

11/28/97

Miss Merry Christmas candidates. See page A-8

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METUCHEN · EDISON THE REVIEW and the HIGHLAND PARK HERALD

Vol. 31, No. 48

Friday, November 28, 1997

50 cents

Briefs

Library to recognize World AIDS Day

The Edison Public Library will recognize World AIDS Day Monday.

World AIDS Day is the only international day coordinated to raise awareness of the impact of AIDS.

There will be a display of books and other literature on the subject.

During December, the Edison First Aid Squad number 1 will feature a display on drunk driving awareness and the history of squad one.

PTO to sponsor forum on referendum

Attention all Metuchen parents of preschool-aged children: don't miss the opportunity to affect the future of your public schools.

An informational meeting concerning the upcoming Dec. 18 Capital Improvement Referendum will be 10 a.m. Dec. 4. It is sponsored by the Campbell/Moss School PTO. The meeting will be at the First Presbyterian Church, in the social center, on Woodbridge Avenue.

Board of Education member Terri Kohl will be a guest speaker. Children are welcome at the meeting.

For more information call Lisa Shampain (732) 548-2097.

Santa Claus, friends to appear at show

EDISON — The 17th annual Holiday Show for township children in grades K-5 will be held Dec. 14 at the Stelton Community Center.

The event, sponsored by the Edison Recreation Department, will feature a magical holiday show and many surprises. Santa Claus and his helpers will make a special trip from the North Pole to attend the festivities.

Each child is asked to bring a canned food or new toy with them as and "entrance free."

The fair will be 1-2 p.m. at the community center at 328 Plainfield Ave. Seats are limited and free tickets will be given away on a first come first serve basis.

For reservations, call the recreation department, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at (732) 248-7312.

'Tis the season to order a luminaria kit

The Metuchen Organization of Women is again sponsoring its annual Luminaria Kit sale.

The candle-lit bags are used to line sidewalks and driveways during the holiday season. Each kit contains six bags—red with white trees, six candles and instructions. Each kit is \$5.

Proceeds from the sale will go toward the Community Holiday Appeal, which provides help to less fortunate families in Metuchen.

To order a kit, send a check payable to the Metuchen Organization of Women, c/o 148 E. Chestnut Ave., Metuchen, N.J., 08840. The deadline is Dec. 13.

Kits may be picked up at the Metuchen Public Library 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 13.

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By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

EDISON — A Zoning Board member, who is allegedly in the FBI witness protection program, lost his position Monday night when the Township Council voted unanimously for his removal.

Gerard Kenny has not attended a Zoning Board meeting since Nov. 19, 1996. He allegedly went into hiding as an informant in a federal probe of the Zoning Board.

He was also absent from a due-process hearing held Monday night despite repeated attempts to contact him through certified and regular mail.

"Somehow he was made aware of this or

we have done everything reasonable to contact him," Township Council President William Stephens said. "This had nothing to do with whether or not there is an investigation just the fact that he hasn't attended a meeting."

Mr. Kenny also failed to present his 1997 financial disclosure form to the Zoning Board.

Mr. Stephens said he hopes the Township Council will fill the position at its next meeting, Dec. 10. Mr. Kenny's term was due to expire Dec. 31, 1998.

Zoning Board Chairman Larry Cimmino said that while he was not happy to lose a member, it was inevitable.

"We really need to operate as a full board," he said. "You need five votes on a

use variance and when there's only five members the attorneys don't want to take the chance."

At last week's regular meeting an application for the Rabbi Jacob School had to be postponed until January when lawyers did not want the issue decided by the five members present.

Absentee members will read transcripts of the presentation before deciding on the matter.

The Township Council was revisiting this issue Monday after deciding June 23 not to honor the Zoning Board's request to expunge Mr. Kenny. At that time, the Township Council decided to postpone its decision so as not to deprive anyone's rights but vowed to revisit the issue before

year's end.

Mr. Kenny supposedly went into hiding after secretly wearing a wire to tape conversations between board members which allegedly included illegal activity. Mr. Stephens said the decision does not reflect anyone's feelings about the investigation.

"If all the things everyone is saying are true, I applaud this man. I think we need more citizens like him."

The Zoning Board typically operates with seven regular and two alternate members who hold four-year terms. These positions are appointed by the Township Council.

Mr. Stephens said the Township Council now has three applicants interested in a seat on the board.



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Showing their support

J.P. Stevens' students show their support for the football team as they head to a first-round victory over West Windsor in the State tournaments Saturday. For more on the victory, see page B-2.

Campbell School: More space needed

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

METUCHEN — At first glance, the classrooms at Campbell School do not look overcrowded.

The 23-25 students in each classroom can easily fit when learning at their desks, but the evolution of teaching requires students participate in more hands-on and one-on-one learning activities. It is during these activities that space becomes scarce, Principal Bob Gugliara said.

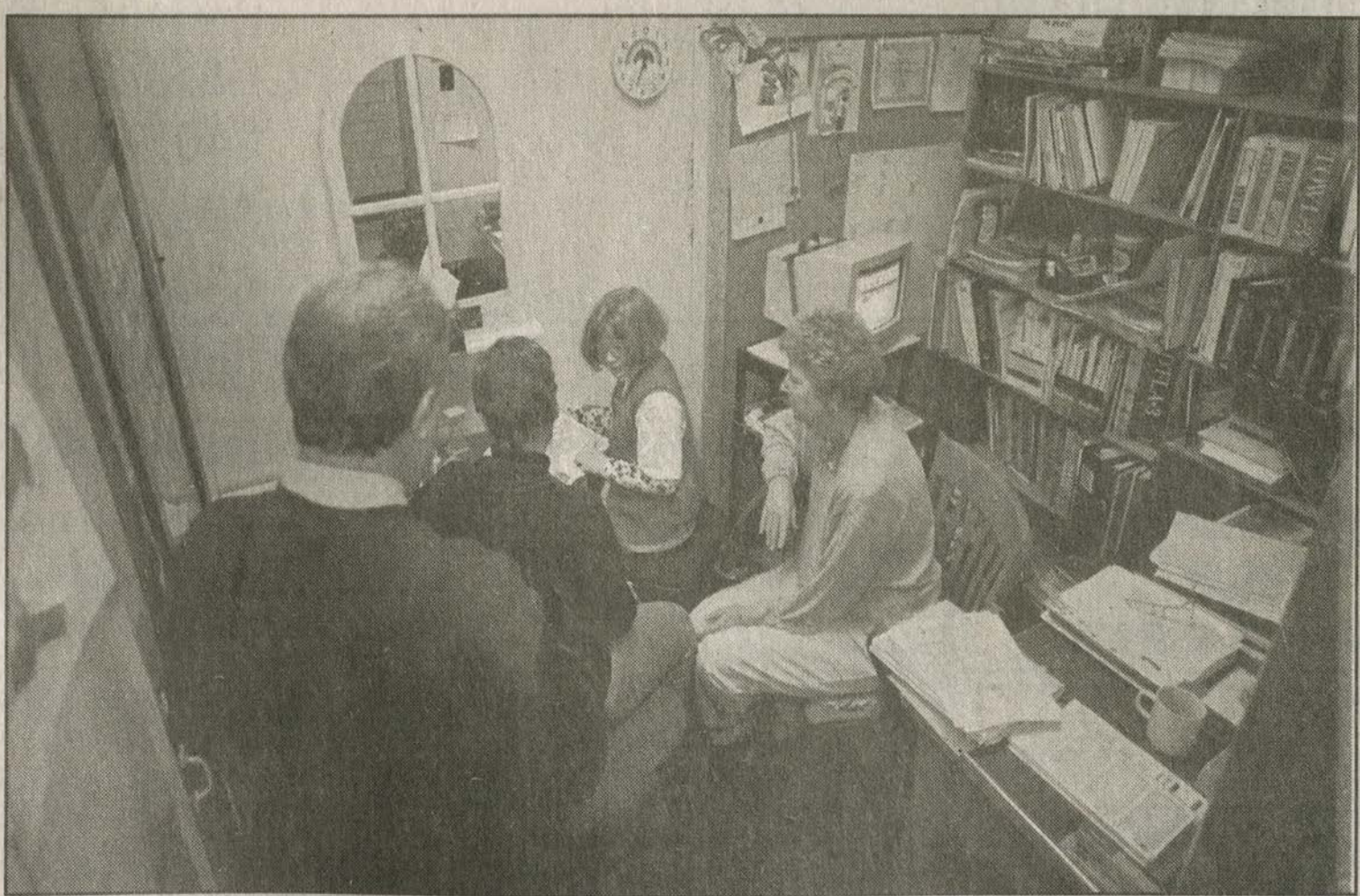
"We're right at the edge in my estimation, of being overcrowded relative to the programs we offer," he said.

The addition of another grade under a Board of Education-approved reconfiguration program will exacerbate this overcrowding, a problem that would be corrected under the proposed capital improvement bond referendum scheduled for Dec. 18. Ten classes would be added to Campbell School which is slated to house grades one-four. Two portable classrooms, which are small and difficult to access, would be excavated.

The school now holds grades 3-5 and is at 95 percent capacity under state standards. The district goal is to bring all four schools to 75 percent capacity, the number recommended by state school officials.

"The biggest problem is space—the necessity for space because the school population is growing," PTO president Diane Meinhardt said.

In the district, the first grade



RANDALL MILLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Four people share the Child Study office at Campbell School.

population is 165; the senior class size at the high school is 110 students.

Besides lacking classroom space the school is also limited in office, storage and special activity space.

Teachers meet with parents in cramped, former closets and they grade papers in corners.

The school learning consultant Pat Broadbent shares a eight by ten-foot office with three members of the child study team. It is in this space that these staff members must meet with parents to discuss the progress of students.

"With counseling, we can't have anyone around because it's confidential," she said. "There's no private place for us to go."

Another teacher has her desk in a hallway and another has hers in the library.

Like at many of the borough schools, the library is out-of-date. The 10,000 volumes are piled in every nook and cranny and there is little or no room for technology.

Under the proposed plan, the current multi-purpose room would be converted into a sizable media center and a new multi-purpose space would be built to house the cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium.

Children who participate in the instrumental music program are jostled for spot to spot, Instructor John Morrison said. At any given time in the school, children could be practicing in a storage space behind the stage, in the library or in the faculty lunch room.

The proposed plan would furnish the school with new music and art rooms to give the children more continuity in these special programs, Mr. Gugliara said.

See chart on page A-2.

Party time

Borough prepares to welcome 1998

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

METUCHEN — The streets of the borough will shine New Year's Eve and come alive with color at a celebration honoring the arrival of 1998.

Now in its fourth year, Celebrate Metuchen will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a host of children's activities, includes a slew of family-oriented performances beginning at 8 p.m. and ends with a fireworks display at midnight.

Buttons, which allow access at all the activities, are \$4 for children and \$9 for adults before Christmas and \$9 for children and \$11 for adults after Dec. 25.

"These buttons make great stocking stuffers and Hanukah gifts," said entertainment organizer Claire Eisenstein.

About 4,000 buttons will be for sale. They can be bought at the Metuchen Edison YMCA on High Street, Borough Hall and Metuchen Savings, Bank and Seldows Stationery all on Main Street.

The Children's Performances, which include a magician, a ventriloquist and a guitar player, will take place from 5:30-8 p.m.

"This year we reduced the children's activities to three larger acts rather than nine small acts because the larger ones tend to be more popular," Recreation Director Nancy Goldberg said.

The children's activities will run continuously so attendees can view more than one.

The adult activities will take place throughout the borough at a number of sites. All of these areas except the high school, are within walking distance of each other and patrons are encouraged to leave their cars at one spot for the duration of the evening.

Some of the performance highlights are the Deans of Harmony, a brass ensemble, a hypnotist, a comedian, country line dancing and a mystery theater. Also, new to this year's line-up is an Irish Line Dancing performance.

"It is designed to be an event for the whole family," YMCA Executive Director Bill Lovett said.

The YMCA is playing a large part in the planning of the event. Other sponsors include the Metuchen Savings, Bank, the Metuchen Rotary Club and the Metuchen Youth Service Board/Municipal Alliance, who each donated \$1,000 for the fireworks show.

"This is a unique kind of program because it represents a terrific partnership of private volunteerism, the YMCA, the borough of Metuchen and a whole host of different entities, both public and private who are donating their facilities," Mr. Lovett said.

The performances all end at 11:40 p.m. when all of the participants will gather at Main and New Streets for a fireworks display and a special surprise, Mr. Lovett said.

For more information on the event or to find out about special needs, call (732) 632-8502.

1/18/91



GEORGE PACCIELLO/
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Annual Holiday Fair

St. Joseph High School hosted a large crowd at its annual holiday arts and craft fair Saturday. Two handmade snowmen were some of the items featured at the event.

Winter festival starts Thursday

BY KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

METUCHEN — Visitors to the borough next weekend will be taking a trip through time to an era long gone.

The Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Winter Victorian Festival Thursday through Sunday along the streets of downtown. The weekend will feature strolling carolers, musicians and Victorian-era performers.

"We have something for everyone," said Nancy Trout, director of the Chamber of Commerce. "We are trying to accommodate every taste and time."

The weekend events will kick off at 7 p.m. Thursday with the lighting of the borough Christmas tree on the lawn of Borough Hall. This event will feature handbell choirs, a string quartet and performances by local girl scout troops.

Friday will see several performances along Main Street including a student group for Aberdeen, a mime and the Deans of Harmony, a barbershop quartet.

"It's a really mixed entertainment line-up but the idea is it's going to be continuous," Ms. Trout said.

Friday's highlight will be the arrival of Santa Claus to

Santaland on New Street at 6 p.m. Pictures with Santa will be available throughout the weekend.

The remainder of the weekend will offer various acts continuously in downtown. Musical acts will play in the restaurants, a bicyclist in Victorian costume will tour the streets, a five-piece saxophone group will move throughout town and several local dance studios will perform along the street.

"The Victorian theme fits with the holiday season and the bank's centennial," Ms. Trout said. "We were trying to get away from the ordinary."

A special performance by the Renaissance players, a group of 24 performers who are associated with the New York Renaissance Festival, will be one of the weekend's many highlights. These performances will run downtown from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Victorian style carriage rides will be offered 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

This premiere event is an offshoot of the traditional Christmas Parade which was canceled this year. Ms. Trout said next year she would like to bring back the parade and incorporate it into the Victorian weekend festivities.

Auction will help fund playground

METUCHEN—The Metuchen Women's Club will sponsor its 25th annual Christmas Auction Wednesday at the Victorian Manor.

The evening will include a live auction, door prizes, raffle items and refreshments.

Proceeds from the event will help purchase new playground equipment for Oakland Park.

The auction will start at 7:30 p.m. at Victorian Manor at 2863 Woodbridge Ave.

For more information, call Janet Gaal at 548-2366 or Nancy Goldberg at 632-8502.

Briefs

will meet 1 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Metuchen Library.

Elka Farrell will present "Christmas Designs for the Home."

New members are welcome. For more information, call (732) 549-8012.

Look at calendar for upcoming events

METUCHEN — Ever wonder where to go for the next holiday bazaar?

Then you need Metuchen's New Community Events Calendar.

This brochure has been prepared as a hometown service by Metuchen Savings Bank, Nann Agency, Inc. and the Metuchen-Edison YMCA.

Metuchen churches, schools and service clubs were invited to include their special events for the November and December holiday season in a premiere issue.

This issue is now available in Metuchen's stores, restaurants, banks, churches, the YMCA, Borough Hall and the library.

For information about this and future issues, contact Suzanne Nann at (732) 519-2964.

The deadline for inclusion in the first quarter issue for 1998 is Dec. 22.

Be certain to experience Metuchen for shopping, dining and special events throughout the year.

Call Metuchen's Chamber of Commerce office at (732) 548-2964 for times of special performances, carriage rides and the crowning of Miss Merry Christmas.

Borough man named to post at college

Borough resident Greg Puchalski was recently selected as vice-president for the College of Mount Saint Vincent.

Mr. Puchalski was vice-president for finance and administration at Iona College in New Rochelle.

Recreation seeks men 30+ for hoops

The Metuchen Recreation Commission is looking for participants for the Men over 30 Drop-In basketball program.

The games will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings at Moss School on Simpson Avenue.

The games will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the recreation office at 632-8502.

St. Luke's to host Christmas fair

St. Luke's Episcopal Church will hold its 52 annual Christmas Fair Dec. 6.

Come home for Christmas is the theme for the event at the church's Fryer Hall from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Admission is free.

The event will feature gourmet foods, baked goods, handcrafts, jewelry and attic treasures. The fair will feature two hours of singing and dancing provided by local children's groups.

The fair will also include children activities and a visit from Santa Claus.

There will be a snack bar and a traditional chicken dinner served at three settings, 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. The price for dinner is \$9 for adults; \$5 for children. Reservations may be made by calling 548-4308.

St. Luke's is at 17 Oak Ave. and Route 27.

Garden Club to discuss holiday home designs

The Metuchen Garden Club

Capital Improvement Plan Campbell School

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|--------------------|--------------------|
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| Renovations | \$450,000 |
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| Built-in Equipment | \$200,000 |
| Moveable Equipment | \$100,000 |
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| Upgrade Windows | \$50,000 |
| Telephone/PA | \$40,000 |
| Asbestos Abatement | \$80,000 |
| Calibrate HVAC | \$13,000 |
| ADA Compliance | \$30,000 |
| Fire Controls | \$30,000 |
| Fire Doors | \$30,000 |
| Redo Entry Panels | \$10,000 |
| Replace Boilers | \$75,000 |
| Screen All Windows | \$8,000 |
| Lighting | \$40,000 |
| Flooring | \$25,000 |
| New Ceiling Tile | \$30,000 |
| Total | \$4,950,500 |

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Police report fender-bender

A South Andover woman faces several charges after her involvement in a fender bender at Main Street and Woodbridge Avenue Saturday night, police said.

Police responded to the scene on a report of a one-car accident where they found Deborah Crane, 33. When asked if she had been drinking, Ms. Crane repeatedly denied it before admitting to having had two beers. Police later found an open container of blackberry brandy and two tin foil wrappers containing possible crack cocaine in her vehicle, officials said.

She was charged with drunken

Police log

driving, possession of an open container in a motor vehicle, possession of a controlled dangerous substance and reckless driving, according to reports.

Jody Hawken, 19, of Newman Street, was charged with creating a noise disturbance Saturday night, police said. At least two neighbors called headquarters complaining of loud music and shouting coming from his home.

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Bartle School opens its new library

By VALERI DRACH WEIDMANN
CORRESPONDENT

HIGHLAND PARK — You might have noticed that the Bartle School library has undergone a wonderful transformation since the beginning of the fall semester.

One of the most obvious is the new name, The Library Media Center.

Another dead giveaway are the 18 new Power Macintosh computers lined up proudly in front of the room. Then there's the new bean bag area where children can curl up with a book if they so desire. The new coat of paint, child-made quilt hangings and couches, chairs and tables are also proof of the library's rebirth as the school's favorite place to be for students, teachers, staff, and for Colette Breen, the principal.

Perhaps the biggest clue that the library has become the heart of Bartle School is the twinkle in Barbara Broggi's blue eyes. Mrs. Broggi, a long-time teacher at the school, is now the Bartle School Library Media Specialist and, in that capacity, she has had one main goal — "to make the library a very active place."

"I want children to be able to learn about a subject by being able to navigate through a software program, write, read and incorporate graphics into a piece of their writing," Mrs. Broggi said. "I also want the library to

still be a place where children can still be read to and a place where they can find a favorite book easily."

The first step that Mrs. Broggi and the Bartle School staff took to make the library user-friendly to children was to integrate hardcover and softcover books. The different sections of the library — fiction, nonfiction and biographies — are suspended from the ceiling in brightly colored hula hoops. In the fiction area, mysteries, science fiction and fantasy are grouped together.

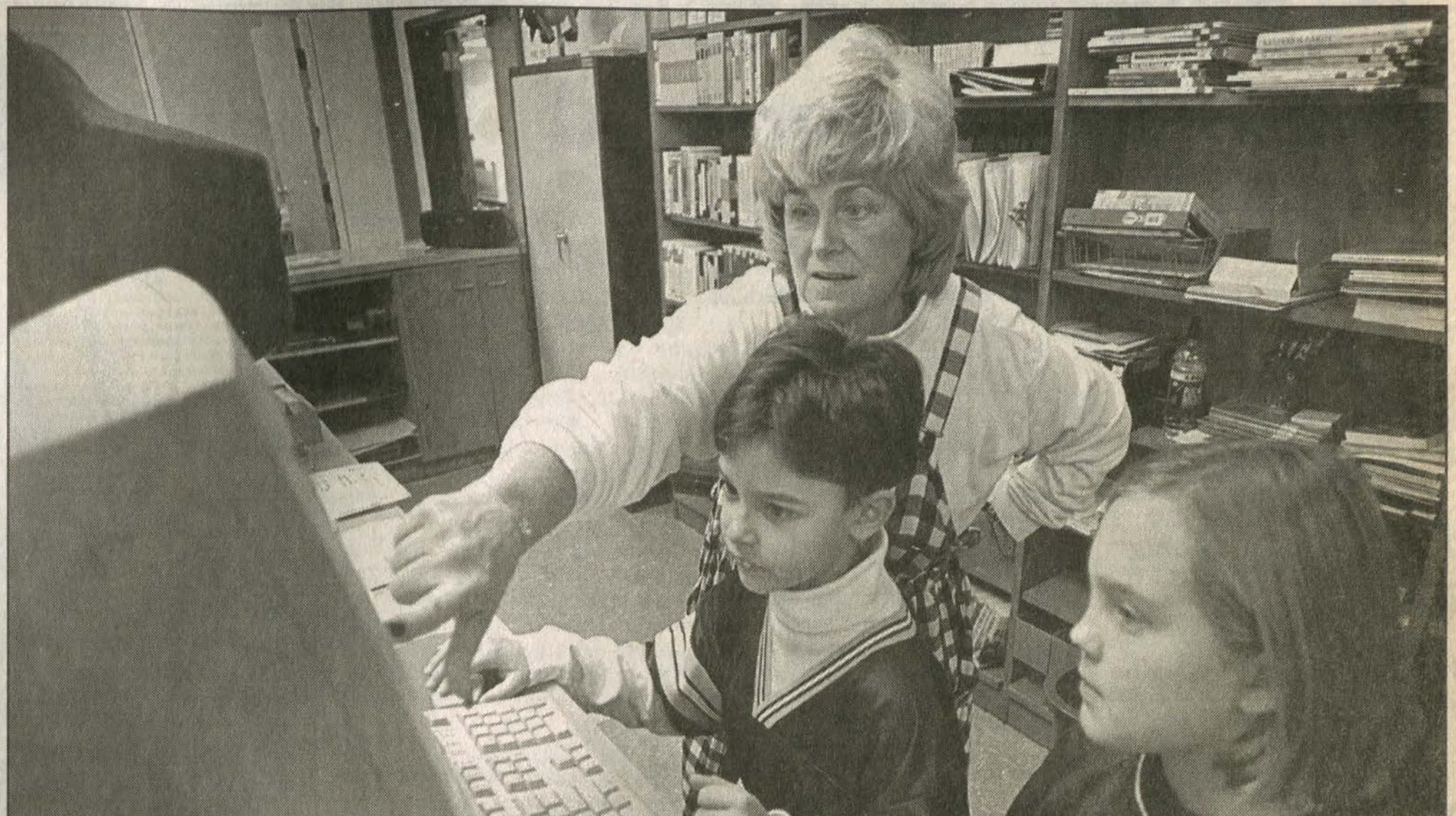
"If you know the author of the book you want to read, you'll be able to find it," Mrs. Broggi promised. "We also know that our third through sixth graders are capable of keeping the library neat and organized so we encourage them to take out and return books to the shelves."

Circulation manager Leslie Feldman and Mrs. Broggi developed a system for the children called "bins and browsers."

Each class in the four grades has its own bin where each student has its own "browser," a bookmark they can place on the shelf where they have removed a book.

The 18 standalone computers have added a completely new dimension to the library for the children who have been busy learning to use them.

The computers are hooked to the Internet to the Scholastic



Barbara Broggi works with Patrick Kaninskas and Rachel Smith on the internet at the Library Media Center at Bartle School. RANDALL MILLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Network, where children can take advantage of chatting with children's book authors and also receive instruction on various subjects.

Teachers and students can take advantage of five computers that provide them with the capacity to make multi-media presentations with scanners, digital cameras, video editors and other equipment. Claris Works allows students a simple way of putting together their writing

with graphics or a slide show. Hyper Studio, a more complex multi-media program adds storyboards and flow charts. Micro Soft Power Point is still another program that is an excellent aid in producing slide presentations for talks.

One of the most important new features of the library that Mrs. Breen loves is the flexibility of scheduling.

"Children come into the library one, two, three or 10 at a

time," Mrs. Breen said. "It's not just a place you come with your class once a week; it's a place they want to go. The combination of multimedia and how it can help them do research has given the students the sense of the library as a place where you go to do good work."

According to Mrs. Breen, her staff has adopted the library as a favorite place for their students to work independently and in groups.

"Once the teachers saw the resources here and the response of the students, they have made the library the center of the school," Mrs. Breen reported. "I find myself drawn to the library and whenever I feel the need to be rejuvenated I come into see what the children are doing. We're holding on to the traditional sense of what a library is; we still read to the children, but we have also expanded the definition."

JCC to offer holiday program

EDISON — Since Hanukkah begins later than usual this year, the Jewish Community Center of Middlesex County is providing an early "Passport to Chanukah."

It is open to the public and will run 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at the JCC, 1775 Oak Tree Road. The event is described in a press release as "an invitation for all to share a celebration of Jewish culture, freedom and unity." Admission of \$1 includes crafts, stories, latkes and doughnuts.

For more information, call (732) 494-3232. Other events scheduled at the JCC: "Readers on the Go," 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2. They will discuss "The Fourth Estate" by Jeffrey

Archer. Coffee will be served. Holiday gift bazaar for children, Wednesday, Dec. 10 and Friday, Dec. 12. Kids can purchase gifts at nominal prices to give to mom, dad, brothers, sisters or grandparents. This event also is open to the public.

Teen lounge for ninth through 12th grades, 7-9:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. It is part of the Jewish Teens Together program sponsored by the JCC and National Council of Jewish Women. Jewish Teens Together members can also use the JCC's pool, gym and health club those two nights.

For more information on JCC activities, call (732) 494-3232.



State champions

The Highland Park Pop Warner team won the state championship Sunday against the East Orange Falcons. The team will play in the Mid-Atlantic championship in Horsham, Pa. 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Art exhibit to feature historical photos

HIGHLAND PARK — Historical photographs and works by several artists from the borough form an exhibition opening in December at the Highland Park Public Library, 31 N. Fifth Ave.

"Impressions of Highland Park in Art and Historical Photographs" opens Sunday, Dec. 14 and may be seen until Saturday, Jan. 31, 1998. A reception will be 3 p.m. Dec. 14 and will be preceded by a holiday concert 2 p.m.

Coleen Tyler, Phyllis Freedman, Arnold Henderson and Barbara Drach will display their art inspired by aspects of historical Highland Park. These works encompass the street fair, the World War I memorial and other subjects of the borough.

The historical photographs feature people, places and events taken primarily since 1905, the year Highland Park was incorporated as a municipality. These photos have been culled from the borough's archive created

through donations from current and former residents.

Also included is a photographic tribute to the recently demolished Brody House.

Available in conjunction with the exhibit is a brochure summarizing the history of Highland Park. Brochure editors Catherine Bull and Jeanne Kolva are members of the Highland Park Historical Society, sponsor of the exhibit.

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PTA auction to help raise funds for playground

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

EDISON — Last spring a group of children made a plea to their parents and teachers and now their school's PTA is rallying to fulfill this wish.

The James Madison Intermediate School PTA is organizing an auction to raise funds necessary to furnish the school with a playground. The children who attend the New Dover Road school now have only some old and rusted basketball hoops for recreation.

"Because it came from the kids we decided to really make an effort and it's a legitimate request," PTA member Arlene Owens said. "There's really nothing back there."

The Board of Education has allotted the PTA a 250 square foot parcel of land between the Intermediate School and the round building for a playground.

The area, which will feature climbing equipment and slides, will be open to both schools at the site.

Presently, James Madison Primary School has its own playground across a parking lot from the intermediate school, but intermediate-aged students are not allowed to use the facility for lack of room and safety concerns.

The intermediate school holds grades three to five. Since September the PTA has raised about \$10,000 for the some \$25,000 project. These funds have come from fundraising activities and donations from school families and local businesses. The PTA is still looking for donations of cash and items to be auctioned at the Jan. 23 event.

The group has also received several significant donations. Home Depot of Woodbridge recently pledged a donation of 26 railroad ties for the park, a gift valued around \$500. So far auc-

tion items include a television, a bicycle and a pair of Continental Airline tickets.

The PTA will soon be assigning a theme to each classroom in the school asking parents to send in one item to be included in a gift basket. These themes include "Fun in the Sun," Pampered Women" and "Italian Cuisine."

PTA president Jean Alessio said. "If everyone can give just one item, that would be great," she said.

The fund raising will end Feb. 1 to allow time for the contractors to complete the playground by March. The PTA wants to have its project done by this time so the fifth graders will have some time to enjoy the park before leaving the school.

The PTA auction will be held 7-10 p.m. Jan. 23 at the school on New Dover Road. To find out more information or make a donation call Ms. Alessio at (732) 906-2387.



ROBYN C. STEIN/
CORRESPONDENT

A magical time

Brittany Foxx, 4, takes a twirl around the dance floor with her father Bob at the annual Magical Black and White Ball, a dance for fathers and daughters. The dance was held Sunday at the Jewish Community Center of Middlesex County in Edison.

Students to 'Sing a Song'

EDISON — "Sing a Song" with first graders at John Marshall School in Edison. Students will present an original show for parents and students. The songs, skits and stories sum three months of learning.

Guests will attend the show 1 p.m. Dec. 12 in the school's multi-purpose room. Teachers Kathy Sica, Michelle Puorro and Shirley Aleveras helped the students create costumes, movements and skits that tied into the stories. The school is on Cornell

Street. Everything presented is based on the first grade reading program. Songs and dances range from familiar tunes like "Down by the Bay" to culturally diverse songs like "Kye Kye Kule."

This program is important for the growth that takes place in the first few months of school. Students feel a sense of accomplishment as well as pride in their work.

Police officer ends career after plea agreement

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

EDISON — A model police offi-

cer has lost his right to work in law enforcement after pleading guilty to allegations he was rough on a 71-year-old township woman.

Patrolman Wayne Seich pleaded guilty last week to a count of simple assault in connection with an incident where he handcuffed and threw a senior citizen to the ground during an arrest. Charges of official misconduct and aggravated assault, a conviction that could have carried with it a 10-year prison term, were dismissed under the plea bargain.

Under the conditions of his plea, Mr. Seich, 38, faces up to five years' probation. He will not face a trial or a prison term. He is scheduled to be sentenced Jan. 20 by Superior Court Judge Robert Figarotta, who accepted the plea bargain.

Mr. Seich arrested his neighbor, Elise Kitchen at her Bernard Avenue home July 26 for aggravated assault on a police officer after ignoring an order to stay away from her the woman. Mrs. Kitchen had complained to his superiors that Mr. Seich was blocking traffic on Bernard Avenue with his patrol car earlier that day.

The aggravated assault charge on Mrs. Kitchen was dismissed under Mr. Seich's plea. Mrs. Kitchen was charged with aggravated assault after she pushed him away from her during the altercation, officials said.

"We would not have had this plea agreement if he hadn't

dropped those charges," Middlesex County Assistant Prosecutor Lawrence West said.

Mr. West would not comment on whether or not his office found these charges justified.

Mrs. Kitchen, who is reportedly suffering from a post traumatic stress disorder from the incident, was not at the hearing.

"(My client) had no objection to the plea bargain and never had any desire to see him in jail," Attorney Michael Cohan said. "She wanted to see three things. She wanted him to plead guilty, she wanted him to drop the charges against her and she wanted to make sure he'd never be a police officer again, which he won't be."

Besides being banned from serving in law enforcement, Mr. Seich may never serve in any other public safety position. He is also prohibited from holding any public job for three years under the terms of the agreement.

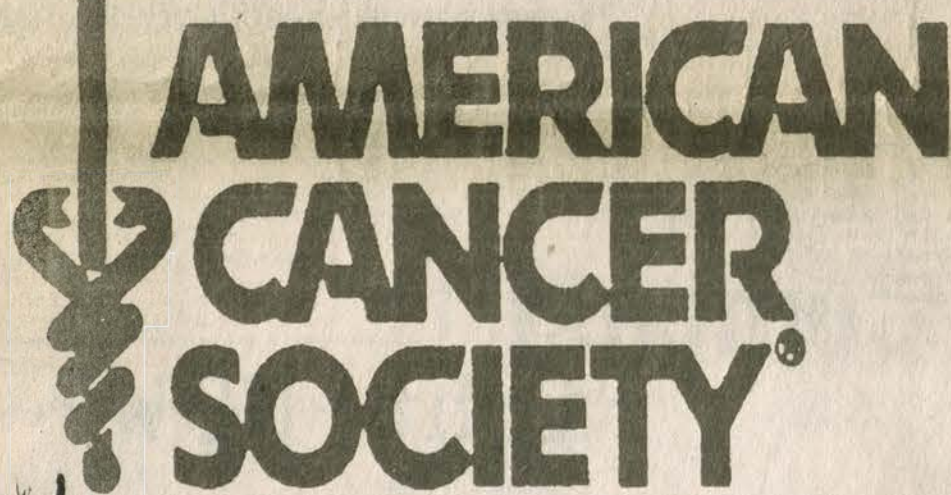
Before his suspension from the force this summer, Mr. Seich was earning a reported \$60,456 per year. During his career, the officer was commended for acts of bravery including running into a burning house and resuscitating a neighbor. He was also known for his work with disabled children.

His attorney, Barry Albin, did not return phone calls earlier this week.

Mr. Cohan notified the township and Mr. Seich last month that Mrs. Kitchen plans to sue them for a combined \$25 million.

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School to fix roof

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

EDISON — The Board of Education has agreed to spend about \$700,000 of its surplus

funds to repair a leaky roof at Woodrow Wilson School, a measure that will complete a long-awaited, comprehensive roof program for the district 17 buildings.

Woodrow Wilson was excluded from a roof-repair program, which affected the district's 16 other buildings, due to an oversight, said Jim Kukor, chairman of the Board of Education's roof committee.

"It was estimated in the original scope of work but somewhere along the line it failed to get into the leasepurchase," he said.

The Board of Education repaired the 16 roofs through a \$6.1 million lease purchase program. The work at Woodrow Wilson will be funded through surplus money.

The school, on Woodrow Wilson Drive, currently has two layers of roofing, the maximum allowed by code. Under the project, the two roofs will be ripped off and replaced with one roof, Mr. Kukor said.

The work at the school should be completed sometime between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. It will be done opposite of school schedule on weekends, evenings and holidays.

Saturday programs underway at YMCA

METUCHEN — Two Saturday-morning programs are now in progress at the Metuchen-Edison YMCA, 65 High St.

"Total Body Firming Aerobics" are 8 a.m. Cost for each eight-week series is \$15 for members and \$30 for non-members.

Yoga classes are 9-10:30 a.m. For more information, call (732) 548-2044.



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Police probe robbery at Tops appliance store

EDISON - Two men held up a Brunswick Avenue business Saturday night, police said.

The unidentified men, one of whom had a handgun, walked into Tops Appliance City distribution center and took a small amount of cash. It is uncertain if the cash was taken from a person or from the business.

Officials reported no injuries during the incident.

An unidentified man tried to steal the night deposit box from Core State Bank at Route 27 and Shephard Place Saturday night, police said.

According to surveillance video tape, the man arrive at the bank around 3:30 a.m. carrying a 4-foot crowbar. With the crowbar, he pried and lifted the box while periodically leaving the scene possibly to hide from Route 27 traffic.

Two night deposits were still in the drop box when police arrived on the scene and bank officials are trying to determine if the man made off with anything, according to reports.

Damage to the deposit box is estimated at \$3,000, officials said.

An Adams Street house was burglarized Saturday, police said. Entry was gained through a smashed second story window.

Cash and jewelry were taken, according to reports.

David Frisoli, 55, of

Police log

Homestead Road, was charged Sunday with interference when he was uncooperative during a Route 1 motor vehicle stop, police said. He tried to leave his car during the stop, which was initially for speeding, and accused police of picking on him, police said.

Two 15-year-old males were charged Saturday with shoplifting at Macy's in Menlo Park Mall, police said. They allegedly took the price tags off \$657 worth of clothing and tried to leave the store with the merchandise, police said.

Theodore Clark, 38, of Plainfield, was charged Sunday with shoplifting at Shoprite on Old Post Road, police said. He allegedly tried to conceal \$87 worth of medicine at the supermarket, police said.

Tammy Ragland, 36, of Irvington was charged Saturday with shoplifting at TJ Maxx, police said. She tried to conceal two leather jackets valued at \$339 under her clothing, according to reports.

Hay Lira, 25, of Elizabeth, was charged with shoplifting Friday at Nordstroms in Menlo Park Mall, police said. She tried to

steal \$184 worth of clothing, police said.

Also arrested was a 16-year-old girl.

A 1991 Nissan was reportedly stolen from Menlo Park Mall Saturday, police said.

A 1993 Mazda MX-6 was reportedly stolen from Rivendell Way Sunday, police said.

The steering column on a 1986 Dodge Ram was damaged during an apparent theft attempt Sunday, police said. The truck was parked on Clivehill Road.

A laptop computer was stolen from an unlocked Dodge Intrepid parked in Raritan Center Friday, police said.

Two unidentified men made off with a videocassette recorder from Radio Shack on Route 1 Sunday, police said. A store employee saw the men put the merchandise into a car and flee.

He could not offer a firm description of the pair, according to reports.

An unidentified man took off without paying for his gasoline Sunday evening, police said. The unpaid fuel bill totaled \$18.75.

Two windows were broken on a 1985 Ford Bronco at the Moose Lodge on Talmadge Road Sunday, police said.



Katelyn Adorna and Lindsay Shapiro enjoy their Thanksgiving dinner at Lindeneau School Friday.

Students have plenty of reason to be thankful

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

EDISON — Third graders at Lindeneau School feasted on a traditional Thanksgiving meal last Friday in the school's multi-purpose room.

Parents and teachers provided the fixings for the meal and the school's food service company cooked the turkey.

As they munched on turkey, stuffing and potatoes, some of the children spoke about some of the things they are thankful for:

Sarah Jelley: My family and my baby sister because they take care of me when I'm hurt.

Michael Cahill: My family and my school because they teach me things.

Nick DeGirolamo: My mom and dad because they take me nice places.

Megan Ehnat: My friends in case I need help, my family and my bird because he's nice.

Alyssa Fenton: Celebrating thanksgiving so we can all gather around and have friendship.

Shaybe Samaroo: The food and the drinks.

Lindsay Shapiro: Food and my family.

Katelyn Adorna: God for giving us food.

Greg Ronan: My television, the school, my food, my clothes and my house.

Sarah Morrison: My mom because all the things she does for me like making stuff for me and buying stuff for me.

Akhil Tiwari: The principals and the teachers of the school.

Stephanie Eng: My grandma and my mom.

School district is seeking to change health curriculum

By KAREN BITZ
STAFF WRITER

METUCHEN — The Board of Education will hold a special meeting Thursday night to inform parents about proposed changes in the high school health education curriculum.

In essence the change would move the current eleventh grade program, Physical and Emotional Growth and Development, to the ninth grade. Eleventh graders would receive A Practical Approach to Wellness, now offered in ninth grade.

The proposed curriculum for the ninth grade offers knowledge-based learning sexuality.

The move was recommended by a district-wide review committee.

"We felt it was more important to get information to the children before they were put into certain types of situations," Health Supervisor Kathy Glutz said.

Statistically, teenagers are experimenting sex and drugs at earlier ages. The course makes students more equipped to make decisions about these potentially dangerous actions, Ms. Glutz said.

The meeting Thursday, which will start at 8 p.m. at Metuchen High School, was scheduled so parents could have another opportunity to discuss the sensitive subject matter. Like in all curriculum changes, three presentations have already been made, Board President John Roberts said.

While the subject matter will

be the same after the course is moved, Ms. Glutz said it will be taught somewhat differently to adapt to the younger age group.

Students will be exposed to information regarding physical changes brought on by development, sexually transmitted disease, contraception, menstruation, pregnancy and relationships.

Ms. Glutz said many districts are moving their sexuality curricula to earlier ages to accommodate earlier experimentation. In Metuchen, children learn about their bodies to some extent in all grade levels.

State law allows any parent to remove their child from any part of the curriculum to which they object.

Donate books to library

EDISON — The Children's Department is currently collecting donations of new books for distribution to disadvantaged children throughout the Middlesex County area during the holidays.

Books to Keep is a project of the libraries of Middlesex, a consortium of public libraries and the Middlesex County Library.

Books to Keep started in 1990 to promote the joy of reading, encourage library use and foster pride in book ownership.

Distribution of books will be done through service clubs, and social service agencies, including day care centers, soup kitchens, the Middlesex County Board of Social Services and Head Start programs.

New hardcover and paperback books, suitable for children from preschool through adolescence, along with monetary donations will be collected at the following areas in Edison: Main Library, 340 Plainfield Avenue; North Edison Branch, 777 Grove Avenue; Clara Barton, 141 Hoover Ave.; and any stop of the Bookmobile. The collection drive will be held through Dec. 15.

For more information, call Dolores Chuela, children's librarian at (732) 287-2351.

Registration begins Monday for the Yummy in My Tummy program for children ages 2-5.

Registration is limited for the following times:

* North Edison, 10:30 a.m. Dec. 8; Main Library, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Dec. 11; Clara Barton, 1:30 p.m. Dec. 15.

The Children's Department of the Edison Public Library is holding a Holiday Tree Ornament Decorating contest.

Students in preschool-sixth grade may make or bring a pur-

chased ornament to decorate the library's tree. Participants will have names placed in a prize drawing. The contest begins Monday and ends Dec. 23.



Holiday songs
Members of the North Edison Girl Scouts sing in Nordstroms at Menlo Park Mall Sunday.

Learn how to cope with illness

EDISON — A support group for persons with chronic illness now meets at the Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County, 10 Franklin Ave.

Meetings are 7:30-9 p.m. Wednesday and open to new members. Call (732) 738-5225.

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Commentary

The heart of Thanksgiving

These could be the best of times.

The American economy is booming, the unemployment rate is the lowest in decades, crime is down and as a nation we are at peace not only with the rest of the world, but with ourselves as well. As we near the end of the millennium, there is much for which we should be thankful for on this Thanksgiving.

However, there are still too many of our fellow Americans who have been bypassed by prosperity. There are still too many homeless in Central Jersey, too many families who struggle every day to make ends meet and too many children who go to bed hungry. While a drop in the stock market makes headlines, the stories of those for whom every dollar is precious goes unreported.

As a nation, we are in danger of forgetting, if not ignoring, the plight of the less fortunate. Though the economy is robust, the corporate world has by necessity lost its paternal attitude. The heartless reality of Wall Street is far removed from the reality of life along Main Street. The corporate executive profits handsomely from the stock options while the displaced worker collects a box of macaroni and cheese from a local food bank.

With many of us investing our retirement funds in the stock market, do we really want to cheer if the value of our portfolio rises because a company's shares have skyrocketed after hundreds of folks just like us have lost their jobs in another corporate restructuring? Or do we feel a sickening guilt in our stomachs as we contemplate a retirement home in a warm climate along a green fairway while a laid-off worker has to depend on Medicaid for treatment of pneumonia germinated in an apartment where the thermostat has to be kept at 60 degrees?

When we sit down at the Thanksgiving table this year, maybe we should ask ourselves whether this country has lost its heart. We have come a long way from that first Thanksgiving more than three centuries ago when a brave band of righteous individuals demonstrated the importance of working together, cooperating and, most importantly, sharing. The status of these virtues in a society increasingly infiltrated by technology and harsh economic realities is uncertain. But it is these virtues that lie at the heart of the American character; they are part of the moral foundation of a democratic, classless society where no one should be homeless and no child should be ill-fed and under-clothed. Those qualities should not be demonstrated by us as individuals only; our institutions, both public and private, should also reflect these basic moral standards.

The heart of our nation should not beat only from Thanksgiving to Christmas. We all enjoy the benefits of capitalism, yet we must never forget the responsibilities that accompany wealth. Americans have traditionally not been selfish individuals, but many non-profit organizations, including the United Way, report that donations are down. And while many of us are stirred by the sentiment of the season to dig deeper into our pockets to help the less fortunate, we should remember the misery of hunger and homelessness are a constant burden for some every day of the year. Charity is more important more than just the way we conduct our lives; it is the way we should conduct our business, too.

Letters to the editor

Invest in our future; support the referendum

To The Editor:

Metuchen is a small town where people live together and share common ground such as the parks, the public library and the municipal pool. We also share the schools, whether or not we have children who attend. We are responsible to make sure this town's children have the environment to reach their fullest potential. To build that environment, we need to vote "yes" for the capital improvement referendum on Thursday, Dec. 18.

The schools need renovation and more space, as well as updated

technology. This is not surprising considering they range in age from 40 to 90 years old. If we don't pass the referendum, how will we be able to attract young families to our town? The quality of the schools protects the value of our property.

We urge all Metuchenites to support the referendum. There is no surer way of improving our town than investing in our future. A "yes" vote on the referendum is an investment in our future.

LENNY and CAROL KLEIN
Metuchen



Happy Thanksgiving

Letters to the editor

Does the board care about taxes?

To The Editor:

Metuchen's (New Jersey Education Association) member school board president put on public display his disdain for the taxpayers' ability to continually keep paying higher and higher school property taxes to support the wasteful reckless spending advocated by the public educators and their cohorts. His current actions are a continuation of the arrogant attitude he displayed years ago when he was acting board president and promptly named a friend to fill a vacancy on the board without consulting the sitting board for their opinions or approval. At that time people referred to him as dictator John.

He and his cohorts have their blinders on as they push to convert the wish list of the school administration, and the public educators on the school payroll, into a \$22.3 million 30-year debt for the homeowners. They have completely ignored the simple fact that the governor has ordered the Education Department to conduct a study of all 611 school districts (that includes Metuchen) to determine what renovations and repairs are needed, as well as what additional classrooms are needed based upon Education Department requirements. The governor has stated that the majority of the costs will be paid by state tax dollars, not local property taxation.

At the board meeting on Nov. 18, member Lombardi stated the \$22.3 million bond debt would cost the average taxpayer \$285 more per year for the next 30 years. What he didn't state is the simple fact that the (Metuchen Education Association) contract is being renewed on July 1, 1998, and as it has for the past 30-plus years will give every public educator a substantial raise, continue their free medical insurance and continue to pay them full-year salaries for 9 1/2 months work. Why cares if \$50 million school buildings stand empty for 2 1/2 months while the educators take a 2 1/2-month vacation?

Does the majority of the board care about your property tax? If they did:

- Why would they hire an out-of-town accounting firm on Nov. 18, at a cost of \$4,000, for services on a bond issue that has not been approved by the voters?

- Why would they approve paying the Criterion Advertiser approximately \$3,000 of your tax money to insert the school superintendent's propaganda tirade on Wednesdays?

- Why didn't they insist that the superintendent

pay for the distribution of his personal opinions out of his own pocket instead of paying for it with your tax money?

- Why are they pushing so vigorously to saddle the taxpayers with a \$22.3 million debt in local property taxes for 30 years when the governor on Nov. 18 announced that she has ordered the Education Department to review all school buildings in all 611 school districts (this includes Metuchen) to determine structural needs for repairs and additions, if needed?

- Why are they ignoring the simple fact, stated by the governor on Nov. 18, that the majority of the cost for repairs, additions, renovations or new school buildings will be financed by the state, not the local taxpayers?

Pure and simple, the Metuchen taxpayers are being taken for a financial sleigh ride by the public educator controlled school board and their cohorts as they ignore reality and push to saddle the homeowners with a \$22.3 million 30-year debt.

All taxpayers must demand that the \$22.3 million referendum scheduled for a vote on Dec. 18 be canceled, based on the actions being taken by the state to remove school building costs from local taxation.

If the board refuses to cancel the Dec. 18 referendum, then every taxpayer must go to the polls and vote against the \$22.3 million bond issue. Yes, even the senior citizen on Social Security who pays \$510 for his Medicare insurance, an annual \$760 deductible for hospital care, (a) \$100 Medicare Part B deductible and 20 percent of all doctor bills. Why should the senior citizen pay these sums out of his Social Security income when the public educators earning in excess of \$75,000 do not?

It's your choice. Pay approximately \$285 more in property tax for the next 30 years if the \$22.3 million bond issue is approved on Dec. 18, plus an additional 2 percent increase in the New Jersey gross income tax that will be allocated to pay for school building costs in all 611 school districts.

The action being taken by the state to finance public school building costs, to meet Education Department standards, eliminates the need for Metuchen taxpayers to assume a \$22.3 million debt.

If the educators do not cancel the Dec. 18 referendum seeking 22.3 million of your tax dollars, then go to the polls and vote "no" on Dec. 18.

TOM DOWLING
Metuchen

Look past the food and football

To The Editor:

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays. Besides the fact that I like turkey, desert and football, Thanksgiving is truly an American holiday where we give thanks to God for all he's given us as a nation. Most Americans know that Thanksgiving started with the Pilgrims, but are unaware of why the Pilgrims were thanking God.

The Pilgrims were persecuted in England because they would not worship at the state-approved national church (similar to what happens to Christians in China today). The Pilgrims fled to Holland because of this religious persecution. The Pilgrims then asked the English king if they could emigrate to the New World. King James was happy to get rid of these religious nonconformists and allowed them to emigrate to Virginia. On Sept. 6, 1620 the Pilgrims left England aboard the Mayflower and because of strong contrary winds landed at Cape Cod, Mass., on Nov. 21, 1620. According to Gov. William Bradford, the first thing they did when they landed was, "(T)hey fell upon their knees and blessed God of Heaven who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean." The Pilgrims decided to live at Plymouth, Mass., and on Dec. 25, 1620 they landed and began to build the first house.

Winters in Massachusetts were severe, and the Pilgrims did not have much food, so within three months half the Pilgrims were dead. In the spring an Indian named Squanto, who spoke English, came to live with the Pilgrims. He showed them how to

fish, plant corn and squash, and acted as an interpreter for them.

Things now were looking good for the Pilgrims, but a summer drought came and no rain fell. The crops they had planted were dying from lack of water. The Pilgrims decided there was only one thing to do. They began a nine-hour time of fasting and praying to God for rain. The Indians were watching the Pilgrims and wondered if their God would answer their prayers. After nine hours of praying a gentle rain began to fall which lasted for 10 days. God answered the Pilgrims' prayers, and the crops were saved. The Indians were amazed that the Pilgrims could talk to their God, and he could make it rain for 10 days.

When the harvest was in, the Pilgrims knew that they would not starve this winter, so they decided to have a feast and invite the Indians. Chief Massasoit came with 90 men and feasted with the Pilgrims for three days. The Pilgrims wanted to have a special feast to give thanks (Thanksgiving) to God. This is where our first Thanksgiving holiday came from. It reminds me of 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

This Thanksgiving look past the food and the football, and give thanks to God for all the blessings you have.

MARTIN A. 'Skip' JESSEN
Edison

OFT TOLD TALES

By Gary Introne



Healing ways

In much the same way as education has today been frittered away into secondary declensions of fashion and entertainment, so have Metuchen's old ways of healing and doctoring changed.

There was a time when the pharmacist was the "chemist." His odd panoply of assorted beakers and bins held all sorts of odd and interesting powders and poultices for remedy and mixing. The telltale chemist's sign of colored waters and chemical liquids gracing the front window let the infirm, those with ague, the aching and the sorrowful to the doors of this shop in order to have concocted the proper mix of pleasure and relief. Doctoring through chemistry went hand-in-hand with the pleasure of the home visit by the local physician.

Many were the times, within contexts of chicken pox, asthma, pleurisy and the like, that home visits ("house calls") became visits of relief and socializing in addition to healing and doctoring. The local physician, of black bag and spectacles, referred to as "doc," was as much a family friend and confessor as an attending scientist. In consort with the local chemist, the visiting doctor would prescribe the knowing combination of healing and hearing to break the fetters of pain and suffering. Along Main Street, here and there a shingle on a pole attested to the whereabouts of doctor and chemist. The words "physician" and "pharmacist" were not then in such complete use. Perhaps ersatz pleasure such as gum and candy were to be found occasionally at the chemist's shop, but nonetheless the prime reason for its existence and for the visit of same was to pick up medicine and healing.

Today, as far as we have come from that older, more magical hands-on procedure of medicine and health, there is far less to attach ourselves to. Pharmacies have become bazaars of Hallmark cards and perfumes, watches and trinkets, statues and clothing, replete with 24-hour availability and 41 kinds of aspirin formulas. Our society today has fragmented everything down to the smallest particle necessary for a sale and service. Doctoring and the pharmacy have nearly disappeared into a dependency of their own: billboards and fliers advertising hospital services, clinical apparatus unheard of until just now, the general spread of well-being and health in spite of constant carping on "what ails you." We are bound by riches and wonder into a population of healthy wailers.

Breaking down everything, as we have done, education and educators have changed into instructors and manipulators, pharmacies have been transformed into mall-type wonderlands, and doctors, as they still exist, have been specialized and broken down into subspecies amid subspecies. To a confusing degree the slow and steady grace of previous ways of doctoring and attending, the very definition actually of health and healing, has been rewritten hundreds of times in an evolutionary flux the likes of which Chemist Smith or Old Doc Brown would never have imagined. Where once a person joyfully headed into the wilderness of personal learning and book discovery for education, now one is team-taught the magic of electronics and interpretation with mostly pleasure as its goal. Where once an individualized and a crisp awareness of healing and procedure was dispensed with florid language and with the beauty of solace and understanding, now medicines are dispensed with the finery of a baseball score. Astonishingly today, in many ways, the doctor has become the team chemist and the chemist has simply disappeared to far behind some little counter somewhere deep in the bowels of a bazaar you must first walk through to be sure you are not in need, instead, of Dr. Scholl's or cookies.

Nonetheless, the great paradox of all this is, today we are healthier, wealthier and wiser than ever before. Are we not?

The writer is a resident of Metuchen.

METUCHEN · EDISON THE REVIEW

and the HIGHLAND PARK HERALD

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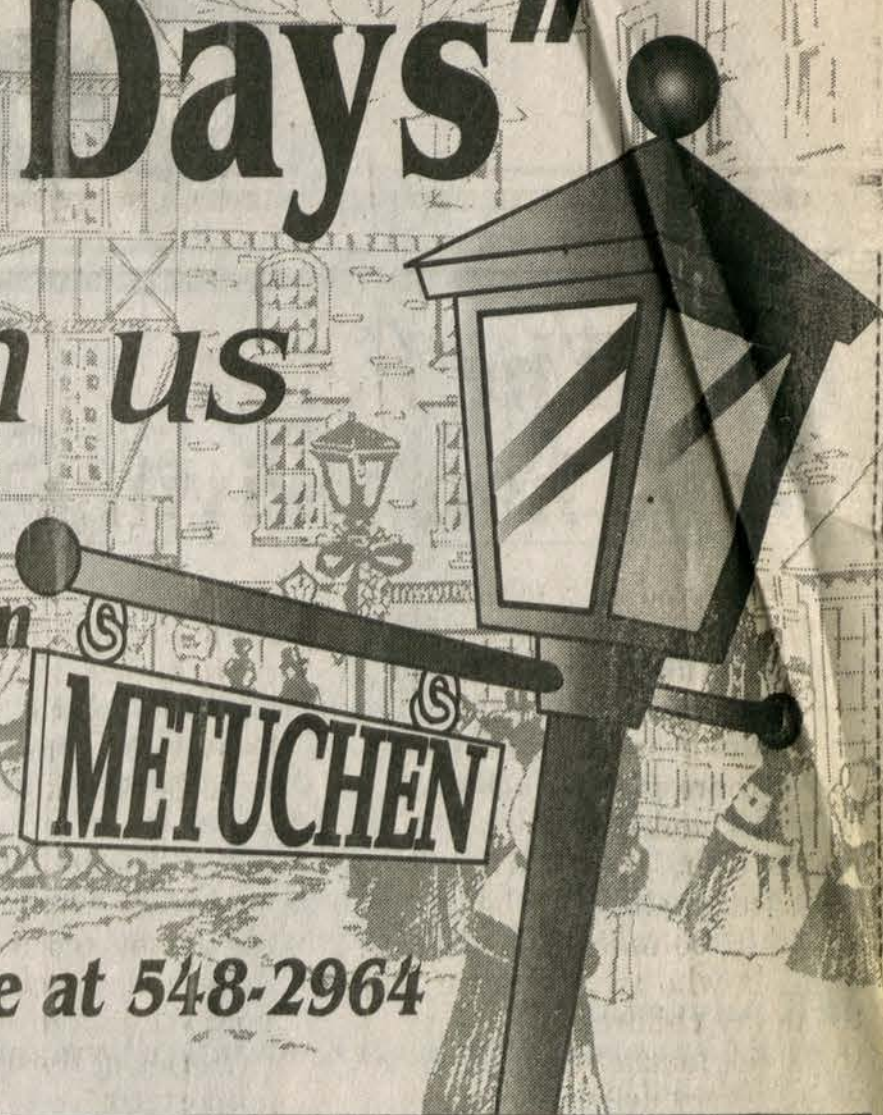
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Community Life

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Trips planned are to the King Henry Christmas show in Mount Laurel, leaving 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14; "Ozark Mountain Jamboree" at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, leaving 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, 1997; and Rocking Horse Ranch, Sept. 7-11, 1998. All trips leave from the Our Lady of Peace annex in Fords. For more information, call Vice President Helen Rader at (732) 738-7441.

JFK Advantage

Activities sponsored by the JFK Advantage program of JFK Medical Center:

Monday, Dec. 1 — "Coping with Loss during the Holiday Season," support group with Haven hospice. Aerobics room of 80 James St., Edison, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 16 — Second annual holiday luncheon, with music from the Rahway Valley Jerseyaires. Cost \$6. JFK Conference Center, 70 James St., Edison, 12:30 p.m.

JFK Advantage is open to seniors 55 and older. For more information, call (800) 222-3116.

Senior Adult Club

The Senior Adult Club of the Jewish Community Center of Middlesex County, 1775 Oak Tree Road, will have a luncheon at noon Thursday, Dec. 4. Cost is \$1.75 for members and \$3 for non-members. Reservations are required; call (732) 494-3232.

A Hanukkah party is planned at noon Thursday, Dec. 18. Bruce Fagan will provide musical entertainment. Cost is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. Reservations are required; call Sue Horwitz at (732) 494-3232 by Friday, Dec. 12.

Seats are now open for a trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage, "A Living Memorial to the Holocaust" in Manhattan. The bus will leave 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28 from the JCC. Lunch at a kosher restaurant in Manhattan is included. Cost is \$35 for members and (beginning Dec. 1) \$40 for non-members. For registration, call (732) 494-3232. The trip is co-sponsored by the Learning Throughout Life program of the JCC.

Highland Park

Senior Citizens Club

The club meets 1 p.m. the first and third Monday of the month at the Senior/Youth Center, 220 S. Sixth Ave. Birthdays are observed the third Monday.

Bingo is 1 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of the month at the Senior/Youth Center.

Senior Center

The Senior/Youth Center, 220 S. Sixth Ave., is open 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. Anyone 60 or older is welcome. Programs take place at the center except where indicated. Call (732) 819-0052. The center will be closed Friday, Nov. 28 for Thanksgiving.

Breakfast is served 8:30 a.m. Monday-Friday.

Activities sponsored by the Senior/Youth Center:

Friday — Painting, 9 a.m. Stretch, Breathe, Relax, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday — Bingo, 1 p.m.

Monday — Stretch, Breathe, Relax, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday — Conversational English, 9:30 a.m. Chorus, 10 a.m. Bridge and mah-jongg, 1 p.m.

Wednesday — Video exercise, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday — Conversational English, 9 a.m. Yoga, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 29 — Movie, "True Grit" with John Wayne (his Academy Award-winning role), 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 3 — Trip to Brooklyn Museum for the Monet exhibit. Cost of \$32 includes lunch. Sign up in person at the Senior/Youth Center.

Tri-County Senior Citizens

The Tri-County Senior Citizens Center is at 450 New Market Road, Piscataway. Anyone 55 and older is welcome. Activities take place at the center unless otherwise noted. Call (732) 752-1142.

Upcoming activities for the Tri-County Senior Citizens:

Tuesday — Fashion painting, 10 a.m.-noon. Cards and bridge, 12:30 p.m. Pinochle, 12:45 p.m. Mah-jongg, 1 p.m.

Thursday — Arts and crafts, 10 a.m.-noon. Wood carving, 10 a.m.-noon.

Friday — Line dancing, 10 a.m.-noon.

Monday, Dec. 8 — Trip to Platzi Brauhaus in Pomona, N.Y., for Christmas festival. Cost is \$42. Call Catherine Jenneken at (908) 755-1455.

Sunday, Dec. 14 — Christmas dinner-dance at The Westwood in Garwood, 1 p.m. Cost is \$24; non-members are welcome. Call Mary Petroski at (732) 752-2386 or Alice Stefanchik at (908) 665-5934.

Saturday, Jan. 17 — Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse for "Ozark Mountain Jamboree." Cost is \$43. Call Catherine Jenneken.

Here Comes... Miss Merry Christmas



JESSICA AKEY



LOREN DOBKIN



KATIE DONNELLY



CAROLINA RIVERA



MICHELL POLYE

Cast a vote for Miss Merry Christmas

METUCHEN — Ballot boxes have been posted throughout downtown to remind residents to cast their picks for the borough's next Miss Merry Christmas.

Five women, all seniors at Metuchen High School, have been nominated by their peers and teachers to represent the brainy borough this holiday season and help Santa Claus find out what everyone wants him to bring them this year.

Ballot boxes will be up in local business until Wednesday, Oct. 6 a Miss Merry Christmas will be chosen.

The five women who could be crowned Miss Merry Christmas next Saturday are Jessica Akey, Loren Dobkin, Katie Donnelly, Michelle Polye and Carolina

Rivera. The lucky winner will be taken to Santaland on New Street, where she will greet children with old Saint Nick.

Jessica Akey participates in the Peer Leadership and

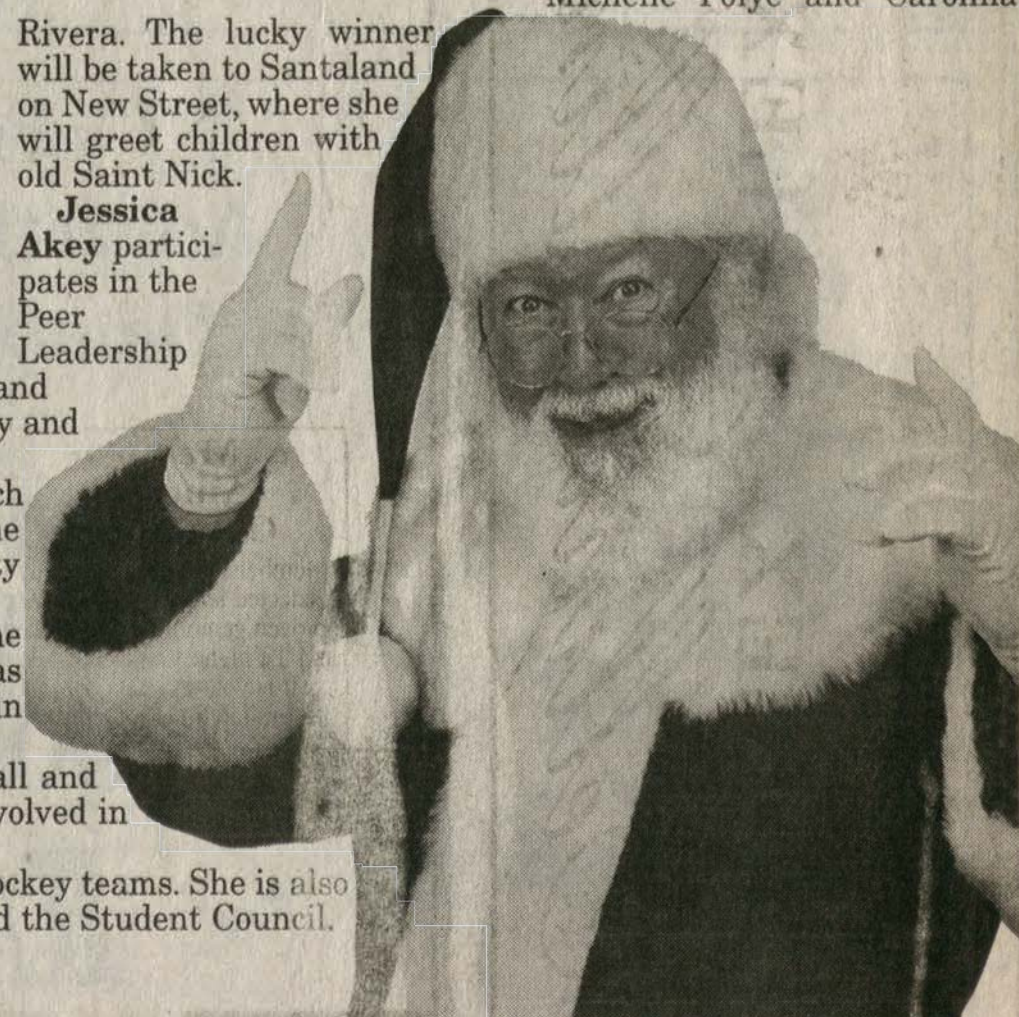
D.A.R.E. programs, plays Varsity Soccer, is Student Body Secretary and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Loren Dobkin is a member of the Footlighters and the French Honor Society, participates in her church youth group and the Coalition for Kids and is a member of the National Honor Society and its tutoring program.

President of the Senior Class, **Katie Donnelly** is a member of the Footlighters, Coalition for Kids and National Honor Society. She was also the stage manager for the Memorial Park program held in September.

Michelle Polye is a member of the student council and softball and basketball teams. The coaches Pop Warner cheerleading and is involved in child nutrition.

Carolina Rivera is the captain of the varsity track and field hockey teams. She is also a member of the D.A.R.E. program, the Spanish Honor Society and the Student Council.



Donate used auto

EDISON — The Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County is looking for used cars.

Cars of any make or model in working condition will be accepted. Anyone who wish to donate a car will receive a letter or charitable donation for tax purposes.

The cars will benefit individual clients. For more information, call Evelyn at (732) 738-5225.

The Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County will host a workshop Wednesday. Diane Markowitz will conduct the workshop. She is certified in employment counseling and human resources man-

agement. The workshop will be 6:45-9:30 p.m. The cost is \$75. Pre-registration is required.

Neve Shalom to host Bar/Bat Mitzvah event

METUCHEN — Neve Shalom is holding a Bar/Bat Mitzvah Showcase noon-4 p.m. Sunday.

The event will feature caterers, bands, disc jockeys, photographers, videographers, party planners, stationers and florists who be available to discuss special occasions needs.

Neve Shalom is at 250 Grove Ave. Call 548-2238.



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"KNOW YOUR JEWELER"

James G. Thomas, 74

Accountant; Legion commander

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — James G. Thomas, 74, died Nov. 19, 1997 at his home. He had been an accountant and in 1965-66 served as commander of Chaumont Post 243, American Legion, in the borough.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., he lived in Plymouth, Pa., and Newark before moving to South Plainfield in 1959.

From 1957-74 he was an accountant in Florham Park and Linden with what is now the Exxon Research and Engineering Co. Mr. Thomas held a similar position with the New Jersey Educational Computer Network in Edison from 1974-81 and the Johnson & Johnson Credit Union in New Brunswick from 1981 until his 1995 retirement.

He attended King's College in Wilkes-Barre before transferring to St. Louis University, from which he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1951.

During 1989-91 he was grand knight of Knights of Columbus Council 6203 in South Plainfield. He was a fourth-degree member of the Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly, Knights of Columbus, South Plainfield.

For many years Mr. Thomas was an usher for the noon Mass on Sunday at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. An avid hunter, golfer and New York Rangers hockey fan, he was a

member of the West Nine Golf Club in Edison and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6763 in South Plainfield.

He joined the Navy in 1942, saw duty during World War II and held the rank of aviation machinist's mate first class on his discharge in 1946.

Surviving are his wife, Marcella Bergan Thomas; three sons, James G. Jr. of Cedar Knolls, William of South Plainfield and Vincent of New Milford, Conn.; two daughters, Regina of New York City and Noreen Rotondo of Warren; three sisters, Rita Pethout of Plymouth, Mass., Margaret Tosh of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. and Alice Polonchak of Oklahoma; and six grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by three brothers, William, John and David, and two sisters, Catherine Mahon and Gertrude.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Monday at Sacred Heart Church, following services at the McCriskin Home for Funerals. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Hospice Program, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield, N.J. 07061, or McAuley School for the Developmentally Disabled, 1633 Route 22, Watchung, N.J. 07060.

Rosa Lee Watson, 79

Prominent in Metuchen church

METUCHEN — Rosa Lee Watson, 79, died Nov. 16, 1997 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick. She had been a prominent member of the Second Baptist Church on Duane Avenue.

She was born in Lyons, Ga., and had lived in Metuchen since 1938.

Mrs. Watson was a trustee and member of the Senior Usher Board at the Second Baptist Church. She once sang in her church's Celestial Choir and Senior Choir.

She also was a maintenance supervisor on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University and a past worthy matron of Jefferson Chapter 2, Order of the Eastern Star.

Surviving are two sons,

Marion D. of Somerset and Joe D. of Asbury Park; seven daughters, Mary S. Cooper of Neptune, Annie W. Bell and Catherine Crittendon, both of Plainfield, Geneva W. Howard of Piscataway, Betty Sue Gordon of Bayonne, Regina M. of Metuchen and Bivi Angola of Irvine, Calif.; five brothers, Anthony Tucker Sr. of Trenton, Simon Tucker, Yusuf Bilal, Luther Tucker and William Tucker, all of Plainfield; a sister, Essie Lee Williams of Plainfield; 30 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Second Baptist Church. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery. Arrangements were by the Anderson Funeral Service in New Brunswick.

Keiko K. Zwayer, 66

Housekeeper; once of Metuchen

METUCHEN — Keiko K. Zwayer, 66, died Nov. 11, 1997 at Columbia Reston Hospital in Reston, Va. She had been a housekeeper before retiring.

Born in Kagoshima, Japan, she lived in Woodbridge and Metuchen before moving in 1992 to Sterling, Va.

She was a member of Century United Methodist

Church. Surviving are two daughters, Dorothy Alper of Sterling and Elizabeth of Metuchen; a brother, Yostiru Kawano, and a sister, Yoko Sanematsu, both of Japan; and two grandchildren.

Services were held Nov. 14 at the Koyen Funeral Home. Burial was in Clover Leaf Memorial Park, Woodbridge.

Obituaries

J. Oliver Lampen, headed microbiology institute; 79

EDISON — J. Oliver Lampen, 79, the former director of the Waksman Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers University and a former chairman of the American Academy of Microbiology, died Nov. 18 at the Francis E. Parker Memorial Home in Piscataway.

He joined Rutgers faculty in 1958 and was a professor of microbiology until 1980, when he became professor emeritus. Dr. Lampen was active with the Waksman Institute until his illness.

Among the awards bestowed on Dr. Lampen were the Eli Lilly Award, in 1952; the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Hope College, in 1972; the Melvin H. Motolinsky Research Foundation Award, in 1974; and the Rutgers Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research, in 1985.

Dr. Lampen began his career with American Cyanamid Corp., then became an instructor at the medical schools of Washington University and the former Western Reserve University. He was director of biomedical research at the Squibb Institute for Medical Research 1953-58.

During 1963 and 1973 he was a visiting investigator at the National Institute for Medical Research, in Mill Hill, England. He delivered the Kluyver Memorial Lecture before the

Netherlands Society for Microbiology in 1967.

He served on the boards of trustees of the Foundation of Microbiology, in New York City; the Wistar Institute, in Philadelphia; Middlesex General Hospital (now Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital), in New Brunswick; Rutgers Preparatory School, in Somerset; the Melvin H. Motolinsky Research Foundation; and the American Cancer Society.

Dr. Lampen was born in Holland, Mich., and had lived for many years in Edison. He earned a bachelor's degree from Hope College in 1939 and a doctorate in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1943. He received an honorary doctorate in humanities from Hope College in 1974.

Surviving are his wife, Miriam; three sons, David A. of Alexandria, Va., Peter C. of New Brunswick and Richard J. of Coral Gables, Fla.; a brother, A. Edgar; and a sister, Barbara L., both of Holland, Mich.; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Christ Church Episcopal in New Brunswick. Burial was private.

Arrangements were by the Jani Kuhn Funeral Home in Highland Park. Contributions may be made to the Foundation for Microbiology, 300 E. 54th St., Suite K, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Norman Sterling, 73

DOT retiree; Metuchen native

Norman R. Repper Sterling, 73, died Nov. 19, 1997 at Mercer Medical Center in Trenton. He worked for the New Jersey Department of Transportation and had been an official in fraternal organizations.

Born in Metuchen, he had lived in Metuchen since 1947.

Mr. Sterling retired in 1991 after 37 years with New Jersey Department of Transportation. He worked for the General Electric Co. at its former Trenton plant and the New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Co. before joining the Transportation Department.

He was a past patron of Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 257 in Bordentown and the current worthy patron of Morning Star Chapter 22, Order of the Eastern Star. He was a past master of Mercer Lodge 50, Free & Accepted Masons, in Trenton, for 49 years.

He was a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Trenton; the Crescent Shrine Temple; the Tall

Cedars of Lebanon; Friendly Branch 89, National Camping Travelers; and Trinity United Methodist Church, in Bordentown.

He served in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Carol E.; a brother, Gordon W. of Metuchen; his mother-in-law, Marguerite Schindewolf, and a sister-in-law, Peg Schindewolf, both of Robbinsville; a nephew, Gordon of Metuchen; a great-niece and two great-nephews.

A memorial service was held Sunday at Trinity United Methodist Church with Dr. Mildred E. Bender, the pastor, officiating.

Arrangements were by the Saul Funeral Homes in Hamilton Square. Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, 339 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown, N.J. 08505, or American Diabetes Foundation, Central Regional Chapter, 200 Cottontail Lane, Somerset, N.J. 08873.

Joseph N. Visco, 68

Engineer; treasurer of union local

EDISON — Joseph N. Visco, 68, died Nov. 18, 1997 at Community Medical Center in

Trenton. He had been an engineer and former treasurer of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825 in Little

ton. He had lived in Edison before moving to Edison earlier this year.

Mr. Visco retired in 1991 after as an engineer associated with Local 825. He served in the military during World War II and the Korean War.

Surviving are his wife of 43 years, two sons, Mark and Robert; a daughter, Kim Richards; a brother, Harry Sr.; a brother-in-law, and two grandchildren. Services were held Friday at the Selin Funeral Home in St. Gertrude, N.J. Burial was in St. Gertrude, N.J. Colonias.

Michael Governale, 77

Owner of a truck repair shop

EDISON — Michael W. Governale, 77, died Nov. 22, 1997 at the Somerset Regional Medical Center in Somerset. A lifelong Edison resident, he owned the Edison Truck Repair shop from 1967 until his death in 1985.

Mr. Governale was a member of the New Jersey Motor Truck Association and the Edison Italian-American Club and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3117 in the township. He served in the Army during World War II and was a parishioner of St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Church.

His wife, Etta V. Biddle Governale, died in 1988.

Surviving are two daughters, Joann V. Miller and Linda G.

DeAndrea, both of Edison; three brothers, Peter of Inverness, Fla., Raymond of Lakewood and Louis Ghilino of Hope; two grandsons, Michael Swartz and Russell Swartz, both of Edison; two granddaughters, Lisa Swartz of Edison and Michele Miller of Bethesda, Md.; and a great-grandchild.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Tuesday at St. Matthew's Church, following services at the Boylan Funeral Home. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Tyler Swartz Trust Fund, 190 Plainfield Road, Edison, N.J. 08820.

Joseph M. Danyo, 75

Carpenter was self-employed

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Joseph M. Danyo, 75, died Nov. 19, 1997 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. A carpenter, he had been self-employed in Plainfield and South Plainfield for more than 50 years prior to his 1991 retirement.

Mr. Danyo was born in Plainfield and had lived in South Plainfield since 1957.

He served with the 756th Railway Shop Battalion of the Army in England during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Bea Kuhlthau Danyo; two sons, Joseph A. of Cherry Hill and

Steven A. of South Plainfield; three sisters, Mary Kassey of Plainfield, Margaret Giddes of Whiting and Anna Spangler of Kenova, W.Va.; and two grandchildren.

Two brothers, Andrew and John, are deceased.

A memorial service was held Monday at the United Church of Christ in Plainfield.

Arrangements were by the McCriskin Home for Funerals. Memorial contributions may be made to United Church of Christ Helping Hands Fund, 220 W. Seventh St., Plainfield, N.J. 07060.

Rosalie Bayti DeLong, 77

Purchasing agent; also with GM, RCA

EDISON — Rosalie A. Bayti DeLong, 77, died Nov. 22, 1997 at her home.

She had been a purchasing agent with Baxter International in Edison prior to her 1982 retirement.

She was born in Metuchen and had lived in Edison since 1955.

Mrs. DeLong also worked during World War II at the Linden plant of General Motors Corp. and from 1955-66 at the Avenel plant of the former Radio Corp. of

America. She bowled in a number of leagues at the Brunswick Edison Bowl-a-Mat in Edison.

She was a parishioner of St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Church in Colonia.

Surviving are her husband, James F. Jr.; a son, James F. III of Dillsburg, Pa.; a daughter, Barbara Roloff of Linden; and two grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Lehr-Gibilisco Funeral Home in Rahway.

Frank Faycik Sr., 65

Employed as tool and die maker

EDISON — Frank J. Faycik Sr., 65, died Nov. 19, 1997 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. He had been a tool and die maker with Anadigics Inc. in Warren.

Mr. Faycik was born in New Brunswick and had lived in Piscataway before moving to Edison in 1985. He was a member of Frith Fellowship Ministries in Edison.

Surviving are his son, Frank Jr.

of Edison; a daughter, Brenda Joy Coe of Mexico, N.Y.; and five grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Higgins Home for Funerals in Plainfield. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains.

Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Fellowship Ministries World Outreach Center, 2177 Oak Tree Road, Edison, N.J. 08820, or Associated Humane Societies in Newark.

Cezary Konopka, 47

Contractor; a Polish native

PISCATAWAY — Cezary M. Konopka, 47, died Nov. 12, 1997 at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. He had been self-employed as a contractor.

A native of Wroclaw, Poland, Mr. Konopka immigrated to the United States in 1984 and lived in Piscataway before moving to Manville in 1994. He was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in

Manville.

Surviving are his wife, Klara; a stepdaughter, Elizabeth Andruszko of Manville; his mother, Leokadia, and a sister, Eliza Muzyczenko, both of Piscataway; and a brother, Janusz of Poland.

Services were held Nov. 15 at the Ketuskus Funeral Home, Manville, followed by a funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church.

Mary Hazel Millard, 69

Lived in Piscataway most of her life

PISCATAWAY — Mary Hazel Ward Millard, 69, died Nov. 18, 1997 at the JFK Hartwyck and Tree nursing home in Edison. A homemaker, she was born in Elizabeth and lived in Piscataway for most of her life.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church of New Market. Her husband, Russell W., died in 1991.

Surviving are three sons, Robert A. of Manville, Douglas E. of Union and Paul A. of Freehold; two daughters, Cathy E. Holowaty of Richford, Vt., and Leeann Mather of Piscataway; a sister, Margaret J. Vitale of Piscataway; and nine grandchildren.

Services were Saturday at the Mundy Funeral Home, Dunellen.

Consideration

It is far easier for the family, if a family plot is arranged prior to need. The considerate staff at Hillside Cemetery will assist your selection. All lots are in fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Hillside Cemetery, located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, is a non-profit organization.

Telephone (908) 756-1729.

Hillside Cemetery

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On December 17th, (December 18th in our Thursday publications) North Jersey Newspapers Co., your network of community newspapers, will be publishing it's annual Religious Holiday Services Directory.

This bannered directory is very effective and will be seen by our readers, your current and potential worshippers.

List your holiday services before the holidays so our readers can make arrangements to attend them. Please call for further details 1-800-472-0151

To our readers; please look for this Holiday Directory on December 17th or 18th.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

There are those who mull over decisions, weighing the pros and cons of their choices. This can be done in a quick, deliberate fashion or you can go on seemingly endlessly. On the other hand, some people "go with feeling." Is this last, less-reasoned approach any more valid? Sigmund Freud offered his assessment of the matter: "When making a decision of minor importance, I have always found it advantageous to consider the pros and cons. In vital matters, however, such as the choice of a mate or a profession, the decision should come from the unconscious, from somewhere within ourselves. In the important decisions of personal life, we should be governed, I think, by the deep inner needs of our nature."

There are many decisions related to the funeral and burial, part of a seemingly endless number of things that would need attention by your family. However, you can provide for them by making a few

Consider These Thoughts

by Jay Costello

basic selections with pre-arranging your funeral today. When the time comes, a single call by your family is all that should be needed. To discuss pre-arrangements, call COSTELLO-RUNYON FUNERAL HOME, 568 Middlesex Avenue, Metuchen (548-0149). Once you've made your decisions, your family will have no doubt about your expressed wishes, and you will have peace of mind knowing that all has been arranged.

Quote: "A weak man has doubts before a decision; a strong man has them afterwards."

Karl Kraus

Rosalie Thompson, 90

Lived in Edison most of her life

EDISON — Rosalie A. Pepitone Thompson, 90, died Nov. 17, 1997 at JFK Medical Center. She was born in New York state and lived in Edison for most of her life.

Her husband, Albert F., died in 1973. Two sons, John Sr. and Albert, died in 1994. A daughter, Marion Cutter, died in 1995.

Felicia R. Reed, 86

A former Piscataway resident

PISCATAWAY — Felicia Rogusky Reed, 86, died Nov. 16, 1997 at the Rolling Hills of Hunterdon Care Center in Lebanon. A native of New Brunswick, she lived in Piscataway before moving to Bethlehem in 1994.

Her husband, Wodorow W., died in 1983.

Joseph H. Slover, 69

Carpet installer; gunner's mate

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Joseph H. Slover, 69, died Nov. 22, 1997 at his home. He had been a carpet installer, golfer, bowler and decorated World War II sailor.

He was born in Belle Mead and lived in Newark before moving to South Plainfield in 1951.

Mr. Slover was a gunner's mate third class aboard the USS Missouri and USS Joseph P. Kennedy in the Navy during the war. He was awarded the American Theater Campaign Medal, a Good Conduct Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

He installed carpets for the

Anthony Masucci, 72

Tile contractor in the county

EDISON — Anthony V. Masucci, 72, died Nov. 21, 1997 at JFK Medical Center.

He had been a ceramic tile contractor and from 1955 until his 1995 retirement owned Masucci Tile in Edison.

A native of New Jersey, Mr. Masucci served in the Army and lived in Edison before moving recently to Whiting. He was a member of Brunswick Lodge 263, Loyal Order of Moose, in North Brunswick.

Surviving are his wife,

Gregory Everman, 42

Worked for two bakeries in area

EDISON — Gregory L. Everman, 42, died Nov. 21, 1997 at JFK Medical Center. He had worked for the New York-based Taystee bakery and later for the Pennsylvania-based Stroehmann's bakery when it acquired Taystee.

Mr. Everman was born in Perth Amboy and had lived in Edison since 1983. He was a member of Bakery, Confectionery

Filomena Vertullo, 82

Seamstress prior to retirement

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Filomena M. Dellaperute Vertullo, 82, died Nov. 23, 1997 at her home. She had been a seamstress in the Plainfield area prior to her 1972 retirement.

Mrs. Vertullo was born in Plainfield and had lived in South Plainfield since 1969. She was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church and a member of the former International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

Her husband, Dominick, died in 1994.

Mrs. Thompson is survived by a brother, Joseph Pepitone of New Brunswick; five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held Friday at the Rusciano Funeral Home in Highland Park. Burial was in Lake Nelson Memorial Park, Piscataway.

Mrs. Reed is survived by two daughters, Rose A. Czerula of Piscataway and Janet A. Laustsen of Bethlehem; and four grandchildren.

Private services were held under the direction of the Gowen Funeral Home in New Brunswick.

S&M Carpet Warehouse of Middlesex from 1958 until his retirement in 1993.

Surviving are his wife, Mary Eskesen Slover; two sons, Joseph E. of Colonia and Michael J. of South Plainfield; two daughters, Mary Jo Bishop of Lake Worth, Fla., and Jane DeRose of Scotch Plains; a sister, Mary Russomanno of Toms River; and six grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Plainfield, following services at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Burial was in Holy Redeemer Cemetery.

Margaret Kovacs Masucci, 83

Survived by three sons, Anthony of Whiting, Michael Gutwein of Mansfield and Vincent Gutwein of Landing; a daughter, Marta Borrmann of Edison; five sisters, Josephine Viana of Lincroft, Jenny Mucilli of Edison, Mary D'Angelo and Angie Cannella, both of Hopelawn, and Gloria Kaminsky of Florida; and eight grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday at the Flynn & Son Funeral Home in Fords.

Surviving are his wife, Donna Martino Everman; two sons, Gregory Jr. and Michael; and a sister, Jeanette Tylor.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Monday at St. Helena's Roman Catholic Church, following services at the Gosselin Funeral Home.

Surviving are a daughter, Rosemarie A. Perretta of Stewartville; three brothers, Carl Della Peruti of Plainfield, Vincent Della Perute of Annandale and Fred Della Perute of Wantage; and three sisters, Angelina Tomaso of Warren, Mary Kargol of South Plainfield and Antoinette Maddalone of Dover.

Services were held Wednesday at the Higgins Home for Funerals, North Plainfield, followed by a funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church.

Obituaries

Charlotte Wittmer, 68

Garden club member 25 years

EDISON — Charlotte Rollman Wittmer, 68, died Nov. 20, 1997 at JFK Medical Center. She had been a homemaker and for 25 years a member of the Edison Garden Club.

Mrs. Wittmer was born in Reading, Pa., and lived in West New York before moving to Edison in 1957. She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Surviving are her husband, Edgar W. Sr.; three sons, Edgar Jr. and Gary, both of Edison, and David of Highland Park; five

Joan M. Tackett, 66

Deborah volunteer; in DAR, AARP

EDISON — Joan M. McIntyre Tackett, 66, died Nov. 23, 1997 at Beth Israel Hospital Center in Passaic.

She had been a volunteer with the Deborah Hospital Foundation.

She was born in Jersey City and had lived in Edison since 1959.

Mrs. Tackett was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Association of Retired Persons. She was a parishioner of Our

Antonio L. Raspa, 72

Was machinist at cable plant

HIGHLAND PARK — Antonio L. Raspa, 72, died Nov. 23, 1997 at St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick. He retired in 1987 after 35 years as a machinist at the New Brunswick plant of Triangle Cable & Wire Corp.

Mr. Raspa lived in New Brunswick before returning to his native Highland Park in 1954. He served in the Army in Europe during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Sarah Simone Raspa; three sons, Vincent of Piscataway, Joseph and Antonio L. Jr., both of Highland Park; five daughters, Mary Gosser of Highland Park, Catherine Gorcos and Antonia Eckert, both of Edison, Judy Ann Czysz of Wescosville, Pa., and

daughters, Cheryl Falkowski of Cary, N.C., Gail Dalsgard of Ellenville, N.Y., Diane Brennan of Edison, Lori Giblisco of South Amboy and Lisa of Ocean; two brothers, Robert Rollman of North Bergen and William Rollman of Austin, Texas; a sister, Eleanor Kides of North Bergen; and 10 grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Boylan Funeral Home, followed by a service at St. Paul's Church. Entombment was in the mausoleum at Clover Leaf Memorial Park, Woodbridge.

Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Church.

Surviving are her husband, John E.; two sons, John E. Jr. and William M. both of Flemington; two brothers, James McIntyre and Robert McIntyre, both of Florida; and five grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday at St. James Roman Catholic Church, Woodbridge, following services at the Mitruska Funeral Home in Fords. Burial was in Clover Leaf Memorial Park, Woodbridge.

Tina Bernauer of South Plainfield; a brother, Sal of Sayreville; three sisters, Tina Bentivengo and Millie Micale, both of Edison, and Mae Drulas of Jacksonville, Fla.; 22 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday at St. Mary of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church, New Brunswick, following services at the Boylan Funeral Home in Edison. Burial was in St. Peter's Cemetery, New Brunswick.

Joseph O'Hara, 77

Chemical operator; active in sports

EDISON — Joseph E. O'Hara, 77, died Nov. 23, 1997 at the Clark Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. He retired in 1981 after 38 years as a chemical operator at the Perth Amboy plant of what is now Chevron Corp.

Mr. O'Hara was born in Perth Amboy. He served in the Navy during World War II and had lived in Edison since 1955.

A charter member of the Hubs Athletic Club in Perth Amboy, Mr. O'Hara played softball for the Wes Hansen team of Perth Amboy as well as the Chevron Industrial League. He was an avid fisherman aboard the Perth Amboy-based charter boat Sea Pigeon.

He was a member of the Clara Barton Senior Citizens Club and

a parishioner of Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Church.

Surviving are his wife, Theresa Vena O'Hara; two sons, Joseph of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Ronald of Jackson; a brother, Raymond of Perth Amboy; two sisters, Maria Pomykala of Sayreville and Anne Kontra of Parlin; and five grandchildren.

Two other brothers, William and Michael, are deceased.

Services were held Wednesday at the Flynn & Son Funeral Home, Fords, followed by a funeral Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church. Burial was in Rosedale Cemetery, Linden.

Memorial contributions may be made to Haven Hospice, c/o JFK Medical Center Foundation, 80 James St., Edison, N.J. 08820.

Anna Vida Hakala

Department store saleswoman

EDISON — Anna J. Vida Hakala died Nov. 23, 1997 at the Roosevelt Care Center.

She had been a saleswoman from 1952-65 with the former Ohrbach's department store in Manhattan.

Mrs. Hakala was born in Bayonne and lived in Brooklyn before moving to Edison in 1976. She worked at the Kearny plant of the former Western Electric before joining Ohrbach's.

Her husband, John, died in 1981.

Surviving are a son, Thomas J., and a daughter-in-law,

Marilynn, both of Edison; a brother, Thomas Vida of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; a sister, Mary Hand of Woodbridge; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday at St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church, Iselin, following services at the Thomas Joseph Costello Funeral Home in Iselin.

Burial was in St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

Memorial contributions may be made to Social Concerns, c/o Sister Josephine, St. Cecilia's Church, 45 Wilus Way, Iselin, N.J. 08830.

Theater to perform Dec. 10

METUCHEN — For the third show of its 15th anniversary season, the Forum Theatre has scheduled the Eighties Off-Broadway musical "Pump Boys and Dinettes."

Performances are Dec. 5-21 at the theater, 314 Main St. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday with a matinee 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10.

"Pump Boys and Dinettes" was written by John Foley, Mark Hardwick, Debra Monk, Cass Morgan and John Schimmel." Of the show's 19 songs, 12 were written by Jim Wann. The Forum Theatre production is directed by Peter J. Loewy.

Admission is \$29-\$25. Discounts are available for senior citizens and students. For reservations, call (732) 548-0582.

LEGALIS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS
Mortgages for MIDDLESEX County, Page 528, et seq. GE CAPITAL MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC., plaintiff herein, is successor in interest to TRAVELERS MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC., and is the holder of the Mortgage, (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known 17 MONROE AVENUE, CARTERET, NJ 07008. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling (908) 249-7600 or the legal services office of the county of your residence if you reside in New Jersey. If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may call or communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of Venue at 908-828-0053, or at the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of your residence if you reside in New Jersey. If there is no contact the Lawyer Referral Service of an adjacent county. YOU, DEBRA NUNEZ, are made party defendant in this foreclosure action for any interest or claim you may have with regard to the premises being foreclosed upon herein by reason of a judgment entered against LUIS ESTEVEZ. Said lien was entered in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Judgment No. JC5852650829A, in the amount of \$3,304.00, plus interest and cost of suit. Said lien is subordinate to the lien of the Plaintiff herein. Dated: November 21, 1997 DONALD F. PHELAN

PUBLIC NOTICE
SEALED BIDS will be received from bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:27-35.1 et seq., in the Multipurpose Room, First Floor of the Engineering and Operations Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey, until 10:00 a.m. 12/18/97 and opened and read for: DEMO OF BUILDINGS & ASBESTOS REMOVAL CONTRACT #2-1996 RT 18 SEC 2F, 7E, & 11H MIDDLESEX COUNTY 100% STATE DP#97167 The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252 U.S.C., 49 C.F.R., Parts 21 and 23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids and will not discriminate against any bidder on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or handicap in the contract award. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127. Drawings, specifications, and bid documents may be inspected or obtained for a fee \$15.00, for full size drawings, at the NJDOT Plans Distribution Building #8 Thiokol CN 600, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, during business hours. Names and addresses of prospective bidders for this project may be acquired by telephoning (609) 530-8584 or (609) 530-8585 during business hours. Their fax number is (609) 530-8347. Drawings, supplementary specifications, and boring logs may also be inspected BUT NOT OBTAINED by contracting organizations at our various Design Field Offices at the following locations: 200 Silerli Court Mount Arlington, NJ 201-770-5141 3908 Church Road Mt. Laurel, N.J. 609-866-4953 Route 79 & Daniels Way Freshfield, N.J. 201-308-4025 NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, PROCUREMENT 576.26 R156 3T5 11/28, 12/4 & 11/97

NOTICE
PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Piscataway Township Zoning Board of Adjustment at the meeting of September 16, and memorialized on November 12, 1997. APPLICATION 95-ZB-11V-JOSEPH & PATRICIA FERARA BLOCK 515, LOT 10, ZONE 4-10-110 Netherwood Avenue. Allowed to increase the number of children cared for, to twenty-two. These determinations are on file with the Clerk to the Board and are available for public inspection at the Public Works Center, 505 Sidney Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854 from 8:30 to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. Gail A. Conlon Zoning Board Adjustment Clerk \$11.16 PR154 11/28/97

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Holiday Wishes

Check your toy IQ

To avoid trip-ups in toyland this season, take this quiz and test your toy know-how.

Questions

- True or False:** Toys are important. Through play, children learn about themselves and the world around them.
- True or False:** The "hottest" new toy is always the best choice.
- True or False:** If I'm going to "invest" in a bike, I should buy something he can use for the next several years.
- True or False:** I don't have to spend a ton of money to get my child a great gift.
- True or False:** I should always check the labels on toy packaging.

Answers

- True.** Play helps children refine and develop a variety of intellectual, creative, physical and social skills.
- False.** New is not always the best. It'd be a shame if kids missed classic toys like blocks, bears and crayons because they weren't invented yesterday. Remember, to a child everything is new. And many classic toys now have new twists, added bells and whistles for even more fun.
- False.** Buying plaything that are too big or difficult is a mistake. Appropriate toys should fit a child's current size, needs, interests and skills.

Choose toys that build their confidence and competence.

4. **True.** Buying expensive gifts only ensures big bills - not a gift that's a hit. Better to bring home simpler playthings that a child can do with success, not frustration.

5. **True.** Checking packaging and labels will save time and heartache. Most labels tell if toys have small parts, if assembly is required and if batteries are included or sold separately. This means happy children and prepared parents during the holidays.

How'd you score?

If you answered all correctly: You're a shopping ace!

If you answered three or four right: You're well on your way to understanding the value of play!

If you answered fewer than three correctly: Don't panic! There are resources that can help. More information about selecting engaging gifts is available in a brochure by toy experts Joanne and Stephanie Oppenheim, who work with Energizer brand battery to provide a host of helpful holiday hints. A free copy of the brochure, is available by writing: Toys with Play Power, 15 Nantucket Lane, St. Louis, MO 63132 or by calling 1-800-KIDS-450.

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When putting together your holiday shopping list, be sure to consider a few offbeat locations where you might find some great gifts.

For stamp collectors, stop by the post office for proof sets, guides and booklets; nurses can plant the seeds of creativity, with plenty of offerings for your favorite gardener; hardware stores can be the perfect tool when shopping for the do-it-yourselfer.

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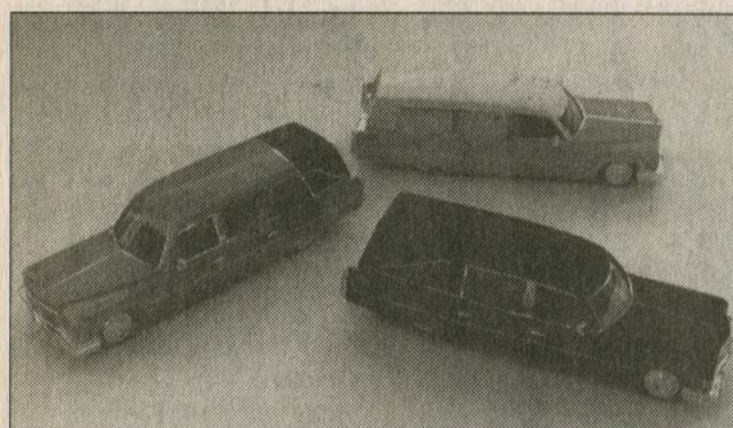
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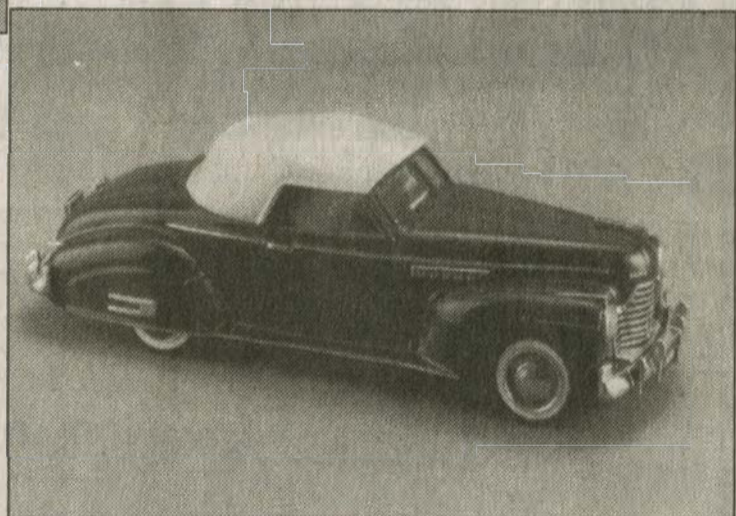
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Holiday Wishes

Entertaining ideas: Video game thrills for the whole family

Choosing the perfect gift for a video-game-savvy youngster can be a challenge. Likewise, exciting, challenging games the whole family can enjoy are hard to find.

Luckily, one cutting-edge game company, Psygnosis, may have the cyber-solutions you're craving — with a variety of entertaining titles ranging from sci-fi arcade action to swashbuckling pirate puzzle fun.

As one of the most experienced developers and publishers of games for the PlayStation game console, Psygnosis offers the ultimate entertainment through excellent graphics and gameplay in five of its recent titles.

*** G-Police** — A stunning, futuristic, 3D flight shooter set apart by its intriguing mission-based storyline, strategic gameplay and incredible looks. G-Police will blow gamers away with its fast and furious graphics, unrestricted fight dynamics and target-rich interactive missions across the 51 domed worlds on Jupiter's colonized moon, Calisto.

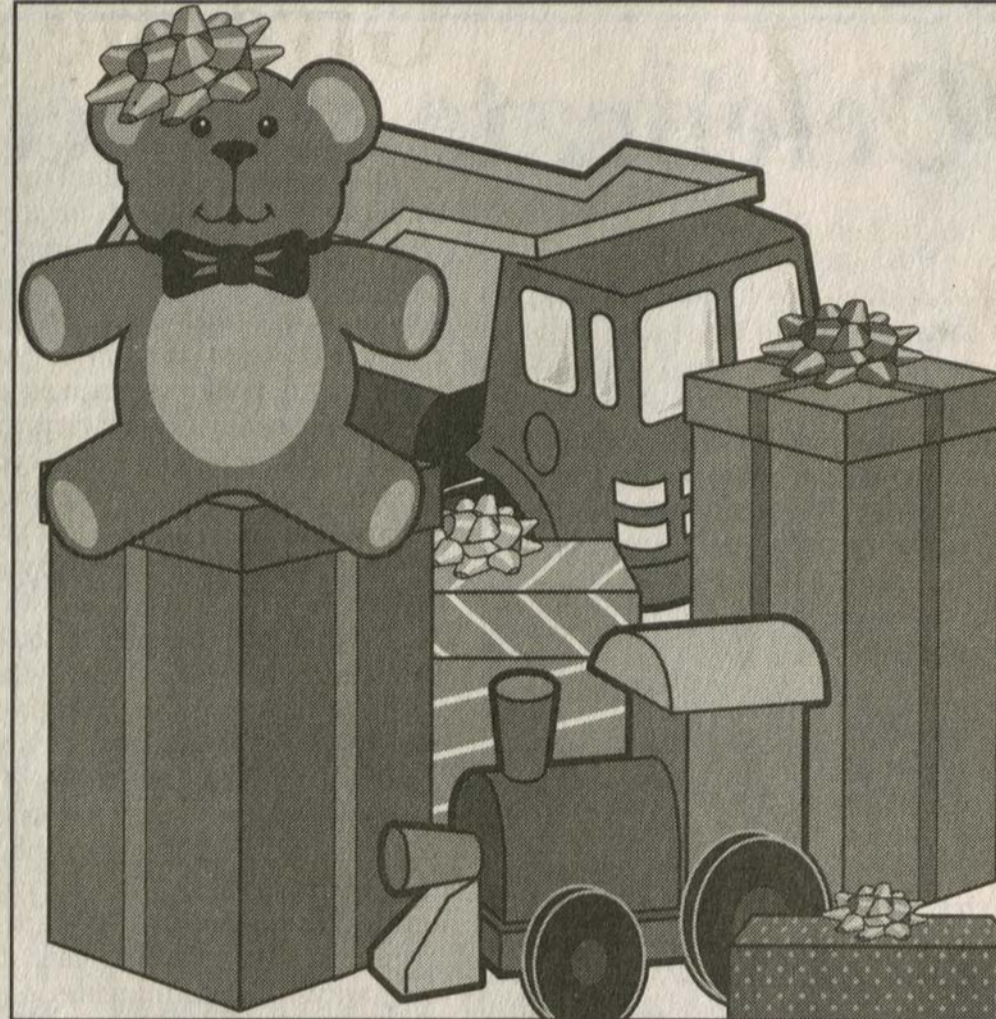
*** Colony Wars** — The most exhilarating space-combat experience ever to grace a gaming console. Launch into a full-scale war for intergalactic supremacy. Pilot state-of-the-art military aircraft against voracious squadrons of brutal mercenaries in more than 60 "real world" missions. A high-resolution 3D engine delivers movie-quality special effects and cinematic full-motion video sequences.

*** Formula 1 Championship Edition** — The sequel to the million-selling blockbuster Formula 1, this high-octane racing experience takes the pole position as the leading sports-racing title. With realistic simulation options, spectacular collisions and crashes and 18 original and 3 fantasy circuits to race, the pedal-to-the-metal Formula 1 Championship Edition leaves its competition in the dust.

*** Shipwreckers!** — Maritime mayhem at its best! An arcade-style, action-packed pirate adventure that's a swashbuckling extravaganza of puzzles for gamers of all ages. Featuring a free-roaming, "third person" perspective and teeming with sea monsters, authentic weapons, and five exotic worlds, Shipwreckers! is a renegade original that will provide hours of seafaring challenges and family fun.

*** Discworld II: Mortality Bytes** — A hilarious comedy adventure game featuring more than 25,000 frames of hand animation, 100 hours of compulsive gameplay and enough tongue-in-cheek humor to keep gamers laughing 'til it hurts. Mind-boggling puzzles, epic guests and fabulous sound effects in a tantalizing package. Discworld II features the vocal talents of Eric Idle and is available now.

Look for these games at retailers or call (800) 438-7794 to order. NAPS



Collectible dolls: Gifts to toy with

Consider getting your gift list "dolled up" this holiday season. Join the millions of people buying decorative, collectible dolls.

Sales of collectibles increased to \$9.1 billion in 1996, compared to \$8.2 billion the prior year, according to recently released industry figures.

One company, Exclusive Toy Products Inc., offers its Exclusive Premiere line of character collectible dolls reminiscent of popular television programs and films.

You can choose from dolls resembling characters from *The Honeymooners*, *Gilligan's Island*, *The Munsters* and *It's a Wonderful Life*. New lines include characters from *Bewitched*, *Babylon 5*, the James Bond film *Tomorrow Never Dies*, and *Happy Days*.

The dolls are carried at numerous toy stores and specialty stores. NAPS

Seasonal basics for effortless holiday style

The social whirl of the holiday season puts added demands on any woman's wardrobe. Fortunately, the current emphasis on luxurious fabrics for day in easy-to-wear styles makes for endless holiday options.

Talbots, the leading retailer and cataloger of women's classic apparel, offers a few key holiday looks to see you through.

Office to Office Party

One of the great challenges of the holiday season is finding outfits that can move easily from work to the after-work party. Great quick-change looks include a two-piece jacket dress in basic black or a wool crepe pantsuit in menswear-inspired gray for the office. Pair the suit with a feminine layering piece, such as a metallic lace blouse, a stretch lace T-shirt or even a mock turtle-neck in silk/rayon/Lurex. When it's time for the party, remove the jacket from the dress or suit to turn these polished looks into elegant statements for evening.

The Big Night Out

You can be comfortable and dressed up. A long, easy-fitting dress in devore (or etched away) velvet, organza blouse with matching shell paired with slim satin pants, or ribbed sweater with hand-beaded stripes and velvet slim skirt all make an entrance without making a fuss.

Home for the Holidays

For weekend get-togethers with family and friends, nothing looks or feels as great as a pair of classic five-pocket velveteen jeans in colors ranging from camel and chocolate to plum and black. Top them by layering a cotton turtle-neck under a denim shirt and zip or button-front vest for a look that's casual. A luxurious alternative: a velour tunic with coordinating pants or leggings.

Winter warm-up

No holiday wardrobe is complete without some essentials to help you stay warm in style. Cozy jackets, pullovers or vests in lightweight, plush polar fleece or classic boiled wool, luxurious chenille gloves or soft shearing earmuffs all make a winter outing feel as snug as a night by the fire.

Festive in a Flash

The shortest path to any holiday look is a few key accessories, marked by luxurious fabrics, rich textures and eye-catching shine. A velvet devore scarf, an evening bag in crushed velvet or shimmering metallic fabrics, and earrings and a necklace in faux pearl or cubic zirconia transform an outfit from everyday to elegant. NAPS

Formula 1 Championship Edition — The sequel to the million-selling blockbuster Formula

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Holiday Wishes



Holiday revelers turn to moderation

When it comes to holiday eating and drinking, a large majority of people admit up front that they overeat, nearly half gaining weight. But nowadays they keep their drinking moderate and assign designated drivers, according to the Wild Turkey Bourbon 1997 Survey of Holiday Gobbling habits.

The survey found social drinking in favor with 68 percent of those surveyed limiting themselves to one to two drinks at holiday function with 71 percent calling liquor an acceptable gift. Those who admit gaining weight — 42 percent — said the average was 3-5 pounds.

When it comes to gift giving, food and drink are always well received. The three most popular food gifts are cheese baskets, fruit baskets and cookies. The most popular drinks to give are champagne, spirits, wine and non-alcoholic drinks.

What were some of the strangest holiday foods people recalled having? Chocolate covered insects such as ants, crickets and grasshoppers were mentioned, as well as boiled alligator and a fruitcake shaped like the State of Texas. Wild Turkey Bourbon is produced and distributed by Austin, Nichols & Company, N.Y.

NAPS

Celebrate the scents of the season

How can you give an innovative gift to loved ones this holiday season that will make them feel truly special? Perfume has always been an easy option, but is often depicted as the choice of last-minute shoppers. This year, you can give the gift of scent in an entirely new way that expresses thought and originality - fragrance for the home. And with an inspiring range of home fragrance items on the market it is easier than ever to indulge friends and family without breaking the bank.

Scented candles have been created this season using ingenious packaging that is perfect for the creative gift-giver. From frosted glass jars and shimmering metallic boxes, to terra-cotta bowls for a more earthy look, candles are offered in every shape and size. For the holidays, Laura Ashley has produced a classic candle with a fun French twist - a gold pot shaped in a graceful fleur de lys design.

Adding fragrance to your own rooms is the perfect way to spoil yourself and also transform your home into a welcoming holiday haven. Use classic Christmas scents such as cinnamon and apple to warm the atmosphere. Laura Ashley's tall cinnamon sticks in glass jars not only scent the air but look elegant, too.

Other options include filling bowls with a spicy potpourri, spraying a festive fragrance in to the air to envelop visitors as they enter and, to truly be the perfect host, offering aromatic mulled wine to stimulate the senses.

NAPS

Here's a heavenly gift idea

When you look over your holiday gift list, there could be stars in your eyes, especially if you glance to the skies for inspiration.

Founded in 1979, the International Star Registry helps clients name one of approximately 18 million charted stars. Staff members work with clients to find an appropriate constellation in which the star they name will be located. Stars located in Orion

are a popular choice for Christmas and Hanukkah since that constellation is most highly visible during the winter months.

Recipients receive star kits:

- * 12-inch by 16-inch full-color, hand-lettered certificate printed on parchment paper;
- * sky chart with the location of the star circled;
- * telescopic coordinates to locate the star;

* informational booklet on the cosmos; and

The basic kit costs \$45, plus \$7 for shipping and handling. The New Star Name will be recorded in Volume Five of the Registry's book to be entered in the U.S. copyright office.

For more information, or to order, call (800) 282-3333.

NAPS

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Garden Club to host holiday social

The Edison Garden Club will hold a holiday social 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Proprietary House, the Royal Governor's Mansion in Perth Amboy.

The club will also hold a workshop Dec. 12-13 to decorate the Edison Main Library on Plainfield Avenue for the holidays.

Members will decorate the dining room with a twelfth night theme at the Proprietary House for special holiday events being planned at the mansion Jan. 5-8.

Briefs

Edison Rotary to host holiday auction

The Edison Rotary Club will hold a holiday auction and craft show Nov. 30 at the Victorian Manor.

Participants will have the chance to win a color television,

videocassette recorder, camcorders, Lennox and Mikasa crystal, sportswear, crafts, show tickets, Kirby Vacuums and other items.

The event will be 2-4:30 p.m. at the restaurant at 2863 Woodbridge Ave. A \$5 donation is requested.

The Edison Rotary has inducted 10 new senior students into the Senior of the Month program.

Students for November are Anne De Leon and Shannon Kennedy, Bishop Ahr High School; Palah Patel, Stephen Healy, J.P. Stevens High School; Jason Vass, Marc Suzovich, St. Joseph's High School; Phillip

Vazquez, Nicole De Cario, Edison High School; Matthew Pekarofski, Anthony Lee Pacchia, Wardlaw.

So far, 30 students have been inducted into the organization. By the end of the year, the rotary will induct 100 students and will celebrate by choosing a Senior of the Year from each high school in May.

Book group to discuss a Chinia Achebe book

The Edison Book Discussion Group will meet 11:30 a.m. Dec. 1 at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave.

The group will discuss "Things Fall Apart" by Chinia Achebe. All are welcome.

Raritan Traffic Club to hold holiday event

The Raritan Traffic Club will host a holiday dinner dance Dec. 9 at the Victorian Manor, 2863 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will start at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing with door prizes and a raffle beginning 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 per person. To make a reservation, call Anthony D'Elia at Carotrans International at 352-5900.

VFW and its auxiliary to host roast beef dinner

The Edison Township Memorial Auxiliary Post 3117 will hold a roast beef dinner 3-6 p.m. Dec. 7.

Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 10, and \$5 for senior citizens. The dinner will be in the upstairs hall of the VFW Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison.

Tickets will be sold at the door; take-out orders will be available.

Tax/consulting firm offering free calendars

Amper, Poliziner and Mattia, certified public accountants and consultants, is offering a free 1998 calendar and business expense log to friends of the firm. The pocket-size calendars include reference information such as: 1998 calendar with tax filings due dates, weekly mileage and expense log with substantiation rules and Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 highlights.

To receive a free calendar, call Karen Tortoriello at (732) 287-1000, Ext. 309 or write to Amper, Poliziner and Mattia, attention Karen Tortoriello, 2015 Lincoln Highway, P.O. Box 988, Edison, N.J. 08818-0988.

Methodist church to host flea market

The Wesley United Methodist Church will hold an indoor flea market 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 6.

Tables are \$20. The church is at 5053 Woodbridge Ave.

To reserve a table, call (732) 738-0232.

Church to hold Christmas bazaar

The Rosary Alter Society of Church of the Guadian Angels will sponsor its annual Christmas Bazaar Dec. 6.

The event will feature holiday decorations, pictures with Santa, hand-crafted gifts, religious items, home-baked goods.

The event will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The church is at Market Street.

Kupper Associate names new president

Kupper Associates, consulting engineers with offices in Piscataway, has announced changes in its top management.

Joseph B. Pryor, chief of operations, is now the firm's president. Rudolph J. Chaloupka, chief project manager of the construction services division, is now executive vice president. Brad W. Buzzi, systems manager, is now secretary-treasurer.

The changes took effect in October and coincided with the retirement of Dr. John L. Buzzi, president of Kupper Associates since 1976. He lives in Metuchen as does his son, Brad W. Buzzi.

Deborah Weinstein has become a supervisor in the health care consulting division of Amper, Politziner & Mattia, an accounting and consulting firm that has an office in Edison.

She has nine years' experience in accounting and four years as a practice administrator for medical offices. Ms. Weinstein holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from what is now Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

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Sports

'D' helps Hawks advance in states

BY DAN ARKANS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH EDISON — Although the offense of J.P. Stevens High's football team has gotten plenty of publicity this season, it's the defense that has the Hawks on the verge of their first state championship since 1985.

Anchored by a hard-hitting secondary, the Stevens defense was at its best Saturday in a Central Jersey Group 4 semifinal with West Windsor-Plainsboro. The Hawks forced three turnovers, one sack and a total of 18 yards rushing in a 17-7 victory over the Pirates.

J.P. Stevens (8-1) will travel to face first-seeded Woodbridge Saturday, Dec. 6 in the CJ Group 4 finals.

"I can't even explain how good this feels," said Hawks senior quarterback Mike Giuliano, moments after the victory. "It just touches my heart. To wait four years and we get this is a real shock. Well, not a shock, I knew we were good."

Although the game was played in a muddy mess, the Stevens offense only turned the ball over once while the Pirates (7-3) had three first-half miscues which led directly to a 14-0 halftime advantage for the Hawks.

"There's a lot of white helmets around the ball all the time," said Hawks Head Coach Frank Zarro of his defense which has allowed 84 points on the season, an average of 9.3 points per game. "They go to the football. They want the football. They don't care who gets it. As long as they get interceptions and touchdowns, it doesn't make a difference who gets them."

Junior defensive back Jamil Davis came up with the first big play, picking off a pass from Pirate quarterback Robert Gluck at the West Windsor 25 but Stevens couldn't take advantage, turning the ball over on downs.

On the Pirates next possession, Gluck went to pitch to a

running back but no one was in the backfield and senior defensive tackle Andre Ugbomah recovered the ball at the WW 23. After a pass interference call on the Pirates, junior running back Shaquan Lane scored on a seven-yard sweep with 7:31 remaining in the second quarter as the Hawks took a 7-0 lead.

West Windsor looked to counter with some offense of its own as Gluck hit fullback David Goode for a 21-yard gain on the Pirates next series. But on fourth-and-one from the Stevens 30, Davis came up with a big hit on Aaron Krause, forcing the Pirates to turn the ball over on downs.

On the very next play, Hawks senior quarterback Mike Giuliano fumbled the snap, picked up the ball and raced 66 yards to the Pirate 4-yard line. Four plays later, Giuliano (18-93) kept the ball for a one-yard touchdown and a 14-0 lead with a little over two minutes remaining in the half.

But the Pirates offense went to work before halftime, picking up two first down pass completions and facing a first-and-goal from the Hawk 6. After an incomplete and a two-yard run from Krause, senior defensive back Gary Lamb deflected a pass away in the end zone. On fourth-and-goal, Lane jumped the coverage and came up with an interception at the West Windsor 2-yard line.

"That was the turning point in the half," said Braxton of the defense's stand. "As soon as we got that interception heading into the locker room, everybody was up. We knew we could beat them. They were a good team but we knew we got the upper hand with that interception. We just came out (in the second half) and played hard-nosed football like we always do and you know the rest."

The Pirates looked to be gaining some momentum midway through the third quarter, marching on an 11-play, 55-yard



PHOTO BY GEORGE PACCIELLO
J.P. Stevens High's junior running back Jamil Davis finished with 18 yards on five carries in the Hawks 17-7 victory over West Windsor in the semifinals of the Central Jersey Group 4 playoffs.

drive that stalled out on the Hawk 29.

Stevens offense found its niche by responding with a 15-play, 77-yard drive which lasted six minutes and ended in a 27-yard field goal from Pat Ciccarella.

The key play on the drive was a 25-yard pass from Giuliano to Henry Braxton on a fake punt. The play took place from the Pirates 34 to start the fourth quarter.

With coaches yelling at Braxton to get off the field because he's not supposed to be on special teams, the senior running back ran to the sideline, set himself and was wide open for the 25-yard gain.

Stevens, which hadn't let a team score on them for 11 quarters, finally gave up a touchdown with 5:58 left in the game as Krause scored from five yards out after Gluck completed three passes for 73 yards. On the day, the West Windsor quarterback was 13 for 29 for 194 yards.

"The defense was great," Braxton said. "We tried to shut them out but they got the better hand towards the end. There weren't really breakdowns but little plays they got. We're happy with the win."

Stevens offense was held to

just 170 yards of total offense, including averaging just 4.7 yards per carry on the ground but when it counted, the Hawks were able to move the ball.

Stevens went on a nine-play, 27-yard drive which ate up five minutes off the clock after the Pirates had scored to cut the Hawks lead to 17-7.

The Pirates got the ball back with 1:30 left, trailing by 10 points and couldn't mount a serious threat.

In addition to Davis and Lane, Giuliano, Lamb, senior defensive end Jeran Crawford (one sack) and junior linebacker Lou Riggi played very well defensively for Stevens.

SCORING SUMMARY

SECOND QUARTER
JP: Shaquan Lane 7 run (Pat Ciccarella kick), 7:31 remaining, J.P. Stevens 7-0.
JP: Mike Giuliano 1 run (Ciccarella kick), 2:02, J.P. Stevens 14-0.

FOURTH QUARTER

JP: Ciccarella 27 field goal, 11:19, J.P. Stevens 17-0.
WW: Aaron Krause 5 run (Rob Laia kick), 5:58, J.P. Stevens 17-7.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PASSING: JP: Mike Giuliano 2-6-0-31, Henry Braxton 0-1-0-0, WW: Robert Gluck 13-29-2-194.
RUSHING: JP: Giuliano 18-93, Henry Braxton 13-57, Jamil Davis 5-18, Shaquan Lane 8-11, WW: Aaron Krause 10-27, Roger Algozo 5-11, David Goode 2-6, Brian Kubesh 1-2, Steve Green 1-1, Robert Gluck 3 (-27).
RECEIVING: JP: Braxton 1-25, Davis 1-6, WW: Steve Green 6-86, Goode 2-32, Krause 2-24, Greg Buckley 1-17, Algozo 1 (-4).

Stevens had destiny on its side this time

The losing team usually complains about fluke plays and how they just got the bad breaks.

The winning team talks about destiny and fate and how great players simply make great plays.

In Saturday's Central Jersey Group 4 playoff semifinal between West Windsor-Plainsboro and J.P. Stevens, which the Hawks won 17-7, there were a couple of breaks that made anyone a believer in the football gods.

The first came midway through the second quarter when West Windsor quarterback Robert Gluck went to toss a pitch to an empty backfield.

The ball was picked up by Hawks senior lineman Andre Ugbomah at the Pirates' 23-yard line.

Four plays later, Stevens scored to take a 7-0 lead on a seven-yard run by junior Shaquan Lane. It was certainly a bad decision by Gluck and a gift for the Hawks. However, Stevens still had to punch it in from 23 yards out to make the Pirates pay for the mistake.

Play number two certainly makes any football follower wonder about fate and destiny. With the ball sitting just outside the Hawks 30, senior quarterback Mike Giuliano fumbled the snap but the ball just sat there, with nobody around but Giuliano, who picked it up and rumbled 66 yards to the Pirates 4.

Certainly, a fortunate break for the Hawks, but there aren't many quarterbacks who have the ability to fly like Giuliano does.

Despite the Hawks' defensive dominance, they led 14-0 entering the fourth quarter. The game was still within the grasp of West Windsor when Stevens Head Coach Frank Zarro turned to some trickery.

The Hawks lined up as if they were going to punt from the West Windsor 34 when all the Stevens coaches started screaming at senior running back Henry Braxton, reminding him he wasn't on special teams.

Braxton began to run off the

field and quickly set himself near the sideline and Giuliano hit him for a wide-open 25-yard gain. The end result was a 27-yard field goal from Pat Ciccarella.

That may have not been a lucky play but the fact that it worked so well proves that nothing would go wrong for Stevens on this day.

That fake punt may have won the Hawks the game. If it was still 14-0 when West Windsor scored, the Pirates wouldn't have gone for the onside kick and who knows how the game would've turned out?

West Windsor can think back on all the breaks that went the Hawks' way, but the better team won this game. Winning teams make their luck and losing teams find a way to lose.

Of course, the Pirates can point to the fact that Giuliano fumbled a handful of times and only lost the ball once. "Just bad breaks," the Pirates might say.

You certainly have to give the Hawks some credit for always pouncing on the ball. It's called heart and determination and how hungry Stevens is for a sectional championship.

Gluck made a bad decision on the fumble. That's a quick 7-0 lead for the Hawks. Giuliano made a great improvisation and that's 14-0 for the Hawks.

In a high school playoff game, you've got to lay it on the line and take some risks. Zarro and his coaching staff did and that's three more points for Stevens.

With the score still 14-0 midway through the third quarter, West Windsor marched on a 55-yard drive which stalled out at the Hawks 29. Facing a fourth-and-nine, the Pirates didn't go for any trickery and take a shot with a fake punt or simply go for it.

No, they decided to punt it. Yes, punt the ball from the Hawks 29. Why?

Well, they had the Hawks starting from their 13 after the punt.

First play from scrimmage, Giuliano busts a run for 14 yards. Well, so much for field position.

Barrons shut down Chiefs in playoffs

BY GLEN KURZ
CORRESPONDENT

COLONIA — When Piscataway High's football team got beat up in a 35-7 defeat to J.P. Stevens Oct. 25, many people left the Chiefs for dead.

Piscataway sat with a 4-2 record after the defeat to Hawks and two losses in Central Jersey Group 4 usually translates into an absence from the state playoffs. However, the Chiefs responded with back-to-back overtime victories and crept into the CJ Group 4 playoffs.

Piscataway, the fourth seed, had nothing to lose in Saturday's clash with first-seeded Woodbridge but the Barrons (8-1) had a little too much offensive firepower as the Chiefs dropped a 28-14 decision in the semifinals of the Central Jersey Group 4 playoffs held at Colonia High School.

"I'm not disappointed at all," said Piscataway Head Coach Joe Kuronyi of a season which has the Chiefs sitting with a 6-3 record. "We weren't expected to do anything this year. We lost over 20 players to graduation. We have a lot of inexperienced upperclassmen. We have a young line. I'm pleased with the effort we gave."

Despite the fact the Chiefs lost to Woodbridge by an almost identical score of 27-14 in the season-opener, they proved a much more

worthy opponent in the second meeting.

"I don't have any regrets," said Chiefs senior running back Vincent Wilson, who rumbled for 85 yards on 20 carries with two touchdowns Saturday. "I think everybody played their hardest. We all gave 110 percent. Somebody has to win and somebody has to lose. I think we showed how much we progressed this season."

The Chiefs effort paid great dividends in the first half as the offense put the heat on the Barrons. Piscataway answered two Woodbridge touchdowns to knot the score at 14-14 by the midway point, but fell short as the Chiefs were unable to put any points on the scoreboard in the final 24 minutes.

The Woodbridge defense made some adjustments in the locker room and were able to slow down Wilson, who had 88 yards in the first half but was stopped behind the line of scrimmage on three of his four carries in the second half.

"I thought the second half was pretty much even, like the first," Kuronyi said. "But once we fell behind 28-14, we had to go to the pass to try and gain big yardage."

In the first half, the Chiefs offense was sparked by Wilson

High School Football



and the accurate arm of junior quarterback Jeff Keller (9 for 14, 160 yards).

Woodbridge took an early lead on Shawn McGrath's quarterback sneak from six yards out, but Piscataway bounced back.

Wilson ran the ball four times for 32 yards, while Keller hit Himyo Green for passes of 17 and 21 yards to put together a 10-play drive that ended with Wilson crossing the end zone from seven yards out.

Woodbridge once again took the lead as McGrath hit Kiheme Cowan for an 18-yard touchdown pass but the Chiefs offense was not about to be outdone.

Woodbridge could not slow down a 12-play drive that ended with Wilson again reaching the end zone, this time from eight yards out. Wilson then ran in the conversion that evened the score after Gary McQuaid's extra point attempt sailed wide right after the first score.

A strong defensive stand that forced Woodbridge to punt after three incompletions looked like it would give the Chiefs their first lead of the game, right before halftime. Wilson advanced the ball 32 yards on four carries while Keller completed a 24-yard pass to Josh Gere giving the

Chiefs a first-and-goal with the clock winding down.

After two incomplete passes, McQuaid missed a 26-yard field goal to end the half.

"You don't know if (failing to score with a first-and-goal) would've made a difference," Kuronyi said. "It might've been different if we came out for the second half with the lead. But you still have to play the second half."

Woodbridge had the same thoughts and played a flawless second half.

"We knew this game would come down to defense and we just told the kids to pick up the intensity in the second half," said Woodbridge Head Coach Bill Nyers. "We made some adjustments and played the way we wanted to."

The Barrons jumped out ahead early in the third quarter when Cowan ran the ball into the end zone from 18 yards out and never looked back. The Woodbridge defense intercepted Keller three times in the second half, two of which were made by Keith Hemmings.

Hemmings was equally as dangerous on the other side of the ball, catching four passes for 31 yards, including a 63-yard grab down the right sideline that put the Barrons on top by two scores.

The Chiefs will host Thanksgiving Day rival



PHOTO BY GEORGE PACCIELLO
Piscataway High's Edwin Liggon returns a kick during the Chiefs 28-14 defeat to Woodbridge in the Central Jersey Group 4 semifinals Saturday.

W: Cowan 18 pass from McGrath (Zalasar kick), 0:00, Woodbridge 14-6.

SECOND QUARTER
P: Wilson 8 run (Wilson run), 6:07 remaining, Tied 14-14.

THIRD QUARTER
W: Cowan 18 run (Zalasar kick), 5:54 remaining, Woodbridge 21-14.

FOURTH QUARTER
W: Hemmings 63 pass from McGrath (Zalasar kick), 7:50, Woodbridge 28-14.

SCORING SUMMARY
PASSING: P: Keller 9-14-160; W: McGrath 12-23-183.

RUSHING: P: Wilson 20-85, Green 6-14, Keller 5-19; W: Cowan 14-47, Ali Lee 4-27, McGrath 3-5.

RECEIVING: P: Green 3-47, Gere 4-90, Kelvin Veras 1-16, Wilson 1-7; W: Hemmings 4-131, Miami 7-34, Cowan 1-18.

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SPORTSCENE

IN NEED OF SOCCER PLAYERS

The Metuchen Soccer Association is looking for players to join its Division 4 and 5 (12 and under) traveling teams. If you are interested, please call the MSA phone mailbox at 494-9093 and leave a message in box six. Out of town players are welcome but there are a limited number of spots. The club teams are trained by Mike Romeo who recently returned from coaching the NJ Under-19's at the National finals. There will be a one-day tryout in November.

METUCHEN LL REGISTRATION

The Metuchen Little League will have registration for its spring season Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 7 to 9 p.m., Friday Dec. 5 from 7 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration will be held at the Little League Club House at Oakland Field on Oakland Avenue. Registration fee for one child is \$50, two children is \$80 and for three or more children is \$105. Registration forms will also be available at the Recreation Department in Boro Hall and at the Metuchen Library. Mail in registration should be sent to Metuchen Little League, PO Box 373, Metuchen, NJ, 08840. In addition, those families who have not satisfied their work bond obligations for last season as well as all new families are expected to post a \$50 work bond. A late fee is \$25 per family for all

registrations received after Dec. 31. For information, call Metuchen Little League at 549-9413.

EDISON LL REGISTRATION

The Edison Boys Baseball will continue to hold its early registration for the 1998 season on Wednesdays in November and December at 7 p.m. through Dec. 17 at the A field clubhouse located on Jefferson Blvd in Edison. EBBL is open to boys and girls from the ages of 5-15. Children must be five by July 31, 1998. A birth certificate is required for first time players. Fees are \$15 for the first child in a family and \$5 for each additional child in the family plus a refundable \$40 workbond. Fees will go up after these dates.

SP SOCCER REGISTRATION

Registration for the 1998 South Plainfield indoor soccer league is taking place Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until Dec. 26. The league is open to all South Plainfield resident boys and girls in grades 6-12. All teams are co-ed. Games are played on Sunday afternoons Jan. 11 to March 8. The Recreation Office will also be open Monday Dec. 1 and 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. For information, call 227-7713.

N.EDISON REGISTRATION

North Edison Softball is inviting all area girls to join the league. Softball in North Edison has seen some dramatic changes recently. Registration for the 1998 season is already showing a

player increase of 15 percent over last year. More players mean more teams and more competition. There is an increased interest in high school players due to last year's addition of lights, enabling the league to avoid any scheduling conflicts for team players.

North Edison Softball also offers guaranteed playing time for all players as well as an expanding inter-town league. While Metuchen has been active with North Edison for years, many other towns have expressed an interest in joining due to the success of the program. In addition to a full regular season, North Edison also sponsors an extensive post-season program for all-star teams offering an even more competitive opportunity to those interested. Anyone with any questions or an interest in registering should contact Neal Axelrod at 732-499-0660.

Please continue to visit the North Edison Baseball and Softball League's web site at www.northed.com.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

The Piscataway Recreation Department is running a middle school basketball league for grades 6-8. Players are placed on teams and play regular season games at the Piscataway High School 9/10 gymnasium on weeknights and Saturdays. All interested players must register in the Recreation Office between 8:30

a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by Friday, Dec. 5. An evening registration will be held Tuesday from 6:30-8 p.m.

WRESTLING PROGRAM

Piscataway Recreation Department announces an instructional wrestling program for grades 2-4. This program is taught by Piscataway High Wrestling coaches on Saturday morning from 9-10 a.m. at the Piscataway High School 11/12 gymnasium. The program begins Dec. 6. Participants should wear sneakers and enter the building through door No. 15.

A competitive wrestling program will also be offered for children in grades 4-6. This program which will be comprised of two teams will compete against opponents from other towns. Wrestlers will be grouped by weight classes and placed on teams. The program begins Monday from 6:30-8 p.m. Participants should wear sneakers and enter through Door No. 11. For information on any of the Piscataway Recreation programs, call 562-2382.

MARTIAL ARTS

The Piscataway Recreation Department is sponsoring Martial Arts classes Tuesdays and Fridays. Residents ages 11 and up are welcome. Classes will be held at Conackamack Middle School from 7 to 9 p.m. Registrations are now being accepted. Space is limited. For information on the above programs call the Recreation Office at 562-2382.

Another stellar season for Juventus

Edison Juventus, one of the best youth travelling soccer teams to represent the town of Edison, just completed another successful fall season.

Juventus competes in the top under-10 flight in the Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association. For the fall season, Juventus compiled a record of 6-2-2 which placed them in second place in Flight 1.

Juventus took second place after losing two games in the final minutes to the Hopewell Valley Storm. Both games were decided by one goal. Hopewell Valley has one of the top under-10 teams on the East Coast.

Even though Hopewell and Edison are separated by about 60 miles, it seems that a close rivalry built on mutual admiration is being developed between the two teams and their coaches. It is anticipated that the two teams

will compete against each other in Flight 1 during the Spring 1998 season.

Competing in Flight 1 along with Edison and Hopewell, were the Scotch Plains Bravehearts, Montclair Storm, Rahway United and North Plainfield Fire Dragons. During this past season, Juventus scored a total of 46 goals (4.6 goals per game) and allowed only 16 goals (1.6 goals per game). The goalkeeping duties were handled primarily by Rich Dzioba, who had another outstanding season.

Edison Juventus was formed in the spring of 1996 and now has competed for the Edison United Soccer Association for four seasons. The cumulative record of those four seasons is a remarkable 36-3-5. The team has developed an excellent reputation among other traveling coaches competing in Mid-New Jersey.

Juventus is led by its tri-captains Tico Garzon, Frank Pontoriero and Jason Wink. Other team members include Andrew Bernardi, Anthony Corrente, Rich Dzioba, George Loeser, Andrew Medeiros, Matthew Pennisi, Bobby Savulich, Ben Toro and David Zavistoski.

All members of the team are residents of Edison and are students in the following schools — James Madison, Woodbrook, Martin Luther King, Benjamin Franklin, St. Matthews and St. Francis of Metuchen.

The team is coached by Michael Pontoriero with assistance provided by Julio Garzon and Alan Wink. Also playing a major role in the team's success was team mother JoEllen Toro.

The members of the Juventus team have several unique talents off the soccer field. In addition to

all being excellent students, members of the team participate in several other athletic pursuits.

The team is represented by a second degree black belt in karate, an outstanding youth swimmer and an ice hockey goaltender.

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YOUTH SPORTS

FOOTBALL

N.Edison falls in states

The North Edison Junior Pee Wee's had their season come to a close Sunday when the Toms River Raiders prevailed 18-6 in the New Jersey State Pee Wee championship at the Marlboro Municipal Complex.

The lone Shamrock score came on a 48-yard fumble recovery run by Sean Bell to tie the score in the third quarter.

Playing well for the Shamrocks were Joey Scerbo, Vinnie Lombardi, Joey Giardano, Michael Lewis, Josh Abrams, Gary Dragona, Chris Kirsch and Chris Petruzzi.

The Shamrocks completed their successful season with an 11-1 record which included division and conference titles.

SOCCER

Mustangs, Lightning tie

The Mustangs remained flight champions with a 0-0 tie against the Linden Lightning. Forwards Dan O'Connell, Dan Ziznewski, Darren Bisogno and Andrew Petrakakos kept up the attack on the Lightning defense through-

out the game. Paul Tibok, Jeff Ostermueller, Chris Martin and Shawn Murtagh held their ground at midfield while Dan Stempinski, Noah Fessler, Ken Baxer, Mike Piekarski and Luke Taliaferro played tough defense. Not a single goal got past Mustang goalies Keith Walker and Zack Weiner.

Dynamo caps off season

The Edison Dynamo finished their season with a 4-4-2 record after a 2-0 victory over the Hillside Heat Sunday. T.J. Perez and Ryan Kerry scored goals with assists coming from Vinny Barbarto, Matt Rohal and Jonathan Stein.

The stingy defense was anchored by Rudy Escobar and Matthew Young. A spectacular save by goalkeeper Scott Brody cemented the shutout along with the steady play from the first half goalkeeper John Schmidt.

Edison Dynamo 6, Westfield Warriors 0 — In the weekend's first game, the Dynamo put on an offensive show with T.J. Perez scoring two goals and Ryan Walker, Matthew Young, Scott Brody and John

Schmidt tallying one apiece. Patrick Baffuto, Mick Samaroo and Mikey Bandiero were credited with assists.

Rudy Escobar, Vinny Barbarto and Jonathan Stein were responsible for the strong defense that along with the goal-keeping tandem of John Schmidt and Scott Brody recorded the third shutout in the Dynamo's inaugural season.

Hawks crush W. Orange

The Edison Hawks ended their season with an offensive explosion, defeating West Orange Stella 8-1.

Sarah Bartlett scored three goals with Brittany Walker and Danielle White adding two goals apiece.

The Hawks leading scorer Ashley Rake scored a goal with assists credited to Bethany Czeto and Kaitlin Bonanni.

The defensive trio of Kelly Baffuto, Diane Rooney and Leanne Connolly shut down the Stella offense with numerous saves made by goalkeeper Christine Schmidt.

BOWLING

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Strikers 33-23, Life of Agonists 32-24, MPM Killers 31-25, Losers 30-19, New World Order 29-27, Three Musketeers 29-27, No Names 27-29, Team 7 27-27, The Smakers 22-34, Strike Force 18-38.

Ind. Boys High Game Scratch
Anthony Pipolo 225, Christopher Horn 162, Joey DeAndrea 135.

Ind. Boys High Game Handicap
Jeff Smith 249, Anthony Rowlands 222, Matthew Boley 212.

Ind. Girls High Game Scratch
Vicki Boley 166, Jacquie Herzog 159, Melanie Foscolo 92.

Ind. Girls High Game Handicap
Kristin Herzog 223, Erin Gyurisin 212.

Highlighted Team of the Week
M. Mocerino 1080 total, 72 average; M. Duquette 1191 total, 66 average; P. Cantarella 1557 total, 64 average.

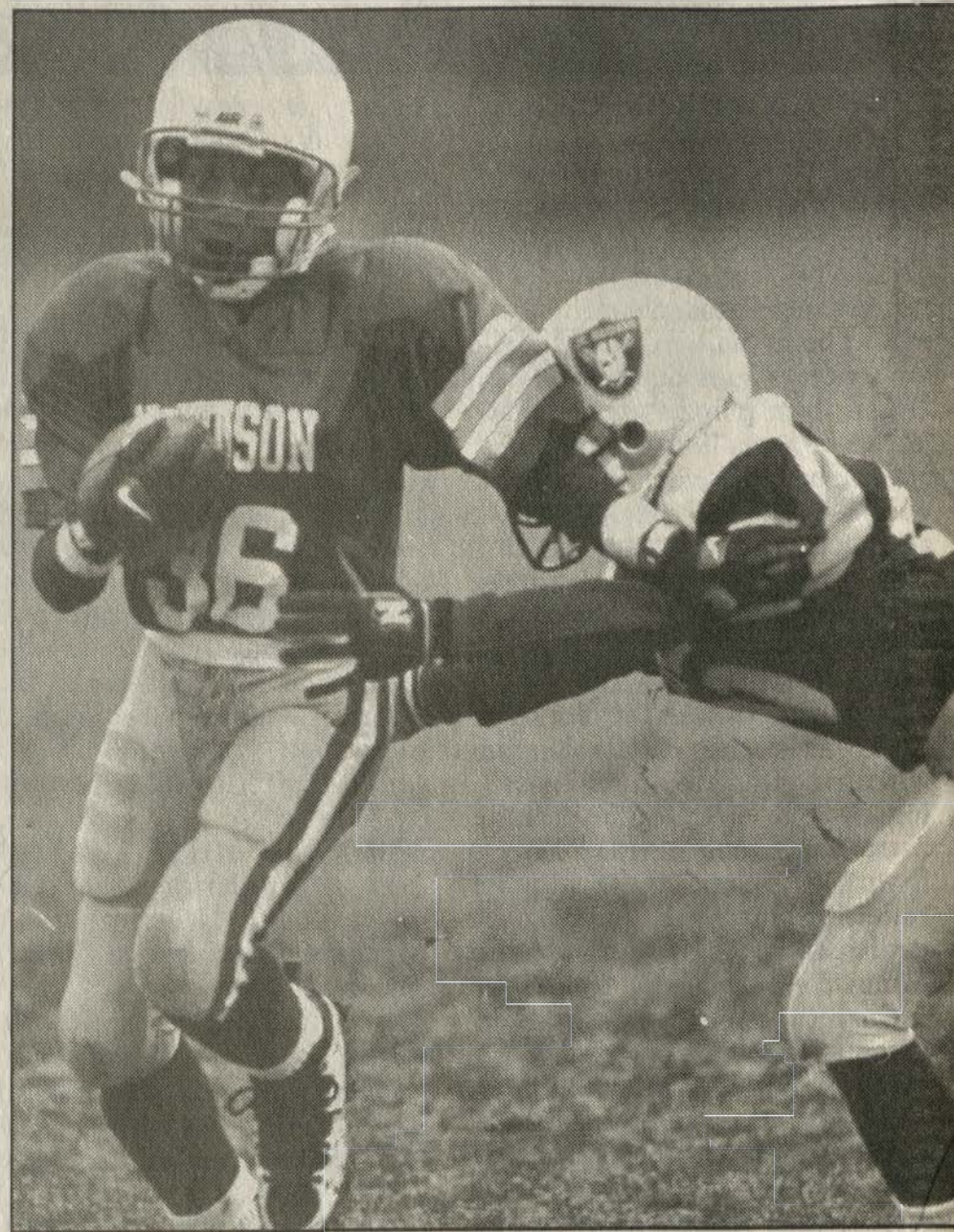
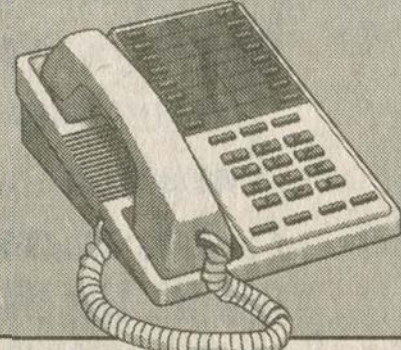


PHOTO BY GEORGE PACCIOLLO
Josh Abrams carries the ball during North Edison's 18-6 defeat to Toms River in the state finals of Pee Wee action.

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Baran headed to Siena

BY DAN ARKANS
STAFF WRITER

Standing at just 5-foot-5, Metuchen High's senior Stephanie Baran has been overlooked for most of her life.

Most people told Baran that she was a little too small to play Division 1 college basketball and maybe she should just accept her limitations, have a nice high school career for the Bulldogs and play Division 2 or Division 3 basketball.

Baran wouldn't accept that. She worked diligently, especially in the summer, playing for the New Jersey Rising Stars, an AAU basketball team.

All that hard work has paid off for Baran as the Metuchen senior signed her national letter of intent to play for Siena College (NY) Nov. 14.

"I feel it's a huge goal," said Baran of receiving a Division 1 scholarship. "Because I'm so short, a lot of people told me I'd never play Division 1 basketball. Look at me now. I hardly did anything the past two summers. I was working out and playing basketball."

Baran, who averaged 23 points per game last season for Metuchen and broke the 1,000 point mark, fell in love with Siena the first time she saw the campus located in Loudonville, NY.

"I had a lot of official visits scheduled," Baran said. "I knew after my unofficial visit to Siena, that's where I wanted to go. The coach (Gina Castelli) was marvelous. I canceled the other visits."

Although most freshmen don't burst on to the scene and make serious contributions, Baran may just do that, even if it's off the bench.

"Just because she's a freshman doesn't mean she won't start," said Rising Stars Head Coach John Spiess.

"I think she'll get quality time and make an impact as a freshman. She may be even more valuable coming off the bench because teams won't know about her."

Baran isn't concerned about playing time. She wouldn't mind sitting on the bench, waiting for her chance to shine further down the line.

"I think she'll (Castelli) give me a chance to play," Baran said. "I think she'll let me show what I can do. I'm not worried about playing time. I've been playing full-games in high school and half-games in AAU. Just playing for them is enough."

Baran will probably major in Biology and pursue a career in Veterinary Medicine or Sports Medicine. Baran's current grade point average is 3.3 which ranks her in the top-third of her class.

With the decision out of the way, Baran can focus on helping Metuchen improve on last year's record of 6-13.

"My parents didn't want me to have all the stress on my shoulders," said Baran of her early decision. "It's my last season and I love basketball. I'm going to miss it when it's over. Hopefully, we can make an impact this season."

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Weekend Plus

Off-beat decorations come for holidays

By DAVID LEARN
WEEKEND PLUS

With Christmas just around the corner, it's time to pick out decorations for the house.

Traditional decor makes for obvious choices: Nativity scenes, wreaths and strings of lights.

But if you feel like bucking tradition, area stores are stocked with some, shall we say, novel decorations, including talking Christmas trees with eyes and mouths and figurines that play Christmas carols.

Mr. Everett Green is one of the talking trees available. Like other unusual decorations, Mr. Everett Green, whose face looks like wood rather than pine needles, usually gets the immediate attention of customers.

"They'll stand there and they're mesmerized," said Hope Hart, an assistant manager at Treasure Island in North Plainfield. "They all laugh at them. They come back and they bring people back to watch them."

Not all the appeal is necessarily because the decorations are cute, though.

"I think maybe it's a little bit creepy too," said Hart.

But what if the tree is still too pedestrian?

Customers who want something more unusual than a tree don't have to look very far.



A bubble-blowing polar bear is among the decorations at Treasure Island.

Christmas stores also sell creatures like the Coca Cola bear, or Santa Clauses and animals that blow bubbles.

"They're very entertaining," said Hart, adding, "To me, the croaking frogs is pretty unusual. I'm not into frogs singing at me."

The "croaking frogs" is a decoration that might owe something to a recent series of beer commercials. Instead of endorsing a popular brand of beer, the frogs

croak out popular Christmas tunes.

"The only time it annoys me is when they (customers) do it (start the frogs up) and walk away," said Hart. "But if they stay, it's not that bad; it's a group of people enjoying themselves."

But are the frogs annoying?

"Not really," said Hart. "They're not going all day long. Like I said, they're very entertaining, I get a big kick out of them. If you had them in your home, I wouldn't play them all the time. But if you have company over, they get good laughs."



Scott Robinson stands with the saxophone he will play at Watchung Arts Center 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. The sax, billed as the largest in the world, is more than 6 feet tall.

Jazz saxophonist comes to Watchung

WATCHUNG — It's more than 6 feet tall and has a bell so large you could lose a child in it. The contrabass saxophone is among the rarest of instruments and is not often used in concert, particularly by a jazz band.

Scott Robinson has mastered the "world's largest saxophone" and will play it and assorted other reed instruments at Watchung Arts Center 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5. His quartet includes popular pianist Mark Shane, Pat O'Leary on upright string bass, and Klaus Suonsaari on drums.

Robinson's saxophone dwarfs even the rather large bass sax, which is resurging with West Coast traditional jazz bands. Only a dozen or so contrabass saxes are known to exist. Most are owned by collectors and thus are rarely played in public.

Robinson primarily plays the tenor and baritone saxes, but he plays all sizes of saxes, including the neglected C-melody sax. He also plays clarinet and flute, and nonreed brass instruments like the coronet and euphonium.

Given the wide range of instruments he has mastered and the many styles he can play, it is no wonder Robinson has a full schedule. He has averaged on new recording each month in recent years, and has 11 festival

dates in 1997 so far.

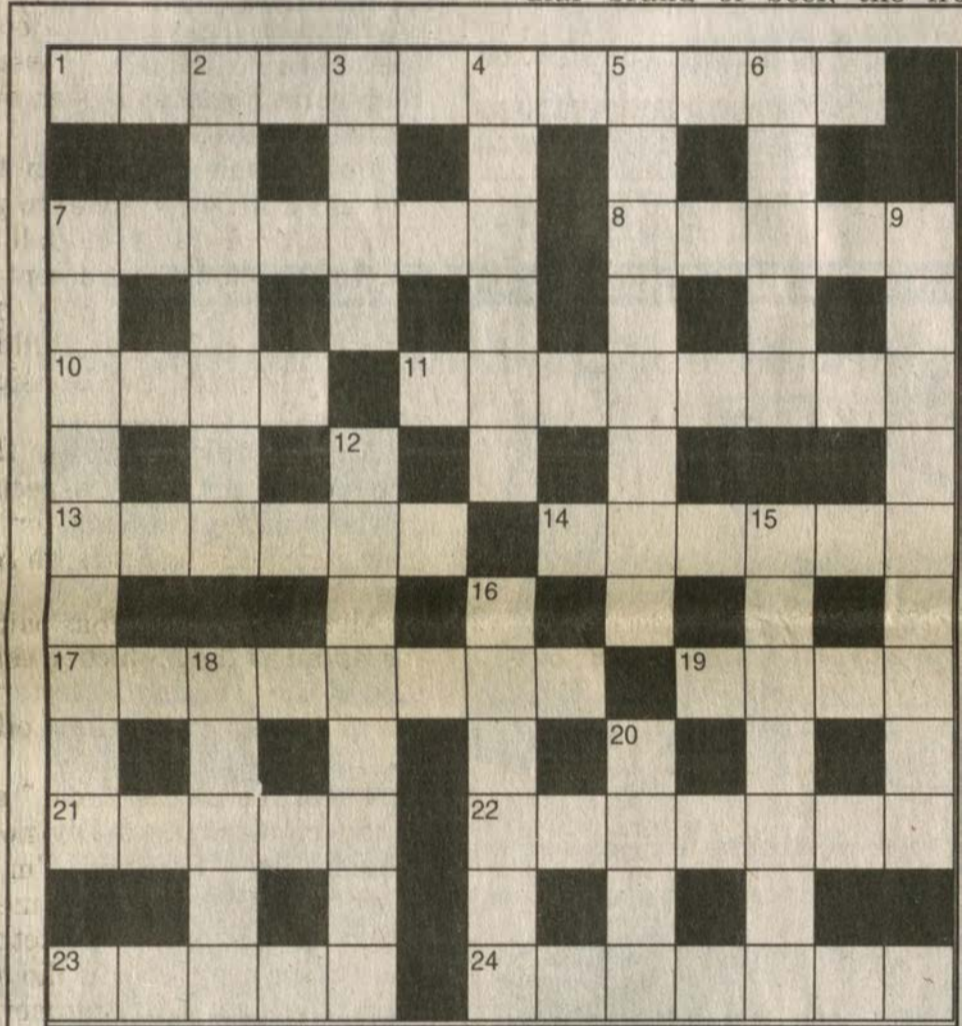
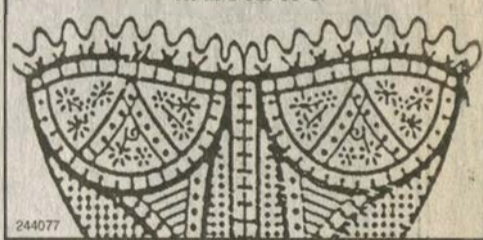
Robinson has appeared in Carnegie Hall eight times, and even performed for the president. His tours take him through Europe, where he is extremely popular, as well as to Japan and the Caribbean.

Seats in the gallery are limited and should be reserved. Call (908) 753-0190 1-4 p.m. weekdays to make a reservation. Tickets are held for pickup and payment at the door.

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Clues across

Clues down

1. Grateful
7. Household essential
8. Pillars
10. Repeat
11. One who makes reference
13. Depress
14. Doctrine
17. About pilotage
19. Type of shark
21. Pundit
22. Relative status
23. Outdoes
24. Soldiers

2. Fixed, in a way
3. Curse
4. Labeled
5. Changed, in a way
6. Peninsula extending into the Persian Gulf
7. Benedictions
9. Thanksgiving symbol
12. Confirms
15. Way to experience
16. Common people
18. University in the Northeast
20. Nag



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The Kinks (minus Ray Davies), Dec. 6.

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| <p>COOLING SYSTEM SERVICE Drain, flush and add up to 2 gallons of anti-freeze. Inspect hoses and belts. \$49⁹⁵ Plus Tax Expires 12/31/97 must present coupon is written. GM vehicles only. Not valid with any other offer. SMG</p> | <p>TRANSMISSION SPECIAL Replace transmission fluid and filter. \$69⁹⁵ Plus Tax Expires 12/31/97 must present coupon is written. GM vehicles only. Not valid with any other offer. SMG</p> | <p>BRAKE INSPECTION Remove wheels, check for wear and leaks, clean and adjust brakes, includes free tire rotation \$21⁹⁵ Plus Tax Expires 12/31/97 must present coupon is written. GM vehicles only. Not valid with any other offer. SMG</p> |
| <p>SENIOR CITIZENS SAVINGS 10% off On All Genuine GM Parts/Service and Accessories Must be 55 years of age or older with valid driver's license. One coupon per work order. Plus Tax where applicable. Expires 12/31/97 must present coupon is written. GM vehicles only. Not valid with any other offer. SMG</p> | <p>SERPENTINE BELT REPLACEMENT Is your Serpentine belt cracked or frayed? If it is, replace it with a G.M. belt before you are stranded and need to be towed. \$64⁹⁵ Plus Tax Expires 12/31/97 must present coupon is written. GM vehicles only. Not valid with any other offer. SMG</p> | <p>COMPUTER BALANCE & ROTATE TIRES Includes: • Computer balance 4 wheels • Inspects front & rear suspension • Road Test • Inspection front & Rear brakes. \$44⁹⁵ Plus Tax Expires 12/31/97 must present coupon is written. GM vehicles only. Not valid with any other offer. SMG</p> |

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Singer Judy Collins will present her Christmas show 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 in Chatham Middle School, Main Street, Chatham through the Friday Evening Club. She will be joined in the show by choristers from Morristown's Morris Choral Society. Tickets cost \$35-\$50, and are available by calling the Friday Evening Club box office at (973) 538-6413; fax (973) 267-0778; or e-mail itsfec@aol.com.

Dance

THE NUTCRACKER
1 and 4:30 p.m. Nov. 28-30
McCarter Theatre
91 University Pl., Princeton
(609) 683-8000;
www.mccarter.org
Tchaikovsky ballet, now a holiday suburban standard under the tutelage of the American Repertory Ballet. Admission \$29-\$21.

Film

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
(America, 1946)
8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28
Union County Arts Center
1601 Irving St., Rahway
(732) 499-8226
Holiday standard, directed by Frank Capra, shown theatrically for the centennial of his birth. Admission 30 cents (the same price as 1946).
MEDITERRANEO (ITALY, 1991)
12 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1
Metuchen Public Library
480 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen
(732) 632-8526
Eight of Mussolini's soldiers are stranded on an island during World War II. *Shown in Italian with English subtitles.* Free admission; seating limited.

Galleries

ATRIUM GALLERY
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies, 15 Mountain View Rd., Warren
(908) 903-2608
Open to the public 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Group tours by appointment. Free admission.
Works by cyberartist Ilene Steglitz, to Dec. 31.
BARRON ARTS CENTER
582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge
(732) 634-0413
2-4 p.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Free admission.
"Here We Go Again!" model train exhibit. Nov. 30-Dec. 23. Reception 2-4 p.m. Nov. 30.
1860 HOUSE
124 Montgomery Rd., Skillman
(609) 921-3272
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

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FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY
724 Park Ave., Plainfield
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Open to the public 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sunday or by appointment.
Paintings by Nicole Palausi, to Nov. 30.
RENEE FOOSANER ART GALLERY
Paper Mill Playhouse
Brookside Dr., Millburn
(973) 379-3636, Ext. 2644
Noon-3 p.m. Friday. Also open one hour before theater performances and at intermission.
Millburn-Short Hills Arts Center members' show, to Dec. 14.
GALLERY AT BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB
Route 206, Princeton
(609) 252-6275
Free admission; call for each day's hours.
"Four Artists, Four Objects, Ten Years," to Dec. 2.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON EDUCATION CENTER
410 George St.
New Brunswick
(732) 246-4066
Open by appointment only.
George Radeschi: "Wood Turnings," to Jan. 5, 1998.
MAIN STREET GALLERY & FRAME COMPANY
Montgomery Center
Route 206, Skillman
(609) 683-8092
Open Monday-Saturday; call for each day's hours.
"Seasonal Selections" of landscape photography by Clem Fiori, to Jan. 10, 1998.
LES MALAMUT GALLERY
Union Public Library
Friburger Park, Union
(908) 686-0857
Open during library hours.
"Flower Portraits" of the late Stanley Nowakowski, to Dec. 18.
MARTINSVILLE ANTIQUE CENTER
1944 Washington Valley Rd.
Martinsville
(732) 302-1229
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday.
Oil paintings of the Martinsville area by Eunice Jackson Pais, to Nov. 30.

MASON GROSS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
Rutgers University, 33 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick
(732) 932-2922, Ext. 2
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.
Graduate student exhibit, Dec. 4-12.
METLIFE ATRIUM
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.
501 Route 22, Bridgewater
(908) 725-2110
Open during building hours.
Printmaking Council of New Jersey exhibit, to Jan. 22, 1998.
MILLBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY
200 Glen Ave., Millburn
(973) 376-2948, (973) 733-9485
Open during library hours.
Millburn-Short Hills Arts Center small group exhibition, Dec. 1-31.
MORTIMER GALLERY
Gill St. Bernard's School
St. Bernard's Rd., Gladstone
(908) 234-1611
10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday; by appointment Saturday, Sunday.
"Art->Technology" in works by Allen Cosgrove, to Dec. 19.
NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS
68 Elm St., Summit
(908) 273-9121
Free admission; call for each day's hours.
Sculpture by Peter Reginald outdoors, to December.
"The Animal Kingdom," Dec. 1 gallery, to Feb. 1, 1998.
Dog portraits by Reuben G. Links, Members' Gallery, to Dec. 13.
PALMYRA ART GALLERY
22 Hamilton St.
Bound Brook
(732) 302-0515
Open during cafe hours.
"Folk Art Cornucopia," to Nov. 29.
POLISH CULTURAL FOUNDATION
177 Broadway, Clark
(732) 382-7197
Open to the public 5-9 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Free admission.
Paintings by Richard Nurziata, to Dec. 4.
PRESIDENTIAL ART GALLERY
Middlesex County College
Route 514, Edison
(732) 906-2566
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.
Middlesex County Arts High School exhibit, to Dec. 1.
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY STORE
36 University Pl., Princeton
(609) 771-0724
Open during store hours.
Transformations Craft Cooperative exhibit, to Dec. 26.

PRINTMAKING COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY
440 River Rd., North Branch
(908) 725-2110
11 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 1-4 p.m. Saturday. Free admission.
Holiday print sale, to Dec. 31.
24th annual juried member show, to Dec. 31.
RABBET GALLERY
120 Georges Rd.
North Brunswick
(732) 828-5150
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; also open by appointment. Free admission.
Third annual Variety Show, to Dec. 30.
SWAIN GALLERIES
703 Watchung Ave., Plainfield
(908) 756-1707
9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.
"Heritage" works of Alonzo Adams, to Nov. 28.
TALBOTT LIBRARY
Westminster Choir College
101 Walnut Lane
Princeton
(609) 921-7100
8 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday.
Panel of the AIDS Quilt, Dec. 1-4.
TOMASULO ART GALLERY
Union County College
1033 Springfield Ave.
Cranford
(908) 709-7155
1-4 p.m. Monday, Saturday; 1-4 and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday.
"Accidental Encounters" of Fran Beallor,

to Dec. 18.
JACOB TRAPP GALLERY
Unitarian Church
4 Waldron Ave.
Summit
(908) 273-3245
10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-noon Sunday.
"Links in the Unbroken Line," to Dec. 5.
WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER
Watchung Circle
Watchung
(908) 753-0190
1-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Free admission.
"The World with Perforations" in stamp art, Dec. 1-31. Reception 1-4 p.m. Dec. 7.

Planetariums
TRAILSIDE NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER
452 New Providence Rd.
Mountainside
(908) 789-3670
"Changing Skies," 2 p.m. Nov. 30. Adults and students \$3; senior citizens \$2.55.
Children younger than 6 not admitted.
"Laser ELO," 3:30 p.m. Nov. 30. Adults and students \$3.25; senior citizens \$2.75.
Children younger than 10 not admitted.
"Star of Wonder," 2 p.m. Dec. 7. Adults and students \$3; senior citizens \$2.55.
Children younger than 6 not admitted.
"Laser Noël," 3:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Adults and students \$3.25; senior citizens \$2.75.
Children younger than 10 not admitted.

Montgomery Cultural Center juried show, to Nov. 29.
EUGENIE GALLERY
501 Park Ave., Scotch Plains
(908) 322-8333
10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.
"Sacred Visions/The Masked Ones," Dec. 5-27. Reception 6-9 p.m. Dec. 5.

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Seatings 1 - 3 - 5 PM
Children Under 10 \$8.95
• Stuffed Shells
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• Penne Carbonara
• Veal Spezzatino
• Sausage & Peppers
• Honey Roasted Chicken
• Meatballs in Sauce
• Eggplant Rollatini
• Fresh Vegetable Medley
• Stuffed Fillet of Sole
• Vermont Young Turkey
• Ham Carving Station
• Sweet Potatoes
• Plus Salad Bar & Assorted Dessert Table
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Golden Corner
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(908) 469-3350
Some things should never change, such as Golden Corner Diner's offering of a delicious breakfast, a quick lunch, a reasonably priced dinner or an evening dessert treat. What has made a good thing better is the new wait staff, the evolving redecorating, the pita sandwiches for lunch and the huge salads for dinner.
Also, the fabulous pumpkin pancakes, pumpkin pies and pumpkin cheesecake available in October are so popular they now are on sale beginning in September till December.
All the baking is done on premises by Nick Bonis. Pies and cakes are always available for purchase and specialty desserts are offered for holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas. It's not too early to get your order in for a holiday treat for your home table.
Golden Corner is a family owned and run eatery, ensuring consistent quality and great service. Nick Bonis is the owner and baker, his wife Voula and daughter Argie Glynos serve as hostesses, and son Dino is the chef.
While service is always friendly, it is especially efficient at lunch time when there is a huge array of moderately priced specials and always hearty sandwiches, juicy burgers and popular salads. Newest items on the lunch menu are the lighter fresh-baked pita bread sandwiches filled with spinach, bacon and egg; Greek salad, Caesar salad or garden greens, all of which can add chicken or shrimp.
Salads have been added to the dinner menu and "They are huge," says Argie. The newest, a fresh spinach salad and a four-green salad, compete quite well with the always wonderful Greek salad.
Steak, pasta and seafood dishes are always on the menu and the sauté specials "have gotten bigger and better," says Argie. "Dino is really creating wonderful dishes." Only pure olive oil is used for salads and noncholesterol oils for frying.
Other items that never change because they have become popular favorites are the flavored cappuccinos, including top seller chocolate mint and the recommended apple pie and fudge brownie. Breakfast continues to offer eggs and omelet favorites plus hot stacks of fluffy pancakes and tempting french toast made with fresh-baked bread.
From breakfast, through lunch and dinner, to after-dinner desserts, there is always something wonderful waiting for you at Golden Corner Diner.
Open daily 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Visa and MasterCard accepted, Handicapped accessible. Nonsmoking section. Fax lunch orders to 469-3373.

Happenings

CHRISTMAS TOY TRAIN SHOW AND SALE

St. John Vianney Church
420 Inman Ave., Colonia
(732) 463-8696
Lionel trains in N, O and other gauges, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 7. Adults \$4; children under 12 free.
DART'S MILL ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR
Devereux Dart's Mill Day Care Center
Route 523, Flemington
(908) 782-0200
Now in its 22nd year, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov.

28-30. Adults \$2; senior citizens \$1; children free.
HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick
(732) 932-7237
With all merchandise this year under \$35 each, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 3-5; noon-5 p.m. Dec. 6, 7. Free admission.
HOLIDAY CARRIAGE RIDES
New Brunswick
(732) 545-0026;
www.newbrunswick.com
Christmas-related event, starting 6 p.m. Dec. 2. Free admission.
HOLIDAY NATURE BOUTIQUE
Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Rd., Mountainside
(908) 789-3670
Christmas-related craft show, 1-5 p.m. Dec. 7. Admission \$1.
HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Cranford
(908) 276-4213

(908) 273-8787
Tour of six Christmas-decorated homes, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 4. Admission \$20. Related lunch (reservations required) at Beacon Hill Club \$20.
HOLIDAY LIGHTING SPECTACULAR
Monument Square
New Brunswick
(732) 545-0026;
www.newbrunswick.com
Christmas-related event, starting 6 p.m. Dec. 2. Free admission.
HOLIDAY NATURE BOUTIQUE
Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Rd., Mountainside
(908) 789-3670
Christmas-related craft show, 1-5 p.m. Dec. 7. Admission \$1.
HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Cranford
(908) 276-4213

Tour of six Christmas-decorated homes, 1-5 p.m. Dec. 7. Admission \$12 in advance, \$15 day of event.
SPORTS CARD AND COMIC BOOK SHOW
St. Ann's School
29 Second Ave., Raritan
(908) 253-9616, (908) 725-7787
Exactly what it says, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 29. Admission \$1.



ADVENTURES IN OZ
2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30
Forum Theatre
314 Main St., Metuchen
(732) 548-0582
"An original interactive musical" with actors ages 11-17. Admission \$8.

THE ART MUSEUM
Princeton University
(609) 258-3788
Gallery talks for kindergarten through fifth grade 11 a.m. Saturday. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult. Free admission.
"Po Wan and the Kuan-yin," Dec. 6.
BABES IN TOYLAND
11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Nov. 28; Paper Mill Playhouse
Brookside Dr., Millburn
(973) 376-4343
Jack & Jill, Little Bo Peep and their friends on their way to the Forest of No Return. Admission \$8, \$7.
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
11 a.m. Dec. 6, 7
Paper Mill Playhouse
Brookside Dr., Millburn
(973) 376-4343
Scaled-down version of the Charles Dickens standard. Admission \$7, \$6.
CINDERELLA

11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6
Princeton Theatre
314 Main St., Metuchen
(732) 548-0582
Percy's fairy tale of Prince Charming, his search for the beau and her evil fairy godmother. Admission \$8.
HANG BINKER'S CHRISTMAS
11 a.m. Nov. 29, 30
Paper Mill Playhouse
Brookside Dr., Millburn
(973) 376-4343
The man with the silver skates comes to town. Admission \$8, \$7.
50/50 FAMILY ROBINSON
11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 30
Wilkes-Barre Middle School
Quincy Rd., Basking Ridge
(908) 268-3807
The snowed-out family on an uncharted desert isle — with full musical accompaniment. Admission \$6; group rates available.

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4. Tabbled
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6. Katar
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18. U Mass
20. Carp

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LUNCH BUFFET: Mon-Sun \$5.50 • 11:30-2:30pm
DINNER BUFFET: Mon-Thurs \$8.95 • Fri,Sat,Sun \$9.95
 1635 OAKTREE RD. • EDISON OAKWOOD PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER
 (908) 549-7554 / 7675
Coupon 10% OFF Total Check
 With Coupon Not to be combined with any other offers

The New! SOUTH STREET BISTRO
 Under New Ownership-Newly Renovated-Contemporary Menu-Casual Fine Dining
 Wed. Thurs. Fri. HAPPY HOUR AT THE BAR 5-7
 Drink Specials-Complimentary Hors D' Oeuvres
 Entertainment Friday & Saturday
AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS & PRIVATE PARTIES
 34 Division Street • Ph(908) 526-3222 • Fax(908) 526-9331
 Corners of South St. & Division St., Somerville, N.J. Across from Somerville Post Office. Parking behind Building. Municipal Lot.

This charming Perth Amboy restaurant has been completely remodeled, and patrons now dine in a serene light blue decor. The Barge has a proud 61 year history. Because The Barge is located next to the bay, seafood is the obvious specialty. The restaurant justly boasts of its delicious specials, including stuffed, broiled or baked lobster, and Lobster Newburg plus Twin Lobsters. The menu also includes juicy steaks, chops, chicken, veal and Italian dishes and daily early bird specials. Dinners include potato, vegetable or salad. Dinner entrees range from \$10.95-\$14.95. Early bird specials are available.

TERESA'S
 café italiano
 Catering Available On & Off Premises
Franklin Town Center
 3417 Rt.27, Franklin Park, NJ 08823
422-6600
 11 am - 10 pm Sun. • Thurs. • 11 am - 11 pm Fri. - Sat.
 MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
 NJ Liquor Laws allow you to bring your own beer and wine. We have plenty of glasses.

MADRAS GARDENS
 PURE AUTHENTIC VEGETARIAN INDIAN CUISINE
EXPRESS LUNCH ONLY \$6.95 • ONE APPETIZER • ANY ONE DOSA • SODA
 MON.-THUR. ONLY
OPEN 7 DAYS
MADRAS FEAST ALL YOU CAN EAT \$9.95 TUES. & WED. 5 PM-9 PM ONLY
 • 12x • 12x (Kids Under 12)
 691 US ROUTE 1 SOUTH & WOODING AVE. EDISON, N.J. 08817 (908) 819-9110
 NEXT DOOR TO MOTI MAHAL (Veg. & Non Veg. Indian Cuisine)

The Barge offers old-fashioned seafood prepared expertly in sizable portions. Prices are reasonable, and service is friendly and informal. For a seafood dinner at the north end of the Jersey shore, The Barge is the place to go. And don't forget to enjoy a walk along the waterfront. The Barge has a full liquor license, cocktail lounge and outdoor dining. Live entertainment on our patio, Fridays and Saturdays, also banquets available up to 100 people in our newly expanded 2nd floor.
The Barge Restaurant
 201 Front Street, Perth Amboy, NJ (on the waterfront)
 Phone 908-442-3000

To Advertise Your Restaurant In This Space Call Sherri Leabman at (908) 575-6741

Middlesex Communities

Classified

DIRECT TOLL FREE LINE 1-800-559-9495

HOW TO PLACE AN AD...

PHONE IT FAX IT MAIL



Countywide Classifieds TRY IT... YOU'LL BE SOLD!

HELP WANTED ADVERTISING Special Low Rates For Full County Coverage Call For Details!

The Ultimate Guarantee THE WHEEL DEAL For just \$34.95 we'll run your Auto, Van or Truck ad until it sells. Call for details. Private Party Only

INDEX

Table with 4 columns: Category, Range, and Description. Includes Best Buys, Real Estate Rental, Professional Services, Home Services, etc.

Classified Hours For your convenience, our Classified Center is open: Monday-Friday: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Fax Your Ad For maximum convenience just fax us your ad anytime, 24 hours a day at: 908-231-9638



Tips for making your ad more effective!

- Please read your ad carefully after publication. We are not responsible for errors after 1st insertion. Be descriptive. Always include the price of the item for sale. Run your ad for an ample length of time.

Cancellations To Cancel an Ad please call toll-free 24 Hours A Day 1-800-922-8122

Super Buy 3 Lines 1 Week Add the entire cost for only \$13.00

SELL YOUR MERCHANDISE \$101 to \$2,500 FOR ONLY \$25 IF IT DOESN'T SELL IN 1 WEEK, WE'LL RUN IT AGAIN FREE

Items Under \$100 3 Line Ads FREE FOR ITEMS UNDER \$100.00 No Phone Calls Please 1 ITEM PER AD

Grid of small classified ads including: ARROW 3-48-Easton, TICKETS-2-For Christmas Carol, AUTO PART-Truck cap, BIKE, WORKBENCH-Wood, ADOPTION, PSYCHIC CHRISTINA, GAY (OR CURIOUS?), LOSE WEIGHT, MEET SEXY SINGLES, PRIVATE-PERSONAL, COMPASSIONATE, CONVERSATION, ASSEMBLY, DRIVERS-GETR ADVANCE, DRIVERS-TRACTOR/TRAILER, HOME TYPISTS, AVON Sales, AUTO MECHANICS, CHILD CARE, CHILD CARE, CHILD CARE, DANCERS WANTED, REAL ESTATE SALES, DRIVERS, SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS, REAL ESTATE SALES, DANCERS WANTED, REAL ESTATE SALES.

TURN TO... The Classifieds Service Directory When problems arise around the house - don't panic! Just turn to the Classified's Service Directory in this newspaper. We've got the help you need when you need it.

Who says you can't buy a great \$149 a month car on a Holiday Weekend?

...and this week you can do it with a \$1,000 down payment (or less!)

DRIVE A BARGAIN - TAKE A RIDE TO FLEMINGTON AND SHOP AT THE TOYOTA OUTLET THIS WEEK!

'93 ACCORD LX \$149 PER MO. HONDA 4-Dr, 4-Cyl Eng, Automatic Trans, Pwr Steering & Brakes, Pwr Winds & Door Locks, Air Cond & More! 91919MI/VIN# PA170333 Ex Cond!

CAMRY "LE"! 1997 TOYOTA LE 4-Dr, 4-Cyl Eng, Auto Trans, Pwr Steering & Brakes, Air Cond, Pwr Winds & Dr Locks, Cruise, Anti-Lock Brks, Air Bags & More! VIN#J04907822417MI Orig. MSRP: \$20,358 \$16,995 NO CASH DOWN AVAILABLE!

OUTLET PRICES OR LESS \$599! '92 ACCLAIM Plymouth 4-Dr, 4-Cyl, Auto Trans, Pwr Steer, Air Cond & More! VIN#132092859140M '93 STORM Geo 2-Dr, 4-Cyl, Auto, Pwr Steering & Brakes, Air Cond, AM/FM Stereo & More! VIN#P7529981/21430M1 Ex Cond! '94 EXCEL Hyundai 4-Dr, 4-Cyl Eng, Automatic Trans, Pwr Brakes, Air Cond & More! VIN#41863M '88 CIVIC GL Honda 2-Dr, 4-Cyl, 5-Spd Man Tr, Brakes, Air Cond, AM/FM Cass, M, 65828 Low Mi Ex Cond! '91 RANGER XLT Ford 8' Bed, 4-Cyl, Automatic Trans, Pwr Brakes, Air Cond, AM/FM Stereo & More! VIN#MU0056197400M '93 ESCORT LX Ford 4-Door, 4-Cyl Eng, Automatic Trans, Pwr Brakes, Air Cond, AM/FM Stereo & More! VIN#1P971M1 Ex Cond! '93 TEMPO Ford 4-Door, 4-Cyl Eng, Automatic Trans, Pwr Brakes, Air Cond & More! VIN#144/89020M '94 COROLLAS, CAMRY'S, TERCELS, etc Always a great sell! MANY MORE IN STOCK! *60 mo. pym'ts at 10.99 AP. All cars sold at outlet prices.

CHOOSE FROM HUNDREDS OF CARS IN STOCK! THE BEST NEW CARS Make The Best Used Cars! LAND CRUISERS! Safest, biggest, most powerful, best looking 4x4 family vehicles on the road. Now on sale for under... \$499 PER MO. NO CASH DOWN AVAILABLE! Now You Can... LEASE ANY USED VEHICLE NOW AT THE TOYOTA OUTLET! Why finance? Lease any 1993 to 1997 vehicle with nothing down and make LOWER monthly payments!

NEW '98 TOYOTA 4x2 PICK UP JUST \$1,000 DOWN! \$164 PER MONTH! 36 MONTHS! NEW '98 TOYOTA 4x4 TRUCK JUST \$1,000 DOWN! \$212 PER MONTH! 36 MONTHS! NEW '98 TOYOTA 4x4 EXTRACAB! JUST \$1,000 DOWN! \$238 PER MONTH! 36 MONTHS!

LUBE, OIL & FILTER \$16.95! UNCONDITIONAL 45-DAY USED CAR SATISFACTION GUARANTEE TOYOTA OUTLET

TOYOTA OUTLET NEVER PAY RE... TOYOTA HYUNDAI

WE'LL MAKE IT WORTH YOUR TRIP! SALES HOURS: Mon-Fri 9 AM - 9 PM, Sat 9 AM - 6 PM CLOSE TO YOU: Just minutes away...take a ride out tonight! Se Habla Espanol Nos Falamos Portugues Nous Parlez Francais

CREDIT OK BY PHONE... WHILE YOU WAIT Old Credit Problems? New Job No Prior Credit History? Retired New to the Area? Recent Grad Bankruptcy? First Time Buyer Divorced? Call now, drive to 1-800-NEED-LO

Prices... terms include all rebates & incentives, supercede previous offers & include all costs except tax, license, bank... 1st month... Total of pym'ts/Ref. Sec. Dep/Total due at inception: 4X2 P/U \$6904/\$200/\$1955, 4X4 Truck \$8632/\$250/\$2... primary lender approval; qualified buyers only. Ad offers may not be combined. Toyota Outlet will issue Temporary Plates... on fees. Closed end leases w/12,000 miles allowance per year then 10¢ mi. No purchase option... extracab \$9568/\$250/\$2083. All cars sold at outlet prices contingent upon dealer financing through... All vehicles in stock at press deadline but subject to prior sale so shop early and save.

Employment Full Time 240 Employment Full Time 240

Build a strong future for our patients as well as your career! At the University of Virginia Medical Center, a 600-bed tertiary care center and Level I Trauma Center, you will find an environment which promotes the highest quality patient care as well as professional development. During the past year, our Surgical Services Center has restructured its critical care beds and, as a result, we need additional experienced critical care nurses to serve a variety of patients with complex surgical needs including trauma, general surgery, solid organ transplant and various subspecialties.

\$2000 Sign-On Bonus for SICU RNs

UVa is prepared to offer the right candidates relocation assistance and, as an additional incentive, a sign-on bonus of \$2,000. Charlottesville, our dynamic community, is consistently ranked among the top U.S. cities based on quality of life standards. Its close proximity to several metropolitan areas and Atlantic beaches, coupled with the cultural and educational offerings of a university setting, gives you the perfect balance of work and play.

For more information and a required application, contact Nila Saliba, Healthcare Recruitment Manager, at 1-800-843-8276 or by e-mail at ns7e@virginia.edu. EOE/AA

Opportunities University of Virginia HEALTH SYSTEM

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Sales Associates
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We also have Executive Trainee and Area Sales Manager positions available for experienced retail professionals.
Equal Opportunity Employer

RETAIL MERCHANDISER
National jewelry/accessories service company seeks P/T rep for the Clinton/Rantan areas. Duties include in-store merchandising, inventory control & ordering. Retail experience a plus. Please call our voice mail by Dec. 3rd, 1-800-283-3090, Ext. 6513

VIDEO STORE
Looking for reliable person to work in growing video store. F/T, P/T; available for right person. Apply in person: 124 Maple Ave, S.Plainfield; 908-753-7600

EMPLOYMENT PART TIME 255

ADULT CARRIERS
Needed for one day a week delivery. Must have reliable car and valid NJ Driver's License.
For more information Please call Mike at (908) 575-6670

Employment Full Time 240 Employment Full Time 240

MATERIAL HANDLERS MAJOR EXPANSION

We are a furniture warehouse located in Raritan Center, experiencing a major expansion. Here is your opportunity to get in on the ground floor, and help us continue our success, servicing major retail and department store clients. Full-time regular positions available with complete benefit package for you and your family. Part-time position include part-time day, part-time nights, and weekend work. All positions available between 6AM and 10PM, Sunday through Saturday.

Apply in person:
Wed & Fri 9am-5pm
Mon 1pm-5pm
Tues & Thurs 9am-8pm
Sat 9am-12 noon

Century Distribution
401 Clearview Road
Edison, NJ 08837
908-225-5572

MAINTENANCE PERSON
Immed. opening for condo complex, approx. 400 units. Odd jobs incl janitorial duties several hours/day. Mon-Fri. Must have references & be willing to allow criminal background check. Retirees welcome. Call 908-321-0888.

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For So. Pfl'd CPA Firm. No eve's or wknds. Prior telemarketing or strong sales exp. req'd. Salary + bonus & expenses. Approx 5 hrs/wk. Call 908-754-7666 aft 5PM.

EMPLOYMENT PART TIME 255

NEED HELP PAYING THOSE BILLS? EARN \$200 TO \$300 A MONTH
Deliver Advertising Materials door-to-door one day a week on Saturday in Westfield, Garwood, Cranford and Clark. A good car necessary. Call 24 hours
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Employment Full Time 240 Employment Full Time 240

At BEECH TRUCKING COMPANY We Want To Invest In Your Career!

All you need is to be 23 years old and have a clean driving record. New classes forming every week. Courses are 6 - 8 weeks, Monday - Friday, 10 hrs. each day.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE through Beech Trucking Beech Trucking will assist you in applying for a student loan.
offer a promissory note payable in installments after completion of course



PLUS! FREE TUITION!!
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Homes For Sale 330
Affordable Modular custom homes, ERIC Assoc. offers high quality customized homes, or your lot or ours. 609-466-1817.
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FORECLOSED Government Homes. Save up to 50% or more. Little/no down payment. Bad Credit OK. Call Now! Free Call 1-800-690-9073 Ext. 300.
GOVERNMENT FORECLOSED HOMES for pennies on \$1. Delinquent Tax. Repo's. REO's. Your area. Toll free 1-800-218-9000 Ext. H-5139 for current listings/directory.

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CASH PAID for 1-4 family houses. Any condition. Call Mrs Flagg 908-769-7285
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SOMERVILLE: 2nd floor, 1 BR, attic storage, no pets. 1 1/2 mo sec + refs \$650/mo Heat/Water incl. Avail Dec 1 908-369-3791
SOMERVILLE THE HEAT IS ON! Free Heat & HW. 1 BR in quiet park like setting. Priv. entrance ways, on site laundry, pkg. minutes from Rt. 22 & 78. Bus routes & Bridgewater Commons. 908-725-2596

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BAD CREDIT? WE WILL GET YOU FINANCED REGARDLESS OF BAD CREDIT! Anybody! Anytime! Anywhere!

- Bankruptcies are OK!
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- Repossessions are OK!
- Divorce Cases are OK!
- Retired Folks are OK!
- Collection Cases OK!
- Medical Bills are OK!
- In the Military is OK!
- Recent Discharge OK!
- Bad Credit is OK!
- Bruised Credit is OK!
- New On the Job is OK!
- Recent Grads are OK!
- New to This Area is OK!
- 1st Time Buyers are OK!
- New Immigrants are OK!
- Can't Speak English OK!
- Slow Payments are OK!
- Even NO Credit is OK!

BUT 1. You must have a job.
2. And a driver's license.
3. You must be willing to make regular monthly payments.

800 CARS IN STOCK NOW! EVERY IMPORT & DOMESTIC 1990-1997!
Re-establish your credit. No one turned away because of previous credit problems. Call today, drive home tonight with our temporary plates.

1-800-NEW-CREDIT CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-639-2733 24-HOURS A DAY, 7-DAYS A WEEK

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We're a "NYSE" company and leading manufacturer/distributor of PCs, peripherals and software, experiencing major growth. As a result, our WESTWOOD sales office has immediate openings for Inside Corporate Account Representatives.

We offer a training package plus a competitive compensation plan (including base salary, commission and monthly bonuses). Employees also receive a complete benefit package including 401(k) plan.

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1st ANNIVERSARY

BRIDGEWATER VOLVO LONG MOTOR COMPANY

'98 VOLVOS ANNIVERSARY PRICING-

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| '98 VOLVO V70 WAGON AWD, 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM, CD, 8,809 miles, Vin #W2396340, Stk # 8306, MSRP \$37,875 Program Price \$33,210 | '98 VOLVO V70 WAGON 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM, CD, 8,287 miles, VIN #W2367278, Stk #8154, MSRP \$31,105 Program Price \$27,020 | '98 VOLVO S90 4DOOR 6cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM CD, 9,221 miles, VIN #W1127357, Stk #8346, MSRP \$36,005 Program Price \$31,350 | '98 VOLVO S70 GLT 4DOOR 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM CD, 5,185 miles, VIN # W2347276, Stk #8346, MSRP \$35,480 Program Price \$32,255 | '98 VOLVO V70 GLT WAGON 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM, leather int, 10,395 miles, VIN #W2347276, Stk #8001, Retail price \$36,780 Program Price \$32,255 |
| '98 VOLVO S70 GLT 4DOOR 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM CD, leather int, 9,677 miles, VIN #W1416284, Stk #8022, Retail Price \$36,875 Program Price \$32,070 | '98 VOLVO S70 GTAS 4 DOOR 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM, leather int, 8,295 miles, Vin #W1435117, Stk # 8300, MSRP \$34,150 Program Price \$28,745 | '98 VOLVO S70 GTAS 4 DOOR 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, 9,175 miles, Vin #W1435117, Stk # SP609, MSRP \$34,150 Program Price \$30,105 | '98 VOLVO S70A 4 DOOR 5cyl, auto, p/b, A/C, AM/FM, 8,211 miles, Vin #W1465074, Stk # 8315, MSRP \$31,000 Program Price \$26,675 | |

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M. V. fees & tax not included

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BRAND NEW 1998 NISSAN MAXIMA GXE

4 door, V-6, automatic transmission, power steering/brakes, AIR, AM/FM stereo-cassette, power windows/locks/seat/dual mirrors, remote keyless entry, security system, dual air bags, cruise control, floor mats, power trunk release, VIN #WM904700, MSRP \$24,517.

\$279 Per Mo. For 39 Mos.*

CHOOSE A FREE GIFT! With The Above Lease Offer.

Custom Appearance Package
• Door Edge Protectors • Pinstriping • Wheel-Lip Mouldings
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OR

Guaranteed AUTO THEFT PROTECTION! (See Sales Department for Details)
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Route 22 East • Somerville

1-888-22NISSAN 1-888 226-4772

Prices include all costs to be paid by consumer except lic, reg & taxes. Not resp for typos. Pictures for illustration purp only. *39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr; 18c thereafter, \$0 cash, \$279 1st mo pymt, \$500 ref sec dep & \$595 bank fee=\$1374 due at lease incept. Purch op=Fair Market Value. Total pymts=\$10,881. Total cost=\$11,976. Prices incl all dlr incentives. Lessee resp for maint & excess wear & tear. Offer valid thru 11/29/97.

Industrial/Commercial
Property For Rent 410
TRENTON: Immediate State House Access, 4,600 S.F. total office space, 2,500 S.F. immed. avail. on floors 1 & 2. Perfect for lobby group, professionals. Sale or lease \$159,000.00 John Schragger Realty, Inc. Bkr. 609-637-9548.

Auctions 510
Public Auction
Antiques-Baby Prints
Lionel-Marx & Other Trains
Toys-Armistery Glass
Auction for Est. of Thomas Morz, Manville, N.J. From Rt. 22 going East, pass Somerville, N.J. and take Funderline/Manville Exit (at Kemper Pontiac & Cadillac dealership, go 2 miles, cross river bridge, go 2nd traffic light & turn right on Brooks Blvd. go to 8th Ave. make right 1. Sale at Firehouse. Sat. Nov. 29-30AM
Old Baby prints, 5 Bessie Peace Gutmann, 2 Annie Bensen Muller, 2 Edythe Marie Kapka & 1 Luren Holmwood, 4 convex glass & games, Lionel engines #1062, #1664, #1666, #2037 & many cars, American Flyer #282 & 5 cars, Marx engine & cars, Lionel #137 tin & Marx tin stations, Lionel & Marx waiting station-derrick-flagman-crossing gate & etc., Mechanicart Limited 3 pc tin train & box. Unique Art tin engine & tender, J. Chein tin roller coaster w/2 cars 1949 T. Cohn tin parking garage & deck, Buddy L & Simucho fire hook & ladder truck, 2 Hubley airplanes. The Gong Ball Mfg Co. wood horse, German tin wind-up rabbit, 100 pcs armistery glass-like lamps, candleholders-vases-bowls-plates & etc., 15-pc Oriental tea set, stereoscope viewer & 50 cards, Waltham 20 yr gold case pocket watch, 14 watch fobs, lots of old stamps, 200 Toolies & match box cars & trucks, tools.
This is a very partial listing. Not responsible for accidents. Terms: Cash or Approved Check Food
Arthur Hanna Auctioneer
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908-995-7862

Crafts and Gifts Sales 540
63rd ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP MARKET CRAFT SALE-Wed after Thanksgiving, Dec. 3rd, 10am-9pm, Birchwood Manor, 111 N. Jefferson Rd. Whippany. No Admission charge.
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Washer/Dryer combo, gas, 18cu ft Top Freezer/Refrig, \$400 each. 908-218-9062
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A FISHING TACKLE Collector wants to buy old, rods, reels, lures, catalogs. 908-233-1654
ALL LIONEL, Ives, Flyer & other trains. Top prices paid, 800-464-467/908-665-9234
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General Merchandise 580
BLACK BOX TV DECRAMBLERS 1-800-349-3406
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WASHER \$75. Dryer, \$75. Stove, \$75. Refrigerator, \$150. Can deliver. Color console TV \$100. P/c call 722-6329.
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GUNS-SWORDS-KNIVES MILITARIA. NJ & Federal Licensed. Top cash paid. Call Bert 732-821-4949

Wanted To Buy 625
WANTED-Need Cash. Old toys, cars, trucks, boats, planes, trains, pedal cars, bikes, 1 piece or whole collections. 732-469-9352
Pets 640
\$100 Buys any pup in #1 Puppy House N.J. Largest Selection of \$50 Pups, MC/VISA. Open NOVEMBER 29 & 30, Hours 10-5. JP O'Neill Kennels, US Highway #1 Princeton, NJ opposite Hyatt Hotel.
We ask our readers that are selling or giving away an animal to please ask questions (screen) the potential owners. Checking references and identification is a way to secure the future of the animal. For further info contact: S.T.A.R.T. at 201-785-1245
Business Opportunities 650
LOCAL CANDY ROUTE. 30 Vending Machines. Earn apx. \$800/day. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND.
NETWORK MKTG. LEADERS 5-figure monthly potential. 4th top producer/1997 distributor of the year for young explosive company is now interviewing for 2 or 3 front line leaders. If you feel you qualify, call (201) 996-6567 24HRS.
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\$2100. 908-464-7906 evening
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5 spd, 4WD, exc cond, 160k,
\$2100. 908-464-7906 evening
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BMW 1984 535i, 6 cyl, loaded,
sun/roof, white, exc cond,
\$4,300. 908-272-3341

BMW 1987 325ES, red, 2dr,
5spd, snrf, 95K, exc cond,
\$5700/OBO. 908-654-5970(d)
201-432-2898(e/wkends)

BMW 1992 535i, immaculate
cond, orig owner, 5spd, black
tan leather int, 94K, \$16,000
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day 973-927-3100, ext 150;
eves 908-654-0680.

BMW 318i 1992 Convertible
Blk/bk, great cond, 5 spd, 34K
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5spd, slvr, 90K, w/whs, snrf,
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SHELBY-2Dr Turbo, all pwr,
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DODGE 1992 Colt 2 dr,
hatchbk, auto, ac, am/fm, cass,
cherry red, mint cond, 47K.
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DODGE 1993 INTREPID
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loaded, dark blue, orig owner,
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67.5K. \$7950. 908-233-3328

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pdl, pw, am/fm cass, 128K
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2dr, exc cond, new tires, auto, ac
60K. \$2900. 908-273-5398

HONDA 1994 Accord DX, 4
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Gray, 1500K, Runs Exc! Int. Well
maint'd. \$1500. 908-277-3988

HONDA 1987 Accord- new
brakes, tires, exhaust,
excellent running condition,
\$1500/OBO. 908-233-8659

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5spd, black w/snrf, exc cond,
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spd, 4 dr, air, cruise, ps, pb,
pdl, pw, am/fm cass, 128K
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HONDA 1994 ACCORD LX - 4
dr, auto, A/C, all pwr, cass,
alarm, exc cond., ext. warr,
52K, \$12,700. 973-966-9012

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dr, 5 spd, \$8,495/OBO. 20K orig
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Autos For Sale 1385

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exc. \$8995. 908-272-2765

DODGE 1993 INTREPID- 1
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am/fm, cass. \$8950 OBO.
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Dressed In Gold! Moonroof,
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MAZDA

Real Estate

Coldwell Banker tips on choosing a home builder

Many home buyers prefer a newly-constructed home.

They like the idea of having a home that's brand new and ready for their personal touches.

They like choosing custom features such as kitchen cabinets, flooring and the color of the vinyl siding.

They like the latest in appliances and in energy saving features.

Best of all, they like the way a newly constructed home appreciates in value, sometimes faster than the market in general.

The New Homes Division of Coldwell Banker sells more new homes than any real estate company in the nation, so they know buying a newly constructed house is

a little more complicated than buying a resale.

Not only does the buyer often choose something that they can't see, but they also must have confidence in the reputation and ability of the builder to deliver the house he or she promised.

To help you decide if a builder is the person you want to build your new home, the new homes experts at Coldwell Banker suggest you ask these questions:

Are you a member of any professional builders associations?

As a general rule, builders who are involved with builders' organizations keep

abreast of consumer trends and preferences.

They know about relevant legislation and regulations.

They are more comfortable with new technology and get good ideas from their builder colleagues.

Can you provide references?

Any reputable builder has previous clients to offer as references.

Call them and ask how they like living in their house.

Ask if they would recommend the builder to a friend.

You may even want to call the Better Business Bureau to see if there have been any complaints against the

builder.

What else have you built in this area?

Go to see other communities the builder built. How do they look?

If you see someone, ask if they like their house.

It's a good sign when a builder has been building in the area for many years.

It's even better if he or she lives in the community.

May I see a house under construction?

Take a look at the job site. A professional builder will have a well organized operation, with tools and materials stored neatly, rubbish picked up regularly and peo-

ple working efficiently.

Do you offer a Homeowners Warranty?

Builders are required to provide a Homeowners Warranty on all newly constructed houses.

The warranty is good for 10 years, and protects a buyer from defects in workmanship and unexpected repairs to their new house.

Buying a newly constructed house can be very exciting - and Coldwell Banker would like to help.

The New Homes Division of Coldwell Banker is expert in helping builders market their products and help consumers find the right builder and build their dream house.

If you would like to know

more about any aspect of new construction, or where to find a newly constructed home, call the Coldwell Banker New Homes Division at 1-800-732-5867.

The greater New York region is part of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, the nation's largest real estate brokerage firm, with more than 400 offices and 15,000 sales associates.

Owned and operated by NRT, Inc. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is the largest franchised brokerage of Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliates, Inc. which has 2400 franchised real estate offices and more than 55,000 sales associates throughout North America.

Sales up at Weichert's Watchung office

Expansion plans include second building on traffic circle

Growth at Weichert, Realtors' Watchung office will result in a move to a second building on the Watchung Circle, announced Jacelyn Botti, regional vice president.

Facilities currently located at 63 Mountain Boulevard will be moved to 60 Stirling Road, across from the main office at 55 Stirling Road.

Sales figures for the

Watchung office reflect a 53-percent increase in dollar volume over 1996, and a 43-percent increase in the number of sales, according to branch manager Carol Mucerino.

Additionally, the number of revenue units is up 39-percent and the average selling price is 11-percent higher than a year ago.

"We have outgrown the space we have," said

Mucerino.

"The new facility will give us new private and semi-private suites for top producers, as well as space for our new DOORS97 marketing system, giving us on-site, computerized personal marketing and promotional systems.

"Everything will be located on one floor," said Mucerino.

"We will have plenty of

parking in front and behind the building for the convenience of our clients and customers."

Business will not be interrupted during the transition, Mucerino added.

Sales associates can be reached by calling the main office at 561-5400.

DUNELLEN



COLONIAL CHARM \$159,000

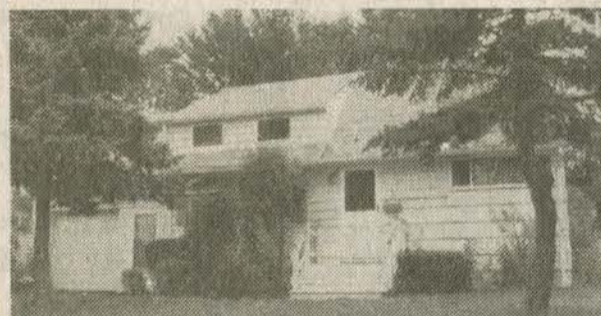
Character and charm are evident throughout this 3BR, 2 full bath home offers. New oak cabinet kitchen (17 x15). Huge family room addition 27 x23, many details, good mother/daughter arrangement beautiful condition north side location.

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EDISON \$184,920

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PHH

Coldwell Banker reports on home improvements

There are two reasons for a home improvement, according to Coldwell Banker.

The first, and best, reason is to make your house more comfortable.

The second reason is to make the house more valuable.

As this is the time of year when many homeowners plan home improvement projects, it is a good time to consider which home improvements will make your house more comfortable and make it more valuable.

As some improvements are quite expensive, Coldwell Banker suggests that homeowners consider the resale value of their project.

If a homeowner wants to get the best return from the money he puts into a home improvement, there are two rules that apply to all projects:

Don't over-improve the property

The value of a house is to a large extent determined by the neighborhood.

No matter how beautiful, a house becomes more difficult to sell if it is substantially higher in price than other houses in the immediate area.

The most common home improvement mistake Coldwell Banker agents see is over-improvement.

A homeowner won't get back the money they spend on a fabulous kitchen or beautiful built-in cabinets in an otherwise modest home, or on added rooms that make a house much larger than others in the neighborhood.

Don't consider an improvement that will make your house much more expensive than all the other nearby houses.

You may be better off selling your house and buying a larger

Don't do it yourself unless you can do it well

Although "doing it yourself" may save money initially, it may not be a good idea.

Unless you have the skill and right tools to do a professional-looking job, an amateurish improvement could make your house hard to sell.

If you are interested in adding value to your house, here are some of the home improvements Coldwell Banker agents have found to bring the best return at resale:

Painting

For a house that is in good condition, fresh paint can work magic and often increases resale value significantly.

This is the home improvement Coldwell Banker agents recommend most often to people who are planning to sell their house. It is also one of the least expensive and one that can be successfully completed by do-it-yourselfers.

Add a bathroom

Coldwell Banker agents have found that today's home buyers want a minimum of one full and one half bath.

Adding a powder room or second bathroom to a house is an excellent choice if it fits into the floor plan.

If you don't have room for another bath, consider remodeling the bathroom to allow for double sinks, so more than one person can use it at a time.

This is a feature that Coldwell Banker agents have found buyers will pay more for, and should

bring a good return on the money invested.

Remodel the kitchen

The kitchen is probably the most important room in the house when it comes to attracting buyers, and one of the most expensive home improvements. However, an up-to-date kitchen adds significantly to the value of a house.

Keep in mind, costs can be very dramatically, depending upon how much work needs to be done and the materials used. If resale value is important to you, don't get carried away.

Keep the cost of your kitchen in line with the price range of your house.

Add a family room

Most of our older homes were not built with family rooms. Today's buyers want them, and Coldwell Banker agents have found a family room is a very popular home improvement.

As a mid-range family room addition generally ranges in price from \$30,000 to \$45,000, resale value is an important consideration.

To have a maximum resale value, the family room must fit into the floor plan, look nice from the exterior, be well designed, and be bright and cheerful.

If there's no room for a first floor family room, a basement recreation room might be a good choice.

To learn more about what's going on in the real estate market and which improvements would add to the value of your home, call your local Coldwell Banker office.

Prudential Associates attend conference

Marge Cuccaro and Marion Browne of Prudential New Jersey Realty's Westfield office were two of the 150 real estate professionals from the United States and Canada who attended an exclusive international forum on fine homes in New York recently.

The Fine Homes International Networking reception, held November 13, was hosted by the Prudential Real Estate Affiliates Inc. a network of independently owned and operated real estate companies throughout North America.

"The forum allowed for the cooperative exchange of ideas with other real estate professionals who concentrate on sales of upper-tier homes," said Cuccaro, who has expertise in listing and selling luxury real estate properties in the Westfield area.

"It was enlightening to share the cutting-edge techniques that these Prudential Real Estate sales associates are using to attract international buyers."

"From advertising properties in the Asian and European editions of the *Wall Street Journal* to communicating with prospective buyers as far as Malaysia and Hong Kong on the Internet, Prudential Real Estate associates clearly are making it easier for affluent buyers from all over the world to shop for real estate," added Browne, who is also an expert on upscale properties throughout Union County.

Jim Rentz, manager of Fine Homes and Resort Properties for the Prudential Real Estate Affiliates Inc. and forum coordinator, delivered a speech outlining the company's strategies to become the market share leader among all national real estate networks in upper-tier properties by the year 2000.

"Members of the Prudential Real Estate Network consistently have been leaders in the Fine Home market, which by industry standard, are homes listed in the top 10-percent bracket in their marketplace," said Rentz.

Both Marge Cuccaro and Marion Browne have been sales leaders in the Westfield office of Prudential New Jersey Realty, Degnan Boyle Division, for many years.

Each is a multi-year member of NJAR's Million Dollar Sales Club and both have also been named "Top Prop" by *National Relocation and Real Estate* magazine.

To reach them, call Prudential New Jersey Realty at 232-5664.

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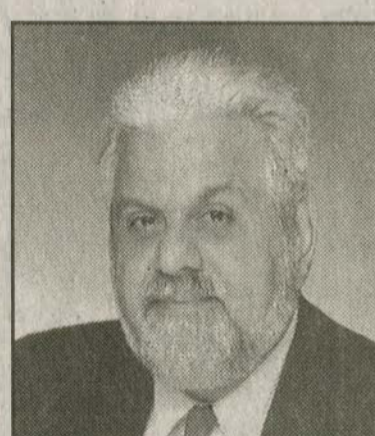
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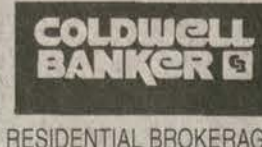
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