

UNION LEADER

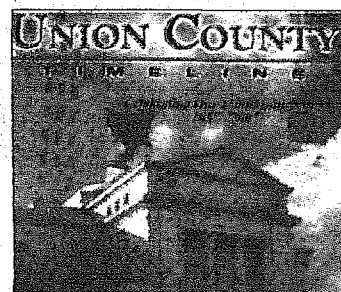
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75 CENTS

VOL. 83 NO. 21



Staff wins awards

Worral Community Newspapers editors and reporters have received several awards from the NJ Press Association. Page B3

THURSDAY
APRIL 10, 2008

Developer to review plans for 300 units

A public meeting will take place Wednesday at the Roselle Park Municipal Building, 110 East Westfield Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Representatives from Avalon Bay developers will discuss a proposal to build 300 apartment units on the property now occupied by the Romerovski Corp. on Westfield Avenue.

Sessions address traffic safety issues

The borough of Roselle Park will host three information sessions involving the Department of Transportation Wednesday pertaining to the traffic and pedestrian safety improvement project for Westfield Avenue.

Residents may attend the one-hour session at 1, 4 or 7 p.m. in council chambers, located on the first floor of the Municipal Building, 110 East Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. For more information, contact the borough clerk's office at 908-245-6222 or go to www.rosellepark.net.

Before you head to the polls Tuesday...

See what the candidates in your town have to say.

Candidates Corners for residents running for the Union, Roselle Park, Kenilworth and Hillside boards of education can be found on our Web site, www.local-source.com. The columns, composed by the candidates, explain their platforms, goals, backgrounds and reasons for seeking election.

Township Trivia

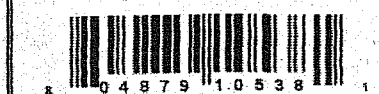
In honor of the township of Union's bicentennial celebration, the *Union Leader* will be testing residents' knowledge of local history by asking weekly trivia questions. The answer to the Township Trivia question, along with the name of the first person to submit a correct response, will appear in the next edition of this newspaper.

Responses can be e-mailed to the managing editor at unionleader@thelocalsource.com.

The following is this week's Township Trivia question:

Q. What was the name of the only church that existed in Union before 1873?

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"Your Best Source for Community Information"

A Worrall Community Newspaper

Candidates prepare for June primary

By Toniann Antonelli
and Jackeline Leon

The June primary election ballots in Union and Kenilworth will be unbalanced in June, while candidates in Roselle Park are gearing up for what is expected to be a heated race.

Candidates throughout the state were required to file petitions by 4 p.m. Monday, to have their names appear on the June 3 primary election ballot. Winners of the primary election will secure a spot on the November general election ballot.

Roselle Park

In Roselle Park, Republican Councilman at Large Jose "Ricky" Badillo will seek re-election

to his seat. Democratic Councilman Laurence Dinardo is also hoping to retain his seat as the borough's 1st Ward representative.

Challengers Carl Hokanson, a Democrat and Joel Reed, a Republican, have both lost bids for elected borough seats in the past. Hokanson, who ran unsuccessfully against Mayor Joseph Delorio in 2006, will seek election to the at large council seat. Reed lost his bid for the 1st Ward seat to Dinardo in 2005, by a margin of four votes. Following a recount, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi certified the results, declaring Dinardo the winner.

Badillo, who was instrumental in removing

230 homes from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood map three years ago, believes he has been a visible and effective councilman.

"I think in my tenure as a councilman I've accomplished a lot," Badillo said.

The councilman said he's not concerned about the possibility of a heated campaign. He maintains that mud-slinging can't destroy his record as a public official and community volunteer. Hokanson said his decision to run against Badillo for the at large seat stems from his belief that "the direction in which Roselle Park is going is not well." He also mentions the recent prop-

erty battle between the borough and Israel Braunstein, owner of the Romerovski building on Westfield Avenue.

"The recent chaos over the Romerovski site leaves us in danger of costly litigation, caused in large part by the inefficiency of the current majority," Hokanson said.

He said he is also concerned about the "excessive number of public auctions for non-payment of taxes" in the borough.

Hokanson said he brings public experience, business experience, and "lifelong dedication" to the borough.

See CANDIDATES, Page 2

More threats at RPHS

By Toniann Antonelli
Managing Editor

ROSSELLE PARK — Once again, Roselle Park High School students stayed in class for almost an hour after the regular school day ended, thanks to an unidentified caller who claimed to have planted a bomb in the building.

Despite some speculation in the borough regarding the identity of the suspect, police have yet to capture the individual, who has called in a total of eight bomb threats since the school year began in September.

On Friday, as students were arriving to their first class at 7:55 a.m., the school received a call from someone claiming there was a bomb in the building.

"It happened just after first school bell of the day," Principal Sarah Costa said.

As with previous bomb threats, local and county police responded, along with the Union County Bomb Squad, and the county's K-9 unit, which used bomb-sniffing dogs to search the facility. Costa said the school building was locked down, and students were kept inside, until the search was complete.

Two hours later, at 10:15 a.m., another bomb threat was called in, and local and county police again searched the building, but found no explosives.

Costa said that in order to make up for the lost class time, administrators decided to extend the school day to 3:45 p.m. Friday. No sooner had she sent out the letter informing students and parents of the extension, Costa said another bomb threat was received, this time at about 1:37 p.m. The school remained locked down until local and county law enforcement officials completed the third search of the day inside the building, again determined the call to be a hoax.

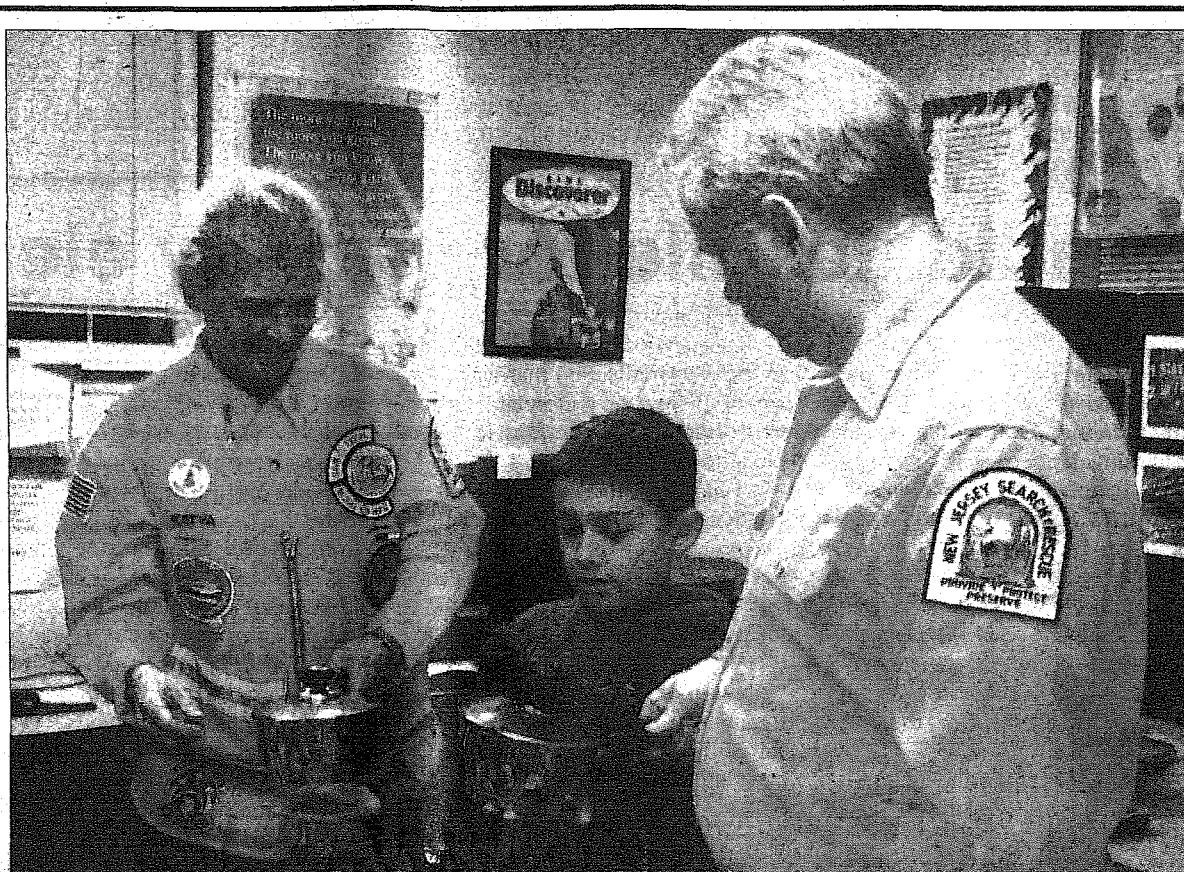
Costa said the school district and police have worked closely to identify the suspect. The principal added that the school has also been working with the phone company in an attempt to block unidentified calls.

In addition to the two scares last week, unfounded bomb threats were made prior to the beginning of classes on Nov. 6, 2007. Almost a month later, two threats disrupted the school day on Dec. 3, followed by another on Dec. 4. A fifth threat was called in on March 3. Police Chief Paul Morrison said the department has been pursuing leads in the case.

Superintendent of Schools Patrick Spagnoletti said the suspect, when captured, will "be made to make restitution to the agencies that came out" for each bomb threat.

According to Union County Spokesman Sebastian D'Elia, the county law enforcement officials that respond to each bomb threat in Roselle Park are paid a salary. However, he estimates that it costs county taxpayers approximately \$1,000 in salary for those officials, each time they respond to a bomb threat.

Toniann Antonelli can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 122, or unionleader@thelocalsource.com.



SAFETY FIRST — New Jersey Search And Rescue representatives, Katya Hanson and Ed Haffy, above, show a young Kenilworth resident the best way to heat food and water outdoors during a search and rescue program at the Kenilworth Public Library. Below, students, wave their arms to demonstrate one of the many ways to draw attention to themselves if they're lost.



Budget tops forums

By Toniann Antonelli
Managing Editor

Whether or not residents support their bids for election, candidates running for seats on the Roselle Park and Hillside school boards are encouraging voters to endorse the school budgets when they go to the polls Tuesday.

In Roselle Park where three 3-year terms are up for grabs, Incumbents Nancy Kinloch, Michael Genovese and Kenneth Iachio will be challenged by Jeff Parrell, who ran last year, but was unsuccessful.

In Hillside, Walter O. Krumbiegel PTA President Shelby Robinson will stand alone among three tickets vying for the three, 3-year seats on the board. Incumbents June Korzeneski and Nathalie Yafet will be joined on their ticket by Tori Isaac, a 2006 graduate of Hillside High School.

Richard Samiec, Salonia Saxton and Jamar Cherry comprise the team of Democratic-backed candidates calling themselves the "Committee for Sensible School Spending."

The third ticket running for seats on the board includes George L. Cook III, Antoinette Parker and Jose Betances, who all have the support of Board Member Andre Daniels.

Both school boards are presenting "flat" budgets that carry no tax increase for residents. Hillside officials say the additional state aid distributed to the districts helped keep the tax levy down.

In Roselle Park, a reduction in health insurance premiums will prevent a tax hike.

"If the budget goes down this year, shame on Hillside," Korzeneski said during last week's Joint PTA-sponsored Candidates Night, when the panelists were asked what areas of the budget they would target if the \$49 million budget fails again this year.

See BOE, Page 8

Schering-Plough to cut 5,000 jobs

By Jackeline Leon
Staff Writer

KENILWORTH — In the wake of devastating losses for two of their well-known products — Vytarin and Zetia, major pharmaceutical corporation Schering-Plough is slicing more than 5,000 jobs with the major focus being on its global headquarters in Kenilworth.

Chief Executive Officer Fred Hassan said that an expected 10 percent reduction in jobs is expected in order to meet a projected goal of \$1.5 billion in annual savings by 2012.

He explained that the cost-cutting initiative, part of their proposed "Productivity Transformation Program," is in response to shifting trends in the pharmaceutical landscape, particularly with regards to cholesterol medications.

"At Schering-Plough, the focus of the reduction will be in the United States, with a higher percentage in New Jersey," said spokeswoman Rosemarie Yancosek.

Yancosek explained that the pharmaceutical company employs 55,000 people worldwide, with 17,000 employed in the United States and more than 8,000 employed in New Jersey.

"Headquarter cost will be a primary focus," Robert J. Bertolini, executive vice president and chief financial officer for Schering-Plough,

announced during a media conference call Friday.

In addition to major job cuts, there are reductions in travel expenditures. The company is also planning to review its sales and marketing investments as well as the research and development cost base. There may also be a gradual reduction of facilities around the world.

"Hard new realities are requiring the hard new actions that are being announced today," Hassan said Friday. "The reality is that we face today a new political and overall environment in the U.S. that is increasingly discouraging pharmaceutical innovation."

"An example of these intense overall new pressures has been the confusion in the cholesterol market largely caused by the overreaction to conflicting results of the relatively small Enhance clinical trial, involving Vytarin," Hassan said. "This confusion, in the absence of an open and balanced scientific discussion of this clinical trial, has caused an unwarranted concern among millions of patients who need to get to their cholesterol goals," he said.

According to the American College of Cardiology, an Enhance trial study demonstrated that Vytarin, when used in conjunction with Zetia, may not be effective in reducing arterial buildup.

Although it has been stated that the results are not conclusive and the research deserves further study,

pressures to limit sales on both Vytarin and Zetia have reportedly been placed on Schering-Plough and Merck Co., which had launched a joint venture for the medications. Hassan specified that of those who prescribe Vytarin, 80 percent are primary care physicians and 20 percent are cardiologists.

"One of the biggest public health challenges in this country is that half the population is not aware that they may have a cholesterol problem, and of those that are aware, half are being treated and of those being treated, half are at their LDL — low-density lipoprotein or bad cholesterol — goals," Hassan said. Despite what he called "U.S.-centric pressures" he said the corporation expects to maintain its strong research and development pipeline.

"We are determined to control our destiny," he stressed.

Amidst the concern for the future of the corporation, Hassan remains hopeful, saying that international business is positive and respiratory medication business also remains positive.

Hassan said there still exists a "huge unmet need" in cholesterol reduction alternatives and he stated that Schering-Plough intends to streamline its business in order to better respond to public needs in that respect.

Jackeline Leon can be reached at 908-686-7700 ext. 126, or unionleader@thelocalsource.com.

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News items:

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Tour parsonage, learn about Union's history

The Union Township Historical Society has good news to report.

The Bicentennial Committee for the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of the township of Union has been working with Theodore Kobran, Michael Minitelli and Committee-woman Brenda Restivo in creating Bicentennial Minutes, which have been shown on local cable access Channel 34, with Burnet and Kawameeh middle schools in providing historical data about their school histories and the three events scheduled for June 6, 7 and 8.

The June 6 event will be an open house from 9 a.m. to noon. Students from Central Five School will be invited to visit the Caldwell Parsonage and hear the Caldwell family story.

Visitors will tour the parsonage and have an opportunity to see the museum and ask questions about the collection of furniture, Revolutionary War muskets and cannon balls, clothing worn by the Headley family, oil paintings of the Caldwell family, the Battle of Connecticut Farms and General George Washington and the Continental Army Headquarters at Connecticut Farms, as well as hundreds of other items that are on display.

June 7 will consist of a large 18th Century Suttle Village created by George Behnke of the 4th New Jersey Regiment. Suttles were civilians who sold provisions to the military in the

field. Revolutionary War re-enactors and the public can experience what it was like to live in an 18th century market town.

The main sutler tent will contain colonial clothing, coins, canteens, kids' muskets and tricorn hats. A second sutler tent will contain education material as children's books, musical instruments and history books. Two battle forts built from straw bales will be placed at Biertuempfel Park located at Vauxhall Road and Winslow Avenue.

There will be a June 8 bus tour to historic homes and sites located in the township of Union. Union's Senior Center will be the place to register for this event.

A small fee may be charged in order to validate the number of people participating in this program. Seating will be limited. The next meeting of the Union Township Historical Society will be at the Caldwell Parsonage on April 20 at 2 p.m.

Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi will speak about Union County's court dome. The court house was built about 330 years ago. It served as a meeting house for the Presbyterian Church of Elizabethtown where The Rev. James Caldwell served as pastor. Special attention will be given to the beauty of the current court house and its unique dome, hidden by 40 decades of dust.

Candidates file for primary election ballot

(Continue from Page 1)

In Union, the race is similarly uncontested as Democratic Committeeman Joseph Florio filed Monday for the singular open seat.

No members of the township's GOP filed a petition to run in the primary election.

If re-elected, Florio would be entering his fifth term after being elected four times and the committee would remain wholly Democratic.

"I thought there was a possibility that someone might file for the general election," Florio said.

He explained that although the last year was a controversial one for the committee, and one in which some individuals reportedly stated that they would run, no one decided to run.

"I think some people don't realize that it requires a lot of work and a lot of sacrifice and people have second thoughts about it," Florio said.

Florio, who has lived in Union for 38 years and has served on the committee for 12 years, said that in the last several weeks people have approached him about the race and encouraged him to run.

"It's nice to see the vast silent majority," Florio said Tuesday. "You're never going to make everyone happy but if you are elected four times it means you're making the

majority happy."

He insists that although the race gives every indication that it will run smoothly now, he still intends to continue building relationships with people in town.

"I have to continue building those relationships even if there are no others running," Florio said. "A lot of new people have moved into the community and we need to reach out to them and have them get to know us."

Kenilworth

In the borough of Kenilworth, three Republicans filed petitions Monday for the June 3 primary.

If all three are elected, the GOP will secure its stronghold on the Borough Council.

Prior to Fiamingo's election as mayor in November, 2007, the borough operated under a Democratic administration for eight years.

Republicans Kevin Leary Jr., Paul LaBruno and Councilman Salvatore Candarella are currently running uncontested for the three open seats.

Candarella took Fiamingo's vacated seat when she was elected mayor of the borough last year.

"I filed because I think I can help the town of Kenilworth in my way," Candarella, who currently serves in the Planning and Zoning department, said.

"I'm looking forward to a nice race

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the *Union Leader* to inform residents of various community activities and governmental meetings. Mail event schedules to the *Union Leader*, managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union 07083, or submit them at www.localsource.com/community_calendar.

Today

• The Hillside Board of Health will meet at 7:30 p.m. in second floor conference room in the Hillside Municipal Building. At that time, the board may go into executive session without the presence of the public to discuss personnel matters in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The regular business portion will be open to the public.

Saturday

• Cub Scout Pack 68 will sell household items at the Connecticut Farms Church flea market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The flea market will take place at the church, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue. Proceeds will benefit scouting activities.

Monday

• The Roselle Park Planning Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 110 East Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. Meetings of the board are open to the public.

Tuesday

• The annual Board of Education election will take place throughout New Jersey. Polls will be open from 2 to 9 p.m.

Upcoming

April 17

• The Roselle Park Borough Council will conduct a meeting at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers, located on the first floor of the Municipal Building, 110 East Westfield Ave., Roselle Park.

April 20

• Community United Methodist Church, 455 Boulevard, Kenilworth will present a spring concert, featuring the church's Korean Choir and various soloists who will perform gospel and classic songs at the church beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The proceeds from the concert will be used to help feed and educate the children of the mountainous village of Ayacucho, Peru. Refreshments will follow the show. For tickets, call 908-276-3899.

April 21

• The Hillside Board of Education will conduct an organization meeting at 7 p.m. at the Board of Education Administration Building, 195 Virginia St., Hillside.

Local poet to perform next week

Poetry Month will be celebrated

To celebrate National Poetry Month, Leona M. Seufert will read her poems at the Casano Community Center, 314 Chestnut St. Roselle Park on Wednesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be available. Admission is free. There will also be an open microphone for anyone who wants to read a poem and a brief discussion about how writing poetry can help you cope with life's ups and downs.

Seufert feels that writing can be used to help solve personal problems, work through grief and heal your soul. She has given numerous workshops on "writing as therapy" and sees National Poetry Month as a great way to make people aware of the positive impact that taking pen to paper can have on their lives.

Seufert planned this upcoming event as an opportunity for individuals to not only hear how she has used poetry to this end, but to share their own heartfelt poems and discuss how to effectively use both writing and reading one's poems to help in coping with life's difficulties.

Seufert, a Roselle Park resident and an artist and writer, does readings and attends local "open mics" in both New Jersey and New York.

She recently published a collection of her poems, titled "From Here to There and Back Again — a Commuter's Journey." These are poems that tell the story of her daily commute into Manhattan over an 11-month period.

In 2004 she published "The 9/11 Year," a collection of poems and essays written in the year after 9/11. She is president of Beyond Words Communications, a writing service that helps businesses communicate their messages clearly and with impact. It is located in Roselle Park.

National Poetry Month is a celebration of poetry. It was first introduced in 1996 by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States and is celebrated every April.



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Ferrets are prone to dehydration. Even just a few episodes of nausea or vomiting can be cause for alarm where a ferret is concerned. To see if your ferret is hydrated sufficiently, pull the skin on the back of the ferret's neck. If it snaps back quickly, he or she is not likely dehydrated. However, if it's slow to bounce back, the animal may need fluids. A dry tongue or gums can also indicate dehydration. A dehydration ferret may act disoriented or lethargic. Call your veterinarian if you suspect that your ferret is dehydrated. He or she may recommend a combination of water and an electrolyte solution to prevent dehydration. Avoid cold liquids, which can upset a ferret's stomach.

Proper hydration is a key concern for most animals, and this concern is magnified when the animal isn't feeling well. Take the time to make sure that your pet has plenty of water all the time, monitor the supply and the intake of the water. At T.L.C. PET DOCTOR, located at 1326 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, we'd be happy to discuss any animal concerns you have. Questions? Call 908-686-7080. We provide exotic pet and bird medicine, as well as diagnostic services offered on site.

P.S. Be sure your ferret is up to date on vaccinations and heartworm medication.

www.myvetonline.com/tlc/pd

Ready for the open seas



Students from Frank Saccente's technology education classes at Roselle Park High School explore two towering yachts at Ocean Yacht in Weekstown, Atlantic County, as part of a class lesson dealing with naval architecture. The students toured the facility and watched as yachts were constructed.

A quiet finish expected

By Jackeline Leon
Staff Writer

UNION — The election race in Union for three open seats on the Board of Education has been quiet but members hope voters don't get too complacent.

Current Board President Gary Abraham, and members Francis "Ray" Perkins and Anthony Manocchio are unchallenged in their bids for reelection to their three-year terms, and hope the residents of Union will approve the "flat" school budget.

Through fiscal planning and Gov. Jon Corzine's new school funding formula, the budget for the upcoming fiscal year does not carry a tax increase. In fact, if the budget is approved, taxpayers can expect to pay \$1.36 less than last year, based on an average assessed home.

The average assessed value of a Union home is \$45,300, which would create an average tax levy of \$3,176 per household if the budget is

approved. The total budget amount in the Union school district is \$133 million, with \$31 million in state aid.

Abraham said that unless members of the community take action, the proposed budget will not pass.

"We're giving a zero tax increase and I just hope people realize that they still have to vote for this budget, Abraham said."

Attendance at the candidate's night, which was moderated and hosted by the League of Women Voters, fell short of expectations. Board members hope that voter turnout will not be similarly low at the polls.

"I think we have a really good budget but when you have a hearing for a \$130 million budget, wouldn't you think more people would attend," asked School Superintendent Theodore Jakubowski.

Jakubowski said that the reason for low attendance could be that the public does not believe they have a reason to attend or the time to do so. During

the candidate's night, Perkins stated that a decrease in PTO participation.

"There is a lack of parental involvement in education issues," Perkins said.

He said they expect to address that concern because parental involvement is crucial in their children's learning process. The board also hopes that with state funding, they may be able to move forward with much-needed improvements to the buildings and grounds within the district. In the budget for the upcoming year, funds have been set aside for capital projects such as adding a new field turf with superior drainage capabilities at the high school football field.

"This has been put into the long-range facilities plan and now we're just waiting for approval from the Department of Education," Abraham said.

Jackeline Leon can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 126, or union-leader@thelocalsource.com.

Kenilworth candidates encourage local residents to vote

By Jackeline Leon
Staff Writer

KENILWORTH — With a "flat" budget proposed, the Board of Education is hoping the borough won't inadvertently reject it by being reluctant to come out and vote April 15.

Fraught with poorly-attended meetings and past budget defeats, the borough's school board hopes to see people go to the polls April 15 to approve the proposed budget, which does not carry a tax increase.

Faced with similar concerns as neighboring Union, Kenilworth also has an uncontested election race in which incumbents, Annmarie Duda and current president Nancy Zimmerman and newcomer Hector Colon are running.

Colon will fill the seat being vacat-

ed by board member Maria Anderson, who decided not to seek re-election.

The total tax levy for the Kenilworth school district is \$15 million. State aid totaling \$5,193,336 will bring the proposed school budget to \$20.3 million.

According to Business Administrator Vincent Gonnella, taxpayers can expect to pay \$4.23 less than last year on an averaged assessed home. The average home in Kenilworth is assessed at \$167,000.

Although there was no candidate's night planned this year due to the fact that the race is uncontested, the candidates were able to speak to nearly 100 residents last week during a meeting at the Kenilworth Senior Center.

Board Business Administrator,

Vincent Gonnella said he was pleased with the event.

"It went well this year," Gonnella said. "Mr. Mancino, who is our finance chair gave a presentation on the budget and encouraged them to come out and support the board's endeavors."

Voter registration sessions were held by board members at various events during the last several months, and appeals to the public to utilize absentee ballots have also been made.

Duda said low attendance has been an increasing problem and some residents may not think it's necessary to attend the meetings.

"I just hope they don't think that come election night," Duda said.

The budget is \$591,645 below the state-mandated budget cap for the bor-

ough's public school district.

Kenilworth, which is demonstrably one of the smallest school districts in the county, has the second lowest per pupil cost in the county, after Rahway.

The budget features an expansion

of the autism program and the kindergarten program, which will feature full-day sessions. This, in turn, would make the district eligible for an increase in state aid.

If the budget is approved, board

members expect to be able to focus on the long-range facilities plan which they say has been long overdue.

Jackeline Leon can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 126, or union-leader@thelocalsource.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Take notice that the following applications for Zoning Variances were heard by the Board of Adjustment of the Township of Union on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, Friberger Park, Union, N.J. Resolutions memorializing.

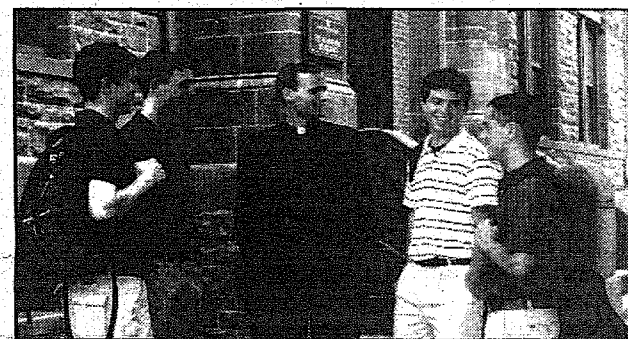
Calendar #	Name of Applicant & Premises Affected	Variances Requested	Decision of the Board of Adjustment
Cal. #3113	Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church 984 Suburban Road Block - 2407 Lot - 40 Block - 1307 Lot - 1.02, 3 & 6.01	Storage area for playground equipment to be converted to a 336 sq. ft. church admin. office	Carried for Resolution of Approval on May 7, 2008.

Richard Malanda, Board of Adjustment Secretary
U208657 UNL April 10, 2008 (\$23.73)

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Robinson, Yafet, Korzeneski

Hillside residents deserve school board members who are truly interested in doing what's best for the children of the township — independent thinkers who will cast their votes based on what action they feel will benefit the students, rather than political influence or pressure from their peers.

While almost anyone who chooses to run for a school board seat has an interest in the success of the district, we feel incumbents June Korzeneski and Nathalie Yafet and newcomer Shelby Robinson will best represent the community on the board. We also urge voters to approve the district's proposed \$49 million spending plan, which does not include a tax increase.

As a current board member, a former educator in Hillside and the parent of children who went through the school system, Korzeneski is familiar with the strengths and weaknesses of Hillside's schools. She is aware of the challenges Hillside faces as an Abbott-rim district. As a former president of the teacher's union, she can approach contract negotiations from the standpoint of a teacher and a board member looking to prevent a tax increase.

Yafet has, in the 12 years she has served on the board, proven her dedication to Hillside's students. She has demonstrated fiscal responsibility, questions how taxpayer dollars are spent and asks for explanations when expenses seem questionable. An active member of the community, Yafet is also an advocate of televising board meetings — something that is long overdue in Hillside.

Robinson is the only candidate not running as part of a ticket. The PTA president at Walter O. Krumbiegel School, she is familiar with the issues that concern parents. She is already an active part of the school community, who we feel will be able to encourage other parents to get involved as well. Robinson's desire to see Hillside students succeed is genuine — she will serve as an independent voice on the board.

The last time a budget was passed in the township was in 2004. As the only portion of their tax bill over which they have some element of control, we can understand voters' desire to vote in a way that will prevent an increase. In this case, however, not voting for the budget will be detrimental to the district. The budget does not include a tax increase and if it fails and is cut by the town council, the district risks losing a portion of the \$3.2 million state aid that was earmarked for educational programs. The spending plan is sound and includes the addition of tutors, staff members and instructional supplies. With no tax hike and line items that will benefit the students, there's no reason why voters shouldn't support this year's plan.

Kinloch, Iachio, Genovese; budget

The Roselle Park School District has undergone several changes in the last three years. Most notable are significant renovations to the school facilities and a return of the eighth grade to the middle school. Incumbents Nancy Kinloch, Kenneth Iachio and Michael Genovese have been part of those changes, and we encourage voters to give them another three years to continue involvement with their plans for the future of the district.

We also urge voters to take advantage of the fact that the school board has presented a budget that bears no tax increase, by casting their votes in favor of the \$29 million spending plan.

Kinloch, Iachio and Genovese, all of whom had children who went through the school system, have been active members of the community for years, in various capacities. Iachio and Kinloch were present when the board engaged in the process of hiring a new superintendent of schools and presenting a referendum to the community seeking the approval of a school district expansion project. All were part of contract negotiation which required teachers to contribute to the cost of their health insurance, thus taking some of that burden off taxpayers.

We encourage the incumbents, if re-elected, to avoid complacency. The current board is cohesive, and although that's not a bad thing, it can result in a tendency to allow measures to pass with little or no questions or comments. The handful of community members who attend meetings show a genuine interest in the school district and board members should listen to what they have to say and when possible, act on their suggestions or respond to their concerns — even those that have been raised in the past.

In addition to casting their votes for the incumbents, we believe the board has presented the public with a spending plan that residents should support.

In addition to the fact that the 2008-09 budget does not include a tax increase, the spending plan includes a number of capital improvement projects for the district. Funds for the remodeling of the high school boys locker room bathroom, remodeling of the middle school third floor girls bathroom, ongoing asbestos abatement at the middle school and Sherman Elementary school and repair of the Sherman School front steps have all been earmarked in the budget. The total estimated cost of the improvements is \$97,700 and each is necessary to ensure that the environment in which the students are educated is safe.

Since the budget will not add to the tax burden residents already face, we see no reason why voters shouldn't support it when they go to the polls Tuesday.

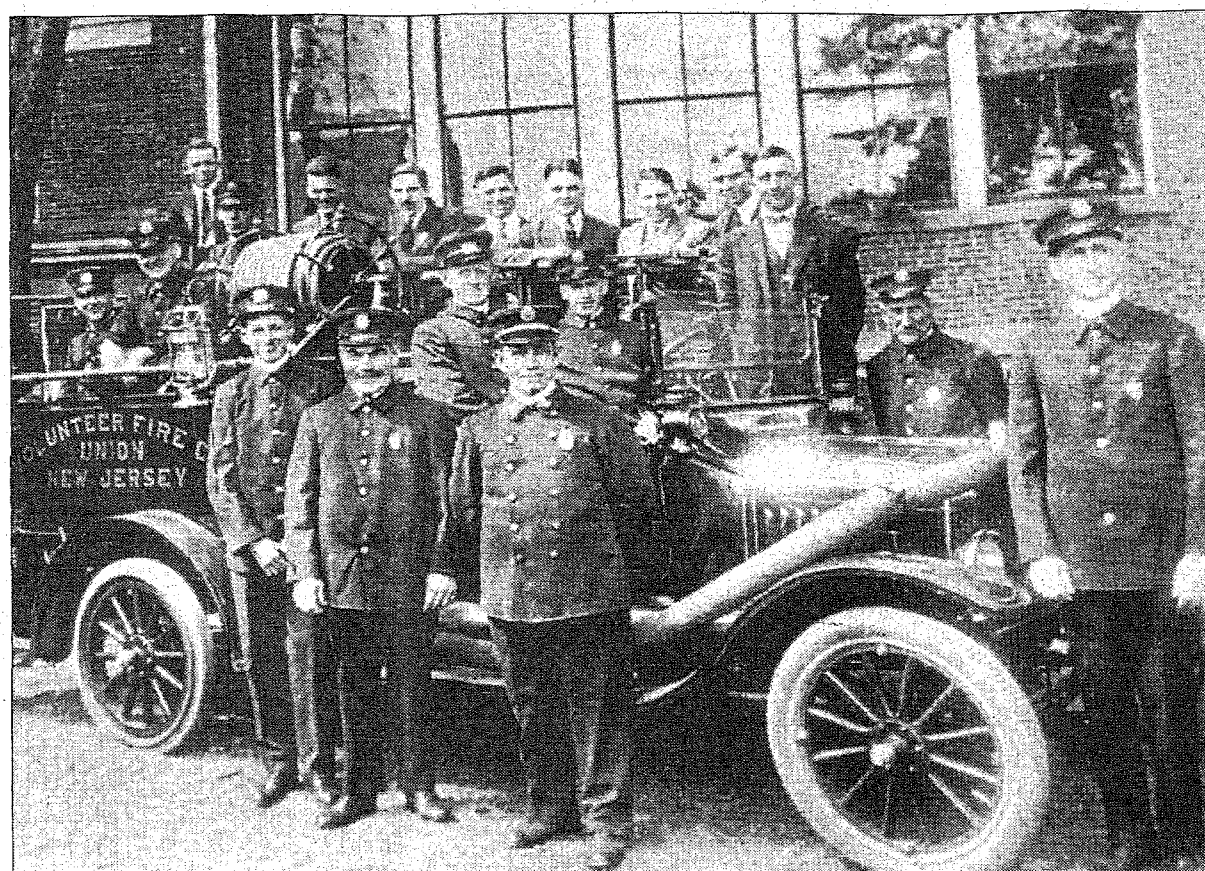


Photo Courtesy of Union Historical Society

UNION'S BRAVEST — A photo given to the Union Township Historical Society by Rhoda Schuler and Lester Malamut depicts members of the Union Volunteer Fire Company, standing in front of Connecticut Farms School several decades ago. The photo is one of several that will be displayed in Union throughout the year as the township continues to celebrate its bicentennial.

Support incumbents, spending plans

Although the school board races in Union and Kenilworth will be uncontested this year, we strongly urge voters in both municipalities to go to the polls Tuesday to support both the candidates and the 2008-09 budgets, neither of which will result in tax increases.

In Union, \$31 million in state aid — a \$5 million increase over last year's allotment — means that the school board will not have to raise taxes to balance the budget. In addition, the spending plan includes funds that have been earmarked to extend afterschool programs. The district may also use the funds to renovate the administration building and install a much-needed new roof at Hannah Caldwell School.

In Kenilworth, the school board has also managed to present a spending plan without a tax increase. Under Corzine's new school funding formula, the district has received \$5 million in state aid, which will keep the \$20.3 million spending plan flat, and keep more money in taxpayers' pockets, where it belongs. The budget includes investments in technology as well as the expansion of several programs, including the autistic program and funds to extend the kindergarten program to full time.

Both districts were fortunate to receive the additional state aid, but with increasing costs projected in every area, from utilities and medical insurance to contractual salary increases, residents might not be as lucky next year. Voters should not allow those funds to go to waste

by rejecting the budgets and risking the elimination of the state allocations if the plans are rejected by voters and later cut by their governing bodies. The plans are fiscally responsible and deserve residents' support.

We also encourage voters to show their support for the candidates. In Union, incumbents Francis "Ray" Perkins, Anthony Manochio and Gary Abraham are seeking re-election. All three have been a constant presence in the community and have shown their dedication to Union's students.

In Kenilworth, Incumbents Annmarie Duda and Nancy Zimmerman will join newcomer Hector Colon on the ballot, and all three deserve residents' support.

Zimmerman, the current board president, has a track record of voting independently to reflect what she feels is best for the students of the district. She's not afraid to question things that are unclear or might be detrimental to the schools or taxpayers. Duda, who has been actively involved in the schools for several years, is in touch with the concerns of the community. We also welcome Colon's fresh perspective on the board.

Kenilworth and Union voters should take advantage of the opportunity to go to the polls Tuesday and be part of the democratic process by casting their votes for the candidates and budgets.

The 'obvious' solution to rising property taxes

The obvious solution to reducing property taxes in New Jersey is to eliminate county government.

It is a redundant and wasteful management level whose functions could be more effectively assumed by either municipalities or the state. Anyone not directly benefiting from county largess knows it but they don't seem to be able to come out and say it without some independent backup.

To that end, Republican Assemblymen Eric Munoz and John Bramnick keep sponsoring Assembly Bill 1709 which calls for allocating \$95,000 to create a commission to study the effectiveness of county government in providing the services and performing the functions currently required by statutory law.

The proposed nine-member commission would hold public hearings and elicit the participation of the general public as well as experts on state, county and municipal government. The commission would then make recommendations as to whether county functions are currently being performed in the most effective and economical

Seems To Me

By John Bury

manner. This bill has been introduced every session for the last several terms. To date, the Democrats have yet to put it up for a vote. The reason is that if such a committee were formed, and operated as intended, it would have to draw the conclusions that the bill sponsors obviously want to hear.

Many of us in Kenilworth have seen this two-step before. In the early 1990s the Union County Regional School District, made up of four high schools serving six communities, decided that to save money, one of the schools should be closed.

To avoid responsibility for picking the odd-school out, the board brought in some outside firm to make a recommendation which turned out to be that

David Brearley, the newest and most centrally located school, should go. Kenilworth also happened to be the smallest of the towns that had a school and the weakest politically by far at that time.

You don't have to be a conspiracy theorist to figure out that Brearley's fate was sealed when the responsibility for choosing the school to close was removed from the elected officials and the people and granted to "independent" outsiders who would not have to live with the repercussions of their decision. As it turned out, the district was broken up, Kenilworth got its school back, and taxes skyrocketed.

So all Assemblymen Munoz and Bramnick want is someone else to confirm what they already know. Once this bill is passed with its suggestive wording, the committee is practically obligated to provide cover for a dismantling of county government.

This would not serve many politicians who see all that easy county money removed from their manipulation and so they balk at

even presenting the bill.

But why even have a bill to set up a commission? The assemblymen are the representatives of the people. They were elected. It's their responsibility to govern and make decisions. If they are so pressed for time that they have to cede research duties to some committee, then step aside for someone who has the time. If they refuse to act without the protection of some outside report then why accept a leadership position in the first place? If you need someone else to tell you what to do, then let's elect that someone else next time.

Why wait on a bill that may never pass when the problems are obvious and metastasizing?

Just go to one Union County Freeholder meeting and look at all that taxpayer money being hemorrhaged and apply a fiscal tourniquet to the problem, instead of a blindfold to your responsibilities for it. Amputate to save the patient before we all get bled broke.

John Bury is a resident of Kenilworth.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tradition will continue, despite theft

Dear Editor,

For more than 40 years, an American flag has flown outside of our home on Liberty Avenue.

It was flown with pride and patriotism for the United States of America. It became a landmark for people visiting us for the first time. Two Friday nights ago the American flag along with the pole on which it was flown was stolen from the front of our home. We hope that the person who took it will fly it with the joy, dignity and respect that we did.

We will now have to go through the expense of getting another pole and flag to continue the tradition.

George and Irene Petras
Union

The 'spirit of brotherhood'

To the Editor:

On the evening of March 14, there was a reported smoke condition in a dwelling on Laurel Avenue in Union. Upon the arrival of Police Officers Wittevrongel and Lagoa, they reported a working house fire.

These officers, along with Detectives Berry and Ronan, assisted the elderly residents from the house while awaiting the arrival of the Fire Department units.

As the Fire Department began its normal suppression efforts, these officers appeared to see a firefighter inside the house at the second floor window in distress. As the firefighter was smashing out the windows, these officers took it upon themselves to grab a ground ladder and put it up to the window where the firefighter was in distress. These brave officers, with no training in the use of fire department ground ladders, put themselves at risk of serious injury to come to the aid of their brothers in blue.

As a result of their actions, the three firefighters that were in distress descended the ground ladder. If it were not for the aid of these police officers, these men would have definitely sustained serious injuries and possible death.

The officers and firefighters of the Union Fire Department will forever be grateful for the actions these brothers in blue took upon themselves on this

evening, not only assisting the residents from the burning building, but also assisting the firefighters in distress.

The citizens of the township of Union should be proud of the professionalism displayed at this emergency scene. This is one of many incidents in which the Police Department and the Fire Department worked hand in hand to ensure the safety of the people in the township of Union.

I felt obligated to write this letter on behalf of these brave men to thank them and to inform those not present at the above mentioned incident of the continuing spirit of brotherhood.

Robert Brower, president
FMBA Local 46
Union

Innocent civilians targeted too often

To the Editor:

Neighborhood watches and patrols have been an effective tool in combating crime. These programs have been successful in cities, towns and hamlets. They should be praised for their deterrent effect.

However, there have been times when these programs have been used against innocent civilians.

A person, for example, may not be known in the neighborhood or town, thus being a stranger. There have been times when the neighborhood watch and patrol has called the police to give the person a so-called "tail," following the person around, as well as have them stopped for questioning.

Now I can understand if the person in question committed an offense. That violates his or her freedom of movement and his or her civil rights. Minorities — especially minorities — have been the biggest victims in these scenarios along with people who are different, dress differently and who speak a foreign language.

Those who engage in neighborhood watches and patrols should continue to watch out for criminal conduct. But they, along with the police, should be extremely careful as not to violate one's rights or liberties.

Alex Pugliese
Kenilworth

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Rapist sentenced to 23 years

By Toniann Antonelli
Managing Editor

HILLSIDE — A State Street man who sexually assaulted two Hillside High School girls beneath the Route 22 overpass on Long Avenue will spend at least 19½ years behind bars, a judge decided Friday.

Jeffrey Montgomery, 42, was sentenced to 23 years in prison for the rapes of two Hillside High School students on Jan. 24, 2007. Montgomery pled guilty to two counts of first degree aggravated sexual assault in September for raping the girls who were both 16 at the time of the attack.

The two girls were walking home from school at about 8 p.m. when Montgomery approached them.

"He had a knife in one hand and a screwdriver in the other when he grabbed the two girls around their throats," Union County Assistant Prosecutor David Hummel, supervisor of the office's Sex Crimes Unit, said. "He dragged them to a secluded spot near the railroad tracks and the Route 22 overpass at Long Avenue. Montgomery assaulted the girls, then stole their cell phones and earrings before running away."

Hillside Police captured the assailant within two hours of the attack. Montgomery was apprehended just a few blocks from where the assault took place near the railroad tracks that cross Liberty Avenue.

Following Montgomery's capture, Hillside Police Chief Robert Quinlan said that after the attack, the victims ran to several adults who were walking along Liberty Avenue. The adults immediately contacted the Hillside Police Department.

"I'm very proud of the work of the Hillside Police Department in connection with this vicious crime. Our officers had this monster in custody minutes after he brutally assaulted these young girls and fled into the night," Quinlan said.

The investigation was led by Detective Captain Louis Panarese and Detective Jamie Howell of the Hillside Police Department. The Union County Prosecutor's Office assisted in the investigation and arrest of the suspect, who lived within a mile of the crime scene.

"The Hillside Police obtained a search warrant for the house and found the girls' belongings inside," Union

County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow said.

One of the teenage victims spoke in court Friday before Montgomery was sentenced. According to Union County Assistant prosecutor Eileen Walsh, the girl told Superior Court Judge Scott Moynihan that the assault changed her life forever.

"I see his face every night before I got to sleep," she said. "I'm afraid to walk down the street anymore."

In sentencing Montgomery to 23 years in prison, Judge Moynihan told Montgomery that his actions were "vile and sadistic, unconscionable and unthinkable," Walsh said in a press release Friday. Authorities said Montgomery has one prior drug-related felony on his record. He will have to serve at least 19½ years before he is eligible for parole. He will also be registered as a sex offender under Megan's Law and will have lifetime parole supervision.

"I hope the victims will someday be able to recover from this tragedy and move on with their lives," Quinlan said.

Toniann Antonelli can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 122, or union-leader@thelocalsource.com.

Pirates, princesses and Potter



Second grade students Andrew Weaver, Jacob Snodgrass, Ashly Pineda, Devyani Gupta and Peter Lipkeat of Sherman Elementary School in Roselle Park celebrate Read Across America by depicting fictional characters in their very own wax museum. Students portrayed pirates, princesses and Harry Potter, among other characters.

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(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: Audrey Avila, her heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and her, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC, ESQ., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 200 Sheffield Street, Suite 301, Mountaineer, New Jersey, 07092-0024, telephone number 1-908-239-8500, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a civil action, in which Washington Mutual Bank is plaintiff, and Audrey Avila, et al, are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing Docket No. F-9559-08 within thirty-five (35) days after the actual date of such publication, exclusive of such date, or if published after 04/10/2008, (35) days after the actual date of such publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of, and is intended to effect, the foreclosure of a mortgage dated 02/26/2007, made by Audrey Avila, single woman as mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for SouthState Funding, LLC, recorded on 03/21/2007 in Book 12092 of Mortgages for Union County, Page 0881 which Mortgage was duly assigned to the Plaintiff, who is the present holder of said mortgage; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns the subject property, which is presently held by MUMN AVENUE, HILLSIDE, NJ 07205.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey Bar Association by calling 732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 908-353-4715. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling 908-353-4715. YOU, AUDREY AVILA, her heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and her, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest are made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you executed Plaintiff's obligation and mortgage on the subject property, any deficiency, and are a record owner of the subject property and for any right, title and interest you may have in, to or against the subject property.

FILED: 03/29/2008
THEODORE J. FETTER, CLERK
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
This is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

U208658 UNL April 10, 2008 (\$37.67)

UNION

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Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001401
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F1357307
County: Union
Plaintiff: HSBC BANK USA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF SECURITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION, LOAN TRUST, SERIES 207-MUT ASSET BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES

Defendant: MEDHAT HATATH, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR WMC MORTGAGE CORP.
Sale Date: 04/23/2008
Writ of Execution: 02/15/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Union, County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 36 Valley Street, Union, NJ 07093
BEING KNOWN AS LOT 21 BLOCK 4703, on the official Tax Map of the Township of Union
Dimensions: 25.00 feet x 115.00 feet x 25.00 x 115.00 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Vauxhall Road

The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice by publication.
Subject to any unpaid taxes, municipal liens or other charges, and any such taxes, charges, liens, insurance premiums or other advances made by plaintiff prior to this sale. All interested parties are to conduct and rely upon their own independent investigation to ascertain whether or not any outstanding interest remain of record and/or have priority over the lien being foreclosed and, if so the current amount due thereon.

JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$402,584.55***
Four Hundred Two Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Four and 55/100***
Attorney: PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC 400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD SUITE 100 MT LAUREL, NJ 08054 (856)813-5500

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$436,253.19
Four Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-Three and 19/100
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2008
U207217 UNL (\$137.64)

UNION

SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001412
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F586305
County: Union
Plaintiff: MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.

Defendant: TORINA ARMSTRONG, MR. ARMSTRONG, HUSBAND OF TORINA ARMSTRONG; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR WEICHERT FINANCIAL SERVICES
Sale Date: 04/23/2008
Writ of Execution: 02/19/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Union, County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 1698 Edmund Terrace, Union Twp. NJ 07083
BEING KNOWN AS LOT 7 BLOCK 5514, on the official Tax Map of the Township of Union
Dimensions: 87.64ft x 35.10ft x 90.20ft x 35.00ft

The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice by publication.
Subject to any unpaid taxes, municipal liens or other charges, and any such taxes, charges, liens, insurance premiums or other advances made by plaintiff prior to this sale. All interested parties are to conduct and rely upon their own independent investigation to ascertain whether or not any outstanding interest remain of record and/or have priority over the lien being foreclosed and, if so the current amount due thereon.

JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$227,564.19***
Two Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Four and 19/100***
Attorney: PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC 400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD SUITE 100 MT LAUREL, NJ 08054 (856)813-5500

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$277,645.12
Two Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Four and 12/100
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2008
U207221 UNL (\$135.78)

UNION

Public Notice

The April 22 Union Library Board meeting has been changed to April 15, at 6:00 PM, at the Vauxhall Library.
U208572 UNL April 10, 2008 (\$3.72)

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: JAMIL INGRAM

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 7 Century Drive, Suite 01, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054, telephone number: #973-538-8300, an Answer to the Complaint and Amended Complaint, if any, filed in a civil action, in which BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. is Plaintiff and JAMIL INGRAM, et al, are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing Docket No. F-9355-08 within thirty-five (35) days after 04/10/08 exclusive of such date, or if published after 04/10/08, thirty-five (35) days after the actual date of such publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated May 22, 2007 made by JAMIL INGRAM and as mortgagors to BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. as recorded on May 23, 2007 in Book 12168 of Mortgages for Union County, Page 0206, et seq., which mortgage was duly assigned to the Plaintiff, who is the present holder of said mortgage; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 45 CONCORD PL, UNION, NJ 07093

If you cannot afford or are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling: UNION COUNTY LAWYER REFERRAL: (908)354-4340
YOU, JAMIL INGRAM are made party defendant(s) to this foreclosure action because you are one of the mortgagors and may be liable for any deficiency and for any lien, claim, or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises by reason of the Mortgage made by you, JAMIL INGRAM, as set forth above.

Upon request, a copy of the Complaint and Amendment to Complaint, any, will be supplied to you for your participation. File #BOA 166

Dated: March 31, 2008
DONALD F. PHELAN
Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey

U208458 UNL April 10, 2008 (\$33.95)

HILLSIDE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001282
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F2252006
County: Union
Plaintiff: COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, LLC

Defendant: JACOB MARQUES, NEWARK IRONWORKS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CO. INC. MARQUES HWY
Sale Date: 04/16/2008
Writ of Execution: 01/14/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

MUNICIPALITY: Township of Hillside
COUNTY AND STATE: County of Union, State of New Jersey
STREET AND STREET NUMBER: 114 20th Street
TAX LOT AND BLOCK NUMBERS: Lot: 8; Block: 1702
NEAREST CROSS STREET: is approximately Salem Avenue
Beginning at a point in the Southerly line of Conant Street distant 165.00 feet West of the Southerly line of the West of the line of Salem Avenue.

(This concise description does not constitute a legal description. A copy of the full legal description can be found at the Office of the Sheriff of Union County.)
Pursuant to tax search as of 01/18/2008 2007 taxes are paid in full. Tax Account No. 1101/07/2007 12/31/2007 \$98.00 OPEN & DUE 02/18/2008

THE SHERIFF HEREBY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJOURN THIS SALE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION.
JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$291,337.65***
Two Hundred Ninety-One Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Seven and 65/100***

Attorney: ESCHEEN, FRENKEL, WEISMAN & GORDON, LLP
100 WEST STREET
FIFTH FLOOR - SUITE 560
WEST ORANGE, NJ 07052
(973)325-8800
Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$350,297.80
Three Hundred Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Seven and 80/100
March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008
U208042 UNL (\$132.06)

HILLSIDE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001410
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F2396707
County: Union
Plaintiff: US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR LEHMAN BROTHERS SPECIAL PURPOSE VENTURES SECURITIES CORPORATION SAS 2007-BC3

Defendant: NOEDELD SAINT LOUIS, ET ALS
Sale Date: 04/23/2008
Writ of Execution: 02/15/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Hillside, County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 79 Warwick Rd, Hillside, NJ 07205
BEING KNOWN AS LOT 2 BLOCK 1302, on the official Tax Map of the Township of Union
Dimensions: 100.00 feet x 65.00 feet x 100.00 feet x 65.00 feet

The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice by publication.
Subject to any unpaid taxes, municipal liens or other charges, and any such taxes, charges, liens, insurance premiums or other advances made by plaintiff prior to this sale. All interested parties are to conduct and rely upon their own independent investigation to ascertain whether or not any outstanding interest remain of record and/or have priority over the lien being foreclosed and, if so the current amount due thereon.

JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$408,865.41***
Four Hundred Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Five and 41/100***
Attorney: PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC 400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD SUITE 100 MT LAUREL, NJ 08054 (856)813-5500

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$444,996.69
Four Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-Six and 89/100
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2008
U207223 UNL (\$132.06)

BOROUGH OF ROSELLE PARK

UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ordinance, title of which is set forth below, was passed and approved by the Roselle Park Board of Health at a Special Meeting held on April 1, 2008.

BOARD OF HEALTH ORDINANCE

#BOH-01-2008

An Ordinance by the Board of Health to bring the Spread of Infectious Agents, Eliminate Infection by Arthropods, and Remove Contaminants in Places Frequentated by the General Public in the Borough of Roselle Park in the County of Union, New Jersey.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication according to law.

Nancy A. Calliendo
Board Clerk

U208483 UNL April 10, 2008 (\$12.56)

PUBLIC NOTICE

HILLSIDE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001405
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F2042507
County: Union

Plaintiff: US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR MASTER ASSET BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2005-AB1 VS
Defendant: IRIS HARGRAVE, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ET ALS
Sale Date: 04/23/2008
Writ of Execution: 02/13/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Hillside, County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 23 Bailey Avenue, Hillside, NJ 07205
BEING KNOWN AS LOT 11, BLOCK 1002, on the official Tax Map of the Township of Hillside
Dimensions: 50.00 feet x 100.00 feet x 50.00 x 100.00 feet

Nearest Cross Street: Bergen Street
The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice by publication.
Subject to any unpaid taxes, municipal liens or other charges, and any such taxes, charges, liens, insurance premiums or other advances made by plaintiff prior to this sale. All interested parties are to conduct and rely upon their own independent investigation to ascertain whether or not any outstanding interest remain of record and/or have priority over the lien being foreclosed and, if so the current amount due thereon.

JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$250,900.72***
Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Two and 72/100***
Attorney: PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC 400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD SUITE 100 MT LAUREL, NJ 08054 (856)813-5500

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$277,733.66
Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty-Three and 66/100
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2008
U207220 UNL (\$130.20)

HILLSIDE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001359
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F1632207
County: Union
Plaintiff: TRIBECA LENDING CORPORATION

Defendant: FRED HALL; DOREEN BALDWIN

Sale Date: 04/16/2008
Writ of Execution: 01/18/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IS LOCATED IN the Township of Hillside, County of Union, in the State of New Jersey
PREMISES COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 233 Hillside Hill, New Jersey
TAX LOT #16 BLOCK #413
APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 35' x 120'
NEAREST CROSS STREET: Compton Terrace

1st, 3rd and 4th Quarters 2007 Interests through 01/08/2008 \$24,713.09
Plus interest on these figures through date of payoff and any and all subsequent taxes, water and sewer amounts.
THE SHERIFF HEREBY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJOURN THIS SALE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PREMISES CAN BE FOUND IN THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF UNION COUNTY.
JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$230,360.46***
Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Sixty and 46/100***
Attorney: PARKER MC CAY & ASSOCIATES
7001 LINCOLN DRIVE WEST
THREE GREENTREE CENTRE - SUITE 974
MARTON, NJ 08053-0974
(856) 596-8900
Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$253,282.37
Two Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Two and 37/100
March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008
U206047 UNL (\$122.76)

HILLSIDE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08002036
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F2477007
County: Union
Plaintiff: FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOC.

Defendant: EDWARD WHITMORE; COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC.; RUFOLO ESPINOZA, TENANT AND CORRIN TEBBORN, TENANT

Sale Date: 05/07/2008
Writ of Execution: 02/29/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Hillside, County of Union and State of New Jersey.
It is commonly known as 9-11 VINE STREET, HILLSIDE, NJ.
It is known and designated as Block 1211, Lot 7.
The dimensions are approximately 53 feet wide by 100 feet long (irregular).

Nearest cross street: PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
Prior lien(s) SUBJECT TO UNPAID TAXES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL LIENS AS OF 12/28/2007, TAXES ARE PAID THROUGH 4TH QUARTER 2007.
THE SHERIFF HEREBY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJOURN THIS SALE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION.

JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$366,045.48***
Three Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand Four-Five and 48/100***
Attorney: SYLVIA LAVINTHAL, FRANKENBERG & NORGAARD, LLC
293 EISENHOWER PARKWAY
SUITE 300 P.O. BOX 1680
LIVINGSTON, NJ 07033-1680
(973) 740-0700

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$399,993.72
Three Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Three and 72/100
April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2008
U208461 UNL (\$120.90)

UNION

NOTICE

The Township of Union Board of Education has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as a professional service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5a(1). This contract and the resolution authorizing it are available for public inspection in the Business Office.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION BOARD OF EDUCATION
JAMES J. DAMATO, BOARD SECRETARY

Dated: February 12, 2008

Awarded to: PMK Group, Consulting and Environmental Engineers
65 Jackson Drive
Cranford, NJ 07016

Services: Proposal for Development of Site Specific Indoor Air Quality Management Plans for Multiple Union Township Board of Education Facilities, Union, New Jersey

Costs: Not to exceed \$11,900.00
U208545 UNL April 10, 2008 (\$15.81)

UNION

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001360
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F2479207
County: Union
Plaintiff: BENJAMIN FINANCIAL CORP., VS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Defendant: D&D PROPERTIES LLC AND ROGERIO DASILVA

Sale Date: 04/16/2008
Writ of Execution: 02/05/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Union in the County of Union and State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 290 Indiana Street, Union, New Jersey
Tax Lot No. 39 in Block No. 5808
Total Dimensions of Lot: Approximately 50 feet by 83 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Laurel Avenue

The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice through publication.
JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$152,468.85***
One Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Eight and 85/100***

Attorney: DAVID S. BRIMAN, P.C.
200 EAST GROVE STREET
WESTFIELD, NJ 07090
(908) 301-9000

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich

A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$165,586.10
One Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Six and 10/100
March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008
U206058 UNL (\$96.72)

UNION

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001406
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F1912807
County: Union
Plaintiff: BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-25

Defendant: DERRICK HALL AND DEBRA HALL; H&W AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Sale Date: 04/16/2008
Writ of Execution: 01/31/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The property to be sold is located in the TOWNSHIP OF UNION in the County of Union and State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: #530 Edward Ter., Union, NJ 07093;
Tax Lot No. 61 AND PART OF LOT #60 in Block No. 5609
Dimensions of Lot: (Approximately) 50 feet wide by 100.10 feet long
Nearest Cross Street: ROSEY STREET

The Sheriff hereby reserves the right to adjourn this sale without further notice through publication.
JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$399,345.38***
Three Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Five and 38/100***
Attorney: GOLDBECK MC CAFFERTY & MCKEEVER - ATTORNEYS
MELTONE INDEPENDENCE CENTER - SUITE 500
701 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106
(215) 272-8221

Sheriff: Ralph Froehlich
A full legal description can be found at the Union County Sheriff's Office
Total Upset: \$433,904.00
Four Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Four and 00/100
March 27, April 3, 10, 2008
U206453 UNL (\$113.46)

HILLSIDE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's File Number: CH-08001363
Division: CHANCERY
Docket Number: F1841907
County: Union
Plaintiff: WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK VS

Defendant: ELIENIDE C. DOS SANTOS; JOSEPH DOS SANTOS, HUSBAND OF ELIENIDE C. DOS SANTOS
Sale Date: 04/16/2008
Writ of Execution: 01/13/2008

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public venue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.


The property to be sold is located in the Township of Hillside in the County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 226 Silver Avenue, Hillside, NJ 07093
Dimensions of Lot: (Approximately) 40 ft x 85 ft x 39 ft x 85 ft
Nearest Cross Street: White Street

Subject to any open taxes, water/sewer, municipal or tax liens that may be due. Note: The sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.
JUDGMENT AMOUNT: \$318,045.95
Three Hundred Eighteen Thousand Four-Five and 95/10

EDUCATION PAGE


James Jacobson

I just love my black labrador retriever Apollo. Maybe after you read this you will, too. Yes, Apollo can be trouble but he's still the perfect pet for my family. Once in awhile, he pulls trash from the garbage can. My sister has to clean up after him. He can be clumsy and even trips over his own four feet! With those big brown eyes that stare straight at you make me not yell at him no matter what he does! He has a personality that everyone just loves. Apollo is part of our family and he is like my brother.




Iran Everett

I just simply adore Caratcake! Caratcake is my pet cat. I like playing his orange and white soft kitten like body. Whenever I feed Caratcake, he makes continuous noises until I put down his food. Caratcake rests a lot so he can start playing again. He sleeps under my bed, and he is so cute when he is sleeping. My restless cat is always jumping off a high place. Wouldn't you love to meet my silly cat?



Cory Wright


Hear about Elizabeth the cat. She is the only pet I ever had. She has summer green eyes, snowwhite fur, a small nose, and big teeth. Elizabeth tends to be very hungry. To get to some food she would sometimes open the cabinets on her own. Elizabeth, begging at the dinner table for people food. She also likes to watch television just like people do. I'd like to have someone who will watch with me when there is no one else there. I say she is the best pet ever and I'm fortunate that she is my friend.



FINE FURRY, FEATHERED AND FINNED FRIENDS — Students from Karen Perlman's language arts class at central Five-Jefferson School in Union wrote essays about their family pets. Students decorated their essays with images of their pets as well.

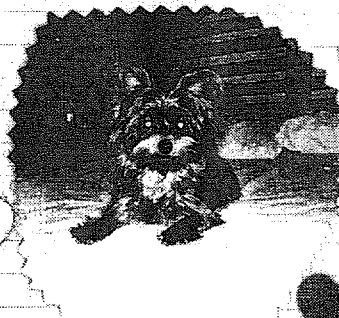
Julian White

I love my aunt's dog Napoleon! He has lots of fluffy white fur and has a black, moist nose. Sometimes he wakes me up while I'm asleep as my brother and I could play with him. It's so playful he jumps around you and he loves being carried around. When you walk him around he becomes much nicer to you. If I take one of his dogs he starts to chase me. This is why I love my aunt's dog Napoleon.



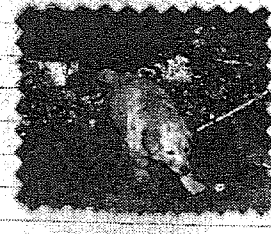
Brandon Teixeira

Meet Sasha, my hyper active Yorkie. Every one says dogs are men's best friends. They're very much right. My dog is very playful. Sometimes when I get home from school she tries to bite my hand. #tickle! Sasha does get jealous when you give attention to other dogs but she's always cute, scruffy, and cuddly.



Kayla Parker

My dog Sammy is a very special dog to me. He's a Maltese who is soft, small, beige, and has red eyes. Sammy is a protective dog. He barks if there is someone in the house. He's also a fun dog. When we go outside to play, Sammy runs around with my sister and I and we have lots of fun. Sometimes when I clap my hands he will dance. That's why he is the most wonderful dog in the world.



Writing letters home, from where the buffalo roam

Language arts students at Central Five-Jefferson Elementary School in Union recently learned how to write "friendly" letters.

They practiced this new skill by writing letters to their parents from a pretend trip to Dandy Don's Dude Ranch, 1872 Cowboy Way in the fictitious town of Slowpoke, Okla.

The students created a fictional dude ranch, complete with horses, cows and pigs and activities such as hiking, kayaking and making "flapjacks" with Dandy Don, himself.

The young authors practiced their letter-writing skills by writing home about their experiences at the ranch.

Flapjacks anyone?

Dear Mom and Dad,

I am having so much fun at Dandy Don's Dude Ranch. I sleep in a relaxing accommodation.

There are cowboys and ranch wranglers in wild west shows.

When we go hiking on the scenic trails, you can hear the

peace and quiet of the mountains.

We even go kayaking and white water rafting. Doesn't that sound fun?

We also have a schedule. We eat flapjacks and sourdough bread for breakfast, then we take a dive in the lake and wash up.

After that, we go on our daily hike. Last, we wash up again and go to bed. please bring me back next summer.

Your daughter,
Kimber

Wish you were here

Dear Mom and Dad,

Yee-haw! How are you guys doing? I'm doing great! I love you guys for sending me here.

I'm having a blast, everyone here is having one — my classmates and friends — it's all kids here.

Here, there are awesome nonstop things to do. I can hardly sleep because I'm waiting for tomorrow. I've been riding horses, and you know I love horses. The counselor is really nice, like all the others that work here. They taught

me how to lasso animals. The best part is the sunset. All of us lay down as quiet as a group of mice. Seeing the sunset go below us out of sight, it was beautiful.

The first time I saw it I cried and wished you were here.

I miss you guys a lot.

Still, I'm having a blast. Love you!

Your cowgirl,
Andrea

Back in the saddle

Dear Mom and Dad,

I am having a blast! This was worth the money.

My horses are Pinto and Butterscotch. During the two days we went kayaking, flyfishing, horseback riding and we learned how to make flapjacks.

We've also learned how to milk cows and give horses a bath. I have made many friends from Kansas, Utah and lots more places.

It's hot here, and the bad part is we have to put on lots of gear for horseback riding.

It is as hot as a trip to the sun. Butterscotch is the sweet-

est, Pinto is the fastest. How are you doing?

If you can write back, I'd love it. This dude ranch is excellent!

Your cowgirl,
Krystle

Stinkier than an old pickle

Dear Mom and Dad,

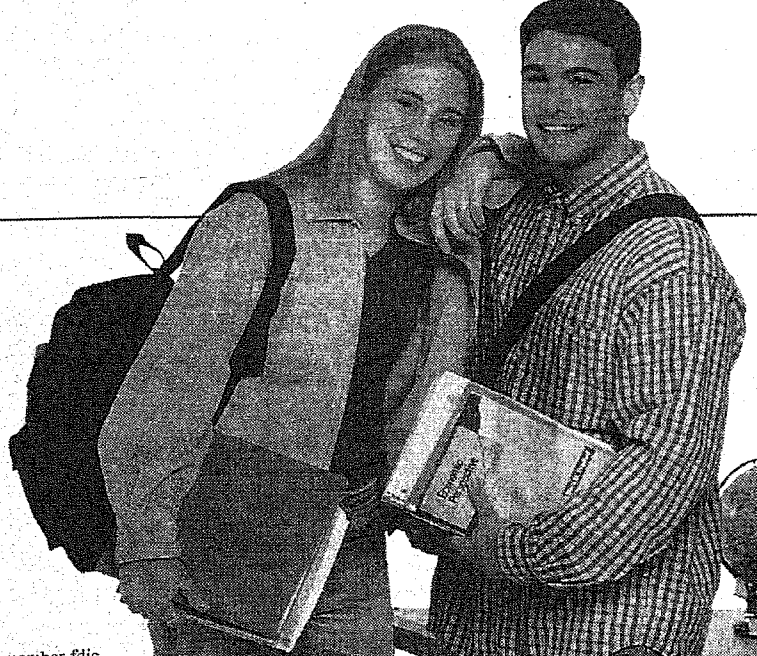
I'm having a great time here! After horseback riding, I drank a nice, cold glass of lemonade.

You can't believe how much fun I'm having! The pigs we fed were stinkier than a pickle sitting in a fridge for two years; maybe even stinkier than an old, rotting, used gym sock.

I did get a little homesick without you guys. I will be returning in at least one week.

The first time I ate Dandy Don's flapjacks, I was in heaven. It sure is fun over here. I hope you don't miss me too much. Tell everyone I said "hi."

Love,
Amanda



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BOE races focus on budgets, communication

(Continued from Page 1)

Most candidates agreed that educational programs should come before athletics and other expenses. Samiec and Parker both indicated that they would seek grants to supplement programs.

Yafet mentioned Hillside's history of failing budgets.

"Unfortunately in Hillside, we're in a system that campaigns against (passing) the budget," said Yafet, adding that if the plan is rejected by voters, the school board would likely look first at cutting plans to improve school facilities.

Cook, calling the administration "top heavy" in terms of salaries, said if the budget fails, he would suggest taking funds "from other areas and giving it back to our kids."

In Roselle Park, Board Member Nancy Kinloch,

who is seeking re-election, said as a member of the Finance Committee, she was happy that the board was "able to bring a zero tax increase to the residents for the first time in many years without affecting the student educational process."

Iachio, Genovese and Kinloch all agree that the \$29 million spending plan is fiscally responsible.

In addition to a discussion about the budget, candidates at the Hillside forum tackled questions from the audience on a number of topics, including violence and drugs in the school system, their educational backgrounds and the possibility of regionalizing school districts throughout the state.

One question that was asked of the candidates was what would they do to improve communication between the school board and the residents. For the most part, the answers centered on the use of technology to reach out to the community.

Robinson suggested making improvements to the school district's Web site. Betances said the district has the ability and the resources to reach out to the community, but doesn't take advantage of those resources. Several of the candidates supported the idea of televising school board meetings on the town's local cable access channel.

"Open transparent government always; that's what we need in Hillside," Yafet said.

Cherry, who is active in the community's recreation programs, said it's important for board members to be out among members of the public.

"We need unity back," Saxton added.

Toniann Antonelli can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 122, or unionleader@thelocalsource.com.

OBITUARIES

John Cicconi Sr.

John J. Cicconi Sr., 87, a lifelong resident of Union, died March 30 in the Manor Care Center, Mountainside.

Mr. Cicconi was born in Union. He was a building inspector for the township of Union for 20 years before retiring five years ago. Prior to that, Mr. Cicconi was a carpenter and foreman for Lembo Construction Co., Roselle, for 20 years. He was a veteran of World War II and served in the Army. Mr. Cicconi was a former chairman of the Union Township Zoning Board of Adjustment and had served in the 1980s. He also was a member of the Regular Democratic Club of Union and a former Union Township Democratic district leader and served in District 20.

Surviving are a daughter, Marianne Faugno; a son, John J. Jr.; a brother, Rudy, and four grandchildren.

The Galante Funeral Home, Union, handled the arrangements.

Newark, for 10 years. Mr. McGuire retired in 1991.

The Galante Funeral Home, Union, handled the arrangements.

Barbara Green

Barbara R. Byrd Green, 52, of the Vauxhall section of Union, died April 1 in Summit.

Born in Oxford, N.C., Mrs. Green lived in Newark before moving to the Vauxhall section of Union 29 years ago. She was employed by Staples, Springfield, for many years. Mrs. Green was a member of the Cross Roads Christian Fellowship in Union.

Surviving are her husband, Kelvin; a son, Gabriel; two daughters, Chanel Webb Arabia and Brielle Green; her mother, Ethel Byrd; four sisters, Carol Ann Smith, Mary Ann Vaughan, Evelyn Tyson and Patricia Jones, and three grandchildren.

The Judkins Colonial Home handled the arrangements.

William McCormack Jr.

William McCormack Jr., 63, of Union, formerly of Elizabeth, died March 30 at home.

Born in Elizabeth, Mr. McCormack moved to Union seven years ago. He served in the Army.

Surviving are his mother, Florence McCormack; three brothers, William D., Michael and Thomas H.; two brothers, James and John; six sisters, Kathy Timperman, Florence Maier, Loretta Lavin, Mary Rappisi, Arlene McCormack and Annemarie Ganz, and five grandchildren.

The Krowicki McCracken Funeral Home, Linden, handled the arrangements.

Lorraine Erath

Lorraine Erath, 64, a lifelong resident of Union, died April 3 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston.

Mrs. Erath was born in Summit. She was a lifetime member of Grace Lutheran Church in Union.

Surviving are her husband of 43 years, Siegfried; two sons, Steven and Erik; a brother, Rudy Rolef, and three grandchildren.

The Bradley, Haeberle & Barth Funeral Home, Union, handled the arrangements.

DEATH NOTICE

BRUGGER— Elizabeth I. Brugger, 89, of Hillside passed away in Overlook Hospital in Summit. Private funeral services were held at the GROWNEY FUNERAL HOME, (growneyfuneral.com), 1070 N. Broad St., Hillside. Elizabeth was the beloved wife of the late William M. Brugger; devoted mother of Ronald Repmann, William Brugger, Carl Repmann and the late Richard, Wayne and Roy Brugger. She was also predeceased by her brother, Peter Jacobs, and sisters, Mary Roman and Julia Seguire. She was the loving grandmother to Craig and Shane Repmann and Richard and Jason Brugger, and great-grandmother to Darcy Repmann. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Foundation.

SORRENTINO— Connie Sorrentino, 59, of Colonia, formerly of Hillside, passed away on Thursday, April 3, 2008 at the Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy. Visiting was held on Monday April 7 at the GROWNEY FUNERAL HOME, 1070 N. Broad Street, Hillside. growneyfuneral.com. The funeral service was held on Tuesday, April 8 at the funeral home. Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington. Connie was the loving daughter and devoted caregiver of Samuel and the late Virginia Sorrentino, and dear sister to Diana Sorrentino and Teresa Irvin

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WORSHIP CALENDAR

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
CALVARY ASSEMBLY OF GOD INTERNATIONAL, A Pentecostal church seeking the face of God*, 953 W. Chestnut St., Union. Church/964-1133, Fax/964-1153. Rev. John W. Bechtel, Pastor.

Sunday Services:
Sunday School - 10:05am
Morning Worship - 8:45am, 11:00am
Evening Service - 6:30pm

Wednesday Services:
Ladies Bible Study (Hear & Home) - 10am
Family Night 7:30pm with -
Royal Rangers boys program (ages 3-14)
Missionettes girls program (ages 3-17)
Adult School of the Bible
Friday Services:
Youth Night - 7:30pm
College & Career - 7:30pm

In addition there are monthly meetings of Women's Joy Ministries and Men's Breakfast Fellowship. For directions call 908-964-1133 and press 4.

UKRAINIAN EVANGELICAL ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
2208 Stanley Terrace, (908) 686-8171
Rev. Walter Cebula, Pastor
**Note: All services are in English.
(Ukrainian & Spanish translation available)
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening: 6:30 PM
Food Pantry (Wednesday) 5-6:45 PM
Wednesday Family Night: 7:00 PM
Spanish Service (Saturday): 7 PM

BAPTIST
ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH, 640 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield, Rev. Clarence Alston, Pastor. Church phone (973) 379-1465. SUNDAY: 9:30 A.M. Family Bible School; 11:00 A.M. Worship Service. WEDNESDAY: 7:30 P.M. Mid-Week Service. Holy Communion every First Sunday. Nursery Care available every Sunday. If transportation is needed call the church office. Everyone is Welcome at Antioch.

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Sunday: Bible Classes @ 9:30am; Sunday: Worship Service @ 11am; Wednesday: Prayer @ 7pm; Pastor: Rev. Jerry Jay Oliver.

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Street), Union, Tel: (908) 686-6773. Dr. Leon J. Yagod, Rabbi Emeritus; Oscar Newman, Cantor; David Gelband, President. Congregation B'Nai Ahavath Shalom is a traditional conservative congregation with a full range of programs. DAILY SERVICES: Sun: 8:30am; Mon-Fri: 7:30am; Friday evening: 8pm; SATURDAY: 9:00am. Torah class half hour before each service. Hebrew School: Sundays 9:30am.

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GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL; ST. MATTHEW'S LUTH. CHURCH FOR THE DEAF 2222 Vauxhall Road, Union, Rev. Donald L. Brand, Pastor. 908-686-5965. (Voice) (TTY) 908-851-2004 e-mail: graceluth@yahoo.com. Family Bible Hr. *9:15 Family Worship Hr. 8 & *10:30 (Summer *9:30) *Interpreted for: Deaf; Barrier-Free; Various Choirs & Bible Studies; Visitors Expected; Free Information Packet. www.gracelutheranunion.org

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Sunday School Available

KENILWORTH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 455 Boulevard, Kenilworth 908-276-1956, Rev. Jim Wook Jeong, Pastor; Mr. Johnathan Schneider, Music Director. Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. Followed by Fellowship & Bible Study. Join us in Joyous Celebration of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

KOREAN CENTRAL CHURCH (UMC),

455 Boulevard, Kenilworth 908-272-1995, Pastor: Rev. Jim Wook Jeong. Worship Service at 11:30 A.M. Web. www.koreacentral.org.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF UNION. Bervyn Street at Overlook Terrace, Union. Rev. Ferdinand Llenado, Pastor/Jonathan Schneider, Music Director. Church Office 687-8077. Parsonage 686-2412. Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Sunday worship includes a children's sermon, followed by Sunday School, and communion on the first Sunday of each month. All welcome. United Methodist Men's, Women's and Youth groups. Home Bible Studies 3rd Saturday each month.

MORAVIAN
BATTLE HILL COMMUNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH, 77 Liberty Ave., Union, 908-686-LAMB. Rev. Percival Gordon, Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Women's Group meets first Wednesday of every month 1:30 p.m. Men's Group meets every other Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, Bible study and Prayer Group 7:00 p.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
KENILWORTH GOSPEL CHAPEL Newark and 23rd Street, Kenilworth, 908-272-6131, Pastor Donald Dunkerton. Sunday 9:15 am Communion, 11:00 am Family Bible Hour and Sunday School for all ages, Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer and Bible Study, (childcare provided), Friday 7:00 pm Youth Activities for Grade School age, Jr. High and Sr. High. kenilworthgospel.org

MAPLEWOOD BIBLE CHAPEL: Worship and serve together in a warm and caring Bible centered fellowship, located at the intersection of Lexington, Tuscan and Burnett Avenues. Sunday services: Adult Bible Classes and Sunday School, 10:25 AM. Family Bible Ministry Hour, 11:00 AM. Tuesday 8:00 PM. Prayer and Bible Study, lower meeting room. Special activities for children and youth on Friday evening. Call us for details at 201-761-6430.

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CONNECTICUT FARMS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union. Sunday Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation Class and "For Adults Only Education" at 10:00 a.m. Child care provided. Sound system for the hearing impaired. Coffee hour follows the service. Ample parking is provided. New contemporary worship service the "First Friday" of the month at 7:30 p.m. Men's, women's, and youth groups provide a variety of opportunities for participation. Church actively involved with the community through Vacation Bible School, "Friday Night Happening" for middle school youth, CF Food Pantry, weekday Nursery School, and Cub and Boy Scout Troops. Serving the community since 1730, Connecticut Farms is a vibrant, caring congregation committed to renewal and growth. We welcome all to join us for worship and fellowship. For additional information, call the church office at 908-688-3164 or log on to www.ctfarm.org.

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 829 Salem Road, Union. Worship and Church School Sundays at 10:00 A.M. Nursery Care during all services. Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month. We offer opportunities for personal growth and development for children, youth, and adults. We have two children's choirs and an adult Chancel Choir. We also have a youth fellowship, regular adult Bible Study, a Book Club and Summer Vacation Bible School. Come and worship with friends and neighbors this Sunday. Townley Church is a growing congregation of caring people. Church Office 686-1028. Rev. Christopher Taylor, Pastor.

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UHS wins softball opener Soph. Kardys strikes out 14

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

One of the top softball pitchers in Union County was more than on Monday afternoon when Union visited Kearny for its season-opener.

Farmer head coach Chris Flinn hoped sophomore righthander Amanda Kardys was on just as much yesterday when Union hosted Linden in a battle of 1-0 teams that are considered two of the best in the county this season.

Against Kearny, Kardys tossed a five-inning no-hitter, striking out 14 and walking just one.

Union cruised to a season-opening 15-0 triumph in Hudson County.

"If she pitches like that we will be in every game," said Flinn, now in his 13th season at the helm.

Kardys is coming off a 9-6 freshman season, helping Union conclude its 2007 season at 19-7.

"She was throwing really hard and the home plate umpire said her curveball was really great," Flinn said. "She didn't throw many balls. She had excellent control."

Junior catcher Hana Gross, batting third in the lineup, was 2-for-2, with five RBI and four runs. She slugged a three-run homer in the bottom of the second to give Union a 6-0 lead.

Senior center fielder Jessica Goncalves was 3-for-4, with four runs and one RBI.

Sophomore right fielder Allie Davis, batting fifth, was 1-for-4, with one run and three RBI.

Senior shortstop Celeste Schimmenti, batting sixth, was 2-for-4, with two RBI.

Linden, Union's opponent yesterday, also opened its season Monday, coming away with a 10-0 home win over Shabazz.

NOTES: Union, the defending single division Watchung Conference champion, is not scheduled to play again until Monday at Newark East Side at 4 p.m.

"We have a light week this week and a real busy one next week," Flinn said.

The Farmers will then make up the April 4 home rainout against Plainfield on Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Union will then play at Scotch Plains April 18 at 4 p.m. and then host its own tournament April 19, with two games at 10 a.m. and two more at 1 p.m.

Union results/schedule:
April 7 (A) Union 15, Kearny 0
April 9 Linden
April 14 at Newark East Side, 4 p.m.
April 15 Plainfield, 4 p.m.
April 18 at Scotch Plains, 4 p.m.
April 19 Union Tournament
Union vs. Columbia, 10 a.m.
Bridgewater-Raritan vs. Bayonne, 10 a.m.
winners play each other, 1 p.m.
non-winners play each other, 1 p.m.
April 21 Shabazz, 4 p.m.
April 22 Dayton, 4 p.m.
April 23 at Westfield, 4 p.m.
April 25 Elizabeth, 4 p.m.
April 28 at Irvington, 4 p.m.
April 30 Kearny, 4 p.m.
May 1 at Millburn, 4 p.m.
May 2 at Linden, 4 p.m.
May 5 Newark East Side, 4 p.m.
May 6 Bishop Ahr, 4 p.m.
May 7 at Plainfield, 4 p.m.
May 8 Gov. Livingston, 4 p.m.
May 9 Scotch Plains, 4 p.m.
May 12 at Shabazz, 4 p.m.
May 14 Westfield, 4 p.m.
May 16 at Elizabeth, 4 p.m.
May 17 at Morristown, 10:30 a.m.
May 19 Irvington, 4 p.m.

R. Park, Brearley baseball undefeated as of Tuesday

The Roselle Park and Brearley baseball teams took undefeated records into Tuesday's scheduled games.

Roselle Park was 2-0 before hosting Roselle Catholic, while Brearley was 1-0 before playing at Rahway.

Athletes honored



From left, Roselle Catholic's Cindy Guzman of Union-basketball, Ria Grenardo of Union-cheerleading and Naima Graham of Newark-track and field hold MVP trophies presented March 10 at Roselle Catholic's winter athletics convocation.

Union resident Canales has a stellar Opening Day effort Tosses 5 shutout innings to earn a victory

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

SCOTCH PLAINS — The pitchers were ahead of the batters at Union Catholic last Wednesday afternoon, which is usually the case very early in the baseball season and especially when the temperature drops a bit.

A pitcher's duel between lefthanders Nick Balog of visiting New Providence and Matt Canales of host Union Catholic saw Balog, a senior, throw seven strikeouts before the game's first run was scored, while Union resident Canales, a junior, fanned nine in an impressive five-inning stint.

Although Union Catholic was out-hit 5-4, the Vikings broke through for a run in the bottom of the fourth and then added four more in the fifth to back the shutout pitching of Canales and senior righthander Steven D'Angelo, who tossed the final two frames.

It added up to an Opening Day 5-0 Union Catholic victory in a battle of Mountain Valley Conference squads seeking to find their identities this season.

Joe Lentini drove home Jimmy Thornton from third when he grounded out to second with one out in the fourth for the game-winning RBI.

After the first three batters reached base in the bottom of the fifth on two walks and a hit-by-pitch, Union Catholic immediately cashed in.

Tony LaRocca drove in Anthony Caravano with a sacrifice fly and then Thornton brought home Steve Berger with an opposite field single to right to give Union Catholic a 3-0 lead.

The big hit in the inning was a two-run triple D'Angelo, a lefty batter, smoked over the right fielder's head. Ray Lopez and Thornton scored on the play for the game's final runs.

Canales, one of three returning UC starters along with Thornton and D'Angelo, looked sharp for his first start of the year. He allowed four harmless singles, walked two and did not allow a baserunner to reach third, nor did D'Angelo. Canales threw 84 pitches, with a high of 21 in the third and a low of 11 in the fifth.

"I thought it went well," Canales said of his first outing of the season. "I had my changeup working and I threw a curve every once in a while and got it there. My fastball was pretty good."

Canales had at least one strikeout in all five innings he pitched. He had a strong fastball from first pitch to last.

"He threw a lot of strikes," Union Catholic head coach James Reagan Jr. said. "He kept the batters off the basepaths, so he did a real nice job."

Union Catholic is coming off a 15-7 season and Canales off a 6-2 sophomore campaign. Reagan is confident those numbers could be approached once again.

"Matt had a real good year last year and we expect him to have another one this year," Reagan said. "If he stays ahead of guys he'll be in real good shape. He mixes speeds real well. He's got a real nice change, which is probably his key out pitch."

D'Angelo follows Canales on the mound and, as evidenced by his big hit against New Providence, he will be a tough cleanup batter to retire.

"Steve's done a real nice job for us the last two years, so it was great to see him come out on Opening Day and get a big two-run triple," Reagan said. "We really have two pitchers, 1A (Canales) and 1B (D'Angelo)."

Weather permitting, Union Catholic is scheduled to continue at J.P. Stevens of Edison Friday at 3:45 p.m. and then play at Scotch Plains Saturday morning at 11, both non-conference contests.

"The whole season will be like today's game," Reagan said. "If we can throw strikes, make some plays and get some timely hits, we'll be okay."

As far as New Providence is concerned, the Pioneers might go through some growing pains this season.

However, first year head coach Chris Brodeur — a 1991 New Providence graduate — is excited about the challenge.

"We're trying to get better," Brodeur said. "We're not bad, not bad at all. We're trying to get better and we're trying to work at it. We're fighting some things, including a bad spring as far as the weather was concerned — we haven't been outside a lot — but I'm focusing on the fundamentals and the little things."

NOTES: New Providence is coming off a 12-12 season in which it reached the Central Jersey, Group 2 semifinals during Tom Beck's 16th and final season at the helm. Beck finished 252-130 (.660) from 1992-2007, leading the Pioneers to 14 state tournament appearances, three sectional titles and one state championship.

Brodeur, as a sophomore in 1989, played for Beck when he was the junior varsity coach. Brodeur then played on the varsity for New Providence's first head coach — Paul Miller — during his junior and senior seasons of 1990 and 1991.

Brodeur, after being the head baseball coach at Hillside the past three seasons in addition to being an assistant football coach for Jim Hopke, became only the third head baseball coach at New Providence.

"It's awesome, just fantastic," Brodeur said of now being the head coach at his high school alma mater. "There's so much history."

"Being the third coach and having played for the other two, it's an unbelievable honor."

Brodeur's team will play all of its games on the road this year while the New Providence baseball field is being renovated.

"We'll have to be road warriors I guess," Brodeur said. "I can't do anything about it, so my main concern will be the improvement of our team."

New Providence is scheduled to play at Hillside Thursday at 4 p.m. Hopke, who just resigned as the Hillside football coach, is now Brodeur's assistant coach at New Providence and is the first base coach when New Providence is at the plate.

Hopke is a 1986 Hillside graduate, who was the head football coach there from 1999-2007. He was also the head baseball coach at Hillside for several seasons.

Former Union and Elizabeth assistant and Union graduate John Power was named Hillside's new head football coach on Feb. 28.

Hillside's new head baseball coach is Tom Augello. The Comets were to host New Providence last Thursday.

Union Catholic was to play at J.P. Stevens last Friday, at Scotch Plains last Saturday and then host Dayton Tuesday.

NEW PROVIDENCE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1
UNION CATHOLIC	0	0	0	1	4	0	x	5	4	1

UNION CATHOLIC STARTING PITCHER:

Matt Canales, junior lefthander
5 innings: 84 pitches, 0 runs, 4 hits,
9 strikeouts, 2 walks

UNION CATHOLIC RELIEF PITCHER:

Steven D'Angelo, senior righthander
2 innings: 20 pitches, 0 runs, 1 hit,
2 strikeouts, 0 walks

UNION CATHOLIC LINEUP:

10-Matt Canales, junior pitcher: 0-for-4
17-Tony LaRocca, senior third baseman: 0-for-3; sacrifice fly RBI in fifth,
reached base on fielder's choice in sixth
8-Jimmy Thornton, senior catcher: 2-for-3; singled and scored in fourth,
RBI-single and scored in fifth
19-Steven D'Angelo, senior RF/pitcher: 1-for-2; walked in second, two-run triple in fifth
7-Joe Lentini, junior left fielder: 0-for-2;
RBI-groundout 4-3 for game-winning RBI in fourth, walked in fifth
5-Anthony Lentini, junior first baseman: 1-for-3; singled in second
14-Anthony Caravano, junior second baseman: 0-for-2; walked and scored in fifth
6-Steve Berger, junior center fielder: 0-for-1; walked and scored in fifth,
walked and stole a base in sixth
11-Ray Lopez, sophomore shortstop: 0-for-1; hit by pitch and scored in fifth, walked in sixth
Remainder of roster:
21-Joe Patkowski, senior. 1-Kevin Schulhafer, junior.
12-Dan Morales, junior. 2-Mike Gallo, senior.
4-Dave Rudowski, junior. 3-Chris Pfizenmayer, junior.
9-Connor Dick, junior. 16-Joe Orfini, junior.

WHERE UNION CATHOLIC PLAYERS ARE FROM:

Matt Canales, Union. Tony LaRocca, Winfield.
Jimmy Thornton, Rahway. Steven D'Angelo, S. Plains.
Joe Lentini, Union — Roselle Catholic transfer.
Anthony Lentini, Union — Roselle Catholic transfer.
Anthony Caravano, Hillside. Steve Berger, S. Plains.
Ray Lopez, North Plainfield. Joe Patkowski, Edison.
Kevin Schulhafer, Linden. Dan Morales, Newark.
Mike Gallo, Hillside. Dave Rudowski, Edison.
Chris Pfizenmayer, Union. Connor Dick, Edison.
Joe Orfini, Morristown

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

April 15 at Card. McCarrick, 4 p.m. / April 17 at Brearley, 4 p.m.
April 18 Rahway, 4 p.m. / April 19 at Plainfield, 4 p.m.
April 21 St. Mary's, 4 p.m. / April 22 at Cranford, 4 p.m.
April 24 Gov. Liv., 4 p.m. / April 27 at Elizabeth, 1:30 p.m.

Brearley softball showing upgrade Reilly, LoBello spark Bears

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

Although the Brearley softball team no longer has Jenna Vitale on the mound throwing strikes and at the plate getting key hits, the Bears still have players such as senior Lisa Reilly and junior Hannah LoBello who will prove instrumental in guiding the younger players on the team.

"We have a young team, but we've improved a great deal the past four weeks," Brearley sixth-year head coach Amy Efchak said prior to her team's season-opener, which was a 14-0 home win over St. Mary's of Elizabeth.

Brearley was rained out April 1 at home against New Providence. The Bears will now host the Pioneers April 26 at 11 a.m.

Reilly is a four-year starter who as a freshman was a key member of Brearley's 2005 squad that captured Union County Tournament and Central Jersey, Group 1 championships.

She hit a two-run homer in a 7-0 win at North Plainfield last year and also had many multi-hit games for the Bears.

"Lisa hit a home run in all of our scrimmages," said Efchak, whose team competed against Union, Linden, Florence, Scotch Plains, Columbia and Metuchen. "She didn't hit balls that went 100 foot and rolled. All of her shots were at least 200 feet and against good pitching."

Reilly was one of the top hitters in the Mountain Valley Conference last year and is one of only three seniors on this year's roster, with Mary Simms and Ally Gerhart the others.

"Lisa has really improved," said Efchak, who in high school excelled at Mount St. Dominic. "She's gotten stronger and has learned patience at the plate."

LoBello slugged a solo home run in a 4-1 home loss to Rahway last season. "Hannah, from the first week or two to now, has made a huge adjustment at the plate," Efchak said. "Her and Lisa are really hitting the ball well."

Taking over on the mound are freshmen righthanders Stephanie Hand and Alicia Bera.

"Stephanie is a little stronger," Efchak said. "Batting fifth in our lineup, she's also been ripping the ball."

Other freshmen on the roster include catcher Amanda Filippone and Amy-Lynn Roman at third base.

"All of our freshmen improved in our scrimmages," Efchak said.

Brearley, coming off an 8-12 season, moved down to the Valley Division of the MVC this year. The Bears will stay play tough Mountain Division foes Governor Livingston and Cranford once.

"It's always good to have challenges like that because you don't know what you're made of until you play those kind of games," Efchak said. "Our goal is to be .500 in order to qualify for the Group 1 playoffs."

"From day one, the girls have been working really hard, taking 200 swings a day and working on different drills."

NOTES: Efchak reports that Vitale is already making an impact during her freshman season at William Paterson.

Brearley was to play at Roselle Park last Friday and Tuesday was scheduled to host Oak Knoll.

The Bears are scheduled to host Hillside today at 4 p.m. and then play at Governor Livingston tomorrow at 4.

Remaining schedule:

April 10 Hillside, 4 p.m. / April 11 at Gov. Livingston, 4 p.m.
April 15 at Newark Central, 4 p.m. / April 17 at Kent Place, 4 p.m.
April 18 Roselle, 4 p.m. / April 22 Dayton, 4 p.m.
April 24 at New Providence, 4 p.m. / April 26 New Providence, 11 a.m.
May 1 Technology, 4 p.m. / May 2 at Rahway, 4 p.m.
May 8 at Oak Knoll, 4 p.m. / May 12 Union Catholic, 4 p.m.
May 13 at Cranford, 4 p.m. / May 15 Roselle Catholic, 4 p.m.
May 16 at Johnson, 4 p.m. / May 19 at Dayton, 4 p.m.
May 20 Roselle Park, 4 p.m. / May 22 Kent Place, 4 p.m.
May 23 Rahway, 4 p.m.

BREARLEY BEARS 2008:

Pitchers: Stephanie Hand, freshman RH. Alicia Bera, freshman RH.

Catcher: Amanda Filippone, freshman.

First base: Taylor Mezger, soph., Ashley Rica, junior. Mary Simms, senior.

Second base: Ally Gerhart, senior.

Third base: Amy-Lynn Roman, freshman. Michelle Spoon, junior.

Shortstop: Hanna LoBello, junior.

Left field: Nicole Laudati, sophomore.

Center field: Lisa Reilly, senior.

Right field: Patricia Jannett, junior. Ashlee Pantano, junior. Allie Moran, junior.

Returning starters: Reilly, LoBello, Laudati, Gerhart, Mezger.

UHS boys' track has a solid start

The Union High School boys' track and field team excelled at the annual Pawlowski Relays at Ramsey last Saturday after opening with an impressive 105-31 victory over at Elizabeth on April 1. Union was the large school division champions at the Pawlowski Relays with 95 points. There were 17 teams total and eight in the large division. Union had three championship teams, three more teams finish third, one team place fifth, one eighth, one ninth, one 10th and one 11th.

Placing first was the 4x400-meter team of Stefano Craig (50.7 seconds), Andre Highsmith (54.6), Ellison Lucien (43.9) and Bayaan Oluayadi (52.0) in a time of 3:32.2. Also first was the sprint medley team of Craig (50.6), Lucien (23.6), Highsmith (23.7) and Oluayadi (2:08.4) in 3:46.3. The third first-place team was the long jump group of Elijah Lee (19-6.5), Stefaun Whitehead (18-10) and Michel Bingham (18-8). Their total was 57-0.5.

Finishing second was the 4x200-meter team of Lucien (22.9), Isaiah McLain (23.4), Highsmith (22.3) and Oluayadi (22.6) in 1:32.2. Also second was the shuttle hurdles team of Jamal John (16.4), John Obamedo (16.8), Stanley Pluviose (16.7) and Ricky Hall (16.4) in 66.3. The third second-place team was the 400-meter hurdles. John finished in 60.4, Whitehead in 64.8 and Obamedo in 65.7 for a total time of 3:10.9.

The triple jump team of Lee (41-6), John (39-0) and Jaleel Reddick (31-1) placed third at 112-7. The javelin team of Martin Prokopovich (148-6), Keith Wycko (122-5) and Charles Brown was also third with a total of 385-8.

The discus team of George Osti (116-0), Jacklin Petion (95-8) and Jorge Villacreses (95-1) had a total of 306-9, good for third.

Placing fifth was the 4x100-meter team of Charles Brown, Lamar Taylor, Ralph Julien and Anthony McLain in 47.0. The shot put group of Petion, Osti and Villacreses was eighth at 111-9.5. Finishing ninth was the 4x800 team of Peter Cheng (218.9), Gus Ferreira (217.8), Nathan Sanford (226.2) and Pedro Sousa (227.4) in 9:30.3. The distance medley team was 10th behind Mike Dorcas (341.3), Brown (58.1), Cheng (223.7) and Kevin Paiva (515.7) in 12:18.8. Finishing 11th was the 4x1,600-meter team of Paiva (508.9), Manny Martis (501.7), Sousa (514.9) and Sanford (521.7) in 20:47.2.

Union won every event against Elizabeth except for the 1,600 meters, the 3,200 meters and the pole vault. John was first in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles in 62.6. Ellison Lucien won the 100 meters in 11.1. Stefano Craig was first in the 400 meters in 51.9. John won the 110-meter high hurdles in 16.1. John Orlando was second in 16.7 and Ricky Hall third in 17.0.

Bayaan Oluayadi was first in the 800 meters in 2:08.4. Jones was first in the 200 meters in 22.5 and Union was first in the 1,600-meter relay in 3:32.2 behind Craig (52.7), Omole (53.2), Oluayadi (51.7) and Jones (54.6). Petion was first in the shot put, Osti first in the discus at 135-8 and Martin Prokopovich first in the javelin at 145-1. Wycko was second at 125-4. Union swept the high jump, with Afolabi Omole first at 6-4, Stanley Pluviose next at 5-6 and Anthony McLain third at 5-0. Lee won the long jump at 19-11.5, with Omole second at 19-9.5. Omole set school record in the triple jump event. He was first with an outstanding effort of 44-10.

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Students showcase talents at arts festival

On March 6, 26 seventh and eight grade students from Hillside Catholic Academy participated in the Union County Teen Arts Festival at Union County College with their art instructor, Jennifer LaGrecia.

Two Hillside Catholic Academy students, Patrick Roselle and Brittany Henderson, were chosen as finalists for the 2008 Arts Tour.

Roselle won for his photograph of the bridge in Conant Park, Hillside, which captures a serene landscape emphasizing striking light and shadow patterns on one of Union County's snow days this year.

Henderson was chosen for her vocal performance when she sang "Unfaithful" by Rihanna. Both students will be attending the Teen Arts Showcase on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway.

Brittany will be performing her vocal talent and Patrick will have his photograph on display.

"The Teen Arts Festival was an event all of our students walked away from learning and appreciating art even more than when they came," said Michael Butchko, principal of Hillside Catholic Academy.

Students displayed sculpture, photography and two-dimensional artwork in mediums such as pencil, pas-

tel, crayon, colored pencil and watercolor that they have worked on for months. The students' artwork was critiqued by professional photographer, Joan Pamboukes and professional sculptor, Barbara Wallace.

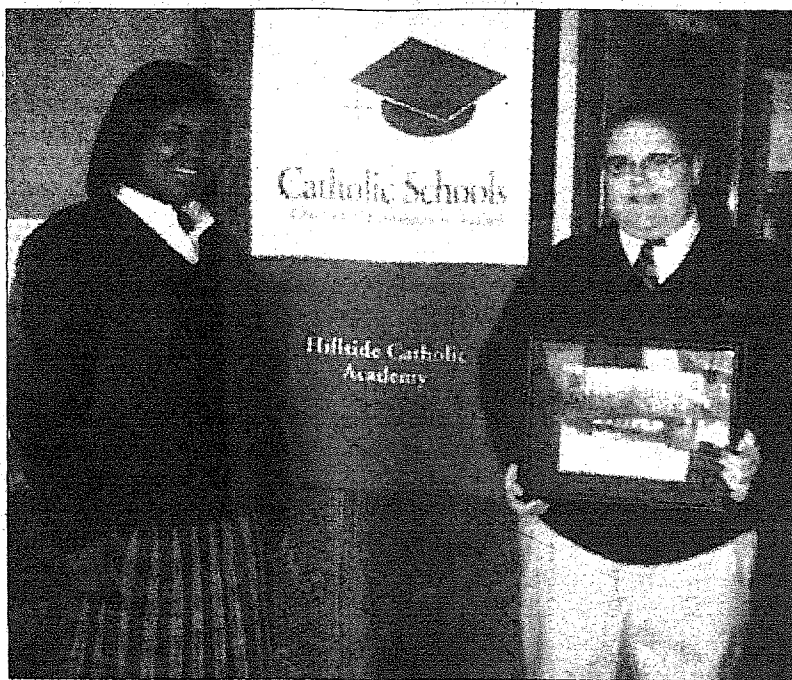
The professionals infused the students with positive reinforcement during the critique.

Pamboukes was "impressed with the artwork" the students submitted, from the "expression of color and mood" to "attention to detail," the students were enthused to get feedback from professionals.

Eighth-grader Makeba Green submitted a sculpture. Last year, her submitted photograph of handmade African Dolls was part of an exhibit that toured New Jersey.

Two-dimensional artwork was submitted by eighth grade students Ashley Anne Anthony, Ashley Hakk, Elaine Hakk and Kevin Serodio and seventh grade students Imani Cortez, Tiara Garland, Jada Hoyle-Gardner, Shervonne Gittens, Eloni Johnson, Chelsea Mendez, Jonathan Moore, Yvana Romelus and Ronald Williamson.

Photography was submitted by eighth-graders, Kyleah Boyd and Tamarah Cratch, and seventh-graders Patrick Roselle, Bryanca Wilson and Robert Vagueiro.



Hillside Catholic Academy students Patrick Roselle and Brittany Henderson were selected as finalists for the 2008 Arts Tour during the Teen Arts Festival that took place last month.

Three students also performed vocal scores and were critiqued by author Adele Kenny. "The Union County Teen Arts Festival was an inspirational artistic experience for all of the students. It was wonderful to have them participate in so many different art classes that extended their usual two-dimensional medium to a multitude of mediums including the performing arts of different historical and cultural backgrounds," Butchko said.

Two students participated in creative writing performance art. Both Laura Burke, grade seven and Megan Canovas, grade eight, performed

poetry that they composed and were critiqued by author Adele Kenny.

"The Union County Teen Arts Festival was an inspirational artistic experience for all of the students. It was wonderful to have them participate in so many different art classes that extended their usual two-dimensional medium to a multitude of mediums including the performing arts of different historical and cultural backgrounds," Butchko said.

Celebrate local history

Exciting developments concerning the Nitschke House preservation project will be presented during a Kenilworth History Celebration on May 30.

The event, which the Kenilworth Historical Society is hosting for the general public, will begin at 7 p.m. at the Kenilworth Senior Center, 526 Boulevard. It will feature a debut performance by the Kenilworth Historical Players, who will reenact Lt. Gen. James Doolittle's famous 1929 plane crash in Kenilworth.

Historic memorabilia and photographic exhibits will be on display, and a Kenilworth commemorative coverlet and soon-to-be-published "Culinary Kenilworth" cookbook will be available for purchase. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free.

The colored, woven coverlet design bears Kenilworth's Centennial logo, which was created especially for the borough's 100-year celebration last year, and features such familiar sites as the Kenilworth Municipal Building, Sayre-Shallcross House, Kenilworth Boulevard and trolley, New York and New Orange Railroad Station, Upsala College, McKinley School, Kenilworth Public Library, Shallcross Pond in Black Brook Park, Kenilworth Police and Fire/Rescue, Kenilworth Inn and the James Arthur residence.

Proceeds from the sale of the coverlet will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's ongoing project to restore the historic Oswald J. Nitschke House and transform the 19th-century home into a "living history" museum and cultural arts center.

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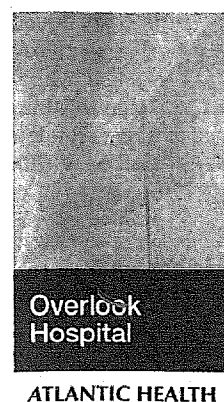
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HealthLink Radio

Saturday, April 12 at 8:00 AM - WSOU 89.5 FM
HealthLink Radio with Bob Mann
Do certain types of diabetes management programs have an adverse affect on heart health?

Get the answers as Dr. Mark Johnson, professor and chair, Department of Family Medicine, New Jersey Medical School, discusses the latest findings.

Sunday, April 13 at 8:30 AM - WFDU 89.1 FM
HealthLink Radio with Bob Mann
Part 2 on Stress

Don't miss the second part of a two-part special on stress as Dr. Cheryl Kennedy, vice chair, Department of Psychiatry, New Jersey Medical School, joins the show. Dr. Kennedy will cover the psychological aspects of stress and how it can be treated.

After the HealthLink Radio shows are aired on WFDU, they are archived and can be heard on www.theuniversityhospital.com

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THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008

A lack of communication

They met last week in Springfield for the annual rite of School Board Candidate's Night. An umbrella group of civic types use the "Community Conference Group of Springfield Schools" to sponsor the event.

Their rigid format of the evening, with time limits on both asking questions and gaining answers probably insured the homogenized answers that prevailed.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

The two biggest controversies of the evening were a sometimes inattentive moderator and the decision to permit laptop computers by students in the schools.

The problem for challengers like Andrew Fekete is that once they said they were supporting the school budget, their platform withered to the persistent use of clichés like "listening to the community" and the staple of "better communication."

It was overall a harmonious event. The candidates even applauded for each other. School budgets are as regulated as Municipal budgets. The state oversight and mandates limit extensively the decisions of local schools.

The problem for the challengers was a decision giving laptop computers to the kids and better communications are hardly motivation to throw out the incumbents. Certainly not when you have no real gripe with the proposed school budget.

Actually the most silent part of the evening was after the question by resident Dawn Strober that beyond "better communications" what would the challengers propose. What was communicated by the incumbents on the school board was that a \$1.2 million shortfall meant some tough cuts had to be made.

Even the discussion over the five year contract term given to the Superintendent of Schools was only a passing subject. From this corner the belief is only someone who can hit a 93-mile-an-hour curveball should be given a five year contract.

Residents in this community take their education needs seriously. One thoughtful speaker thanked all six candidates for seeking a "thankless job."

The audience was polite and attentive. The problem is that at the end of the evening, with the strict requirements of the state, no case was made for change.

At the time the issue of "better communication" was being floated in Springfield, the State Education Commissioner Lucille Davy was speaking in similar terms up in Paterson. Unlike Springfield, there are some real problems there with a state run system.

The proposal by Fekete that educators voluntarily give up raises, was the only exception to an evening of serious issues.

Back in Paterson, in language that Fekete would undoubtedly appreciate, Davy said, "I think the concern and the frustration by the Board had to do with a lack of communication."

This lack of communication seems to be a staple in the education field. In Springfield the challengers used it as a substitute from discussing what they would have done to make up the \$1.2 million deficit.

The state educators at least can point to specifics. After only three years of a new writing section, our states' kids earned top marks nationwide on a benchmark exam which measures writing ability.

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A high level of communication on her part.

An attorney, Frank Capece is a resident of Cranford.

NJ court sends waste contract back to UC judge

By Katherine Paster
Staff Writer

A state appellate court three-judge panel ruled Monday that a 2007 injunction issued by a Union County superior court judge—banning the UC IA from contracting Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, Inc. for the purpose of waste removal—was unauthorized.

Superior Court Judge Marianne Espinoza's injunction in May 2007 was issued in response to a complaint filed by Waste Management, Inc. of New Jersey, a waste-removal company that unsuccessfully bid for the county contract in 2006.

The panel of Appellate Judges who considered the appeal in January 2008 ruled in favor of the Union County Utilities Authority and the DHRC, declaring Judge Espinoza's injunction "unauthorized" because that "it has not been clearly and convincingly established that the Authority ultimately reached the wrong conclusion."

For the Union County Utilities Authority, the appellate decision vindicates Sunil K. Garg, executive director of the Union County Utilities Authority and the department from the implication that their initial waste-management plan was not in the best interest of the public due to environmental concerns.

"It's a victory for people in Union County," said Garg. "I think the judge's initial injunction was misguided, but we feel that we have been completely vindicated at this stage."

In the interim period, Union

County negotiated a waste-management contract with the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, rendering a savings of 15 percent in tax dollars.

"In essence the people of Union County have not seen any increase in cost or any disruption of service," said Garg. "As a result of the redirection of the waste to the meadowlands, we got a better rate than we were paying initially, so overall it has been a win-win for the county at this stage."

Since the issuance of the Appellate decision to reverse Espinoza's injunction, the Superior Court now has 30 days to reconsider the case and issue a new decision.

By May 7, a Union County Superior Court Judge must issue a decision on whether or not to uphold the injunction.

"We do not know if the judge will reenter an injunction at this stage," said Garg. "For the foreseeable future it appears that we may still be directing through the Meadowlands through the end of this year."

In late summer of 2006, six bidders competed for the County service contract, the winner of which was the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company who offered bulky waste removal services at the low price of \$62.86 per ton, a full 33 percent less than the current price which stands at \$82 per ton.

After testimony from several waste management officials, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders voted 7-1 on Feb. 15 to add the Delaware and Hudson Rail-

way Company's transfer station in Newark to its Solid Waste Management Plan.

"We were bid a contract at 33 percent less for the next 5 years, which of course is a good thing," said Garg.

The contract was issued to the lowest bidder, the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, whose bid proposed the loading of waste materials onto 30 rail cars at a waste facility in Newark for rail transportation to sites in Ohio.

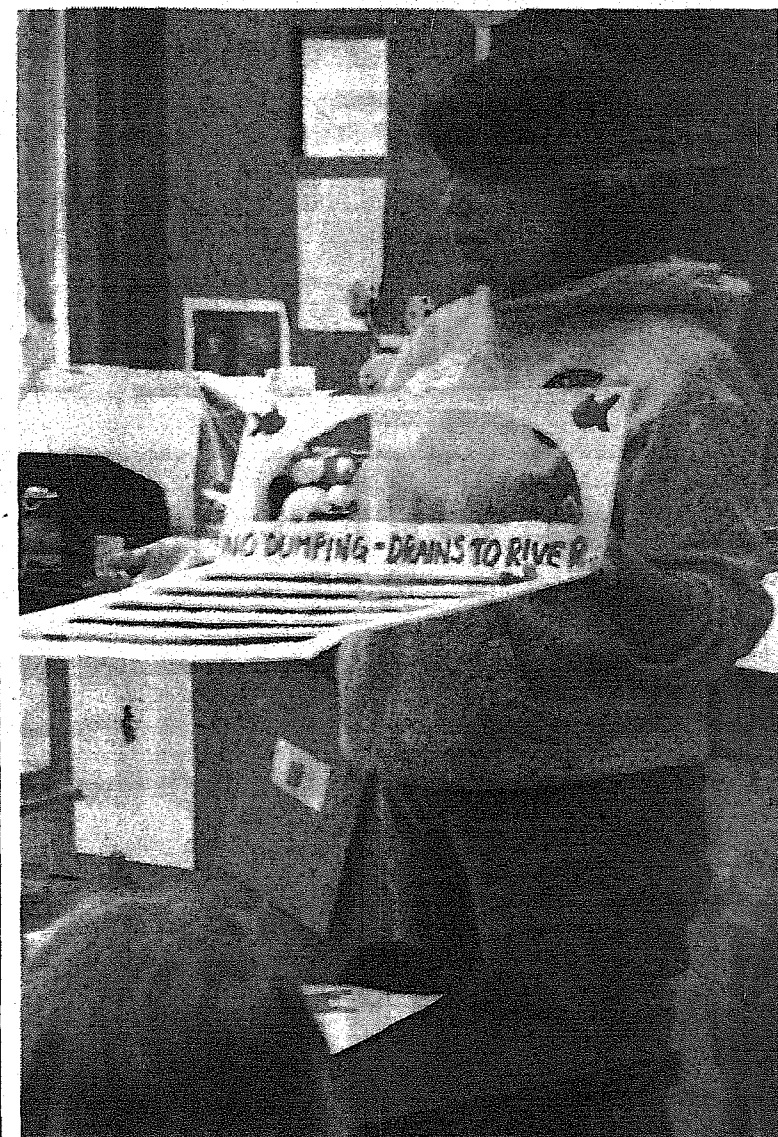
The DHRC contract with the Union County Utilities Authority was overturned by Judge Espinoza in Superior Court in May 2007 when Waste Management, Inc. of New Jersey logged a complaint against the contract.

"Union County should not gamble with the unknown environmental, health, safety and operator fitness and integrity impacts of a rail-waste facility, especially since its operation is based on the use of a legal loophole that could be struck down at any time," said Steve Changaris, northeast regional manager for the National Solid Wastes Management Association, in a 2006 letter to the freeholder board.

In her decision, Judge Espinoza ruled that ambiguities were in fact found in the UCUA and DHRC financial documents. Judge Espinoza ruled to throw out all of the proposed bids for waste disposal contracts on the grounds that they were defective.

Katherine Paster can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or at unioncounty@yahoo.com.

Where does water go?



Kristin Beebe, a watershed ambassador from Union County's Department of Parks and Community Renewal and the AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador Program, explains to a sixth grade class how storm water carries pollutants to storm drains and eventually to streams, rivers and other bodies of water. For information about scheduling a watershed presentation call 908-527-4032.

Primary fights ahead for freeholder slots

By Katherine Paster
Staff Writer

Fourteen political candidates have filed petitions with the Union County Clerk to run for freeholder in the 2008 legislative elections, where eight Democrats and six Republicans will vie for three open seats on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The nine-member Board of Chosen Freeholders is elected at large by the Union County voters, with each member serving a three-year term. County political party heads will decide which candidates will represent their parties prior to the primary on June 3.

Candidates running on the Democratic Organization of Union County ticket are incumbent freeholder Chairman Angel Estrada and freeholders Rick Proctor and Nancy Ward.

Breaking from the party ranks, three hopeful candidates are running on the "Democratic Change for Elizabeth" slate, including Carmen Southward of Linden, and Carlos Cedeno and Marlene Abitanto of Elizabeth.

Three Republicans running on one slate are John Russitano of Westfield, Roselle Park Councilman Michael Yakubov and Joseph Franchino of Berkeley Heights.

As part of a GOP primary battle,

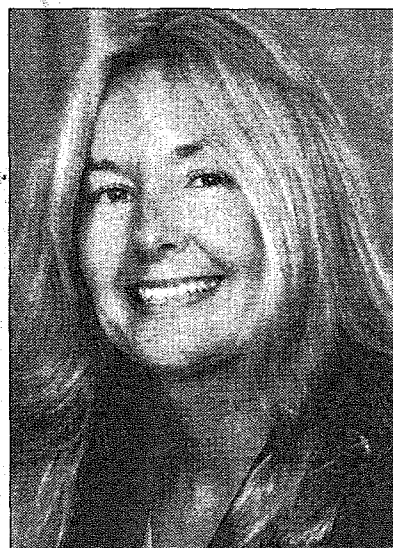


Yakubov

three candidates are running on the Constitutional Republicans Protecting the Liberty Platform, including Krzysztof Nowak of Cranford, Dolores Makrogiannis of Scotch Plains and Jeffrey Payer of Summit.

Additional Democratic candidates include Armando Burgos of "The Time is Now" Democratic organization and Diane Murray of "Insure Your Future."

Running for a third term on the



Ward

board, Chairman Estrada has served on the board since 1999 and is now serving as board chair for the second time since his election.

"I look forward to joining once again with the many fine employees in our County family in implementing our new initiatives," Estrada said in the annual Chairman address. "We set our goals high, and it is time now to start the effort needed to achieve them."

Incumbent freeholder Rick Proctor is also up for reelection this term. Proctor, who has served on the board since 2002, served as Chairman of the Freeholder Board in 2005, and Vice Chairman in 2004. Incumbent Freeholder Nancy Ward of Linden also joins her fellow board members on this year's democratic ticket.

The Democrats swept in the 2007 Freeholder election, where then-Chairwoman Bette Jane Kowalski, Freeholder Dan Sullivan and newcomer Rayland Van Blake secured the three vacant freeholder seats with the endorsement of Union County Democratic Committee Chairwoman Charlotte DeFilippo.

"It all starts with Charlotte DeFilippo, the architect of the Democratic Freeholder team," said Estrada during his address.

For Union County Republicans, who have not had a representative on the freeholder board in almost 14 years, issues adding fuel to the fire in the upcoming election include the recent mismanagement of the Union County Jail, increased property taxes and the strain on the regional economy.

"I feel that there is an economic purging of the taxpayers going on in the State of New Jersey at all levels of

government," said Russitano of in his campaign platform.

Russitano, who ran unsuccessfully in last year's freeholder election, based his platform on the economic woes of the county, offering a more conservative.

"The mismanagement of the taxpayers' money is unacceptable and must be stopped," said Russitano. "My campaign platform is simple—I want to be Freeholder so that there will finally be a watchdog in the County government."

Yakubov was selected early as a 2008 freeholder candidate by the Union County Republican Committee, backed by the support of GOP Chairman Phil Morin.

"Mike has been an extremely hard-working member of the Roselle Park Borough Council," said Morin. "He's so dynamic and works so hard for his constituents."

Yakubov shares his running mates' sentiment that a watchdog is needed on the freeholder board, noting that he believes "county residents are being kept in the dark about a lot of things that are going on."

Katherine Paster can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or at unioncounty@yahoo.com.

90-plus gang members arrested in Plainfield

By Katherine Paster
Staff Writer

Authorities announced last week that more than 90 gang members from three of Plainfield's most notorious criminal street gangs were arrested as the result of a three month major street gang investigation.

Armed with arrest warrants prepared by the Union County Prosecutor's office, more than 100 state troopers and Plainfield police officers took to the streets before dawn on Thursday morning and successfully apprehended 45 gang members, bringing the number of arrests made over a three month period to 91.

"Plainfield is a different city today than it was a few days ago," said Gayle Cameron, State Police Lieutenant Colonel and deputy superintendent of investigation. "The reign of terror inflicted by gangs in this area has now ended to some capacity."

Operation 5-Spot, a major street gang investigation that began in January, unified the Plainfield Police department with the New Jersey State Police Street Gang Unit in a regional effort to combat the rising gang violence in the area.

The project to break up the gangs was dubbed "Operation 5-Spot" because the gangs were thought to be operating in five parts of the Union County town.

"We want this operation to send a clear message to those people in our communities who participate in illegal operations," said Plainfield Police Chief Edward Santiago. "They are under the microscope and will be targeted."

Plainfield Police officers and State Troopers worked together

since January to arrest members of local Plainfield gangs like the Clinton Avenue Posse, Lib Side Boys and 116 Boys, all of which maintain affiliations with sets of the Bloods or Crips street gangs.

"This is a major step in the governor's effort to reduce the number of gang members from the streets along with the guns, drugs and violence," said Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow. "These particular gang members are not new to us, we've seen them before."

Range in age from 16 to 66, the 91 alleged gang members were arrested on a variety of charges relating to gang activity, including attempted murder, weapons possession and narcotics distribution.

"As a result of the 91 arrests we believe we'll prevent shootings, murders and overall gang activity in the city," said Gayle Cameron, noting that the arrests had also led to the confiscation of 12 hand guns, and various amounts of heroin, cocaine, marijuana, weight scales and bullet proof vests.

Many of the apprehended criminals were involved in drug dealing in the city of Plainfield, which authorities claim were based in public housing units. According to Santiago, the gang presence in public housing renders the group homes "untenable."

"I'm extremely happy because this will send the message to the few non-law abiding citizens of Plainfield that they will be caught and prosecuted," said Plainfield Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs, who noted that the arrests will improve the quality of life for the residents of Plainfield.

State and local law enforcement joined political officials at

the Union County Administration Building on April 3 to summarize the results of the multi-departmental operation designed to curb the gang presence in the city of Plainfield.

"It's a regional issue and we're taking regional efforts to address it," Chief Santiago, who expressed his gratitude to the state troopers for their significant contribution to Operation 5. "Communities like Plainfield have resources, but not enough to conduct this kind of operation. The quality of life for people in these areas is going to be much better after today."

While law enforcement officials noted that the operation would make the Plainfield city streets quieter and safer in the coming months, they also warned that gangs tend to rebuild in the months following

"There are still other gangs operating in the city of Plainfield, mostly in the northwest section of the town" said Santiago. "A lot of the people who were arrested are repeat offenders, and we see them again and again coming through the revolving door system of criminal justice."

Prisoners picked up Thursday morning were processed at the Plainfield Police Department and then transferred to the Union County Jail. The Union County Prosecutor's Office will be prosecuting the Operation 5-Spot arrests in the coming months, with continued assistance from the state.

"We'll have a lot of help and anticipate having troopers assist us as we move to the next step in the prosecution," said Romankow.

Katherine Paster can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or at unioncounty@yahoo.com.

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Worrall Newspapers wins 9 NJPA awards

Winners of the 2007 Better Newspaper Contest sponsored by the New Jersey Press Association were honored at a banquet on April 3 at the Trenton Marriott at Lafayette Yard. This contest recognizes excellence in writing, photography, layout and advertising in the state's weekly and daily newspapers.

Worrall Community Newspapers received nine awards, eight for stories written by staff reporters and one for a special section created by a staff team.

A magazine celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Union County led the Union County Worrall division.

In all, the Union County division took home five awards, with the 30-page magazine grabbing first in the "Packaging the News Product, Special Issue" category for weekly newspapers with a circulation of less than 4,500. A team of seven editors and reporters compiled the special issue for the April 26, 2007, editions of the Union County newspapers, *The Eagle*, *Union Leader*, *The Progress* and *The Observer*.

The issue was compiled by Vincent Gragnani, Toniann Antonelli, Dan Burns, Lauren DeFilippo, Kevin J. Kessler, Tracy A. Politowicz and Kitty Wilder.

In addition, the Union County newspapers collected two second-place and three third-place awards.

Union County reporter Katherine Paster captured second place in the "Reporting, Writing and Illustration, Robert P. Kelly Award" for weekly newspapers, with a circulation of less than 4,500. She received the honor for the story "Jail Escapees," about the pair of Union County jail prisoners who escaped from the county jail in Elizabeth.

The other second-place award went to *Union Leader* reporter Jackeline Leon in the "Reporting, Writing and Illustration, First Amendment Award" category for weekly newspapers with a circulation of more than 4,500.

The story was about Kenilworth residents' concern regarding 5,000

tons of tainted soil near the railroad tracks, parallel to Market Street. The state Department of Transportation finally removed the soil in November, after the borough Board of Health took legal action.

Arts and Entertainment reporter/reviewer Bea Smith took third place in the "Reporting, Writing and Illustration, Arts & Entertainment Writing" category for weekly newspapers with a circulation of less than 4,500. The veteran reporter/reviewer wrote a story "Bingo" more than a game for Reid."

Antonelli and Leon also took a third-place award for the "Union Hospital Series," in the "Responsible Journalism, Public Service, Lloyd P. Burns Memorial Award" for weekly, more than a circulation of 4,500. The series featured the trials and tribulations of the Union Hospital's final months as a full-service facility. Essex County editorial staff won four writing awards.

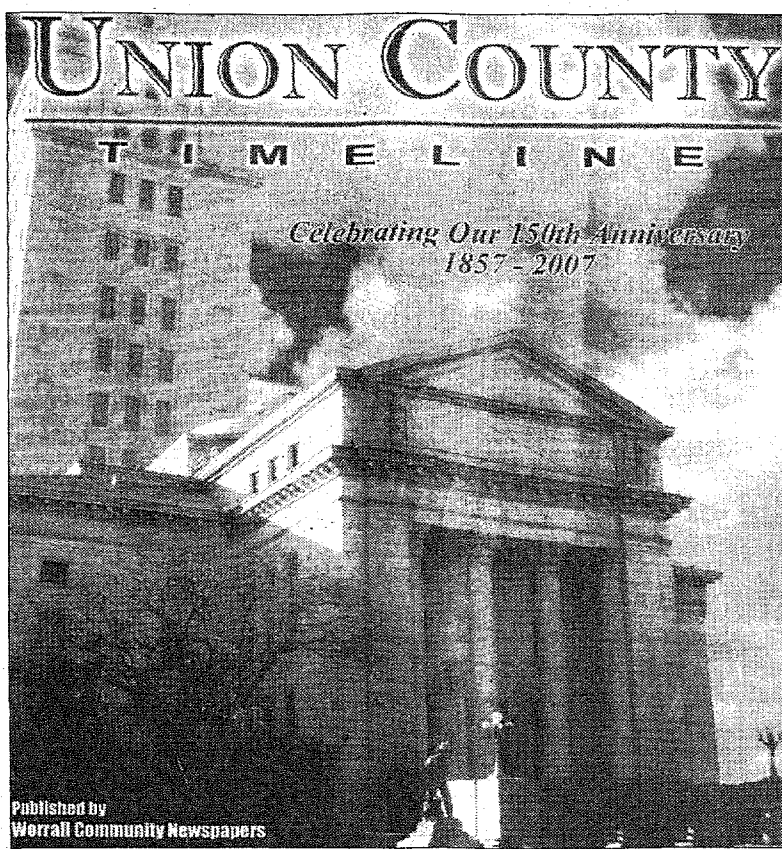
Debbie L. Hochberg, currently the managing editor of the *West Orange Chronicle*, won three awards.

She took first place in the category "Fresh approach to routine reporting" for a story written for the May 31, 2007, edition of the *West Orange Chronicle*, about a Memorial Day soup kitchen event at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church sponsored by Temple B'nai Shalom.

Attending the event, Hochberg was able to capture and describe a magic moment as one gentleman, after having eaten his fill, became engaged in a spontaneous, euphoric dance.

"I loved the way the first-place article on the soup kitchen took what could have been a very boring story and made it sing by weaving the dancing man throughout the article," the judges commented.

Hochberg's second-place win is in the category of Responsible Journalism for a series of stories written for the *News-Record of Maplewood and South Orange* which chronicled deteriorating conditions at the South Orange Middle School during the



Worrall Newspaper's magazine celebrating the 150th anniversary of Union County took home first place in the "Packaging the News Product, Special Issue" category at the 2007 New Jersey Press Association awards on Thursday.

2006-07 academic school year.

"Just when I thought everything about mold had been told! These pieces were thorough and offered a format that the everyday reader could process," the judges commented. "It was especially impressive that the writer was able to get so many teachers to go on record. That speaks volumes for her reputation and credibility in the community."

Hochberg took another second-place award in the category of Feature Writing for a story, published in the November 2007 edition of the *News-Record*, about a commercial created by a same-sex couple which illustrates their belief that the civil union law is a failure.

"To the point. Nice lead building

tension," the judges commented. "Topic is timely for New Jersey and offers a different angle on the subject. It includes a description of the commercial with follow-up quotations that build on the couple's perspective."

Staff writer Roman J. Uschak won a second-place award in Feature Writing for a story published in the *Nutley Journal*. The story, "Local tailor says goodbye to 'Sopranos' work," was about a Nutley tailor who had been supplying suits and other high-quality outfits to the "Sopranos" wardrobe department during its eight-year run. At the time of the interview, the show's final episode had just aired and the tailor had lost his famous customer.

COUNTY NEWS

Clergy talk Jewish future

Three New Jersey clergy, representing three movements of Judaism, will engage in a conversation about the Jewish future at a community-wide forum, sponsored by the American Jewish Committee and Temple Emanu-El of Westfield.

Free and open to the public, the forum will be held at Temple Emanu-El, 756 East Broad Street, Westfield, on Tuesday 7:15 p.m..

For more information about the American Jewish Committee, please contact the New Jersey office at 973-379-7844.

Recycle unwanted electronics, car tires

The County of Union will sponsor a recycling event for electronic equip-

ment and automobile tires on Saturday, so Union County residents can get rid of unwanted tires, computers, televisions and other electronic equipment in an environmentally proper manner.

The special recycling event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lucent Technologies, 600 Mountain Avenue, New Providence.

All residents of Union County are eligible to participate at no cost.

A complete list of the materials that will be accepted is available at the Union County Bureau of Planning and Environmental Conservation website: www.ucnj.org/recycle.

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 about recy-

cling events, please call the Union County Recycling Hotline at 908-654-9889.

Sign up for printmaking

Registration is now open for the Printmaking 101: Making Multiples Workshop. This workshop will run on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register by phone at 732-381-7511, e-mail at artsguild1670@verizon.net or in person at The Arts Guild Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Summit Artist Gwen Howard is the instructor for this workshop. For more information, visit the Web site: www.rahwayartsguild.org, or call 732-381-7511.

The Arts Guild of Rahway is a non-profit center for the Arts located at

1670 Irving St. in the downtown Arts District of the City of Rahway.

Clarification

The article "Towns boast successes, blast state" in the April 3rd edition needed a clarification. Clark Mayor Sal Bonaccorso said the following: "We're under the four percent cap, and in the last eight years we authorized a total of \$12 million in capital bonding, and we paid off \$8 million."

It is the policy of this newspaper to clarify and correct all significant errors that are brought to the editor's attention. If you believe that we have made such an error, contact Edward Kensik at ekensik@thelocalsource.com or 908-686-7700, ext. 128.

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Help for seniors

The Union County Department of Human Services, Division on Aging, will bring its Outreach Services Program for senior adults to Union, Plainfield, Linden, Fanwood, and Elizabeth during the month of April.

Division on Aging staff will assist seniors with information and help in applying for a variety of government assistance programs, including gas and electric support —LIFE LINE, pharmaceutical assistance —PAAD, and home energy assistance —HEAP.

There will also be screening for Supplemental Security Income —SSI— eligibility, and information about the Senior Health Insurance

Program —SHIP.

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

The Outreach Services Program will visit the following locations:

- April 14, from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at the Seniors Center, Forest Road Park, Fanwood.

- April 16, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at Vauxhall Seniors/Union Township Community Action, Kearse Center, 2410 Springfield Avenue, Vauxhall.

- April 21, from 2 to 3 p.m. at Alexian Manor, 122-7th St., Elizabeth.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Cast can't revive "Boys' Life"

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

Nothing can be more devastating to an audience than a shallow play that goes nowhere and a capable, talented director and cast that try to curb its inadequacies.

Unfortunately, the Howard Korder comedy, "Boys' Life," presented by the Alliance Repertory Theatre Co. at the Union County Performing Arts Center, Rahway, leaves much to be desired in the way of story and plot.

At the matinee performance on Sunday, the audience, made up mostly of young people, appeared to be more tolerant and chuckled at some unfunny lines.

The play, set in a large city in 1980, is staged in choppy vignettes with no continuity.

It concerns three young men, once roommates at college, now unhappy, aimless friends, who gather at one's

apartment to hang out, drink beer, smoke pot, play trivia games to relieve their boredom and complain about life in foul language. Perhaps there are more college graduates than one realizes that have not managed to find their niche in this world. As a result, they can become hapless, hopeless individuals with nothing to look forward to in the future. At least, there should be some spark to a person's life, but one certainly won't find it in "Boys' Life."

In the play one of the three is a married man with a child, whose wife is away on a business trip. Another can't seem to find the proper sexual partner and will go so far as to propose marriage. And that often won't work.

The third, in whose apartment the boys gather, hangs around in his underwear, he says, because if a girl comes to visit, he'll be ready.

The three sit around on a sofa bed, which seems to be the real star of the show. Sometimes the bed part is hidden; and more often, it is opened up.

In the first act, the young men and the women in their lives appear to have major problems with life. The audience feels, however, these problems will at least be explained and solved in the second act. Big mistake. Nothing is explained and nothing is solved, except one of the three decides to get married, a marriage, which starts out shakily and questionably.

Adequate performances are given by the three actors, Matt McCarthy, who plays Jack, the married one, whose aim in life is to seduce women; Michael Mattie as Phil, who finally gets married; and Scott Tyler as Don, the guy in the underwear.

The women in their lives also try their best to make sense of "Boys

Life." They include Ibbey Cizmar, as Maggie, Anna Lamadrid as the Girl, who hates herself, but the audience never finds out why; Lili Marques as Carla, Vicki Massulli as Lisa, and Quinn Warren as Karen.

Paul Zeller, who made a valiant effort to direct "Boys' Life," may have been able to do something concrete if there was some understanding to the story or some theoretical resolution to the reasons for the characters' bitterness and useless existence.

To add to the general disappointment, is that this big, beautiful renovated theater is just too intimidating for a small, intimate play.

The acoustics sometimes echo and destroy an actor's lines. Hopefully, Michael J. Driscoll, artistic director of the Alliance Repertory Theatre Co., and the Union County Performing Arts Center will be able to rectify this situation in the very near future.



The three 'boys' in 'Boys Life,' the Howard Korder comedy, staged by the Alliance Repertory Theatre Co. at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway are, from left, Scott Tyler, Matt McCarthy and Michael Mattie.

Brennan puts on director's hat with 'Kiss Me Kate'

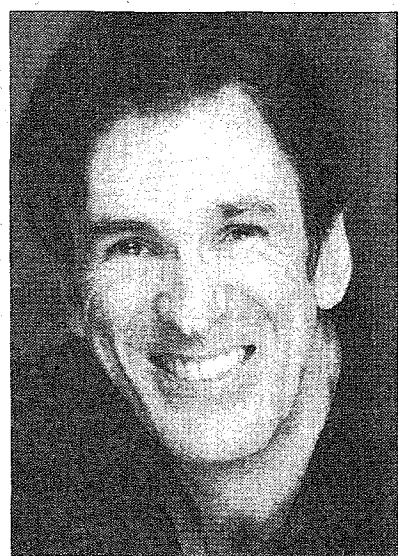
By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

It takes a very special and very gifted person to be able to excel in two important theatrical phases — directing and acting. And James Brennan is endowed with a superior talent for both.

As an actor, Brennan has appeared in 10 Broadway shows. Lately, however, he has decided to utilize his directorial talents, and he will be holding the precious reins to "Kiss Me Kate," the Cole Porter musical, which will open on Wednesday at the Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn. "Kiss Me Kate" will be Brennan's fifth directorial production at the Millburn theater.

"I always say that when I'm directing for a while, I miss acting. And vice versa," Brennan explained during a recent chat. "And being able to do both has many advantages. As a director, I have a pretty good idea how the play should go. And when I was acting, I can appreciate the direction from the starting point."

Brennan said thoughtfully, "Direc-



Brennan

tors who have never acted don't know as well as how to talk to actors. They're usually brilliant, but they don't know how to connect with actors. As a director, I have a pretty good idea how it should go. When I'm acting, I can appreciate from the start-

ing point in which direction the acting should go."

How did the idea of Brennan's directing "Kiss Me Kate" come about? He had directed four Paper Mill productions including "She Loves Me," "Noises Off," "Sound of Music" and "Crazy for You," which incidentally was telecast on the Public Broadcasting System.

"So," he said, "they called me last year, and I was very interested. I had never directed 'Kiss Me Kate.' And so, here I am. We had a great duet together. I'm thrilled with the entire company, the voices, the choreography, the ensemble, the performances — they're all great. And we all can get together and individu-

ally as well, and do a fine job."

"Kiss Me Kate," Brennan exclaimed, "is huge. It's an enormous undertaking. But we have an ensemble of wonderful people. We didn't pull any punches. The ensemble absorbed more information than any I've ever worked with."

Brennan mentioned that he has always loved the Paper Mill Playhouse. Unlike Broadway plays that have a five-to-six week rehearsal period, this theater only has about two and a half weeks "to put it all together. But we're lucky to have such a group of people, and I'm thrilled with the way they have absorbed everything without being intimidated. There really is so much to cover."

Brennan, who was born in Newark and raised in that city, became interested in the theater at the age of 15, when he was attending Seton Hall Prep. "Actually, I've always been interested in the theater, but I had a lot of help from Joseph Hayes, who was part of the high school. He had a summer theater in Long Beach Island, and he asked me if I wanted to be an apprentice. And I agreed. And through him, I was exposed to theater. It was a

great acting experience. I was sort of swept away. And," he laughed, "I was hooked."

Brennan attended Rutgers University in Newark and was a theater major. "I saw a lot of New York plays. I really got a big education. I also saw my first pieces of theater at the Paper Mill Playhouse. I lived that close to the theater. And I have a very soft spot for the Paper Mill Playhouse. Right

See BRENNAN, Page 7

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Upper School (Grades 9-12)
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Schools, Kids, Camps

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: Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stayvesant Ave., P.O. Box 3109, Union, NJ 07083 or unioncounty@thelocalsource.com. Faxes may be sent to 908-686-6681.

ART SHOWS

Roselle Park resident artist **LEONA M. SEUFER** is featured in a solo exhibition of digital artwork at The Hobart Cooperative Gallery in Hoboken through June 3 at the Sovereign Bank, 86 River St., Hoboken. There will be a reception on Thursday from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

The Montclair Art Museum announces the opening of the **2008 NEW JERSEY ARTS ANNUAL CRAFTS**. This exhibition will be on display through May 11 and is part of a unique series of statewide exhibitions highlighting the work of visual artists and crafts people from New Jersey. The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Ave. in Montclair. Information and directions are available at www.montclairartmuseum.org or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed on Mondays and major holidays.

ARTS UNBOUND has opened its gallery at 544 Freeman St., Orange. The gallery will be open for the public to view and purchase works of art by artists with disabilities. Fine arts and crafts, large and small, including gifts for the holiday season, are available for sale. Arts Unbound is supported by grants from the United Way of Essex and West Hudson, The United Way of Summit, New Providence and Berkeley Heights, the Grotta Foundation for Senior Care, the Kessler Foundation, the Wallerstein Foundation, the Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation, the NJ State Council on the Arts and the Newark Diocese. A portion of all items purchased is tax deductible. For more information and directions visit www.artsunbound.org or call 973-675-2787.

BERKELEY HEIGHTS ARTIST NANCY ORI is featured at a permanent exhibit at Berkeley Heights Public Library, 290 Plainfield Ave., Berkeley Heights. For information, call 908-464-9333.

AUDITIONS

THE SHOWCASE THEATER, a tuition-based program, awards scholarship money based on a talent evaluation.

For information on the Showcase Theater or any NJWA program, call 908-789-9696, visit the office at 150-152 East Broad St. in Westfield or visit www.njworkshopforthearts.com.

BOOKS

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOOK GROUP meets at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

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

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S STORY TIMES will be Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m., both usually with coloring and/or crafts, at Barnes & Noble, 240 Route 22 west, Springfield.

PAJAMA STORY TIME is the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 240 Route 22 west, Springfield.

CLASSES

The Fontaine Academy of Music is presenting a workshop for music educators on the **DALCROZE METHOD** on April 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with Robert Abramson, one of the most respected authorities on eurhythmics and improvisation in the world. The event is open to music teachers and music directors from elementary school to high school to college-level educators and music professionals. Abramson, founder and director of the Manhattan Dalcroze Institute, based at The Juilliard School of Music, in New York. The Fontaine Academy of Music

is located at 1050 Route 22 West in Mountainside. Pre-registration is required to attend the workshop. For more information, or to register, please call 908-317-9900.

THE DUCRET SCHOOL OF ART is located at 1030 Central Ave. and is situated on a seven-acre campus in a historic residential area of Plainfield. The school offers full-time and part-time day and evening classes in fine arts, graphic design/computer graphics and illustration. For information call 908-757-7171, fax: 908-757-2626, or visit www.ducr.edu.

LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM, 1003 Morris Ave., Union, chronicles more than 200 years of New Jersey and U.S. history. The museum is open to the public Wednesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays, from noon to 4 p.m., April through December. For more information about upcoming Liberty Hall events or for reservations, call 908-527-0400.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE OF NEW JERSEY is now accepting applications for its 2008 Junior Corps and Senior Corps, two summer theatre programs designed for students ages 11 to 14 and 14 to 17, respectively. Two sessions are offered this summer, the first from June 23 through July 12 and the second from August 4 through 23. Classes are held Monday through Friday, from 1 to 6 p.m. To register for the Junior Corps, arrange a Senior Corps audition, or request additional information, contact Jamie Brink-Grant at 973-408-3980 or jbrink@shakespearenj.org.

CONCERTS

Fountain Baptist Church of Summit announced that they are hosting the **HONORS CHORUS OF SOUTH AFRICA** who will perform in concert on Saturday at 5 p.m. at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hackensack as they continue their Inaugural "Ubungane"—Friendship—tour through the United States. The 24 musically and academically gifted students from six high schools, near Pretoria, will visit nine cities, sharing their gift of music as a way of increasing awareness and understanding of South African culture and traditions, while gaining a greater understanding of our culture and educational system.

The Manor presents **MARIEANN MERINGOLO** on April 17 for "Here's To The Ladies! - A Salute To The Great Ladies In Song". Marieann has impressed patrons at Tavern On The Green as featured vocalist with their All Star Big Band. Her second solo CD won both the MAC—Manhattan Association of Cabarets—and Backstage Bistro Awards in 2004. The Manor is located at 111 Prospect Ave., West Orange, NJ. For more information, call 973-731-2360 or visit our Web site: www.themanorrestaurant.com

Z Cafe announces that **SLIGHT IMPERFECTION** will be the featured performer on April 19 at 8:30 p.m. Slight Imperfection is Odarka and Redentor—a.k.a. Red, a singer/songwriter duo blending musical genre of traditional Celtic, folk, rock and roll and all in between. Held on the third Saturday of each month in the Social Hall of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at the corner of Elm and Esterbrook Avenues in Rahway the Z Cafe Coffeehouse starts at 7 p.m. with an open mic. At approximately 8:30 p.m. there is a featured performer.

For further information contact Tom Picard at 732-388-3865, or check out the cafe link: www.zionlutheran.org/cafe.htm. The Coffee With Conscience Concert Series continues its eighth season by presenting the dynamic **SCOTT AND MICHELLE DALZIEL**. The concert will take place at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 East Broad Street—corner of North Avenue—in Westfield, on April 19. The award-winning Ukelele Lady, Victoria Vox, will open the show. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 8 p.m. Advance purchase of tickets is highly recommended by going to scottandmichelle.eventbrite.com. All net proceeds from this evening's Concert will be donated to the Plainfield Chapter of

Stepping Out

Habitat for Humanity. The season will continue with the legendary David Wilcox on May 17 and the duo, Small Potatoes, on June 21. You can also call the concert hotline at 908-412-9105 or send an e-mail to concerts4causes@aol.com. Volunteers are always appreciated.

The A. Louis Scarmolin Trust, estate of the late composer Anthony Louis Scarmolin—1890-1969—announces the final concert in the inaugural season of the Scarmolin Chamber Concerts. The concert will feature **DUO CANTIGA**, consisting of soprano Katherine Harris and classical guitarist Christopher Kenniff and will take place at Temple Sinai, 208 Summit Ave. in Summit on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. The trust is located at 475 Watchung Avenue, Watchung. The phone number for inquiries is 908-754-8480 and the email address is scarmolin@yahoo.com.

THE NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA will provide a piano concert from one of their principle pianists on June 3, 10:15 a.m. at the YM-YWHA of Union County, 501 Green Lane, Union Township. The concert is free of charge to the community. The subscription part will information on next year's four concert series. For more information call Susan Silberman at 908-289-8112.

CROSSROADS IN GARWOOD will feature: every Monday, Open Mic Night, every Tuesday, Jazz Jam, every Wednesday, karaoke night. The Crossroads is located at 78 North Ave., Garwood. For information, call Lee at 908-232-5666, or visit www.xxroads.com. **LANA'S RESTAURANT**, 1300 Raritan Road, Clark, will offer dinner and live reggae with Exodus Supreme every Wednesday, beginning at 7 p.m. For information, call 732-669-9024.

DANCE

SOCIAL DANCING is every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at The Bayway Polish Club, 625 Pulaski St., Elizabeth. Live music and DJ. Coffee, cookies and door prizes are available. For information, call 908-355-3131.

Y-SQUARES, a local square dance club, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Frank K. Hehly School, Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 908-298-1851, 732-381-2535 or 908-241-9492. **LUNA LOUNGE** hosts "Tasty Thursdays" with DJ Richie, who spins reggaeton and hip-hop. Patrons must be 21 or older. Dress is casual but trendy. Parking is available. Luna Lounge is located at 1906 E. Georges Ave., Linden. Call 908-925-4120 for details.

HOBBIES

THE NORTH JERSEY CAR CLUB meets at the Anthony Amalfi Community Center, 1268 Sheaffer Ave., Roselle, on the first Saturday of each month to discuss driving experiences, auto maintenance tips, safe driving practices and to plan future social outings to places of cultural, historical and scenic interest in Northern New Jersey and the surrounding area. Meetings start at 9:30 a.m. Free refreshments are served to members and guests before the meeting. For directions and more information, call Jim at 908-245-4744.

THE HARVEST QUILTERS OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY will meet the first Monday of each month at Cozy Corner Creations quilt shop, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains.

KNITTING GROUP meets every Monday from 10 a.m. to noon. Knitters are encouraged to bring a favorite project to the Springfield Barnes & Noble Cafe. For more information,

call 973-376-6581.

HICKORY TREE CHORUS, an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in barbershop style, meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the New Jersey Youth Symphony Music Center, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Open to residents of both Essex and Union counties. To learn more about Sweet Adelines, Hickory Tree and its quartets, women and teen-aged girls who sing are urged to visit hickorytreechorus.org or e-mail info@hickorytreechorus.org or call 973-966-6815.

CHESS GROUP PLAYERS of all levels are invited to discuss, play and enjoy chess in the Cafe every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Book-sellers, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield.

JAZZ

Lana's Restaurant and Lounge in Clark, at the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex, 1300 Raritan Road, announces it's new **FRIDAY NIGHT JAZZ** Series featuring world-class artists every Friday evening.

The Bethan Baptist Church in Newark will present jazz performances in the coming months.

On May 3 **PAUL MEYERS QUARTET**. On June 7, vocalist **STEPHEN MCLEAN AND HIS TRIO**. All performances are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and are free and come as you are. For more information call Dorthaan Kirk at 973-674-5141. For more information call 732-669-9024.

Lana's Restaurant and Lounge in Clark, at the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex, 1300 Raritan Road, announces jazz every Thursday night featuring legendary trumpeter **WARREN VACHE'S QUARTET**, from 7 to 11 p.m.

KIDS

Spring is here and Union County's Watchung Stable offers guided **TRAIL HORSEBACK RIDES** on Sundays for everyone nine years of age or older, weather permitting. Guided trail rides are held on Sundays at 2 and 3 p.m., weather permitting. Visitors are accommodated on a first come, first served basis. Experience is not required. The trail rides and lead lines are held at the 1160 Summit Lane-stable in Mountainside. Office hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. daily. For further information, call 908-789-3665 during the normal office hours or e-mail questions to stablequestions@ucnj.org.

TALES FOR TOTS PRESCHOOL STORY TIME will be offered at Barnes and Noble, Route 22 West, Springfield, Mondays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m., and the Kids' Writing Workshop, Saturdays at 10 a.m. For information, call 973-376-8544.

RADIO

TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION will meet at 8 p.m. the first and third Mondays of the month at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church on Old Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. For information, call 908-241-5758.

SCRIPTS

PREMIERE STAGES, the new Actors' Equity Association theater program at Kean University, is currently accepting play submissions for the Premiere Stages Play Festival from professional playwrights born or currently residing in New Jersey, as well as in the sur-

rounding areas of New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. There is no fee required to submit a play to the Premiere Stages Play Festival. To request entry guidelines, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Laura Kelly, producing assistant, Premiere Stages is at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union 07083.

SINGLES

INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for discussion and continental breakfast at First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield. For information, call 908-889-5265 or 908-889-4751.

SOCIAL SINGLES DANCING, for 45-year-olds and older, meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at The Elks Lodge, 1193 Route 22 east, Mountainside. For information, call 908-232-9667 on Tuesdays after 5 p.m.

SINGLES MIX AND MINGLE, every Thursday, starting at 7 p.m. Enjoy live entertainment and free finger food at Cafe Vivace, 1370 South Ave., and Terrill Road, Fanwood. Admission is free. Call 908-753-4500 for details.

THEATER

"**FLUSH**", a collection of six new one-act plays written by area playwright

Eric Alter will cover a variety of human relationships, both comedic and dramatic. They will be presented at The Deron School in Montclair this weekend beginning Friday and closing out on Sunday. Show times are 8 p.m. for Friday and Saturday night, and 2 p.m. for Saturday and Sunday matinee. Tickets can be purchased at the door. There is no need to make reservations. For more information people can visit: www.hometown.aol.com/apricotsky or call 973-509-2350.

The Stony Hill Players will present a fully staged version of "**IOLANTHE**" by Gilbert and Sullivan, with a chamber orchestra starting on through Saturday, at Oakes Center, 120 Morris Avenue in Summit. Friday and Saturday evening performances are at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m. For more information call 908-665-1376 or email stonyhillplayers@yahoo.com. For directions and further information visit www.stonyhillplayers.org.

Pucker up and get ready for romance at the Paper Mill Playhouse in "**KISS ME, KATE**" which won the very first Tony Award for Best Musical in 1949 - and has been delighting audiences ever since. Inspired by The Taming of the Shrew, this charming story follows two musical theatre actors—once married, now divorced—as they star together in a Broadway-bound musical version of Shakespeare's play. "Kiss Me, Kate" runs from Wednesday through May 18 at the Paper Mill. For ticket information go online to www.papermill.org or call 973-376-4343.

Tickets for Disney's **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL** at SOPAC's Main Stage are on sale. The show will be performed by the Battery Factory Theater—formerly Theater Under the Stars—Youth Conservatory. The tickets will be on sale at the South Orange Performing Arts Center box office. The show dates are May 30 at 7:30 p.m., May 31 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and June 1 at 3 p.m. Go online at sopacnow.org or call the box office at 973-313-2787.

BOYS' LIFE traces the misadventures

of three former college buddies seeking to make their way in New York City in the 1980s. Boys Life will be performed through Sunday at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway. Told in a series of fast paced, sharply etched scenes, the play dissects and anatomizes the male narcissism and protracted adolescence afflicting its male characters. Nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, the New Yorker called it "the most balanced and intelligent comment on the battle of the sexes I've seen in a long time." All productions run Thursday through Sunday. Evening performances at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets can be ordered from the Union County Performing Arts Center's Web site www.ucpac.org or by calling the box office at 732-499-8226 or go to www.njartstix.org to purchase the day of. The theater is located at 1601 Irving Street, Rahway, N.J. 07065. Further information is also available at the company Web site www.alliancerep.org

VARIETY

Premiere Stages and the Department of Media and Film at Kean University are currently accepting submissions to the third annual **PURPLE VIOLET FILM FESTIVAL**. The festival takes place on April 22 on the Kean University campus and will feature screenings of student films, lectures and workshops by industry professionals, and a question and answer session with a special guest artist. Submission to the Purple Violet Film Festival is free of charge. Film-makers can download guidelines from www.kean.edu/premierestages. The deadline for entries is Saturday.

Admission is free for all festival events. For directions, please visit www.kean.edu or call 908-737-SHOW—7469.

Submissions to the festival will be accepted in four short-film categories: Comedic, Animation, Dramatic and Documentary. Interested students should submit three copies of their film on DVD—electronic submissions will not be accepted.

The Les Malamut Art Gallery will present an exhibition of photographs, "Reflections" by Fanwood photographer **GREG CUMMINGS**, through April 30. Cummings has received numerous awards over the years, including Best of Show and First Place in the Union County Juried Senior Art Show, Best of Show and First Place in Friends of National Wildlife Photo Contest, and Second Place in Wickford RI Juried Photo Show. The display is at the Union Public Library at 1980 Morris Ave., Union. It is open during regular library hours and is handicapped accessible. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For further information, call 908-851-5450.

Complimentary **WINE TASTINGS** are held every Tuesday and Friday at Coolvines from 5 to 8 p.m. 23 Elm St., Westfield. For more information and a complete listing of other events, call 908-232-0123 or visit www.coolvines.com.

THE BACK PORCH in Rahway will present Open Mic Night every Thursday night, and live bands perform on Friday and Saturday nights.

Happy Hour is 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. Mondays are Mexican Mondays. Wednesdays are Ladies Nights and karaoke.

The Back Porch is located at 1505 Main St., Rahway. For information, call 732-381-6455.

CROSSROADS, 78 North Ave., Garwood, presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts, as well as football-themed nights.

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

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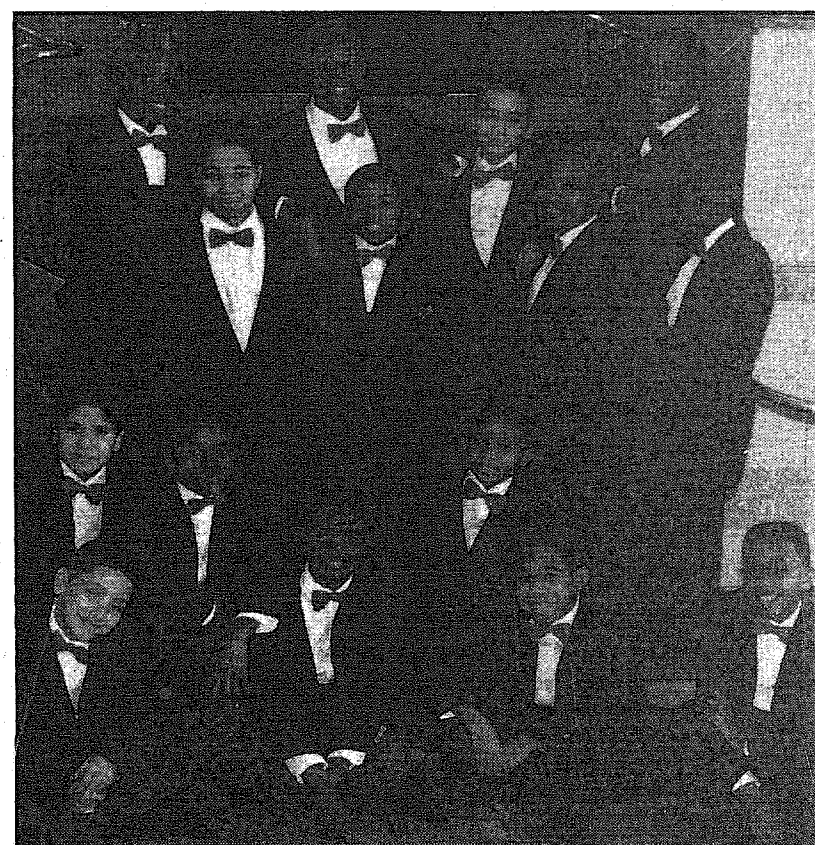
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Join us one hour before curtain for a free glass of champagne, retail therapy in the lobby boutique and a discount voucher for lunch or dinner.

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Groups call 212-398-2765 ext. 140

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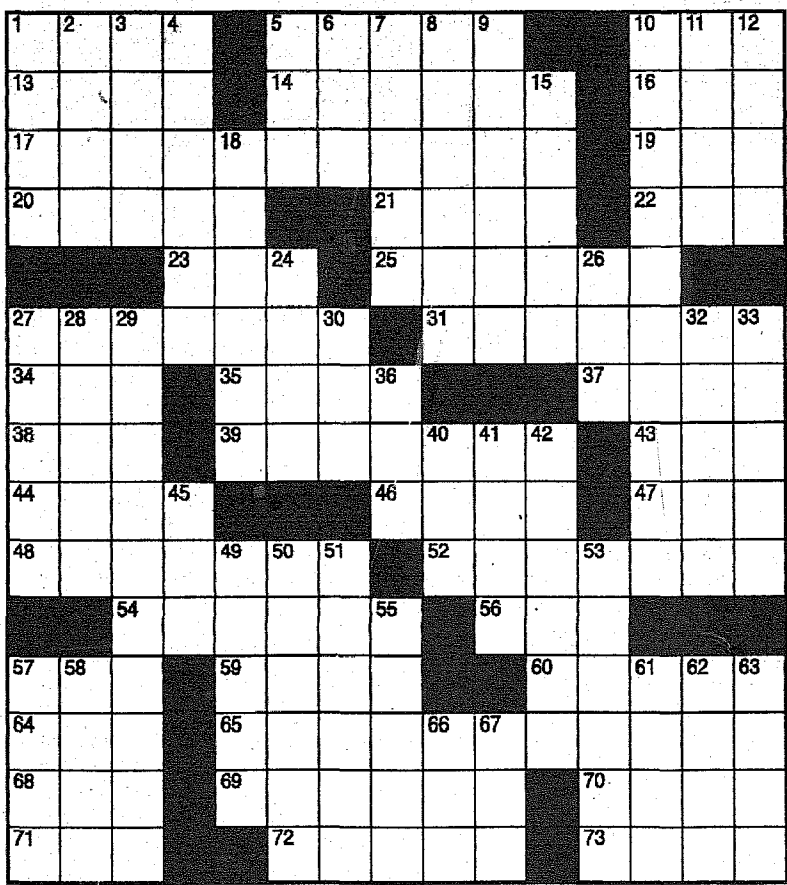
Bloomberg

CROSSWORD
PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. College teacher (abbr.)
- 5. Boxes lightly
- 10. Not wet
- 13. Roster
- 14. A sovereign's residence
- 16. European money (abbr.)
- 17. Injured and cannot play
- 19. Golf score
- 20. Steeple
- 21. Frank's diary
- 22. Frequently
- 23. Moose
- 25. Right-handed pages
- 27. Type of cracker
- 31. Dislike intensely
- 34. Lilly, drug company
- 35. Ogden, US humorist
- 37. Jab
- 38. The outward flow of the tide
- 39. Winter weasels
- 43. Hirobumi, Japanese P. M.
- 44. Retain possession of
- 46. Palm starch
- 47. ja: Japanese assassin
- 48. Carried out in earnest
- 52. Superintends
- 54. Tantalizes
- 56. Hit lightly
- 57. Characters per inch
- 59. The content of cognition
- 60. Low-grade West Indian rum
- 64. Principal ethnic group of China
- 65. Doubling
- 68. They
- 69. Llama pacos
- 70. A line determining the limit of an area
- 71. The in German
- 72. It's capital is Sana
- 73. Anything that provides an inspiration for later work

ANSWERS
APPEAR
IN OUR
CLASSIFIED
SECTION



CLUES DOWN

- 1. Not cons
- 2. Reorganize: reg
- 3. Albanian footballer Bishani
- 4. Small flower
- 5. A health resort
- 6. Political action committee
- 7. Communion table
- 8. It cats and dogs
- 9. Decorative wall bracket
- 10. Putting in a bank account
- 11. Canadian flyers
- 12. Mongolian tent
- 15. Yenisey language
- 18. Cat
- 24. Knot in a tree
- 26. Rhea
- 27. Searches
- 28. Edward, author and writer
- 29. Bad persons
- 30. Electronic warfare support measures (abbr.)
- 32. Fr. classical composer Erik
- 33. Very dark blacks
- 36. Belong to he
- 40. Veterans battleground
- 41. Mild exclamation
- 42. Music of 3 or 4 movements of contrasting forms
- 45. Indian arrowroot
- 49. Pen name of Louise de la Ramee
- 50. Excessively
- 51. Extensive plain without trees
- 53. Diminishes
- 55. Arabian greeting
- 57. African country
- 58. Capital is Belem
- 61. Bona, in good faith
- 62. "Picnic" playwright Wm.
- 63. Elderly
- 66. Water in the solid state
- 67. Metal container

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY
April 12, 2008

EVENT: Indoor Flea Market
PLACE: Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, Stuyvesant Avenue and W. Chestnut Street, Union
TIME: 9am-3pm
PRICE: Free Admittance
DETAILS: VENDORS WANTED. Call 908-245-0562
ORGANIZATION: Sponsored by The Presbyterian Women of Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church.

OTHER

SATURDAY TO SUNDAY
APRIL 14 to 22, 2008

EVENT: Book Donations
PLACE: American Legion #433, 357 Elkwood Ave., New Providence, 07974
DETAILS: Summit College Club Seek Book Donations for Scholarship Fundraiser. Gently used books, CD's DVD's, NO text books or Encyclopedias or manuals. For info call: 908-277-0363
ORGANIZATION: Summit College Club

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HOROSCOPE

This week:

ARIES, March 21-April 20
Aries, if you're looking for magic this week you'll be disappointed. That's not to say the next few days won't be remarkable. They will be, in an ordinary sort of way.
TAURUS, April 21-May 21
Taurus, do-gooders attempt to change your mind on a position, but you're steadfast in your opinions on the matter. You'll get a rise out of a family member.
GEMINI, May 22-June 21
Look before you leap into a plan

that a friend has hatched, Gemini. It pays to be a bit stingy with your money for the next few weeks because changes are around the corner.
CANCER, June 22-July 22
Cancer, your laissez-faire attitude will do nothing to further your career. It's time to be a go-getter and show the higher ups that you are the person to get the job done.
LEO, July 23-August 23
Leo, don't feel bad about some decisions you made last month. At the time, they seemed the only way to make it through the days. This week

you can set right some of your choices.
VIRGO, August 24-Sept. 22
If anyone needs some good news, Virgo, it's you. And that's just what you'll get this week from an unlikely source. Not to mention that romantic options are many.
LIBRA, Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Libra, you should look to the stars more often, because they're providing a road map to your future. A friend needs a supportive shoulder this week; you step up to the plate.
SCORPIO, Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Scorpio, patience is a virtue you simply don't seem to possess this week. While you're quick to say that your restlessness is others' faults, it really is your own.
SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Sagittarius, though the proverbial money tree is really not growing in your backyard, it certainly seems like it this week. You have extra cash on hand you're ready to spend.
CAPRICORN, Dec 22-Jan 20
Laziness has set in this week, and it will take a monumental effort for you to pull yourself out of bed or off of the

sofa. You may need to call in reinforcements, Capricorn.
AQUARIUS, Jan. 21-Feb. 18
You've come up with a good entrepreneurial plan that you're excited to share, Aquarius. Take a few deep breaths before you clue in others to your ideas.
PISCES, Feb. 19-March 20
Pisces, when you want to splurge on something you can't afford, look ahead toward the bigger goal. Won't that be more satisfying?
Famous birthdays:
April 13 - Rick Schroder, actor, 38.

April 14 - Abigail Breslin, actress, 12.
April 15 - Emma Watson, actress, 18.
April 16 - Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, basketball player, 61.
April 17 - Jennifer Garner, actress, 36.
April 18 - James Woods, actor, 61.
April 19 - Maria Sharapova, tennis player, 21.

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REUNIONS

Worrall Community Newspapers seeks information on reunions of Union County schools.
Send news of your reunion plans to Reunions, Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, NJ 07083, or by e-mail to ekensik@thelocalsource.com, with "reunions" in the subject line.
Include all pertinent contact information, such as the names of contact personnel, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, so that attendees may inquire about the reunion. All dates and deadlines relevant to the reunion should also be included.
The following schools are planning reunions:
• Sacred Heart High School, Class of 1958, will hold its 50th year reunion on Sept. 21, at the Quality Inn, Rt. 37 West, Toms River, from 1 to 5 p.m. If you know of anyone from the class, or for information, please contact Mary Ellen Malone Damiano 908-862-4089 or e-mail adamiano14@comcast.net.
• The 45th Reunion Committee of West Side High, classes of June 1962

and January 1963, are looking for alumni.
The reunion is planned for Saturday at the Riverview Pavilion in Belmar. Contact Irene Tramutola Carlucci at 908-654-3703 or Rae Vella Yurecko at 908-687-2294.
• The Weequahic High School classes of 1943, January and June, reunions is postponed until October. Alumni, or anyone having whereabouts of former classmates please contact for the January class, Selma Rosenstock Cohen at 973-731-4170 or Leona Lubin Kaufman at 732-846-3322. For the June class contact Ada Kestenbaum Pralgener at 973-364-1061 or Alan Brookman at 973-996-2124.
• The Bloomfield High School Class of 1978 will be holding its 30th Reunion on May 17. The reunion will be held at Jenkinson's Pavilion, the Boardwalk in Point Pleasant from 6 to 10 p.m. Open to all alumni and friends of the class of 1978. For additional information visit the official Web site: www.classof78BHS.com or www.classmates.com or e-mail: michelecaron@aol.com.

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IL Giardino Ristorante

By Amy S. Bobrowski
Staff Writer
Don't judge a book by its cover. That's the most important thing to remember when frequenting IL Giardino Ristorante for the first time.
What appears to be the everytown pizzeria at 103 Miln St., hides a classy, but cozy back dining room. Full of Tuscan flare, vines drape the cream colored walls illuminated by the glow of faux gas lanterns.
The room holds a maximum of 50 people, so patrons never feel overcrowded or lost in a sea of customers.
Fluffy and piping hot homemade dinner rolls are brought to the table within seconds of sitting down.
Owners Tony and Stella Scuderi sure know how to prepare customers for the feast to come.
Selections abound the full dinner menu. About five specials change seasonally and anything can be cooked to order. None of the almost 20 appetizer and salad selections cost more than \$10, of which the best choices are the tender fried calamari, \$7, and the heaping stuffed mushrooms, \$6.
The Linguini alla Vodka offers the best of both poultry and seafood. This dish, \$14.95, combines chicken and butterfly shrimp in a creamy pink vodka sauce served over perfectly cooked linguini.
For those preferring more meat, the Veal Oscar, \$14.95, simmers in a very light cream sauce. The prosciutto, asparagus, and cheese accompaniments are just as plentiful as the veal anchor.
Hearty portions are the staple at IL Giardino and you won't leave hungry. With more than 15 pasta selections, and at least seven of each veal, poultry and seafood dishes, patrons can sure find reasons for frequent visits to this hidden gem of Italian eateries.
The most expensive entree is a seafood soup that costs \$15.95. Entrees, served with salad and a side of pasta, are mostly in the \$10 to \$15 range.
Not in the mood for a full course dinner? Enjoy one of IL Giardino's nine specialty pizzas or calzones. A seven item kids' menu ensures smiles on all faces.
No meal would be complete without at least a taste of one of their six desserts. The favorite is a creamy tartufo whose dark chocolate shell complements the ice cream and chocolate syrup in a way that's too sweet for words. In the summer months, the restaurant offers real fruit Italian ices.
IL Giardino not only allows patrons to enjoy their meals in their warm dining room, but by offering take out and free delivery, customers can savor these Italian flavors in their own homes.
An extensive catering menu offers selections for both on- and off-site functions.
Restaurant hours are Monday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. The phone number is (908) 272-2500.

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IL Giardino Ristorante

By Amy S. Bobrowski
Staff Writer
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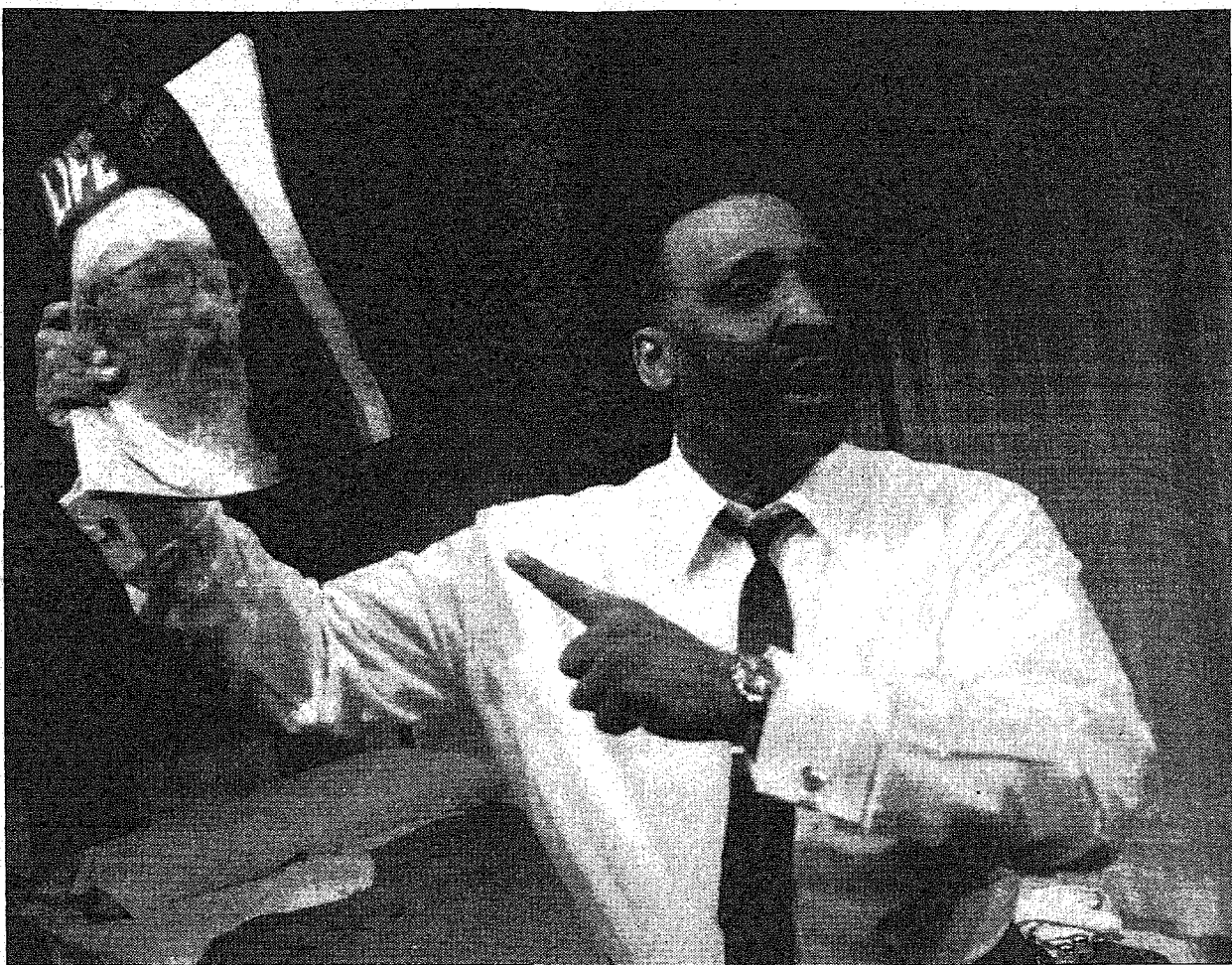
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Craig Alan Edwards portrays Martin Luther King, Jr. in "The Man in Room 306" directed and performed by Edwards, and also directed by Cheryl Katz. The play runs through May 4 at the Luna Stage, 695 Bloomfield Avenue, Montclair. For more information and tickets call 973-744-3309 or go online at www.lunastage.org.

Edwards gives powerful Dr. King portrayal in 'Man in Room 360'

By Ruth Ross
Correspondent

Amidst a spate of politicians' speeches commemorating the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 40 years ago—one even had Sen. John McCain apologizing for his vote against Martin Luther King Day—the current production at Luna Stage, "The Man in Room 306," stands out as an extraordinary piece of theater and art.

The play, written and performed by Craig Alan Edwards, received its world premiere at Luna Stage in 1995, has been performed at various professional and university theaters across the country and is the only play ever revived by this local troupe. In its most recent incarnation—once again directed by Cheryl Katz and starring Edwards—"The Man in Room 306" is a stunning tour de force that is not only timely but reveals a more human side to the great civil rights leader that few people know, or remember.

The set by Charlie Corcoran, which has the audience enter the theater through the balcony door and a replica of King's motel room, perfectly evokes the time and place inhabited by Dr. King in the hours before he gave his stirring speech to the Memphis sanitation workers and then met his death at the end of a bullet shot by James Earl Ray.

With its half-eaten meal, unfinished game of solitaire and crumpled paper, the scene suggests a life lived and interrupted. Jill Nagle's atmospheric lighting and sound designer Andy Cohen's use late sixties' music enhance the experience.

But the evening belongs to Edwards in the performance of a lifetime. With makeup by Jennifer Snowden and vocal intonation and physical mannerisms uncannily like Dr.

King's, Edwards convincingly becomes the man without resorting to caricature.

Addressing the audience as a whole, he ruminates on a variety of subjects and recalls important people in his past.

We get a glimpse of his relationship with his grandmother, who instilled a love of big words in her precocious grandchild; of his overbearing and opinionated father, also a preacher, who appears to have his son's life mapped out for him yet who admonishes him to "play it safe"; and his lively, sometimes neglected, wife Coretta, who worries that the one suit he owns might disintegrate from constant wearing.

Edwards reveals a man who'd rather read the newspaper sports section than write a speech for the next day's march, a man who dreams of being a major league baseball pitcher, a man who delights in playing practical jokes and having them played on him.

In contrast, Edwards' King is a man haunted by the memories of the four little girls killed in the Birmingham church bombing, by the death of the 16-year-old boy in the march just the day before, of the Mississippi children so poor that all they ate for lunch was a quarter of an apple and some crackers.

Edwards conveys King's struggle with his personal doubts and limitations in a stirring scene that has him on his knees, weeping and singing a hymn to God, seeking forgiveness and, ironically, asking the Lord to "take him home"—presumably to heaven.

And finally, Edwards' spot-on delivery of King's final speech, in which he prophetically declares, "I have been to the mountain top and I

have seen the Promised Land. . . I may not get there with you," is both stirring and sad.

He communicates the power of the words so beautifully that one weeps for what might have been if King had not been murdered.

By humanizing the iconic Martin Luther King Jr., Edwards and Luna Stage have performed a great service to theatergoers and the general public alike.

For one thing, we are reminded that many of our idols are human and have feet of clay, whether they be our preachers, our politicians or our parents.

For another, forgiveness of missteps is important if we are to move forward to the Promised Land, whatever that is for us, individually or collectively.

The play's title says it all: "The Man in Room 306" is the story of a man, not a symbol.

As such, this production, which runs through May 4 at Luna Stage in Montclair, is a "must see," appropriate for an audience including both teenagers—who might not know much about Martin Luther King Jr. other than what they've read in history textbooks—and those old enough to remember seeing him on television or, perhaps, marching with him in Washington, D.C. Don't miss it.

"The Man in Room 306" will be performed Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Located at 695 Bloomfield Avenue in Montclair, Luna Stage is wheelchair accessible and has assistive listening devices and pre-show tours for the sight impaired upon request.

For information and tickets, call the box office at 973-744-3309 or visit www.lunastage.org.

Brennan puts on director's hat with 'Kiss Me Kate'

(Continued from page 4)
now, it's not only doing well in its effort to survive. They have a lot of new people, and I believe that it's really in great shape."

He credits George Hayes, as the one who turned his life around. With his first directorial job, "it was Hayes who asked me to direct 'the perfect show.' 'The Merry Widow.' It was my first show, but I directed it for him, and it was very successful."

Brennan began to direct shows. However, he appeared on Broadway as an actor in such productions as "Good News," "Rodgers and Hart," "I Love My Wife," "42nd Street," "Singin' in the Rain," "Me and My Gal" and "Crazy for You."

There are directors in theater who

like to act at the same time. "Not me," Brennan said, "I would never direct myself. I believe something suffers, and it's usually the production."

Brennan, who has been in the theater since 1966 and got his first Equity card in 1971, has never really been interested in movies and television. "I've never thought about films and TV, and films and TV never thought about me," he laughed.

Brennan admitted that "I'd love to do serious productions, but there's so much more money in musicals. I have a family, so I have to stay with musicals—which is all right with me."

When Brennan is finished with the Paper Mill production of "Kiss Me, Kate," he will turn over his proverbial cards, put aside his directorial experi-

ence and begin to act again. "I'm going to Wichita, Kansas, to perform the lead in 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.'"

And after that? Actor or director? He's great at both. And Brennan agrees that only time will tell.

Arts & Entertainment Editor

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Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to:

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ADVERTISEMENT

FEMALE BABY BOOMERS STRUGGLE WITH MID-LIFE ISSUES

It is not uncommon for many female baby boomers to feel stressed, anxious and overwhelmed as they transition through the midlife years. Born between 1946 and 1964, this is an enormous generation of well educated professional women who were expecting these years to be the most fulfilling.

Instead, many of the older boomers are very concerned about their young adult children who are not ready to be fully independent. They question how much and how long they should provide financial help, and whether the help is appreciated.

As part of the sandwich generation, these women are also responsible for the care of their aging parents who are living longer and have a myriad of needs including doctor visits, medication, transportation and housing to name a few.

This was supposed to be a time of realizing their own dreams and aspirations, but there doesn't seem to be enough time or money for that. As retirement looms in the not too distant future, boomers will need to make decisions about where to live, what to do and how to finance it all. This will require negotiation with their spouses (or partners) who may indeed have different ideas about retirement leading to conflicts within the relationship.

If all this is not enough, in a society which places tremendous importance on youthful appearance, the healthiest women will need to demonstrate self-acceptance and frustration tolerance in terms of body image, physical aging and their own health concerns.

The good news is that many female baby boomers grew up with a basic sense of security, sound values and realistic perceptions which can guide them through the difficult issues unique to their mid-life years. The task will be to sort through the conflicts, guilt and desires in an effort to build the emotional resilience required to meet these challenges.

Linda Whalen, MA, LPC is a practicing psychotherapist in Summit who specializes in women's issues. For appointments /consultations: Call 908-868-1532.

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Learn how to become a hospice volunteer

Beginning in April, the Saint Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Care Center, an affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System, will host six-week training programs for individuals interested in becoming a hospice volunteer. Programs will be hosted in Essex and Union counties.

The volunteer training program is designed to give participants an understanding of the needs of patients and families who are coping with advanced illness. Upon completion of the program, volunteers will be connected with patients in close proximity to where they reside.

For more information, or to register for a training program, please contact Spiro Ballas, Saint Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Care Center Senior Volunteer Coordinator, at 973-322-4866 or sballas@sbhcs.com.

Training programs will be offered at the following locations.

Union County

Beginning Monday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Townley Presbyterian Church, Union. Programs are double sessions and will run for 3 weeks.

Essex County

Beginning Tuesday, May 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bnai Keshet Synagogue, Montclair. Programs are double sessions and will run for 3 weeks.

Beginning Thursday, May 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. Clara Maass Medical Center, Belleville

Beginning Saturday, May 31, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saint Barnabas Health Care System, West Orange. Programs are double sessions and will run for 3 weeks.

Established in 1981, Saint Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Care Center provides comprehensive physical, emotional and spiritual care and support services for patients with advanced illness and their families throughout ten counties in the State of New Jersey.

The program, which serves infants, children, adults and the elderly, honors the unique choices and values of

patients and their families while offering full access to the broad array of services provided by the Saint Barnabas Health Care System.

"In as few as three hours a week, volunteers can make a tremendous difference in the life of a patient coping with advanced illness," explains Ballas. "Volunteers can read to patients, hold their hand, or just spend time with them."



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Get walking, fight heart disease, stroke

Help fight New Jersey's No. 1 and No. 3 killers - heart disease and stroke - by volunteering at the American Heart Association's brand new Start! Union County Heart Walk, coming to Schering-Plough corporate campus in Kenilworth on May 17.

Heart Walk is entering its 16th year, but through the American Heart Association's ground-breaking new Start! campaign, the American Heart Association has transformed its signature walking event into Start! Heart Walk to be the organization's "mission in action."

Start! Heart Walk is an opportunity for people to improve their health by walking, while simultaneously raising funds to help fight heart disease and stroke.

Every element of Start! Heart Walk is now designed to create a stronger community among participants; instill passion for reducing disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke; and generate excitement for a new or renewed commitment to heart-healthy living.

American Heart Association Start! Union County Heart Walk needs volunteers for many roles, including setting up and supporting the inaugural "create hope village," "inspire change village" and the "celebrate success village"; as well as volunteers to help with walk site set-up and take down; check-in/registration support; performers and entertainers; clowns and

face painters; community health fair participants; team photograph volunteers; volunteers to help distribute food, water and other items; as well as to support other volunteer opportunities.

Close to 25,000 people from throughout New Jersey, including approximately 3,000 from Union County, are expected to step out this year in Start! Heart Walk. Join survivors of heart surgery, heart attack and stroke, as well as families, friends, neighbors and company teams from throughout Union County on May 17 to help fight heart disease and stroke to live longer, heart-healthy lives.

American Heart Association Start! calls on Americans and their employers to create a culture of physical activity and wellness in order to live longer, heart healthy lives. Make walking a part of your daily routine.

Learn more about the Start! campaign or register today for Start! Union County Heart Walk by calling the American Heart Association state office at 609-208-0020.

Nutritional senior tips

Older Americans need to watch their diet, according Dr. Paul Dell'Aquila, vice president of Medical Affairs for the Saint Barnabas Health Care System Nursing and Rehabilitation Centers.

Yet for millions of older Americans, maintaining healthful eating habits is a struggle. Many older adults not only eat meals low in nutrients, but skip meals altogether.

If you or a loved one has gotten out of the habit of eating well, take heart that food can be fun at any age.

To find out more about eating a well-balanced diet, contact your physician.

Ashbrook, located at 1610 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, and Cornell Hall, located at 234 Chestnut Street in Union, are affiliates of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System.

For more information, call 1-888-SBHS-123 or visit www.saintbarnabas.com.

Following are some tips to help you get back on the road to proper nutrition and good health.

- Make your mouth happy. Intensify tastes by adding flavors and sweeteners, such as herbs, sauces, syrup, butter flavoring, etc. In addition, combine different textures.

- Sharpen your shopping skills. Consider doing your grocery shopping at convenient times when the store is not crowded. In addition, stretch your dollars by considering unit pricing, that way you can get the same food for less.

- Enjoy food with friends. Invite friends or family to join you for meals or consider joining a community group-dining program where you can make new friends.

- Activate your appetite. By getting exercise and remaining physically active you can boost your mood, improve your health and increase your appetite.

- Complement your cooking. If you can't get all the nutrients you need from food, you may want to consider taking a vitamin and mineral supplement. Discuss with your physician which are best for you.

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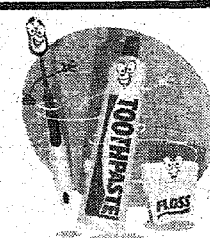
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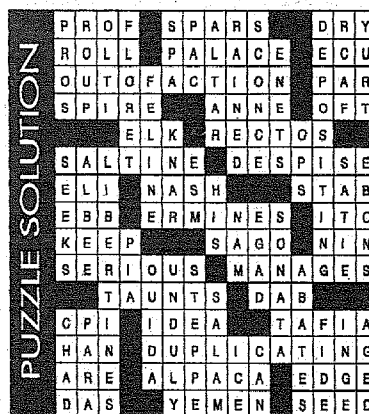
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Weichert: more than any stimulus, house sales help the economy

With Congress close to enacting a stimulus package to spur the economy, James M. Weichert, president and founder of Weichert, Realtors, one of the nation's largest privately held real estate companies, reiterated his recent call for a federal tax credit or other incentive for home buyers. Such action, he said, would speed economic recovery and help avert a recession.

"Every home sale triggers a demand for goods and services that ripples through virtually every segment of the economy," Weichert said. "It is my fervent hope that as our lawmakers in Washington focus on economic issues, they will act to directly encourage home buying through a tax incentive. As the single largest segment of the U.S. gross domestic product, accounting for 33 percent of all U.S. economic growth in the past several years, housing historically has been the powerful engine that drives economic prosperity. Given swift and appropriate legislative action, the housing industry can lead the way to both short- and long-term recovery."

The economic repercussions of a

home sale begin almost immediately, Weichert said. In the interval from contract signing to closing, home buyers call upon a wide range of service suppliers that typically include home inspectors, termite/pest inspectors, mortgage lenders, appraisers, title companies, insurance companies, and lawyers. When home inspections turn up problems, a handyman is employed to do fix-ups. On moving day, both parties in the transaction will need truck rentals or moving services. Even the state in which the home sale takes place benefits, as the state government receives income from the real estate transfer tax.

Citing National Association of Realtors chief economist Lawrence Yun, Weichert said, "Based on the income of service providers alone, the sale of a \$417,000 home generates \$37,500 in direct economic activity, or approximately 9 percent of the sale price."

The nation's economy continues to benefit after the new homeowner moves in. First-time buyers may go to a giant home center or local hard-

ware store for new door locks, paint supplies, and maybe a power lawn mower. They may have carpets cleaned or replaced, and hardwood floors refinished. They'll need blinds and window treatments and may splurge on new appliances, kitchen countertops, furniture pieces, and any number of other items.

Not surprisingly, trade-up buyers spend even more. Weichert said that it's not uncommon for trade-up buyers to do high-end kitchen and master bath renovations and spend thousands of dollars on adding a deck or upgrading landscaping. Moving into a larger home also requires more furniture and accessories.

A report published in 2005 by the National Association of Home Builders found that in the first 12 months of ownership the typical buyer of an existing home spends \$6,540 on home-related items, while new-home buyers average \$8,642, figures that would run higher today.

Housing's economic impact is even more apparent when you look at the new-construction industry itself,

which not only provides employment for the carpenter, plumbers, electricians, and others who work on the new home, but also promotes job growth in industries that produce and distribute building materials, heating equipment, and other home-related products. According to that same study, building an average single-family home generates 3.47 jobs and \$82,269 in tax and other government revenue.

Weichert said, "While the presi-

dent and Congress are to be applauded for raising the conforming mortgage loan limits in their stimulus package, a tax credit for homebuyers would provide an added incentive for the consumer to act upon the many exceptional buying opportunities in today's market and, in so doing, invigorate the economy."

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Policastro a member of RE/MAX Allied Realty

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Policastro, a Union resident, has been in the industry for 30 years. During her time in the business, she was the recipient of several Million Dollar Awards, earned her broker's license and was named to the Who's Who in New Jersey in 1992.

To contact Policastro, call 908-654-7776, ext. 14, or log onto her Web site www.bpolicastro.remax-nj.com.

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Campbell has joined Miracle Network

Melissa Campbell, sales associate with RE/MAX Achievers, is a member of the national RE/MAX Children's Miracle Network Miracle Home Program.

Under this program, she will donate a specific dollar amount to Children's Miracle Network for each sales transaction she completes, and she will display the colorful "Miracle Homes" rider on top of her RE/MAX yard signs.

Children's Miracle Network is a national charity distinguished for

improving health care for children by generating funds and awareness for 165 affiliated hospitals. One hundred percent of the local donations stay in the community in which they were made to benefit participating hospitals.

Therefore, when listing a home with Campbell, the money will go directly to Children's Specialized Hospitals in Mountainside or Toms River, Bristol-Meyers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New

Brunswick, or The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The hospitals associated with Children's Miracle Network treat children with all types of afflictions, such as cancer, heart and muscular diseases, birth defects, AIDS and accident victims. They treat the whole child, rendering service based on need, not the ability to pay.

To contact Campbell you can reach her at 908-522-9444 or log onto her Web site, www.soldbymelissacampbell.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCOTCH PLAINS

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: Christopher A. Davey, Crista J. Davey, and each of their heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and his, her, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC, ESQS, plaintiffs, whose address is 200 Sheffield Street, Suite 301, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092-0024, telephone number 1-908-233-8500, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a civil action, in which Wells Fargo Bank, NA is plaintiff, and Christopher A. Davey, et al., are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing Docket F-3666-08 within thirty-five (35) days after 04/10/2008 exclusive of such date, or if published after 04/10/2008, (35) days after the actual date of such publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a Mortgage dated 04/27/2004 made by Christopher A. Davey and Crista J. Davey, husband and wife as mortgagors, to Wells Fargo Home

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mortgage, Inc. recorded on 05/04/2004 in Book M10648 of Mortgages for Union County, Page 717; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 2298 JERSEY AVENUE, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey Bar Association by calling 732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 908-353-4715. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services office of the County of venue by calling 908-354-4340.

YOU, CHRISTOPHER A. DAVEY, his heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and his, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest are made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you executed Plaintiff's obligation and mortgage and may be liable for any deficiency, and are a record owner of the subject property and for any right, title and interest you may have in, to or against the subject property. YOU, CRISTA J. DAVEY, her heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and her, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest are made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you executed Plaintiff's obligation and mortgage and may be liable for any deficiency, and are a record owner of the subject property and for any right, title and interest you may have in, to or against the subject property. File #XRZ 97337

THEODORE J. FETTER, CLERK
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
This is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
U208457 WCN April 10, 2008 (\$68.25)

NEW JERSEY MORTGAGE RATES

PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	
Union Center National Bk 908-206-2878				Call CMI @ 800-426-4565 to display your rates here!				
30 YR FIXED	6.125	0.00	6.150					APP
15 YR FIXED	5.750	0.00	5.794					FEE
30 YR JUMBO	6.375	0.00	6.400					\$350
LTV restrictions apply over \$417K								
No Income No Asset Loans Available								
Rates were received on 4/7/08 from the lenders and are subject to change. Contact lenders for more information.								
C.M.I. assumes no liability for typographical errors or omissions. Call 800-426-4565 to display your rates here!								
Copyright,2008. Cooperative Mortgage Information - All Rights Reserved.								

Call CMI @ 800-426-4565
to display your rates here!

Real Estate

Mortgages

Closing Services

Insurance

Home, Sweet Home!
UNION TOWNSHIP - 3Br Colonial, 2 Full Baths, FDR, Finished Bsmt. \$325,000
#048011291

Washington School District
UNION TOWNSHIP - Lots of potential 2BRs, 1BA, LR, DR plus attic to be finished. \$255,000
#048011285

Townhouse
NEWARK - Lovely with 2 bedrooms. Close to NYC and all transportation. \$245,000
#048011283

Great for First Home Buyers
RAHWAY CITY - 2 BDR cottage w/FP, lg family room, radiant heat. A must see. \$199,000
#048011339

A home to Build a Dream On!
HILLSIDE - Beautiful 2 br home. Excellent for first time home buyers. \$235,000
#048011257

Come and See!
EAST ORANGE - Lovely townhouse featuring HW floors. No monthly maintenance. \$230,000
#048011332

Seven Oaks Section
ORANGE (CITY OF) - 2 bed 1 bath condo 1st fl. Walk to NY train bus Seton Hall. \$155,000
#048011275

Perfect for the Busy Commuter!
UNION TOWNSHIP - 1 bed, 1 bath close to mass trans & excellent shopping! \$179,900
#048011187

1307 STUYVESANT AVENUE, UNION - 908-687-4800

SIGNATURE
EVENT

Maplecrest Lincoln Mercury

Signature

SALES EVENT

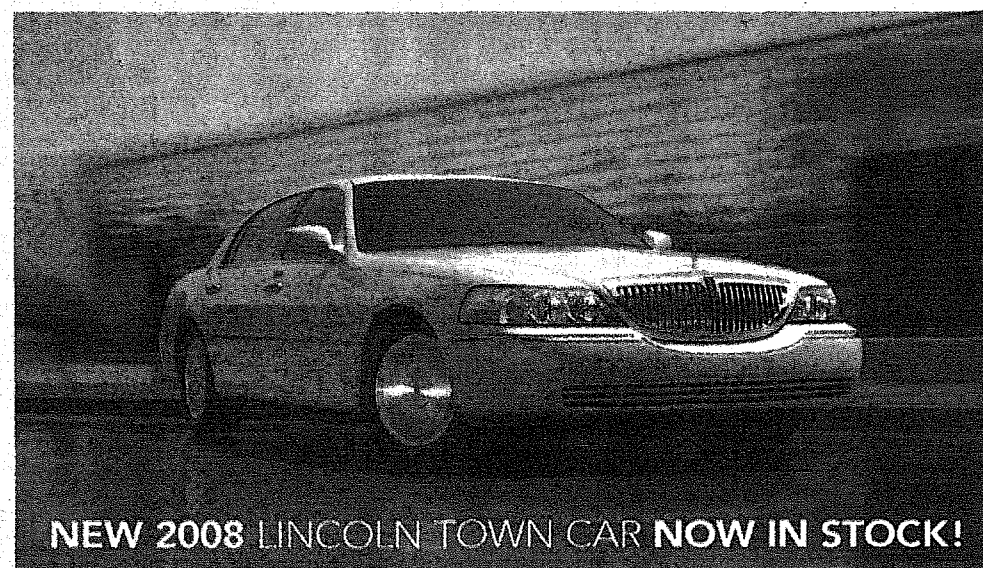


NEW 2008 MERCURY MILAN SEDAN

5-Speed Automatic Transmission w/od, 2.3Liter 4-Cylinder Engine, Power Steering/Brakes/Windows/Lks, Am/Fm, Air Bags, Ac, All Season Tires, 16" Alum. Wheels, MSRP:\$20,495, Vin#8R639107.

\$218

LEASE PER MONTH X 39 MONTHS



NEW 2008 LINCOLN TOWN CAR NOW IN STOCK!

EVERY VEHICLE
INCLUDES:

\$0

1ST MONTH PAYMENT

\$0

SECURITY DEPOSIT



NEW 2008 MERCURY MARINER HYBRID NOW AVAILABLE!



NEW 2008 MERCURY **MARINER**

power moonroof!

FWD, 4-Spd Auto w/od, 2.3L 4-Cyl, Pwr Str/Brks/Wind/Lks/Mirr, Ac, a/b, Am/Fm, Priv. Gls, Moon & Tune Discount Pkg, Pwr Moonr, Roof Rack, MSRP:\$23,230, Vin#8KJ36211.

\$268

LEASE
PER MO.
X 39
MOS.



NEW 2008 MERCURY **MOUNTAINEER**

all wheel drive!

AWD, 5-Spd Auto w/od, 4.0L V-6, Pwr Str/Brks/Wind/Lks, Ac, a/b, Am/Fm, 17" Alum. Wheels, MSRP:\$29,080, Vin#8UJ03025.

\$298

LEASE
PER MO.
X 39
MOS.



NEW 2008 LINCOLN **MKZ**

alloy wheels!

6-Spd Auto, 3.5L V-6, Pwr Str/Brks/Wind/Lks, Ac, Side Curtain a/b, Lthr Sts, Fog Lamps, 17" Chrome Wheels, Am/Fm, MSRP:\$31,295, Vin#8R640993.

\$318

LEASE
PER MO.
X 39
MOS.



NEW 2008 MERCURY **SABLE**

reverse sensing
system!

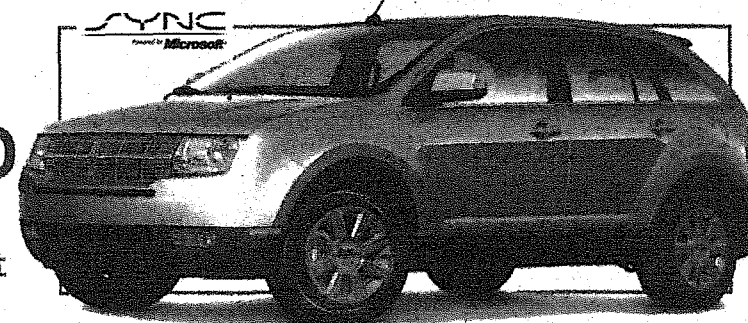
FWD, 6-Spd Automatic Transmission, 3.5Liter V-6 Engine, Pwr Str/Brks/Wind/Lks, Ac, Am/Fm/Cd, MP3, Sirius Radio, Reverse Sensing Syst, MSRP:\$26,470, Vin#8G618409.

\$328

LEASE
PER MO.
X 39
MOS.

NEW 2008 LINCOLN **MKX AWD**

come experience
the all new Microsoft
SYNC Technology



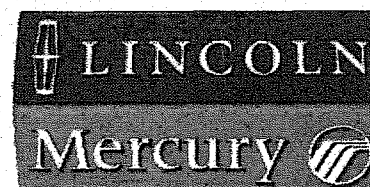
AWD, Automatic w/od, 3.5L V-6, Pwr Str/Brks/Wind/Lks, Am/Fm, Air Bags, Panoramic Vista Roof, Premium Lthr Seats, Htd/Cooled Fnt. Seats, Ac, Voice Activated Nav Syst, 18" Chrome Alum. Wheels, MSRP:\$40,470, Vin#8B123200.

\$428

LEASE
PER MO.
X 39
MOS.

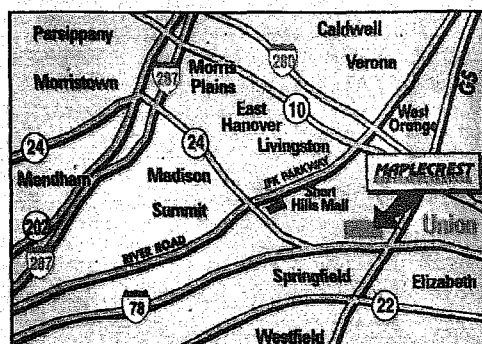


MAPLECREST



On The Maplewood/
Millburn Border Across
From The Home Depot

2800 Springfield Ave, Union • (908) 964-7700
maplecrestauto.com



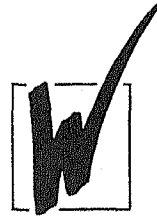
Prices include all costs to be paid by consumer except for lic, reg, taxes, doc., mv fees and dealer fees. Prices include off Lease and College Grad Rebates of Linc. Mercury vehicles. Dlr not responsible for typos or omissions. This ad supersedes any & all previous ads. All rebates go back to dlr. Rebates in lieu of financing. Leases are 39 months and include 10,500mi/yr; 15 thereafter on the Milan, Mariner, Mountaineer, Sable and MKZ. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear. (Milan- \$0 Cust. Cash + \$0 1st pymnt + \$595 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec. Deposit = \$595 Due at Signing. Til Pymnts \$8284. Total Cost \$8879. Purch. Option at Lease End \$10,247.50). (Mariner- \$0 Cust. Cash + \$0 1st pymnt + \$595 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec. Deposit = \$595 Due at Signing. Til Pymnts \$10,184. Total Cost \$10,779. Purch. Option at Lease End \$11,862.50). (Mountaineer- \$0 Cust. Cash Reduction + \$0 1st pymnt + \$595 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec. Deposit = \$595 Due at Signing. Til Pymnts \$11,324. Total Cost \$11,919. Purch. Option at Lease End \$12,795.20). (MKZ- \$0 Cust. Cash + \$0 1st pymnt + \$595 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec. Deposit = \$595 Due at Signing. Til Pymnts \$12,084. Total Cost \$12,679. Purch. Option at Lease End \$15,021.60). (Sable- \$0 Cust. Cash + \$0 1st pymnt + \$595 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec. Deposit = \$595 Due at Signing. Til Pymnts \$12,464. Total Cost \$13,059. Purch. Option at Lease End \$11,911.50). (MKX- \$0 Cust. Cash + \$0 1st pymnt + \$595 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec. Deposit = \$595 Due at Signing. Til Pymnts \$16,264. Total Cost \$16,859. Purch. Option at Lease End \$20,222.30). Based on a 720+ score. See dlr for details.

Special thanks

to our 2008 National Volunteer Week Sponsors



Title Sponsor



WORRALL

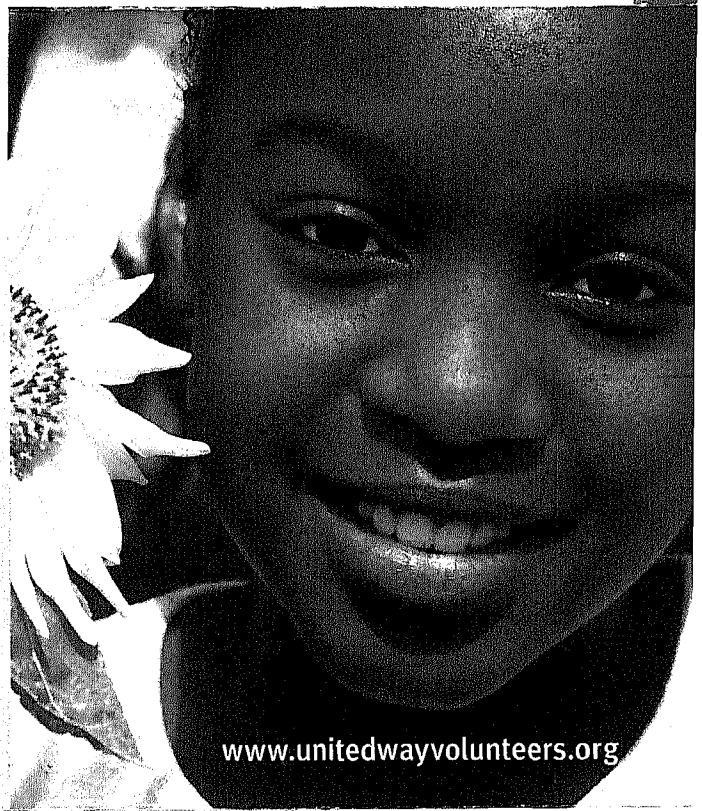
Media Sponsor

www.unitedwayvolunteers.org United Way's Volunteer website is our community's premier resource for local volunteer opportunities. This is the only website that can get you involved in our community – when, where and how you want to! No access to the web? Please call 908-353-7171 x106

The Volunteer Center at United Way of Greater Union County, HRH Insurance and Worrall Communications celebrates National Volunteer Week April 27 - May 3

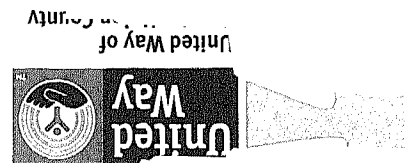
Join hundreds of your friends and neighbors for dozens of volunteer projects throughout the county. Individuals, families, groups, students and businesses are all welcome!

Details Inside



www.unitedwayvolunteers.org

United Way of Greater Union County
33 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202

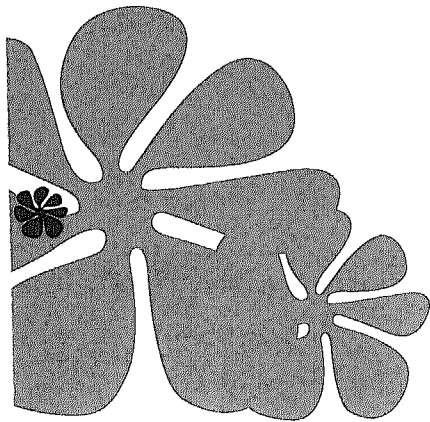


Please Place
Stamp
HERE



United Way of Greater Union County
33 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ
P: (908) 353-7171 F: (908) 353-6371
www.uwguc.org

United Way of
Greater Union County



Special thanks to our 2008 National Volunteer Week Sponsors



Title Sponsor



WORRALL

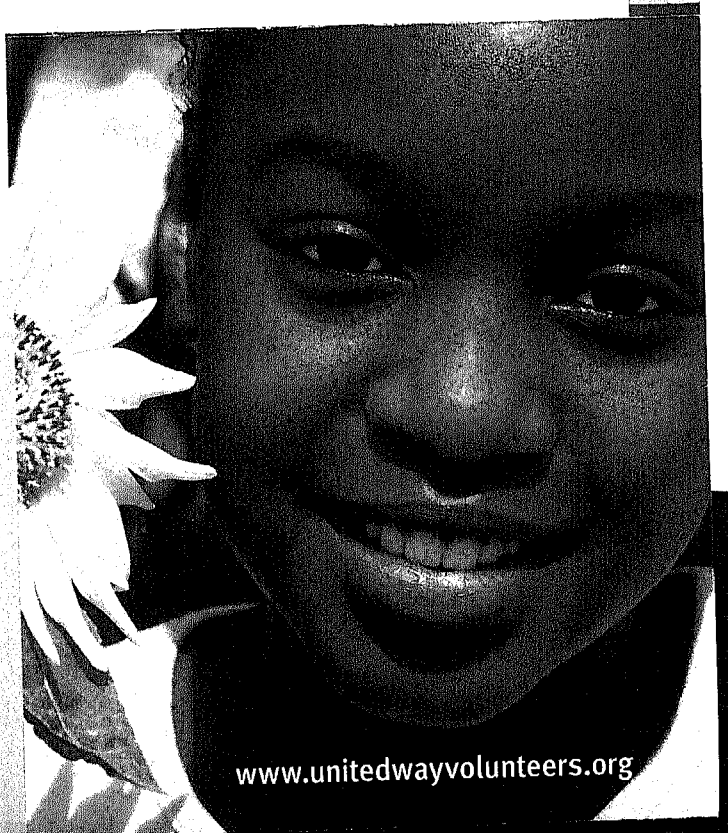
Media Sponsor

www.unitedwayvolunteers.org United Way's Volunteer website is our community's premier resource for local volunteer opportunities. This is the only website that can get you involved in our community – when, where and how you want to! No access to the web? Please call 908-353-7171 x106

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Details Inside



www.unitedwayvolunteers.org

The Volunteer Center at United Way of Greater Union County,
HRH Insurance and Worrall Publications are Celebrating

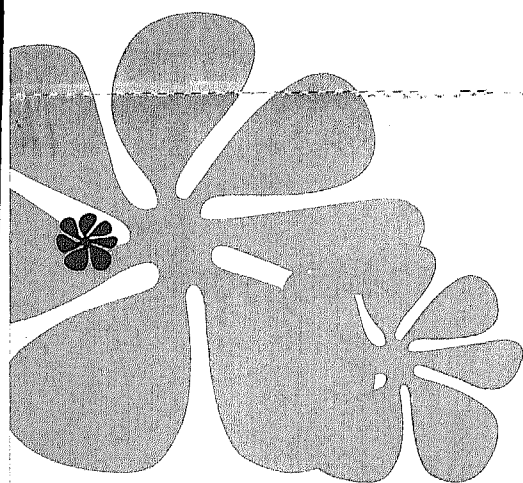
National Volunteer Week

with a series of Volunteer Activities throughout Union County!

All are needed and all are welcome! Projects are suitable for children, adults and seniors. Find a project that meets your passion for helping others or that satisfies a student volunteer requirement. Projects can be customized for groups of 10 or more, corporate volunteer activities are available and encouraged!

Interested in participating in National Volunteer Week and/or Volunteering in Union County? Either mail in the below application (it's a self-mailer, just fold, seal, stamp and mail), e-mail susan.pepper@uwguc.org or call 908 353-7171 x106.

If you are interested in participating in National Volunteer week we must hear from you by April 18th! Time is needed to match you with an opportunity.



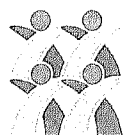
☐ I am interested in learning more about volunteering in Union County.

☐ No, I am unavailable during National Volunteer Week, but would like to sponsor an activity.

☐ **Yes, I want to Volunteer!**

☐ I would like to commit to a project during National Volunteer Week (April 27 - May 3, 2008.)

Learn more about
The Volunteer Center online at
www.unitedwayvolunteers.org



THE VOLUNTEER CENTER
@United Way
of Greater Union County



Please Place
Stamp
HERE

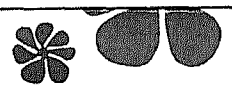


United Way of
Greater Union County

United Way of Greater Union County
33 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202

United Way of
Greater Union County

United Way of Greater Union County
33 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ
P: (908) 353-7171 F: (908) 353-6337
www.uwguc.org

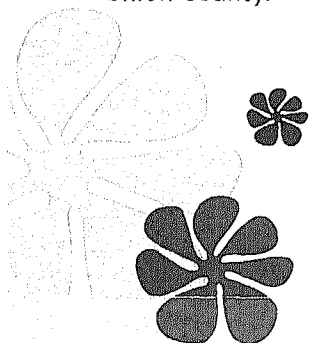


☐ Yes, I want to Sponsor an Activity!

(Please circle the activity and sponsor level of your choice.)

**Clean-up Crew
\$25**

Help to beautify non-
profits throughout
Union County.



**Springtime
Gardeners
\$50**

Shovels, spades,
flowers and plants
are all needed for
non-profits and
senior facilities.

**Building for Kids
\$75**

Parks are great. But
can be even better
with United Way's
Born Learning Trail,
a unique educational
experience suitable
for parks AND urban
settings

**Misc. Project
\$ _____**

Direct my support
to those projects
in most need.

Name

Home Address 1

Home Address 2

City/State/Zip

Home E-mail

Company Affiliation (if any)

Company Location

Preferred Phone Home/Business/Cell (please circle one)

THIS A SELF MAILER: JUST FOLD, SEAL, STAMP AND MAIL!