bad idea

One of the downsides of having three new members on the Board of Education is that the relative inexperience of so large a part of the board can slow things on matters such as routine professional appointments, and some ideas are given more attention than they deserve and can end up as board policy.

Case in point: Board member Tom Lewis, one of the three freshmen on the board, has pushed for publishing the salaries of everyone in the school district, from the highest administrator to the lowest hourly employee, in the school board agenda as a matter of openness with the public about where their tax dollars go. While we commend Lewis for his commitment to openness with the public, we see no need for such a move. The ill will such a move likely would generate among school employees more than outweighs the benefits it might bring.

As employees of the school board, the salaries of teachers, administrators and other school employees are a matter of public record, with public access guaranteed by the state's Open Public Records Act. Anyone who wants to know what a teacher or a principal earns can call the board office and find out. If the board office doesn't provide it, the person who makes the decision not to release the information risks substantial financial penalties for flouting the law. That should be enough.

That being said, there's an aura of privacy and personal information that surrounds what people earn. Teachers surrender that privacy once they sign a contract with the school board, but that doesn't make it appropriate for the school board to start shouting people's salaries from the rooftop, which is what Lewis essentially is proposing — and at a time when the board and the teacher's union are in the middle of contract negotiations, to boot. It's one thing for a third party, whether a newspaper or parent, to request the information and distribute it. It's quite another for the employer to do it. Such a move can only generate ill-will and resentment.

The salaries of the school district's employees are public information, and it's in the public's best interests that they are. But simply putting that information into the public indiscriminately too easily can set off a powderkeg, and that's in no one's best interests.

Best avoided

Last week in this space, we suggested that Mayor Sal Bonaccorso should avoid appointing his father the supervisor of the Department of Public Works. We'd like to reiterate that position, but set the record straight on one important detail: the pay involved.

The editorial incorrectly listed the position as paying between \$40,000 and \$80,000 a year. That is the salary range for the director of the DPW. The supervisor, the post Joseph Bonaccorso is filling on an acting basis, pays \$6,000 a year.

The salary, although it is an important detail, is still not the issue. The issue is the appearance of wrongdoing — in this case, that of appointing an immediate family member to a position paid by the public. In a position of public trust, such as holding the highest elected office in Clark, the appearance of wrongdoing is something to be avoided, even in appointments where the appointee possesses all the right qualifications and experience.



BABY SHOWERS — Osceola Church Nursery School in Clark recently held a baby shower in conjunction with a unit on growing up. The Foxes class shows off some of the items collected. All of the items collected will be donated to Raphael's Life House in Elizabeth.

Journey to Land's End is stuff fairy tales are made of

Once upon a time, the lovely wife of a man who secretly disliked the act of recycling sent a humble request to an enchanted place called Land's End.

The wife asked the caretaker of Land's End to send a catalog that provided a visual depiction of its wares, thus making it easy to select garments without having to travel to department stores whose workers were feared throughout the kingdom for their surly attitudes and unnatural ability to vanish into thin air at checkout time.

As was the custom between the man and wife, each night before they went to sleep they conversed, often laughing long into the night by carefully steering clear of subjects pertaining to financial matters, neglected tasks or the raising of their children. They were very happy.

Lo and behold the catalog arrived in the wife's mailbox. She became smitten the instant she saw the model on the cover dressed in a Georgette Flare Skirt, made from "an exceptionally lovely fabric" coveted far and wide for its ability to "waft on the slightest breeze." The wife was pleased to see that the woman was about her size, very pretty and yet not threatening.

That night when the husband entered the bedroom, he found his wife immersed in the new catalog.

Settling into bed, he began a funny story about a man he saw at the train station who accidentally had closed a

Now What?

By John Hartnett

newspaper vending machine on his tie and, unable to raise his head more than a couple of inches, politely asked passersby to borrow the 75 cents necessary to free himself.

Expecting a big laugh from his wife, the husband was somewhat disappointed when she didn't react at all but leaned over with the catalog and inquired, "Do you think I could pull off this three-quarter sleeve Coral Reef stretch shirt?" He fell asleep that night to the sound of flipping pages.

The next day the husband came home to find 175 catalogs stacked along the kitchen counter like the first row of a cinderblock foundation. All of them were from Land's End.

There was Land's End Kids, Land's End Men, Land's End Home, Land's End School, Land's End Women, Land's End Women Plus Size, Land's End Women for Women Who Like to Dress Like Diane Keaton, and dozens more.

The husband confronted his lovely wife and asked her why she would order so many catalogs.

The wife denied requesting additional catalogs and told her husband

that she was just as shocked as he was about the unexpected arrival of unsolicited catalogs and could he please help her carry them to the bedroom.

That night there was little conversation at all.

The husband drifted off again as his wife flipped through the dozens of catalogs that littered their bed, awaking with a jolt each time he heard the slap of another one hitting the floor.

The next morning, the husband rose before dawn and quietly gathered all the catalogs in the room.

He tied them together with twine and hid them in the garage until the time came for them to be recycled.

He hoped his wife would forget all about them.

He prayed they wouldn't be recycled into new catalogs.

Three weeks passed and life had returned to normal.

The husband and his lovely wife resumed their pleasant bedtime conversations and laughter once again filled the room — except when one of the children would barge in without knocking.

On the evening of the next day the husband returned home and was shocked to find 687 catalogs stacked along the counter. None of them was from Land's End.

Enraged, he began to fling the catalogs around the room. "Pottery Barn. J. Peterman. Solutions. The Territory Ahead. Talbots. Travel Smith. Boston

Proper. Victoria's Secret. Frontgate. I'd have to work around the clock like a coal miner to recycle all this!" he shouted.

His wife heard the commotion and rushed into the kitchen. Unable to calm her husband, she called for her children and together they tied him up with some twine and placed him in the garage to cool off while they went out for a bite to eat.

His patience restored, the husband noticed a Land's End Men catalog he had missed lying on the garage floor. Out of boredom, he began flipping the pages with his feet until his wife came back and untied him.

That evening, the husband's lovely wife leaned over to her husband and said, "While you went about it totally wrong, you were right about all those catalogs getting in the way of our marriage. I'll get rid of them first thing tomorrow."

The husband smiled. "I knew you'd understand. Just don't toss this one yet," he said, reaching for a catalog on the nightstand. "I'm thinking about this Pale Jopquil Drifter Crew. Do you think it would make me look washed out?"

And the good people at Land's End lived happily ever after.

John Hartnett is a frequent contributor to this newspaper. He can be reached at johnhartnett@earlybirdpublishing.com.

Bring touch of the tropical to the garden this season

Myanmar, from what I hear, is exceptionally hot and sticky. So is New Jersey in the summer. Logically speaking then, Persian Shield, *Strobilanthes dyeranus*, a native of Myanmar, should be perfect for New Jersey. This season I will find out.

Although I have not become a total slave to horticultural fashion, I have experimented with some of the more modish tropical plants. An angel's trumpet, *Brugmansia*, is sprouting rapidly in a pot in my back garden, and there is an anthurium on the back deck. I also invested in two of the most colorful of the 10,000 new cultivars of coleus and a strapping, big rose and green-leafed caladium that now holds pride of place in a shady patch by my back fence.

All are doing well as the temperatures move from balmy to torrid and back again, and thunderstorms rumble through every day. If the entire summer is as sticky as the spring has been, I expect that before long we will be seeing large tropical butterflies lighting on the potted hibiscus.

I was attracted to strobilanthes by alluring magazine and catalog photos that showed shrubby plants covered with elongated leaves shining in iridescent shades of purple, silver and blue. The best-looking strobilanthes were, of course, growing in Florida and other tropical or semi-tropical places.

Still, with the optimism that distinguishes most gardeners, I envisioned strobilanthes flourishing all summer in my garden, then sitting out the winter

The Gardener's Apprentice

By Elisabeth Ginsburg

in my dining room along with the vast array of other warmth-loving plants.

The sources that I consulted were not clear on how the plant came to be named *Strobilanthes dyeranus*, or why it acquired the more common moniker Persian Shield.

Strobilos is the Greek word for pine cone. Some members of the genus bear their flowers in spikes or panicles, and those shapes may have reminded someone of the shape of a pinecone. As for the common name, there is evidence that ancient Persian nobles carried decorated metal shields into battle. The metallic sheen and elongated shield shape of the strobilanthes' leaves may have suggested an ancient defensive tool.

Or Persian may just have sounded mysterious and exotic. In the 18th and 19th centuries, when many tropical plants first found their way to Europe and America, it was not unusual for an interesting plant from one far-off locale to end up wearing the common name of another far-off locale.

My Persian Shield arrived in a four-inch pot from a mail-order nursery. Since it is a tropical plant, my first thought was to water it and put it in a

sunny spot until I could re-pot it in a larger container.

But the second day, my plant started to look exceedingly droopy and it certainly wasn't for lack of water. In a panic over my withering investment, I moved the strobilanthes to a spot out of direct sunlight. In two hours the leaves perked up, and the whole plant looked happier. When it goes into the garden it will be in a lightly shaded area that is well mulched so that moisture will stay in the plant's roots.

Under ideal conditions, Persian Shield will grow to be about four feet tall and wide. My plant looked leggy when it arrived, with one tall stem, and many smaller ones preparing to emerge from its sides. To cultivate a full, bushy strobilanthes, I have to swallow my fears and pinch back the stems as they grow out. Generally when you do this, two stems grow from the point at which you pinched off the original stem.

Multiplying by the number of stems and repeated over time, this results in a doubling or quadrupling of the number of stems and leaves and produces a lush healthy plant that looks as if it just emerged from a greenhouse.

Despite my reservations about harming a newly revitalized plant, I will pinch the stems. If it works on my \$4.95 chrysanthemums, it will work

on my exotic Persian Shield. Strobilanthes, unlike gardeners, do not age gracefully. If you have grown your plant lovingly and successfully, and helped it survive the winter months, it will probably thrive for two or three years. Then it will begin to look like an aging rock star — still iridescent, but veering toward a straggly, stringy appearance.

The best thing to do when this happens is to take soft wood cuttings from the plant, dip the ends in rooting hormone, and plant them in vermiculite. Provide some bottom heat if you can, and wait for the cuttings to take root. Barring that, save the name of the mail-order nursery where you purchased the original strobilanthes. You can easily order another.

Order your Persian Shield from Logee's Greenhouses, 141 N. St., Danielson, CT, 06239. The company can be contacted at 888-330-8038, www.logees.com; the catalog costs \$4.95.

Or order from Singing Springs Nursery, 8802 Wilkerson Road, Cedar Grove, NC, 27231. The company can be contacted at 919-732-9403, www.singspringsnursery.com. The catalog is free.

Elisabeth Ginsburg is a frequent contributor to this newspaper.

Newspaper's policy for letter writers

Readers are encouraged to write letters to the editor expressing views on topics of interest.

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Published Weekly Since 1999

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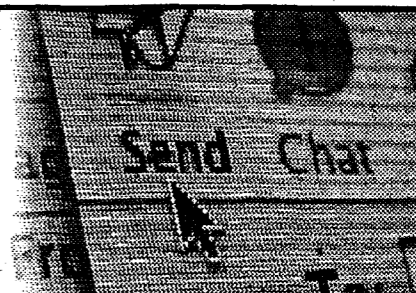
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NEWS CLIPS

Diversity Art Gallery holds 'Vistas' exhibit

"Enchanting Vistas in Photography" will be open 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays throughout the summer at Diversity Art Gallery, 4 Valley Road. Special tours are available by appointment for individuals, schools and organizations.

Diversity Art Gallery is a nonprofit community outreach program, dedicated to cultivating cultural exchange, creative expression and mutual understanding, through the fine arts.

The Gallery is located in Union County Baptist Church, on the Clark circle off Exit 135 of the Garden State Parkway.

For more information, call 732-574-1479, or visit Web site www.diversityart.com

Act now to join pool while opportunity lasts

The pool office is open from 1 to 4 p.m. daily to process applications for pool membership.

Membership at the pool costs \$250 for a family, and \$200 for a couple. The couple may be a husband and wife, a parent and a child younger than 14, or a same-sex couple.

Township collects bags of grass

The Department of Public Works will hold regular grass pickup through Oct. 27.

Containers should hold no more than 20 gallons and weigh no more than 40 pounds each. Containers must be placed by the curb no later than 6 a.m. Wednesdays.

Bulky material pickup offered by appointment

The Department of Public Works will collect used appliances by appointment only on Mondays.

Appliances that will be collected include refrigerators, cast iron radiators, hot water heaters, air conditioners, dryers, dishwashers, washing machines, stoves and other metal items.

Call the DPW at 732-388-5305 to schedule a pickup appointment.

Take used motor oil to DPW to recycle it

The Department of Public Works will accept used motor oil to recycle from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the last Saturday of each month.

The pool office is located in Room 126 of the Charles H. Brewer Municipal Building, 450 Westfield Ave.

For more information, call the Municipal Building at 732-388-3600.

Send information for ALJ reunion

The Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School Class of 1979 will hold its 25th-year reunion Oct. 16 at The Gran Centurions, 440 Madison Hill Road.

Classmates should current contact information to alclassof1979@comcast.net or call Jean Harrison McAllister at 908-317-0252.

Emergency response volunteers sought

Clark is attempting to start a Community Emergency Response Team program.

The CERT concept dates back to 1985, when the Los Angeles Fire Department recognized that in the early stages of a major disaster local emergency responders could be overwhelmed, and basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills could improve the ability of community members to help themselves until

responders or other assistance arrived.

This program, which now exists in about 40 states, is being promoted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State Police Office of Emergency Management.

This program is an eight-week, 20-hour training program that provides information on a variety of topics.

Participants will receive training in team organization; identifying hazards most likely to affect their homes or community, and disaster preparedness, basic fire knowledge, basic First Aid training, light search and rescue, and terrorism.

This program is intended to train people to be better able to help themselves and their families, to possibly help their neighbors, and if they choose, to help their community by assisting the various township emergency services in a major emergency situation.

CERT members who volunteer to help on a community level during an emergency situation could be used for a number of things including, staffing emergency operations centers or shelters, providing food and supplies to the Police and Fire departments, or First Aid Squad personnel, or delivering pumps and/or generators to other

residents in time of flooding or power outages.

For more information, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 732-388-3600, ext. 3007.

Applicants must be at least 18 and live in Clark.

Y-Squares members share dance bug

Y-Squares Square Dance class of Clark meets 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Frank K. Hehny School on Raritan Road.

For more information, call Janice Uhlrig at 732-381-2535 or Don Madden at 908-241-9492.

Branch pickup offered through September

The Department of Public Works will collect residents' branches through September.

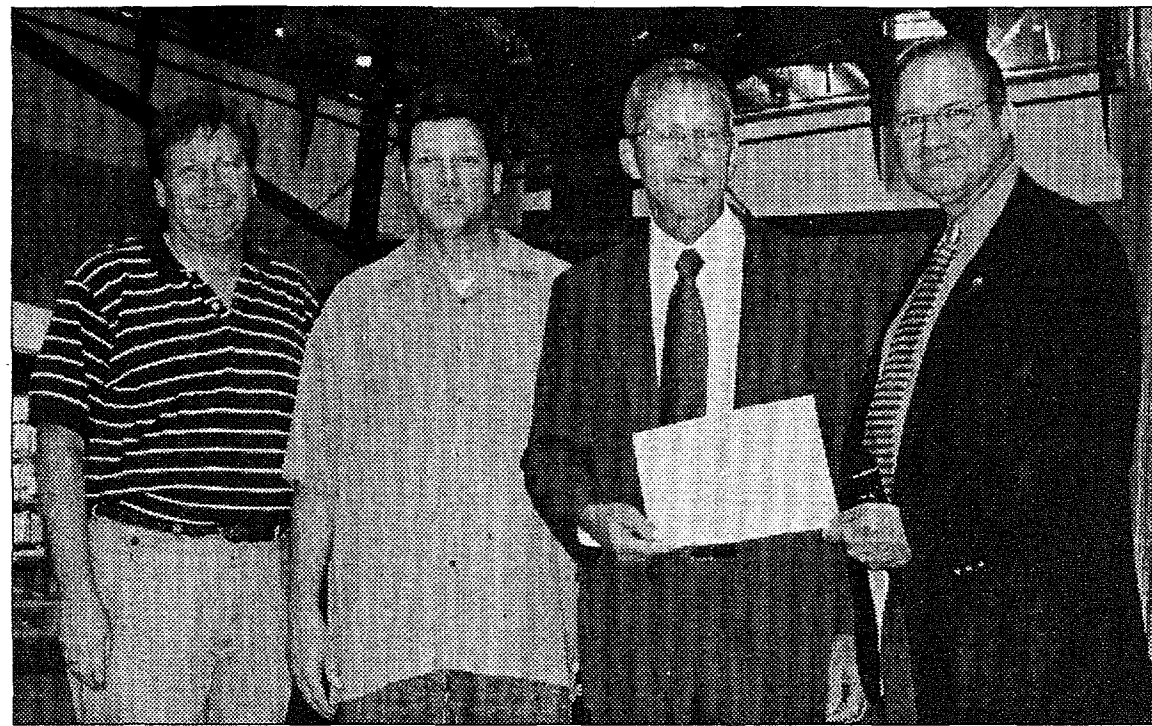
Residents should begin leaving branches out for pickup during the third week of the month, for DPW workers to collect during the fourth week of the month.

Only branches will be picked up during this pickup schedule. Wood and furniture will not be picked up.



Steve Mandela, right, president of the Marketing II program at Arthur L. Johnson High School, presents Evan Statton with a check for \$10,000.

In recognition of service



Freeholder Chairman Angel Estrada, right, presents a Union County Volunteer Recognition Award to Ted Ikeler of Clark, second from right, for his 25 years of volunteer activities with the Clark Little League. Ikeler was nominated for the honor by Bill Quigley, left. The Volunteer Recognition Award is awarded by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the United Way of Greater Union County.

College student addresses marketing classes at ALJ

Evan Statton, a college student from New York University, was a guest speaker at Arthur L. Johnson High School Marketing classes.

Statton and three associates made a presentation to "I Have A Dream Program" a charity which helps sponsor deprived students to attend college. Statton's band, Pick An Exit, will conduct a national tour which will start on Friday and will last through the end of June.

A \$10,000 check was presented to Statton's band, which they will use as "seed money" to conduct their national tour throughout the United States.

Pick An Exit also will sell its CD at all its concerts. Proceeds will benefit the I Have A Dream program.

Jack Ford, marketing teacher, described Statton's speech as outstanding.

"Statton related very well to all the marketing students," he said.

Pupils travel back to Pioneer days

Valley Road School PTA recently sponsored a "Journey Back in Time, Pioneer Living" program, which is a hands-on museum that came to the school.

Six different learning centers were set up to enable the students to experience life during pioneer times.

Stations simulated pumping water from an old rain barrel, scrubbing clothes on a scrub board, carding wool to make yarn, grinding wheat into flour and rolling out the bread dough and panning for gold.

The stations were set up to enable the students to experience pioneer times and see how different things were before technology.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

APOSTOLIC CORNERSTONE APOSTOLIC CHURCH
Currently meeting at St. Lukes Episcopal Church 398 Chestnut Street, Union, NJ 07083
Pastor Michael Gibney 973-912-0522 or web site: WWW.NOPAST.COM
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Traditional Worship Service: Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group: Sunday - 6-8 p.m.

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Connie Sloan
Worrall Community Newspapers
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OBITUARIES

Thomas MacRae

Thomas MacRae, 74, of Clark died May 23 in Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center at Rahway.

Born in Newark, Mr. MacRae lived in Orange and Bloomfield before moving to Clark 14 years ago.

He was an electrician with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Local 164 in Paramus for 42 years and retired in 1990.

Mr. MacRae served in the Navy during the Korean War.

Surviving are a son, William D.; a daughter, Lori Caldwell; a sister, Har-

riet Aulisio, and five grandchildren.

Joan Zamboni

Joan Zamboni, 63, of Clark died May 23 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway.

Born in Elizabeth, Mrs. Zamboni moved to Clark 33 years ago.

Surviving are her husband, John; a son, Johnny; a sister, Diane Dury; a brother, Charles Matiejunas, and two grandchildren.

Sandra Giordano

Sandra Ann Giordano, 45, of Brick,

formerly of Clark, died May 25 in Beth Israel Medical Center, New York. Born in Newark, Mrs. Giordano lived in Clark before moving to Brick in 1994.

Surviving are her husband of 17 years, Robert Francis; a son, Christian; her parents, Norma and Gennaro Rosa, and two sisters, Janine and Judy Rosa.

Michael Versusky

Michael A. Versusky, 96, of Clark died May 28 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway.

Born in Lowell, Mass., Mr. Versusky lived in New York before moving to Clark 81 years ago.

He was an electrician and owned Clark Electric for 16 years before retiring in 1964. Mr. Versusky served in the Coast Guard from 1942 to 1945.

He was a founding member of St. Agnes Church, Clark, and a member of the church's Holy Name Society.

Mr. Versusky was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 5503, the American Legion Post 328, the Rotary Club, the Historical Society and the Fishing Club, all of Clark.

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SPORTS

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Ice hockey game for a good cause

By Jeff Wolfrum
Staff Writer

Bringing players from the past together for a good cause.

That's the focus of the Dayton High School Alumni Hockey Game.

To be played June 11 at 7 p.m. at South Mountain Arena in West Orange, the game will benefit The Healing Heart Foundation and The Jordan Lee Fish Foundation, two charitable organizations which raise money for scholarships and do their part to assist pediatric cancer patients and their families.

The foundations were formed in memory of Springfield residents David Nehmer, 12, and Jordan Fish, 14, who lost their battles with leukemia.

"I have known the Fish family for many years," said Neal Berger, a Springfield resident and parent of two former Dayton hockey players. "I live down the street from them and my youngest son played with Jordan."

The Healing Heart Foundation has raised thousands of dollars to provide research to minimize the suffering of the patients and to enhance the quality of life for the terminally ill. The David Center at the Hackensack University Medical Center has led the fight to generate research data in hospitals throughout the country to ensure that pain management will become standard practice.

"The David Center is named for David Nehmer," Berger said. "Both foundations really encompass the family unit."

The Jordan Lee Foundation has provided scholarships and grants to send pediatric cancer patients to summer camp and to provide for participation in dramatic arts and sports programs.

The Alumni Game will involve former high school hockey players from Dayton, Brearley and Johnson.

"The Alumni Game will pit former players from Dayton against a team made up of former players from Brearley and Johnson," Berger said. "We're hoping to make this an annual event and maybe in the future have the alumni play against former NHL players."

Ken Daneyko, Bruce Driver and Randy Velischek, all former New Jersey Devils, are scheduled to appear to referee and provide autographs. Other celebrities and local sports figures have been invited as well. Prizes, bake sales and other activities will be provided and all proceeds will go to the two foundations.

"We know that students, parents and friends from the participating towns will come out to support the event," Berger said. "We want to widen that and have people from all over come to the event."

Admission for all attending is \$5. More information about the event may be obtained by calling Lisa Nehmer at 973-564-8827.

Cranford teams close with wins

The Cranford High School baseball and softball teams concluded fine 2004 campaigns with victories last Thursday.

The baseball team downed Linden 11-1 in Linden in Watchung Conference-National Div. play to finish 18-7.

The softball squad blanked Kearny 9-0 in Watchung Conference-interdivision play to conclude at 22-6.

In the baseball team's win over Linden, junior Chris Drechsel went 3-for-5 for the Cougars, blasting a home run and two-run double.

Cranford reached the Union County Tournament semifinals and the North 2, Group 2 quarterfinals, falling to Roselle Catholic 5-2 in the UCT at Linden and to Parsippany 6-5 at home in the section.

In the softball team's second-to-last win - a 25-0 home triumph over Shabazz on May 26 - senior Kiera Zimmerman tossed a perfect game.

She also blasted two home runs and drove in six runs. Freshman shortstop Lisa Levonas went 4-for-4 and drove in seven runs.

Doral leads Clark men's softball

The following are Clark Men's Softball League standings as of last Friday:

Doral Financial (7-1)
Clark Circle Liquors (6-2)
Georges Catch 27 (6-2)
Cranford Sunoco (6-2)
Sutton Trucking (7-3)
Premier Quality Electric (4-3)
Galluzzo Brothers Carting (3-5)
Lanas (2-5)
Wrays Diggers (2-7)
Cuts Fitness (2-7)
Breeze Eastern (1-9)

Play at the plate



The Johnson High School baseball team, sparked by the play of catcher Dave Beynon (No. 18 at left), finished its season at 8-13 after falling at Scotch Plains 3-1 on May 26 in non-conference play. Vince Caporaso delivered an RBI-double for the Crusaders.

Cranford athletes, Johnson's Washington excel in groups Were to participate in yesterday's MOC event

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

The best of the best.

Yesterday's scheduled NJSIAA Meet of Champions at South Plainfield - the final day of the track and field season - included a number of outstanding athletes from Union County.

Many reside right here.

There were local individual winners, as well as record-breakers, on both the boys' and girls' sides in last weekend's group competition that took place at Egg Harbor for public schools and Notre Dame in Lawrenceville for parochial.

Advancing on the boys' side from Group 4 was Latif Brewer of Union and from Group 2 were Dwayne Reid of Summit; Mike Carmody and Anthony Abitante of Governor Livingston; Joe McKenney, Kevin Brown and Tom Planer of Cranford; Jean Gentil of Roselle and Mark Washington of Johnson.

GL's 1,600-meter relay team also advanced, finishing sixth in 3:29.44.

Advancing out of Parochial A was Museveni Akanno of Seton Hall Prep, a senior out of Linden.

Team champions included Winslow in Group 4 with 65 points, Camden in Group 3 with 64, Somerville in Group 2 with 77 and Glen Rock in Group 1 with 54.

Christian Brothers Academy won Parochial A with 103, while DePaul captured Parochial B with 89.

Locally, Union scored one point in Group 4 to finish tied for 36th, while GL was second in Group 2 with 31, Cranford eighth with 18, Summit 12th with 15, Roselle tied for 21st with eight and Johnson tied for 41st with one.

Seton Hall Prep was second in Parochial A with 97.5 points.

Brewer placed sixth in the Group 4 100-meter dash in a time of 10.98.

In Group 2 competition, Carmody won two events, setting a record in one. Reid placed in four events.

Carmody was first in the 400-meter run in 48.39 and set a record with his win in the 800-meter run, finishing first in 1:51.43. The former record of 1:53.3 was established way back in 1983 by Don Vick of Asbury Park.

Reid was fourth in the 100 in 11.09 and sixth in the 200-meter dash in 22.64. Reid was also fifth in the triple jump at 42-0.5 and second in the javelin with a throw of 179-8.

McKenney was fifth in the 1,600-meter run in 4:21.97. Brown was second in the 3,200-meter run in 9:22.55.

Gentil placed second in the 110-meter high hurdles in 14.40. Kyle Calvo of Somerville was first in 14.15.

Planer was also second, sporting a 6-4 mark in the high jump that was won by Calvo at 6-8.

Washington finished sixth in the long jump at 21-2.

Abitante joined teammate Carmody as a winner, placing first in the pole vault at 14-0. Adam Sacher of Pascack Valley also had a 14-0, but placed second.

Akanno was third in the 110-meter high hurdles in 15.57, fourth in the high jump at 6-2 and second in the triple jump at 46-2.25.

Advancing on the girls' side from Group 4 were Erin Higgins of Union and Michelle Cintron of Elizabeth and from Group 2 were La'Shonda Carter of Rahway; Samantha Lee and Caroline Mannaerts of Summit; Laura Gallo of Cranford; Jennifer Cosby of Roselle; Christine McCurdy of GL and Shakairah Hauser of Hillside.

Advancing out of Parochial A were Elizabeth resident Janine Davis of Queen of Peace in North Arlington and Jessica Rodriguez and Carrieann Zielinski of Roselle Catholic. Rodriguez transferred from Elizabeth High last October.

Team champions included Winslow in Group 4 with 52 points, Camden Wilson in Group 3 with 44, Haddonfield in Group 2 with 53.5 and Paulsboro in Group 1 with 58.

Monsignor Donovan won Parochial A with 85.33, while Pingry captured Parochial B with 120.75.

Locally, Elizabeth tied Hunterdon Central for eighth place in Group 4 with 20 points, while Union scored one point to finish tied for 40th with Passaic Tech. In Group 2, Rahway was sixth with 30, Hillside 15th with 11, Roselle and Cranford among five teams tied for 23rd with six, GL tied for 29th with four and Summit tied for 33rd with three.

Roselle Catholic and Holy Cross were tied for 10th in Parochial A with 18 points. Queen of Peace placed fourth with 60.

Higgins impressed for the Farmers by placing sixth in the 3,200 in 11:13.73.

Cintron scored all of Elizabeth's 20 points while placing in three events. She was third in the shot put at 39-11, fourth in the discus at 131-6 and did well to finish first in the javelin with a throw of 135-10.

Carter was the biggest local winner on either side, coming in first place in three events. She was first in the 100 in 12.13, first in the 200 in 24.89 and first again in the 400 in 57.79.

Lee was fifth in the 1,600 in 5:14.28 and teammate Mannaerts sixth in 5:14.36.

Gallo did well to place third in the 3,200 for Cranford in 11:15.67.

Cosby was third herself in the 100-meter hurdles in a time of 15.16.

McCurdy was fourth in the 400-meter hurdles in 1:04.13.

Hauser was a winner for Hillside in the shot put, placing first with a throw of 40-5. She was also sixth in the discus with a throw of 110-0.

Davis, a junior, pulled off a rare quadruple. She captured the 100 and 400 on Friday and was then first in the 200 and 800 Saturday.

Last year was the first that the NJSIAA allowed athletes to compete in four running events in one meet. Previously, athletes were allowed to compete in up to three running events and one field event.

Davis won the 100 in 12.31, the 200 in 25.88 and the 800 in 2:13.71.

She set the standard in the 400 in a record time of 55.36. The previous mark of 56.48 was established by Megan Winchell of Red Bank Catholic in 1998.

Sophia Davis of Queen of Peace, Janine's sophomore sister, did well to place second in 57.71.

Rodriguez was fourth in the 800 in 2:21.19 and second in the 1,600 in 5:10.26.

Zielinski was sixth in the shot put at 33-8.75 and fourth in the discus at 119-4.

Here's another look at which area athletes advanced to yesterday's Meet of Champions and the events they qualified in:

BOYS' (10 and 1 relay)

Group 4

Latif Brewer, Union: 100-meter dash.

Group 2

Mike Carmody, GL: 400-meter run, 800-meter run in record time.

Dwayne Reid, Summit: 100, 200, triple jump, javelin.

Joe McKenney, Cranford: 1,600-meter run.

Kevin Brown, Cranford: 3,200-meter run.

Jean Gentil, Roselle: 110-meter high hurdles.

Tom Planer, Cranford: high jump.

Mark Washington, Johnson: long jump.

Anthony Abitante, GL: pole vault.

GL: 1,600-meter relay.

Parochial A

Museveni Akanno, Seton Hall Prep: 110-meter high hurdles, high jump, triple jump.

Finishing first:

Carmody was first in the 800-meter run and Abitante first in the pole vault.

GIRLS' (12)

Group 4

Erin Higgins, Union: 3,200-meter run.

Michelle Cintron, Elizabeth: shot put, discus, javelin.

Group 2

La'Shonda Carter, Rahway: 100, 200, 400.

Samantha Lee, Summit: 1,600-meter run.

Caroline Mannaerts, Summit: 1,600-meter run.

Laura Gallo, Cranford: 3,200-meter run.

Jennifer Cosby, Roselle: 100-meter hurdles.

Christine McCurdy, GL: 400-meter hurdles.

Shakairah Hauser, Hillside: shot put, discus.

Parochial A

Janine Davis, Queen of Peace: 100, 200, 400 in record time and 800.

Jessica Rodriguez, Roselle Catholic: 800, 1,600.

Carrieann Zielinski, Roselle Catholic: shot put, discus.

Finishing first:

In public schools competition, Cintron was first in the javelin; Carter first in the 100, 200 and 400 and Hauser first in the shot put.

In parochial schools competition, Davis was first in the 100, 200, 400 and 800.

Johnson JV softball wins 3rd straight UCT Crusaders conclude at 14-3

We are the champions. Again.

While the Johnson High School varsity softball team has not won the Union County Tournament championship since 1981, the junior varsity team just captured its third straight UCT crown.

In the May 24 title game in Union, Johnson defeated the host Farmers by a 5-2 count.

A three-peat for the Crusaders.

Johnson was sparked by the pitching of Megan Mesaros, who tossed a five-hitter, striking out three and walking one.

JoAnna Poysick blasted a home run and drove in two runs, while Kelly Pflug belted a double and drove in two.

The play of the game came in the sixth inning when Ashley Amalfe made a sensational running catch to rob Union of a home run.

Seeded 11th, coach Phil Frese's team defeated sixth-seeded Roselle Park 3-0 in the first round, bested Governor Livingston 8-6 in 10 innings in the quarterfinals and then ousted Westfield 6-1 in the semifinals.

Johnson finished with a winning record of 14-3.

Players included Megan Mesaros, Jenna Feminello, Kelli Pflug, Marissa Zarcone, Nicole Saracen, Sara Todisco, Ashley Amalfe, Marissa Lombardi, Lindsay Sansone, Nicolette Rittenhouse, Krista Blaes, Michelle Nardelli and JoAnna Poysick.

Team managers included Erika Blaes and Jessica Feminello.

Luis, Vaccaro and Petracca net goals Excel in Clark Soccer Club play

The following are Clark Soccer Club results and standings of games played as of last Saturday:

DIVISION 2

Drew Masonry 3, Printmark 0: Justin Luis, Danielle Vaccaro and Domenico Petracca found the net. Vaccaro, Luis and Kelsey Dunn earned assists. Playing well on defense were goalkeepers Mark Roesch and Jimmy Douglas and defenders Nick Trani, Michelle Primamore, Daniel Mileto and Dunn.

Another score was Bonaccorso Landscaping blanking Arena Sports 3-0.

Standings: Drew Masonry (5-0-0, 10 points), Bonaccorso Landscaping (3-1-1, 7), Printmark (1-3-1, 3), Arena Sports (0-5-0, 0).

Drew Masonry scored 17 goals and allowed one, Bonaccorso Landscaping eight and allowed seven, Printmark two and allowed seven and Arena Sports two and allowed 14.

DIVISION 3

Cromwell Management 4, Body Work By Fischer 0: Joseph Arancio netted two goals and Steven Weisensee and Brendan Currie one. Nick Witting started in goal for Cromwell and received help from defenders Michael Pieros and Matthew Boczon. Bryant Silva played in goal in the second half and saved a number of kicks. He made a spectacular save in the fourth quarter as he collided with the goal post. He left the game, but all were glad that he was feeling okay. It was a great game played by both teams in very warm weather conditions.

Clark P.B.A. 2, Jersey One Insurance 1: Vincent Pace paced Clark P.B.A. with two goals, both assisted by Gabriella Hurtado. Both goals were scored in the first half. Additional shots came from Vincent Banek, Christian Barbosa, Matthew Robinson and Hurtado. Jersey One came back in the second half to score, but a strong P.B.A. defense kept the ball out of the defensive zone. Oksana Zavitsky, Sarah Anderson, Miguel Requeiro and Nick Lechitsky patrolled the midfield, demonstrating good ball movement to help set up the offense. Protecting the nets were Nick Rockstroh and Aaron Henry, each making several saves. Game captains were Zavitsky and Barbosa.

Another score was Dairy Queen 3, Emerald Sprinkler 1.

Standings: Cromwell Management (5-0-0, 10), Dairy Queen (3-1-0, 6), Clark P.B.A. (2-1-0, 4), Jersey One Insurance (2-3-0, 4), Body Work By Fischer (0-3-1, 1), Emerald Sprinkler (0-4-1, 1).

Cromwell Management scored 21 goals and allowed one, Dairy Queen 12 and allowed eight, Clark P.B.A. six and allowed three, Jersey One Insurance eight and allowed 14, Body Work By Fischer two and allowed 10 and Emerald Sprinkler one and allowed 14.

DIVISION 4

Phillipo's Pizza vs. Am Jewelers: Amanda Palella and Michael DeMarco scored four goals for PP on a hot and humid afternoon. Christie Bove scored a goal in her second straight game, while George Visconti, Steven Villaverde and Jessica Gannon came close to scoring. Gianna Randazza and Kyle VonHollen played well in goal. For AJ, William Horner was quick at pushing the ball down field, while Brian Wells fought hard for shot-on-goal attempts. In the first half, goalkeeper Roman Chiarello played well as he worked hard to prevent the many shots he faced from going in. In the second half, Ryan Kowalenko came into the goalie position and did a tremendous job. Throughout the game, Louis Sofianakos stood firm on defense, while Alexa Trani and Jennifer Casalino were tireless in their attempts to score.

Phillipo's Pizza vs. The UPS Store: Michael DeMarco netted five goals for PP, with Amanda Palella and Steven Villaverde assisting on all of the goals. Zachary Benesh, Kyle VonHollen and Gianna Randazza played well in goal. Several excellent defensive plays were turned in by George Visconti, Jessica Gannon and Christie Bove. Shane Horton and Riya Juneja played well on forth sides of the field.

Phillipo's Pizza vs. Rems Optical: Christie Bove sparked the PP offensive charge, while Kyle VonHollen, using his strong right foot, scored his first goal of the spring season. Amanda Palella, Steven Villaverde and Michael DeMarco also scored. Jessica Gannon made two tough saves in goal and almost scored her first goal, with her left foot. Gianna Randazza and Zachary Benesh played well on defense and Riya Juneja on offense.

Joseph David Roofing vs. The UPS Store: Natalie Palmiere had a fantastic game on defense and prevented numerous scoring opportunities in the first half. Midway through the first half, Mitch Becker scored on a beautiful pass from Christopher Vieira. Matt Hennessey had a strong half in goal and covered the whole field in the second half. Palmiere also had a good showing in her debut in goal and Anna Kisker had her best game of the season.

Johnson's Berry star in MVC-Mountain golf

Area golfers Tim Berry of Johnson, David Chung of Governor Livingston and Ken Suarez of Oratory Prep excelled in last week's Mountain Valley Conference-Mountain Division championship held at the Warren Brook Golf Course in Warren.

Chung finished second to Kevin Foley of Immaculata with a 74. Foley fired a 70. Berry and Suarez, a Springfield resident, shot 78s to tie for fifth.

Immaculata won the team championship with 309 points.

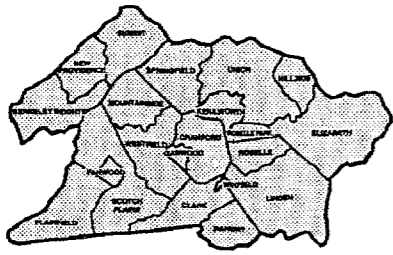
Teams: 1-Immaculata 309. 2-Ridge 321. 3-Oratory 327. 4-Johnson 336. 5-Gov. Livingston 343. 6-North Plainfield 367. 7-New Providence 388.

Individuals: 1-Kevin Foley, Immaculata 70. 2-David Chung, Gov. Livingston 74. 3-Marc Baecht, Ridge 76. 4-Pat Matthews, Immaculata 77. 5-Steve Foley, Immaculata; Rich Sosanie, Ridge; Tim Berry, Johnson; Ken Suarez, Oratory 78. 9-E.J. Haley, North Plainfield 79.

Applications available to ref soccer

Applications are now being accepted for candidates wishing to become high school soccer referees in the School and College Officials Association (SCOA) for the 2004 season. Candidates must be physically fit and a minimum of 18 years of age to referee. Successful candidates will be eligible to take the NJSIAA exam, which will then qualify them to referee high school varsity soccer matches. Applications are due by Sept. 13.

Interested candidates may obtain information by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: David Klein, 37 Bryant Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003-5401.



Union County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2004 - SECTION B

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Bills to be paid

I thought about the concerns expressed by Sheriff Ralph Froehlich last winter. The need to respond to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack was starting to bring action in terms of increased security.

Froehlich had spoken out about the danger from terrorists we faced in the county with the proximity to the port facilities and Newark Liberty International Airport. Froehlich also let it be known his dissatisfaction with the slow pace of funding for the security upgrades.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

Last week the public focus on the airport and port was front and center. The need for more money is still a concern. The county remains at a heightened alert stage.

At competing news conferences, the security needs at the facilities was the topic. The large numbers of cars with flashing lights, the security types with earpieces and Port Authority cops very armed were at the Elizabeth port. Gov. James McGreevey, speaking with a backdrop of passing ships said, "Our ports are vital to New Jersey's economic success. Their contribution to everything that makes New Jersey strong in the creation of jobs and the infusion of money in to our local businesses can't be overstated."

McGreevey spoke at the announcement that the Port Authority and the federal government would foot the \$1.6 billion to deepen the channel in the port to accommodate the ever-expanding ships. The expansion to a 50-foot depth means the Port can remain competitive with East coast competition.

The shipping types in the audience acknowledged that before Sept. 11 the chances of getting increased funding for the port to be dredged was dim. The result is with the new depth, "Panamax" ships can use the port. It also means a better port in terms of national defense.

Just an hour earlier, the focus by four congressmen less than a mile away was at the airport. The purpose was to praise the efforts that the airport had the necessary staffing and equipment to electronically screen every bag on every flight. It was proclaimed that the 1,465 screeners were checking 100 percent of the bags.

Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage was given a reserved seat in the front row at the ceremony. He deserved the seat. On the subject of Port security, he has been out front.

He has been an active member of a national group focusing on the big promises, but lack of actual funds coming from Washington for the places needing the security. He has taken his concerns directly to Tom Ridge and our congressional delegation. In fact a study last fall conducted by the US Conference of Mayors found that 90 percent of cities have not received their share of money committed by the Homeland Security Department.

Froehlich dressed in uniform also marched in the Springfield and Cranford Memorial Day parades. He was joined by the state's senior U.S. senator, Jon Corzine. Corzine recently introduced a bill that would authorize an additional \$5.2 billion for transit security.

Monday we cheered at the parades for the heroes of past wars. The kids standing on Central Avenue in Cranford waited to shake hands with a returning Iraq War veteran. After the crowd had left, I thought about the huge cost of security.

At the end, there were no blinking lights or cheering crowds, though there were some very large bills. Necessary costs no doubt, but still the bills we have to pay.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

Graduates prepare for the road ahead

By Anna Kreyman
Staff Writer

Last week more than 700 students of Union County College moved tassels from right to left and attained an associate degree but three of those graduates gained much more.

Sumantha Prasad will be graduating from high school next month but in the meantime, already earned an associate degree in biology. Chantee Walker and Theodis Holmes Jr. not only found knowledge but also found love at the college. And Al Murkey found the path to fulfilling his dream on a journey that took him 15 years to complete.

UCC President Thomas Brown explained to graduates, friends, family and faculty what he likes most about this school.

"Students, what I admire most about Union County College is how diverse it is," he said.

Upon entering high school, many teenagers lose themselves in thoughts of fashion, friends and popularity but Prasad found herself on the search for the best college.

Prasad has an "advanced academic ability" that became evident when she was 4 years old, understanding basic

grammar and sentence structure skills.

Later, Prasad attended the Union County Magnet High School which is equivalent to an accelerated high school while at the same time going to UCC during the weekend, evening and summer hours.

Today, she awaits her high school graduation which will commence next month and is eager to begin Rutgers University in the fall as a junior pursuing a degree in bioscience engineering.

"It has been a pleasant three years. I gained a lot of knowledge and experiences during my attendance," said Prasad, who is studying to become an environmental scientist with an engineering background.

Brown addressed the graduates when he said "At UCC you've had an opportunity to get an education not only from books, but also from your day-to-day experiences with individuals from all cultures and walks of life. These experiences will prepare you well for the road ahead" and that is just how it happened for Walker and Holmes.

"What I admired most about Union County College was how diverse the college is. The college was the first place that I've been where I've seen so



Photos By Reena Rose Sibayan

Gail Tornquist accepts the 2004 Alumni Prize for achieving the highest grade point average from Catherine Myers, president of the UCC Alumni Association.

many people from different backgrounds communicate with each other. We may have our differences but we are the same in many ways," said Walker.

Walker and Holmes attended the same classes and their desire to earn a degree helped them not only to walk down the commencement aisle but also to walk down the aisle of matrimony. Holmes proposed to Walker on campus and they are scheduled to be married in late July.

Murkey is a true example of better

late than never because at 61 years young he became the wisest of the graduates to receive an associate degree. His father died when he was a youngster and that caused him to drop out of high school in order to take care of his family.

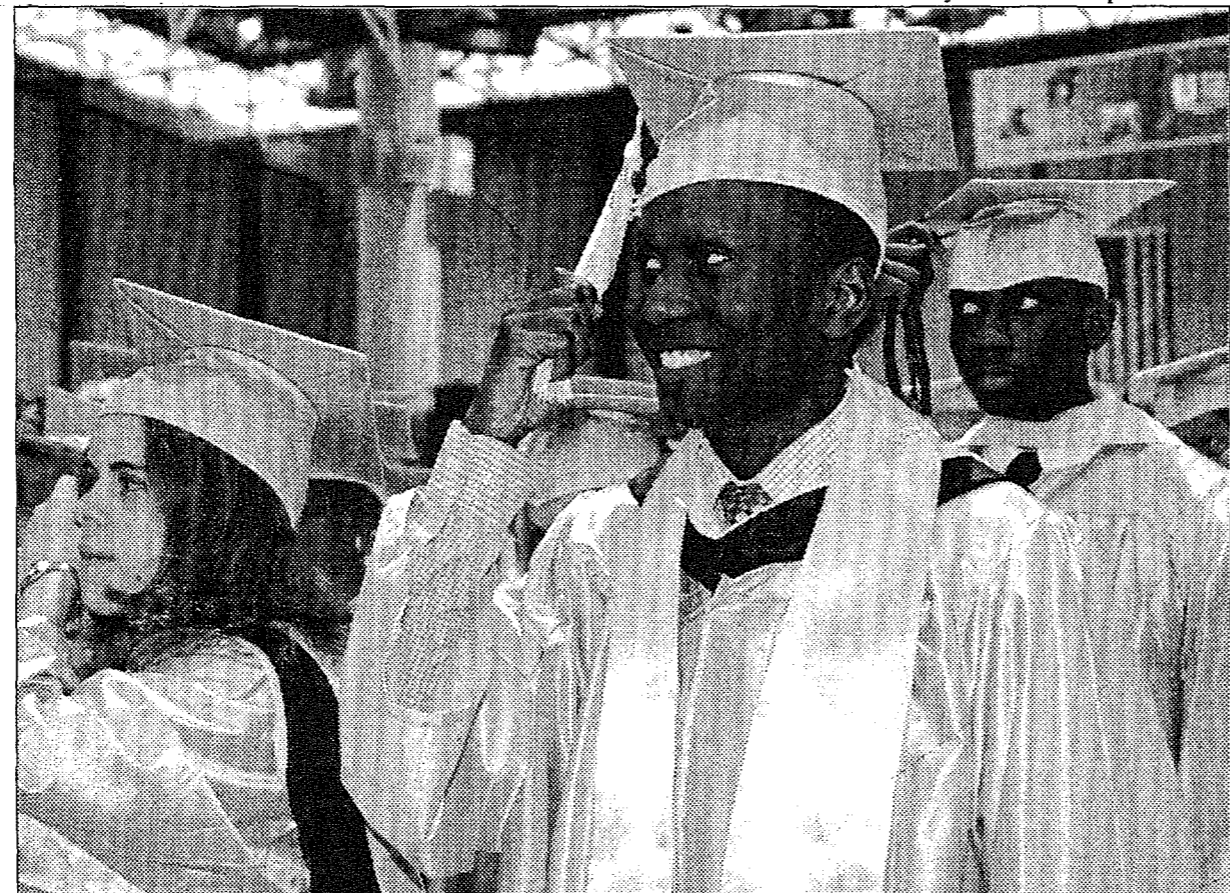
After completing his GED, Murkey enrolled in UCC in 1989 while working for General Motors but due to health problems had to leave his job and put his education on hold. Ten years later, Murkey began focusing on classes and did not stop until he graduated in 2004.

"Today, as you graduate from Union County College you are setting forth to leave your own bootprints on the lives of your families, friends, and our society," Brown told graduates. "Use your education to achieve whatever goals you establish, but don't forget where you came from. Make a commitment to give back to our great society. Volunteer to help a cause that interests you. Don't be discouraged if you don't make history the first time...you never know what's around the corner."

Gail Tornquist received the Alumni Prize for earning the highest grade point average in the school and Kpakpo Akwei received the Post-Day Memorial Award for best exemplifying the college's ideals and services.

Union County College entertains over 80 academic disciplines and graduates achieved associate in arts, associate in science, and associate in applied science degrees, certificates, or diplomas for successful completion of programs. UCC is a two-year institution that transfers credits to almost every school in the nation and it is accredited by Middle States.

"Life learning is forever," said Brown.



Kpakpo Akwei, recipient of the Post-Day Memorial Award, waits for the signal to shift his tassel during the 70th annual Union County College commencement ceremonies on May 26 in Cranford.

Program advocates better eating habits

By Anna Kreyman
Staff Writer

Each year more than 300,000 adult deaths nationwide are attributed to unhealthy dietary habits and physical inactivity and 65 percent of the nation's population is overweight and about 30 percent is obese.

However, statistics show that New Jersey residents want to stay fit not fat because about half a million people in the Garden State have enrolled in a program that Rutgers Consumer Sciences Educator Karen Enslie said enlightens individuals on healthy eating habits.

In 1996, Rutgers University created a network with businesses, non-profit organizations and government agencies entitled "New Jersey Food Stamp Nutrition Education" to teach Jersey's low-income residents about food facts.

More than 30,000 residents of Union County receive food stamps and about 10,000 households in Union County are food stamp program participants, according to the nutrition education program.

Statewide, Union County has the largest number of participants and about 3,000 of them are children said Program Associate Janet Brun. She added that Elizabeth inhabitants began learning about

nutrition in 1999. More than 90 percent of Elizabeth's students qualify for free lunch and that's why the program came to Elizabeth.

The program now entertains children from preschool to fifth grade.

"Often, food stamp recipients are unaware of food dangers such as high fat," etc., Enslie said. "This program helps participants of all age groups battle such issues as food safety, food security and dietary quality. This program is very worthwhile. We are pushing for kids to eat more fruits and vegetables."

The educational program was designed by Dr. Debra Palmer and it involves principles of adult learning theory which partly has to do with the sharing of dietary behaviors.

According to Brun, classes for adults cannot exceed five to 15 students and classes for children cannot exceed 25 to 30 students of which 50 percent or more are food stamp program participants. Participants must attend a minimum of six sessions.

Only food stamp recipients or low-income households can participate in the program but it is on a volunteer basis.

"People seem to like learning about good eating habits and they really use it," said Enslie. "We use a

lot of different materials to teach about healthy eating."

Enslie said the program involves role playing, cooking in the classroom for kids, and a behavioral process involving a question-and-answer format.

The food guide pyramid is the focus of the class and eating nutritional foods not fast foods is the key to feeling and looking healthy, said Enslie.

Funding for this program comes from the USDA via a grant application from Rutgers University. "Each year Rutgers has to apply for a new grant and the amount may vary," Brun said. This year Rutgers applied for \$2.2 million on a statewide basis.

Union County received \$700,000 of the grant and every county receives a different amount from the total depending on what their needs are or the number of program participants.

"For example, Monmouth County does not receive a large portion of the grant because many of their residents are not in low-income status," Brun said.

Brun added that in the last two years there was a 10- to 20-percent statewide increase of enrollment.

"This is a very successful program," said Enslie. "We have been able to help individuals lead happier and healthier lives because of opening their eyes to good food habits."

Four tapped as municipal police officers of the year

By Anna Kreyman
Staff Writer

Three seasoned Elizabeth narcotics detectives and a veteran Springfield officer were selected from a pool of 1,800 candidates and presented with the Municipal Police Officer of the Year award during a ceremony at the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.

The spotlight fell on Elizabeth Detectives, Lawrence Smith, Frank Sebasco and James Malone Jr. and Judd Levenson tagged for his expertise in identity theft and economic fraud.

"This program began in 1979 by Prosecutor John Stamler for police officers who have achieved and performed exceptional jobs over the years," Union County Prosecutor Theodore

Romankow said. "These officers are nominated by law enforcement agencies and then we review the record of achievements and make selections."

An anti-drug enforcer and an 18-year veteran, Smith has helped provide crucial testimony in putting many drug dealers behind bars and has been presented with more than 20 awards, including four this year. According to the Prosecutor's Office, Smith and his brother Raymond, make up the "Smith Brothers" for outstanding work on gang-related cases.

Sebasco is the county's own "Inspector Gadget", assisting the Union County Narcotics Strike Force in constructing undercover devices, including wiretap and surveillance items. He has

been around for 22 years serving many other departments such as the Patrol Division, Mini-Station Unit, and Community Services Division, for which he earned 12 departmental commendations for excellence in police work.

Malone, an officer for 20 years, has served in the Patrol Division and the Narcotics Division. He is currently working for the Drug Enforcement Agency task force in Newark. Malone has earned more than 47 commendations for excellent police work and was honored with a Medal of Valor from The 200 Club in 1996.

A veteran Springfield officer, Levenson was honored for his "premier expertise" in the New York City area on economic crimes and white-collar scams "to the point where he was asked to

speak before business leaders and social community groups on a variety of topics."

Levenson has taught in 40 different police training schools specializing in areas like fraud and identity theft.

Romankow indicated that there is no minimum number of honorees per year and both male and female officers are judged. "There are any number of extremely bright and devoted police officers who give up lucrative careers to do this," he said. "I have seen many officers working late at night, patrolling on foot, riding on the task force and always putting their safety in jeopardy and I think these people are the real heroes and should be recognized not sports figures with large contracts."

Morin to lead GOP

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

Avoiding any potentially divisive battle for the party's leadership, Republicans have come together to back Philip Morin as the next county chairman.

Morin, the Cranford Republican chairman, is expected to succeed Ronald Frigerio of Westfield when the GOP meets to elect its leadership after Tuesday's primary. The Union County Republican Committee will meet June 15 at 7 p.m. in Summit Middle School, 272 Morris Ave.

As many as three candidates emerged when Frigerio decided not to seek re-election several months ago. In addition to Morin, Kenilworth Municipal Chairwoman Kathi Fiamingo and Elizabeth Municipal Chairman Daniel M. Nozza expressed interest in running for the county post.

Fiamingo will be the vice chairwoman of the county committee and Nozza will be secretary. The rest of Morin's executive committee will include Mary Ann Janusz of Rahway and Harry Pappas of Springfield, associate vice chairs, and William McClinck of Scotch Plains, treasurer.

"It's better all around for the party to have a cohesive slate," Fiamingo, an attorney, said. "Phil will do a good job."

Party members gather the Monday after the June primary to elect new municipal leaders. County leadership is typically elected the Tuesday after the primary. Parties alternate each year electing leadership to two-year terms, with Democrats scheduled to elect, or re-elect, their leadership next year.

Republicans said Morin, who served on Cranford's township committee from 1997 to 2002, had the backing of state Sen. Thomas Kean Jr., R-21, and Congressman Mike Ferguson, R-7, which could have made it difficult for other candidates to win an election.

"It's certainly great to have their support," Morin said. "Does it discourage others? Probably, possibly, I don't know."

Fiamingo said that was a factor in her decision but in the end it's the committee members who elect the chair. The county's legislative leaders backing Morin was not the "overriding reason for accepting" the post of vice chairwoman of the county committee, she said. "It's better than having a divisive split in the county."

Morin is well liked and was a good choice, said New Providence Chairman Robert Dougherty, who two years ago mounted a last-minute challenge to Frigerio before bowing out.

William Palatucci, the finance chairman of the state Republican Committee, said Kean and Ferguson had asked him to run for county chairman but he declined. Morin always had confidence of state senator and congressman, he said.

Morin in 2001 sought a seat in the Assembly, vacated after Kean was elevated to the Senate, but lost to Jon Bramnick of Westfield in an intraparty vote.

Morin opened his own law office in Cranford in December, a move he believes will allow him more time to be involved. Having worked at an international law firm in Newark while serving on the township committee at times became trying, he said. "I kind of feel like I have the energy," Morin said.

Republicans have not won a countywide election since 1994.

COUNTY NEWS

Clerk's office open will be open Saturday

Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi will open her office on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for voters seeking last-minute absentee ballots. The office will be open as a public service for voters seeking absentee ballot applications due to an inability to vote at the polls for the primary on Tuesday.

Mail-in applications legally cannot be accepted if they are postmarked after June 1. Walk-in applications are accepted up to 3 p.m. on Monday, the day before election day.

Voters will also be able to drop-off completed absentee ballots at the County Clerk's Office. This popular option, initiated in 2002, allows voters to pick up their ballots, fill out their votes in privacy and drop them in a secure, locked box — all at the same office through 3 p.m. Tuesday. Completed ballots will be kept in a secure lockbox under the control of the Union County Board of Elections, which will pick them up for counting.

Countywide, polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday. The clerk's office has processed more than 1,000 absentee ballot applications to date.

Voters who need absentee ballots should apply as soon as possible to: Office of the County Clerk, Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad St., Room 113, Elizabeth. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Audio ballots available

With the Tuesday primary approaching, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi is making sample election ballots available on audiotape for all visually impaired voters.

"For the first time, visually impaired and legally blind Union County voters will have equal access to sample ballots and can be fully informed of their choices of candidates," Rajoppi said.

Detailed information on election dates, election machines and other election services can be found on the County Clerk's Web site at <http://www.ucnj.org/ctyclerk/election.html>. Among the newly posted information are instructions for declaring a political party affiliation and obtaining an Election Law Enforcement Commission compliance manual.

Residents can request audiotape absentee ballots and other information by calling 908-527-4996.

Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey will sponsor the following blood drives:

• Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Michael's Parish, 1212 Kelly St., Union.

• June 13, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Union Elks Lodge 1583, 281 Chestnut St., Union.

• June 14, 4 to 8 p.m., Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield.

• June 15, 6 to 9 p.m., Masonic Atlas Pythagoras, 1011 Central Ave., Westfield.

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

For more information or to sign up for a blood drive, call 1-800-652-5663, ext. 140.

Volunteers sought

Make a difference in your community by donating your time for important work. The courts are actively recruiting volunteers for various programs involving juvenile offenders, children and families in crisis, and courthouse operations. Opportunities are available countywide.

Comprehensive training provided. Bilingual applicants are especially encouraged to apply.

For more information, contact Eric Chait, volunteer coordinator, Office of the Court Administrator, 2 Broad St., 15th Floor, Elizabeth, 07207; call 908-965-2688 or e-mail to eric.chait@judiciary.state.nj.us.

Mothers & More rummage sale Saturday

On Saturday, the Union County Chapter of Mothers & More will hold its first rummage sale at the home of the group's co-leader, K.C. Bree, 164 Myrtle Ave., Garwood. Beginning at 8:30 a.m., the sale will offer furniture, household goods, toys, books, and clothes for babies, children and adults. Mother-prepared baked goods will also be available.

All funds raised will be used to fund the chapter's activities, which include meetings with speakers of interest to mothers, children's holiday parties, and mom and tot outings. Mothers & More is a non-profit organization that provides opportunities for

local mothers to connect with one another and with their children.

The Union County Chapter of Mothers & More holds meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Westfield YMCA, 220 Clark St., Westfield. New members are always welcome at meetings.

For more information on meetings or the rummage sale, call K.C. at 908-789-8626 or Linda at 908-497-0283.

'Freeholders Forum'

Union County's Summer Arts Festival and other free special events are featured in the latest "Freeholders Forum" television show sponsored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Also, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi talked about what her office is doing to encourage voter participation in this year's June and November elections.

The program features Angel Estrada, chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders; Freeholder Deborah Scanlon; Charles Sigmond, Union County's director of Parks and Recreation, and Rajoppi.

This is the 44th summer for the free Wednesday night Summer Concert Series at Echo Lake Park in Mountainside. Also, June 12 will see the return of the annual Rhythm & Blues by the Brook concert at Cedar Brook Park in Plainfield.

For more information on Parks and Recreation programs and events, go to www.ucnj.org or call 908-527-4900.

The County Clerk's office offers important voter information and guidelines at www.ucnj.org/ctyclerk/election.html. Residents can also call 908-527-4787.

In each 30-minute program, freeholders and guests discuss events and issues affecting the people of Union County. "Freeholders Forum" is produced by the Board of Chosen Freeholders and is made possible through the facilities and technical direction of Union County College.

Entitled "Helping Union County Vote/Summer Recreation," the show will be aired through June 19 according to the following schedule:

• Union County, except Elizabeth and Plainfield: Channel 26 Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

• Elizabeth: Channel 70 Thursdays, 6 p.m.

• Hillside: Channel 35 call 973-926-1054 for more information

• Linden, Roselle, Roselle Park and Winfield: Channel 36 daily, 10 p.m.

• Plainfield: Channel 74 Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.

• Rahway: Channel 34 Daily, 6:30 p.m.

• Scotch Plains: Channel 34 call 908-232-2400, ext. 243, for more information.

• Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Mountainside: Channel 36, Fridays, 2 and 7 p.m.

Anyone wanting more information or to comment about Freeholders Forum can call the Office of Public Information at 908-436-2072 or e-mail forum@ucnj.org.

Relay for Life events

The American Cancer Society invites individuals from Union County to honor cancer survivors and caregivers or pay tribute to those who have lost their battles with cancer to join a Relay For Life in your community.

Relay For Life is an overnight community celebration where individuals and teams camp out, barbecue,

and walk or run around a local track "relay" style to fight cancer. Funds raised support cancer research, education, advocacy and patient services in the community.

All cancer survivors are invited to celebrate their triumph over cancer by participating in an inspirational "Survivors' Lap" to open the Relay For Life.

Relay For Life will take place in the following communities in Union County:

• Relay For Life of Kean University, Kean University, Union, Friday and Saturday.

• Relay For Life of New Providence, New Providence High School, New Providence, Saturday and Sunday.

For more information about Relay For Life in your community or to become involved with an event in Union County, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

For information about cancer, call toll-free anytime 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit the American Cancer Society web site at www.cancer.org.

Home products sale

Are you looking for something out of the ordinary? The Volunteer Guild of Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County will hold a vendor sale on June 10 featuring the Counter Art of Home Products, in the multi-purpose room of the facility, 40 Watchung Way, Berkeley Heights from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Home products will have functional household items — glass cutting boards, trivets, snack trays and ceiling fan pull chains — featuring beautiful watercolor decorations.

A percentage of each purchase made at these sales is given to the Volunteer Guild to obtain items for the residents and patients that may include televisions, VCRs and prizes for their bingo games. The efforts of the Guild, which make vendor sales possible, also sponsor a holiday party/gift distribution and a summer picnic, in cooperation with the Berkeley Heights Lions Club.

The Volunteer Guild and the Office of Volunteer Services of Runnells Specialized Hospital are always interested in recruiting volunteers. Flexible hours and a variety of opportunities exist with resident contact as well as performing other tasks.

For more information, call the Office of Volunteer Services at 908-771-5847.

Annual White Sale

Whether you went to the store for the annual White Sale or a bedding promotion, The Volunteer Guild of Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County will be the place to be on June 24 in the multi-purpose room of the facility, 40 Watchung Way, Berkeley Heights, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The vendor, H.A.S. Sheet Sales, will feature better quality pillowcases and percale sheets with thread counts of 180, 200, 250, 300 and 400.

H.A.S. carries a full line of pillow cases, sheets, pillows, mattress pads and pillow covers. Selections include designer, flannel, eyelet lace and juvenile patterns.

A percentage of each purchase made at these sales is given to the Volunteer Guild to obtain items for the residents and patients that may include televisions, VCRs and prizes for their bingo games. The efforts of the Guild, which make vendor sales possible, also sponsor a holiday party/gift distribution and a summer picnic, in cooperation with the Berkeley Heights Lions Club.

The Volunteer Guild and the Office of Volunteer Services of Runnells Specialized Hospital are always interested in recruiting volunteers.

Flexible hours and a variety of opportunities exist with resident contact as well as performing other tasks.

Anyone who would like more information should call the Office of Volunteer Services at 908-771-5847.

Electronics collection

The County of Union will sponsor a recycling event for electronics and automobile tires June 12 so residents can get rid of unwanted tires, computers and other electronic equipment in an environmentally proper manner from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Schering-Plough Corp., 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, near Garden State Parkway Exit 138. All residents of Union County are eligible to participate at no cost.

Computer monitors and televisions are the source of a considerable amount of lead — about 5 pounds per screen. Up to 95 percent of most electronic appliances can be recycled. This is a responsible way to keep hazardous heavy metals out of our environment.

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

All residents need to do is drive to the site with their unwanted electronic equipment and as many as eight automobile tires, without rims. Workers at the site will unload the vehicles.

Pre-registration is not required for this special collection. Refrigerators, washers and dryers, microwaves, and air conditioners will not be accepted.

A complete list of the materials that will be accepted is available at the Union County Environmental Services Web site, www.ucnj.org/oem.

The electronics collection and tire recycling will be held rain or shine, for Union County residents only and not for businesses. Proof of Union County residency is required.

For more information, call the Bureau of Environmental Services Hotline at 908-654-9889.

Union County pools will open later this month

Union County's two public swimming pools will soon open for the summer. The Walter E. Ulrich Pool in Rahway River Park, off St. Georges Avenue in Rahway, will be open from June 19 through Labor Day, Sept. 6.

The John Russell Wheeler Pool in Wheeler Park, at Stiles Street and Routes 1&9 South in Linden, will be open from June 26 through Aug. 27.

Group swimming lessons for all ages, including adults, are available at Ulrich Pool. The first session will begin on June 28; the second session will begin July 19. Each lesson meets for 30 minutes, Monday through Thursday for 3 weeks.

The cost is \$60 per session. Pre-registration is required, and applications can be obtained at either pool office.

Special open swimming sessions for senior citizens and for people with disabilities are also held, free of charge, at Ulrich Pool, on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. and at Wheeler Pool on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Pool hours for public swimming sessions are as follows:

Walter E. Ulrich Pool: Monday and Wednesday, 1 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 1 to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

John Russell Wheeler Pool: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1 to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Daily admission fees for Union County residents are \$3 for youths age 17 and younger; \$4 for adults ages 18 and older. Non-Union County resident admission fees are \$6 for youths and \$8 for adults. Proof of residency is required at the time of admission.

New ID requirements in place for voting this year

Thousands of new Union County voters will have to comply with new identification requirements in order to vote in Tuesday's primary and the Nov. 2 General Election, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi said. Rajoppi is seeking to educate these voters in order to ensure that their votes are counted.

The national and state requirements are mandated by the Federal Help Americans Vote Act of 2002. The requirements, which apply to those who registered to vote on or after Jan. 1, 2003, apply only to voters who register for the first time ever or who register in Union County after moving from another county or out of state.

"The new requirements could be confusing to many voters. My office is providing the voting public with elections information and related voting guidelines in order to minimize confusion and make sure that every vote is counted," Rajoppi said. Instructions and background information will also be available at the office's Web site, www.ucnj.org/ctyclerk.

Newly registered voters who cast ballots at polling places will be required to produce a form of identification. According to New Jersey Division of Elections regulations, valid identifying documents can include:

- Any valid and current photo ID, such as driver's license, U.S. passport; student or job ID, store membership ID, military ID, professional or government ID, or public-assistance card;
- Paycheck;
- Utility bill;
- Rent receipt;
- Bank statement;
- Submission of the last four digits of Social Security number;
- A government document that includes name and address, such as a non-photo driver's license or a car registration.

The Union County Board of Elections has sent notices to all newly registered voters explaining the requirement. Most of them provided the Election Board with a form of identification and therefore will not have to do so again when they vote. However, approximately 4,300 newly registered voters have not and will still have to provide identification at the polls or with their completed absentee ballots.

Voters who cannot produce one of these documents can vote by Provisional Ballot, a paper ballot completed at the polling place that is sealed after the vote is cast. Provisional Ballots are opened and counted only if the voter later provides a valid form of identification.

For more details on this provision, voters can call the Union County Board of Elections at 908-527-4121.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:

HOT Weather Alert!!!

Save **BIG MONEY** on Air Conditioning - NOW!
And don't pay us a dime until next year.

Will You Survive The Heat This Summer?

If your home is not currently air conditioned or your air conditioner is over ten years old, you should seriously consider adding AC or replacing your old inefficient system now as this may be some of the best financial news you receive all year.

Don't gamble on your comfort.

Why gamble that a breakdown might leave you without cooling for days or longer in the extreme heat and humidity when you can have the peace of mind and reliability of a brand new high efficiency system with a full warranty up to 12 years instead of a bandaged system with a minimum warranty? You know your air conditioner is going to break down when you least expect it and need it the most, which is likely the hottest day of the year. And if you don't have air conditioning, don't continue to suffer!

You can save hundreds of dollars-NOW!

I'm offering one of the biggest discounts I have ever offered in order to keep my installation crews busy as the weather is FINALLY beginning to heat up. So rather than hoping the heat and humidity create a demand for air conditioning, I am getting proactive and extending savings of up to 15% off the price of ALL our new air conditioners and furnaces. These units are brand new, factory fresh 2004 models and among the most energy efficient systems you can buy. All of them carry complete full parts and labor warranty (5, 10 or 12 years), and are protected by our Exclusive 100% satisfaction money back guarantee.

My problem is your opportunity

Below normal temperatures in May have my air conditioning business starting slow this year. Sales are down a bit, so I've decided to try this unique marketing approach to stimulate sales

and give customers a fantastic price cut until I can make up for the equipment I should have sold by now.

Don't take a penny out of your pocket

You can buy a brand new air conditioning and/or heating system now with no money down and not make a payment until next year without any interest. You can then pay it off or make small monthly payments as low as \$50 a month. What you save in energy and repair costs alone will probably pay for your new system without you ever paying a penny. You have total flexibility to fit your budget.

Avoid Paying More Than You Have To.

Fuel prices are at record highs and rising, and the cost of steel, copper and brass to make new air conditioners up as much as 400% since January, increasing manufacturing costs dramatically. Most manufacturers have announced a price increase due in June or July, which is unusual, in addition to our regular price increase in January 2005. So there is no better time than the present to invest in a new cooling and/or heating system.

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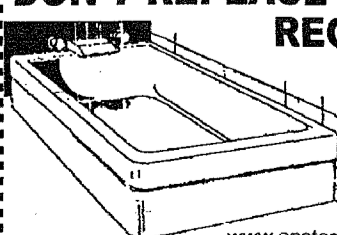
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

And the nominees are ...

The Rising Star Awards
2004 Final Nominations

* Denotes a Union County nominee

Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical

Bishop George Ahr High School, Edison, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Don Bosco Prep High School, "Oklahoma!"

Fair Lawn High School, "Company"

Howell High School, "Crazy for You"

Monsignor Donovan High School, "The King and I"

Montclair High School, "Les Miserables"

* Rahway High School, "42nd Street"

Honorable mentions

Queen of Peace High School, "Cabaret"

Teaneck High School, "Pippin"

* Westfield High School, "Evita"

Whippany Park High School, "Once on This Island"

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role

Megan McPhee as Peter Pan in "Peter Pan," Columbia High School, Maplewood-South Orange

Colleen Kirk as Mother in "Ragtime," Hoboken High School

Lauren Palmeri as Aldonza in "Man of La Mancha," Glen Rock High School

Laura Appruzzese as Anna Leonowens in "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School

Kady Kwelty as Annie Oakley in "Annie Get Your Gun," Shawnee High School

Emilie Peterson as Mrs. Lovett in "Sweeney Todd," Vernon Township High School

* Samantha Hooper-Hammersly as Eva Peron in "Evita," Westfield High School

Andrea Cinque as Lilli Vanessi/Katherine in "Kiss Me, Kate," West Orange High School

Honorable mentions

Erin McShane as Sally Bowles in "Cabaret," Queen of Peace High School

* Heather Medina as Peggy Sawyer in "42nd Street," Rahway High School

Lia Tamborra as Ti Moune in "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role

Evan Newman as The Emcee in "Cabaret," Freehold Township High School

Michael McArthur as Bobby Child in "Crazy for You," Howell High School

Brian Plofsky as Don Quixote in "Man of La Mancha," Livingston High School

Joshua Morgan as Jean Valjean in "Les Miserables," Montclair High School

* Matthew Capodicasa as Javert in "Les Miserables," Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School

Matthew Kougasian as Javert in "Les Miserables," St. Joseph Regional High School

Judah Frank as Pippin in "Pippin," Teaneck High School

* Ryan Leonard as Ché in "Evita," Westfield High School

Honorable mentions

Blake Segal as Benjy Stone in "My Favorite Year," East Brunswick High School

Gregg Bautista as The King in "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School

Kevin Milnes as Tommy Albright in "Brigadoon," West Milford High School

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role

Ashley Koning as Ruth in "The Pirates of Penzance," Bridgewater-Raritan High School

Katie Weigl as Ado Annie in "Oklahoma!," Don Bosco Prep High School

Rebecca Flanders as Fantine in "Les Miserables," Montclair High School

Alanna Matalon as Iona Ritter in "She Loves Me," Paramus High School

* Stephanie Martin as Dorothy Brock in "42nd Street," Rahway High School

Gabriella Hayre as Darlene Love in "The Leader of the Pack," Union Hill High School

Laurie Seligman as Miss Adelaide in "Guys & Dolls," Westwood Regional Sr./Jr. High School

Honorable mentions

* Tanasia Whitehurst as Gladys Murphy/Mom in "Copacabana," Elizabeth High School

Aryn Wells as Miss Adelaide in "Guys & Dolls," Madison High School

Dana Merson as Lois Lane/Bianca in "Kiss Me, Kate," West Orange High School

See NOMINATIONS, Page B5

Awards put 'Stars' in the eyes of students

By Bill VanSant
Associate Editor

This Sunday, the best of Broadway will be honored at the annual Tony Awards.

However, two days later, the words "And the award goes to ..." will have a decidedly different impact on dozens of teenagers and their teachers when the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn presents the ninth annual Rising Star Awards, honoring excellence in high school musicals throughout the state.

According to Paper Mill Director of Education Susan Speidel, more than 150 high school musicals were reviewed by a team of adjudicators that volunteer their time to the program, traveling all over the Garden State to critique the work of countless students, teachers and volunteers.

"We average about 70," Speidel said of the number of reviewers that travel the state from High Point to Cape May between February and May.

The logistics of such a program can be daunting, according to Speidel, with weather figuring prominently into the mix, often causing reviewers to reschedule. Also logistically challenging is fitting all the nominees into the 1,200-seat performing arts center.

Among this year's nominees, one can find the usual suspects: productions of such longtime favorites and classic musicals as "Guys and Dolls," "Kiss Me, Kate" and "Peter Pan." However, Speidel has noted an increase in the number of schools doing more mature material such as "Evita" at Westfield High School and "Company" at Fair Lawn High School, newly available titles like "Les Miserables" at various schools, and shows that aren't often produced, such as "Over Here!" in Madison and "Lucky Stiff" in Princeton.

Speidel feels that many of the schools that participate in the Rising Star program are enjoying the challenge of offering their students the chance to expand themselves as theater craftsmen. By doing shows the students don't already know inside and out, Speidel says the teens are able to create characters com-

pletely "from scratch" rather than reproduce the performances they've memorized from repeated listenings to CDs.

Also affecting how schools approach the yearly tradition of "the high school musical" is the Educational Impact Award, recognizing schools that take the annual show out of the auditorium and into the classrooms and communities. Among this year's nominees in this category is Westfield High School, where the production of the Webber-Rice opera "Evita" involved a unit on Argentina and the Peron regime in the Spanish-language classes, with an Argentinian national speaking to students about the country under Juan Peron's leadership.

"It's our way of acknowledging the schools that use their musical for more than just an extra-curricular activity," Speidel said. "The schools that do it give an added dimension to the production of the musical by incorporating the musical into the classrooms," adding that the school musical is no longer just for the students who can't get onto an athletic team.

"Participating in a high school musical is not just about singing and dancing," Speidel said, noting that the teamwork learned compares to the athletic programs.

While the major awards shows have long eschewed the phrase "And the winner is ...," Speidel feels that programs like Rising Star encourage healthy competition.

"Out of the 115 (shows reviewed), there are only seven or eight in each final category, which is the top 10 percent," Speidel said. "So really, by being nominated, they've been singled out already." In addition, each nominee receives a \$1,600 to the theater's Summer Conservatory. "That's the part that we think is the most important," Speidel said. "It's nice to get a 'little trophy,' a nice hunk of glass from Tiffany," but the scholarship represents an investment in promising talent. The star-shaped awards have been provided by Tiffany and Co.

The Rising Star Awards will be presented Tuesday at Paper Mill Playhouse, Brookside Drive in Millburn.

Writers bring insight to the human experience

On the Arts

By Jon Plaut

Tobias Wolfe has written "Old School," an enthralling novel about a young man in an exclusive prep school. The narrative is made special by the interaction of the main character with literary heroes, particularly Robert Frost and Ernest Hemingway. There is a sense of being outside the pale in this novel, which one found in his earlier "This Boy's Life," too.

Joyce Carol Oates has carefully chosen every word in her most recent novel, "Rape: A Love Story," set in one of her favorite locales, northern New York State. What links this book with many of her others, though, is its treatment of a woman on the receiving end of unkindness and the unorthodox triumph over that. I was reminded of Ms. Oates' multi-layered masterpiece, "We Were the Mulvaneys."

Dan Jones has edited a nonfiction book of essays about men in or not in modern marriages, rather sensationally titled "The Bastard on the Couch." Written as a response to an earlier collection of liberated female writings, "A Bitch in the House" by his wife, Cathi Hanauer, Mr. Jones is at his best, I think, when discussing the loss of civility he feels in his cherished ongoing relationship. While these book titles may seem gratuitous, the writings collected are in earnest.

Richard A. Clarke's explosive

"Against All Enemies" is an indictment of counter-terrorist and war policed made at the highest level after 9/11, taken without the trouble taken to examine the facts or the alternatives. Most surprising about his best-selling expose is that the author is not a flaming radical, but rather a sober, long-term civil servant who just becomes disgusted by an administration that he has served for generations as it pursues its unilateral Iraq policy against the advice of its own experts.

Tom Stoppard's wonderfully revived play on Broadway, "Jumpers," is available as a published script by Grove Press. It is always exhilarating to see a Stoppard play on the stage or in the movies — "Shakespeare in Love," for example — but there is also something special and rewarding that comes from reading

and have the chance to ponder his words and thoughts at your leisure. On the stage or screen, they have come pretty fast and furious.

Gary Taylor and Pat Scharlin have written "Smart Alliance," the saga of United Fruit, better known under the product banner Chiquita Banana, in their certification with the Rain Forest Alliance and marketing of their products as environmentally and socially aware.

The book is one of the fairest treatments of environmental and trade issues yet written. Since the Rio conference in 1992, we have been challenged to see the synergies between economics and environmental protection, and this study is among the best.

Jon Plaut is a resident of Summit and a former newspaper publisher.

Exhibition will give visitors a 'feel' for art

Kean University will host "Riverscape: A Mosaic of Motion and Change" from Monday to June 17 at the James Howe Gallery on its campus in Union.

"Riverscape" is an art project designed to enhance the lives of people with visual impairments. It is an art installation developed by artist and educator Karen Chasen Spitzberg, a champion of tactile art for people who are blind. "Riverscape" is sponsored by VSA Arts of New Jersey, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the creative power of individuals with disabilities through the arts.

While inspired and created by people with visual impairments, "Riverscape" is universally appealing. It invites gallery-goers to interact, to feel movement, and to touch textures. Chasen Spitzberg worked with people in agencies and groups throughout the state in the design and creation of 19 panels representing scenes of a river. Some participants also contributed artistically treated stones designed to represent those found in a riverbed. Through explorations of the tactile qualities of "Riverscape," people with and without disabilities are encouraged and challenged to experience art in a nontraditional way.

The following organizations and groups participated in the creation of the "Riverscape" exhibit: Alliance for the Disabled in Action, Art With Spirit, Bergen Family Center, Cedar Oaks Care Center, Diamond Spring Lodge, Flowing Vision, Focus on Eyes, Girl Scouts of Delaware/Raritan, Lighthouse International, Parents of Blind Children, Pascack Valley of Low Vision Group, Shining Eyes of Metuchen, South Brunswick Senior Center, South Brunswick Department of Parks and Recreation's Teen Program, The Seeing Eye, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Institute of Ophthalmology's Low Vision Support Group, Visions at Selis Manor, and Wayne High School.

The entrance piece was created by Muriel Harris, an artist who is legally

blind. Harris states, "As I have become legally blind, I am very aware of the fact that the only thing permanent in life is change. This change is evident as my media has moved from charcoal, oil, pastel, and acrylic to mixed media. Change is true of the subject matter also, as I have turned from visual — portraits, abstracts, waterscapes, and landscapes to the emotional, becoming involved in what is happening in the world around me."

Gallery hours for the "Riverscape" exhibit are Monday through Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. The James Howe Gallery is located at 1000 Morris Ave. in Union.

For information, contact VSA Arts of New Jersey by writing to 703 Jersey Ave., New Brunswick, 08901; calling 732-745-3885, TTY users call 732-745-3919; send inquiries via e-mail to info@vsan.org; or visit the Web site at www.vsanj.org.

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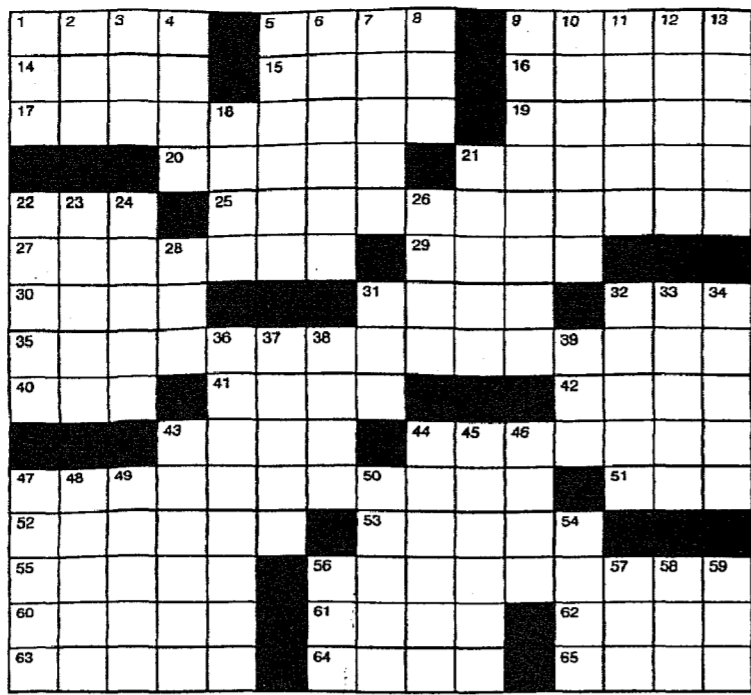
ACROSS

- 1 Misplaced
- 5 Shooter's need
- 9 Repairman's inventory
- 14 Depression-era migrant
- 15 Asian nation
- 16 Cognizant
- 17 Spanish dances
- 19 Old Harry
- 20 Natural fiber
- 21 Scatters
- 22 Skater's surface
- 25 Pamper
- 27 African city
- 29 Corn servings
- 30 Zone
- 31 Alcohol bumper
- 32 Sugar source
- 35 Northern Pacific republic
- 40 Sneaky
- 41 Tropical bird
- 42 White House dog
- 43 Made thread
- 44 Geometrical structure
- 47 Religious residences
- 51 That man
- 52 Representatives
- 53 Make happy
- 55 Fireplace
- 56 Aristocratic
- 60 Poetic rhythm
- 61 ___ fixe
- 62 Sacred
- 63 Residue
- 64 Computer wiz, perhaps
- 65 Layered agate

DOWN

- 1 Word before 5 Down
- 2 Volga feeder
- 3 Masculine title
- 4 Rip

LEADING LADIES



COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

- 5 Trees with soft wood
- 6 Asian city
- 7 Work on a runway
- 8 CIA forerunner
- 9 Rustic
- 10 Oscar and Edgar
- 11 Evaluated
- 12 Boat's attachment
- 13 Perceive
- 18 Tuscaloosa sch.
- 21 Determines 60
- 22 Muslim priests
- 23 Atoll material
- 24 Granular corundum
- 26 Hairy creature
- 28 Roulette bet
- 31 Urban transport
- 32 Scythe handle
- 33 Ike's opponent
- 34 Sacred song
- 36 Beatniks
- 37 Ends at
- 38 Type of dance
- 39 Steelers' org.
- 43 South Carolina river
- 44 Lens attachment
- 45 Brought up
- 46 Wine region
- 47 Molten rock
- 48 Monsters
- 49 Poet's preposition
- 50 English novelist
- 54 Reverberate
- 56 Cotten or rolling
- 57 Charged particle
- 58 ___ Khan
- 59 Greek goddess

Answers on Page B9

REUNIONS

The following schools will conduct reunions in the coming months:
 Union High School Class of 1979, 25-year reunion, July 24.
 Battin-Jefferson High School, Elizabeth, Class of 1974, 30-year reunion, July 31.
 Hillside High School Class of 1964, 40-year reunion, July 31.
 Governor Livingston Regional High School, Berkeley Heights, Class of 1974, 30-year reunion, Aug. 7.
 Union High School Class of 1974, 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.
 Union High School Class of 1994, 10-year reunion, Nov. 26.
 Union High School Class of 1984, 20-year reunion, Nov. 27.
 Westfield High School Class of 1984, 20-year reunion, Nov. 27.
 Scotch Plains High School Class of 1979, 25-year reunion, Dec. 31.
 Westfield High School Class of 1994, 10-year reunion, Dec. 31.
 Scotch Plains High School Class of 1975, 30 year reunion, Dec. 31, 2005.
 Scotch Plains High School Class of 1985, 20-year reunion, Dec. 31, 2005.

Union High School, Class of 1985, 20-year reunion, Dec. 31, 2005.
 Union High School, Class of 1995, 10-year reunion, Dec. 31, 2005.
 Westfield High School Class of 1985, 20-year reunion, Dec. 31, 2005.
 For information on any of the above reunions, write to Reunions Unlimited Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown, 07726; or call 732-617-1000.
 • Union High School Class of 1954 will conduct its 50-year reunion June 4 to 6, 2004. For information, write to Class of '54 Reunion Committee, 250 Globe Ave., Union, 07083.
 • Linden High School Class of 1959 will conduct its 45-year reunion June 19, 2004 at the Sheraton Woodbridge. For information, call Jan Murawski at 732-381-1763.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news:
 Church, club and social events — Friday at noon.
 Entertainment — Friday at noon.
 Sports news and game results — Monday at noon.
 Letter to the Editor — Monday 9 a.m.
 General news and information — Monday 5 p.m.

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY
JUNE 6th, 2004
 EVENT: Flea Market, Craft & Collectible Show.
 PLACE: Belleville High School - 100 Passaic Ave., Belleville, NJ (Off Jorammon St.)
 TIME: 9am-5pm Outdoors (Indoors if rain)
 DETAILS: New merchandise, crafts, collectibles and a garage/tag sale section!
 ORGANIZATION: Sponsor by: BHS SGO.
 CONTACT: For Information Call: 201-997-9535.

SATURDAY

JUNE 5th, 2004
 EVENT: Flea Market
 PLACE: 140-144 Bloomfield Ave., Montclair, NJ
 TIME: 8am-4pm
 PRICE: VENDORS WANTED. For more information call 973-673-7975 or 973-746-5914 or 973-678-8339
 ORGANIZATION: Bright Hope Baptist Church

RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY
June 5th, 12th, 2004
 EVENT: Rummage Sale
 PLACE: Holy Trinity & St. Joseph's Church, Ziegler Ave. Linden, NJ.
 TIME: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.
 PRICE: Free Admission.
 ORGANIZATION: Blessed Sacrament Society.

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 our other offices. 266 Liberty St., Bloomfield or 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. For more information call **800-564-8911**

BAZAAR

SATURDAY
JUNE 5th, 2004
 EVENT: Church Bazaar and Car Wash.
 PLACE: Church Parking Lot - 672 Martin Luther King Blvd., Newark, N.J.
 TIME: 9 AM - 6PM Set-Up time 7:00 AM - 8:45 AM
 PRICE: \$25.00 Per Space - 75 Spaces available. Vendors needed for food court, Adult and children's clothing. Fashion and accessories. Household items, General Merchandise, CD's, DVD's and books.
 ORGANIZATION: Wells Cathedral, C.D.G.I.C. - 973-643-9545.
 CONTACT: Minister Brad Blocker - 973-761-5922.

OTHER

SATURDAY
JUNE 5th, 2004
 EVENT: 74th Stiftungsfest (Anniversary Dance). An evening of wonderful German food and entertainment. Music provided by "Bernie's Orchestra" and performances by the Bayern Verein Newark Schupfplatters.
 PLACE: Deutscher Club Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark.
 TIME: Doors open at 5:00pm
 PRICE: \$5.00 Admission. Children under 12 free. For information call Ralph Mehne at 908-276-7745 or Rick Ernst at (908) 851-9465.
 ORGANIZATION: Bayern Verein Newark, Inc.

SATURDAY, SUNDAY

June 12th, 13th, 2004
 EVENT: 3RD Annual Food & Music Festival.
 PLACE: St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, 200 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., in Livingston, NJ 07039
 TIME: Noon - 8:00 PM, Rain or Shine.
 PRICE: Free Live Music, Kebabs, Pony Rides, Games and More. For music schedule information, please call 973-533-9794.
 ORGANIZATION: St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church

OTHER

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY
June 4th, 5th, 6th, 2004
 EVENT: GREEK FESTIVAL
 PLACE: Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 510 Linden Place, Orange
 TIME: Friday June 4, 4pm-midnight; Saturday, June 5, 3pm-midnight; Sunday June 6, noon-3pm.
 DETAILS: Live music, Greek dancing, church tour, Byzantine hymns, boutiques, raffle. Activities for children. Souvlaki, gyros, fish plaki, and more. Homemade desserts. Inside air conditioned, outside under tents. For info: www.saintsconstantineandhelenchurch.com or call church office at 973-674-6600
 PRICE: Donation \$1. Free shuttle to and from supervised parking at 80 Main St., West Orange
 ORGANIZATION: Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

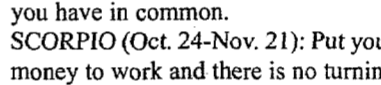
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

June 11th, 12th, 13th, 2004
 EVENT: Musical "In The Beginning"
 PLACE: Community United Methodist Church, 301 Chestnut Street, Roselle Park
 TIME: Friday & Saturday 7:30pm; Sunday 2pm.
 ORGANIZATION: Forty Days and Forty Nights Park Players Arts program made possible by a HEART GRANT from the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

SATURDAY

June 12, 2004
 EVENT: Gently Used Clothing Sale. Used clothing - men's women's and children's used clothing, carefully selected and sorted by Ridgeview volunteers.
 PLACE: 174 South Valley Road (corner of Meeker Street, near bottom of Walker Road), West Orange
 TIME: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 ORGANIZATION: Ridgeview Community Church (973) 731-6486.

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HOROSCOPES

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You will find an individual from a unique race or background quite fascinating. Block out any prejudice. Explore what you have in common.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Put your money to work and there is no turning back on the road to prosperity. Locate the ideal investment with the help of an experienced counselor.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A one-on-one meeting with a potential partner is highly probable. If you like what you see or hear, do not hesitate to speak up.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take a timeout from chaos and confusion and organize your life. Begin with clarity of direction and a definitive plan of action.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Welcome an opportunity to shine and showcase your many talents. Excel in

a creative or speculative venture while having fun.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Explore the reasons behind an untimely emotional outburst and take steps to resolve whatever is bothering you. You must heal from within.
If your birthday is this week, strive during the coming year to balance your inner needs and outward external activities. You will be driven by a powerful force from deep within to succeed and go where no one has dared to go before. If you have been in conflict with someone close to you, this would be a great time to make amends. Find the ideal solution in compromise, kindness and forgiveness.
Also born this week: Jacques Cousteau, Elizabeth Hurley, Johnny Depp, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Liam Neeson.

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 \$33,720.00 - One-person household
 \$38,520.00 - Two-person household

Rent is \$695.00 at this time

Waiting list applications will be available weekdays at Second Westfield Senior Citizens Housing, 1129 Boynton Avenue, Westfield, NJ from June 25, 2004, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Completed applications should be returned to:

Second Westfield Senior Citizens Housing Corporation
 1129 Boynton Avenue
 Westfield, NJ 07090
 908-518-9586

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than July 14 or dropped off by July 16, 2004 before 4:00 p.m.

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 Dr. Edward Novik
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Nominations run the gamut of shows, schools and areas of state

(Continued from Page B3)

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role
 Jelani Remy as The Scarecrow in "The Wiz," Cedar Grove High School
 Richard Krakowski as Will Parker in "Oklahoma!," Don Bosco Prep High School
 Matt Edelstein as Nathan Detroit in "Guys & Dolls," Glen Ridge High School
 • Alex Laguna as King Sextimus in "Once Upon a Mattress," Hillside High School
 Manny Medina as Younger Brother in "Ragtime," Hoboken High School
 Jake Aron as Thenardier in "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 Christopher Jones as Bud Frump in "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," New Egypt High School
 Kevin O'Malley as Steven Kodaly in "She Loves Me," Paramus High School

Honorable mentions
 Joseph DeMaio as Bela Zangler in "Crazy for You," Howell High School
 Rob Ribar as Marcellus Washburn in "The Music Man," Northern Highlands Regional High School
 • Mike Giroud as Billy Lawlor in "42nd Street," Rahway High School

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Member
 Jimmy Vonder Linden as F.D.R. in "Annie," Emerson High School
 Joanne Nosuchinsky as Tess in "Crazy for You," Howell High School
 Corrado Altomare as Mayor of Munchkinland/Gatekeeper in "The Wizard of Oz," Immaculata High School
 Dan Silverstein as Nicely-Nicely Johnson in "Guys & Dolls," Madison High School
 • Jessica Gajda as Maggie Jones in "42nd Street," Rahway High School
 Samantha Kaufman as Rusty in "Footloose," Watchung Hills Regional High School
 Kyle Scatliffe as Nicely-Nicely

Johnson in "Guys & Dolls," Westwood Regional Jr./Sr. High School

Honorable mentions
 Douglas P. Bender as Enjolras in "Les Miserables," Bloomfield High School
 Steve Wurtsbacher as Levi in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Chatham High School
 Chris Casciello as Nicely-Nicely Johnson in "Guys & Dolls," Clearview Regional High School

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Group
 The Brothers in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Bishop George Ahr High School
 • The Stepsisters in "Cinderella," Governor Livingston High School
 The Nuns in "The Sound of Music," Millville Senior High School
 "Small House of Uncle Thomas" Ensemble in "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 The Ball Players in "Damn Yankees," New Milford High School
 The Barbershop Quartet in "The Music Man," Northern Highlands Regional High School

Honorable mentions
 The Gods in "Once on This Island," Cicely Tyson High School of Performing and Fine Arts, East Orange
 The Crapshooters in "Guys & Dolls," Clearview Regional High School
 The Kit-Kat Club Girls in "Cabaret," Freehold Township High School

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus
 "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Bishop George Ahr High School
 "Oklahoma!," Don Bosco Prep High School
 "Crazy for You," Howell High School
 "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 "Over Here!," Morristown High School

School
 • "42nd Street," Rahway High School
 "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School

Honorable mentions
 "42nd Street," Ridge High School
 • "Evita," Westfield High School

Outstanding Direction by a Teacher or Outside Director
 Richard N. Alfonzo for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Bishop George Ahr High School
 Jodi Capeless for "Oklahoma!," Don Bosco Prep High School
 John Giresi for "Company," Fair Lawn High School
 Stephen Kazakoff for "Crazy for You," Howell High School
 Carol Babuschak for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 Patrick Dearborn for "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 • Marsha Watson for "42nd Street," Rahway High School

Honorable mentions
 Robert McClure for "Damn Yankees," New Milford High School
 Stevie Rawlings for "She Loves Me," Paramus High School
 Robert Russell for "Cabaret," Queen of Peace High School
 Peter Talarico for "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School

Outstanding Achievement in Musical Direction
 Frederic Ford for "The Pirates of Penzance," Bridgewater-Raritan High School
 Steven Bell for "Company," Fair Lawn High School
 Cindy Wald for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 Gregory Dlugos for "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 Michael Nuzzo and Michael Russo

for "Over Here!," Morristown High School
 • Robert Van Wyk for "42nd Street," Rahway High School
 Craig Limey for "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School

Honorable mentions
 Joseph Cantaffa for "Crazy for You," Howell High School
 Gene Tubertini for "The Sound of Music," Millville High School
 Stevie Rawlings for "She Loves Me," Paramus High School

Outstanding Performance by an Orchestra
 "The Pirates of Penzance," Bridgewater-Raritan High School
 "Company," Fair Lawn High School
 "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 "The Sound of Music," Montgomery High School
 "She Loves Me," Paramus High School
 • "42nd Street," Rahway High School
 "Pippin," Teaneck High School

Honorable mentions
 "The Wiz," Dover High School
 "Over Here!," Morristown High School
 • "Anything Goes," New Providence High School

Outstanding Achievement in Choreography
 Russell M. Maitland for "Anything Goes," Academy of the Holy Angels
 Kimberly Galberaith for "Oklahoma!," Don Bosco Prep High School
 Lisa Twamley for "Crazy for You," Howell High School
 Helena Bodine for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 Richard Fabris for "Cabaret," Queen of Peace High School
 • Alison Dooley for "42nd Street," Rahway High School

Nicole DeVincenzo for "Crazy for You," Shore Regional High School
 Diana Fulga for "Pippin," Teaneck High School

Honorable mentions
 Kathleen Abitabile for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Bishop George Ahr High School
 Kevin Johnson for "Over Here!," Morristown High School
 Tom Tolve and David Pacheco for "Crazy for You," Point Pleasant Borough High School
 • Erica Cenci and Joe Nierle for "Evita," Westfield High School

Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design
 Joel C. Silver, John Giresi and Laurie Hall for "Company," Fair Lawn High School
 Matthew DiCarlo for "The Wizard of Oz," Immaculata High School
 Patrick Dearborn for "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 • Mark Happel for "Anything Goes," New Providence High School
 Ross Hindley for "Lucky Stiff," Princeton Day School
 Fred Sorrentino for "Crazy for You," Shore Regional High School
 Brian Lynch and Becky Caridad for "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School

Honorable mentions
 "My Favorite Year," no program credit, East Brunswick High School
 Carol Babuschak for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 Peter Labriola for "Annie Get Your Gun," Shawnee High School

Outstanding Achievement in Props Design
 "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," no program credit, Bishop George Ahr High School
 Abby Brisbon and Michael Patierino for "Peter Pan," Columbia High School

School
 Donna Servedio and Joann Fantina for "The Wizard of Oz," Immaculata High School
 Lexi Calcado and Grace Hoerner for "Man of La Mancha," Livingston High School

Honorable mentions
 Jason Kreyling for "Once Upon a Mattress," Dunellen High School
 "The Music Man," no program credit, Northern Highlands Regional High School

Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design
 John Mulé for "Company," Fair Lawn High School
 Andrew Lulling for "Les Miserables," Montclair High School
 Craig Stelzenmuller for "Lucky Stiff," Princeton Day School
 • Joe McKie, Frank Pauling, Donald Gottlick and John Black for "42nd Street," Rahway High School
 Scott Sax for "Annie Get Your Gun," Shawnee High School
 • "Evita," no program credit, Westfield High School
 Brian Lynch for "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School

Honorable mentions
 Erin O'Brien for "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," Boonton High School
 Diane Nigro for "Annie," Emerson High School
 Jay Burke for "Crazy for You," Point Pleasant Borough High School

Outstanding Achievement in Costume Design
 Joanne Eckert and Kathleen Gaston for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Bishop George Ahr High School
 Margaret Friel and Linda Weigl for "Oklahoma!," Don Bosco Prep High School

See STUDENTS, Page B7



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Internet Directory

Agape Family Worship Center.....<http://www.agapecenter.org>
 American Savings Bank.....<http://www.americansavingsnj.com>
 Burgdorff ERA.....<http://www.burgdorff.com>
 Crossroads Christian Fellowship.....<http://www.ccfou.org>
 Eye Care Center of NJ.....<http://www.eyecarenj.com>
 First Night of Maplewood/So. Orange.....<http://community.nj.com/cdfirstnight-soma>
 Forest Hill Properties Apartments.....<http://www.springstreet.com/propid/389126>
 Grand Sanitation.....<http://www.grandsanitation.com>
 Holy Cross Church.....<http://www.holycrossnj.org>
 Hospital Center at Orange.....<http://www.cathedralhealthcare.org>
 JRS Realty.....<http://www.century21jrs.com>
 LaSalle Travel Service.....<http://www.lasalletravel.com>
 Mountainside Hospital.....<http://www.AtlanticHealth.org>
 Nutley Pet Center.....<http://www.nutley.pet.com>
 Pet Watchers.....<http://www.petwatchersnj.com>
 Rets Institute.....<http://www.rets-institute.com>
 Skincare Products.....www.marykay.com/chandrac
 South Orange Chiropractic.....<http://www.sochiro.com>
 Summit Area Jaycees.....<http://www.angelfire.com/nj/summitjcs>
 Suburban Essex Chamber of Commerce.....<http://www.compunite.com/secc>
 Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad.....<http://www.summitems.org>
 Synergy Federal Savings Bank.....<http://www.synergyonthenet.com>
 Trinitas Hospital.....<http://www.trinitashospital.com>
 Turning Point.....<http://www.turningpointnj.org>
 Union Center National Bank.....<http://www.ucnb.com>
 Unitarian Universalist Church.....<http://www.firstuu.essex.nj.uua.org>
 United Way of Bloomfield.....<http://www.unitedwaybloomfield.org>

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Rio Cafe serves elegance
 By Bill VanSant
 Associate Editor

The perfect setting for business or pleasure, the Rio Cafe in Rahway can satisfy appetites ranging from "burgers in a bar" to the elegance of a fine dining room.

Situated on the corner of East Grand Avenue and Monroe Street, the Rio Cafe is in the midst of an ambitious expansion project. Already, the eatery has grown from its original "corner bar" set-up to include a comfortable dining room with a neo-Edwardian decor. Future plans include an expanded dining room and kitchen, as well as off-street parking.

My dining companion and I began our meals with a house salad for him and a seafood chowder for myself. The salad was prepared European style, while the chowder boasted a rich and flavorful broth that was deliciously light on the palate.

Our appetizers consisted of mussels in marinara for me and the chorizo for my companion. A native of Texas who grew up on Tex-Mex cuisine, he described the chorizo as being prepared European style, rather than Mexican style, and raved about the dish. My mussels were firm and flavorful without being overcooked or overly fishy.

Our main courses were absolutely exquisite. I opted for one of the specials: veal medallions in a mushroom-oyster-brandy sauce. The dish was tantalizing on the tongue and heartily satisfied my appetite. My companion selected the picanha, a steak barbecued Brazilian style. A devout meat-eater, my friend described his meal as the best steak he's had since moving to the Northeast.

The service was efficient and courteous without being obtrusive. An understandable mishap involving our appetizer course was handled with an efficient aplomb by our server, Fernando, maintaining a seamless dining experience for myself and my companion.

The Rio Cafe is located at 289 Monroe St. in Rahway, on the corner of East Grand Avenue. The restaurant is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and take-out is available.

For information, call 732-574-9392 or 732-574-9331.

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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill VanSant, Worrall Community Newspapers, 463 Valley St., P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, 07040. Faxes may be sent to 973-763-2557.

Stepping Out

AUDITIONS

MYSTIC VISION PLAYERS of Linden is seeking a tenor who moves well, play the part of Al in "A Chorus Line." Auditions are by appointment. Show dates are July 24 to 31. For information, call director Jill Leonard at 201-337-6513 or send inquiries via e-mail to jil2001@optonline.net.

BOOKS

AUTHOR MICHAEL TAKIFF will appear Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble of Clark to sign copies of his new book, "Brave Men, Gentle Heroes: American Fathers and Sons in World War II and Vietnam." Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

AUTHOR CHRISTINE RAKELA will appear June 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble of Clark to sign copies of her new book, "The Love Relationship Formula." Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

AUTHORS MAXINE LURIE AND MARC MAPPEN will appear June 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Town Book Store in Westfield to sign copies of their new book, "Encyclopedia of New Jersey." The Town Book Store is located at 255 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call 908-233-3535 or visit www.TownBookStore.com

ROMANCE AUTHORS CARIDAD PINEIRO, TERRI BRISBIN, AND BETH CIOTTA will appear June 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble of Clark to sign copies of their new books. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

AUTHORS JAMIE SCHAEFER AND JO ANNE GERMINARIO will appear June 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield to sign copies of their new book, "The Baby Rules: The Insider's Guide to Raising Your Parents." Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

CHILDREN'S AUTHOR MARY ANN HOBERMAN will appear June 17 at 11 a.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield to read from and sign copies of her new book, "You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together." Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

AUTHOR JOHN J. CONNOLLY M.D. will appear June 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield to sign copies of his new books, "Top Doctors: New York Metro Area," "America's Cosmetic Doctors and Dentists," and "America's Top Doctors." Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOOK GROUP will meet at Barnes and Noble of Clark on Monday at 7 p.m. to discuss "Raising Fences" by M. Datcher and "Life on the Color Line" by G. Williams. 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 973-376-8544.

THE "LORD OF THE RINGS" READING GROUP meets the first Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

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. The selection for Wednesday is "The Confessor" by Dan Silva. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN INTERESTS meets the second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

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

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

JEWISH BOOK LOVERS meets the third Monday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

BOOKS WE LIKE, a reading group featuring staff recommendations, will meet the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble of Clark. The selection for June 16 is "Ella Minnow Pea: A Novel in Letters" by Mark Dunn. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

SHAKESPEARE OUT LOUD Reading Group meets the third Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble in Clark to read a Shakespeare play out loud. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

WOMEN'S READING GROUP meets the last Wednesday 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.

WRITERS' WORKSHOP meets every Thursday 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.

KNIT KNACK KNITTING GROUP meets the third Thursday of each 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.

COLLECTIBLES

AN ALL-VINYL RECORD SHOW will be sponsored by the Greater New Jersey Record Shows on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Springfield Holiday Inn, Route 22 West, Springfield. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens; children younger than 12 are admitted free. For information, call 908-925-9667 or 908-486-3303, or send inquiries via e-mail to GNJRecordShows@aol.com.

CONCERTS

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

June 12: Songwriters in the Round, hosted by Jessica Owen, Springfield

June 19: Zoë Lewis, Westfield
Westfield concerts are presented at the First United Methodist Church, 1 E. Broad St., Westfield; Springfield concerts are presented at Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall, Springfield. Tickets are \$12 and include refreshments. For information, call 908-232-8723 or visit the Web site at www.coffeewithconscience.com.

SANCTUARY CONCERTS in Berkeley Heights will present musical acts in the coming weeks.

June 12: Melanie, \$25
Concerts are presented at Union Village Methodist Church, 1130 Mountain Ave., Berkeley Heights. For information, call 973-376-4946 or visit www.sanctuaryconcerts.org.

DANCE

THE BAYERN VEREIN NEWARK will sponsor an annual folkdance event Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Deutscher Club, Featherbed Lane, Clark. Tickets are \$5; children younger than 12 are admitted free. For information, call 908-276-7745 or 908-851-9465.

Y-SQUARES, a local square dance club, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Frank K. Hehly School, Raritan Road, Clark. Fee for each lesson is \$4. For information, call 908-298-1851, 732-381-2535 or 908-241-9492.

DISCUSSION

JOURNAL WRITING GROUP, led by professional life coach Jami Novak, meets the fourth Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

WRITERS' WORKSHOP will meet every other Monday at Barnes and Noble in Springfield, 240 Route 22 West. For information, call 973-376-8544.

FILM

ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY will sponsor a series of free film classics at the Main Branch. All films begin at 10 a.m. The Main Branch is of the Elizabeth Public Library located at 11 S. Broad St., Elizabeth. For information, call 908-354-6060.

HOBBIES

THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC. meets at 295 Jefferson Ave., Union, behind Home Depot on Route 22 East. The club is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. For information, call 908-964-9724 or 908-964-8808, send inquiries via e-mail to TMRCInc@aol.com or visit the Web site at www.tmrcl.com.

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE in Millburn will present "Guys & Dolls" by Frank Loesser through July 18.

Evening shows are Wednesdays to Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 p.m.; matinees are Thursdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 to \$67.

Special performances are the Conversation Series, Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the mezzanine, June 10 to July 1; audio-described

KIDS

CRAFT TIME for children ages 5 to 10 years old will take place every Monday at 11 a.m. at Barnes and Noble in Springfield, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

OPERA

STONY HILL PLAYERS will present "The Magic Flute" through Sunday at Oakes Memorial Center, 120 Morris Ave., Union. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. For information, call 908-464-7716.

POETRY

POETRY OUT LOUD! will take place at Barnes and Noble, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT takes place the second Sunday of every month at 7 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

SINGLES

DINNERMATES and Entrepreneurs Group invites business and professional singles to dinner at a local restaurant; wine and mingling is at 8 p.m., dinner is at 9 p.m. Two age groups are available. For information on dates and locations, call 732-822-9796 or visit www.dinnermates.com.

THEATER

NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

will present "Les Miserables" in Prudential Hall from Wednesday to June 13. Evening shows are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and June 10, 8 p.m. June 11 and 12, and 7 p.m. June 13; matinees are 1:30 p.m. June 10, 2 p.m. June 12, and 1:30 p.m. June 13. Tickets are \$17 to \$64 Wednesday and June 10, and 7 p.m. June 13. At all other performances, tickets are \$17 to \$74.

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

KEAN UNIVERSITY in Union will present "Corpus Christi" by Terrence McNally from June 11 to 19 in the Murphy-Dunn Theater in the Vaughn-Eames Building on the Union campus. Shows are 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with a 2 p.m. matinee June 19. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$7 for students and senior citizens. Kean University is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union. For information, call 908-737-4420.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE OF NEW JERSEY will present "Love's Labour's Lost" from Tuesday to June 27 at the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre on the campus of Drew University in Madison.

Preview performances are Tuesday to June 10; shows are 7:30 p.m. June Tuesday, 8 p.m. Wednesday and June 10. Tickets are \$26 to \$30. Opening night is June 12 at 7 p.m.; tickets are \$61 to \$65.

Regular performances are June 11 to 27. Shows are Tuesdays to Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees Saturdays and Sundays.

For information, call 973-408-5600 or visit www.ShakespeareNJ.org.

THE THEATER PROJECT at Union County College in Cranford will present "Top Girls" by Caryl Churchill from June 17 to July 3 in the Roy Smith Theater. Shows are Thursdays to Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$18 Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, \$10 on Thursdays; students pay \$10 at all performances, and senior citizens pay \$10 on "Senior Sunday," June 20. UCC is located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call 908-659-5189.

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE in Millburn will present "Guys & Dolls" by Frank Loesser through July 18.

Evening shows are Wednesdays to Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 p.m.; matinees are Thursdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 to \$67.

Special performances are the Conversation Series, Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the mezzanine, June 10 to July 1; audio-described

performances, with a sensory seminar 90 minutes prior to curtain, July 1 at 2 p.m., July 3 at 2:30 p.m., and July 11 at 7:30 p.m.; and sign-interpreted/open-caption performances July 9 at 8 p.m. and July 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Paper Mill Playhouse is located on Brookside Drive in Millburn. For information, call 973-376-4343, or visit www.PaperMill.org. For group rates, call 973-379-3636, ext. 2438.

VARIETY

CROSSROADS, 78 North Ave., Garwood, presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts, as well as football-themed nights.

Every Sunday: Live comedy, funk and poetry; "Live at Instant Coffee," 8 p.m.
Every Monday: Open Mic Night, Happy Hour all night

Every Tuesday: Jazz Jam; all pints, \$2
Every Wednesday: Karaoke Night; Miller Lite and MGD, \$2 all night

Every Thursday: Fiesta Night; Corona, Cuervo and margaritas, \$2 all night
Today: In a tribute to Pearl Jam Friday: Tom Vella and Luke Richardson Saturday: Sloogie
June 10: Groove Therapy with The Dap and Harbor

June 11: Hot Monkey Love
June 12: Primitive Soul
For information, call 908-232-5666 or visit www.xroads.com.

THE INTERNET LOUNGE in Fanwood will present Open Mic/Karaoke Night on Sunday at 7 p.m. The Internet Lounge is located at 256 South Ave., Fanwood. For information, call 908-490-1234 or visit the Web site online at www.TheInternetLounge.com.

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

For information, call 908-928-0127 or send e-mail to info@secondaturdays.org.

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

Sunday: John Playaz
Tuesday: Kevin Brooks, 8 to 9 p.m.; Nathan Caswell, 9 to 10 p.m.

June 13: Sunny Jain Collective
June 15: Chris Kasper
For information, call 908-810-1844.

ART SHOWS

18TH ANNUAL SPRING FINE ART AND CRAFTS at Nomahegan Park will be sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation, and Rose Squared Productions Inc. on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Nomahegan Park, Springfield Avenue, Cranford. Admission is free. For information, call 908-874-2547 or visit the Web site at www.RoseSquared.com.

MOVING BY ART, the works of Fran Winer, Joan Goldsmith, and Nancy J. Ori, will be on exhibit at the Women's Resource Center in Summit, 57 New England Ave., Summit. For information, call 908-273-7253, send e-mail to wrc@verizon.net, or visit the Web site at www.womensource.org.

PAINTER LYDIA R. WATSON will have her works on exhibit at the Pearl Street Gallery in Elizabeth through June 14.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Pearl Street Gallery is located in the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth. For information, call 908-558-2550, Relay users dial 711; or send inquiries via e-mail to cultural-info@ucnj.org.

RIVERSCAPE: "A Mosaic of Motion and Change," featuring the works of visually impaired artists through VSA Arts of New Jersey, will be on exhibit in the James Howe Gallery at Kean University in Union from Monday through June 17.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Thursdays, 4 to 7 p.m. Kean University is located at 1000 Morris Ave., Union. For information, call 973-745-3885, or 732-745-3913 for TTY users; send e-mail to info@vsanj.org, or visit the Web site at www.vsanj.org.

FORMS & INCIDENTS OF NATURE, multimedia works by Marjorie McConnell, will be on exhibit at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library through June 22.

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

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS, #2, the works of Frank Zuccarelli, will be on exhibit at Swain Galleries in Plainfield from Saturday through June 30. An opening reception will take place Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m.

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

THE LITERATURE OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION will be on exhibit through July 16 at the Westfield Memorial Library. A lecture on the topic will take place Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union.

Westfield Memorial Library is located at 550 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, including hours, call the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 908-558-2550.

REEVES-REED ARBORETUM in Summit will exhibit the paintings of Suzanne Casterlin in the Wisner House through July 27. A reception will take place June 13 from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

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

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL in Mountainside will exhibit the works of Virginia Cranwell, Svetlana Aniskina, and Elissa Merkl throughout the months of June and July. CHS is located on New Providence Road in Mountainside.

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Students are cited by Paper Mill for their theatrical accomplishments

(Continued from Page B5)
 Cherie Cunningham for "Rag-time," Hoboken High School
 Carol Babuschak and Marie Crescenz for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 • Susan Keat, Debbie Prakapas, Kim Staryak, Lorraine Stephan, Pam Okaly, Elizabeth Whitehead and Marsha Watson for "42nd Street," Rahway High School
 Fred Sorrentino for "Crazy for You," Shore Regional High School
 Sarah Snyder for "Brigadoon," West Milford High School
Honorable mentions
 • Carmen Melchionna for "Copacabana," Elizabeth High School
 Nancy Slovik, Merrille Scilla, and Jane Van Doren for "The Wizard of Oz," Immaculata High School
 Marie Bucci and Gretchen Schach for "The King and I," Villa Victoria Academy
Outstanding Achievement in Hair and Make-Up Design
 Karen Reuter-Fabbo for "Peter Pan," Columbia High School

"Crazy for You," no program credit, Howell High School
 Jacki Urbanski and Denise Gust for "The Wizard of Oz," Immaculata High School
 Suzanne Roche and Paula Mount for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 "Les Miserables," no program credit, Montclair High School
 "Over Here!," no program credit, Morristown High School
 • Ellen Sides for "42nd Street," Rahway High School
Honorable mentions
 "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," no program credit, Bishop George Ahr High School
 Richard Fabris for "Cabaret," Queen of Peace High School
 Nicole DeVincenzo, Meredith Shields and Barbara Woolley for "Crazy for You," Shore Regional High School
Outstanding Achievement in Graphic Design
 "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," no program credit,

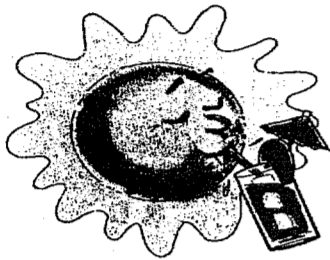
Bishop George Ahr High School
 Louanne Stebor for "Once Upon a Mattress," Dunellen High School
 David Jones for "Guys & Dolls," Madison High School
 Stephanie Haran and Heather Aran for "Bye, Bye, Birdie," Manalapan High School
 Janet Peto for "The King and I," Monsignor Donovan High School
 Brian Lynch for "Once on This Island," Whippany Park High School
Honorable mentions
 Ed Todd and Kristen Todd for "My Favorite Year," East Brunswick High School
 Chelsea Rappel and Kasey Ramirez for "The King and I," Jackson Memorial High School
 Alyce Tzue, Shun Yamazaki, John Wodnick and Amy Matysek for "The Music Man," Northern Highlands Regional High School
Outstanding Achievement in Lobby Display
 Diane Mainello, Helen Bablue, Donna Boone, Margie Alspach, the BCHS Art Department and Nancy

Measey Kurts for "Mame," Burlington City High School
 Lauren Stebor for "Once Upon a Mattress," Dunellen High School
 Valerie Rabinkas and Greg Baron for "My Favorite Year," East Brunswick High School
 "The Wizard of Oz," no program credit, Immaculata High School
 "Les Miserables," no program credit, Manalapan High School
 Harry Bower and Susan Werner for "Annie Get Your Gun," Toms River High School-East
 Eileen Rally for "Into the Woods," Verona High School
Honorable mentions
 Randy Evans, Kelly Krainik and Anna Wagner for "Honk!," West Morris Central High School
 • Fran Torella, Carolyn McKeown, Alice Napolitano, Margo Urso and Mary Claire Vogt for "Pippin," Union Catholic High School
Student Achievement Award
 (Partial listing, Union County only)
 (E) = Evaluator Nomination
 (T) = Teacher Nomination

• Kalinna Rodriguez, assistant choreographer, "Copacabana," (T), Elizabeth High School
 • Eric Lin, assistant musical director, "Copacabana," (T), Elizabeth High School
 • Vanessa Arenas, stage manager, "Copacabana," (T), Elizabeth High School
 • Jessica Carro, assistant director, "Bye, Bye, Birdie," (E), Linden High School
 • Lisa Vasfaiolo and John Stephen, dance captains, "42nd Street," (E), Rahway High School
 • Tod Reynolds, lighting designer, "42nd Street," (T), Summit High School

Educational Impact Award
 Long Branch High School, "42nd Street"
 Memorial High School, "Guys & Dolls"
 Morristown High School, "Over Here!"
 • New Providence High School, "Anything Goes"
 Vernon Township High School, "Sweeney Todd"
 Villa Victoria Academy, "The King and I"
 West Orange High School, "Kiss Me, Kate"
 • Westfield High School, "Evita"

Bill VanSant, Editor
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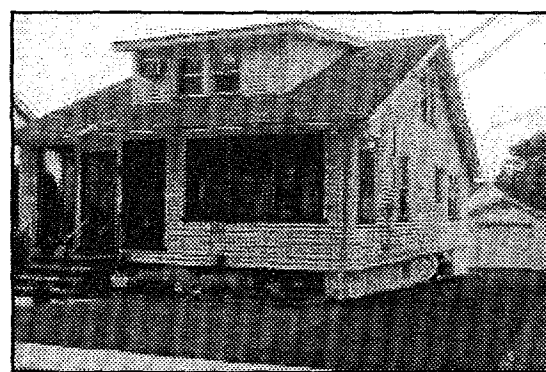
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Our Featured Agent for this week is Kathleen Holmes. Kathleen's energy and enthusiasm have turned her into a top agent in our company. Kathleen is experienced in all phases of residential real estate. She resides in Union with her husband and three sons. If you are thinking of buying or selling real estate call Kathleen Holmes at 908-688-3000.



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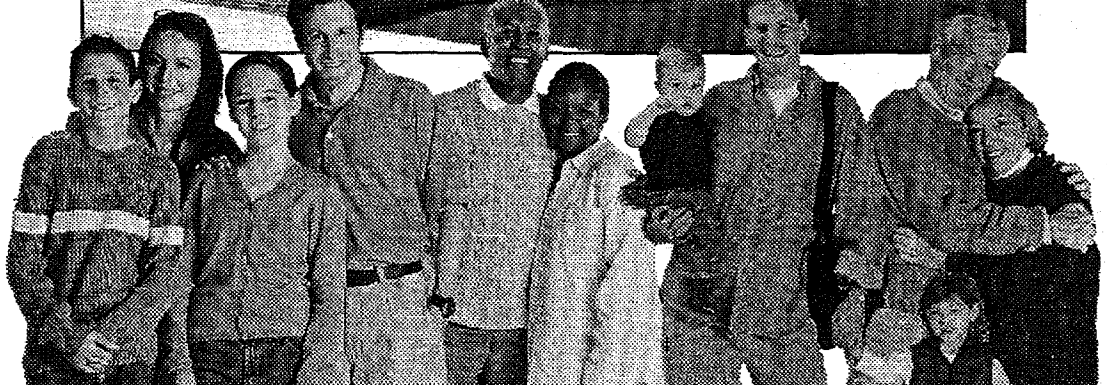
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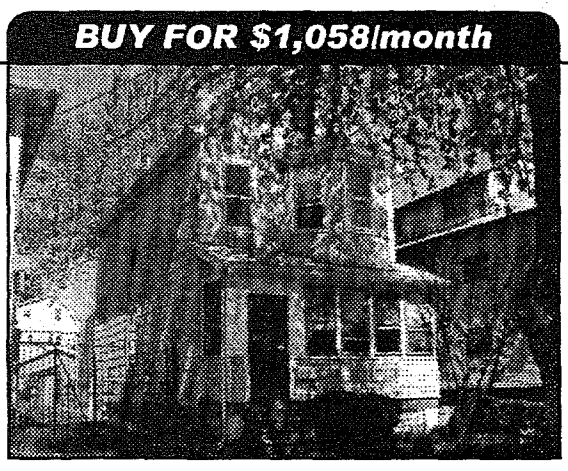
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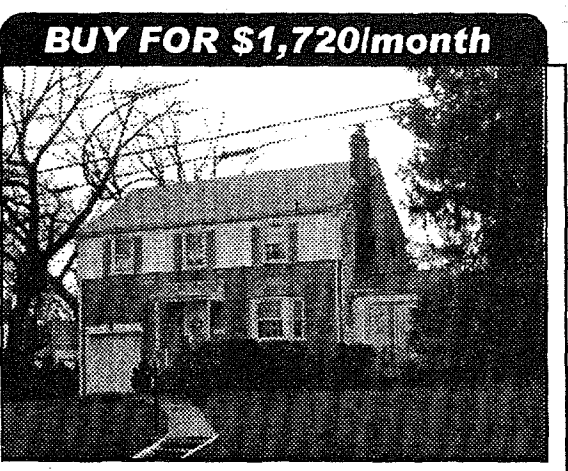
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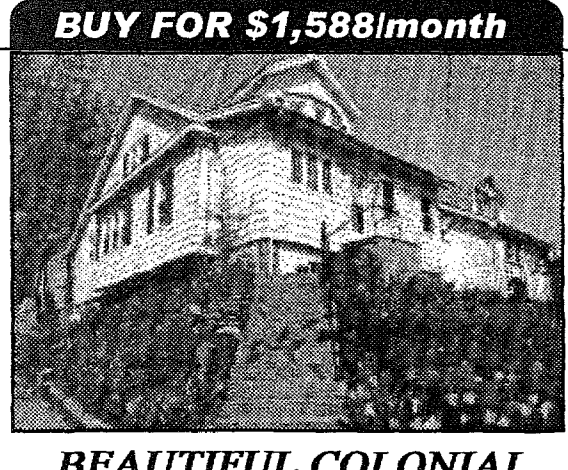
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Survey shows homebuyers trust their Realtors

The majority of home buyers and sellers in New Jersey complete their real estate transactions with the assistance of a real estate agent, according to a survey completed on behalf of the New Jersey Association of Realtors (NJAR).

The survey indicated 69 percent of home buyers purchased their home using a real estate agent, while 83 percent of home sellers used an agent to market their homes. "The knowledge and expertise of a real estate licensee can be invaluable to home buyers and sellers," said NJAR president, Christina Cle-

mans. "Buyers and sellers who work with a Realtor have the added benefit of knowing the Realtor, as a member of NJAR, adheres to a strict code of ethics."

Forty-four percent of those who worked with a real estate agent when purchasing a home were

referred by a friend, neighbor or relative. Survey respondents cited reputation as the No. 1 factor in selecting an agent. Those skills most sought after include knowledge of the neighborhood, industry knowledge, communication skills and negotiating skills.



The Service Oriented Realtor

By Jill Guzman

As in any walk of life, the dedicated professional prides himself on service. In the Real Estate world, staying side by side with a client is the major factor that leads to a smooth and happy closing.

Some of the key steps in Real Estate service include: pre qualifying of a buyer, attending all inspections including municipal and engineering, and assisting the appraisal appointment, providing the appraiser with comparables in the surrounding area -- doing the walk through prior to closing and attending the closing. Staying in touch with the buyer and seller even after closing to make certain all goals have been successfully achieved is prime.

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Dear Jill:

We'd been looking for a house for a few weeks with no luck. One Sunday, we looked at a house in Roselle. We weren't crazy about the house but we liked the neighborhood so we drove around and saw a house for sale. The sign in front said "Call Cecile Do Amaral, Guzman Realty." The next day we did and we scheduled an appointment to look at the house. Cecile met us on a Saturday in front of this big - really big, white Colonial. Cecile was polite, professional and friendly. She let us in the side door and - wow, look at those floors!!! The beautiful inlaid wood floors knocked us over. We were hooked. The rooms were big - the kitchen tile was gorgeous, new cabinets... By the time we made it up to the huge attic (you can hold square dances in here!), we were on the line. "If we can stand up in the basement, we are buying this house." We could. And we did. Getting from the falling in love with the house to moving into it was a tough and loooong journey. But Cecile helped us every step of the way. From our first meeting through closing she was our guide, confidante, shoulder to cry on, "Help us fit it!", go to girl. When, on the night before closing, everything was falling apart, it was Cecile who kept us going, calmed us down and got us to the table. Thank you Cecile. Thank you Guzman Realty. We love our new home!!!!

Thank you, Kelly Masterson & Leslie Daniels

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Associates earn spots in performance clubs

Bob Spillane, branch manager of Weichert, Realtor Union office, announced that the following sales associate from the Union office have been named to Weichert's 2003 Million Dollar Club.

Earning places in both the sales and marketed clubs are Romy Galano, Kathleen Gwaldis and Anthony Toupassant.

Earning a place in the sales club are Tony Azevedo, Romeo Latorre, David Ledesma, Melvin Mickens, Rabiyyah Sharif, Joanne Souto and Robert Toussaint.

Earning a place in the marketed club are Eleanor Dyjeczynski, Peter Hansen, Lannie Ohayon and Ian Rapoport.

The fine associates in Weichert's Union office can be reached for real estate transaction at 908-687-4800. The office is located at 1307 Stuyvesant Ave.

Weichert, based in Morris Plains, has more than 11,000 sales associates in 248 company-owned and franchised sales offices located in Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida and Texas. A full-service, family of individually-owned real estate companies, Weichert, Realtors handles both residential and commercial real estate, and through Weichert Financial Services' Gold Service Program, streamlines the delivery of mortgage, home insurance and title insurance.

For more information about buying or selling a home through Weichert, Realtors, visit Weichert's Web site on the Internet at www.weichert.com. Each Weichert franchised office is independently owned and operated.

Gwaldis honored for her top performance

Kathleen Gwaldis, a sales associate and top producer in Weichert, Realtors' Union Office, received a regional award in honor of her outstanding industry performance in March. Robert Spillane, branch manager made the announcement.

Gwaldis received regional award recognition for top resale marketed listings. She is a consistent member of Weichert's Million Dollar Sales and Marketed Clubs as well as Weichert's President's Club, a prestigious honor that places her in the top 1 percent of the company's 10,000 sales associates. In addition, Gwaldis is a 2003 member of New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence at the gold level.

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Byrnes joins RE/MAX at Mountainside office

RE/MAX Allied Realty welcomes Theresa "Terri" Byrnes as the broker of record/manager for its new office in Mountainside. Byrnes specializes in the listing and selling of residential properties throughout Union and Somerset counties, with a focus on relocation and first-time buyers.

With 20-plus years of experience to her credit, Byrnes said, "I am very proud to join the RE/MAX organization and be part of their growth. I came to RE/MAX Allied for the opportunity of opening a new exciting office where I can put my skills to work helping sales people achieve their dreams and goals."

Byrnes is a graduate of the Realtor Institute, and earned its GRI designation in 1984. She started with RE Scott Company in Elizabeth and Clark, and managed for both Coldwell Banker and Degnan Boyle Co. She completed extensive training courses for several companies, including Home to Home Relocation Network, Coldwell Banker University, Degnan Boyle Co., and Schlott Terry has worked for both large and small companies during her career. She agrees that "bigger is better," especially when the company is technologically advanced like RE/MAX.

In addition to her career, Byrnes enjoys various hobbies, such as swimming, gardening, sewing, and cooking. Most of all, she enjoys spending time with her grandsons, Anthony, Colin, and Jack. As a mother of four, Byrnes has been a treasurer, secretary, and assistant for various scholastic organizations in the area, including a den mother and Girl Scout chairwoman. Her husband, Jack, is well-known among the American Legion baseball community. He has dedicated more than 30 years of services and is presently chairman of the Junior American Legion for the state of New Jersey. He also coaches baseball for Union Catholic High School.

A resident of Union County, Byrnes can be reached by calling RE/MAX Allied Realty in Mountainside at 908-654-7776. With 170 franchise offices and more than 2,600 real estate professionals, RE/MAX of New Jersey continues to be one of the leading real estate organizations in the state. Since its inception in 1985, RE/MAX of New Jersey has experienced record-breaking growth in both franchise sales and sales associates and has surpassed all previous sales records.

This remarkable success can be attributed to the quality agents and service consistently found in all RE/MAX organizations. RE/MAX of New Jersey, based in Moorestown, is a privately owned and operated division of RE/MAX International.

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Information is current as of May 28, 2004. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points, and programs are subject to change daily and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Quotes = rate + discount points apr (annual percentage rate), calculated as follows: conventional 20% down and \$100,000 mortgage; jumbo 20% down and \$322,700 mortgage; FHA 3% down and \$100,000 mortgage. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-ins, but can vary. Maximum conventional loan amount is \$337,000; jumbo loans are in excess of \$337,000. ARM-adjustable rate mortgage. ARM rates are quoted as follows: rate + discount points/APR (type of ARM program is listed in parentheses). LTV-loan to value. MI-mortgage insurance. NA-not available. NQ-rates not quoted. Mortgage rates and programs are updated online daily. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator, and for other extensive mortgage, real estate, consumer financial information—including tips and definitions of terms—please visit our Web site www.CNSfl.com. Copyright 2004 Consumer News Systems

Weekly Mortgage News

McLenn, VA - In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (FRM) averaged 6.32 percent, with an average 0.6 point, for the week ending May 27, 2004, up slightly from last week when it averaged 6.30 percent. Last year at this time, the 30-year FRM averaged 5.31 percent.

The average for the 15-year FRM this week is 5.69 percent, with an average 0.6 point, up a little from last week when it averaged 5.67 percent. A year ago, the 15-year FRM averaged 4.73 percent.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 3.87 percent this week, with an average 0.6 point, down from last week when it averaged 3.99 percent. At this time last year, the one-year ARM averaged 3.63 percent.

(Average commitment rates should be reported along with average fees and points to reflect the total cost of obtaining the mortgage.)

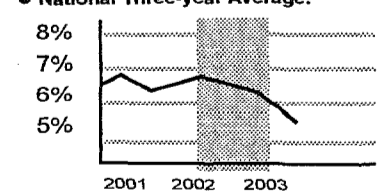
"Although new home sales fell in April, existing home sales rose to the second highest level on record as homebuyers rushed to close in the face of low, but surely rising, mortgage rates," said Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac vice president and chief economist. "Current mortgage rates are now a full point above where they were last year, and almost half a point higher than they were last month."

"Housing will, however, continue to be a pillar of strength for the economy in the coming years. In fact, we expect demand for housing will require production of about 2 million new housing units per year over the next decade, thus fueling growth in the various industries that support housing."

National Averages

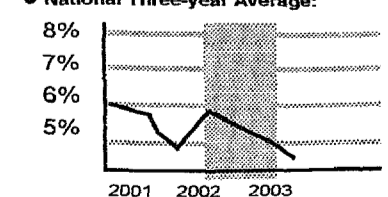
30-year mortgage

• National Average: 5.93%
• National Three-year Average:



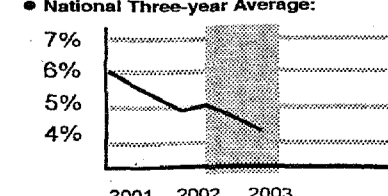
15-year mortgage

• National Average: 5.29%
• National Three-year Average:



5/1 ARM

• National Average: 4.81%
• National Three-year Average:



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FORD PROBE GT, 1994. 110,000 miles, black, ten CD player, new tires, good engine, needs transmission. \$950/ best offer. 973-762-9163

FORD ESCORT, silver, 1998, power brakes, power steering, 65K, excellent condition. \$5,000. Call 908-925-3242.

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FORD WINDSTAR GL, 1995, fully loaded, excellent condition, 115K miles. Asking \$2500. Call 732-887-8999.

HONDA ODYSSEY LX 2001 Navigation System. VHS, power doors, dark green. Excellent condition. Fully detailed. All maintenance, oil & filter 3,000 miles. Snow tires included. Mileage 33,400. \$21,300. 973-763-2212.

MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE GT, 2000. 6-cylinder, excellent condition 31K miles, automatic, 4 disc CD changer, silver, moon-roof. Asking \$11,500. Call 973-495-8801

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NISSAN MAXIMA GLE, 2000. Black, excellent condition. Bose stereo system, leather seats. 63,000 miles. \$14,500. Call 973-239-8927 after 5 pm.

PLYMOUTH HORIZON 1987, new tires, battery, exhaust system. Many other new parts. Best offer. Call 908-810-1168

VOLKSWAGON 1979 CONVERTIBLE. All white. Champagne edition. Excellent condition. Runs like new. New tires. Chrome Wire Daton wheels. Garage kept. \$10,500 or best offer. Serious buyers only. 973-731-5592. Leave message.

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VOLVO CROSS COUNTRY 2001, winter package, rear booster seats, sacrifice, no accidents. 40K miles, 1 year warranty. \$24,200.00. Tom 908-405-8967

VOLVO S70, 1999, 55,000 miles. White with tan leather, sunroof, heated seats, cd changer, alloy wheels, clean, extended warranty, \$13,900; 973-762-4739.

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Makeover may be subtle, but it means big changes for the 2004 BMW X5

AUTOWORD
Barely noticeable makeover means big changes for BMW's X5

By Jerry Garrett
Copley News Service
The more things change, it is said, the more they remain the same.

Or so it would seem. Especially in the case of the 2004 BMW X5.

More than 4,000 individual parts comprise a vehicle like the X5; for 2004, some 2,500 of its parts have been changed.

Will you even notice?
Except for subtle changes to the front clip, the '04 X5 doesn't look much different from its previous iterations.

Under its skin, however, the X5 has been gutted and restuffed, like a trophy marlin consigned to a taxidermist. Gone is the large but lumbering 4.6-liter V-8, the intractable all-wheel drive system and the gear-challenged five-speed transmissions.

Arguably, the star of all these replacement parts is a new 4.4-liter engine that is more powerful, and yet more economical, than the powerplant it supplants.

The uprated 32-Valvetronic V-8 boasts 315 horsepower, 25 more than the 4.6, with 324 foot-pounds of torque.

The base model with the carryover inline six still has the same horsepower/torque numbers of 225/214, but both models benefit greatly off the line with the debut of six-speed transmissions.

The I6 comes standard with a six-speed manual; the upgrade to an automatic is a \$1,275 option. The automat-

ic is all that's available with the V-8. Damn!

BMW says the V-8's 0-60 mph times drop from 7.4 seconds to 6.8, while fuel economy improves notably from 14 mpg city and 18 highway to 16/22. The I6 accelerates to 60 mph in a respectable 7.8 seconds, 0.3 of a second faster than before, but its gas mileage, at 15/21, is now worse than the V-8.

The xDrive all-wheel drive system gives the X5 a functionality it sorely lacked and addresses a competitive disadvantage it had ceded to competitors.

The old BMW all-wheel-drive system was fixed at a 38/62 torque split, front to back, but xDrive infinitely varies torque, depending on conditions it senses. It's capable of sending up to 100 percent of the traction needed to front or back wheels, if it detects someone pirouetting down the road, say, on one wheel for some reason.

Under normal conditions, the torque split is 40/60, so the X5 still mimics rear-wheel drive feel.

All that torque transferring happens in nanoseconds with xDrive; so, the 5,000-pound X5 just seems to be more responsive all-around, and quicker on its feet, than the old one.

Cosmetically, it's difficult to tell the old X5 from the new.

The new V-8's higher-profile intake manifold, however, necessitated a higher hood, hence, a modest redesign of the front clip on both V-8- and I6-equipped models.

The slightly higher hood line, and deeper character lines, are a subtle but distinguishing feature from previous

models. Seven new exterior colors also help.

When it debuted four years ago, the X5 staked out new high ground in SUV pricing. Competitors delighted in pointing out the escalating prices of their offerings were "still less than an X5!"

Though the pricing gap has closed, or in the case of the very similar Range Rover, surpassed it, the X5 remains pricey.

The 4.4i starts out at a \$52,195 base, but effortlessly can be contented up beyond \$65,000. The 3.0i bases at "just" \$40,995, but it starts with a lower level of standard equipment and can be loaded up almost as much as the 4.4i.

A 4.8-liter, V-8-equipped version, which will debut later in the model year, should be shaking hands with \$70K, fully loaded.

Fortunately, for BMW, price doesn't seem to be much of a determinant for the 40,000 or so buyers who line up yearly for the privilege of owning "the BMW of SUVs."

2004 BMW X5

Body style: five-passenger, all-wheel-drive sport utility vehicle

Engines: 3.0-liter, DOHC, 24-valve, inline six or optional 4.4-liter, DOHC, 32-valve, V-8

Horsepower: 225 at 5,900 rpm, V-8, 315 at 5,400

Torque: 214 foot-pounds at 1,850 rpm, V-8, 324 at 3,600

Transmission: six-speed manual, V-8, six-speed auto

Acceleration: 0 to 60 mph, 7.8 seconds, manual, V-8, 6.8

EPA fuel economy estimates: 15

mpg city, 21 highway, manual; automatic, 16/21, V-8, 16/22

Fuel capacity: 24.6 gallons

Cargo capacity: 23.8 cubic feet, behind rear seat; 54.4, rear seat folded

Front head/leg/shoulder room: 39.9/39.3/58.0 inches

Rear head/leg/shoulder room: 38.5/35.4/57.2 inches

Length: 183.7 inches

Wheelbase: 111 inches

Curb weight: 4,652 pounds; automatic, 4,696, V-8, 4,927

Standard features, include keyless entry and alarm; power windows, door locks, seats and heated outside mirrors; tilt/telescoping leather steering wheel; cruise; rain-sensing intermittent wipers; AM-FM-CD stereo system; AC

Safety features, include dual power front air bags, front side air bags, rear-optional, Head Protection System front and rear, three-point belts with pretensioners, force limiters, height adjusters and retractors; ABS with stability control, brake control and hill descent control

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