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The Class of … High School gr…

THURSDAY
JULY 6, 2006

Government closes

New Jersey made history this weekend, when Gov. Jon Corzine signed an executive order that shut down all non-essential state government services after the legislature failed to approve the state's 2007 budget.

See story Page 17.

Poll results

In the June 22 issue of Worrall's four Union County newspapers, we asked readers to go online and voice their opinion about the county budget.

After one week, 88 people responded to our poll. Here is what they said:

- Six people, or 7 percent, said the freeholders were doing a great job, but were easily scapegoated;
- One person, or 1 percent, said freeholders were doing their best given out-of-control salary and benefit costs;
- Thirteen people, or 15 percent, said that as long as taxes continue to rise, freeholders are not doing enough to keep taxes under control;
- And 68 people, or 77 percent of respondents, said the freeholders have no credibility until they eliminate their own generous perks.

This week, we ask readers what they think of Gov. Jon Corzine's decision to shut down state government. See Page 4 for more details or go directly to www.localsource.com to cast your vote.

Carnival Night

The Mountainside Community Pool will host its annual Family Carnival Night on July 14 at 7 p.m. This free event, located at the pool off Mountain Avenue, is open to members only.

Popular returning activities include a Moon Walk, Sports Radar Cage, Leap Frog, Sponge Bob Toss, hair braids, kids' tattoos and other carnival games. Participants can earn tickets towards fun prizes such as candy, plush dolls and racing toys.

For more information, call the Mountainside Community Pool at 908-232-0132 or the Mountainside Recreation Department at 908-232-0015.

Give me an 'A'...

Registrations are now being accepted, through Aug. 1, for Springfield Recreation Cheerleading.

Cheerleading is open to all girls entering kindergarten through grade eight.

The $30 registration fee is payable at the Springfield Recreation Department, 30 Church Mall.

Girls in kindergarten through grade three will cheer for flag football teams. The girls will have one weekly practice and Saturday games. They will learn basic cheers and one halftime routine during the season.

Girls in grades three though eight will cheer for tackle football teams. The girls will have one practice during the week and Sunday games.

The program is also seeking volunteer parent/coaches.

Registrations will not be accepted after Aug. 1, due to uniform ordering deadlines.

For more information, call Michele Zambrana at 973-912-2226 or e-mail springfieldrecreation@yahoo.com.

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"Your Best Source for Community Information"

A Worrall Community Newspaper

Redevelopment sparks suggestions

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

SPRINGFIELD — A June 29 public hearing on the redevelopment of Morris Avenue brought concerns and suggestions from property owners and residents to the township's Planning Board.

Board chairman Richard Colandrea said the purpose of the meeting, held at the Jonathan Dayton High School, was to "review what has been done (as to the) progress in the downtown area."

He said that certain criteria had to be met in the redevelopment process and that public hearing was one of them.

The first concern of the property owners was the threat of losing their property, under the township's power of eminent domain, without adequate compensation.

"You are jumping ahead," said Lester Nebenzahl of THP Inc., the township's planning firm. "If a property is deemed in need of redevelopment, the power of eminent domain will rest with the municipality. That doesn't mean it will be used."

He said there would be negotiations between the developers and property owners and, if they couldn't reach an agreement, the courts would decide the matter.

THP Inc. is the firm that conducted the recent study of 71 lots in 10 blocks, mostly along Morris Avenue, to determine whether each met the criteria for redevelopment. Sixty-two of those lots, "a mixture of commercial, storage, residential public and vacant uses" according to the published study results, qualify for redevelopment. The analysis was conducted from August through November 2005.

"I have a concern about preserving the historic nature of Church Mall," said Mark Hurwitz, township committeeman. He was concerned any redevelopment would "take away from the colonial nature of the town" and cited Colonial Williamsburg as an example of a successful fit of "retail into a historic area."

Nebenzahl said any redevelopment plan will "respect any properties on the National Historic Register or consider (a building's) historical significance."

He said when the town submits a proposal to developers, it can "stipulate architectural guidelines."

Hurwitz suggested a park be built around the Cannon Ball House to create a "portal into the newly redeveloped downtown."

"Right now the Cannon Ball House is tucked back in the street and you drive by (it) in the blink of an eye. Why not take the opportunity to look broadly at how the town is viewed as one drives into the area?" Hurwitz said.

Gary Singer, who owns the property surrounding the Cannon Ball House, said the building already on the site is "itself a historic location" and did not recommend putting a park there

See **RESIDENTS**, Page 3

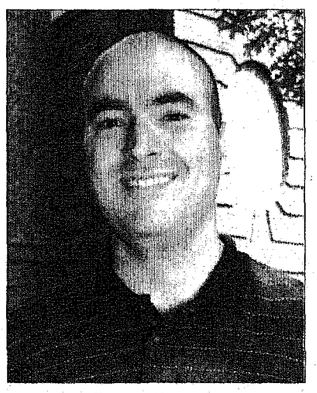
Dave Rennie named principal at Caldwell

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

SPRINGFIELD — When students return to the James Caldwell Elementary School in the fall, they will be greeted by a new principal, Dave Rennie, a former teacher at the school.

He was appointed to that position at the June 26 meeting of the Springfield Board of Education, an appointment that went into effect Saturday.

"I am really looking forward to this opportunity," said Rennie. "I felt they (the members of the Board of Education) were looking for the best candidate for the job. I am honored they felt that was me."



Dave Rennie

Most recently, Rennie was school supervisor at the Florence M. Gaudineer Middle School in the township for 18 months.

"My time at Gaudineer has been an incredible experience," said Rennie. "The past 1½ years have prepared me for the responsibility I'm about to take at Caldwell."

The difference between a school supervisor and an assistant principal is that the latter evaluates staff, according to Ellyn Atherton, director of human resources and professional development in the district.

"I am very happy for him. He is a very effective administrator and will do a great job there," said Timothy Kielty, principal at the Gaudineer School. "Even though we will miss him dearly, he really deserves it."

Before he was Gaudineer's school supervisor, Rennie was a fourth-grade teacher at Caldwell for more than 12 years. Back then, the school served students in grades one through four. Now, Caldwell students are in the third- through fifth-grades.

"That will probably be the biggest change for me," said Rennie.

Another change will be the difference in the size of the schools: Gaudineer has an enrollment of 480, while Caldwell has just 218 students.

Rennie is also known as the longtime coach of the girls' basketball team at Jonathan Dayton High School in the district.

In fact, it was his first coaching job many years ago that lured him into teaching.

After graduating from Rutgers University in New Brunswick with an economics degree, Rennie was working in sales for Nestle Foods when he learned about an opening for a freshmen basketball coach at Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair for the 1990-91 school year.

He got the job, which, he said, "opened my eyes toward education."

So, when Immaculate Conception offered him a position teaching ninth-grade world history for the fall 1991, Rennie accepted it and began going to Seton Hall in South Orange at night to obtain his teaching certification.

A year later, he changed his student status to full-time to "speed up the process of getting my certification."

Rennie obtained more educating experience while in school by

See **FORMER**, Page 1

Littlest 'firefighter'



Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Three-year-old Trey Richardson shows off his entry, a fire truck, in the bike decorating contest during the Fourth of July festivities in Summit. See next week's edition of *The Observer* — or visit www.localsource.com — for more photos from the celebrations.



Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Phil Hill, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, and the Rev. Betty Adams discuss the proclamation the church recently received from the city.

Church donates $1 million

Gulf Coast to receive funds raised by members of congregation

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

SUMMIT — Mayor Jordan Glatt proclaimed June 21 as "The Fountain Baptist Church Appreciation Day" at that night's Common Council meeting. The church was honored for its $1 million donation to the Gulf Coast victims.

"We are so proud to have them as part of our community. This is an amazing outpouring," said Glatt.

Phil Hill of the church's Board of Trustees and the Rev. Betty Adams received the mayor's proclamation on behalf of the church.

As Glatt gave the proclamation to them, he added, "This should surely set the angels singing."

The 108-year-old church on Glenside Avenue, besides being one of the oldest in Summit, is one of the largest, with an active membership of almost 2,000.

When Adams was asked whose idea it was to make this amazing gift, she said, "Our senior pastor, the Rev. J. Michael Sanders. He had made a trip to the Gulf Coast region in his capacity as a member of the Lott Carey Foreign Baptist Convention."

The minister had toured the devastated area with the others and was horrified at what he saw, according to Adams and Hill. He came back and immediately asked the church to make a collection.

They did and the congregation raised $130,000. "We sent that right away — it was September 2005," said Adams.

However, through conversations with other ministers, it

See **CHURCH**, Page 2

Former resident to head church

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

SUMMIT — The woman poised to head the the U.S. Episcopal Church is a 1970 graduate of Summit High School and, during her teenage years, attended Calvary Episcopal Church with her family.

Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori will be the first woman to have this top position in the church's 400-year-old history.

It is also just 30 years after the Episcopal Church first allowed women to become priests and bishops.

Schori was elected June 18 at the 75th General Convention meeting in Columbus, Ohio, by her colleagues in the House of Bishops from a slate of seven nominees.

The Rev. Chris Brdlik, senior pastor of Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit, was glowing in his praise.

"We are very pleased and proud for her," he said. "I have not met her, but know that her family and she were members of Calvary. The presiding bishop serves for nine years and her term will begin in November."

During the convention, Schori addressed deputies and visitors in Spanish and English, thanking the other nominees and emphasizing her passion for mission.

Although this appointment officially begins Nov. 1, she will be invested and seated Nov. 4 during a liturgy at Washington National Cathedral. She will succeed Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold.

Her rise up the ecclesiastical ladder has been phenomenal.

Schori's family moved to Summit when she was growing up. Her father had been a scientist for Bell Labs.



Schori

A brilliant student, her interest was in science, and later she received a degree in marine biology from Stanford University. Her family moved to Corvallis, Nev., in 1974, where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in oceanography at Oregon State University.

"In the practice of oceanography, she was required to do more and more bureaucratic functions, and found herself doing less and less of science," said Canon Robert Williams, communications director of the Episcopal Church. "She went into teaching, but what happened in her parish — the Good Samaritan Episcopal Church of Corvallis, Nev. — changed her life," he said.

In a June 21 interview with PBS reporter Kim Lawton, of "Religion and Ethics Newsweekly," Schori told her story.

"Three people in my congregation came to me out of the blue and asked me if I had ever thought of becoming a priest. At the time, it seemed absurd ... but I went and talked at length to our priest, and came to the conclusion it was not the time. Five years later, I was asked to preach on a Sunday morning when the new rector could

See **FIRST**, Page 3

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

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

To place a classified ad:
The Observer has a large, well read classified advertising section. Advertisements must be in our office by Tuesday at 3 p.m. for publication that week. All classified ads are payable in advance. We accept Mastercard, Visa, American Express or Discover. A classified representative will gladly assist you in preparing your message. Please stop by our office during regular business hours or call 908-686-7850, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Is it time yet?

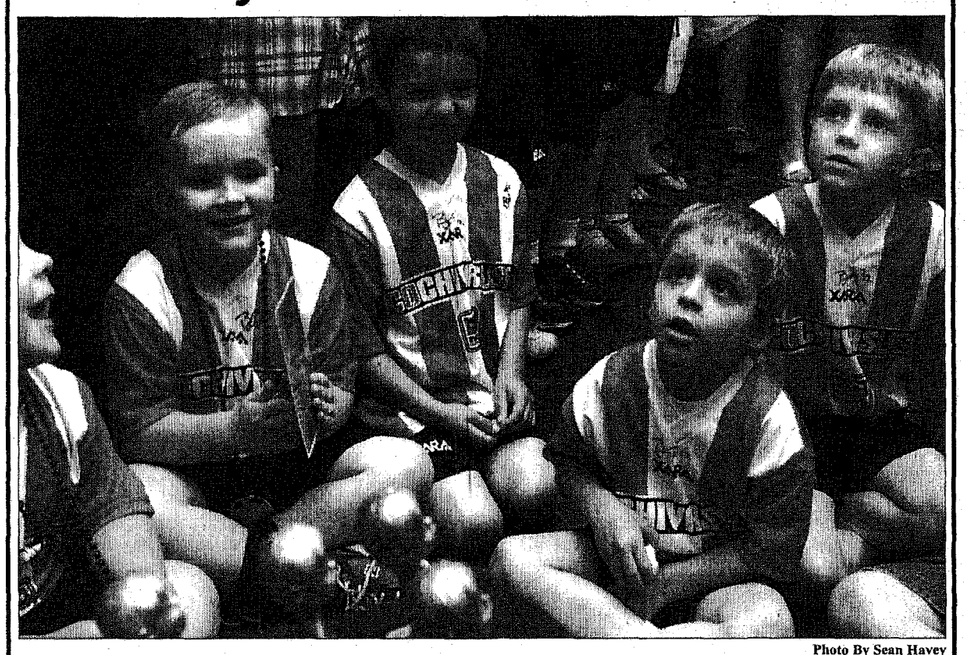


Photo By Sean Havey

Members of the Soccer Club of Springfield's Chivas USA team wait to receive their participation trophies at the club's third annual banquet last month at the Holiday Inn in Springfield.

BOE receives required training

State law mandates Code of Ethics be discussed annually

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

SPRINGFIELD — To comply with a requirement of the New Jersey School Boards Association, the Springfield Board of Education recently received training on Board Ethics.

Superintendent of Schools Michael Davino said the board is "required to undergo annual ethics training at a public meeting."

The annual ethics training is required under New Jersey Administrative Code, which provides specifics as to how state boards should govern.

Ellyn Atherton, the district's director of human resources and professional development, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Code of Ethics, provided by the NJSBA. She described it as "the parameters under which board members are required to function and operate."

It was emphasized that the presentation does not replace the individual training required for new board members, such as Dr. David Hollander, nor does it provide legal advice.

Some of the stipulations of the Code of Ethics, written in the first person, include the following:

• "I will confine my board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them."

• "I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board."

• "I will refuse to surrender my independent judgement to special interest or partisan political groups of to use the schools for personal gain of for the gain of friends."

• "I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer."

Other more directive-type aspects of the Code prohibit school officials from having a business interest that substantially conflicts with the "proper discharge of their duties in the public interest;" using their position to obtain "unwarranted privileges, advantages or employment;" and accepting any employment or service, whether or not they would be compensated, that may affect their "independence of judgement in the exercise of their official duties;" among others. Some of these also apply to the school official's immediate family.

In the presentation, Atherton pointed to three common areas of concern relating to ethics: financial involvement, personal involvement and personnel appointments. Board members were advised to excuse themselves from a vote whenever their objectivity may be compromised.

When deciding whether or not to vote because of a potential conflict of interest, board members should always err on the side of caution, according to Atherton.

Board members have the option to obtain an advisory opinion from the School Ethics Commission on individual situations that have been proposed and/or may happen in the future. There is no related penalty because the commission's opinions are only issued on proposed actions, not those that have already taken place.

Board members were required to certify by signature that they received and reviewed the Code of Ethics.

Tracy A. Politowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or TheObserver@thelocalsource.com.

Former Caldwell teacher now principal

(Continued from Page 1)

teaching physical education on a part-time basis at Sacred Heart Elementary School in Bloomfield.

He noted the irony of the fact that, although parents often send their children to private school to obtain a better education than they might receive in public schools, teaching certification is not required in private schools.

One of Rennie's adjunct professors at Seton Hall, Al LaMorges, was also the assistant superintendent in Springfield at the time and let him know about the opening for a teacher at Caldwell.

After his initial coaching job at Immaculate Conception, Rennie also coached at Bloomfield High School and Union High School before his nine-year stint at Dayton, where, two years ago, he earned entry into athletics' Century Club for 200 coaching victories.

"I have no doubt that my coaching experience has helped me in my administrative role," said Rennie.

"I have coached students I had as fourth-graders. It is interesting to watch them mature and develop into young adults," he added.

"Mr. Rennie has demonstrated himself to be an exceptional teacher, a beloved coach and a talented administrator during his 12-plus years serving the Springfield public schools. I am confident that, under his leadership, the Caldwell School will continue to manifest excellence in its instructional program while conveying warmth and caring for its students," said Michael Davino, superintendent of Springfield schools.

When he was a young boy, Rennie would visit his father at his job as a principal in the Montclair school system, a position he had for more than 20 years.

"I was always impressed with the level of respect that he received from his staff and students," said Rennie.

He acknowledged that "times definitely have changed," but said, "too much of the negative going on in education is publicized, not enough of the positive."

Rennie plans to challenge his staff at Caldwell to "improve for the benefit of the students."

He noted the task of balancing the needs of the high achievers with those of students "in need of closer attention."

"I have the luxury of knowing a lot of the staff from working there (Caldwell) as a teacher," said Rennie. "They are an incredible staff."

Tracy A. Politowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or TheObserver@thelocalsource.com.

Church receives proclamation for gift

(Continued from Page 1)

was clear the recovery would take years. Adams said, "Our church has a heart for missions ... we normally give to many needs. It also became clear that there was not going to be the government support required; we expanded our giving." There is a two-year time frame for the entire gift.

"We made a contribution of $300,000 at the end of May, toward the goal of $1 million dollars," said Adams.

Neither Hill nor Adams have the slightest doubt that the goal will be met. Hill said, "The congregation is meeting the challenge and the pledges are coming in as expected."

Both were confident because this kind of generosity is not unique to Fountain Baptist Church.

In fact, it is also personal with Adams. A native of Louisiana, she lost a wonderful elderly aunt who — despite surviving the hurricane — died in the massive flood that followed, in her New Orleans home.

Others in the congregation cared so much that they travelled in a group to Louisiana and Mississippi on a fact-finding mission. Because of what they saw in person and the displaced people they met, they were convinced they were being called to provide assistance.

They also felt the giving would serve as a witness to others.

Hill said the entire church is well aware that the need there is still great. "In fact, donations have been received from friends of other faiths, although this is not a fund-raising idea. Any amount would always be welcome and, if anyone wants information about how to do this, just call the church office at 908-273-1199."

Joan Devlin can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 123, or TheObserver@thelocalsource.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by *The Observer* to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To mail a schedule, send it to *The Observer*, Attn: Managing Editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union 07083.

Tuesday

• The Springfield Free Public Library will continue its Lunchtime Video Series, "Let's Sing and Dance," at noon with a brilliant film that sets the ageless story of Romeo and Juliet against a backdrop of gang warfare in 1950s New York.

A love affair is fated for tragedy amidst the vicious rivalry of two street gangs — the Jets and the Sharks. When Jet member Tony falls for Maria, played by Natalie Wood, it's more than these two warring gangs can handle.

Bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

• The Springfield Township Committee will meet at 8 p.m. in Municipal Hall, 100 Mountain Ave.

• The Summit Common Council will meet at 8 p.m. in Council Chambers of City Hall, 512 Springfield Ave.

Upcoming

July 13

• The Springfield Free Public Library will begin its Summer International Film Festival with showings of "Zelary" at noon and 6:30 p.m.

Love gradually builds between a sophisticated medical student and a woodcutter when she is forced to hide from the Gestapo in his remote village of Zelary.

This Oscar-nominated film is in Czech with subtitles in English. It runs 150 minutes and is rated "R."

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

July 14

• The Springfield Free Public Library will begin its Summer Lunchtime Travel Video Series, "Cruising Along," at noon with "Cruise the Grand Mediterranean."

Bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Juice and cookies will be provided.

For more information, call 973- 376-4930.

• The Mountainside Community Pool will host its annual Family Carnival Night at 7 p.m. This free event, located at the pool off Mountain Avenue, is open to members only.

Popular returning activities include a Moon Walk, Sports Radar Cage, Leap Frog, Sponge Bob Toss, hair braids, kids' tattoos and other carnival games. Participants can earn tickets towards fun prizes such as candy, plush dolls and racing toys.

For more information, call the Mountainside Community Pool at 908-232-0132, or the Mountainside Recreation Department at 908-232-0015.

July 17

• The Mountainside Public Library Board of Trustees will meet in the library's meeting room at 7:30 p.m.

• The Springfield Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Jonathan Dayton High School Instructional Media Center.

July 18

• The Mountainside Borough Council will meet at 8 p.m.in Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22.

July 20

• The Springfield Free Public Library's Great Books Discussion Group will meet at 10 a.m. to discuss the book of the Bible called "Job."

The book raises a number of important religious questions, including why righteous people suffer and why evil exists in a world that is governed by an all-powerful God. The discussion group welcomes new members. Participants are invited to come to any or all of its sessions.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

TV36 talk show to feature human rights activist

Human rights activist Daowd Salih, one of the first to write open letters to the international community about the campaign of ethnic cleansing in Darfur, Sudan, is the featured guest on this month's edition of "The Devil's Advocate," the illuminating talk show on Channel 36, hosted by the Rev. Charles T. Rush from Christ Church in Summit. The show airs on Wednesdays at 9 p.m., Thursdays at 6 p.m., and Saturdays at 7:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Salih, who escaped the region in the early 1990s leaving family and friends behind, presently serves as vice chairman of the Damanga Coalition for Freedom and Democracy, and was a founding member of the Save Darfur Coalition. For more than 10 years, he has devoted his energies and resources to raising awareness of the genocide in Darfur, seeking to illuminate the sources of conflict in the region that have led to the unspeakable violence there.

The situation in Darfur escalated in 2003 when the predominantly Arab Sudanese government responded to rebel incursions by undertaking a systematic campaign of genocide. Government-backed militias called the Janjaweed have terrorized villages across the region. Among the first to sound the alarm were the Representatives of the Massaleit Community in Exile, of which Salih was a founder.

Today, despite a tentative peace agreement between one of the rebel factions and the Sudanese government, Salih reminds us that the crisis is far from over. Continuing violence and vast humanitarian needs cry out for a stronger response from the world community.

In his discussions with Rev. Rush on the show, Salih will try to show how the U.S. government and residents can take action to help the people of Darfur.

Debuting on TV Channel 36 in December 2005, "The Devil's Advocate" brings leading experts from the region together for a lively discussion of the top moral, social, and spiritual issues facing the world today.

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Two-carat diamond ring stolen

POLICE BLOTTER

Springfield

On June 14 at 11:30 a.m., there was a report of the theft of a 2.25-carat diamond ring with a white gold band from a residence on Milltown Road.

• On June 18 at 9:51 p.m., a restaurant on Mountain Avenue reported a customer left without paying a $272.86 bill, not including tip. The customer had provided their credit card, but took it back, so the restaurant had the information on file.

• On June 13 at 8:50 a.m., Jeff Mansur, aka Envur Mansur, 49, of Springfield, was arrested at a location on Caldwell Place for giving false information to a police officer, driving while suspended, failure to exhibit documents, and outstanding warrants out of Summit, Newark, Chatham, Union City and Clark.

• On June 13 at 2:15 p.m., Luis Rojas, 51, of Summit, was arrested at the Commission of Motor Vehicles on Center Street for tampering with public record.

Mountainside

On June 23 at 8:26 a.m., there was a report of damage to an ATM at a bank on Mountain Avenue. The machine is located within the bank's front entranceway foyer. The assistant manager said the front doors were locked at 6 p.m. the prior night. The damage was found by an ATM technician on opening.

The assistant manager said the only way to access the ATM after hours is by swiping an ATM/credit card at the front door, and there was no record of the card that was swiped, although there should be a record of all swipes stored with bank security. On inspection of the machine, it appeared the suspect broke the face plate off its section where a card would be inserted. The machine is the type in which the card is inserted and pulled out, not the type that pulls the card in. The unit behind the face plate was pushed in. An ATM card was found under the machine and left in place for processing by the detective unit. There did not appear to be any money missing.

• On June 20, there was a report of a burglary to a 2003 Toyota at a location on Sheffield Street, sometime between 9:45 a.m. and 3:01 p.m. June 19. The driver's window was broken to gain entry to the locked vehicle. Items missing include a portable GPS device holder, valued at $80; prescription sunglasses, valued at $150; and approximately $5 in coins. Damage to the vehicle was estimated at $754. The victim indicated he did not call and wait for police the day it happened since the driver's window was smashed and it was due to rain later that day, so he had no way to protect the vehicle's interior.

• On June 20 at 9:44 p.m., a resident was walking on Saddle Brook Road when she noticed a dark SUV parked in a neighbor's driveway. As she walked past the vehicle, a white man with a medium build sitting in the driver's seat said "hello" to her. The resident noticed the neighbor's house was dark, and she could see a red flashlight in use on the second floor. When the resident went home to call police, she saw the SUV drive away slowly.

As police were speaking with the resident, the neighbor and his son arrived home. An investigation found the front door was shut, but unlocked. Some dresser drawers in the master bedroom on the second floor were open, as were numerous drawers of a jewelry chest left on the floor. Also, the cabinet doors in the computer room were open. Items missing included jewelry, valued at $5,000, and $50 in loose change.

• On June 19 at 1:36 a.m., Peter Kahotho, 53, of Bound Brook, was arrested near mile post 49.53 on Route 22 east for driving while intoxicated, refusal to submit to a breath test and motor vehicle violations.

• On June 17 at 2:35 p.m., there was a report of the theft of a GPS navigational system, valued at $650, from a 2004 Chrysler wagon parked in the lot of a restaurant on Route 22 east. The driver's window was smashed and there was damage to the window frame. The damage to the vehicle was estimated at $1,600.

• On June 17 at 7:33 p.m., there was a report of found property at the AMC Theaters located on Route 22 east. Found in the rear parking lot were a Hudson County sheriff's office uniform with badge, a police-style hat with badge, safe, numerous compact discs and various documents. About 20 minutes earlier, the Union Police Department had put out a SPEN alert about a stolen vehicle that contained a uniform. It was determined that this was the property from the stolen vehicle. Union police and the victim responded to the location and retrieved the items.

• On June 16 at 10:34 a.m., there was a report of a fraudulent check received as payment for an eBay auction. The $8,000 check, in payment for a 1996 Sea Hunt boat, was drawn on a bank account that did not exist. The eBay seller did not ship the boat.

• On June 15 at 11:10 a.m., there was a report of the theft of gasoline from a gas station located on Route 22 east. A white female driver with blonde hair, driving a white Mitsubishi, asked the attendant to fill-up the vehicle and indicated she would pay with cash. When the attendant told her the gas cost $25, the driver fled the scene and was last seen travelling east on Route 22. The attendant obtained the vehicle's license plate number, but it was not on file with the Commission of Motor Vehicles.

Summit

On June 28 at 5:50 p.m., there was a report of a forced entry to a vehicle parked in a Broad Street bakery lot. The suspect had smashed the front passenger window of the vehicle and removed the victim's Gucci purse, valued at $400. Its contents included a Coach wallet, valued at $200; credit, debit and gift cards; $170 cash; keys and identification.

• On June 28 at 10:11 p.m., Dana R. Henderson, 23, of Summit, was arrested at Summit and Morris avenues for contempt of court.

• On June 27 at 10:03 a.m., there was a report of breaking and entering at a Londenderry Way home. It was unknown if any items were missing.

• On June 24 at 10:58 a.m., there was a report of the theft of a Samsung cell phone from a backpack in the high school girl's locker room.

• On June 23 at 11:13 a.m., Daniel A. Seeger, 18, of Summit, was arrested at Beekman Road and High Street for possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, careless driving and possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle.

• On June 23 at 12:19 p.m., there was a report of the theft of computers from hospital offices, between 5 p.m. on June 20 and this date. Reported missing are a Clie Palm Pilot, two Fujitsu computer tablets and two BlackBerrys.

• On June 22 at 12:23 a.m., Lazette M. Tinney, 33, of Irvington, was arrested on Mountain Avenue for driving with a suspended license, in an unregistered vehicle; failure to exhibit driver's license; and contempt of court.

• On June 21 at 8:41 a.m., police received a report of a forced entry and theft of a Mackintosh IMAC computer from the hospital office, valued at $5,000.

• On June 21 at 8:04 p.m., there was a report of damage to and theft from a car parked at the Broad Street garage. The passenger side front window was smashed. Missing is a GPS navigational system, value unknown.

• On June 21 at 10:18 p.m., Valerio Wilson Alberto, 21, of Murray Hill, was arrested at Mabie playground for possession of marijuana under 50 grams.

• On June 20 at 11:31 a.m., there was a report of the theft of four Dell laptops from a Beechwood Road bank office.

• On June 20 at 2:35 p.m., there was a report of shoplifting at a Beechwood Road clothing store. Items stolen include 11 suits and two jackets, with a total value of $8,595.

• On June 20 at 9:40 p.m., there was a report of the theft of a 1997 silver Toyota Camry from a Woodland Avenue parking lot.

Business honored



Photo By Max Pasion

Cathy Maier-Tajkowski, Roger Kosempel, second from right, and Robert Schoenman, right, all of JMK Auto Sales, accept the Business Leader award from Springfield Chamber of Commerce co-chairmen Scott Siedel and Patrick Paolella at the organization's recent Leadership Dinner at L'Affaire in Mountainside.

Firefighters rescue dogs in shed

FIRE BLOTTER

Summit

On Friday, firefighters responded to a report of a dog trapped in a shed on Springfield Avenue. An investigation found that two dogs had dug themselves into a void space underneath the concrete slab flooring of an outside shed. Both were safely removed and the hole was filled in with dirt and a cement block was placed on top of the dirt.

• On Saturday, firefighters responded to a building on Summit Avenue for a report of a smoking trash can.

• On Friday, firefighters responded to a medical aid signal at a location on Maple Street for a report of a person having seizures in the parking lot.

• On June 29, firefighters responded to an apartment on Beech Spring Drive for a report of a water condition.

• On June 28, firefighters responded to a report of a tree down on top of wires on Maple Street.

• On June 28, firefighters were called to a home on Blackburn Place for a report of water in the basement.

• On June 27, firefighters responded to a location on Route 24 west for a report of a motor vehicle accident.

Springfield

On Saturday at 9:40 a.m., firefighters responded a pumper to Union Fire Headquarters on a request from County Mutual Aid.

• On Saturday at 3:26 p.m., firefighters responded to a location on Route 78 west for a motor vehicle accident.

• On Saturday at 10:24 p.m., firefighters responded to a residence on Blacks Lane for a water condition.

• On Friday at 1:27 p.m., firefighters responded to a Route 22 east business for an activated fire alarm.

• On June 29 at 6:32 a.m., firefighters responded to Route 78 west mile post 49.3 for a motor vehicle accident with injuries.

• On June 29 at noon, firefighters responded to a Skylark Road residence for a medical service call.

• On June 29 at 1:10 p.m., firefighters responded to a Mountain Avenue business for a natural gas leak.

• On June 29 at 1:47 p.m., firefighters responded to a Lyons Place residence for a medical service call.

• On June 28 at 4:43 a.m., firefighters responded to Route 22 at Hillside Avenue for a downed power wire.

• On June 28 at 6:06 p.m., firefighters responded to a Mountain Avenue apartment complex for an activated fire alarm.

• On June 28 at 7:30 p.m., firefighters responded to a Briant Park Drive condominium complex for an activated fire alarm.

• On June 27 at 10:25 a.m., firefighters responded to an Independent Way apartment complex for a medical service call.

• On June 27 at 3:39 p.m., firefighters responded to Springfield Avenue near Route 78 for a motor vehicle accident.

• On June 27 at 11:57 p.m., firefighters responded to a South Springfield Avenue apartment complex to assist the Police Department.

• On June 26 at 3:37 p.m., firefighters responded to Route 78 east mile post 49.4 for a motor vehicle accident with injuries.

Residents speak about ideas, concerns

(Continued from Page 1)

as "every week there is an accident on that lawn." He called it a "safety hazard for anyone who would be in the park."

Nebenzahl said the property in question —which was not included in the redevelopment study — could not be added without a complete analysis, as was done with the other lots.

"I see what's been built in this town in the last 10 years," said Committeeman Steven Grau. "We need to come up with a long-range plan of what we want Springfield to look like. I don't want patchwork (construction) around this town anymore."

He described the "big, ugly, red" CVS sign as an example.

"There should be a focus on the functionality of the redesign," said Nick Mancini. He cited the numerous bus stops downtown, where people are "standing on corners, leaning on buildings (and) throwing out garbage."

"We should consider a transportation hub," Mancini said.

Board chairman Richard Colandrea agreed. "That has been one of my sore spots for a long time."

"At some point, the planning board will agree (on the redevelopment plan) and make recommendations to the Township Committee," said Nebenzahl. "There has not been any plan produced yet for the redevelopment of the area.

"This is the first phase of a multi-phase process. This process will take time," said Nebenzahl. He estimated a time frame of "probably three to four years."

First female bishop is from Summit

(Continued from Page 1)

not be there," she recalled.

"That experience and the response I had to that experience finally led me to say 'yes' to God. I was in the seminary that fall," said Schori.

Williams gave his personal assessment of the new bishop. "She has compassion, is scholarly and prayerful, as well as practical — she also has much humility."

Her first sermon was about Martin Luther King Jr., Williams added. Schori is quoted as saying "Science is the study of mystery, and so is theology."

She is known to be in favor of everyone being around the church table, including homosexuals.

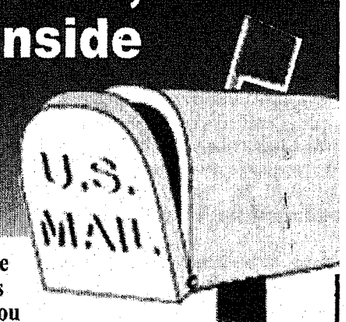
Brdlik said, come November, Schori will be moving to the main Episcopal diocese in New York City with her husband, Richard, and family. The church will find an apartment for them near the head church in the nation at that time.

The Rev. Bob Morris, director of Interweave at Calvary Episcopal Church, shared Brdlik's enthusiasm on this appointment.

"It is a phenomenal accomplishment and honor for her," he said.

Joan Devlin can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext 123, or TheObserver @thelocalsource.com.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

What budget crisis?

The same Union County freeholders who talked about cutting services in order to bring taxes under control are now submitting expense reports for a trip to Atlantic City last month. The New Jersey Association of Counties held a weeklong conference there, with more than a dozen Union County representatives in attendance.

Fortunately for Essex County taxpayers, while their government sent a dozen representatives to the conference, only five stayed overnight at some point. And only one, the county administrator, stayed for the entire length of the conference.

Asking for expense reports via the Open Public Records Act would be fruitless at this point, as many who attended the conference may not have filed their expense reports yet, if they even plan to do so.

The next stop for information in the County of Union, then, is Sebastian D'Elia, director of Public Information. He questioned the motives of this newspaper, implying, we assume, that editors should have no interest in how much money was spent on this trip. Making a list of who attended the conference and how many rooms were rented would amount to a "wild goose chase" for the public information office, he said.

But dutiful to our inquiries, D'Elia went on the goose chase and followed with a call to clarify: Fourteen Union County officials attended. Some of them shared rooms so that only 11 rooms were rented, he said.

Next on the agenda is the National Association of Counties conference, to be held in Chicago in August. Taxpayers in Union County spent less than $5,000 for their officials to attend NACo in Milwaukee in 2003; more than $10,000 for the Arizona conference in 2004; and $16,868 for the conference in Hawaii last year. Essex County, on the other hand, did not send anyone to Hawaii last year.

How fitting that this summer, in the middle of a budget crisis, with a so-called hiring freeze in place and layoffs looming, our Union County elected and appointed officials will likely be billing taxpayers for flights to and expenses in the Windy City — once a thriving center for cronyism and corrupt politics.

Wise words from Democrats

This year's budget debate in Trenton was more colorful than usual, with Union County Democratic Assemblyman Joe Cryan yelling profanities at a fellow Democrat about the budget, specifically Gov. Jon Corzine's proposal for a 1 percent hike in the sales tax.

It should be no surprise to our readers that we oppose the increase, but we want to use this space to praise three Democratic lawmakers.

The trio, which includes Assemblyman Gerald Green, whose district covers Clark, Linden and Rahway, proposed cutting total employee compensation costs by 15 percent.

"This could mean ending lifetime health benefits for dependents of state employees ... it could mean more employee contributions for healthcare coverage and its increasing cost, it could even mean layoffs," said Sen. Stephen Sweeney of Gloucester County. "But we need to start somewhere."

Green and Sweeney were joined by Assemblyman Paul Moriarty of Gloucester County. The three have launched a Web site, www.stopspendingmymoney.org.

According to their mission statement: It's time for state government employees to work by real world standards, which means a regular 40-hour work-week, contributions for health insurance coverage as well as its increasing costs, mandating a standard for all of the paid holidays and workers' comp deals.

We could not agree more. It's too bad the rest of Trenton does not seem to be listening.

SPEAK OUT

What do you think of the governor's decision to shut down state government?

- He should give up on his plan to raise the sales tax
- He and legislators should have compromised
- He is justified in standing firm

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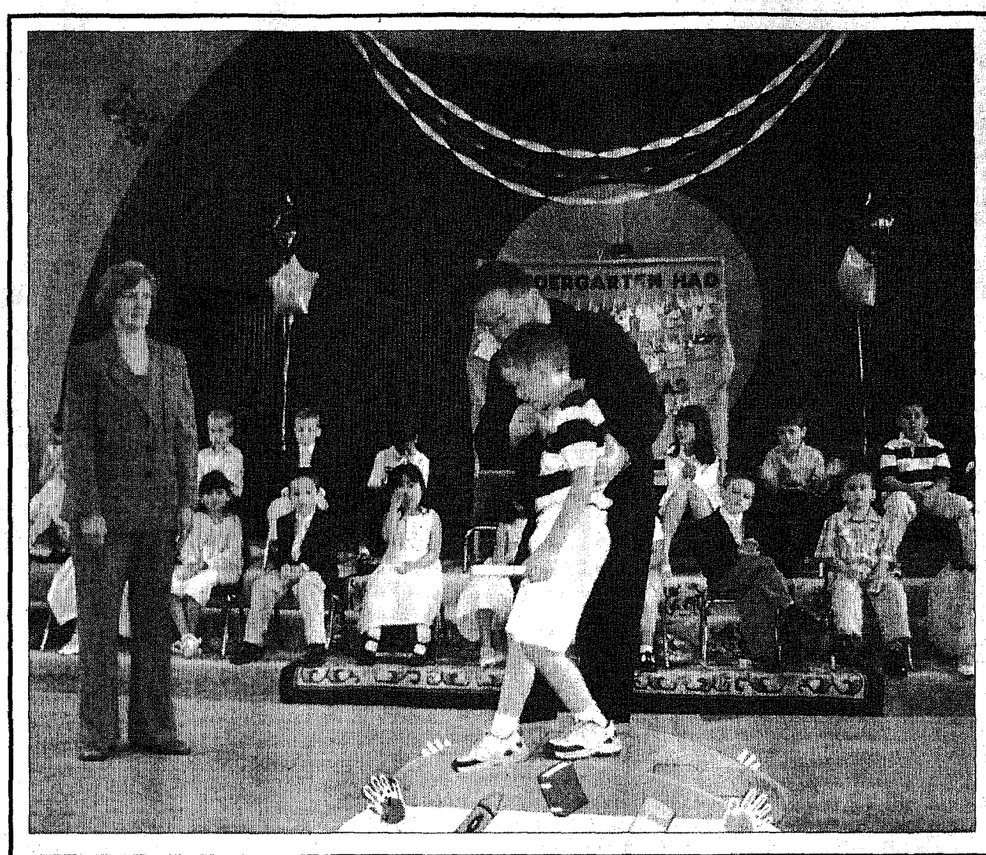
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Hugo Black
U.S. Supreme Court Justice
1945

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Published By
Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc.
1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083
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A NEW BEGINNING — Blake Matthews crosses a small bridge symbolizing his promotion from kindergarten to first grade at St. James the Apostle School in Springfield.

Thank you to everyone who helped on July 4

From the Mayor's Desk
By Clara Harelik

As the mayor, I would like to acknowledge the many volunteers and organizations that participated in Springfield's Fourth of July celebration.

Without their help, this event would not be possible.

The Fourth of July festivities are a joint venture of the Township of Springfield, Springfield Chamber of Commerce and Take Pride in Springfield Committee.

In addition, volunteer support is provided by the following: Springfield Auxiliary Police, Springfield Volunteer Fire Department, Springfield Volunteer First Aid Squad, Springfield Boy Scout Troop 73 and the Jonathan Dayton High School football team.

It takes money to run this event. In order to save taxpayer dollars, the following entities have made generous monetary contributions toward the Fourth of July celebration: Cardinal Land Properties Inc., Dobbs Auto Body, JMK Auto Sales of Springfield, Kearney Federal Savings, Nissan World of Springfield, P.C. Richard & Son and Schering-Plough Corporation.

Of course, I must thank the Springfield Police and Fire departments and Office of Emergency Management for ensuring the safety of all those present. In addition, appreciation goes to the Department of Public Works and Board of Health for overseeing the cleanliness of the event.

When it comes to the Fourth of July in Springfield, it is truly a team effort.

Hope everyone enjoyed Independence Day, the Springfield way.

Clara Harelik is the mayor of Springfield.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Education is the wisest investment

To the Editor:

Incredible as it sounds now, I bought a house in Springfield because of its school system.

Walton School was the perfect place for the youngest kids — small and unique, dedicated exclusively to their needs. A terrific fit. Now, it's just like any other school. The new, charmless construction underscores the ordinary setting. It wasn't broken. Why was it fixed?

Our campuses are, for the most part, viewed dismally by the average taxpayer.

Sure I voted against the recent budget, but not because of the tax increase. Hell, I'm a grown-up. I'd drop dead if you said my taxes were being cut.

No, I voted against the budget because, at best, it's bean counting. At its worst, it belittles those things that make a child's life worth living. Things like art, theater, music and sports. There is a preciously small window for these kids to discover and embrace these opportunities.

Let's take the bean counting out of the equation. No great challenge was met by a half-hearted effort. Start by talking about all that is possible and go from there.

If my taxes are going to cripple me, then let it be so that Springfield is seen as an educational destination, not a rest stop.

In Millburn, young families would pay top dollar for a home in that kind of town.

If that isn't a wise investment, what is?

Pat MacDonnell
Springfield

Political contributions buy a 'blind eye'

To the Editor:

In spite of reports in local newspapers that Hale Insurance Brokerage has been charged by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance with forging the former Cranford mayor's signature to illegally assume control of the township's health and dental policies, the all-Democrat Union County freeholder board is standing behind Hale Insurance as Union County's insurance broker of record.

Unfortunately, it's clearer than ever that pay-to-play politics are alive and well in Union County. Despite serious charges of illegal conduct of Hale Insurance Brokerage, including the forgery of a municipal official's signature and the alleged admission of the forgery to a member of Cranford's governing body and Cranford's township attorney, the all-Democrat-freeholder board has chosen to defend a big-time political contributor rather than protect the taxpayers of Union County.

Hale's principal and his wife have donated nearly $90,000 to Union County Democrats since 1998.

I guess $90,000 not only buys a big chunk of insurance business, it also insures a blind eye to reality. The freeholders should immediately remove Hale Insurance as its broker and undertake an open and public bidding process for a replacement — now.

Phil Morin
Union County GOP Chairman

Bill would require full stop for pedestrians

To the Editor:

Motor vehicles continue to ignore pedestrians in our state, and a tougher pedestrian safety law is necessary to save lives.

Recently, my proposal, Assembly Bill 175, passed the Assembly Transportation Committee and will hopefully become law. This law would require motor vehicles to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. Presently, the law only requires vehicles to yield.

The present law is difficult to interpret because cars can normally "beat the pedestrian" to the crossing — therefore drivers often feel there is no reason to slow down. It may even cause drivers to accelerate.

The new law would require drivers to be on the lookout for pedestrians. Drivers, aware that they may need to stop at anytime, would likely reduce their speed as they approach intersections.

This law would reduce the number of pedestrian fatalities and work to keep school children safer as they enter the crosswalks on our state's roads.

I am hopeful that the legislature will pass this new law and make New Jersey a safer state for pedestrians.

Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick
District 21

Help us obtain our own senior center

To the Editor:

The Summit Coalition for a Dedicated Senior Center has petitioned the city's Common Council for a dedicated, self-standing senior center.

To date, all suggested locations lack adequate space, time and parking, and the ability to extend the limited senior program that has served a few for the past 50 years.

It is time to make a change. We need a center that will serve all Summit seniors.

We formed this coalition to hold the attention of our council members and Summit residents, and not allow our petition to fall through the cracks.

We invite everyone to join us on one or more of the stops on our following schedule, including tours of facilities that have been suggested as a possible location for our senior center.

- July 13, 1 p.m., Cornog Field House, Myrtle Avenue, evaluation of facilities
- July 27, 1 p.m., New Providence and Long Hill Township, carpool to tour neighboring towns
- Aug. 10, 1 p.m., Gallo Senior Citizen Housing, Chestnut Avenue, tour Community Room
- Aug. 24, 1 p.m., Transfer Station, Recreation Master Plan
- Sept. 7, 1 p.m., City Hall, report findings

If you have any questions or need more information, call me at 908-918-0458.

Grace B. Poli
SCSC Chairwoman

Our policy on letters and columns

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

This opportunity is open to all residents, officials and employees of Mountainside, Springfield, Summit and the County of Union.

The Observer reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, content and style. Writers must include their name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

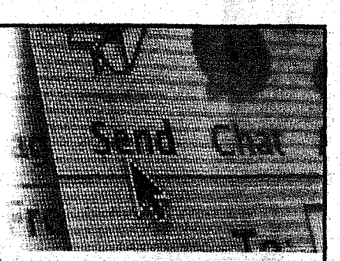
Letters must be no more than 500 words long; longer pieces must be arranged in advance with the editor.

The Observer accepts letters to the editor and guest columns via e-mail. The address is TheObserver@thelocalsource.com. They may also be sent via U.S. mail to 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union 07083.

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Blurred lines in county government

Point Of View

By Patricia Quattrocchi

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has an official spokesperson holed up in the county administration building in Elizabeth, the seat of Union County Government. According to the county's Web site, this "office disseminates information regarding county government operations to the general public and acts as a liaison for media inquiries regarding the activities of the freeholders and various departments of county government."

Well, that certainly sounds extremely important, but oddly this office does not have its own budget, and probing over the past several years has revealed that no one is quite sure how many people the office employs and who they are. One thing for certain is that the guy in charge is listed on the county payroll records as confidential aide/director of public information, working out of the Office of the Clerk of the Board and earning $99,533 per year.

The county public information department churns out press releases by the dozens primarily extolling the "good works" of the freeholder board and announcing upcoming events, such as the so-called free concerts in the parks series. These releases can be found on the county's Web site accompanied by photographs of the freeholders in action. This department also has the duty for "damage control" to keep the freeholders looking good in the eyes of the citizenry. Events such as the recent dumping of contaminated soil on county property and the passage by the freeholders of the county's $400 million plus budget requiring a 4.8 percent increase in the tax levy on property owners are skillfully spun to either cast a positive light on or portray the freeholders as hapless victims of extenuating circumstances.

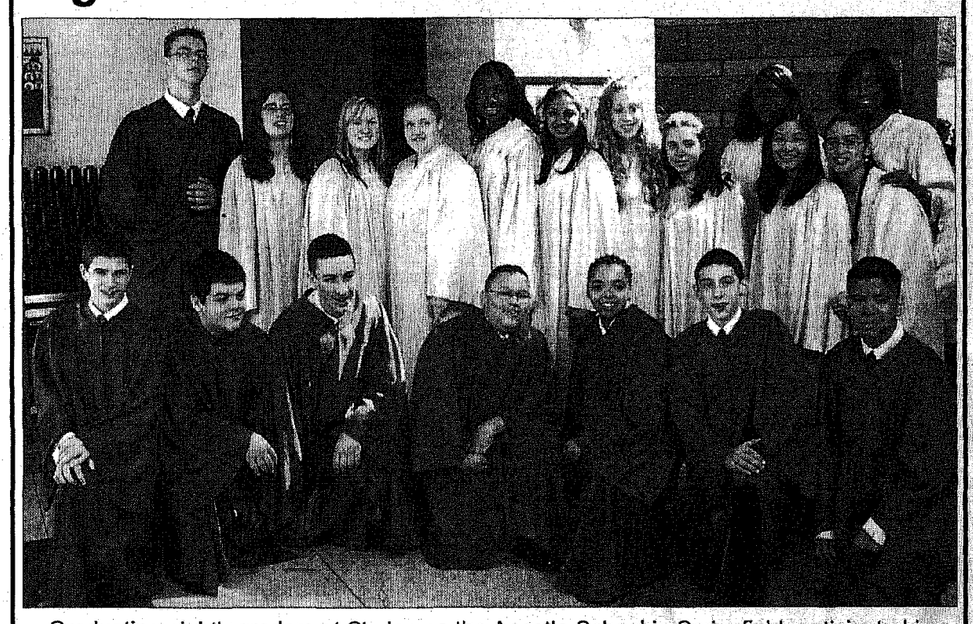
Whenever a freeholder is around, it is a sure bet that the "PIO" can't be too far away as if joined at the hip. This phenomenon applies to not only official public appearances but to politically oriented events as well, regardless of the day of the week or time of day, especially when the freeholders are campaigning for re-election. It is no secret that he is compensated handsomely for his duties as a political worker for the UC Democratic Committee, as well as campaigns for specific party members. This is borne out by filings with NJ Elect and can be accessed on the state's Web site.

All of the aforementioned begs the question: just where do this "PIO's" official duties end and where do his personal political ones begin, as well as just who is paying for what? County employees, it has been repeatedly suggested, are encouraged to do volunteer work for the party and support party fund raising efforts. When a single party administration is ensconced for a number of years, one has to conclude that the line of demarcation could easily become blurred. There is no argument that he is entitled to do what he wishes for whoever he wishes on his personal time. However, government employees holding positions that have the level of responsibility and status that he enjoys must be especially mindful to avoid all appearances of any conflict of interest or breach of ethics. These employees must fully understand exactly where their work day starts and their personal life begins, being careful in both their job performance and their attitude to not allow the two to become one and the same.

The Office of Public Information by all estimates costs the taxpayers hundreds and thousands of tax dollars every year, and it seems to me that it has become simply a vehicle to make everyone feel good and look good, rather than to disperse factual information to the public in a courteous manner, upon request.

Patricia Quattrocchi, a Garwood resident, is running as a Republican for a seat on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

High school bound!



Graduating eighth-graders at St. James the Apostle School in Springfield participated in their Baccalaureate Mass on June 9. The students, some of whom will be attending the Jonathan Dayton and Governor Livingston high schools in the fall, were awarded more than $400,000 in high school scholarships.

Firefighters do more than put out blazes

Freeholder Forum

By Alexander Mirabella

Union County is fortunate to have a number of volunteer fire and ambulance squads operating in our towns, in addition to the dedicated paid departments who serve us so well. They are living reminders of values that are well worth preserving.

It has been a long time since every household in our area was expected to keep two water buckets on hand. When the alarm went up, all the neighbors grabbed their buckets and ran to the scene. Everybody knew that they had to act — there was nobody else to fight the fires for them.

Today's volunteer squads help keep this spirit of community action alive. Even as emergency response has become a full-time job in many areas, volunteer squads play an invaluable role in Roselle Park, Berkeley Heights, Fanwood, Mountainside and so many other communities in our county.

In addition to answering emergency calls, volunteer fire and ambulance squads remind us that life is a 24/7 job. It doesn't stop when we leave work in the evening. When our neighbors need us, we have to be there. For most of us, that means paying attention to the little things, like checking up on an elderly neighbor, or keeping an eye on our children's playmates. It's nothing like racing off to a fire at three in the morning or responding to an accident scene to help the injured, but it's still part of what makes our communities so great.

But there is a way that every one of us can give real support to our local volunteer fire and ambulance squads.

If you have a chance, stop by Clark on Aug. 12 and get a close-up look at their brand new fire engine. The Clark Fire Department is having a Wet-Down community celebration to welcome its new 2006 Pierce Quantum Pumper. I had a terrific time at a recent Wet-Down in Garwood. You could see the pride in the eyes of the firefighters and the entire community.

Just a few generations ago, volunteer firefighters could organize a handful of people and $35 for a used fire engine. Today, trucks like the Pierce Quantum cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. That means fund-raising is more important now than ever. And it's something we can all help out with.

It's a wonderful thing to commit the time and training and become a firefighter or an EMT, but that role is not for everyone. Contributing toward new equipment and other expenses is vitally needed to keep the volunteer squads alive. Please call your local Fire Department or First Aid Squad and see how you can contribute to help.

We all appreciate how all of our rescue squads embody the best in all of us. By helping out your local volunteer squad, the next time you see that fire engine or ambulance race by, you can be proud to know that a small part of you is riding along with it.

Alexander Mirabella is chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and a Democratic candidate for re-election.

Learn from past, without sadness

Point Of View

By Mickey Stromeyer

Editor's note: The following speech was delivered June 22 during the commencement ceremony for the Jonathan Dayton High School Class of 2006.

Good evening Mr. Davino, Ms. Corburn, Ms. Cresci, members of the board, faculty, family, friends and, most importantly, members of the class of 2006.

Twelve years ago, we started a chapter in our lives that will come to an end tonight. Little did we know then, as we lay on our Barney sleeping mats and bragged about our Power Ranger lunch boxes, we were about to begin a long adventure marked with experiences that we will never forget.

Over the years we have grown up, met new people, learned important life lessons and had a lot of fun. Here we are now, about to graduate high school after four long years of testing and final exams. Unfortunately, we tend to define our high school experience by these stressful academics and say that we are glad it is finally over. However, in the process we completely overlook what our experience here at Jonathan Dayton was really about.

I have said this before to a number of people, but will say it again because I believe it holds true: Our high school experience is not defined only by academics. At the 10-year reunion, you are not going to walk up to a former classmate and say, "Hey! Remember that math test we took sophomore year? Good times."

Instead, our experience here is marked by the activities in which we have participated, the sports we have played, the friendships we have made, the jokes we have told, the bonds we have formed, boundaries we have crossed, the trouble we've gotten into and the fun we've had. No matter how funny, or embarrassing or sad the moments may be, we will never forget them. They are forever immortalized in our yearbooks and in the stories we will tell our friends and family decades from now.

I remember what it was like freshman year. Walking through the hallway was probably the most intimidating activity one could engage in. The seniors seemed to be about three times our size, and you could have sworn one kid was 30. As freshmen in that atmosphere, it is hard to get involved in activities. During gym decorating, we had only a few posters up while everyone else had elaborate patterns involving bed sheets and Christmas lights.

But as the years passed, we learned and we found out how things worked. Now, as seniors, we dominated everything from interclass games to king of hearts. And we have gotten out of it more than a sense of pride.

Through these activities, we have learned valuable lessons that will help us in the future. For example, when we decided to make a giant mud pit for the tug-of-war during field day last year, we learned risk taking. Interclass games — teamwork. Talent show — appreciation of the fine arts. Prom — money management. A giant water balloon fight on the last day of school — organizational skills. The list goes on and the lessons are endless.

Tonight we graduate and we move onto the future. Some of you might be anxious to go off to college and fulfill your destinies. Others are sad to see it end, considering we have all been through so much together. Some feel as if a big part of life is over now, and do not want to see it go. But you must understand this: We may have finished a chapter in our lives, but it is still only the beginning of the book. Don't think of it as the end, but rather as the beginning.

We now have the rest of our lives to make new memories and create new experiences that we will never forget. Do not look back in sadness at the past, but learn from it. Use the social skills you have learned throughout your high school experience to meet new people and write a new chapter in your book.

At the same time, always remember where you came from. Create for yourselves a rewarding future, but never forget your past.

Mickey Stromeyer is president of the Student Council for the Class of 2006 at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield.

Each has passion to follow dreams

Point of View

By Bitzy Rodriquez

Editor's note: The following speech was delivered June 22 during the commencement ceremony for the Jonathan Dayton High School Class of 2006.

Mr. Davino, Mrs. Corburn, the Board of Education members, Mrs. Cresci, Mr. LoRicco, proud family members, and friends:

For the class of 2006, this is the end of walking into first period half sleeping, half awake. We will no longer be given our homework pads, or have certain days dedicated to trivia. We will definitely miss those very informing prom assemblies and although our French fry and chicken wrap days are now over, many of us have four more years of cafeteria food ahead of us.

But, we are ready to face the world and all it has to offer. We have made a few twists on the rollercoaster of life and, even though it has been quite the ride already, our journey has just begun.

We have made our group of friends that in a few weeks, or perhaps even a few hours, will be separated for the first time in a long time. But there is no distance to true friendship. The same people who you hung out with each weekend in high school are not going to be the ones to come with you to every college football game. But, they are still going to be the ones with whom you did absolutely nothing yet had the most amazing times. The friendships made here at Dayton are ones that will never be forgotten.

We thank our teachers for helping us reach our goal of graduation. They have put up with our many excuses and have met our certain needs. We have relied on them for advice and recommendations, and they have taught us that they do not give us our grades, we earn them.

I'd like to give a special thank you to Mrs. McCauley. She has been our class adviser for the past years, and there is no one else I would have rather worked beside.

We thank our parents for the endless love and belief in us. They have instilled in us our morals, and have also provided us an education. With that, we are ready to conquer anything.

So, tonight we celebrate the end of Jonathan Dayton High School, but as you know, with very end comes the beginning of something great, and the class that sits before you has grand plans. I believe that each of us has the passion to follow our dreams, and the dedication to make them come true.

Entering high school each of us went our own way, created our own path. My friends and I saw the fork in the road, and went straight. But regardless of how we got here, we're all here for the same reason — a single piece of paper and a handshake of accomplishment.

And when received, our opportunities will be endless. So to the class of 2006: congratulations and good luck.

Thank you.

Bitzy Rodriquez is the vice president of the Class of 2006 at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield.

Train to be a Red Cross volunteer

Last year, the American Red Cross called on more than 220,000 volunteers to respond to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

Many new volunteers didn't come forward or get trained until after Katrina struck the United States. With this year's hurricane season expected to be just as busy, including more activity anticipated for the Atlantic Coast and Northeast, the Summit Area Red Cross is inviting prospective disaster volunteers to come forward now.

Prospective volunteers are invited to go to www.redcross.org and take the Introduction to Disaster Services course online on the Disaster Services portion of the Web site.

The Summit Area Red Cross would then like to invite prospective volunteers to its Chapter House located at 695 Springfield Ave. in Summit to take the following free disaster training courses, which are required prior to deployment to a disaster relief operation.

- Community Services Overview, which shows volunteers the many ways the Red Cross helps those affected by disasters, on July 18 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Shelter Operations, which goes into more detail about how and when the Red Cross opens emergency shelters and provides disaster volunteers with the skills and tools needed to be a shelter worker, on July 25 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Shelter Simulation, which applies the skills learned in Shelter Operations to scenarios encountered in Red Cross shelters, on July 27 from 6p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Dan Iradi, emergency services director, at 908-273-2076, ext. 15.

Hetfield House receives grant

The Hetfield House, Mountainside's historical treasure, recently received a grant from the Blanche M. and George L. Watts Mountainside Community Foundation to repair its kitchen fireplace.

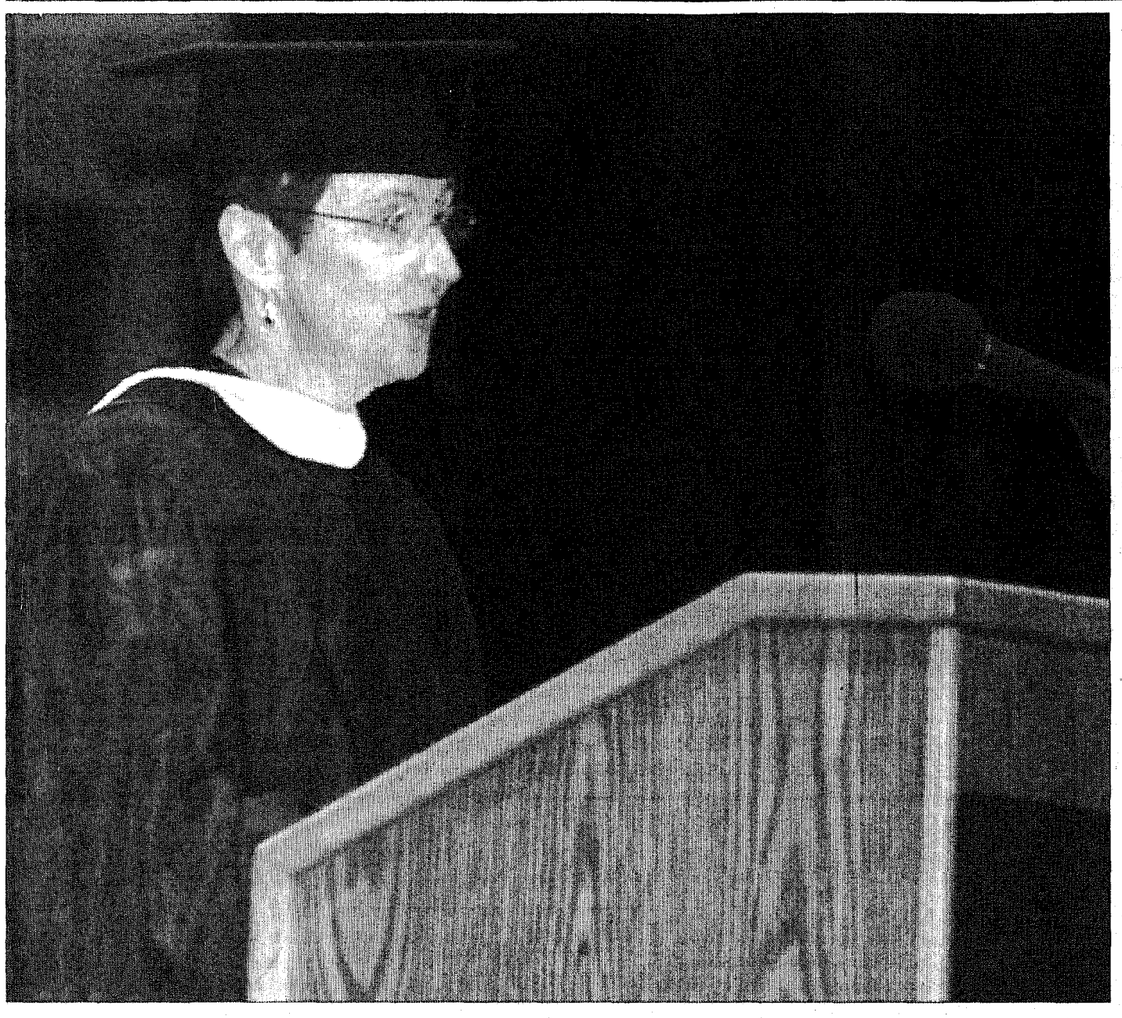
"We are grateful for this financial assistance in repairing and restoring the fireplace so it can be used once again," said Scott Daniels, Historic Preservation Committee chairman. "Our long-range mission is to repair all five fireplaces in the house, and this grant gets us started."



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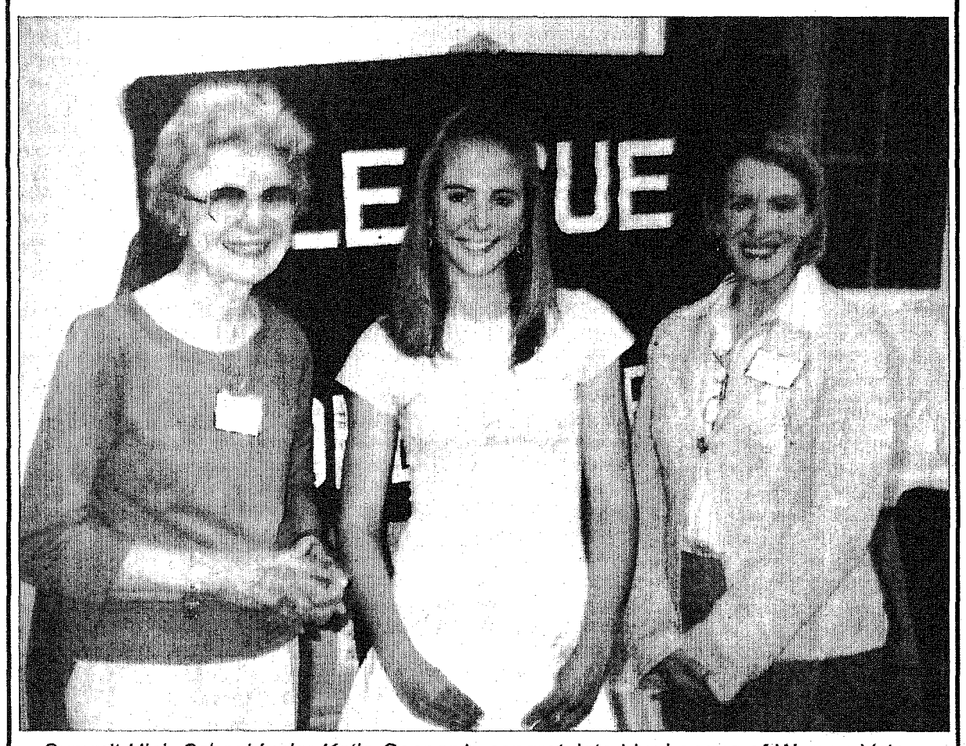




Photos By Sean Havey

AT SUMMIT'S CEREMONY — At Summit High School's commencement June 26, Board of Education President Ann Bushe accepts the graduates. At right, Michael James Kaufman takes the walk to receive his diploma.

Student receives award



Summit High School junior Katie Cooper is congratulated by League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit President Barbara Packer and Vice President Norma Wood. Cooper received the LWV Citizenship Award at the league's May 22 meeting.

STUDENT UPDATE

Suarez graduates

Stephen T. Suarez of Springfield graduated from Oratory Preparatory School in Summit on June 3.



Suarez

Suarez was presented with a U.S. President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence and was further recognized as Oratory's Mountain Valley Conference Scholar/Athlete.

He is a recipient of a 2006 Alan P. Edwards Scholarship Award presented by the Hudson County Retired Educators Association, and a 2006 George H. Laufenberg Scholarship award.

Suarez will attend Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa., in the fall.

Smith graduates from Pomona College

Matthew J. Smith, a resident of Summit, graduated from Pomona College with a bachelor of arts degree in English with a minor in philosophy and psychology.

The college's 113th commencement exercises were held on May 14.

Smith is the son of Roger Smith and Patricia Schneider. He is a graduate of Summit High School.

Pomona College, founded in 1887, is one of the nation's premier liberal arts colleges. It is located in Claremont, Calif.

Students advance to middle school at Pingry

The following area residents graduated from the sixth-grade to the Middle School at The Pingry School at a ceremony June 9 at its Short Hills Campus.

• Alexander Ingrassia, Mountainside

• Benjamin Ballintyn, Summit, Johns Hopkins University Young Students Talent Search

• Andrew Burchenal, Summit

• Devon Clark, Summit, Johns Hopkins University Young Students Talent Search, John Pingry Award and honorable mention for the Auchincloss Award

• Margot Marchese, Summit, Johns Hopkins University Young Students Talent Search

• Andrew Martin, Summit

• Tanner McMahon, Summit, Johns Hopkins University Young Students Talent Search

• Benjamin Muller, Summit

• James Ogden, Summit, John Pingry Award

• Nikhil Oza, Summit, Johns Hopkins University Young Students Talent Search and New Jersey Mathematics League Certificate of Merit

• John Roberts, Summit

• Sarah Williams, Summit, Evelyn M. Chester Good Citizenship Award

• Taylor Wright, Summit, Johns Hopkins University Young Students Talent Search

Founded in 1861 in Elizabeth by Dr. John F. Pingry, the school is recognized nationally for its academic excellence, Honor Code, sports programming, and a universal concern among faculty, advisors and staff for each student in the school.

School names honor roll

The following area students were appointed to the honor roll at The Pingry School's Middle School for the fourth quarter.

From Mountainside:

• Seventh-grader Maxwell Ingrassia

From Summit, eighth-graders:

• Alexandra Cheng
• Michael Cordrey
• Claeson Dillon
• Pierce Fowler
• Courtney Hulse
• Nicolaas Meiring
• Dan Muller
Yamini Nabar
• Katie Odgen
• Alexandra Rotatori

From Summit, seventh-graders:

• Will Bartlett
• William Burchenal
• Julia Dowling
• James Elliott
• Shannon Hughes
• Robert Hugin
• Thomas Schermerhorn
• Tanya Welch

The Honor Roll recognizes those students who have achieved a B+ average or better, with no individual grade lower than a B-.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - "SERVING CHRIST IN THE 21st CENTURY" - 242 Shunpike Rd., Springfield. Sundays: 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages - Nursery through Seniors: Spanish Sunday School 9:30 am. 10:30 AM Worship Service and Nursery care - 5:30-7:00 PM AWANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11; 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery care. Wednesdays: 7:00 PM Prayer, Praise and Bible Study: Junior/Senior High Ministry. Active Youth Ministry; Wide-Range Music Program. Ample Parking. Chair Lift provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4351.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH AHM 60 Temple Drive, Springfield. 973-376-0539. Mark Mallach, Rabbi. Richard Nadel, Cantor. Marilya Garlen, President. Beth Ahm is an egalitarian, Conservative temple, with programming for all ages. Weekday services Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM Sun.-Thurs. 7:45 PM Shabbat (Friday) 6:00 PM & 8:30 PM Shabbat day 9:30 AM & sunset; Sundays, 8:30 AM. Festival & Holiday mornings 9:00 AM. Family and children services are conducted regularly. Our Religious School (third-seventh grade) meets on Sunday and Tuesday. There are formal classes for both High School and pre-Religious School aged children. The synagogue also sponsors a Pre-School Women's League, Men's Club, youth groups for sixth through twelfth graders, and a busy Adult Education program. For more information, please contact our office during office hours.

JEWISH-ORTHODOX

CONGREGATION ISRAEL OF SPRINGFIELD 339 Mountain Avenue, Springfield. 973-467-9666. Chaim Marcus, Rabbi; Alan L. Yuter, Rabbi Emeritus; Solomon Greenfield, President. Congregation Israel is a Modern Orthodox synagogue. There are two daily weekday morning Minyans at 6:15 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Daily weekday Mincha/Maariv services are also held. Call the shul office for times. There are two Shabbat morning services at 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. as well as Junior Congregation at 9:30 a.m. the Nursery School conducts classes for children aged 2 1/2 to 4. A summer camp is also available to children of this age. Adult classes are held three nights a week with two weekly Teen classes. We have an active Senior Set and very active Jr. NCSY and Sr. NCSY chapters for pre-teens. Our Sisterhood, Adult Education and Youth groups provide a wide array of communal programming. For further information call the synagogue office at 973-467-9666.

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHA'AREY SHALOM 78 S. Springfield Avenue, Springfield, (973) 379-5387. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi; Amy Daniels, Cantor/Education Director; Nina Greenman, Pre-School Director; Mindy Schreff, Family Life Educator; Edward Fink and Hank Rottenberg, Co-Presidents. Temple Sha'arey Shalom is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. Shabbat worship, enhanced by volunteer choir, begins on Friday evenings at 8:00 PM, with monthly Family and Alternative Worship. Saturday morning Torah study class begins at 9:15 AM followed by worship at 10:30 AM. Religious school classes meet on Saturday mornings for grades K-3; on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 4-7; and Tuesday evenings for post bar/bat mitzvah students. Preschool, classes are available for children ages 2 1/2 through 4. The Temple has the support of an active Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Renaissance Group and Youth Group. A wide range of programs include Adult Education, Social Action, Interfaith Outreach, Singles and Seniors. For more information, call the Temple office, (973) 379-5387.

LUTHERAN

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 639 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, 07081, 973-379-4525, Fax 973-379-8887. Remo Madsen, Pastor. Our Sunday Worship Service takes place at 10 a.m. For information about our midweek children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 8:30-4:00 p.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, 229 Cowperthwaite Pl., Westfield. Rev. Paul E. Kritsch, Pastor. (908) 232-1517. Beginning Sunday, July 6, Summer Worship Times are as follows: Sunday Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible

METHODIST

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Summit is located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and DeForest Avenue. Church School and Bible Study is held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m.; the emphasis of which is to always have a "good week" because of Paul's reminder to us in his letter to the Romans "that ALL things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose". The sermons are uplifting, Biblically sound and guaranteed to keep you awake. The music and weekly children's message are memorable. All are welcome to hear the Good News of God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ. Our church also offers nursery care, after worship refreshments and fellowship, and many lively programs for everyone. Come worship with us and find out how you too can have a "good week". Call the church office or Pastors Gina or Rich Hendrickson, Senior Co-Pastors for more information at 908 277-1700.

PRESBYTERIAN

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1459 Deer Path, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092. You are invited to join us in Worship Services on Sundays at 10:30 am. This is a place for you to enjoy uplifting music and relevant messages that will energize and inspire you. We offer a warm and friendly environment with Bible study, Sunday school and active adult and youth groups. For further information, please contact Dr. Christopher Belden, Pastor at 908-232-9490.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 210 Morris Ave. at Church Mall, Springfield, 973-379-4320. Sunday School Classes for ages 3yrs. - Senior High 9:00 a.m. in our Parish House, Sunday morning worship service 9:30 a.m. Children's Church is held during the worship service; Nursery care and facilities are provided. Opportunities for personal growth through worship, Christian Education, Choir, ongoing church activities, and Fellowship. Holy Communion is held the 1st Sunday of every month; The Ladies Evening Group-3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.; Kaffeeklatsch-1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.; Men's Fellowship-2nd Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m.; Choir-every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We also host various Outside group meetings: Springfield Garden Club, Children's Community Choir, Learning Disabled Group, and Alanon. For information about any of our programs or services, call Gesele at the Church Office: 973-379-4320, Mon. through Fri., 9:00 a.m.-12 noon; 1:00pm-4:00pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES, 300 Central Avenue, Mountainside, 908-232-1162. Celebrate the Lord's Day: Anticipated Mass 5:00pm, Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am. Weekdays: Monday-Friday 7:30am, Saturday 8:00am, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Saturday at 1pm. Perpetual Adoration Chapel for personal prayer and devotion. www.ollmountainside.org, office@ollmountainside.org.

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07081.973-376-3044. SUNDAY EUCHARIST: Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sun. 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon. Reconciliation: Sat. 1:00-2:00 p.m. Weekday Masses: 7:00 & 8:00 a.m.

UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST

UNITARIAN CHURCH IN SUMMIT, 4 Waldron Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901. 908-273-3245. www.ucsummit.org. Rev. Vannessa Rush Southern, Minister, Emilie Boggis, Assistant Minister, Mitchell Vines, Music and Choir Director. Summer Sunday Services at 10:00 AM. Adult Education and other programs.

NOTE: All copy changes must be made in writing and received by Worrall Community Newspapers No later than 12:00 Noon, Fridays prior to the following week's publication.

Please address changes to:
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P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083 U/W
239191

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

TAKE NOTICE that on the 18th day of July, at 8:00 o'clock p.m., a hearing will be held before the Springfield Board of Adjustment at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey on application #2006-17 regarding the appeal or application of Fernando Lucas for a variance or variances or other relief so as to permit construction of a 6' high fence on a corner lot having two front yards on the premises located at 11 Newbrook Lane and designated as Block 3004, Lot 29 on the Township of Springfield Tax Map.

The application, plan and survey are on File in the Annex Building, 20 North Trivett Street and available for inspection between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Fernando Lucas
Applicant

U150685 OBS July 6, 2006 ($11.63)

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

TAKE NOTICE that on the 18th day of July, at 8:00 o'clock p.m., a hearing will be held before the Springfield Board of Adjustment at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey on application #2006-18 regarding the appeal or application of Yasser Eldaly for a variance or variances or other relief so as to permit construction of an addition requiring variances for lot & building coverage and front & rear yard setback on the premises located at 18 Colonial Terrace Springfield, NJ 07081 and designated as Block 902, Lot 24 on Township of Springfield Tax Map.

The application, plans and survey are on File in the Annex Building, 20 North Trivett Street and available for inspection between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Yasser Eldaly
Applicant

U150924 OBS July 6, 2006 ($11.25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD

COUNTY OF UNION, NJ

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, CHAPTER IV, GENERAL LICENSING, TO AMEND TOWING LICENSE REGULATIONS, BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

TAKE NOTICE, that the foregoing Ordinance was finally passed and approved at a Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Springfield in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, held on Tuesday evening, June 27, 2006.

KATHLEEN D. WISNIEWSKI, RMC/CMC
Township Clerk

U150715 OBS July 6, 2006 ($8.63)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Take notice that Alba Vineyard & Heritage Vineyard of Richwood LLC Trading as Alba & Heritage Vineyards at Brix 67 has applied to the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for a Joint Winery Retail Outlet license for the premises situated at 67-71 Union Place Summit New Jersey.

Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, P.O. Box 087, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0087.

Tom M. Sharko
Applicant
Basking Ridge

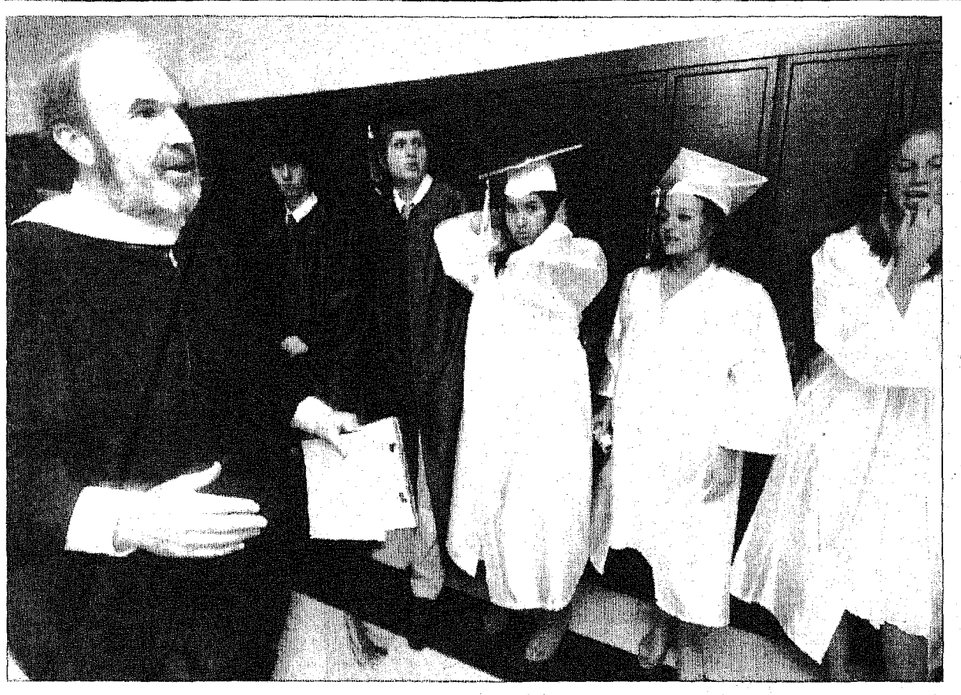
June 29, July 6, 2006
U150456 OBS ($20.00)

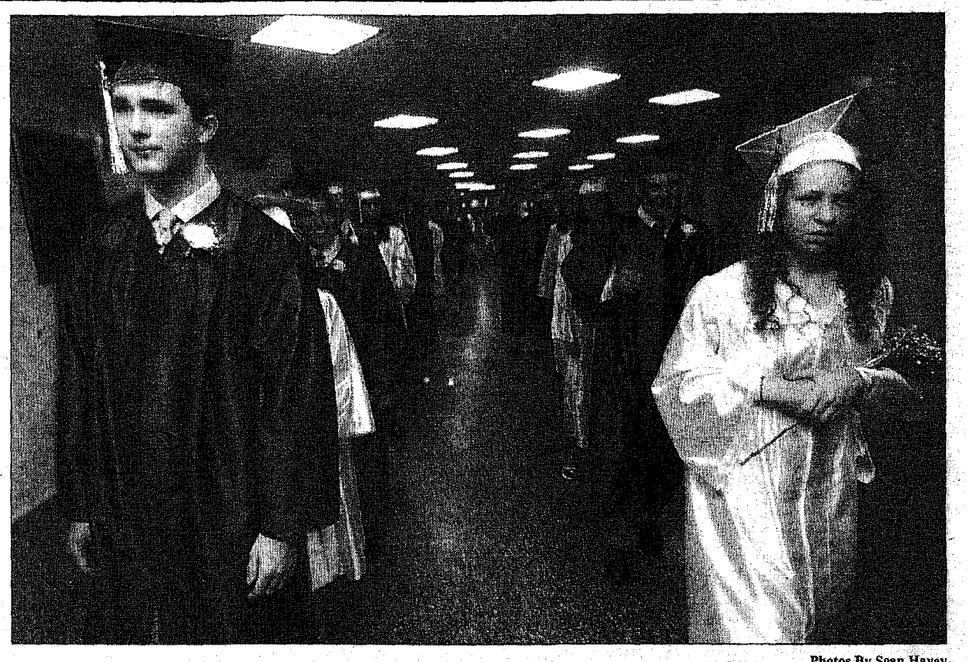
PUBLIC NOTICE

Take notice that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:16-16* application has been made to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, Trenton, New Jersey, to receive title papers and issue New Jersey certificate of ownership for Make BMW 328i Year 1998, Vehicle/Hull Identification Number WBACD432OWAV63099.

Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, Special Title section, P.O. Box 017, Trenton, New Jersey 08666-0017.

U150588 OBS July 6, 2006 ($7.13)





Photos By Sean Havey

BEHIND THE SCENES — At left, Summit High School assistant principal Anthony Akey provides last-minute instructions to graduating seniors before the schools' ceremony June 26. Above, the Class of 2006 makes its way to the school's auditorium for the ceremony.

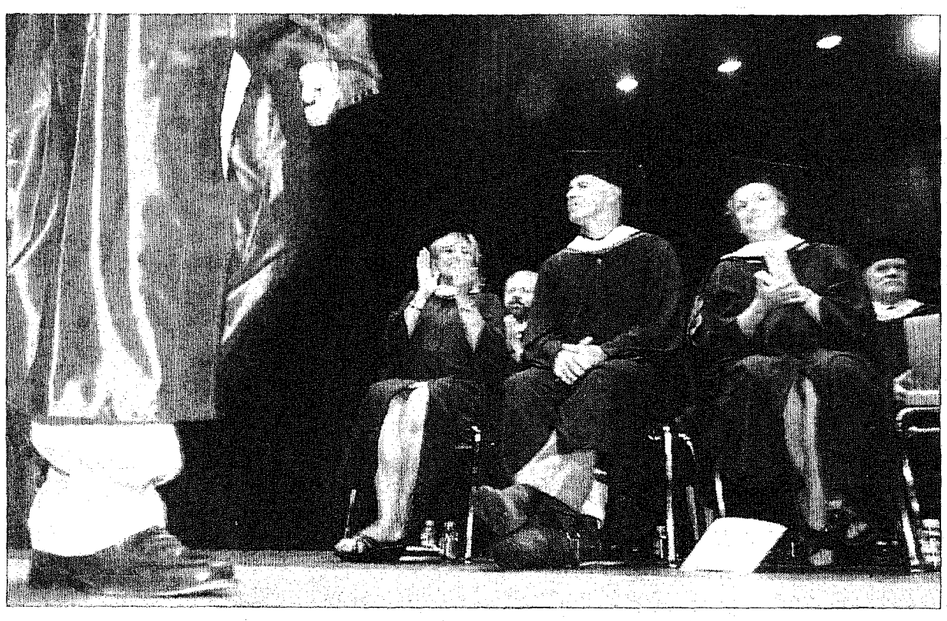
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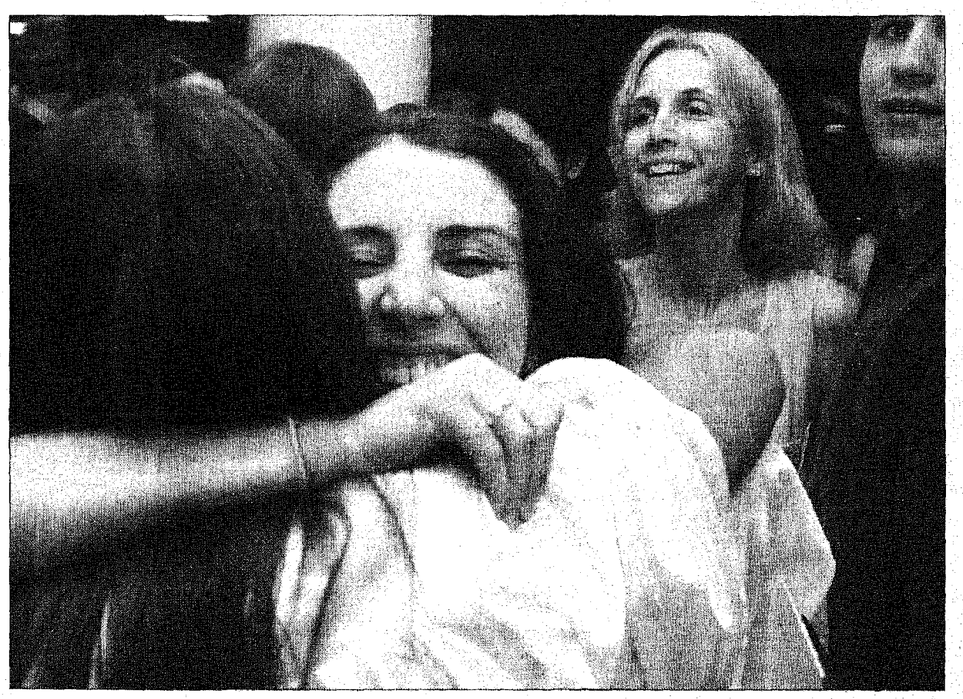
Summit High School graduates Class of 2006

The members of the Class of 2006 at Summit High School are, as follows:

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Michael Ross Anderson
Esther Arrieta
Danilo Ayala
Emily Jo Baker *
Sarah Allston Baker
Samuel Harris Bar
Amy Melissa Bariexca
Andrew John Bell
Prem Parteek Benipal
Aimee Caroline Bianca
Martha Everiss Blagdon
Jonathan Gerardo Bolaños
Tamara Kim Bondy
Lisa Bleakney Boyd
Jonathan David Buscaino
Garrison Jay Butler
Matthew Steven Butters
Sarah Jane Butters
Justin Victor Cafiero
Sean Michael Callaghan *
Meredith Kate Carbone *
Adam Robert Carmack
Leah Hannah Carr *
Julian Thomas Cartwright *
Stacey Melonie Castro
Katherine Ellen Cavazini
Tyler McGregor Chambers *
Spencer Chan
Mayleth Chanto
Nancy Chao *
Sun-Tzu Chao
Daniel J. Xavier Chapman
Peter Christian Edwin Charalambidis
Patrice Majul Chatman
Elizabeth Zorah Clark
Stephen Porter Clark
Benjamin Zachary Cohen
Rachel Carmen Colgan *
Meredith Mayforth Constant *
Francesca Bruno Cooke *
Austin Farelo Costeira
Troy Leon Courtney Cromwell
Jennifer Dang
Chelsea Lauren Daugherty
Sherell Nichole Davis
Rue Winfield DeClerque
Alison Rose Del Duca
Anthony Michael Delle Donne
Lauren Katherine DeMetro
Scott Thomas Dempsey
Milena Patricia Diaz
Alison F. Dionne
Todd Matthew Dobiszewski
John Paul Facchinei
Kevin Francis Feeney
Carlos Christopher Figueroa
Daniel Vincent Flaherty
Nathaniel E. Francis
Thomas Francis
Carolyn Elizabeth Frank
Renee Michele Freeden
Andrew Joshua Furman *
Terae Sincere Gamble
Scott Daniel Garibaldi
Jennifer Lynn Garrison *
Brandon Ross Gaynor
Tyrone Noel Gibbons
Nicholas Charles Gibney
Daniel Benjamin Gledhill *
Vanessa Alejandra Gonzalez C.
William Jackson Gore
Shabazz Mustafa Green
Bernard Patrick Grishman
William Andrew Gruetzmacher
Dana Alyse Halpern
Lucía Isabel Hermo
Christa Anne Hernandez
Robert Braxton Hillenbrand *
Scheller Amalia Hinkle
Gwynne Fitzgerald Hogan *
Travis W. Howard
Caandon Maurice Hudson
Kyle William Isaacs
Nikhil Allen James
Alexandra Catherine Jaskolski
Celine York Javanni
Kathleen Ming Jean-Louis
Natasha-Ashley Jennifer Jefferson
Alexander James Jestin Taylor
James Edward Johnson
Christopher Scott Johnston
Taleen A. Jolotian
Nicholas Charles Kaminski
Sofia Kristina Karesh
Michael James Kaufman
Michael Hickman Keane
Joon Soo Kim
Emily Allison Kinnaman
Morgan E. Klaif
Lauren Alyse Kramer *
Matthew Krell
Elizabeth Lapinsky
Brooke Allison Lazare
Meghan Kelly Leavy
Scott Blair Leighton *
Elisabeth Dana Leung *
Christopher Andrew Lijoi
Evan Litosch
Nelson Gerardo Lizano
Silvia Elena Lobo
Natasha V. Loeffler
Hilary Lohmann
Stephen Stow Lovejoy *
Cristina Marie Lucero
Jordan Thomas Ludwig
Justin Stansfield MacPherson
Lauren Ashley Magness
Erin Elizabeth Mahon
Alethia Joanna Martinez
Joanna Elizabeth Maulbeck
Cristina Kathleen Maurizi
Claire Shea McCreary
Madeleine Anne McCreary
Casey Andrew McGuire
Brian Matthew McNiel
Megan Elizabeth Meagher
Juliana Elizabeth Miller
Caitlin Leslie Mitchell
Hayley Margaret Morgan
Elizabeth Carmela Mormak
Bridget Sara Mulcahy
Kathryn O'Connor Mulligan
Benjamin R. Nadler
Paul Matthew Neenan
Nicole Rose Nelson
Stephanie Margaret Nerby
Katie Jane Nitzberg *
Patrick Joseph Nolan
Jasmine Nicole Norris
Jean Paul Obando
Leah Nichole Olbrich *
Matthew James Olsen
Scott Gregory O'Sullivan
Gordon Michael Pepe
Jordi Antonio Pineda
Emily Elizabeth Pistell *
Caroline Steffi Plaza
Philip powers
Alexandra Maria Previdi
Jessica Victoria Priego
Erika Ramirez
Igor E. Ramos
J. Tod Reynolds
David Lawrence Richards *
Ghysleim Rivas
Taylor Woods Robinson
Jeffrey Belarmino Rojas
Sarah Danielle Rojas
Evan Daniel Rosen
Daniel Nicholas Rufolo
Paul Dickinson Russell
Arielle Hannah Salomon *
Tracy Elizabeth Sartorius
Kelly Marie Scavone *
Gina Rose Scioscia
Spencer Allen Scott
Daniel Alberto Seeger
Justin Shaw
Michael Bernard Shea *
Bettina Victoria Sheridan
Andrew Chapin Sigler
David Sheldon Silberman
Kenneth Robert Simek
Taylor LaMar Simpson
Justin Davis Sirois
Matthew John Skarzynski
Rachel Carrie Smith
Stephanie Elizabeth Smith *
Tyler J. Smith
Christopher James Snieckus
Ayala B. Stern
Tiphani Shani Stewart
Christin Stone
Joshua Alexander Sussman
Deborah Tan *
Jessica Lynn Tauber
Emily Kate Terwelp *
Caitlin Margaret Frances Thomas *
Sean Cote Thomas
Leon Tsao
William Robert Tully
Carly Sarah Twill
Susan Ayse Unver *
Tiffany Nicole Uribe
Christopher Tadashi Vance
Christina Andrea Vasquez
Anjali Mary Verghis *
Alexandra Teresa Vignola
Carlos Gabriel Villalobos
Anna Patricia Vitale *
Mark Bradford Walchak
Elizabeth Anne Weisbrot
Lucia Tintori Wells
Kevin White
Ashley Lauren Wiggins
Issa Nathaniel Williams
Monique Ann-Marie Wilson
Suzanne Elizabeth Winter *
Adrienne Verity Wong *
Claire Sophie Woot de Trixhe
Xiyao Xia
Lily Ying Xie
Erik Richard Jason Youngdahl *
Andrew Michael Zackoff
Tamara Zagorovskaya *
Alejandra Zamora
Nicholas Zeleniuch
Samuel Wood Zerfoss
Samuel Chaim Zukoff *
Sebastian Zuniga

* - Honor graduate





MOVING ON — Teachers at Summit High School applaud the students as they receive their diplomas. At right, Claire Sophie Woot de Trixhe, right, hugs fellow graduate Silvia Lobo after the ceremony.

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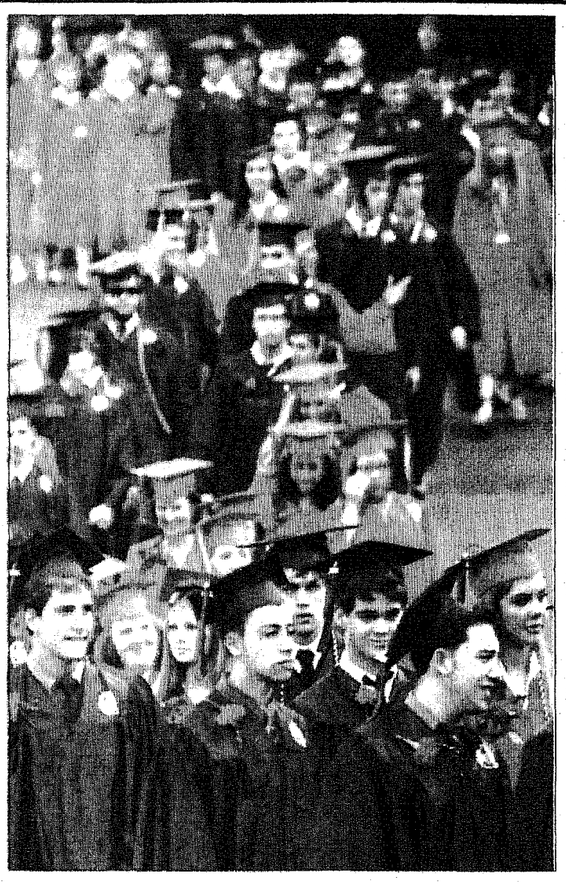
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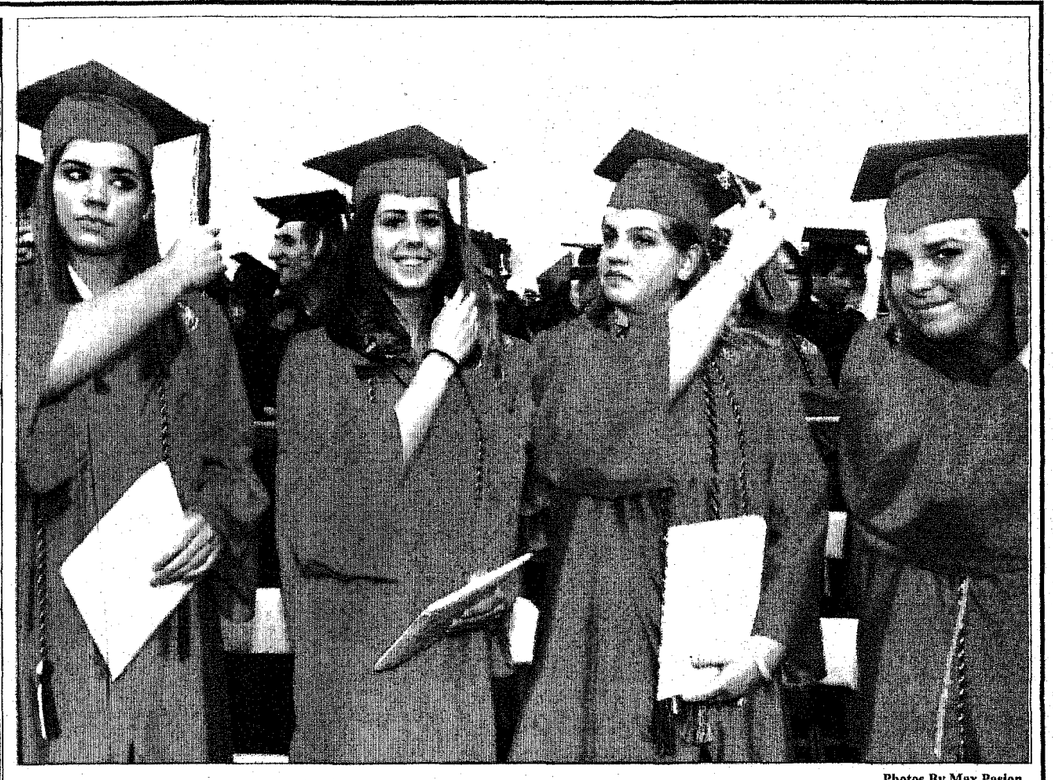
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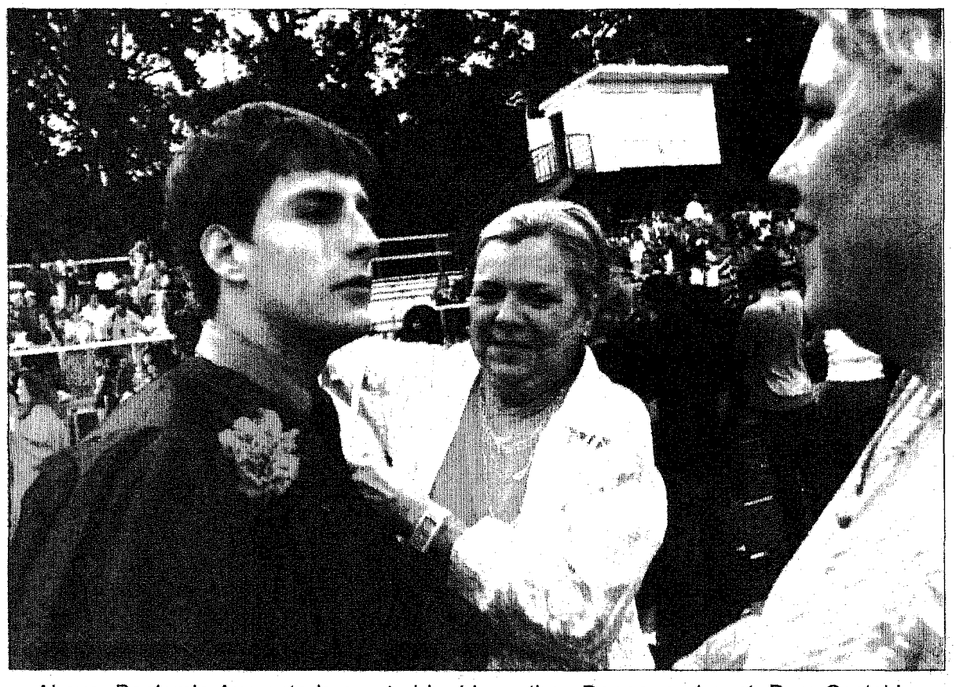
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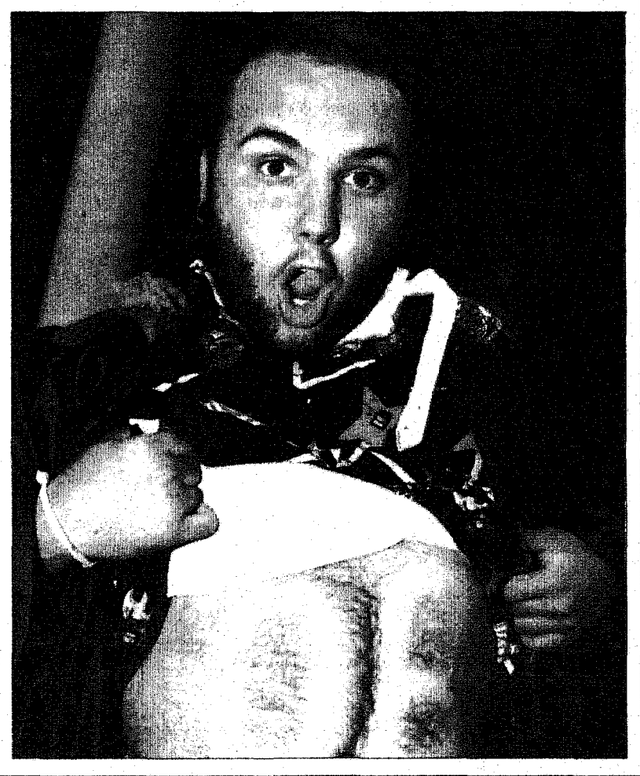




Photos By Max Pasion

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE — At left, seniors at Governor Livingston High School process to its football field for their graduation ceremony June 21. Above, seniors 'turn their tassels' during the ceremony.





Above, Benjamin Aumenta is greeted by his mother, Donna, and aunt, Pam Costaldo, after the conclusion of the school's commencement exercises. At right, Joel Merrill shaved his graduation year on his belly.

Residents receive awards

Five teen volunteers from Springfield were among those recently recognized for their work with children with special needs.

Zachary Glennon, Sharon Shliechkorn, Dana Shliechkorn, Stephanie Shulman and Carly Sobel each received a Jerry Waldor Special Needs Fellowship.

These were awarded to a select group of teens who have dedicated countless hours and demonstrated outstanding commitment to caring for children with special needs on a voluntary basis, while juggling their rigorous high school workload and a full plate of other extra-curricular activities.

The Friendship Circle awards ceremony took place June 21 at Kushner Academy in Livingston.

The fellowship, sponsored by the Waldor family of South Orange, is a tribute to the memory of philanthropist Jerry Waldor, who exerted his energy and influence into making The Friendship Circle a reality, among his involvement with other charities.

Waldor's son, Marc, who spoke at the ceremony, explained how The Friendship Circle carries out the Jewish people's mission of "Tikkun Olam," or "repairing the world," and the importance of the organization's work to his father's blessed memory.

In a unique ceremony, including dinner and the internationally-renowned Drum Café, 75 of the 600 The Friendship Circle volunteers, from Essex, Morris and Union counties, were presented with the prestigious fellowships.

"The award is not only designed to recognize the volunteers, but also to reinforce the importance of community service and provide advanced educational opportunities, helping these teens cultivate their skills as future community leaders," according to Rabbi Zalman Grossbaum, director of The Friendship Circle.

"Studies have shown that volunteerism helps teens build character, increases their self-esteem and fosters an importance of community involvement which stays with them for the rest of their lives," said Grossbaum.

Six hundred teens provide more than 25,000 Friendship Hours annually through The Friendship Circle, a project of the Rabbinical College of America-Lubavitch.

Now in 35 U.S. cities, The Friendship Circle, designed for children with special needs and their families, runs on a daily basis by a volunteer corps of professionally-trained teenagers.

It's one of the few non-denominational programs of its kind in the nation that offers a social outlet to children with special needs, while providing their families with a much-needed respite, not just once a month, but at least once a week.

In addition, the Friendship Circle provides a full range of social and Judaic programs in a nurturing and comfortable setting for the entire family of special needs children, who often feel excluded from mainstream society.

AT THE LIBRARY

Book discussion group to investigate Bible

The Springfield Free Public Library's Great Books Discussion Group will meet July 20 at 10 a.m. to discuss the book of the Bible called "Job," named for its central figure, a pious and upright man.

In its prologue, God allows Satan to test Job's faith by inflicting a series of misfortunes on the man.

In the dialogues, Job's friends cannot believe that his tribulations are undeserved, and they urge him to repent. But Job firmly insists that he is innocent of sin.

The book raises a number of important religious questions, including why righteous people suffer and why evil exists in a world that is governed by an all-powerful God.

The Great Books compilation may be purchased for $24 at the Circulation Desk. The discussion group welcomes new members.

Participants are invited to come to any or all of its sessions. The Springfield Free Public Library is located at 66 Mountain Ave.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Film festival to begin

The Springfield Free Public Library will begin its Summer International Film Festival on July 13 with showings of "Zelary" at noon and 6:30 p.m.

Love gradually builds between a sophisticated medical student and a woodcutter when she is forced to hide from the Gestapo in his remote village of Zelary.

This Oscar-nominated film is in Czech with subtitles in English. It runs 150 minutes and is rated "R."

Funding for the film festival has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the arts through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs and the Friends of the Springfield Free Public Library.

Admission is free.

Space is limited to 60 people at each showing. Refreshments will be served. The Springfield Public Library is located at 66 Mountain Ave.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Donations requested for township library

The Friends of the Springfield Free Public Library is seeking donations of used paperback novels, magazines that are not more than a year old, jewelry and children's books.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

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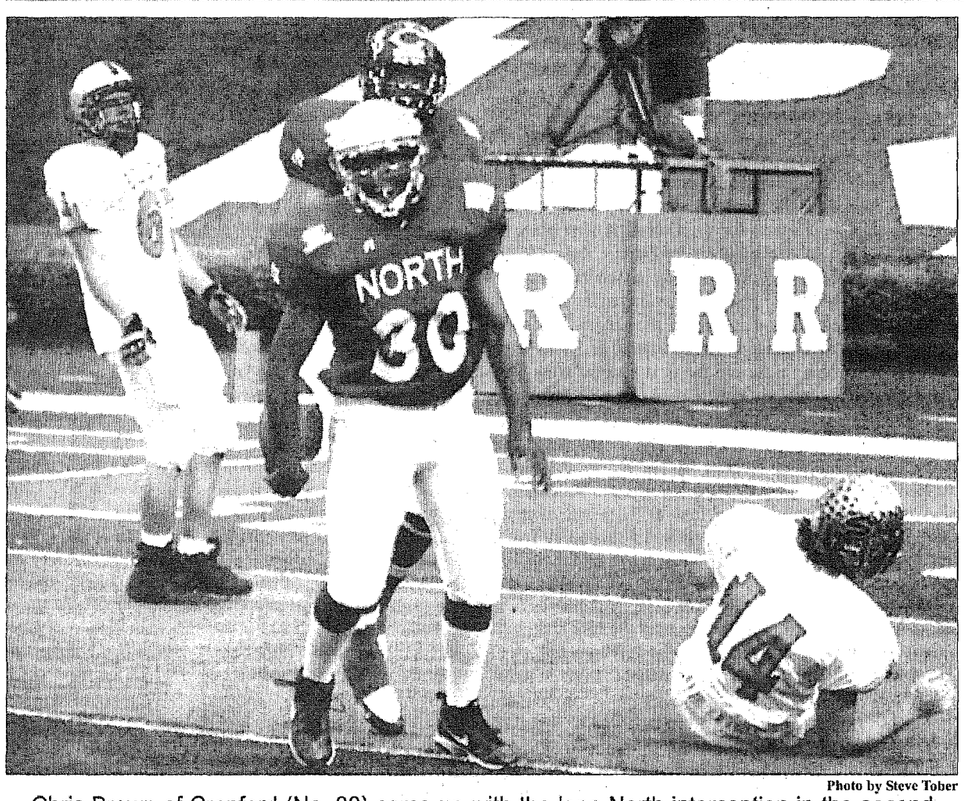


Photo by Steve Tober

Chris Brown of Cranford (No. 30) came up with the lone North interception in the second quarter of last Thursday's North-South contest at Rutgers Stadium. Brown will next play at Dean Junior College in Massachusetts.

North dominates South to win 3rd straight in series

Jones leads star-studded Union County contingent

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

AREA – Donald Jones of Plainfield wanted to give his mother Lesley something for her birthday.

So, he went out and electrified the crowd by catching two passes for 85 yards and scoring one touchdown on a reverse that covered 15 to help lead the North past the South 31-16 in last Thursday night's 28th annual North vs. South New Jersey High School All-Star Football Game at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway.

The North, with former Barringer mentor Frank Verducci acting as the head coach, won its third straight game in the series for the first time to pull to within 13-12-2 of the South. There was no game in 2002 because of inclement weather the night of the event.

"I loved playing with these guys and never underestimate any opponent," said Jones, who leaped high to catch a winning touchdown pass in the final seconds against Cranford last fall and who will be continuing at Lackawanna College in Pennsylvania this August.

After giving up a touchdown early in the first quarter, the North rebounded with 23 unanswered points in the second to take a 23-7 lead at the half.

Ahead 10-7 at the time, Jones took a reverse handoff and raced through the South defense 15 yards for six points. He was named the North's Offensive MVP.

"We saw that they couldn't stop the reverse," said Jones, who almost scored on a long pass play earlier in the game that covered 68 yards and set up a three-yard touchdown run by Montclair's Julian Cruz.

"Meeting these new guys and playing for legendary coaches was great," Jones continued. "I had a lot of my guys in the stands and I wanted to keep the Plainfield tradition going."

Jake Floyd was the third Brearley player to compete in this game in the past four years, Mike Rothery and Vinnie Russo the others. That says a lot for a Group 1 program that is on the rise under head coach Scott Miller.

Floyd last played at Rutgers back on Dec. 2 of last year, with his team falling to Florence 19-6 in the Central Jersey, Group 1 state championship game.

"At first, I felt bad seeing this field," Floyd said, referring to the very tough state championship setback to Florence. "This is not the same kind of game. This was fun."

Floyd served well as the North punter, averaging 43.8 yards on five kicks and, more importantly, 40.4 net yards. He also carried three times for 12 yards from his fullback position and scored the North's final two points after bulling over the goal line and into the end zone for a two-point conversion in the fourth quarter that followed his team's final touchdown.

"This was such an honor to be invited to practice with these guys and then play with them," Floyd said. "This felt like a warm up for what's to come in college."

Floyd will continue playing fullback at Muhlenberg College.

A Springfield resident who played first base for the Dayton Bulldogs this past spring, Floyd was proud of what Brearley accomplished on the gridiron.

"Nobody thought anything of us before the season started last year," Floyd said. "We had mostly underclassmen, but to be able to go to the states was amazing. Coach Miller has now had three kids in this game and that says a lot. I'll never forget about the loss to Florence and hopefully I will learn from it."

Cranford's Chris Brown, who played outside linebacker for the North, had his team's only interception, returning it 23 yards deep into South territory in the second quarter.

"This was the pinnacle of my high school career," said Brown, who helped lead the Cougars to a 6-4 season last fall as he was the only returning two-way starter Cranford had to work with.

"The interception was big," Brown continued. "Darnell (Carter) tipped it and the ball just came to me."

Carter, from Dwight Morrow, was named the North's Defensive MVP, coming up with three solo tackles and one assist and two sacks for a total of seven yards in losses.

Brown, who played in the state playoffs with Cranford during his sophomore and junior seasons, will continue at Dean Junior College in Massachusetts and is slated to play middle linebacker there.

"It feels good to represent Cranford in this game, because Cranford is a small school not a lot of people know about," Brown said. "I've been playing football in Cranford since I was 8 and this is really a good feeling to be a part of this.

"We really came together as a team for this game. On defense, we knew we could shut them down."

After junior college, Brown has his sights set on Temple. Looking back on last year's success, he pointed to an overtime win at home over Scotch Plains as the highlight of the season.

"The team reacted well with the new coaches that came in," Brown said, referring to the outstanding job first-year head coach Erik Rosenmeier and his staff performed. "We took it in stride and got better."

Robert Wright of Orange scored the North's first touchdown on a 45-yard pass from Chatham's Chris Betz. Last fall, Chatham went to Bell Stadium in Orange and stunned the top-seeded Tornadoes in the North 2, Group 2 quarterfinals.

"Yeah, it was funny, that touchdown," Wright said. "We had a running coach here (referring to Morris Knolls mentor Bill Regan Jr. running the veer), so I didn't know how many times I would have the ball thrown my way."

Wright will continue to play wide receiver at Delaware State.

"This felt really good, to be here representing my family and the city of Orange," Wright said. "To be able to compete on this level, it was fun to play out here."

During practice leading up to the game, Wright felt the North had an edge right off the bat.

"We were talking to the South players in the dining hall and we noticed they were real quiet," Wright said. "We were talking and I think we showed more heart by how we wanted to win more."

Irvington's Shawn Daniels was all over the field as a cornerback for the North. He will join 2005 Irvington graduates Gerald Guerrier and Jamar Cotton at New Mexico State.

"This was a pleasure and an experience I never had," Daniels said. "I was given God's gift to play in this game and took it upon myself to work and play real hard."

Daniels helped Irvington to a 9-2 record last year, the school's third straight state playoff appearance in North 2, Group 4 and the Blue Knights' first-ever state playoff win.

"We worked very hard all season at Irvington," Daniels said. "I wanted to come here and be a player that did well.

"I met a lot of great people here, people I thought I would never meet. There was a bond that was made."

Up-and-coming Irvington mentor Darnell Grant served on the North staff.

"This was a great honor to coach with guys like Rich Hansen and Bill Regan," Grant said. "I learned more from them this week than I did my last five years of coaching."

Although Grant has another very good Irvington team returning, he will surely miss what Daniels brought to the table every day.

"Shawn was a great player for us and is in the same mold as the other two we have at New Mexico State," Grant said. "He wants to play and has a real desire to succeed."

Rahway head coach Gary Mobley also served on the North staff. He guided the Indians to the state playoffs the past two seasons, each time reaching the Central Jersey, Group 2 semifinals.

"First of all, I would like to say hat's off to the South," said Mobley after being informed that the North won three in a row in the series for the first time. "Our kids took a lot of pride in themselves and learned a lot in a short period of time."

Mobley was to have Andre Neblett play in this game and represent Rahway. However, an illness in Neblett's family coupled with a commitment to where he will continue playing football – that being Temple University – did not allow for the First Team All-State player to participate as a defensive linemen.

Neblett was replaced by teammate Ishmyl Johnson on the defensive line. Johnson, an imposing figure on the gridiron at 6-6, 265, will continue at Milford Academy in Connecticut, with designs on moving on to either a Big East or Atlantic Coast Conference school.

(See All-Stars, Page 10)

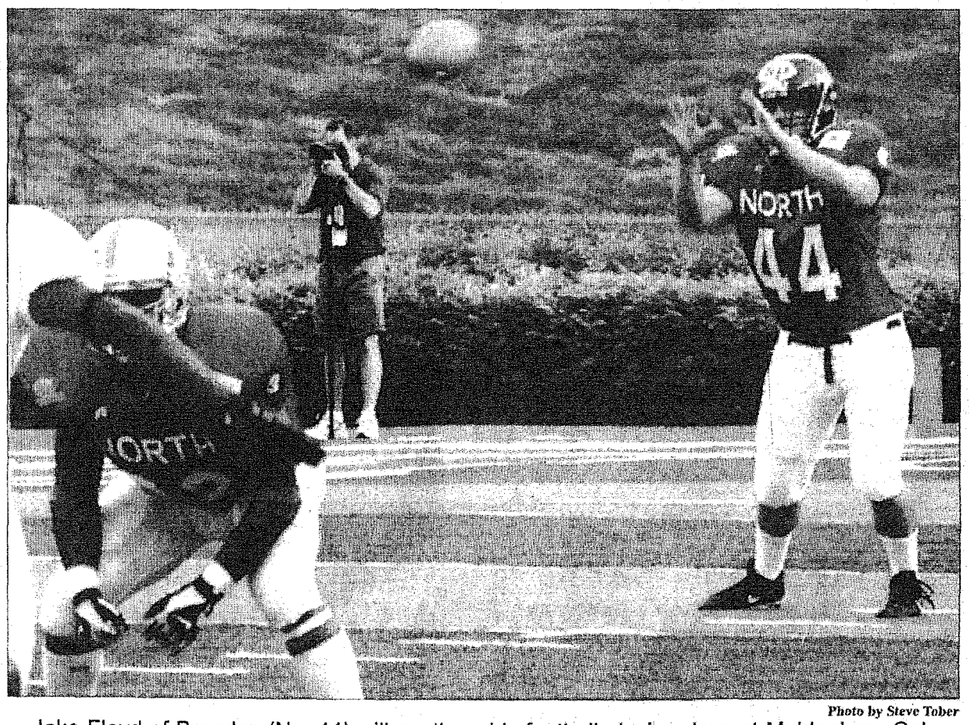


Photo by Steve Tober

Jake Floyd of Brearley (No. 44) will continue his football playing days at Muhlenberg College. He did an excellent job of punting for the North in its 31-16 win over the South in last Thursday's All-Star Game at Rutgers. He also scored on a two-point conversion.

INSIDE

PAGE 10 - Linden Hall of Fame Committee to recognize special athletes and award a scholarship to a student.

PAGE 11 - Clark Senior American Legion baseball team learning the finer points and gaining valuable experience.

Snapple Bowl is up next on Thursday, July 20 in East Brunswick

The 13th annual Home News Tribune Snapple Bowl All-Star Football Game, featuring some of the best gridiron performers from Union County vs. some of the finest from Middlesex County, is scheduled for Thursday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. at East Brunswick.

Union County has won the last three, was the first team to do so and leads the series 7-5. Union has won five of the past six contests.

Practice for both squads is scheduled to commence Monday.

Proceeds go to the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside and the Lakeview School for Cerebral Palsy in Edison.

Last year, all players and coaches visited their respective charities the Monday before the contest for a pre-game pep rally with the kids.

Union County participants went to the Fanwood facility of the Children's Specialized Hospital, while Middlesex County players visited the Lakeview School.

MVPs from 13 different schools: There have been 13 MVPs from 13 different schools in the first 12 Snapple Bowls.

Two MVPs were selected for the first time in last year's 21-14 Union win over Middlesex. The MVPs in last year's game at Kean University in Union were quarterback Chris Drechsel of Cranford for Union County and quarterback Matt Mariano of East Brunswick for Middlesex County.

Union County MVPs have now come from - in order - Summit, Rahway, Elizabeth, Linden, Johnson, Westfield and Cranford.

Middlesex County MVPs have now come from - in order - Monroe, South Brunswick, Dunellen, Perth Amboy, South River and East Brunswick.

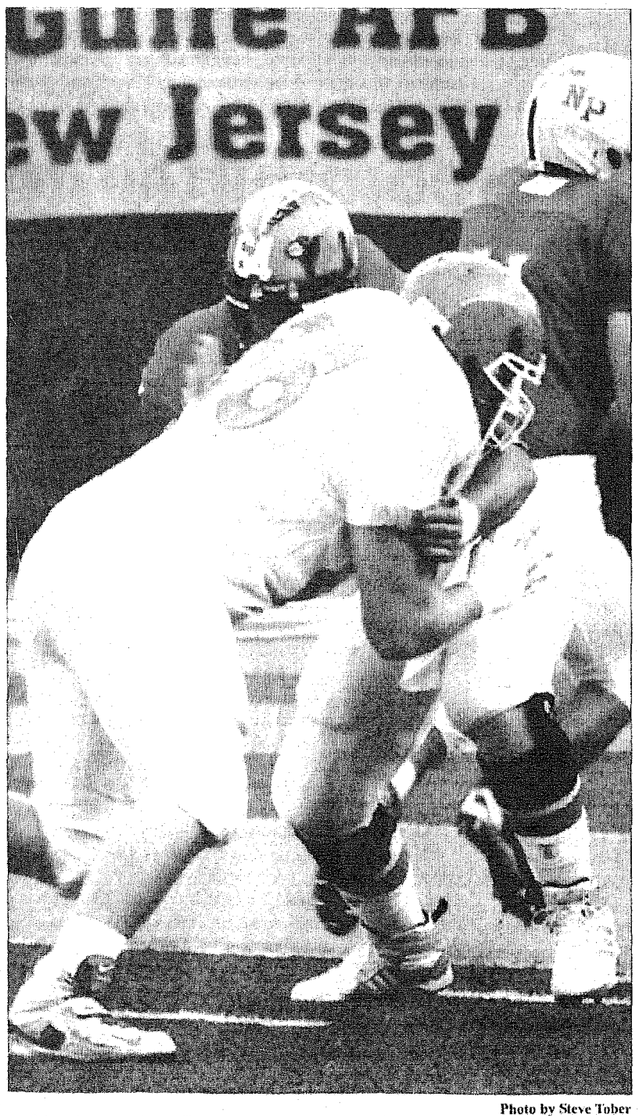


Photo by Steve Tober

North center Ray Wegrzynek (No. 64) blocks South defensive tackle Jesse Trump. Wegrzynek, a standout for Linden the past three seasons, will continue at Rutgers according to NJ Blitz magazine.

One victory from being evened up

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

AREA - The North is catching up.

For the first time in the series, the North defeated the South for the third straight year with a 31-16 win in last Thursday's 28th annual North-South All-Star Football Game at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway.

With wins in four of the last five games, the North now trails the South by a slim 13-12-2 margin.

The North can become the first team to win four straight and also even the series for the first time since 1992.

The South's lone three-game winning streak was from 1981-1983.

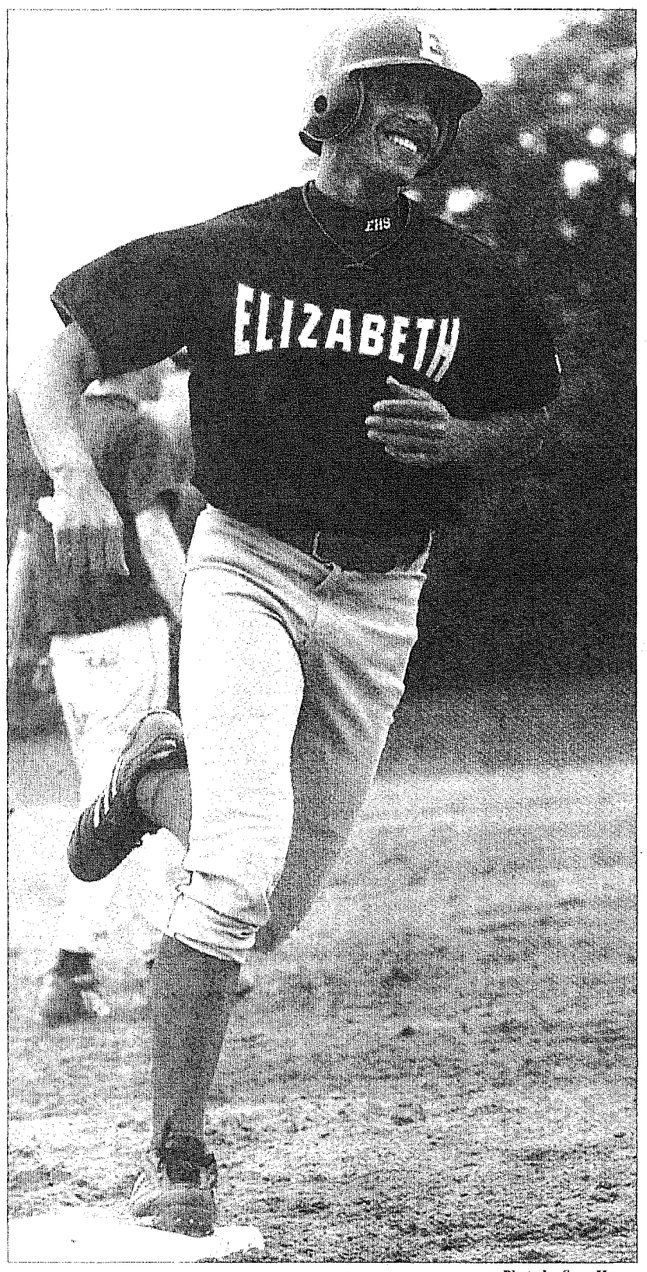
Wagner honored

Former Roselle Park football coach John Wagner was honored as the Central Jersey's choice into the New Jersey Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

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NORTH-SOUTH SCORES

2006: North 31, South 16
at Rutgers Stadium
2005: North 9, South 7
at Rutgers Stadium
2004: North 26, South 21
at Rutgers Stadium
2003: South 3, North 0
at Rutgers Stadium
2002: No game played because of inclement weather.
2001: North 24, South 0
at Rutgers Stadium
2000: South 20, North 5
at Rutgers Stadium
1999: South 22, North 19
at Rutgers Stadium
1998: North 33, South 31
at Rutgers Stadium
1997: South 28, North 24
at The College of New Jersey
1996: South 32, North 23
at Rutgers Stadium
1995: North 37, South 15
at Rutgers Stadium
1994: South 21, North 16
at Trenton State College
1993: South 9, North 8
at Giants Stadium
1992: North 7, South 7 (tie)
at Giants Stadium
1991: North 26, South 12
at Giants Stadium
1990: North 14, South 10
at Rutgers Stadium
1989: South 24, North 0
at Rutgers Stadium
1988: South 12, North 9
at Rutgers Stadium
1987: North 21, South 10
at Rutgers Stadium
1986: North 20, South 17
at Rutgers Stadium
1985: North 10, South 10 (tie)
at Rutgers Stadium
1984: North 7, South 0
at Rutgers Stadium
1983: South 41, North 7
at Rutgers Stadium
1982: South 16, North 7
at Rutgers Stadium
1981: South 32, North 0
at Rutgers Stadium
1980: North 13, South 6
at Rutgers Stadium
1979: South 34, North 13
at Rutgers Stadium



Gio Caraballo hit a home run to help Elizabeth beat Union to win the North 2, Group 4 championship last month. Last week, he threw out a Union runner at the plate with a throw from left field to help lead Elizabeth to a Senior American Legion win over Union.

Photo by Sean Havey

Santos does well to pitch Elizabeth to win vs. Union

Senior American Legion squad improves to 9-3

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

ELIZABETH – Jorge Santos doesn't mess around when he pitches. He follows a simple formula. It's get ahead of the hitters early in the count.

There's nothing earth-shattering about his approach. It's not a revelation. It's just effective and that's really all that matters.

Elizabeth's Senior American Legion baseball game against Union June 28 was a perfect example. Santos consistently got ahead of hitters and he seldom had more than one runner on base at a time.

That efficiency was critical as Santos led Elizabeth to a 3-2 victory over Union. The win put Elizabeth's record at 9-3, while Union fell to 7-3.

"It was very important for me to stay ahead of the hitters because if I got behind they would get pitches right down the middle," Santos noted.

"Then they would be in control."

For the most part, Santos maintained control of both his pitches and the game, which, for the most part, seemed like a leisurely affair that just rolled along on a warm early-summer evening.

However, while a pitcher's duel may seem largely uneventful to observers, don't tell that to the participants, who are the people sweating it out.

The game began to change in the later innings as Santos began to wear down. On four different occasions, he gave up long hits, including two doubles, a triple and a home run by Union's Joey Cacchiola that cleared the Williams Field 405-foot sign in dead center by at least 20 feet.

Fortunately for Santos, there were no runners on base when those hits occurred, something that wasn't lost on him as he discussed his performance.

"Thank God there was no one on base," Santos said.

Santos should also thank leftfielder Gio Caraballo, who threw out Union third baseman Joe Furnaguera at home plate after Furnaguera attempted to stretch a triple into a home run.

Santos, a righthander, will take his talents to Union County College next season after helping Elizabeth capture North 2, Group 4.

He may go elsewhere after his first two years there, but for now, he's happy to stay in Union County.

"I like to stay close to my family," he said. "I go to church here and it's cheaper. I'll transfer later."

Among his preferences down the road, Santos said that he would consider Division 1 schools in New Jersey, such as Seton Hall, or Division 1 schools in Florida.

Union pitcher Jake Fernandez didn't have the same good fortune that Santos did. Fernandez gave up only one hit all game, but errors led to Elizabeth's big inning.

It was easy to sympathize with Fernandez, who lamented the fact that he's pitched several one- or two-hit games, yet has little to show for his efforts.

"That's why I'm mad," said Fernandez, who acknowledged that he would like more run support when he pitches. "It's disappointing."

Fernandez spent his freshman year in college at Brookdale Community College in Monmouth County, but he doesn't plan to return next year.

"I'll play somewhere," Fernandez said, referring to his baseball future. "Brookdale is in Lincroft. It was too far of a drive."

So, Fernandez is looking for a new collegiate home and Santos will be at UCC for a couple of years. There are plenty of collegiate baseball teams that need pitchers.

For the team that dares to look under the radar, Santos and Fernandez could prove to be steals who will pay dividends for years to come.

Staff Writer Jeff Cummins may be reached for comment at jcummins@thelocalsource.com.

All-Stars shine brightly

(Continued from Page 9)

"I told Andre before the game that I would play to the best of my ability," said Johnson, who had three solo and one assisted tackle. "I wanted to bring my 'A' game and played well, but I could have played better."

Johnson had high praise for Mobley, who settled things down quite a bit at Rahway after a number of head coaches before him in a short period of time.

"Coach Mobley cared about us and showed us how to be men on and off the field," Johnson said. "We finally had a field chief to listen to."

"This was a great experience for me and a dream come true to be able to coach with Frank Verducci and hear his words of wisdom," Mobley said. "Coach Regan and Hansen are legends as well."

Hillside was represented by Bruce Hunt on the North defensive line. He captained the Comets the past two seasons and is looking to make a decision in July as far as a junior college or prep school.

"This was a great atmosphere and I feel like I just went to war with my brothers," Hunt said. "It felt like I was playing with my high school teammates, that's how close we were.

"This was a great honor to be able to play with the best from the North and against the best from the South. At Hillside, I learned dedication, because my coach (Jim Hopke) always said that there are guys that are better out there. That helped me in the long run."

NOTES: The South MVPs were Abree Jones of Florence on offense and Shaune Thomas of Sayreville on defense. Jones carried three times for 42 yards and caught one pass for 76. Thomas had three solo and one assisted tackle, had the South's only interception and blocked an extra point.

Quarterback Andrew Mandeville of Raritan scored both South touchdowns, the first on an eight-yard run in the first quarter and the second on a seven-yard run in the fourth.

The final North touchdown was scored by Morris Knolls quarterback Tommy Hennessy on an eight-yard run in the fourth.

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North	**0**	**23**	**0**	**8 - 31**
South	**7**	**0**	**3**	**6 - 16**

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FIRST QUARTER
South: Mandeville 8 run, Weingart kick. South 7-0.
12 plays, 80 yards, 5:41 used.
SECOND QUARTER
North: Carter, safety. South 7-2.
North: Wright 45 pass from Betz,
Wright pass from Betz. North 10-7.
3 plays, 53 yards, 1:31 used.
North: Cruz 3 run, Richmond kick. North 17-7.
3 plays, 74 yards, :50 used.
North: Jones 15 run, kick failed. North 23-7.
3 plays, 8 yards, 1:26 used.
THIRD QUARTER
South: Weingart 32 field goal. North 23-10.
5 plays, 78 yards, 3:00 used.
FOURTH QUARTER
North: Hennessy 8 run, Floyd run. North 31-10.
9 plays, 75 yards, 3:30 used.
South: Mandeville 7 run, run failed. North 31-16.
11 plays, 80 yards, 3:19 used.

Cranford Gators try to stay dry vs. Coppermine

Many firsts, seconds and thirds turned in

The Cranford Gators summer swimming team opened their season against the Coppermine Swim Club June 24, falling by a score of 102-68 in a rain-shortened meet.

"Our swimmers did exceptionally well under very difficult conditions," Cranford coach Ashley Klappholz said. "It began raining once the meet started and the rain increased as the meet progressed.

"The swimmers ran out of dry clothes and towels. Once it thundered, we decided to end the meet because there was going to be a minimum 30-minute delay without a shelter to stand under. The swimmers were only going to get colder as we waited for the meet to resume."

The meet began well for the Gators. A first place by Ivanna Gomez and second place by Patricia Kolesa in the 100 individual medley followed by a second place by Patrick Lynch and third place by Devin Kenney in the 100 freestyle created a six-point lead for the Gators.

Beginning in the third race, the bottom fell out for the Gators. First-place finishes in the next four races by Coppermine helped turn a six-point deficit into a 13-point lead. A first-place finish by Anthony Kalafatis and a second by Devon Lee in the 25 breaststroke and a first by Ivanna Gomez and a third by Patricia Kolesa in the 50 butterfly helped maintain the gap at 13 points after the 10th race.

Coppermine increased the lead to 32 points after the 14th race. A first by Vanessa Rosa and a second by Laurel Klappholz in the 100 butterfly reduced Coppermine's lead to 26 points.

First-place finishes by Coppermine in the next three races pushed their lead to 44 points after the 18th race. Julie Bryne's first in the 50 freestyle, followed by a first-place finish by Ryan Drew and a second by Ben Lysaght in the 50 backstroke, created the final score.

"I was real proud of our swimmers for the way they never gave up and continued to cheer our swimmers, even as the weather worsened," coach Geoffrey Walano said. "It seemed every time we created some momentum, Coppermine was able to bounce back even stronger. We'll get them next time at our pool."

Firsts for Cranford were recorded by Ivanna Gomez in the 100IM and 50 butterfly, Anthony Kalafatis in the 25 breaststroke, Vanessa Rosa in the 100 butterfly, Julie Byrne in the 50 freestyle and Ryan Drew in the 50 backstroke.

Seconds were recorded by Patricia Kolesa in the 100 IM, Patrick Lynch in the 100 freestyle, Kevin Kolesa in the 100 freestyle and 50 breaststroke, Devon Lee in the 25 breaststroke, Connor Harkins in the 100 breaststroke, Laurel Klappholz in the 100 butterfly and Anthony Kalafatis in the 25 backstroke.

Thirds were recorded by Devin Kenney in the 100 freestyle, Katy Comer in the 100 IM, Eric Rosa in the 100 freestyle, Laurel Klappholz in the 200 IM, Michael Plate in the 200 freestyle, Candice Durant in the 25 butterfly, Erin McAuliffe in the 50 butterfly, Kathleen French in the 100 butterfly, Kayla Piatkowski in the 25 freestyle and Jenna Ellenbacher in the 50 freestyle.

Both coaches expressed thanks to the parents who volunteered their time.

"We have the best parents in the world," Klappholz said. "They continued to volunteer even as the rain got heavier. Nobody complained or asked to leave their job. Truly amazing."

Gators touch out Willows

The Gators entertained the Willows on June 28 at the Cranford Pool and Fitness Center, coming out with a slim 138-137 triumph.

"This was a tough meet under very trying conditions," coach Klappholz said. "We heard a lot about Willows and I was hoping to stay competitive with them until the relays. This meet was everything I thought it would be, except for our slow start."

The meet did not begin well for the Gators. No points were scored in the first race and the Gators fell behind by eight immediately. Monique Krakowski scored the Gators' first points in the 100 freestyle, but the Gators fell further behind and trailed by nine after the second.

Kevin Kolesa recorded the Gators' first win in the 100 IM, but the Gators fell even further behind and trailed by 10. A third by Juliet Longo in the 100 freestyle meant the Gators fell further behind and trailed by 15 after the fourth event.

Steven Krakowski placed second in the 200 IM, but Willows continued to increase their lead that extended to 20 points. The Gators recorded their second win by Korey Comer in the 25 butterfly, with Anthony Kalafatis coming in third, but Willows continued to pull away from the Gators and now led by 24.

Kayla Piatkowski's first Candice Durant's third in the 25 breaststroke took a big chunk off Willows' lead and the Gators now trailed by only 17.

However, in the next race, Willows increased the lead to 24 again.

"This was the low point," coach Walano said. "Every time we made a move, Willows was able to counter it. Our swimmers were working hard, but just couldn't close the gap."

That was about to change.

Fueled by Monique Krakowski's first, Kevin Kolesa's first in the 50 butterfly, Sandra Toczylowski's first, Juliet Longo's second, Erin McAuliffe's third in the 50 breast and Steve Krakowski's first and Eric Walano's third in the 100 butterfly, Cranford closed Willows' almost insurmountable lead to six points.

"I've never seen a recovery like we had in events 10 through 13," Klappholz said.

"I was proud of the way our swimmers responded to adverse conditions. It would have been very easy for them to give up, but they didn't."

The second half of the individual events saw Danielle McAuliffe place third in the 100 breaststroke and Willows extend its lead back to 13 points. Michael Plate responded with a first in the 100 butterfly, while Mary Kate Miller had a first followed by Heather Lee third in the 100 breaststroke.

Corey Comer finished first and Anthony Kalafatis finished second in the 25 freestyle and Kayla Piatkowski finished first and Sarah Turkavage second in the 25 backstroke for the Gators' first lead of the meet.

"Unbelievable," Walano said. "I began to think we had a chance to win the meet and the first couple of events were completely forgotten. I was just hoping we didn't dig too big of a hole to climb out of."

The lead grew to three points as Brianna Brogan took second and Patricia Kolesa third in the 50 backstroke. Willows then increased the lead to six points after Eric Rosa's second in the 50 freestyle.

"Now was the time we had to make our last attempt at getting the lead," Walano said. "We were quickly running out of events."

The Gator swimmers responded with Sandra Toczylowski placing first and Erin McAuliffe second in the 50 backstroke.

This resulted in a one-point lead for the Gators.

The score was tied after Eric Walano finished second and Vicky Singh third in the 100 freestyle. Willows then took a three-point lead despite Danielle McAuliffe's second in the 100 backstroke.

The Gators' got one point back with Michael Plate's first in the 100 freestyle. A first by Vanessa Rosa and a third by Laurel Klappholz in the 100 backstroke gave the Gators' a one-point lead going into the relays.

All the Gators needed was to split the relays to win the meet. However, it was not going to be easy. There were several shifts in the scoring during the meet and both teams had scored in all the age groups.

The 8-and-under boys' went first. The team of Ryan Pringle, Anthony Kalafatis, Corey Comer and Devon Lee finished first and the Gator lead was now eight points.

The 8-and-under girls' went next. The team of Sarah Turkavage, Candice Durant, Abby Hipkin and Kayla Piatkowski also finished first and increased the Gator advantage to 15.

Willows won the next two relays to cut Cranford's edge to eight. The Gators clinched their victory when the 13/14 and 15/18 boys' relay team of Steve Krakowski, Eric Walano, Michael Plate and Sean French finished first.

Willows won the final relay to create the final score.

"A great victory for the team," Klappholz said. "I would also like to thank the parent volunteers for all they did. The conditions were terrible, but nobody complained. What they did was beyond the, 'call of duty.' Geoff and I really appreciated it."

Hall of Fame committee to recognize special athletes

Scholarship will also be awarded to a student

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

Long before the Linden High School boys' basketball team captured its second Group 4 state championship back in March, the Tigers had always been known for having tough and gritty athletes.

In many ways, Linden's athletes mirror the image that drivers get when they look out their windows at Linden on the New Jersey Turnpike.

That brings up an interesting question. Why is there no Hall of Fame honoring Linden's great athletes?

That question is being answered by several men involved with the Linden Recreation Department, who have formed the Linden Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

The committee will recognize outstanding male and female athletes, coaches, teams and others who have contributed to the athletic, academic or civic success of the Linden community. A scholarship will also be awarded.

"We really have not yet determined the criteria that we will use to award the scholarship," said Gary Luciano, hall of fame secretary, who noted a scholarship would be named in honor of the late Kurt M. Wolf, who was a supervisor of recreation in Linden. "It will be used for a Linden youth coming out of the high school."

"Kurt was an incredible referee and he was one of the most knowledgeable people you could ever talk to about sports and also about rock and roll," Luciano continued. "He did so much for the youth. We thought that we might want to honor Kurt's memory with the scholarship from the Athletic Hall of Fame."

Luciano also noted the scholarship might not just go to an athlete, but could also be awarded to another person who's been important to Linden athletics, such as a team manager. How does the committee plan to raise money? The Linden Men's Metro Fast Pitch Softball League has already made a donation to fund the scholarship and the committee plans to host a breakfast in the fall that would raise additional funds.

For now, the committee consists of Luciano, the group's secretary; Walter Martin, the treasurer; Alfred A. Volpe, vice chairman; Emanuel P. Riggi, chairman and Lt. Ed Kushner of the Linden Fire Department.

"It's something that the Department of Recreation has been talking about for years," Luciano said, referring to the creation of the Hall of Fame. "I remember talking about this with Kurt Wolf before he passed away. Al Volpe has kept his memory alive. This is something Wolf wanted."

How dedicated are the people on the hall of fame committee? Two of them never played one varsity sport at Linden, yet their goal is to develop the hall.

"Volpe and I are the two who did not grow up in Linden," Luciano said. "We are both from the East Orange/Vailsburg area. Al was an all-state football player up at East Orange High School in the late 1950s and I did my sports at Essex Catholic when it was in Newark."

Luciano beseeched Linden sports historians to help the hall of fame committee determine which players from years ago should be honored by the committee.

"We may know a lot of guys and gals who were great athletes who came out of Linden, but we don't know enough," Luciano said, "especially the older guys who might have been outstanding athletes in the 1920s, we don't know who they are, but there are people out there who know who they are. So, we encourage people to submit their names and their information and we will go through it in our selection process."

The Linden Hall of Fame Committee is planning a breakfast around the end of September to be held at Nuno's in Linden.

"We want people to come out and meet us so that we get started and hopefully pick up some corporate sponsorships," Luciano said.

Staff Writer Jeff Cummins may be reached for comment at jcummins@thelocalsource.com.

Union County grid schedules revised

Season kicks off Sept. 8-9

The 2006 high school football season will kick off nine weeks from tomorrow.

The campaign begins the weekend of Sept. 8-9, which is Week Zero.

The only county schools to open the following weekend - which is Week One - are Johnson and New Providence.

Dayton has varsity football for the first time since 2000.

The longest tenured coaches in the county now are Frank Bottone at New Providence since the 1960s and Bucky McDonald at Linden since 1985.

Here's a revised look at all 17 of the Union County schedules for 2006:

UNION FARMERS
Sept. 9 at Irvington, 1 p.m.
Sept. 15 Montclair, 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.
Oct. 7 at Westfield, 2 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Plainfield, 1 p.m.
Oct. 20 Scotch Plains, 7 p.m.
Oct. 27 Bridgewater-Raritan, 7 pm.
Nov. 3 at Shabazz, 7 p.m.
Nov. 23 Linden, 10:30 p.m.
2005: 7-4
Head coach: Marc Crisafi

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ROSELLE PARK PANTHERS
Sept. 9 at Metuchen, 1 p.m.
Sept. 15 at Middlesex, 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 Highland Park, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 29 Dayton, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 6 New Providence, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 13 at Newark Central, 7 p.m.
Oct. 20 at Brearley, 7 p.m.
Nov. 3 Cardinal McCarrick, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 23 Roselle, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 6-4
Head coach: James Foy

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BREARLEY BEARS
Sept. 8 Cardinal McCarrick, 7 p.m.
Sept. 21 Dayton, 7 p.m.
Sept. 30 at New Providence, 1 p.m.
Oct. 6 Cranford, 7 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Rahway, 1 p.m.
Oct. 20 Roselle Park, 7 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Iselin Kennedy, 1 p.m.
Nov. 3 Highland Park, 7 p.m.
Nov. 23 at Hillside, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 10-2
Head coach: Scott Miller

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DAYTON BULLDOGS
Sept. 8 at Highland Park, 7 p.m.
Sept. 15 at Manville, 7 p.m.
Sept. 21 at Brearley, 7 p.m.
Sept. 29 at Roselle Park, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 6 at Ridgefield Memorial, 7:30
Oct. 14 at Cardinal McCarrick, 1 p.m.
Oct. 21 at New Providence, 1 p.m.
Oct. 27 at Bound Brook, 7 p.m.
Nov. 4 at Metuchen, 2 p.m.
2005 JV: 3-5
Head coach: Joe Goerge

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SUMMIT HILLTOPPERS
Sept. 9 Mendham, 1:30 p.m.
Sept. 16 West Essex, 1:30 p.m.
Sept. 22 Parsippany, 1:30 p.m.
Sept. 30 at Chatham, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 7 Hanover Park, 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Parsippany Hills, 2 p.m.
Oct. 20 at Dover, 7 p.m.
Oct. 28 Weequahic, 1:30 p.m.
Nov. 4 Morris Hills, 2:30 p.m.
2005: 1-9
Head coach: George DiGrande

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GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON HIGHLANDERS
Sept. 9 Roselle, 1 p.m.
Sept. 16 Johnson, 1 p.m.
Sept. 21 Newark Central, 3 p.m.
Sept. 29 at Bishop Ahr, 7 p.m.
Oct. 14 Hillside, 1 p.m.
Oct. 21 at Rahway, 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 Newark East Side, 1 p.m.
Nov. 3 at North Plainfield, 7 p.m.
Nov. 23 at New Providence, 11 a.m.
2005: 6-4
Head coach: Terry Hanratty

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ELIZABETH MINUTEMEN
Sept. 8 Plainfield, 7 p.m.
Sept. 16 at Hudson Catholic, 1 p.m.
Sept. 22 Union, 7 p.m.
Sept. 30 Irvington, 1 p.m.
Oct. 6 Shabazz, 7 p.m.
Oct. 21 at Westfield, 1 p.m.
Oct. 27 at Linden, 7 p.m.
Nov. 4 at Newark East Side, 2 p.m.
Nov. 22 Scotch Plains, 7 p.m.
2005: 6-4
Head coach: Chet Parlavecchio

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HILLSIDE COMETS
Sept. 9 Passaic, 1 p.m.
Sept. 16 Rahway, 1 p.m.
Sept. 30 at Johnson, 1 p.m.
Oct. 7 Newark Central, 1 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Gov. Livingston, 1 p.m.
Oct. 21 Roselle, 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 New Providence, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 at Spotswood, 2 p.m.
Nov. 23 Brearley, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 3-7
Head coach: Jim Hopke

LINDEN TIGERS
Sept. 9 at Westfield, 1 p.m.
Sept. 15 at Shabazz, 7 p.m.
Sept. 29 Cranford, 7 p.m.
Oct. 6 Irvington, 7 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Scotch Plains, 1 p.m.
Oct. 20 Plainfield, 7 p.m.
Oct. 27 Elizabeth, 7 p.m.
Nov. 3 Old Bridge, 7 p.m.
Nov. 23 at Union, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 6-4
Head coach: Bucky McDonald

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RAHWAY INDIANS
Sept. 8 at Cranford, 7 p.m.
Sept. 16 at Hillside, 1 p.m.
Sept. 24 at New Providence, 1 p.m.
Sept. 29 at North Plainfield, 7 p.m.
Oct. 14 Brearley, 1 p.m.
Oct. 21 Governor Livingston, 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 Roselle, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 Newark Central, 2 p.m.
Nov. 23 at Johnson, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 8-3
Head coach: Gary Mobley

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ROSELLE RAMS
Sept. 9 at Gov. Livingston, 1 p.m.
Sept. 23 Johnson, 1 p.m.
Sept. 30 at Newark Central, 1 p.m.
Oct. 7 Kearny, 1 p.m.
Oct. 14 Newark East Side, 2 p.m.
Oct. 21 at Hillside, 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Rahway, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 New Providence, 2 p.m.
Nov. 23 at Roselle Park, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 3-7
Head coach: Chris Satterfield

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CRANFORD COUGARS
Sept. 8 Rahway, 7 p.m.
Sept. 15 Westfield, 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 at Newark East Side, 2 p.m.
Sept. 29 at Linden, 7 p.m.
Oct. 6 at Brearley, 7 p.m.
Oct. 13 Kearny, 7 p.m.
Oct. 20 Shabazz, 7 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Scotch Plains, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 at Irvington, 2 p.m.
2005: 6-4
Head coach: Erik Rosenmeier

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JOHNSON CRUSADERS
Sept. 16 at Gov. Livingston, 1 p.m.
Sept. 23 at Roselle, 1 p.m.
Sept. 30 Hillside, 1 p.m.
Oct. 7 Hackettstown, 1 p.m.
Oct. 14 New Providence, 2 p.m.
Oct. 21 at Spotswood, 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Newark Central, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 Iselin Kennedy, 1 p.m.
Nov. 23 Rahway, 10:30 a.m.
2005: 7-3
Head coach: Gus Kalikas

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PLAINFIELD CARDINALS
Sept. 8 at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.
Sept. 16 Irvington, 1 p.m.
Sept. 23 Shabazz, 1 p.m.
Sept. 30 at Scotch Plains, 1 p.m.
Oct. 7 Hackensack, 2 p.m.
Oct. 14 Union, 1 p.m.
Oct. 20 at Linden, 7 p.m.
Nov. 3 at Bridgewater-Raritan, 7 p.m.
Nov. 23 Westfield, 11 a.m.
2005: 6-4
Head coach: Clinton Jones

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WESTFIELD BLUE DEVILS
Sept. 9 Linden, 1 p.m.
Sept. 15 at Cranford, 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 at Kearny, 2 p.m.
Oct. 7 Union, 2 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Irvington, 1 p.m.
Oct. 21 Elizabeth, 1 p.m.
Oct. 27 at Shabazz, 7 p.m.
Nov. 4 Scotch Plains, 2 p.m.
Nov. 23 at Plainfield, 11 a.m.
2005: 1-9
Head coach: Jim DeSarno

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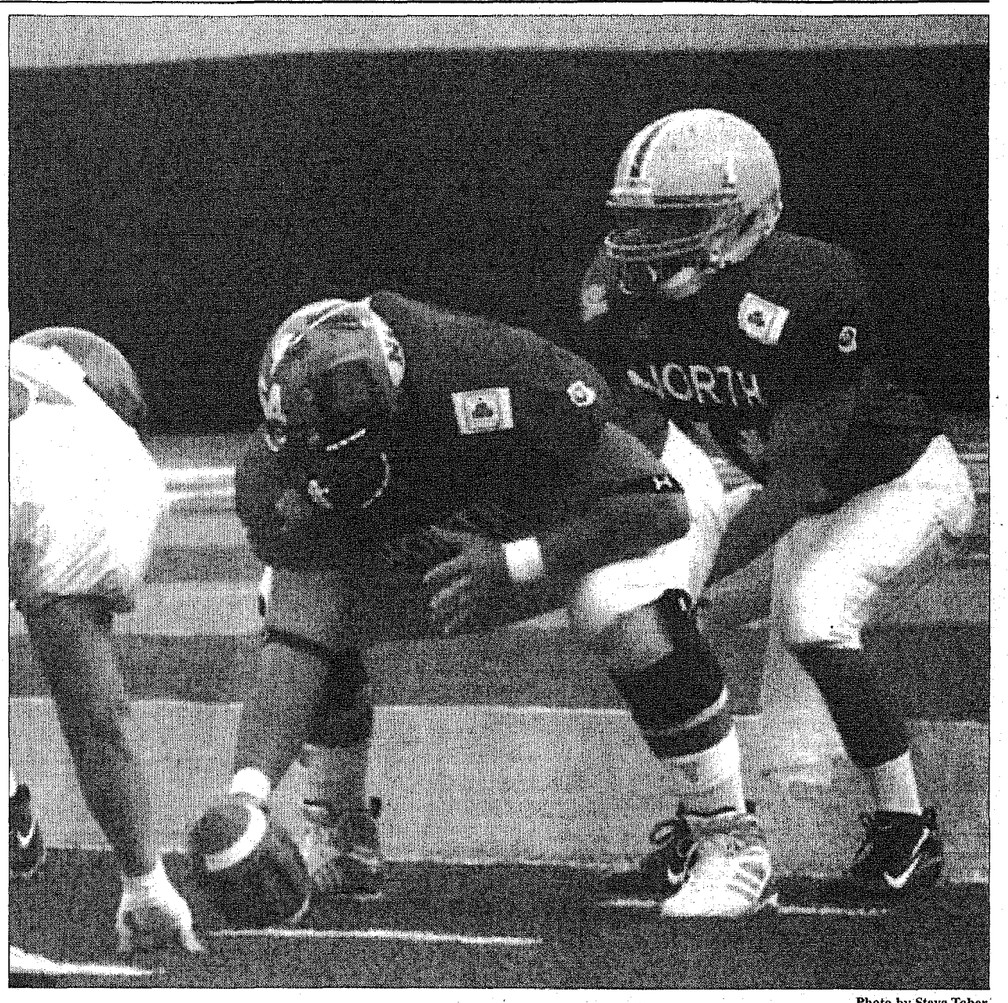
SCOTCH PLAINS RAIDERS
Sept. 8 at Shabazz, 7 p.m.
Sept. 16 Newark East Side, 1 p.m.
Sept. 22 at Irvington, 3 p.m.
Sept. 30 Plainfield, 1 p.m.
Oct. 14 Linden, 1 p.m.
Oct. 20 at Union, 7 p.m.
Oct. 28 Cranford, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 at Westfield, 2 p.m.
Nov. 22 at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.
2005: 3-7
Head coach: Steve Ciccotelli

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NEW PROVIDENCE PIONEERS
Sept. 15 at Newark Central, 7 p.m.
Sept. 24 Rahway, 1 p.m.
Sept. 30 Brearley, 1 p.m.
Oct. 6 at Roselle Park, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 14 at Johnson, 2 p.m.
Oct. 21 Dayton, 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Hillside, 1 p.m.
Nov. 4 at Roselle, 2 p.m.
Nov. 23 Gov. Livingston, 11 a.m.
2005: 7-4
Head coach: Frank Bottone

NOTES: New head coaches in Union County for the coming season include Jim DeSarno at Westfield, James Foy at Roselle Park and Chet Parlavecchio at Elizabeth.

JR Parachini, Sports Editor
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Organizations submitting news releases to the sports section can email copy to:
JR@thelocalsource.com



North center Ray Wegrzynek of Linden snaps the ball to quarterback Tommy Hennessy of Morris Knolls in last Thursday night's North-South All-Star Game at Rutgers. The next All-Star event is the Snapple Bowl July 20 at East Brunswick. The 2006 high school season kicks off Sept. 8-9.

Photo by Steve Tober

Clark Senior Legion squad is learning the finer points

Baseball team gaining valuable experience

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

CLARK – When Matt Reszko hit a shot to left field in the first inning that resulted in a triple, he helped Clark get off to a good start in last Friday's Senior American Legion baseball game vs. Scotch Plains.

Unfortunately, that good feeling didn't last too long.

The closest thing to a true turning point came when Scotch Plains scored four runs on one hit and two errors in the top of the third en route to a 10-3 triumph.

Although the game was played at Johnson High School, Scotch Plains was the home team. The visitors dropped to 2-8-1, while Scotch Plains improved to 9-2.

"When you see something like Reszko's triple, you think 'Here we go,'" Clark head coach Matt Cilento said. "That's something we have been doing. We have been leaving guys on base. We get our leadoff hitter on and we get a man on second, but we haven't been getting that timely hitting. That's a learning thing with these kids."

The bottom line was that Scotch Plains was simply more experienced.

"We're young," Cilento said. "We have a lot of sophomores. We had a freshman on the mound today. They are working hard. We just have to do the routine stuff like knocking down the ball and not giving up extra bases.

"Besides that, I can't criticize how hard they play. Today was one of the rougher games, but all year we have had a lot of one-run games. We previously lost to Roselle 4-3. Our pitchers have been pitching well, but we've given up too many two-out hits that keep the other team rolling. We have been getting hurt in the first two or three innings. That's where we really haven't been focused. Then, in the middle of the game, we get rolling and that's where we score all our runs."

So, the box score showed a tough defeat for Clark, but it didn't show that Clark is gaining valuable experience and building for next year and the year after that. Quietly, Clark was doing a lot of little things well.

Clark's hitters don't lack for power. That much was obvious on Tommy Haddad's long double in the second inning. Once Scotch Plains realized the power Haddad had, its outfielders began to play him deeper. Sure, Clark only had four base hits for the entire game, but three of those were extra-base shots.

Power wasn't the only thing in Clark's arsenal. Ryan Dugan laid down a picture-perfect bunt along the third base line to lead off the top of the seventh.

Clark definitely has the building blocks for a solid future.

"We just have to put it together for seven innings," Cilento said. "It really is a learning experience for our guys. In the level we're playing in, the senior legion, all these other teams have older guys. They have juniors, seniors and freshmen in college and we have nobody like that. We're just trying to get better for next year and that's what our summer is for."

Staff Writer Jeff Cummins may be reached for comment at jcummins@thelocalsource.com.

American Legion baseball heats up

The following is a look at the remainder of the Union County Senior American Legion and Junior American Legion baseball schedules for this summer:

SENIOR AMERICAN LEGION
July 6:
Westfield at Scotch Plains, 5:45 p.m.
Vikings at Rams, 5:45 p.m.
Watchung Hills at Elizabeth, 5:45 p.m.
July 7:
Roselle at Elizabeth, 5:45 p.m.
Vikings at New Providence, 5:45 p.m.
Clark at Linden, 8 p.m.
July 8:
Clark at Westfield, 10:45 a.m.
Linden at Union, 8 p.m.
July 9:
Elizabeth at Westfield, 10:45 a.m.
Cranford at Rams, 10:45 a.m.
July 10:
Roselle at Cranford, 5:45 p.m.
S. Plains at Watchung Hills, 5:45 p.m.
B. Heights at New Prov., 5:45 p.m.
Clark at Union, 8 p.m.
July 11:
Rams at Watchung Hills, 5:45 p.m.
B. Heights at S. Plains, 5:45 p.m.
Westfield at New Prov., 5:45 p.m.
Vikings at Linden, 8 p.m.
July 12:
Watchung Hills at Roselle, 5:45 p.m.
Elizabeth at Cranford, 5:45 p.m.
New Providence at Vikings, 5:45 p.m.
Rams at Linden, 8 p.m.
July 13:
B. Heights at Westfield, 5:45 p.m.
Union at Scotch Plains, 5:45 p.m.
Rams at Vikings, 5:45 p.m.
July 14:
Westfield at Roselle, 5:45 p.m.
Elizabeth at Watchung Hills, 5:45 p.m.
Cranford at Vikings, 5:45 p.m.
Berkeley Heights at Union, 8 p.m.

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JUNIOR AMERICAN LEGION
July 6:
Watchung Hills at Westfield, 5:45 p.m.
Cranford at Kenilworth, 5:45 p.m.
Scotch Plains at Springfield, 5:45 p.m.
Plainfield at Summit, 5:45 p.m.
Union at Vikings, 5:45 p.m.
Clark at Rarhway, 5:45 p.m.
Rams at Roselle Park, 7 p.m.
July 7:
S. Plains at Roselle Park, 5:30 p.m.
Roselle Park at Scotch Plains, DH
Plainfield at Roselle, 5:45 p.m.
Berkeley Heights at Celtics, 5:45 p.m.
Clark at New Providence, 5:45 p.m.
Rams at Summit, 5:45 p.m.
Rahway at Springfield, 5:45 p.m.
Westfield at Kenilworth, 5:45 p.m.
July 8:
New Prov. at Springfield, 10:45 a.m.
Vikings at Kenilworth, 10:45 a.m.
Summit at B. Heights, 10:45 a.m.
July 9:
Plainfield at Scotch Plains, 10:45 a.m.
Watchung Hills at Vikings, 10:45 a.m.
Summit at Roselle Park, 10:45 p.m.
All-Star Game at Krausche, 7 p.m.
July 10:
Springfield at Kenilworth, 5:45 p.m.
Roselle Park at B. Heights, 5:45 p.m.
New Prov. at Plainfield, 5:45 p.m.
Rams at Roselle, 5:45 p.m.
Summit at Rahway, 5:45 p.m.
Watchung Hills at Linden, 5:45 p.m.
Vikings at Clark, 5:45 p.m.
July 11:
Clark at Celtics, 5:45 p.m.
Roselle at Scotch Plains, 5:45 p.m.
Springfield at Westfield, 5:45 p.m.
Rams at Vikings, 5:45 p.m.
Roselle Park at Cranford, 5:45 p.m.
July 12:
Union at Berkeley Heights, 5:45 p.m.
Clark at Linden, 5:45 p.m.
New Providence at Rahway, 5:45 p.m.
Cranford at Plainfield, 5:45 p.m.
Summit at Scotch Plains, 5:45 p.m.
July 13:
Rams at Scotch Plains, 5:45 p.m.
Kenilworth at New Prov., 5:45 p.m.
Summit at Watchung Hills, 5:45 p.m.
Springfield at Celtics, 5:45 p.m.
Westfield at Linden, 5:45 p.m.
July 14:
Roselle at Roselle Park, 5:30 p.m.
Roselle Park at Roselle, DH
Union at Watchung Hills, 5:45 p.m.
Westfield at Celtics, 5:45 p.m.
Clark at Cranford, 5:45 p.m.
New Providence at Summit, 5:45 p.m.
Kenilworth at Linden, 8 p.m.
July 15:
All-Star Game, Union Catholic, noon.
July 17:
Coaches meeting at Roselle, 8 p.m.
July 19: County Tournament

Roadrunners seek players for fall season

The Springfield Roadrunners 11-and-under traveling soccer team is looking for players from all towns for the upcoming fall 2006 season.

Players' birth dates must be after July 31, 1995. Applicants need not be from Springfield.

More information about the team may be obtained by calling 973-902-3374 or 973-979-9408.

Also, the Soccer Club of Springfield has its next board meeting scheduled to take place on July 20 at 8:30 p.m. at the Chisholm YMCA in Springfield.

Summit's Cuneo is honored at Dartmouth

Lizzy Cuneo of Summit, a senior on the Dartmouth College women's lacrosse team, earned First Team All-Ivy League recognition as voted by the league coaches.

Cuneo was Dartmouth's top defender and helped anchor the Big Green's defensive unit.

Dartmouth yielded only 6.76 goals per game, which ranked second nationally.

For her outstanding performance last season, Cuneo was a Second Team All-Ivy choice.

Elizabeth's Barnes excels for NJCU track

Ebony Barnes of Elizabeth was part of a New Jersey City University women's track relay team that did well to finish fourth out of 21 teams in 49.05 seconds at the Division 3 Eastern College Athletic Conference Outdoor championships held in late May at Springfield College in Springfield, Mass.

A freshman, Barnes also raced to the line in the 100-meter dash in 12.59 seconds to claim third place after finishing sixth in the 100 preliminaries in 12.63.

She ran 26.26 in the 200 dash and listed ninth.

Linden boots RC in 7-on-7 girls' soccer

The Linden Recreation sponsored girls' soccer team, competing in the Union Catholic High School 7-on-7 Summer League, shut out the team representing Roselle Catholic High School by a score of 4-0 last week.

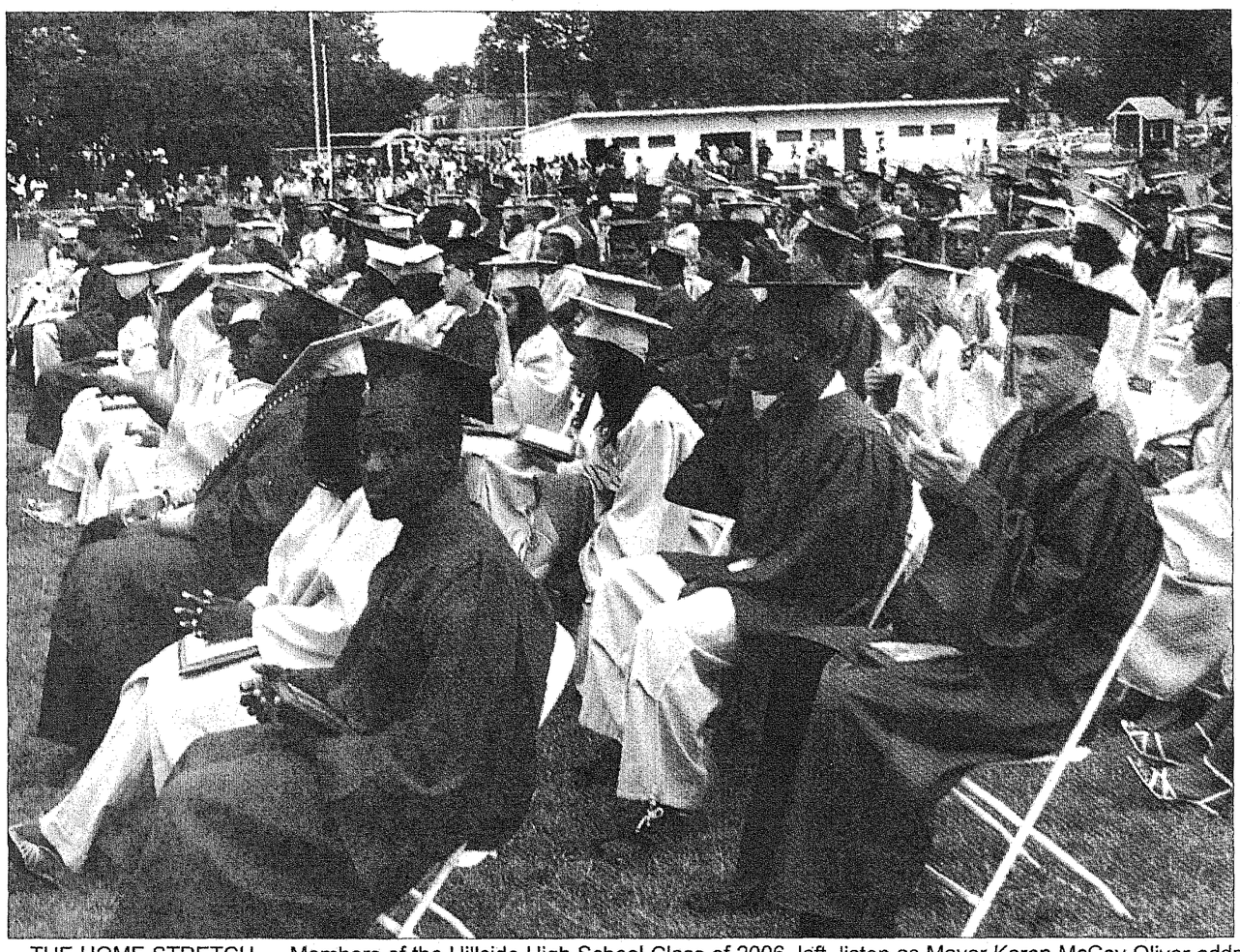
Linden's offense was sparked by Jasmin Juda's two goals and one each by Nicole Surica and Jenn MacDonald.

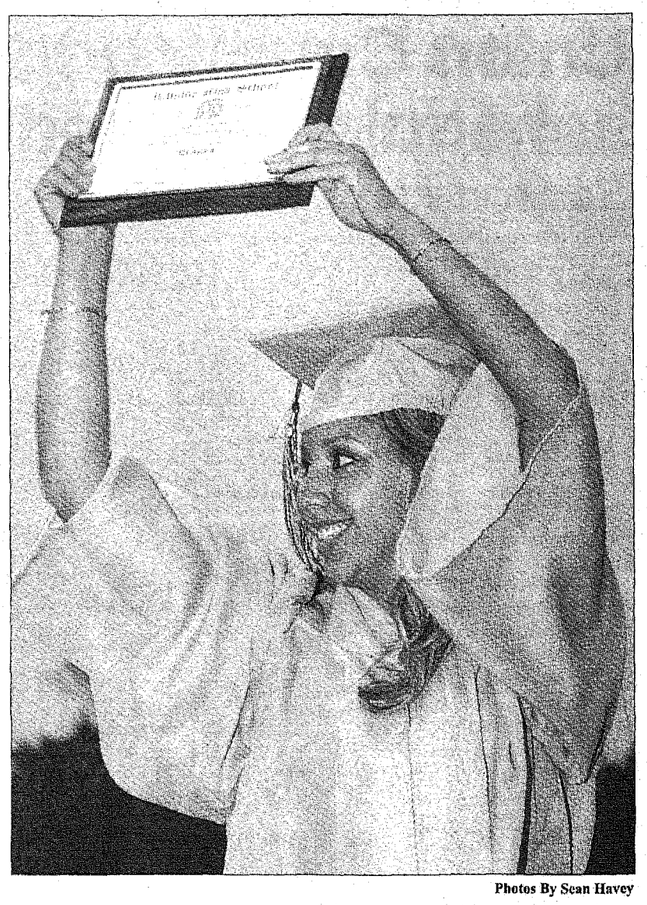
Linden improved to 1-2 with its first triumph.

All games are played at Union Catholic in Scotch Plains.

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Photos By Sean Havey

For more photos, visit www.localsource.com.

THE HOME STRETCH — Members of the Hillside High School Class of 2006, left, listen as Mayor Karen McCoy Oliver addresses graduates and guests during the commencement ceremony June 23. Students, including Noemi Adriana Gonzalez, right, smiled, applauded and cheered for one another and themselves as they accepted their diplomas and walked back to their seats to join fellow graduates.

Class of 2006 bids farewell to Hillside HS

The following students graduated from Hillside High School on June 23:

Camille Nicole Allen
Bruno Almedia
Jeremy Justin Anderson
Timothy A. Anderson
Nahir M. Arcos
Julissa I. Arroyo
Rhakiyyah Naomi Bagley
Ashira Jere Beasley
Jocelyn Michelle Bell
Martine Bien-Aime
Jehmar Maurice Blackwell
Kareen Blemur
Joshua Bota
Alex Rodrigues Brito
John F. Brown
Kareem Charles Brown
Brian K. Byrd
Crystal C. Candies
Michael R. Carreira
Johnathan Santana Chagas
Johnny Cireneu
Jalisa Denise Clark
Marcy Y. Colchado
Dana Cole
Carl Jerrod Coleman
Jasmine Desere Coleman
Jasmine Desere Coleman
Andrew Deen Copeland, Jr.
Stephany Berthe Crepin
Micael M. David
Silvia Pereira DeBrito
Sheila Ruiz Diaz
Janay L. Doctor
Sherrick Doughty
Larry Elisca
Christoper Joseph Escoto
Giovanni Esposito
Rashawn John Lee Evans
Jocelyn Everett-Thornton
Schaheda Fischer
Porsha Renee Fitts
Preston Lamar Fletcher
Jessica Naomi Foster
Angela Karin Gainer
Valencia Garcon
Chrisne B. Garnier
Michelle George
Andre Emilio Gneco
Bernardo Alberto Gneco
Edward Gomez
Ronnie Gomez
Noemi Adriana Gonzalez
Brianna Goss
Kristen Gotell
Bruce Wayne Hunt, Jr.
Natacha Inacio
Tori Noelle Isaac
Porscha J. Ison
Axel Izquierdo
Angelique Celeste Jasper
Aisa Elisha Jemmott
Coree Jenkins
Nathalia Johana JImenez
Nicole Inez Johnson
Leonard Victor Jones
Chanel Nicole Jones
Melanie Ashanti Jones
Terrance K. Jones
Myste Joseph
Victor Kaburia
Linda Kelly
Felippe Kissilevitch
Joiada Ruth Koon
Ashley T. Langry
Janyece Lawson
Jonathan Lazarre
Cyra E. Lewis
Dan-Dan Lin
Bruna Carina Loureiro
Armond J. Lucas
Gregory Leon Luther
Ashley Magalhaes
Jeannette M. Martinez
Krystle McCall
Brittney Joy McCalister
Destini McClain
Javonn D. McCluney
Christina Ashley McKoy
Shuntanee Joy McNeill
Alfredo Samel Mejia
Yajaira Mejias
Daniella Raquel Mendoza
Edward Mills III

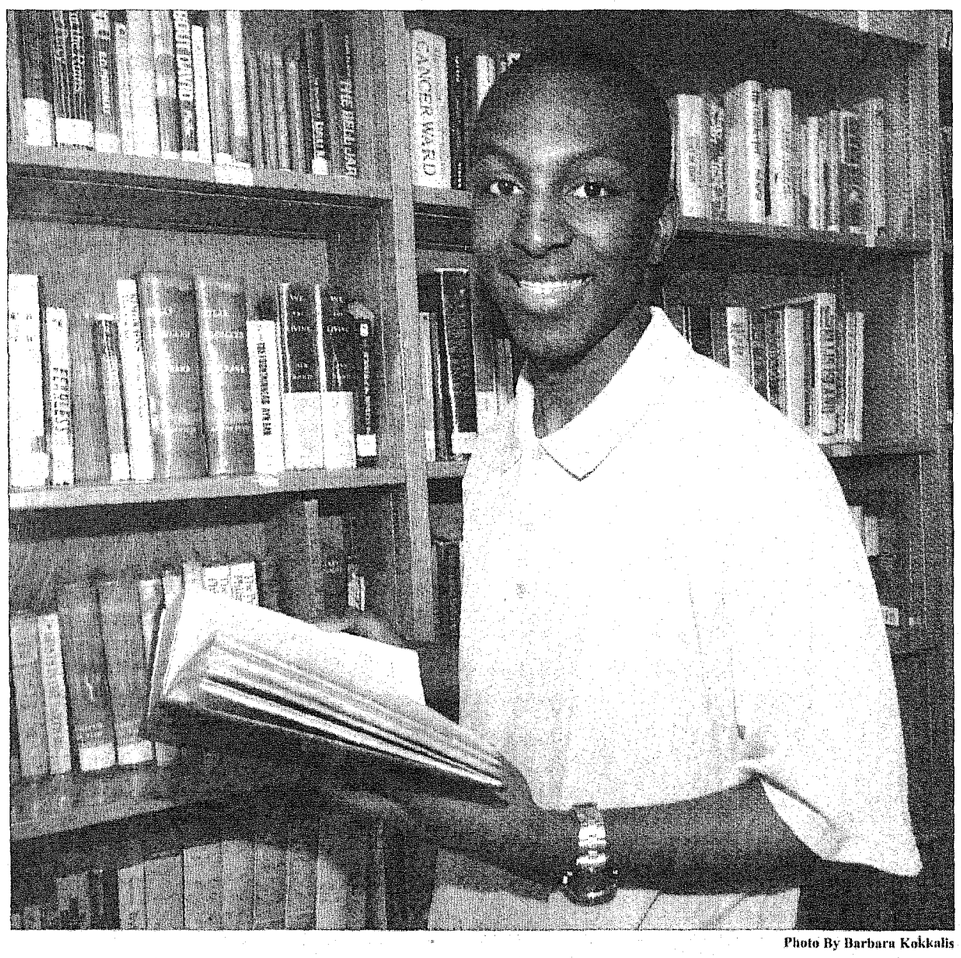


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

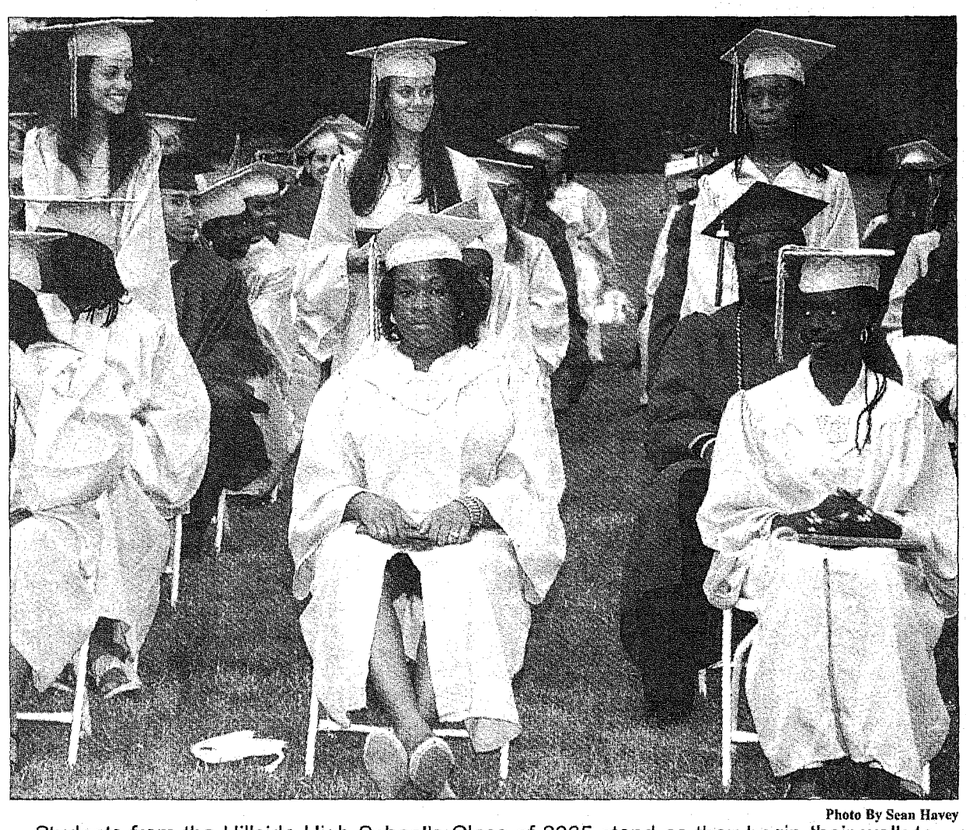


Photo By Sean Havey

Students from the Hillside High School's Class of 2005 stand as they begin their walk to the stage to accept their diplomas during the May 23 graduation ceremony.

Fateara V. Mines
Juan Luis Miranda
Katherine Montilla
Michael Moreira
Joshua Moya
Vania Moya
Naseer Muhammad
Terrelle L. Myers
Simone Jasmine Napoleon
Adaobi Emilia Ndupu
Jimmie Newsome III
Joseph D. Newton
Jeffrey Kofi Nyanteng
Abosede Marian Odeyemi
Sasha Tameka O'garro
Nicole Anshanae Palmer
Amber Sheree Palmer
Patricia Pato
Gabriel Paul
Corey Lee Pawlicki
Catherine C. Pereira
Sabrina Pierre
Suzaa Pinhancos
Medardo Antonio Polo
Shirley Alexandra Ponce
Michael Prado
Graziella Passos Queiroz
Derick D. Raines
Christian Job Ransom
Robert Cordero Raymond
Aida Jessica Robalo
Travis J. Robinson
Shante S. Rodgers
Emanuel E. Romelus
Peluchy Oge Rossignol
Chanel A. Rutty
Erica Sagaille
Catia Saint Paul
Tasha Santiago
Melissa Badim Santos
Ebony Latrice Scott
Jean Giles Servius
Raeonna Iris Shante Shelton
Kimaada Sills
Keyla Vanessa Silva
Jaquayah Patricia Snipes
Trayahna T. Southerland
Yasmia A. Staton
Janay Andrea Stephens
Sara A. Tavares
Judeah B. Taylor
Kyle A. Teabout
John Theodore Teabout Jr.
Daisy Cafamba Teixeira
Morris DeJone Thomas
Luis Anthony Torres
Stephanie Celina Torres
Spencer Odume Uroma
Cassandra Isca Val
Michael Valente
Daniel Alexander Vela
Kishya M. Velasquez
Paul Edward Veloso
Shalini Verna
Janeyah Najah Vickers
Andrea Villabil
Evelice Villa
Sabrina Ann Wallace-Winn
Adriana Guzma
Ashley Michelle Harvey
Jessica Hernandez
Rabbiyah Michele Hester
Patrick Shamell Hilaire
Marquis Da-Kotah Hodge
Awina P. Horace
LaToya Shante Howard
Stella Okai
Amanda Oliveira
David J. Oliveira
Keilla Sophia Oliveira
Hassanah L. Oliver
Andrea E. Ortiz
Randi Luis Ortiz
Jenine Outley
Brian Michael Williams
Ebony DeLisa Williams
Trevor Wilson
Kendell Woolridge
Jahad Jaleeh Worthington
Jemar Andre Wright
Raberah Yasmeen Wynn
Andrea Young

Good Luck
Class Of 2006
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Union grads prepare to 'change the world'

The following students graduated from Union High School June 22:

Jeff D. Acabou, Jennifer Abena Adjei, Sylvester Adjei, Jennifer Adkins, Adobi Chinenye Aguh, George Agirre, Samuel Agyekum, Adeola Akere, Alan Alfonso Albellera, Bridget Joselyn Alulena, Jose Lewis Alvarez, Kyrstal Noelle Alvarez, Leslie Alvarez, Stephany Alvarez, Matthew A. Alves, Katherine Alvino, Megan P. Amorosa, Marcus Antoine, Chijioke R. Anyanwu, Priscilla Appiah, Keishe Alana April, Erian Bernadette Argonza, Veronica Arias, Anthony Arnold, Witesson Arthur, Linda Asdare, Adonijah Ashley, Iyanna Camile Atwell, Asma Aziz.

Martin Bajana, Marc Sheruaughn Galkaran, Jeremiah Banks, Anthony John Barattucci, Nasrina Bari, Bridget Mane Barney, David Michael Barragan, Brian Anthony Barton, Teara Nik-ole Battle, Regina Joanna Bauer-Wright, Jose Luis Beltran, Orlando Luis Berrios Jr., Nicole Pines Bertolo, Ashley Elizabeth Bettinger, Keren Stephanie Bezner, Michelle Dana Bezner, Andre Vivian Blake, Karolina Blaszczak, Shanice Nikeisha Bogues, Daniel Gerald Bond, Hardem Ricardo Bonheur, Jeremiah B. Bonfacio, Francesca S. Bonny, James Gerard Borghesi, Julayni Nahir Borrero, James S Boureiquot, Sandro Amaral Braga, Adam Brent, Latif Ali Brewer, Christina Natalia Bright, Jaeesa Desiree Brinson, Stepahnie Diamentino Brito, Jessica Shanay Britton, Durell Lamar Brooks, Gregory Brown, Nicole Kathleen Bryant, Jeremy Butler, John Gregory Bulner.

Isabel Lissette Cabrera, Joseph Matthew Cacchiola, Francis Cagulada, Jaquetta Chavon Camacho, Luaren Ashley Canales, Stephanie Lynn Capolupo, Hiromi Alexis Cardoso, Birttani Chante Carter, Joseph Casale, Raymond John Castillo, Manny Ferriera Cavadas, Berly Boisrondson Cebien, Evelyn Chaves, Wedler Cheridor, Frederic L. Cheriscal, Ravi Rajendra Chordia, Francelle Cineus, Geoffrey Cinevert, Christopher Stephen Cisko, Joniae Nayyirah Clairborne, Evens Clerjuste, Claudio Wagner Coelho, Jason Scott Cohen, Daryl Naji Collier, Wesley Marral Collins, Russell Commerford, Luis Coral, Dashaon Coram, Christine Perreira Correia, Steve Correia, Matthew Cotter, Jennifer Rose Covino, Crystal Cox, Danny Anthony Crawford, Julianne Crowley, Joshua N. Cruz, Christopher Cubias, Alison Nicole Cucciniello, Brittany M. Cunningham, Lavina Denise Curry, Calvin Maurice Curtis.

Ashley Jenene Dabney, Mariusz Dabrowski, Marcia Dacosta, Anie Dameus, Tracy Mitchell Daughtry, Michael Joachim David, Andrew De Almeida, Fredrick De Corie Jr., Jonathan J. De Jesus, Amy De Leon, Adam Alexander De Micco, Matilda A. De Souzey, Carmen Mario Dei Medici, Brian Del Busto, Daniel H. Delva, Kireem Eric Dewindt, Amber Di Girolamo, John Diakogiannakis, Andrew David Dias, Keith Dias, Kevin Dias, Daniel Digangi, Alvenice Diggs, Confidence U. Dike, Stephany Valeria Dinatale, Eileen Monica Dizon, Larrya Lynn Dodd, Edward Doherty, Lauren Ann Dombrowski, Sharon Ann Dombrowski, Jessica Comingues, Manoucheka Dorvius, Vladimy Dorzilme, Connie Marie Dovi, Marissa Rose Dragone, Joseph Peter Drylewicz, Melissa Regas Duarte, Elizabeth Rose Duffy, Gedeon Jerry Dulcio, Kyle Edward DuPree.

Michael Alexander Edwards, Chioma Dada Ekeanyariwu, Shadon Kalil El-Amin, Nura M. Elbanna, Jasmine Rezwana Ellis, Catherine Anne Entriken, Stephen Thomas Ernst, Dwight Trudy Escourse, Lynnette Aubrey Esmores, Lisa Marie Esposito, Jenny N. Elienne, Darlene Eugene, Autumn N. Ezeanuna

Ross William Faranda, Aaron Fana, Christopher F. Fastino, Jennifer Fehring, Adam Feins, Reavens H. Fenelon, Brian Manuel Fernandes, Michael Silva Fernandes, Rafael F. Ferandes, Filipe M. Ferreira, Philip Joseph Ferreira, Kristin Marie Fiducia, Peter Edward Fields, Ricardo Figueiredo, Cedrick M. Fils, Visha Amanee Finney, Maliek Wendell Flynn, John G. Follmer, Banca Lee Francis, John Fran Cisco, Daniella Valentina Fulco, Kristin Shea Fulton.

Roanne Vitug Gadia, Gabrielle Dominique Gangemi, George F. Garcia, Darius Edward Gardner, Jasmine Karelle Garland, Samantha Lynn Gaven, Michelle Elizabeth Ghanime, Daphnee Sergina Gilbert, Gregory Gillespie, Carmine Joseph Giusti, Cherl Lynne Giess, Louis C. Glenn, Olivia Davis Glenn, Tarell Baron Glenn, Garrett Bradley Gloss, Jeffrey Anthony Gomes, Akenna Gomez, Anthony Goncalves, Erika Eva Gonzales, Maria Lea Gonzales, Raymond Gerald Gorman, Fatima Gramatica, Vincent Grandeza, Michael Gray, Heather Marie Greco, Darryl S. Green, Whitney Renee Green, Katrina Monae Grier, Jenna R. Grindell, Amanda F. Guardado, Roberto Christian Guerci, Tatiana Fiorella Guerrero, Vicgtoria Ashley Guest, Charles Guobadia.

Sarah Elizabeth Haidle, Anna Monae Hall, Vahidullah Hamidullah, Shadeeha Hardy, Paul Wayne Harper Jr., John Lee Hart, John Anthony Hernandez, Monica Hernando, Kimberly Marie Heyl, Timothy Frederick Hillmann, Jing Hong, Ying Hong, Michael Allen Hooper, Danielle Ashley Horvath, Samantha Louise Hoy, Tarnika Shanir Humphrey, Josey Michael Hunt, Deidra Antoinette Hunter, Javlyn K. Hutchins, Charmele Hylton,

Sophia Jennette Iloh.

Julienne Mark Jacinto, Alisha K. Jackson, Shevon James, Ridine Jean-Philippe, Ted Jean-Philippe, Jazmyne Jenkins, Samuel Tyrone Jenkins, Anastasia Laura Johnson, Jonathan T. Johnson, Roberta Johnson, Stephanie Marie Johnson, Tyneeqah Mokayo-kita Johnson, Ashley Nicole Jones, Azmir Jawain Jones, Khary Kasim Jones, Sharanda Armani Jones, Joren Da von Jordan, Daniela Silvestre Jorge, Jeri Jose, Meril Jose, Johnny John Joseph, Shamir Judson.

Christopher William Kaminski, Sneha Kapoor, Mimes Karcic, Amy Elizabeth Keitel, Samantha Catherine Kileen, Susan Kim, Thomas Joseph King, Sarah Michele Kiniery, Stephen Michael Kirschenbaum, Kyle Patrick Kiss, Michelle Chrystina Klaw, Courtney Knight, Lauren Nicole Knight, Jourden Siobhan Knox, Louis Kolaranda, Joseph Kolas, Timothy Alan Kornblum, Ashly Lynn Lrajewski, Avril Kuo, Nitty Kuruvilla.

Willie Lacy, Dana Michelle Lalevee, Michele L. Lam, Kate Lamoria, Tanisha Conne Lane, Allyson J. Laurel, Annesa Davonne Lawson, Jeffrey Thomas Layden, Michael Lee, Raphael W. Lee, Jennifer Lynn Leivonen, Jennifer Annmarie Lemar, Lauren Levy, Jeremy Bryce Lewis, Dominique Martyne Lightburn, Wilson Dynamite Limage, Christopher Lisa, Katelyn Michele Lisa, Dominique Monet Littlejohn, Key P. Liagas, Timothy William Loessel, Jacob Joannis Loizou, Alyssa Lopez, Lauren Marie Lorenzo, Deana Marie Loria, Liliane E. Louro, Juaneata Leynay Lovett, Thomas Lukas, Rebecca Elizabeth Lynch, Joelle Marie Lynskey.

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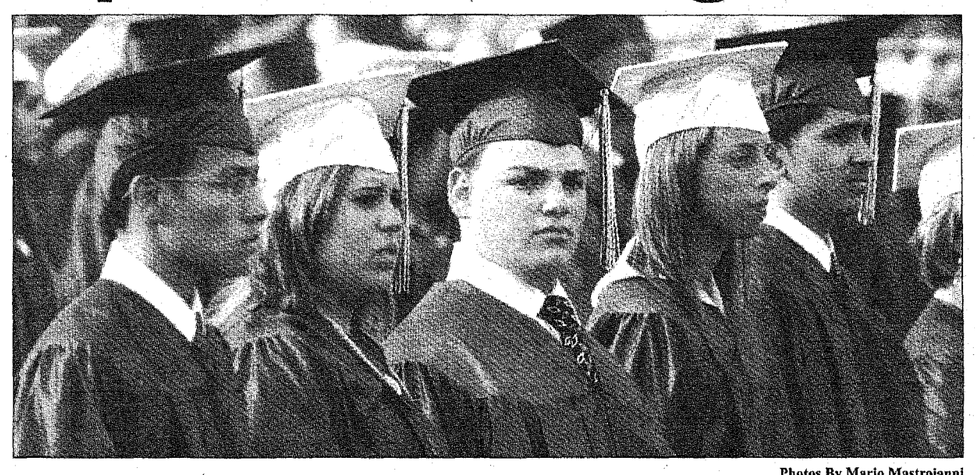
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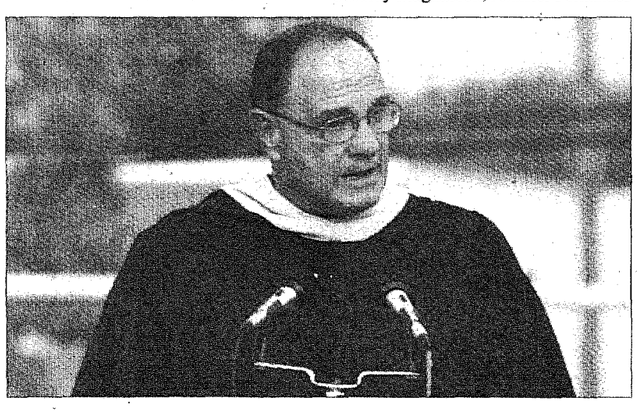
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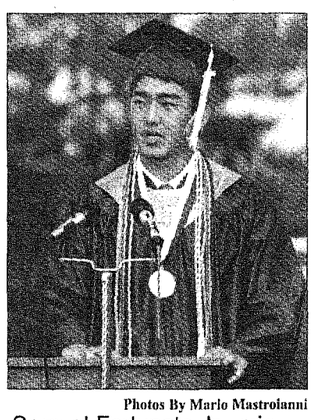
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Photos By Mario Mastroianni

Members of the Union High School Class of 2006 stand as they wait to receive their diplomas during the June 22 graduate ceremony at the high school football field. All commencement photos are available for purchase at www.localsource.com.





Photos By Mario Mastroianni

During the Union High School Class of 2006 commencement, Samuel Fortunato Jr., principal of Union High School, tells graduating seniors that each of them is unique and has the ability to change the world. Earlier, class valedictorian Richard Zhang described the Class of 2006 as 'one of a kind.'

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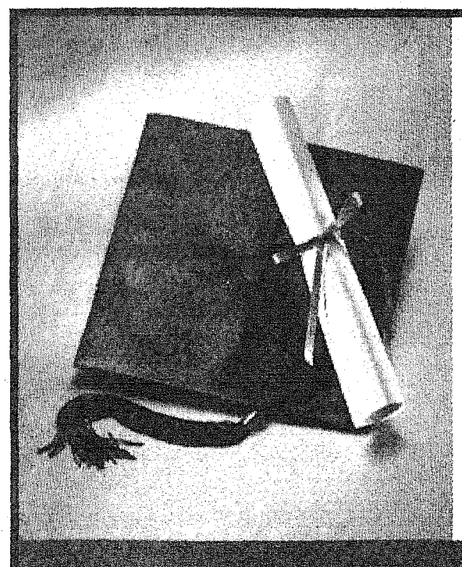
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World Cup wannabes



Photo By Sean Havey

Edward Parra, left, of Elizabeth, practices soccer with his teammate, Jose Guevara, also of Elizabeth, prior to their club soccer game at Warinanco Park.

Elizabeth academy honored

The Rav Teitz Mesivta Academy of the Jewish Center in Elizabeth was recently honored as a "Champion" by the New York Yankees for being one of 17 high schools in the greater New York City that won awards in the 2005-06 New York Yankee High School Blood Donor Championships.

Rav Teitz Mesivta Academy won honors in the "Greatest Number of Donations Per Senior Class Size" category. The Championships are open to all New Jersey high schools that run blood drives with New Jersey Blood Services. A contingent of students and faculty from the academy and its "sister" school, Bruriah High School, attended the June 13 home Yankee game against the Cleveland Indians — with a small group of students being acknowledged in pre-game, on-field Yankee Stadium ceremonies. Steve Karp, the academy's executive director, is also the school's blood drive chairperson.

The New York Yankees High School Blood Donor Championships is in its 10th year. For the 2005-06 scholastic year, participating high schools voluntarily donated more than 50,000 pints of blood. Over the last decade the Yankee effort has been credited with collecting over 300,000 units of blood. The program is a joint effort by the Yankees and the New York Blood Center. Four New Jersey high schools were honored for running successful and productive blood drive campaigns with New Jersey Blood Services — a division of NYBC.

New Jersey Blood Services holds blood drives in a 14-county region in Central and Northern New Jersey, while providing life-saving blood products to more than 60 New Jersey hospitals.

High schools interested in the Blood Donor Championships can call 732-220-7101.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Auction at Devon Self Storage- 625 Glenwood Ave., Hillside N.J. 07205 on July 20, 2006 at 11a.m. Property contains in the following units, will be sold to the highest bidder to satisfy the owners' lien for rent under N.J. code section 2A44 - 187ETSEQ. Units 2012 James Carey has household, office and others items, 1023 James A. Walker has household, clothing and furniture items, 1027 Reginald Torain has household, clothing and furniture items, 1069 Shelly D. Larkins has household and furniture items, 1110 Edward Adams has commercial items, A20 Darrin Melvin has household, clothing and furniture items and D23 Sarah Dozier has household, clothing and furniture items. Auction is with reserve. Devon Self Storage reserves the right to set minimum bids and to refuse bids. Cash only.
July 6, 13, 2006
U150939 WCN ($36.00)

COUNTY NEWS

Division on Aging brings aid to seniors

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

Division on Aging staff will assist seniors with information and help in applying for a variety of government assistance programs, including gas and electric support, pharmaceutical assistance and home energy assistance. There will also be screening for Supplemental Security Income eligibility, and information about the Senior Health Insurance Program.

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

The Outreach Services Program will visit the following locations:

- July 13, from 10 a.m. to noon at Jefferson Park Ministries, 477 Madison Ave., Elizabeth.
- July 24, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Supremo Supermarket, 249 East Front St., Plainfield.
- July 24, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Twin City Supermarket, 600 Park Ave., Plainfield.
- July 26, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Elizabeth Towers, 315 West Grand St., Elizabeth.
- July 27, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Supremo Supermarket, 25 South Broad St., Elizabeth.
- July 27, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Twin City Supermarket, 1016 Sherman Ave., Elizabeth.
- July 28, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Universal Supermarket, 2325 Elizabeth Ave., Rahway.

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

Bureau offers tips to combat mosquitos

The County of Union will enlist county residents in the annual war against mosquito population. The county has several programs to manage the mosquitoes, and residents are being asked to join the fight.

The Union County Bureau of Mosquito Control conducts surveillance from March to November, seeking out potential breeding spots. Once the warm weather sets in, urban backyards, suburban neighborhoods and industrial areas can all provide breeding grounds.

The Bureau of Mosquito Control also collects mosquitoes from 26 New Jersey light traps throughout Union County, allowing the Bureau to identify places where mosquitoes are breeding rapidly and target them for action.

All mosquitoes require standing water — water that persists for four days — to develop. A female mosquito needs only a tiny amount of standing water in which to breed. The eggs hatch into larvae, which develop into mosquitoes in about two weeks.

One of the most overlooked problem areas is back yard swimming pools and pool covers. Other problem areas include chronic ponding in yards, as well as in wooded areas. Discarded tires and plastic buckets also provide some of the most ideal breeding spots.

There are many ways residents can win the war on the mosquito population:

- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and remove water that collects on pool covers.
- Dispose of cans and plastic containers; turn over empty flower pots, toys, and any other object that can hold even small amounts of water.
- Dispose of old tires, a favorite breeding place for mosquitoes.
- To prevent trash cans and recycling containers from collecting water, keep tight lids on them, drill holes in the bottom, or store them in an enclosed space.
- Clean roof gutters regularly.
- Empty out plastic wading pools at least every three days.
- Turn over wheelbarrows.
- Change water in birdbaths every three days.

Union County residents are urged to call the Bureau of Mosquito Control at 908-654-9834 to report possible mosquito breeding areas in their communities. Residents who have a question about mosquito problems on their property can receive a free inspection from the bureau.

The bureau answers all calls within 24 hours. To ensure a return call residents must leave their name and phone number, including area code.

Summer is here and pools have opened

The county's two outdoor swimming facilities — the Walter E. Ulrich Memorial Pool in Rahway River Park, and the John Russell Wheeler Pool, at West Stimpson Avenue and Route 1 in Linden — are now open for the public's enjoyment.

Patrons should be aware that temporary daily closings might occur at either pool during the summer due to a statewide shortage of qualified lifeguards. The county of Union has made an exhaustive recruiting effort in this regard but shortages may affect pool capacity or the opening of the dive tank or kiddie pools, especially in August, when college students return to school. If closings are to occur, revised pool schedules will be posted in advance. It is the county's intent to keep both facilities operating at their full capacity, but the safety of swimming patrons might dictate temporary adjustments to the pools' regular operations.

Daily admission fees are $5 for adult county residents; $10 for out-of-county adults. Discounted rates are available for youths (17 years and younger) and seniors (62 and older.) Ten and 30-visit discount cards are also on sale. Identification will be required before admission or the out-of-county rate will be charged. No one under the age of 12 will be admitted without an adult.

Scheduled hours of operation will be as follows:

- Walter E. Ulrich Pool, Rahway River Park, St. Georges Avenue, Rahway,

Monday and Wednesday 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and holidays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- John Russell Wheeler Pool, Wheeler Park, West Stimpson Ave. and Route 1, Linden,

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and holidays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A variety of swim lessons are available at the Ulrich Pool. For more information call either Ulrich Pool 732-381-4045 or Wheeler Pool 908-862-0977.

Community Dining Guide

Fast & Friendly .....To Sit Down Elegant

City Tavern

* * * * *

By Dan Burns
Staff Writer

You don't have to be in the mood to dine at the City Tavern at 1109 Elizabeth Ave., in Elizabeth. The restaurant and bar is a great place to go no matter what type of food and drink you're in the mood for.

The menu features an array of steak, seafood, chicken and pasta dishes, almost all of them priced in the $10-$18 range. Most of the dishes feature Spanish or Italian cuisine.

When I first entered the tavern, I noticed it was a charming place with a neighborhood feel to it. It is a suitable setting for a small business lunch, a dinner date, a family meal or drinks with friends.

The tavern's owner, Concetta Bongiovi, said a lot of different people patronize her tavern, especially business people during the day and neighborhood residents in the evening.

After sampling the fresh bread basket they brought to my table, I ordered a plate of linguini with garlic and olive oil. My dining companion ordered shrimp and chicken in a spicy red sauce.

Although I was looking forward to the pasta, I became a little jealous when I saw my friend's dish come out of the kitchen. The waiter carried three separate plates: one each for the main dish, yellow rice concoction and french fries.

My friend said the chicken and shrimp, covered with vegetables and sauce, tasted terrific. He said the rice was even better, calling it "the best yellow rice he's ever had."

My pasta was served with plenty of fresh garlic, just the way I like it. There was an array of other pastas and sauces available as well, including fettuccini alfredo and penne in pink vodka sauce.

Bongiovi said the skirt steak and various meat skillet dishes are some of City Tavern's most popular meals.

I recommend that anyone who eats at the City Tavern order dessert, even if you're full from dinner. The dessert portions will satisfy your sweet tooth, but they're small enough that you won't feel as if you're overstuffing yourself. I had the flan and my friend ordered tiramasu. Both desserts were very good.

My friend and I left the tavern satisfied. We both agree that the City Tavern is a great place to eat, whether you feel like a quick, low-key meal or a three-course feast.

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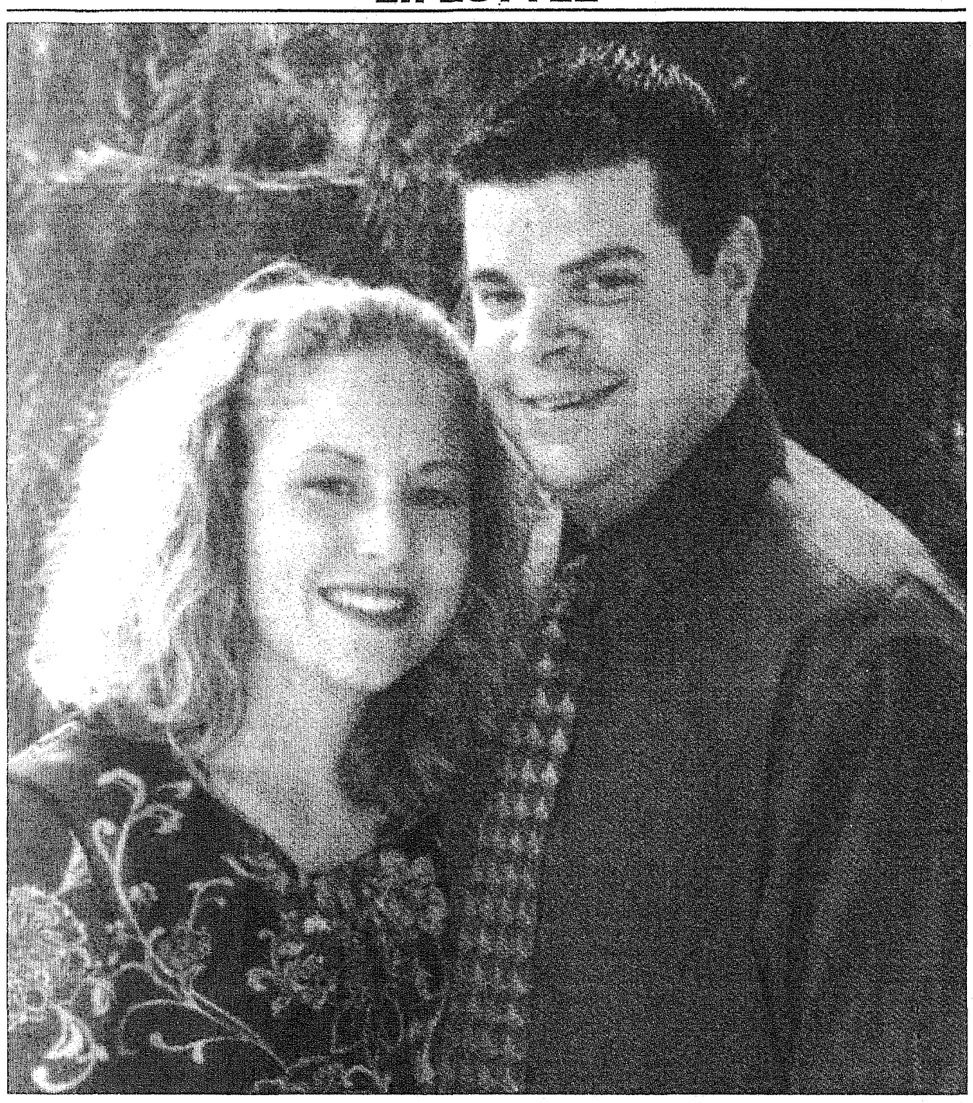
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LIFESTYLE



Michelle Olas and Donald Alvarez

Olas and Alvarez to be married next year

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Olas of Clark announces the engagement of his daughter, Michelle Olas, to Donald Alvarez, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jeranek of Union and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Alvarez of Green Valley, Ariz.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison, and is employed by the Kenilworth Board of Education as middle school mathematics teacher. The future groom is employed by Old Dominion Freight Line of Edison.

A July 2007 wedding is planned.

In step

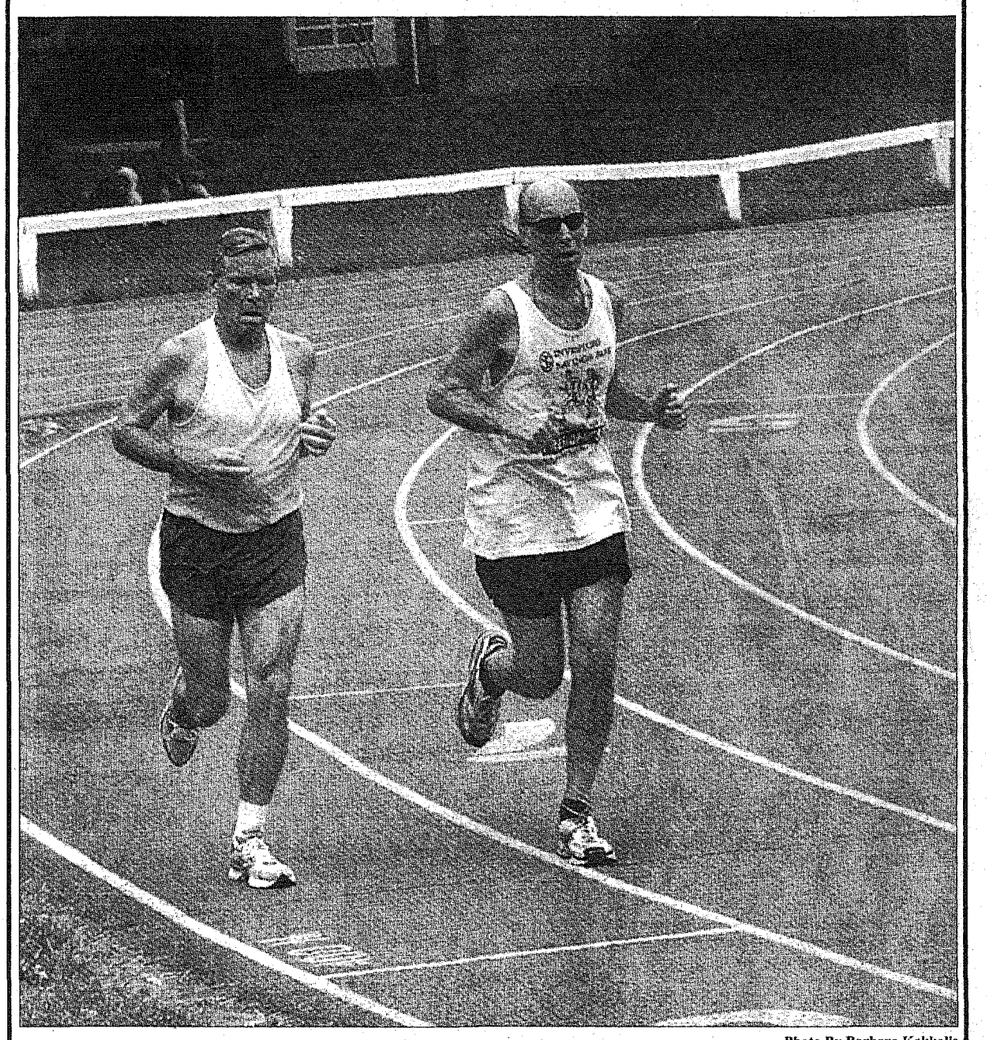


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Joggers work their way around the track at Warinanco Park last month.

Engagement announcement policy

Couples are encouraged to send their engagement and wedding announcements to the lifestyle editor. Forms can be found and submitted online at www.localsource.com, under the tab marked "info." Digital photos can also be submitted online.

All announcements should have a daytime phone number for verification or it time a questions arise.

Therapist to speak on children's milestones

Mothers and More meets July 19

At its July 19 meeting, the Union County Chapter of Mothers & More will host pediatric occupational therapist Heather Lawrence who will speak on the appropriate developmental milestones for toddlers, preschoolers and early school-aged children from an occupational therapy perspective.

Lawrence will also discuss occupational therapy intervention for children with developmental delays.

The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. at the Fanwood Recreation Center located in Forest Road Park in Fanwood. The meeting will also be an opportunity for interested persons in the area to find out more about the chapter's other activities, which include mom and tot outings, mom's night out, playgroups, and a book club.

Mothers & More is a national, non-profit organization that champions the value and necessity of all mothers' work to our society, paid and unpaid, within and outside of the home.

For more information about this meeting or Mothers & More, call Micheel at 908-620-3202 or Marilyn at 908-568-2633, or log on to mothersandmore.org.

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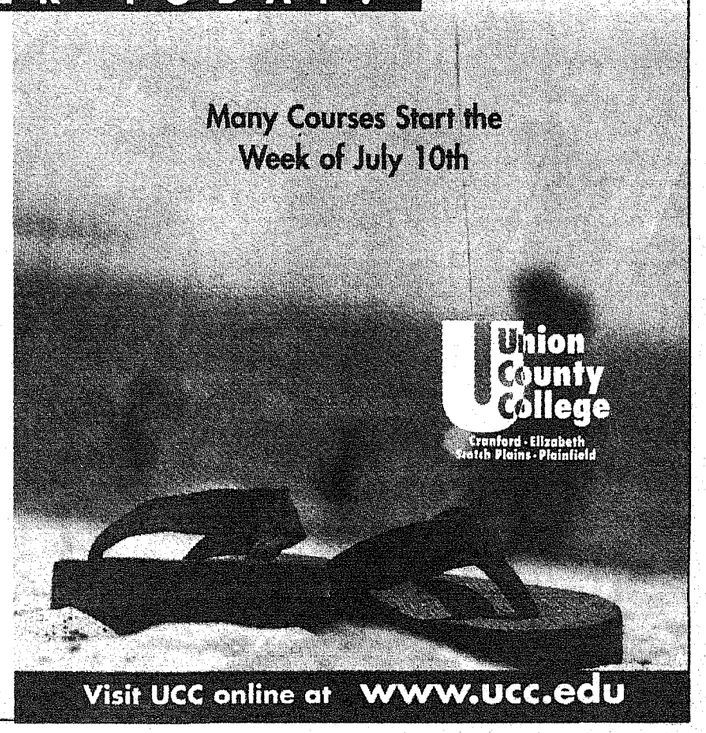
2006 Information Sessions
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August 23: 6:30 pm. in the Cafeteria
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Stepping Out

Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to: Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., P.O. Box 3109, Union 07083. Faxes may be sent to 908-686-6681.

Art Shows

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

"ANSEL ADAMS: A MAN, A MONUMENT, A MEMORY," a lecture by Nancy J. Ori, will be presented at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m., with a $20 fee to attend. For information and to register, call 908-273-9121.

Nancy Ori, well-known New Jersey photographer and former student and colleague of Ansel Adams, will come for a presentation of one of the world's most famous photographers. She will share the story of a man and his life of dedication, adventure, achievement, friendships and concern for nature. She will also relate her own personal experiences and how his mentorship affected her own career as a commercial photographer, teacher and fine art exhibitor.

Ori's presentation will be in the form of a lecture with slides with plenty of time for questions. Ori is a freelance photographer and video producer for New Jersey Media Center LLC in Berkeley Heights. She also enjoys teaching photography classes and workshops each year throughout the United States and Europe.

Books

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, has Rainy Day Story times any rainy day in July at 1 p.m. When it's raining outside ... and you just can't go to the zoo, the beach or the pool ... come visit our Children's Department for a surprise rainy day story time. Lots of favorite stories and fun will shine whenever it's rainy outside.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, has Author Discussion/Story time on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. featuring : "Tightrope Poppy the High-Wire Pig," by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen. Come to a special story time and signing of "Tightrope Poppy the High-Wire Pig." Poppy, the adorable pig, will help children learn to follow their dreams — even when at first they don't succeed. Mark your calendar for this very entertaining story time.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have "Young readers: Where's Waldo!?" on July 13 at 4:30 p.m. Help hunt for Waldo at this special event! Have fun with word puzzles, games and artwork! Don't miss out. Preregister in the children's department.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, has "Writing Group: Manuscript Discussion" on July 13 at 8 p.m. Writers of all levels and genres are welcome to read and discuss their latest work. There will be round table critiques as well as discussion of upcoming writers' workshops. Lita will be leading this group.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have "Writing Group: Children's Book Writing Critique Group" on July 14 from 10 a.m. to noon. A SCBWI critique group for writers and illustrators of children's picture books and stories will be held. For more information, either e-mail crm1884@bn.com or call 973-376-6581.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have "Blue's Clues Birthday Party!" on July 18 and July 25 at 10:30 a.m. It's Blue's Clues 10th Anniversary, so join in the celebration. They'll have a Blue's Birthday Bash featuring Blue and all his friends... Blue will not be attending.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have Book Group: "African American: My Face Is Black Is True" on July 18 at 7:30 p.m. A fascinating book by Mary Frances Berry that reclaims from obscurity Callie House, the magnificent heroine and pioneering activist. Everyone is invited to join the discussion facilitated by the Newark Literacy Campaign.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have Book Group: "Chick Lit: Big Stone Gap" on July 19 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to discuss this funny, charming book by Adriana Trigiania filled with quirky, engaging oddball characters and unexpected plot twists. A perfect summer read!

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have a special guest: Miffy Visits! on July 20 at 4:30 p.m. Miffy, that big, happy bunny in a pretty dress, will come for stories, photos and fun! There will even be coloring sheets!

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have Book Group: "Discover Great New Writers: The Fool's Tale" on July 26 at 7:30 p.m. Nicole Galland has created a masterful novel combining vivid historical fiction, compelling political intrigue, and a passionate romance. The debut novel by this award-winning screenwriter will excite fans of all types of fiction. Join this enlightening book discussion group and discover the next great writer that your friends will all be talking about.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have "Young Readers: It's Harry Potter's Birthday Party!" on July 27 at 4:30 p.m. Celebrate Harry Potter's Birthday and the paperback release of "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." Don't miss this magical event filled with games, giveaways and more! Children may come dressed as their favorite character. Preregistration is required in our children's department or by e-mailing crm1884@bn.com with child's name and age.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have an Author Discussion/Signing: with "Desperate Sisters," by Stephanie Johnson, on July 29 at 2 p.m. Come for a special, hot, summertime event. Meet Stephanie Johnson to discuss her latest novel about three fabulous sisters who appear to have it all ... but don't. Their stories will make most men think twice about neglecting their women and keep you cool this summer!

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

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

KEAN UNIVERSITY'S OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS and *The Star-Ledger* have partnered to publish a new book titled "World of Wonder: Exploring the Realms of History, Science, Nature and Technology." The book brings together 90 of the most fascinating subjects surveyed by the World of Wonder series. The book is now available for purchase in the Kean University book store and on the Web site of *The Star-Ledger* at http://www.nj.com/worldofwonder.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have a Knitters' Group every Monday at 10 a.m. Join the group of happy knitters in the cafe every Monday morning. Bring your latest project and a smile.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have a Chess Group every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Players of all levels are invited to discuss, play and enjoy chess in the cafe each week.

BARNES & NOBLE, 240 Route 22 West, Springfield, will have Weekly Children's Story times with various themes on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for preschoolers and Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. for 5- to 7-year-olds.

You're looking swell, Dolly



Tovah Feldshuh, center, stars in the title role as she leads the parade in the Paper Mill Playhouse production of 'Hello, Dolly!' now in performance through July 23. Directed by Mark S. Hoebee with choreography by Mia Michaels, the cast features Kate Baldwin, Walter Charles, Jonathan Rayson, Brian Sears and Jessica-Snow Wilson.

Classes

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

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

Concerts

CROSSROADS IN GARWOOD will feature the following:

Every Monday, Open Mic Night.

Every Tuesday, Jazz Jam.

Every Wednesday, karaoke night.

The Crossroads is located at 78 North Ave., Garwood. For information, call Lee at 908-232-5666, or visit the Web site, www.xxroads.com.

COFFEE WITH A CONSCIENCE CONCERT SERIES of Westfield has resumed. All shows start at 8 p.m. and the doors always open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $15 and will benefit the AIDS quilt. For information, call 908-412-9105, press 2. Other concerts will take place at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 E. Broad St., corner of North Ave., Westfield.

Dance

THE SUMMER SQUARE DANCE SEASON has arrived and the local clubs have joined together to sponsor Saturday night dances at the Springfield YMCA. The local clubs are Harmony DAncers, Y Squares, Bee Sharps and Rutgers Promenaders.

For those who might be interested in joining in the fun of club Square Dancing, a free open house will be Aug. 12 at the YMCA in Springfield. The YMCA is in the Chisholm Recreation Center at the corner of Shunpike Road and South Springfield Avenue. The dance will be from 8 to 10 p.m. It will be an opportunity for all to try their hand at the New Jersey officials folk dance. It is a chance to spend an evening with your friends and to meet some new friends. The peppy music will help you try your hand to make the square work. Square dancing is a mental exercise, it keeps you moving and you meet other nice folks. Square Dancing is for all age groups and for people from all walks of life. The dance will start at 8 p.m. and the caller will have you dancing within five minutes. No reservations are needed at this free dance. Wear comfortable clothes, soft-soled shoes and a smile. For more information, call Leo at 973-379-3901.

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

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN ELIZABETH. Pick your choice of social dancing, $9 per person, or Latin dancing, $10 per person, at the Bayway Polish Club, 625 Pulaski St. For information, call 908-355-3131.

LUNA LOUNGE hosts "Tasty Thursdays" with DJ Richie, who spins raggaeton and hip-hop. Patrons must be 21 or older, dress is casual but trendy. Parking is available. Luna Lounge is located at 1906 E. St. Georges Ave., Linden. Call 908-925-4120 for details.

Hobbies

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

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

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

Internet

THE INTERNET LOUNGE, 256 South Ave., Fanwood, hosts an Open Mic/Karaoke Night on Sundays at 7 p.m. Join the group for a cup of gourmet coffee and a wide variety of organic foods and participate in an original poetry reading, a stand-up comedy routine or a musical number. There's no cover charge, and patrons can come in, make new friends, surf the Web or play a game of Diablo2, NeverWinterNights, WarCraft or Counter-Strike. To ask about a schedule of events, call 908-490-1234 or visit its Web site: www.theinternetlounge.com.

Jazz

LANA'S RESTAURANT in Clark will offer dinner and live jazz with Warren Vache every Thursday, beginning at 7 p.m. For information, call 732-669-9024.

LIVE JAZZ PERFORMANCES will be featured every Friday at 9:30 p.m. at 22 West Restaurant and Lounge, 2185 Route 22, Union. Patrons must be 21 and older. For more information, call 908-206-0060.

Kids

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

Radio

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

Scripts

PREMIERE STAGES, the new Actors' Equity Association theater program at Kean University, is currently accepting play submissions for the Premiere Stages Play Festival from professional playwrights born or currently residing in New Jersey, as well as in the surrounding areas of New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. There is no fee required to submit a play to the Premiere Stages Play Festival. To request entry guidelines, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Laura Kelly, producing assistant, Premiere Stages is at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union 07083.

Singles

MEN AND WOMEN IN THEIR 60S OR OLDER are invited to a Jewish singles gathering to meet, greet and make new acquaintances on Sunday from 12:30 to 4 p.m. at BG Fields, 560 Springfield Ave., Westfield. Reservations are required, as space is limited. The admission fee is $24.50 and will include an entree, dessert and beverages. There is positively no same-day admission. For information, call 908-687-0274.

SUBURBAN SINGLES GROUP NJ forming, inviting single women in their 30s and 40s or thereabouts looking to laugh, have fun and enjoy new friendships. If you're interested, e-mail at suburbansinglesnj@yahoo.com.

INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years old, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for discussion and continental breakfast at First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield. A donation is $2. For information, call 908-889-5265 or 908-889-4751.

SOCIAL SINGLES DANCING, for 45-year-olds and older, meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Yankee Buffet Grand Ballroom, 2660 Morris Ave., Union. Admission is $8. For information, call 908-688-8816.

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

Theater

PREMIERE STAGES at Kean University is set to embark on its 2006 summer season, featuring a dynamic series of world and New Jersey premieres, a musical-theatre series for children, and a fun and engaging camp for high school students.

The season kicks off with an interactive staged reading of "Where the Sun Never Sets," a new play by New Jersey's own Bob Clyman, from Friday to Sunday. Selected through the Premiere Stages Play Festival, an initiative to encourage and nurture emerging dramatists in New Jersey and the greater metropolitan area, this hilarious dark comedy of ideas tells the tale of a couple who find themselves trapped in a perilously perfect world. Each reading is followed by discussions with the author, during which time the audience is invited to listen and contribute. The event features an Actors' Equity Association cast and will take place in the Murphy-Dunn Theatre, located in Vaughn-Eames Hall on the main campus. Tickets are $10.

Located on the campus of Kean University, Premiere Stages offers affordable prices, air-conditioned facilities and free parking in close proximity to the theaters. To order tickets, get on our mailing list, and/or to request a season brochure, call 908-737-4092, or visit Premiere Stages online at www.kean.edu/premierestages. Photos are available upon request.

Premiere Stages is made possible in part through funding from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, and through the generous support of patrons.

SUMMIT MUSIC FESTIVAL, now celebrating its fifth season, announces that it will be having rehearsals at the Central Presbyterian Church, located at 70 Maple St. in Summit. This year's festival, under the artistic direction of Jason Tramm, will be presenting Carl Orff's masterpiece "Carmina Burana" for two performances on July 28 and July 29.

Rehearsals will be Saturday, from 9:30 a.m. to noon; Tuesday, from 7 to 10 p.m.; July 15, from 9:30 a.m. to noon; July 18, from 7 to 10 p.m.; July 22, from 9:30 a.m. to noon; July 25, from 7 to 10 p.m.; July 27, dress rehearsal; with performances on July 28 and July 29 at 8 p.m.

For more information, call 908-918-0789 or e-mail info@summitmusicfestivalnj.com.

THE SHOWCASE THEATER's intense musical theater training program began June 26, from 11:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at the NJWA building on East Broad Street. It continues through July 21 during the same time period at Edison Intermediate School on Rahway Avenue in Westfield.

"Carousel" will be presented the afternoons and evenings of July 20 and July 21. On the evening of July 28, cast members will also participate in Cabaret Night, a revue of Broadway theater specifically designed to showcase the talents of the actors.

The Showcase Theater, a tuition-based program, awards scholarship money based on a talent evaluation.

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

Variety

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

Happy Hour is 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, with $1 drafts and $3 Long Island iced teas. Mondays are Mexican Mondays with $2 shot specials, $2 Coronas, $2 margaritas and $1 tacos. Wednesdays are Ladies Nights and karaoke.

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

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

Every Sunday: Live comedy, funk and poetry; Live at Instant Coffee, 8 p.m.

Every Monday: Open Mic Night, Happy Hour all night.

Every Tuesday: Jazz Jam; all pints, $2.

Every Wednesday: Karaoke Night; Miller Lite and MGD, $2 all night.

Every Thursday: Fiesta Night; Corona, Cuervo and margaritas, $2 all night.

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

MOLLY MAGUIRE'S IRISH PUB in Clark will present entertainment in the coming weeks. Molly Maguire's is located at 1085 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call 732-388-6511.

SECOND SATURDAYS COFFEEHOUSE will take place the second Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit. Featured will be an "open mic" forum of music, poetry, comedy and performance art. Refreshments are served. Admission is $4. Talent is sought for future dates.

For information, call 908-412-1855 or send a message by e-mail to info@secondsaturdays.org.

VAN GOGH'S EAR, 1017 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, will present a series of musical events. Tuesdays are "Acoustic Tuesday," some of which feature open mic from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer.

Open mic participants sign up at 7:30 p.m. and get 10 minutes at the microphone. Jazz and blues are featured Sundays at 8 p.m. The cover charge is $3 for all Sunday concerts, unless otherwise noted. For information, call 908-810-1844.

THE CONCORD SINGERS, a unique, non-auditioning women's community chorus, seeks new members. Rehearsals are Mondays from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit.

For more information, call Debra Boyman at 908-771-0978 or visit the Web site, www.concordsingers.org.

SING KARAOKE at The Crossroads, 78 North Ave., Garwood, on Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free and prizes are awarded. For information, call 908-232-5666, or log on to www.xxroads.com.

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Decision makers

Come July 19 at 1 p.m. most of us will be at work or taking a vacation. It's a good bet there won't be much of a crowd at Town Hall in Westfield. That's a shame, since the Elizabethtown Water Company has set that time and place to gather comments from their 208,000 customers in the county as to why water bills shouldn't jump 36.2 percent.

Meanwhile Assemblyman Joe Cryan from Union is concerned that if PSE&G gets its way, our electric bills could rise $540 a year.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

For good measure, Elizabeth Mayor Chris Bollwage is gearing up for a bare knuckle battle with an Federal Aviation Administration set on sending a bevy of more airplanes over his city.

The common thread is that all three hits to our pocket book and eardrums are being decided by the seemingly anonymous bureaucracy that controls our destiny. It's not about fighting City Hall anymore. The layers between the people we vote for and the decision makers is becoming stark. From the five-member Board of Public Utilities setting rates, to the faceless bureaucracy in Washington, the reality is a growing number of decision makers who operate with little concern for the average guy.

Take the water company. Their petition to the BPU without attachments runs 18 pages. It explains that under their proposal they project an "increase in the company's annual revenue by $98,993,181 or approximately 22.3 percent." Not a bad increase, considering most New Jerseyans surely saw that kind of jump in their personal income last year.

Take the effort of Cryan to unplug the plan by PSE&G to be purchased by mega energy monster Exelon Corporation. The resolution in the state Assembly sponsored by Cryan predicts, "if this proposed acquisition is approved, the merged company could be so big that it could drive up the market cost of electricity in New Jersey and the region by manipulating the market."

The gravity of the PSE&G move is highlighted by the opposition of Trenton's oddest of couples — the Chemistry Council and the Sierra Club.

"Even during the height of negotiations, legislators are speaking out about this critical issue to ensure New Jersey ratepayers are protected" said Suzanne Letha of the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group.

In addition to taking quicker showers while in the dark, a pair of ear plugs may be needed in our future if the FAA gets its way. The proposed modifications to airspace have been getting a lot of heat by local citizens and elected officials. It's a pretty safe position for a local official to come out against the FAA.

Still in the case of Bollwage, the talk is matched by the action. Bollwage has been striking out at a plan to accommodate a predicted increase of 24 percent in fights by at the Newark Airport. Bollwage predicts that if the FAA approves the plan "we will both be spending a lot of time in the Federal Court." Bollwage's efforts have included his active testimony on the issue and pressing the city to hire a noise consultant to help the city fight the battle.

Sometimes the noise coming from our local officials can be welcomed. Take the case of Cranford Commissioner George McDonough. McDonough has taken his lumps from this corner for his excessive irreverence. Still, even the shortstop with the 230 batting average sometimes get wood on the ball. Take his recent admonishment of fellow Commissioner Robert Puhak. Puhak, as has become customary, likes to fall squarely on both sides of issues. Puhak was meandering over his love for the arts, but opposed an $8,500 feasibility study to help promote an Art Center in the town. McDonough shot back that in terms of voting, your choices are limited to yea or nay.

Spoken like a true decision maker.

An attorney, Frank Capece is a resident of Cranford.

Drake House evolves

Officials tour restoration

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

PLAINFIELD — Renovations to Plainfield's Drake House Museum are nearly 50 percent complete.

Local, county and state officials toured the home last week to see the progress first hand.

The campaign to restore the home began in 2002 after the Plainfield Historical Society, which operates the museum, received a Cultural Enrichment Grant from the state.

With the grant in hand, the historical society contracted HJGA Consulting, a firm specializing in architectural and historic preservation, to prepare a Historic Preservation Plan for the site.

The plan outlines three phases of improvements to the home. Each phase is estimated to take between two and two-and-a-half years to complete.

Margaret Hickey, who worked as a historic preservation specialist on the plan, said that it is the Drake House's evolution over time that makes the project unique.

Isaac Drake built the West Front Street home for his son Nathaniel 1746. At the time, it was just four rooms, with a lean-to kitchen.

During the American Revolution, the home served as George Washington's headquarters during and after the Battle of Short Hills.

Nathaniel Drake was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

In the 1860s, the Drake family sold the home to John S. Harberger, president of the Manhattan Banking Company. It was Harberger who added the Victorian-style additions to the colonial home.

Hickey said that though Harberger's additions to the home transformed it from a small colonial to a grant Victorian home, he appreciated the architecture of the home, and stayed true to it.

While the evolution of the Drake House is unique, Hickey said that the her plan also takes into account the museum's collection of artifacts.

"We want to protect that as well," she said.

But, restoration comes with a cost. When it was completed in 2004, the Historic Preservation Plan estimated that the home needed approximately $1.2 million of work.

So far, the historical society has raised $397,927 for phase one of the work, which includes mostly structural improvements, roof repairs, a drainage system, an accessible entrance to the first floor, and exterior restoration and painting.

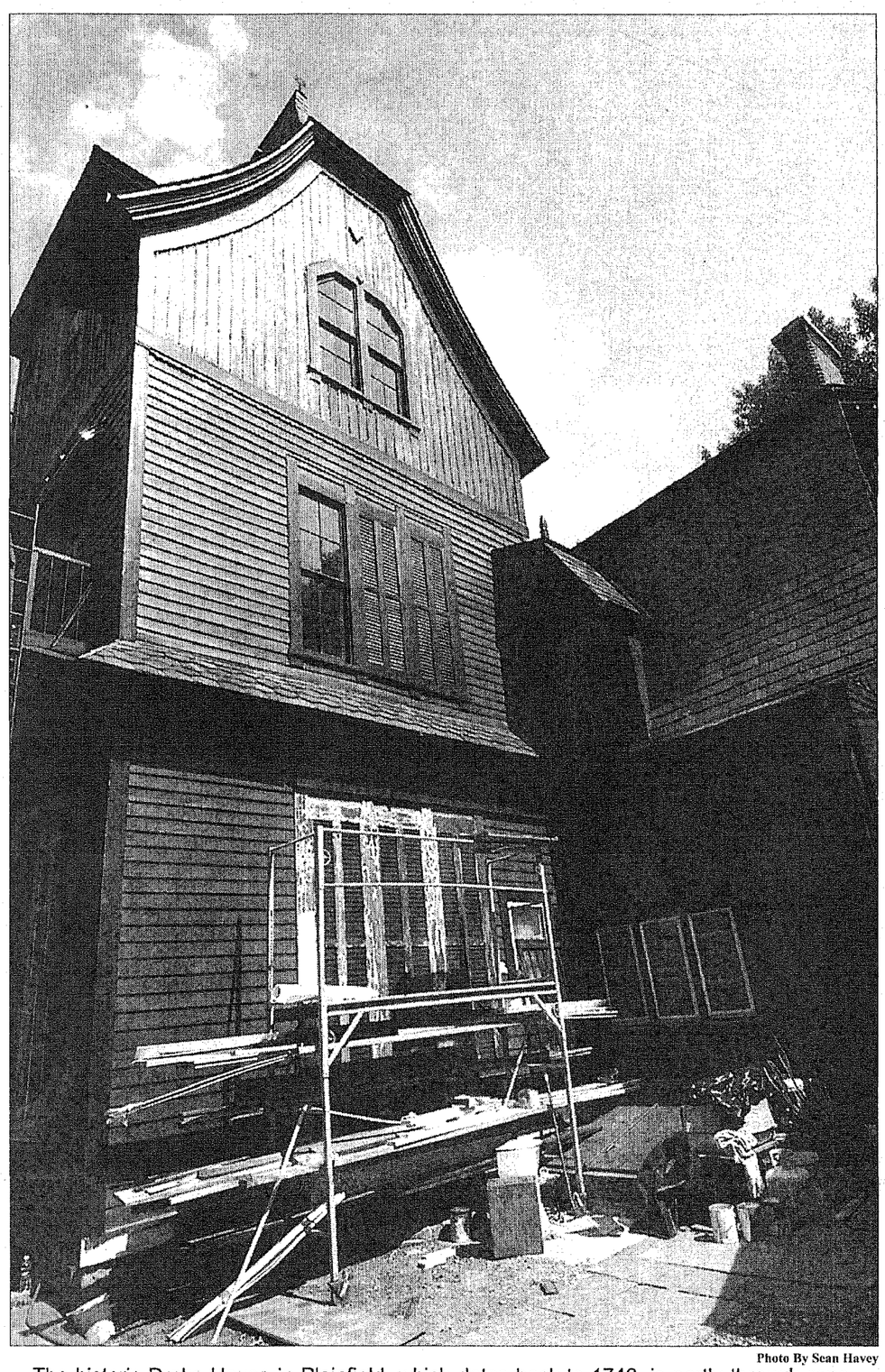


Photo By Sean Havey

The historic Drake House in Plainfield, which dates back to 1746, is partly through renovations.

The work is scheduled to be complete by August.

Of the amount raised so far, $128,034 has come from the city of Plainfield's capital fund, $500,000 from the county's 2003 Preserve Union County Grant Fund, $199,893 from the New Jersey Historic Trust, and $20,000 from the state Department of the Treasury.

Plainfield Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs said the funding for the improvements are just a prime example of the city's theme of "growth by unity."

"Together, we'll continue to grow," the mayor said, flanked by state and county officials.

Former Historical Society Board Member Barbara Fuller said repairs are right on schedule.

"The work has been extensive," she said, noting that the contractors have carefully removed the windows, reglazed them, and re-installed them with care.

Fuller said that the society is planning on taking lots of photos of the work and blowing them up to be displayed upon the museum's reopening.

"That's going to show that mess," she said. "It's progress, it's great."

The Drake House also received a $5,000 grant from the county in order to present a series of events to recognize "85 Years of Stewardship" Restoration of the Drake House."

While the home is closed for renovations, the historical society plans to keep up its outreach efforts throughout the community, President Eloise Tinley said.

In fact, they hope to create exhibits that address the ethnic and cultural changes that Plainfield has undergone in the last few years, Tinley said.

"We want to attempt to be as relevant to all the residents of Plainfield," she said.

For more information about the Drake House Museum or the Historical Society of Plainfield, call 908-755-5831.

Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or unioncountyb@thelocalsource.com.

Governor shuts down state offices

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

New Jersey made history this weekend, when Gov. Jon Corzine signed an executive order that shut down all non-essential state government services after the legislature failed to approve the state's 2007 budget.

"I am disappointed that this process was set in motion by the inability to reach an agreement between the two houses of the Legislature and my administration on a budget," Corzine said in remarks Saturday, nearly 10 hours after the state's budget deadline had passed.

"It gives me no job, no satisfaction, no sense of empowerment to do what I am forced to do today," Corzine said.

The state constitution requires the governor to issue an executive order because money cannot be drawn from the treasury in absence of an appropriations act.

"'Shutdown' doesn't mean that everything's coming to a grinding halt. We have to have adequate time to close down non-essential operations in a safe and orderly fashion. We intend to do that," the governor said.

County officials did not return repeated calls for comment.

By Monday morning, the latest budget information was offered up at the top of the state's Web site.

The executive order applies to all non-essential state employees, across 31 departments and agencies. Numbers provided by the governor's office show that just under half of the state's 78,456 employees, or 34,899 are affected.

Other state agencies, like the state police, and most of the state's Division of Youth and Family Services will all be operational. State prisons, veterans' hospitals and psychiatric hospitals will all remain open.

The state's Motor Vehicle Commission was also closed Saturday and will not reopen until the budget is adopted.

On Monday, the state issued a release that extended all expiring license, registration and inspections until July 31.

Additionally, all license, registration, and inspections expiring on July 31 have been extended to Aug. 31.

However, all non-essential highway projects have been halted.

New Jersey Transit buses and trains are continuing to operate on a regular schedule, and tolls will be collected on state roads and bridges.

The state's Casino Control Commission, that employs 350 people, was deemed "non-essential" by Corzine, but the commission has appealed to the courts.

The state's dozen casinos lost their appeal and — as of press time Monday — were scheduled to shut their doors at 8 a.m. Wednesday. The casinos will remain closed until a budget is adopted.

The Meadowlands Racetrack and Monmouth Park suspended races Saturday night.

Sales of instant and electronic lottery tickets was suspended as of 8 p.m. Saturday night. Drawings for games in which tickets have been sold in advance will still take place.

State parks and beaches, which avoided closure during the holiday weekend, were scheduled to be closed Wednesday if no budget agreement is made.

Despite hoping that the decision to shut down government would not come to pass, Corzine said that the state is prepared.

"This budget was to be a plan that would put our state on a path to fiscal stability and establish a foundation for true property tax reform and relief — a possibly deeply undermined through the years by the repeated failure to honest balance our state's financial operations," Corzine said.

When the governor announced the state's $30.9 billion budget in March, he predicted a $4.8 billion short-fall.

However, that number would only be fully realized, if the state chose to fully restore property tax rebates to 2005 levels and then grew them 10 percent, the governor said at the time.

Without that approach, he said in March, the deficit would still be $4.3 billion.

The state's $30.9 billion budget reflects an increase of $3.5 billion over last year's proposed budget and $2.6 billion over the adjusted appropriation for fiscal 2006.

In recent weeks, members of the legislature have been divided about whether to support the governor's plan for a one percent increase in the state's sales tax.

The increase, which would raise the sales tax to 7 percent, could mean a $1.1 billion revenue shot for the state.

Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts, D-Camden, proposed an alternative budget, which came in at $30.4 billion.

Though less than the governor's plan, the Assembly bill also includes a $370 million increase in the

See **LOTTO**, Page 18

County mulls sale

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

When the county's $400.8 million budget was announced, methods of achieving cost-savings and enhancing revenues were also introduced — among them, selling property and installing vending machines at county parks.

At the freeholder board's June 22 meeting in Rahway, the board approved a $12,500 contract with the Cranford-based firm PMK Consulting.

The professional services contract is for environmental testing for piece of county property located within the township of Union.

At the meeting, Debra Judd of the county's Parks Department told the board the contract was for land appraisal and environmental assessment and is required by state statute.

Judd said that it was her understanding that the county "was getting prepared to entertain selling that property."

County Manager George Devanney inadvertently disclosed the location of the property later in the meeting.

The property, located at 836 Chestnut St., has been owned by the county for more than 60 years.

According to County Communications Director Sebastian D'Elia, the county has rented out the home, assessed at approximately $100,000 as of 1999, at a rate of $790 per month.

Union Purchasing Officer Paul Parsons said the township has the property listed at a greater assessed value — approximately $173,100.

According to Parsons, the 2.6-acre property, located at the corner of Chestnut Street and Fairway Drive includes a land assessment of $156,000 and a building assestment of $17,100.

The numbers, however, are based on an assessment that is approximately 30 years old, he said.

A request for a listing of all county properties and their assessed values was not available by press time.

In addition to selling off county properties, officials have also looked into installing vending machines at county parks and facilities.

The county would receive 21 percent of the gross sales from the machines. The number of machines and their locations was not yet available.

The county is not figuring in any of the income from the machines into this year's budget because they do not know what that amount will be, D'Elia said.

The Department of Human Services is also developing a request for proposals that would solicit vendors to provide advertising on its para-transit vehicles, a county statement said.

Additionally, the county was able to cut more than $1.7 million from the proposed tax levy by: realizing savings in juvenile relocation costs; $415,000 in interest payments on its $37.8 million of debt service; and $119,000 in telephone usage.

The county also realized $1 million in contractual settlements and by switching employees to another health insurance plan as well as utilizing a an insurance buyout program.

Earlier this year, the freeholder board approved fee increases at the county golf courses and additional twilight tee times.

The county has also increased the rates it charges contractors for working on county bridges and roadways. The last time the fee structure had been amended was 1997.

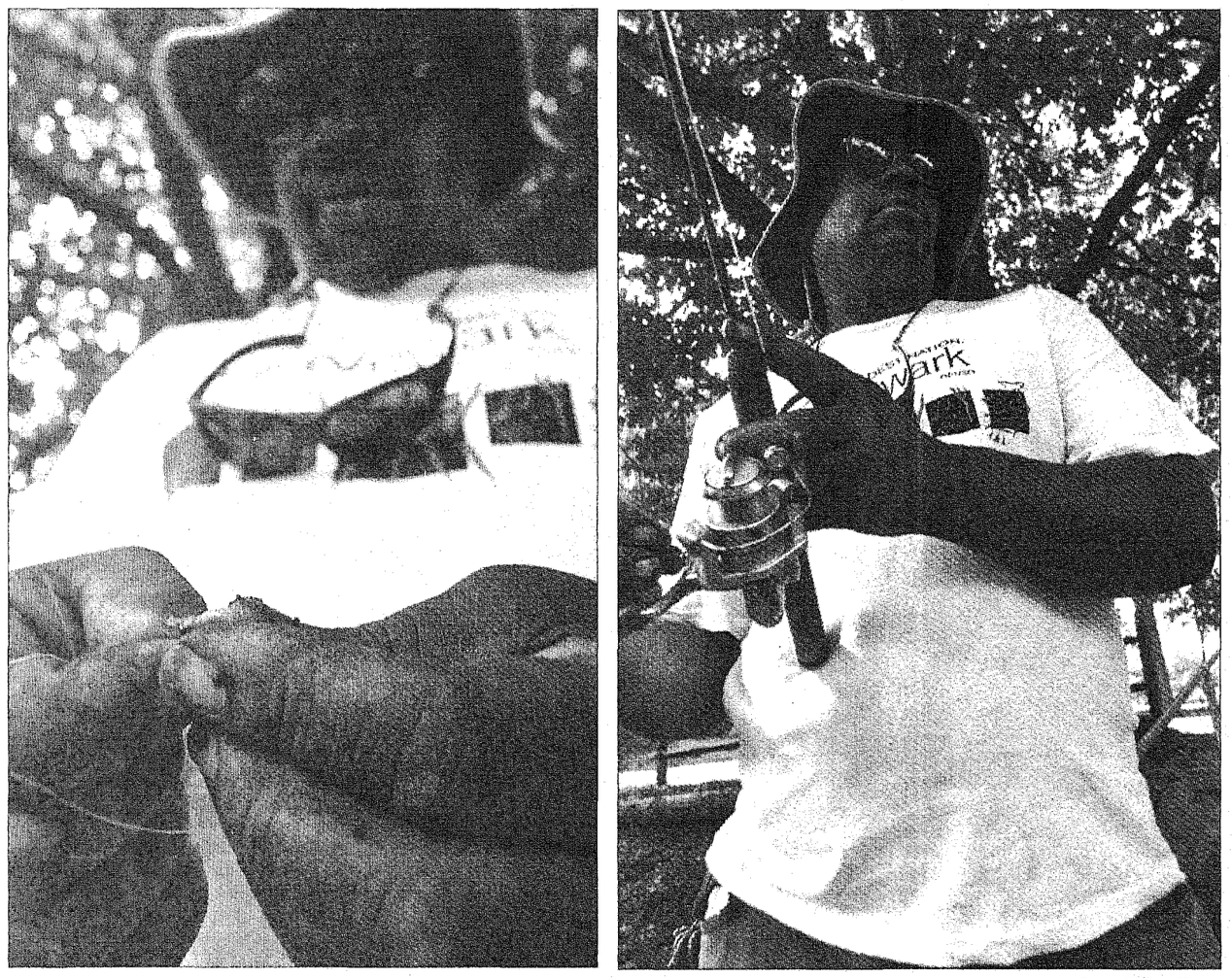
During the department's Feb. 11 budget hearing, then Director Frank Dann told the Finance Committee that there was the potential to increase the fees by 20 percent, an increase of $117,600 in revenue for the county.

In 2005, the county brought in $98,058 through inspection fees, said County Engineer Jeff Sias, adding that in that time, the county issued 538 permits.That revenue goes into the county's general fund.

The Public Works Department was also looking toward increasing fees at its composting site to generate additional revenues.

Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, at unioncountyb@thelocalsource.com.

He baits, he reels



Photos By Sean Havey

Newark resident Jimmy Moore threads a night crawler on his fishing hook, and later reels in his line while fishing at Echo Lake Park on Saturday.

Farmers market vouchers available to seniors

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will participate in the Farmer's market program that offers vouchers to eligible senior adults to purchase "Jersey Fresh" fruits, vegetables and herbs.

Senior citizens who qualify will receive four vouchers worth $5 each for a total of $20 for the season ending in November. Vouchers are accepted at any farmer's market displaying the "WIC" sign.

"We are pleased to offer this nutritional assistance program to eligible seniors throughout Union County," said Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "The Farmer's Market vouchers will enable seniors to enjoy locally grown, fresh produce such as blueberries, peaches and tomatoes that all of us associate with summertime in New Jersey."

To be eligible, an individual must be a resident of Union County, age 60 or older.

Income guidelines require an individual's annual income not to exceed $18,130 and a married couple's annual income not to exceed $24,240. In addition, proof of income must be presented in the form of a Medicaid card, SSI card, or annual pension or Social Security statement.

Vouchers will be distributed through the Union County Department of Human Services, Division on Aging, whose staff, including bilingual staff, will assist seniors when they apply for the produce vouchers.

Vouchers will be available and accepted at the following Farmer's Markets:

• Wednesday, and weekly thereafter, at "The Gazebo," Chestnut Street and East Grant Avenue, Roselle Park, 1 to 3 p.m. Farmers will be on site.

• July 11, and weekly thereafter, at the Elizabeth Avenue Farmer's Market, Union Square Plaza, between High Street and Elizabeth Avenue, Elizabeth, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Farmers will be on site.

• July 14, and weekly thereafter, in the parking lot of the First Baptist Church, Prince Street and Union Avenue., Elizabeth, from 9 a.m. to noon. Farmer will be on site.

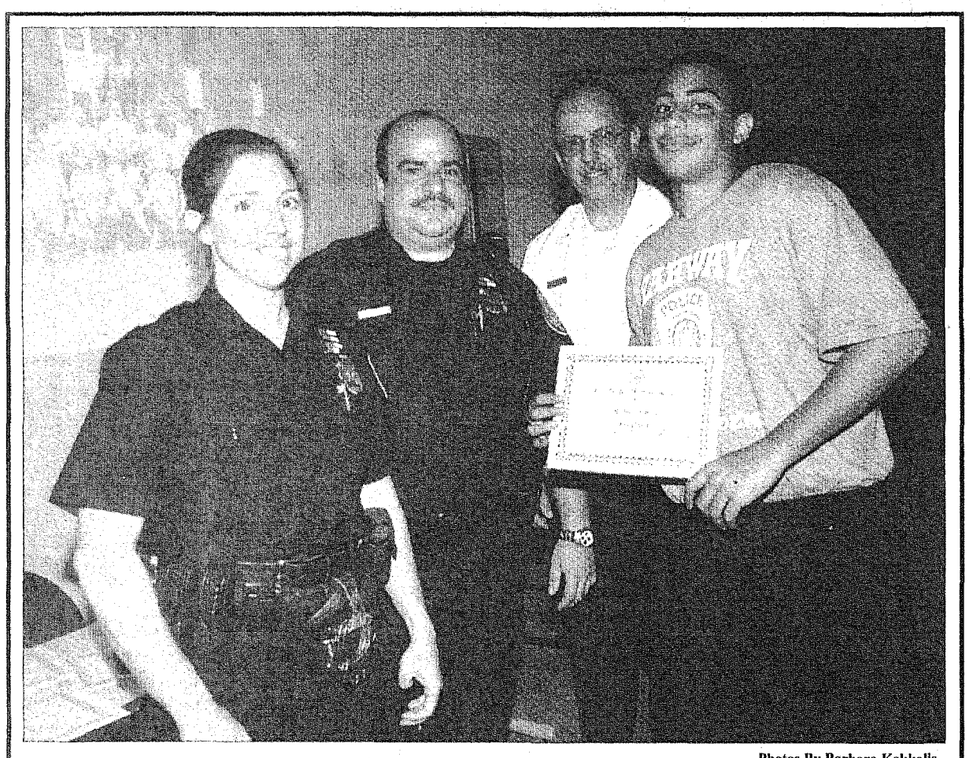
• July 20, voucher distribution only at the Bethel AME Church, 245 Hilton Ave., in the Vauxhall section of Union, from 9 a.m. to noon.

• July 21, at the Plainfield Senior Center, 305 East Front St., Plainfield, 9 a.m. to noon. Farmer will be on site.

• July 25, at the Ann Ferguson Towers, 1601 Dill Ave., Linden, 9 a.m. to noon. Farmer will be on site.

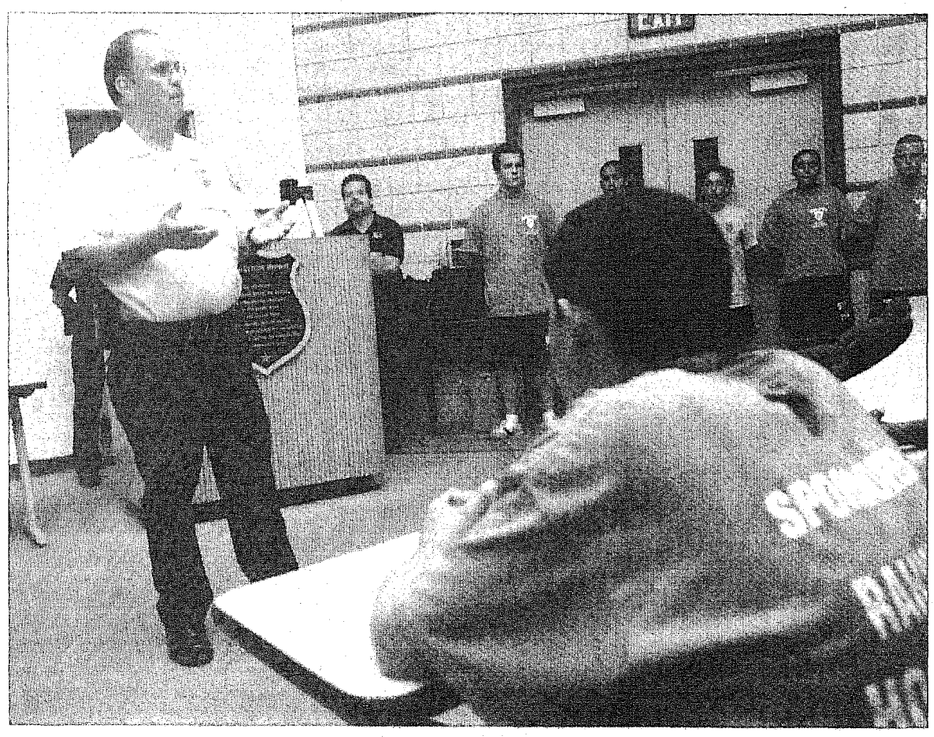
• July 28, at the Hillside War Memorial Building, Liberty Avenue, Hillside. Farmer will be on site.

The Farmer's Market Program is sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture and coordinated by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. For more information, call the Union County Division on Aging at 888-280-8226 908-527-4870 or 908-527-4872.



Photos By Barbara Kokkalis

Officers Dawn Rodger and Steven Guinta, and Chief Edward Hudak congratulate Michael L. Scheid, above, voted top cadet by staff and fellow students at the Rahway Youth Police Academy last week. Hudak, below, talks to students about their achievements during their week as student cadets.



Teen art on display in New Providence

C.R. Bard Inc., located at 730 Central Ave., New Providence, is hosting the 2006 Teen Arts Touring Exhibit through Aug. 4.

The exhibit consists of 57 pieces of art selected from more than 600 visual art works shown at the 2006 Union County Teen Arts Festival held in March at Union County College. The annual event is coordinated by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs in the Department of Economic Development and is hosted by Union County College.

The exhibiting students include:

• Berkeley Heights
Jon Denby
Alexandra Angelo
Mike Pires
• Clark
Bill Benton
Bianca Pacheco
Melissa Marcin
Kathleen Tower
Marielle Salen
• Cranford
Brynn Conway
Matt Heinle
Giovanna Molinaro
Dan Manuyag
Ben Streko
Matt Leonelli
Sarah Barry
Jessica Lynn
• Elizabeth
Danielle Molina
Jonathan Sanchez
Sierra Farinas
Stephanie Blaise
Jackelyn Sorto
• Hillside
Shaun Lebby
• Kenilworth
Mike Rosania
Jacquelyn Frodelly
Ivanna Khemlynska
• Linden
Konstyantyn Budzan
Miguel Santos
Jeinny Ramirez
• Mountainside
Mallory Corrigan
• New Providence
Frank Cresencia
Niki D'Onofrio
Jennifer Closs
Courtney Lowenstein
• Plainfield
Cyon Priester
• Roselle
Javier Cardenas
Michael Banos
• Scotch Plains
Ernst Labady
Joseph Foster
Angel Diaz
• Springfield
Sara Hurwitz
Robert Shippey
Justin Russikoff
Maria Inneo
Jordon Guber
Erica Krause
• Summit
Mark Weinhoffer
Connor Morrison
Eric Weinhoffer
• Union
Stephen Ernst
Rebecca Morgan
Anastasia Johnson
Romina Para
Natonye Tate
• Westfield
Melissa Littman
Jessica Margolies
Jose Albino
• Winfield Park
Ray Lang

Sponsors and supporting agencies of the 2006 Teen Arts Program are: the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders; the Union County Division of Parks, Recreation and Facilities; the Office of Public Information; Department of Corrections; Department of Economic Development; the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State; the Elizabeth, Cranford, Kenilworth and Union Boards of Education; the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts; the Paper Mill Playhouse; the Kenilworth Veterans of Foreign Wars; and participating schools.

Community supporters of the Festival include: Wachovia Corporation; S.M. Electric Company; C.R. Bard, Inc.; ConocoPhillips-Bayway Refinery; Independence Community Foundation; Infineum USA L.P.; Schering-Plough Corporation; Schoor DePalma Community Foundation; Union Center National Bank; Morristown & Erie Railway; Options by Design; Comcast; Harbor Consultants; LaVoz Newspaper; Paragon Computer Professionals; Sam Ash Music Corp.; All-State Legal; Construction Specialties; Ironworkers Union Local #480; Jersey Central Power & Light; Tinnerman Palnut; and the Villani Bus Company.

For more information about the Teen Arts program contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 908-558-2550 or e-mail culturalinfo@ucnj.org

Lotto, parks come to halt as the state shuts down

(Continued from Page 17)

state's disability tax of wages.

The Assembly plan also nixes Corzine's 10 percent property tax rebate increase. However, the plan does outline an increase in corporate taxes of $120 million, and a $2 surcharge per day on rental cars.

Earlier, legislators failed to endorse a bill that would end lifetime health benefits for dependents of state employees and increase their contributions for healthcare coverage. The bill was sponsored by Democratic legislators Gerald Green of Union, and Stephen Sweeney and Paul Moriarty of Gloucester.

Legislators met Sunday and Monday to attempt to strike a deal,but as of press time, no budget had been announced.

For up-to-date budget information, check www.nj.gov.

Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119, or unioncountyb@thelocalsource.com.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Rising Star Awards program promotes the arts

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

When one does phenomenal work in encouraging and promoting the talents of young people throughout the state, one is merely a phenomenal person.

For example, take Susie Speidel of Springfield, director of education at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn. Her burning enthusiasm for education and training for pre-teen and teenagers led her to suggest a Rising Star Awards program 11 years ago, and it has become so successful that it has gone above and beyond her greatest expectations.

The Kennedy Center for the Perform Arts cited the Rising Star Awards for excellence and achievement in the Production of High School Musicals. It has been replicated by 13 other theaters nationwide. "And we keep in touch with those schools, too," she said. "We are very proud of our program. We help those theaters get started and they help us. It's a resource for all of us."

The recent program, in which high school students performed Broadway productions and staged at the Paper Mill, was a sold-out affair and involved more than 100 schools and nearly twice that amount of young people on stage and in the audience.

"I made a big job for myself with the Rising Star Awards," Speidel admitted during a recent visit to this office. "It was my idea," she said with a smile, "but it was the Paper Mill that started it. We wanted a project that would make a big impact on New Jersey's arts education. We had been educating people on a small scale and we wanted to make a big splash."

She explained that "we have about a dozen programs in the education department, but certainly the Rising Star project is the highest project people know about."

Speidel oversees the theaters' educational activities, including The Adopt-A-School Project, which had been cited by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as a model arts education program, the Paper Mill's Theatre School, the theater's Summer Musical Theatre Conservatory, Weekend and On-School Time Children's Theatre Series, TheatreStart Program and Young Critics Program. Between 1991 through 2003, Speidel produced the Paper Mill Humanities Symposium Series, which consisted of more than 100 free lectures and discussion evenings, which were inspired by productions on the theater's main stage. In 1995, she received the New Jersey Governor's Award for Excellence in Theatre Arts Education and in 2000, received the New Jersey Theatre Alliance Applause Award for establishment of The Rising Star awards and for her work with Gifted and Talented students in the performing arts.

"We started with 65 New Jersey high schools," she recalled. "Now we have 100 schools with programs every year. The whole process begins when people who have been involved in theater and who come from all over the state and a few from New York, about 40, are sent to see the shows in the high schools. Actually, we send about four to each school and they all make their nominations. We do some training with them. To be an evaluator, they have to have some training. They are given a very intense report to fill out. It is very thorough. Eventually, we get a slate of nominations."

Speidel explained, "We have a big meeting with all the evaluators and then they vote. After all the votes are down, we have a big award ceremony on the Paper Mill stage. It's just like the Tonys and the Oscars. Students perform. And we give out awards. And," she added with pride, "the awards are provided to the Paper Mill by Tiffany and Co., the Short Hills store."



Lead Actor Winner Jonathan Schwartz, center, and 'Percy's Bounders,' from Cranford High School's production of 'The Scarlet Pimpernal,' accept their award for Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Group at the 2006 Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards.

Among the local winners several weeks ago were Jonathan Schwartz of Cranford High School, who was named outstanding lead actor for his role as Sir Percy Blakely in "The Scarlet Pimpernel." The production also received awards for outstanding ensemble group and outstanding costume design. Anthony Rafaniello won for outstanding musical direction.

As for the scholarships presented during the Rising Star Awards program, she mentioned, "We select from applications for the scholarships for the schools. We send them to Westminster Choir College in Princeton. This year, Marissa Rago of Union received a $48,000 scholarship to Westminster. There are three other cash scholarships of $1,000 each."

The money for the Rising Star Awards projects is provided by the PNC Foundation. "The PNC gives us the money," Speidel reported. "They support both the Rising Star Awards and the Summer Conservatory. We are really proud of our programs."

Education is as important to Speidel as theater. She has a bachelor of arts degree in English and theater from Montclair State University, a master's degree in performing arts administration from New York University and she studied musical theater at HB Studios in New York City. She teaches as an adjunct for the theater and music departments at Kean University, Union, where she also is pursuing a master's degree in liberal arts and where she received the 2005 Women's Studies Scholarship Award.

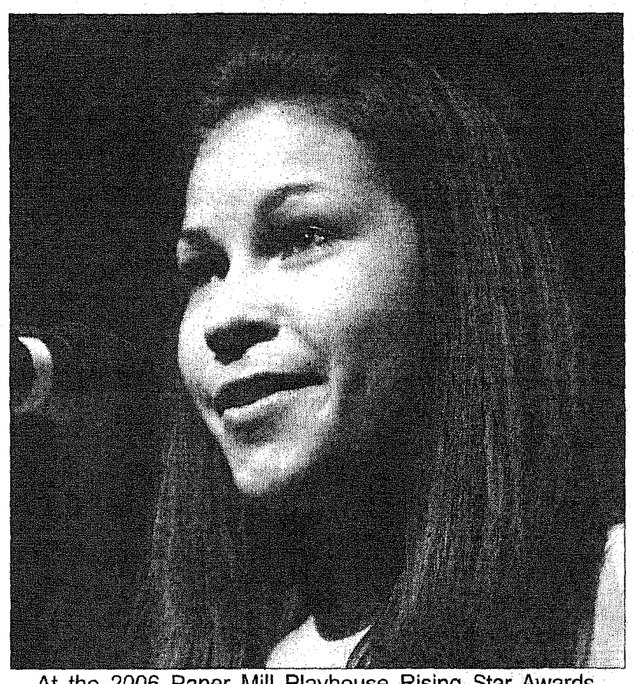
Speidel has appeared in musicals off Broadway, at the Paper Mill, in regional theater, with the Seattle and Portland symphonies and has been a frequent guest soloist with the Key West Symphonie Pops. She also has directed dozens of musicals and 11 annual productions of "A Christmas Carol."

"One of the things we really wanted was to recognize the achievement of being nominated. It's an honor to be nominated," she said. "Out of 100 schools entered, if you get a nomination and don't win, you're a winner! We wanted the nominations to be meaningful. Each of these students are offered a scholarship to the Summer Conservatory, which starts next week. They get an $1,800 value, a prize for the nominees. We have 21 new students this year. We get the top kids in the state and we get to work with them."

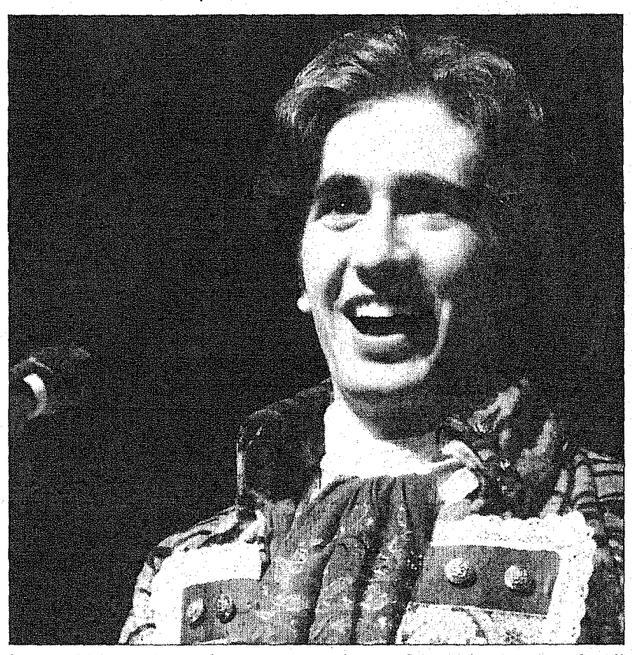
The students receive five weeks of study "and," she said, "their parents don't have to pay for them. PNC has been a big participant in our educating the people. We have a new program called Preschool Students to use theater as a way to get them ready to learn. PNC has an interesting program called Grow Up Great, and we'll be able to work with this new project. They've been a major partner of ours."

Speidel explained, "We're talking about having a big festival for all the winners of the Rising Star Awards. All the winners will get to celebrate high school on a national level. It's a few years off, but I hope we achieve that eventually."

Bea Smith can be reached at djablonski@thelocalsource.com.



At the 2006 Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards, above, Union High School graduate Marissa Rago accepts her $48,000 scholarship to Westminster Choir College and, below, Jonathan Schwartz of Cranford High School accepting his award as Outstanding Actor in a Leading Role, for the Cranford High School production of 'The Scarlet Pimpernel.'



Cook examines prejudice in 'Let's Talk Honestly, Vol. II'

Jasmine Cabell-Green
Correspondent

Shortly after an unpleasant incident at a restaurant owned a by a black man, author George Cook wrote a poem about it. Soon after, he wrote 30 more about the various issues blacks have to deal with, and have been dealing with for years. "Let's Talk Honestly, Vol. II," is a collection of poems and stories that touches on many subjects, such as domestic abuse, fatherhood and adoption, that many do not want to talk about.

"This was my way of reaching the public without preaching; a way to create awareness and hopefully open some eyes," said Cook.

There are 18 poets that have contributed to the book and are a mixture of men and women, and even features a few families. Although some of the issues aren't as well received as others, most of the feedback has been positive and encouraging.

"Many people felt that I was perpetuating negative stereotypes, but I am not making anything up. These are the issues that are already out there,"said Cook.

Cook is seen to some as a mentor. He intends not only to create awareness about certain issues, but he also uses his books as a platform for up-and-coming poets and storytellers.

"Both volumes of the book are comprised with various poets who are well-known within the Internet community of poets, but aren't as recognized outside of the Internet,. This is why I am dedicated to getting this book published. Both volumes can be read and purchased online," said Cook.

Regardless of the negative feedback, Cook is only trying to help people deal with very serious issues.

"Most of all, I feel that there is a lack of male role models. Simply put, there are issues that African-Americans deal with today, that we've been dealing with for a long time. I just want to bring some things back into the light. It wasn't to create awareness."

The Goat gets drenched in jazz, blues

Stryker/Slagle Band sneaks a peek at next compact disc

By Joel Levin
Correspondent

Jazz guitarist Dave Stryker and alto saxophonist Steve Slagle have been playing together for 20 years. That's longer than most marriages, and possibly better than most because of the extraordinary telepathy that drives their collaborations.

On Friday night at South Orange's Goat Cafe, an enthusiastic audience sprinkled with musicians and industry people was treated to a last-minute warmup for the Stryker/Slagle Band's recording session on Monday. Veteran drummer Billy Hart and bassist Jay Anderson filled out the group in the two bouncy, breathless and, at times, bluesy sets.

The quartet is actually a very democratic unit, with West Orange resident Stryker calling what few signals there were, and the small stage easily containing four egos. Hart, a Montclair resident, actually played on Stryker's first recording as a leader, 20 years and about two dozen compact discs ago.

Hart has around 200 album credits, so one might think he has nothing left to prove, but on Friday night, not only did he provide a steady backbone, but he stepped away from his reserve a couple of times and unleashed some tasty solos.

Mellow tones and fast fingers

In the first selection, "Birdcall," named after Charlie "Bird" Parker, it was appropriate for a fellow sax player to hold forth alone for a few minutes. When leader Stryker came in, it was with only a few notes on his warm, mellow-toned Gibson running a little 15-inch Polytone amp. He was followed by the fast-fingered Anderson who, all evening, kept his solos on the old acoustic bass quite diverting — this despite all the unkind lore about boring bassists. Hart respectfully accompanied Anderson with a brassy rainfall of cymbals and well-placed accents.

On "Turning Point," Slagle who seems able to play in a million styles, showed the influence of '70s Charles Lloyd, in a reedy singsong andante. In the background, but not too far back, Hart continually used his whole kit, but managed to keep a signature bright halo of splash on the splash cymbal throughout, even when slyly changing rhythms. Stryker, whether playing a rudimentary accompaniment or picking complex chords, looked as tortured as the most emotive rock star, but the sounds weren't tortured.

At The Goat, where every seat is a good one, the customary spatial wall separating listeners and performers is absent, so visitors are pulled right into a player's feelings. That's part of what makes The Goat the "official" comeas-you-are living room of South Orange. The other part is the dozens of huge and well-crafted coffees, steaming or iced, priced so that $5 will serve to keep you awake all weekend.

A Charles Mingus tune, "Self Portrait in Three Colors," was introduced by Stryker with a crawl of introspective musings. Anderson picked up on this touching solo in the same vein, echoing the guitar's tune even with his instrument's limited range. Slagle capped this piece, as he did with most, with a delicate butterfly-effect coda, to end the first set.

Articulation and speed

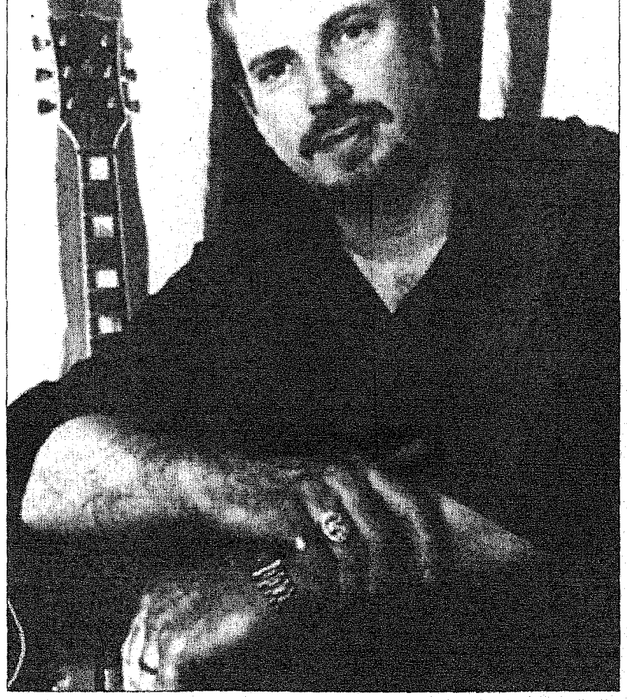
Hart's startlingly loud downbeat wakened the crowd to signal the start of the second set and a Stryker tune, "In Just Time." Just as suddenly, Slagle and Stryker played in strict upbeat unison without a glance at each other. Hart cleaned up with an amazing solo that was a model of articulation and speed. Up-and-coming drummers 50 years younger who tend to muddy their beats could take a lesson on balance from Hart's execution. Did "Just in Time" swing? It rocked! And it got the whistles and applause it deserved.

The set continued with additional tunes that will be found on the early-2007 compact disc. One was a Brazilian/Asian fusion bit with the rhythm duo carrying the weight. Another featured Stryker on hollow-body and Slagle on soprano in an Iberian mode. In a tribute to the late pianist John Hicks, "Hicks" was an update of '70s French movie music with a bit of Pink Panther thrown in.

The walking beat went up tempo, with Slagle blowing his hardest and his partner taking it all in and grinning like a proud papa. With Slagle reposing, Stryker noodled along, apparently in a private moment, while Hart played different drummer in his own private moment, giving the Goatees a privileged glimpse into the players' unrehearsed meanderings.

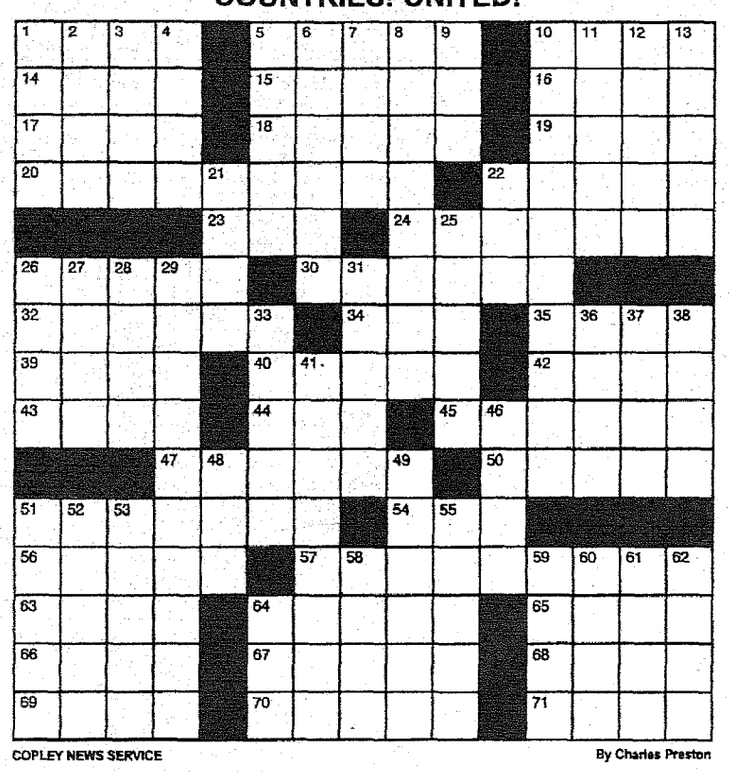
Reading this newspaper, you're probably no more than a half-hour from this bastion of big-city jazz talent and suburban convenience and cool. Get thee to the Goat — and the other venues along the South Orange/West Orange/Montclair jazz axis: Cecil's, Trumpets, Tierney's and smaller spots. You may be in for an exceptional performance like the Stryker/Slagle outing. Or you may merely be entertained.

Joel Levin writes about food and wine, automobiles, entertainment and travel. He can be reached at JL@NJNewsGroup.com.



On Friday night at South Orange's Goat Cafe, an enthusiastic audience sprinkled with musicians and industry people was treated to a last-minute warmup for the Stryker/Slagle Band's recording session on Monday, led by jazz guitarist Dave Stryker, pictured, and alto saxophonist Steve Slagle.

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COPLEY NEWS SERVICE By Charles Preston

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47 Require
50 Wild West justice
51 Eccentric person
54 Starting three
56 200-milligram unit
57 Caribbean joins Asian
63 Warwick's river
64 Forbidding words
65 Hippy entertainment?
66 Vinyl tile, for short
67 ___ Dame
68 City near Provo
69 Somalia's gulf
70 At ___ for words
71 Give a bellyful

DOWN

1 New Testament trio
2 Persian cat?
3 "Cabaret" name
4 Temptation location
5 Slashed words?
6 Bother terribly
7 Manx thanks
8 Part of a telephone number
9 Curtain support
10 African joins African
11 City near Madrid
12 Assessed
13 Unwelcome reflection
21 Slim down
22 Trident-shaped letter
25 Make ___ of oneself
26 Diving duck
27 Tower site
28 "___ in Calico"
29 South American joins Middle Eastern
31 The Amazing magician
33 Streisand film role
36 Not for here
37 Currier's partner
38 Meticulousness
41 Totally groovy
46 Snowfall measure
48 Writer Hentoff
49 Hercules had twelve
51 City near Gainesville
52 Duchovny
53 Speak monotonously
55 Moderates
58 ". . . water ___ wine": Tennyson
59 PPP: Gr.
60 Atmosphere
61 Why should ___ you?
62 Specify
64 Gene ID

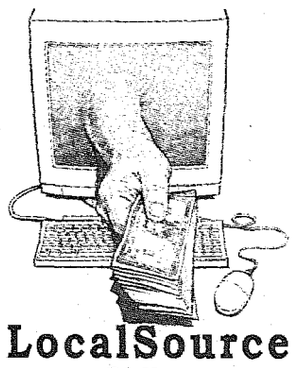
ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE 22

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
July 8th & 9th, 2006
EVENT: Flea Market & Collectible Show
PLACE: Frank V Marina, Passaic Ave., (by Applebee's), Kearny, NJ
TIME: 9-5PM Outdoors.
DETAILS: New merchandise, crafts, collectibles & garage/tag sale items!
SPONSOR: KHS Marching Band Parents Association
FOR INFORMATION: call 201-998-1144

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WHAT'S GOING ON

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for nonprofit organizations. It is PREPAID and costs just $20.00 (for two (2) weeks) in Essex County or Union County and just $30.00 for both Counties. Your Event must be in one of our Offices by 4:30 P.M. on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Offices our located at 463 Valley Street, Maplewood. 266 Liberty Street, Bloomfield or 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union.

NAME_____ PHONE_____
ADDRESS_____
CITY_____ ZIP_____
ESSEX_____UNION_____COMBO._____

Write your ad in spaces below and mail to:
WORRALL NEWSPAPERS - P.O. Box 3109, UNION, NJ 07083

DAY_____ DATE_____
EVENT_____
PLACE_____
TIME_____
PRICE_____
ORGANIZATION_____

For More Information Call 908-686-7850

HOROSCOPES

July 10 to 16

ARIES, March 21 to April 19: You may feel pressure between personal matters and your professional responsibilities. Toughen up and find the perfect balance.

TAURUS, April 20 to May 20: Weigh your options very carefully before making an important decision about a special relationship. Consider input from your partner.

GEMINI, May 21 to June 21: Take steps to resolve a monetary dilemma. Adjustments will need to be made in either the amount of money you are making or what you are spending.

CANCER, June 22 to July 22: Make an attempt to establish equilibrium in your close relationships. You must not give too much or expect your partner to offer any more or any less.

LEO, July 23 to Aug. 22: Play it smart and sidestep what could be described as an emotional tug-of-war. Learn to bend, transcend, hold on tight or just walk away.

VIRGO, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: It is OK if you do not see eye-to-eye with a friend or associate. Strive to come together and find a way to get along in spite of your differences.

LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: After a lot of doubt, searching and questions, a business or career-related problem finally comes clear to you. Move forward and implement the proper solution.

SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: Compromise is your key word this week. Avoid being so set in your opinions that you fail to at least listen to the other side of a very interesting and controversial story.

SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: An attempt to pool or blend your finances is met with some degree of opposition. If it is what you really want to achieve, then keep pushing.

CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: Hidden information comes to light. File this data in your mind and allow it to aid you in your understanding.

AQUARIUS, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: It is important to work with colleagues to complete a plan or to obtain an objective. Make a valiant effort to come together as opposed to pulling apart.

PISCES, Feb. 19 to March 20: There will be moments when you will feel a strong need to connect with friends or loved ones on some level. Follow your heart and share in an intense undertaking.

If your birthday is this week, your thinking or communication style is colored with an emotional tone during the coming year. Do your best to separate feelings and logic when making decisions for yourself and your loved ones. Social activities or travel for pleasure is also indicated. Beware of an element of manipulation in your personal and professional relationships. A creative opportunity sets the stage for a special project. Embrace the chance to make an impact and leave your mark.

Also born this day: Arlo Guthrie, Suzanne Vega, Henry David Thoreau, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Gerald R. Ford, Jesse Ventura and Will Ferrell.

Reel-Strong Fuel: friendly, dependable

Reel-Strong Fuel Co., a Cranford-based fuel oil and heating business, will begin its 81st year of continuous service in June.

The firm operates under the motto "Friendly, Dependable Service since 1925" and prides itself on the personal attention given to clients and would-be customers.

"We are large enough to provide full service for all your fuel oil, heating and cooling needs, yet small enough so you can call and speak directly with Pete or myself," says Clint Crane, who owns and operates Reel-Strong with his brother, Peter. The Cranes are lifelong Cranford residents.

Reel-Strong Fuel Co., formerly owned by the Cranes' father, Robert, retains the names of the original owners, William Reel and Jim Strong, who founded the company in 1925. Originally specializing in coal delivery, Reel-Strong evolved into a fuel oil and heating business before adding total home comfort offerings to its service line. Today, Reel-Strong Fuel Co. continues to provide oil and heating services, as well as central air conditioning, air cleaning and humidification equipment sales, and natural gas service/installation.

To ensure dependability in service and sales, Reel-Strong employs a trained team of specialists, many of whom have worked for the company for more than two decades.

"Our customers often will ask for a particular employee to work on a central air conditioning unit or to help in another area," says Peter Crane, noting that the Reel-Strong staff understands that emergency heating and cooling services represent more than a convenience — they can be health or safety necessities.

As part of the anniversary observance, Reel-Strong is making a special effort to encourage local residents to inquire about the varied services offered by the company. When callers phone the Reel-Strong offices, 549 Lexington Ave., Cranford, at 908-276-0900, they will speak to an owner.

"That, we maintain, is what friendly, dependable service is all about," states Clint Crane.

REUNIONS

Worrall Community Newspapers seeks information on reunions of Union County schools.

Send news of your reunion plans to Reunions, Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union NJ 07083, or by e-mail to djablonski@thelocalsource.com, with "Reunions" in the subject line. Include all pertinent contact information, such as the names of contact personnel, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, so that attendees may inquire about the reunion.

All dates and deadlines relevant to the reunion should also be included.

The following schools are planning reunions:

- Union High School, Class of 1976, 30-year reunion, 2006.
- Union High School, Class of 1981, 25-year reunion, 2006.
- Union High School, Class of 1986, 20-year reunion, 2006.

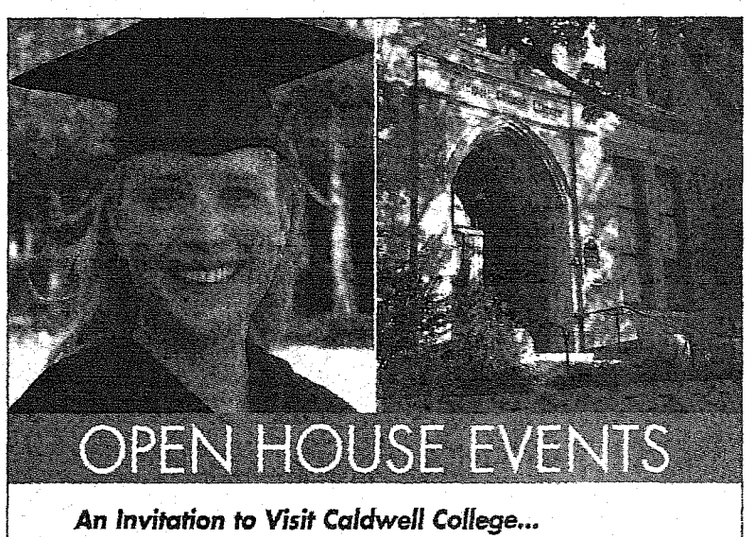
For information on any of the above reunions, write to Reunions Unlimited Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown 07726, or call 732-617-1000.

- Hillside High School Class of 1960 is planning its next reunion for 2007.

www.localsource.com
Internet Directory

Agape Family Worship Center	http://www.agapecenter.org
American Bank of New Jersey	http://www.asbnj.com
Burgdorff ERA	http://www.burgdorff.com
Crossroads Christian Fellowship	http://www.ccfou.org
DaunnoDevelopmentCo	http://www.daunnodevelopment.com
ERA Village Green	http://www.eravillagegreen.com
Eye Care Center of NJ	http://www.eyecarenj.com
First Night of Maplewood/So. Orange	http://community.nj.com/cc/firstnight-soma
Forest Hill Properties Apartments	http://www.springstreet.com/propid/389126
Grand Sanitation	http://www.grandsanitation.com
Holy Cross Church	http://www.holycrossnj.org
Hospital Center at Orange	http://www.cathedralhealthcare.org
JRS Realty	http://www.century21jrs.com
LaSalle Travel Service	http://www.lasalletravelservices.com
Mountainside Hospital	http://www.AtlanticHealth.org
Nutley Pet Center	http://www.nutleypet.com
Pet Watchers	http://www.petwatchersnj.com
Rets Institute	http://www.rets-institute.com
Skincare Products	www.marykay.com/chandrac
South Orange Chiropractic	http://www.sochiro.com
Summit Area Jaycees	http://www.angelfire.com/nj/summitjc
Suburban Essex Chamber of Commerce	http://www.suburbanessexchamber.com/secc
Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad	http://www.summitems.org
Synergy Bank	http://www.synergyonthenet.com
Trinitas Hospital	http://www.trinitashospital.com
Turning Point	http://www.turningpointnj.org
Union Center National Bank	http://www.ucnb.com
Unitarian Universalist Church	http://www.firstuu.essex.nj.uua.org
United Way of Bloomfield	http://www.unitedwaybloomfield.org
YoungVibes Entertainment	http://www.youngvibes.com

To be listed call 908-686-7700



OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

An Invitation to Visit Caldwell College...

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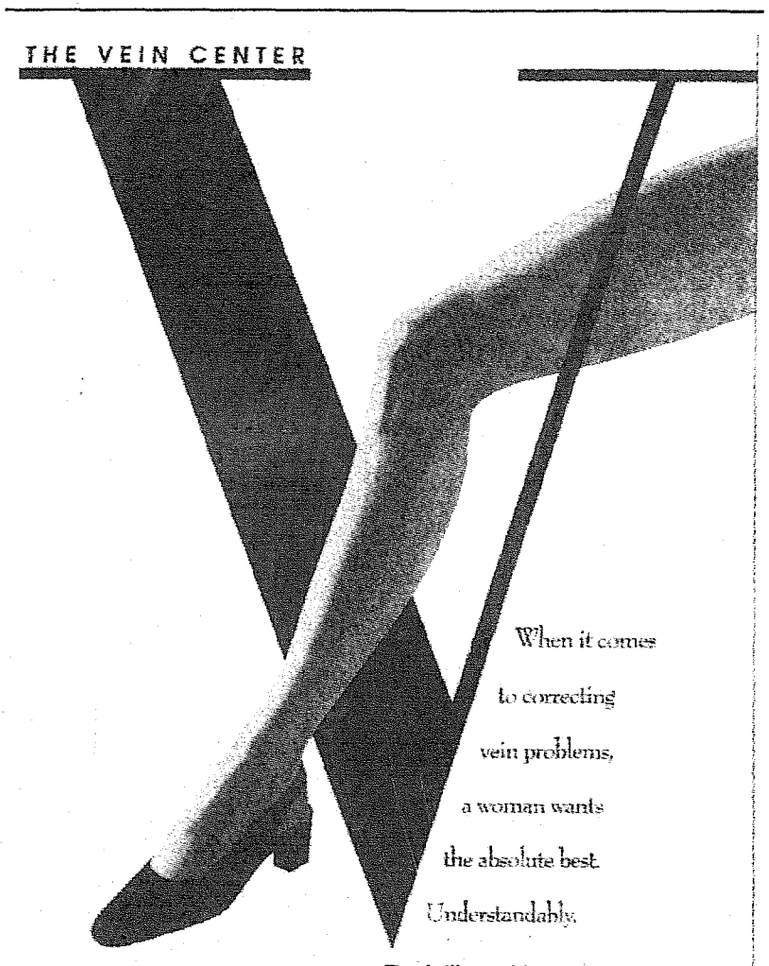
ADULT UNDERGRADUATE			
Wednesday	July 12	6:30 pm	Alumni Theater
Thursday	July 27	6:30 pm	Alumni Theater
CONTACT: 973.618.3413 ContinEd@caldwell.edu			
GRADUATE			
Wednesday	July 12	6:30 pm	Academic Building
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CONTACT: 973.618.3408 graduate@caldwell.edu			

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UNION COUNTY TOWNS
Union, Kenilworth, Roselle Park, Hillside, Linden, Roselle, Rahway, Elizabeth, Clark, Cranford, Summit, Springfield, and Mountainside

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20 words or less.....$20.00 per insertion
Additional 10 words.....$6.00 per insertion
Contract Rates Available

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Ask about our 2 county combo rate and save $$$. All classified ads appear online without additional charges

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In-column 3 PM Tuesday
Display - Space reservation 5 PM Friday
Ad Copy 12 noon Monday
Business Directory 4 PM Thursday

ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments: We make every effort to avoid mistakes in your classified advertisement. Please check your ad the first day it runs! We cannot be responsible beyond the first insertion. Should an error occur please notify the classified department. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc. reserves the right to reject, revise or reclassify any advertisement at any time.

CHARGE IT

All classified ads require prepayment.
Please have your card handy when you call..

BONUS

All Help Wanted Employment ads include a fax or email link allowing applicants to apply by responding online. Resumes can be sent as attachments.

GARAGE SALES

30 words $31.00
Garage Sale signs, price stickers, balloons, helpful hints, inventory sheet and Rain Insurance available.

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Reduced price for items priced under $200.00 Limit one item per ad for 20 words.

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1992 Honda Accord $990! Buy Police impounds! For info and listings Call: 800-426-9668. Ext. N675

2000 MOUNTAINEER all wheel drive, abs, leather, sunroof, power seats, climate control, am/fm/cd, new tires. $5000/Best offer, call (917)576-8326.

FORD TAURUS, 1995, cd player, air conditioned, in good condition. 114,000 miles, Must sell! $1,350 or best offer. Call 973-687-9152

NISSAN ALTIMA 2003, 95K. Excellent leather, 5 speed, 4 cylinder. Silver, great gas mileage. 973-517-6130. $10,000. Has 100,000 warranty.

TOYOTA CAMRY 95 Green, LE, 4 cylinder. Good condition, fully loaded, clean. Asking for Best Offer. Jacob (973)605-5225, evenings (908)282-1360.

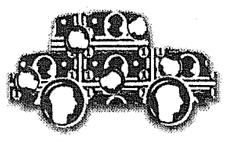
AUTOS WANTED

AUTOS - DON'T Trade In !! Charity Donations: Children's Cancer Big Brothers/Sisters, Boy/Girl Scouts, Homeless, SPCA, YMCA and more! Or we'll buy any condition/year/make - free pickup - fast service. Call 1-888-395-3955.

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For More Information Please Call The Classified Department at 908 686 7850

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Are you looking for a good job? $14.80-$36.00+/hr. Postal workers needed. Federal hire/full benefits. No Exp. Call today. 1-866-297-7126 ext. 05

DOG WALKER: PPC has immediate full-time opening. Valid NJ Driver's license needed. Must be able to work all shifts including evenings, weekends and holidays. Apply in person Monday thru Friday between 8:00am-6:00pm. At 14 Ashland Avenue, West Orange.

DRIVER WANTED (English Speaking) for food service distributon. Must bring current driver abstract, be able to pass D.O.T. test. Must have clean driver's record. Applications taken between 11:00am—2:00pm. 973-759-2300

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DRIVERS/MOVERS we are now hiring Full/Part-time. Must have experience with moving company. Excellent pay: $$$11.50-$16 an hour. Call 908-687-8804 or908-687-8898.

DATA ENTRY Work from Anywhere. Flexible Hours. Personal Computer Required. Excellent Career Opportunity. Serious Inquires only. 1-800-344-9636 Ext. 224

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HELP WANTED

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LIFE LICENSED insurance agents $100K. Income opportunity. Up to 110% advanced commission. Mortgage life leads available. Full range product portfolio. Qualified applicant's call (888) 522-8787 email: aramhad@sbcglobal.net.

LOVE TO SHOP? Eat out & watch movies? Get Paid to Do It!! Evaluators needed to assess local businesses. Flexible hours, training provided 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6333

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST:

Immediate openings for mature, multitasking medical receptionist in busy Livingston group practice. Heavy phones, appointment scheduling, patient interaction, computer knowledge helpful but will train willing candidate. 40 hour week; no evenings or weekends. Previous medical or dental office experience preferred. Please fax resume to: 973-994-9191.

MEDICAL OFFICE: Full Time; Experienced only. Knowledge of insurance & computers. Diversified clerical duties for our Union and Linden offices. Fax resume:(908)964-7646.

MOVIE EXTRAS, Actors, Models! Make $100-$300/day No Exp. Reg., FT/Pt All looks needed! 1-800-714-7341.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE / Nursery school in Millburn accepting applications for full-time, early childhood certified teacher for September 2006. 3-5 years current preschool experience required; mixed age group experience preferred. Your enthusiastic personality & excellent interpersonal skills should inspire our children, staff, & parents. If you are creative enough to give our traditions a new twist, fax resume to 973-376-2893 or call for interview: 973-376-0739 by 7/14/06.

NOW HIRING for 2006 Postal jobs $18/hour starting. Avg. Pay $57K/year. Federal benefits/paid training & vacations. No experience needed, 1-800-584-1775 reference #P3801

NOW HIRING for 2006 Postal Jobs. $18/Hour. Starting. Average Pay $57K/Year. Federal Benefits Paid training and vacations. No experience needed. 1-800-584-1775, reference #P3701

NOW HIRING for 2006 Postal jobs $17.30 - $49.00 per hour. Full federal benefits. Paid training/Vacations. No experience necessary. Green Card OK. Call 1-866-907-5285 Ext. 9001.

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RECREATION/ACTIVITY ASSISTANT Small West Orange assisted living residence seeks part-time Recreation/Activity Assistant. 20 hours/week, flexible schedule. Must have experience planning activity programs for seniors. Fax resume or call for more information. Canterbury Village (973)736-1194, (973)243-9381 (fax).

HELP WANTED

Spencer Savings Bank has been serving the community's banking needs for over 65 years and in that time has developed a reputation as a solid financial organization, with strong community ties. We are currently looking to fill the following positions located in Union County:

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Full Time Tellers
Part Time Tellers

Must be available to work flexible hours and Saturdays. Previous teller, cashier, customer service or retail experience preferred.

In order to be considered for these opportunities, you may e-mail your resume to employment@spencersavings.com or apply on line at spencersavings.com

SPENCER SAVINGS BANK SLA
EOE M/F/V/D

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973-376-0005; fax resume to Phil or Justin at 973-467-1130 or e-mail justin@winelibrary.com.

SECRET SHOPPERS needed . Pose as customers for store evaluations. Local stores, restaurants and theaters. Training provided. Flexible Hours, E-mail required. Call Now! 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6069

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Honest, Reliable, Experienced woman will take care or be a companion to an elderly person(references available) 201-280-8820 or 908-862-6917 Sophia.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Clark Summer Recreation Camp
Will begin on July 5th and run through August 17th, Monday thru Thursday, 9-12. The camp is open to Clark children entering Kindergarten in the Fall up to children who have completed the sixth grade. Interested parties should call the Recreation Department at **732-388-3600, ext 3009.**

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ADOPTION: A nurturing family seeks to adopt an infant to love and cherish. We are f inancially secure to provide a promising future. Please call us at:1-888-322-0924

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BEDROOM SET- Beautiful cherry wood sleigh bed, dresser, mirror, 2 nite stands. Still in box. Retail $3000 sacrifice $1175 732-259-6690

BEDROOM SET-sleigh bed, dresser, w/mirror, chest and 2 nite stands. New in box. Value $1800 sell $695 Can deliver. 732-259-6690

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Kastle Mortgage			**800-592-2930**		**RSI Bank**			**732-587-1526**	
30 YR FIXED	6.130	0.00	6.180	APP	30 YR FIXED	7.000	0.00	7.040	APP
15 YR FIXED	5.880	0.00	5.930	FEE	15 YR FIXED	6.125	0.00	6.190	FEE
5/1 ARM	5.880	0.00	6.950	$325	3/1 ARM	5.625	0.00	7.253	$395
Reverse Mortgages & Free Refinancing					15 yr fixed and all ARM product loan limits up to $750,000				
Loan Search			**800-591-3279**		**Union Center National Bk**			**908-206-2877**	
30 YR FIXED	6.500	0.00	6.531	APP	30 YR FIXED	6.875	0.00	6.899	APP
15 YR FIXED	5.750	0.00	5.810	FEE	15 YR FIXED	6.500	0.00	6.539	FEE
1 YR ARM	4.375	0.00	7.239	$495	10/1 INT ONLY	6.875	0.00	6.943	$350
New Jerseys Lowest Jumbo Rates! www.Loansearch.com					Adjustable Rate Mortgages to $3,000,000 No Income Loans Available				

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Rates were received on 6/30/06 from the lenders and are subject to change. Contact lenders for more information.
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REAL ESTATE

Improve your home's curbside appeal

Do you live on a street where all the houses look the same? Do you feel like you need to do something to set your place apart from the rest? Well, get out and do something about it.

Unless your house is an architectural masterpiece, it could benefit from some thoughtful plantings to soften the edges and help it blend with the surroundings. With spring here, there are thousands of different varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers available that alone, or in combination, will help you really make a statement.

A good place to start is by choosing shrubs to plant right in front of the house. If you're looking for a low-maintenance evergreen, a good shrub to plant is holly. Hydrangeas and rhododendrons are popular options if you're looking to add some color. Once the shrubs are in place, you can complement them with such spring beauties such as pansies, petunias, daisies and marigolds.

You may also want to consider putting a fence in your yard, or replacing an old chain link fence with something a little nicer looking. When it comes to fencing, invest in a system that will complement your garden and home, not distract from its beauty.

"A lot of people go with chain link fencing because it's the most affordable option out there, but it's not very attractive," says Bruce Schwartz of Jerith Manufacturing Company in Philadelphia. "You can improve the aesthetic value of your home by spending a little bit extra for ornamental fencing."

Rick Longerbeam of Summit Point, W. Va., says he wouldn't have done it any other way. "I wanted a system that was durable, structurally sound and attractive," he says. "Chain-link just didn't fit into the equation."

The system he decided to go with is Jerith's Patriot Ornamental Wire Fencing system. This fence is priced just slightly more than vinyl-coated chain link, but much lower than other ornamental fences. The retail price of the material starts at less than $17 per foot for a 4-foot-tall fence.

It features visually appealing mesh patterns and horizontal rails for a truly ornamental appearance.

"My fence has been a show-stopper ever since I put it up," says Longerbeam. "People stop and ask about it pretty much any time they see me out in the yard."

The system has a variety of appearances "You can get mesh that's close together and very difficult to climb, or far apart to create a picket-fence look," said Schwartz.

Installation is easy, too. The panels come pre-assembled in 4-, 5- and 6-foot-tall pieces. All the installer has to do is dig holes for the posts, set them in concrete, then attach the panels to them.

If you already have a chain link fence in your yard, and are considering replacing it, you'll soon be able to upgrade it to a Jerith fencing system without spending a lot of money. This spring, the company will begin offering an installation method that allows the Patriot Fence to use your existing chain link posts, saving the cost of purchasing and installing new posts. This will reduce the cost of the fence to just $12 or so per foot.

Jerith fencing is not sold in home improvement stores. You need to order it from a fencing contractor. To learn more about one of the oldest and largest manufacturers of ornamental fences in North America, or to order a catalog, log on to www.jerith.com.

Attention Weekend Real Estate Buyers

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Springfield

$975,000

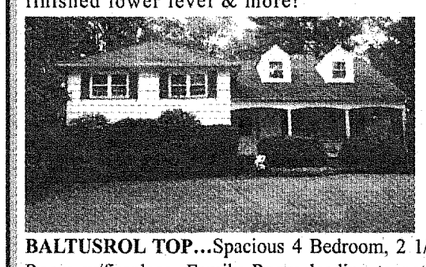
MOVE RIGHT IN... Just unpack! 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Center Hall Colonial with gourmet Kitchen, Family Room with fireplace, wood & marble floors, private yard.



Springfield

$699,000

BETTER THAN NEW! Custom home renovated in 2002, discover 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Living Room w/marble fireplace, walk-in closets, finished lower level & more!



Springfield

$659,000

BALTUSROL TOP... Spacious 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Split! Living Room w/fireplace, Family Room leading to patio & park-like yard. Busing to all public schools!

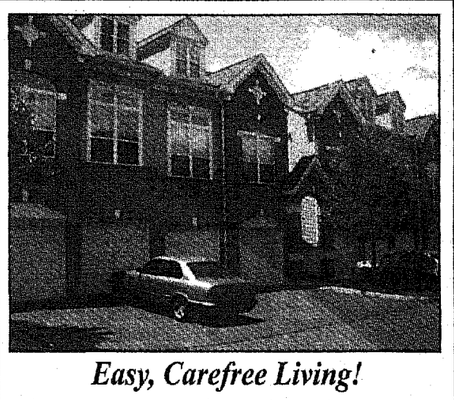
For more information on any of these properties contact Robbi Usdin at 908-313-1905.

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#048010500



A Home to Build a Dream On!

BUY FOR $2,040/MONTH

UNION TOWNSHIP - Lovely Battle Hill Split Level with 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, updated galore! Sliders to deck overlooking huge landscaped backyard. Newer sliding, windows & roof. Home in move in condition! $444,900.

#048010488

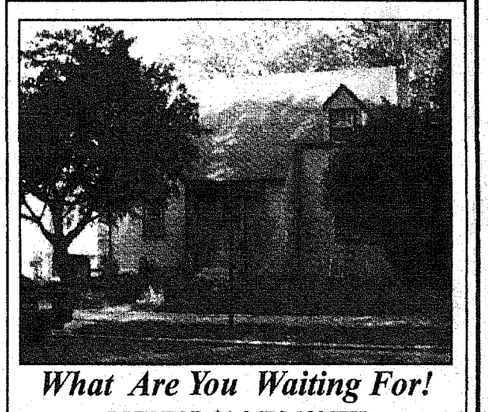


Be the Proud Owner!

BUY FOR $1,833/MONTH

UNION TOWNSHIP - Comfortable home in desirable area! Features new heating, newer Baths, windows, siding, roof, kitchen, full finished basement with pool room and much more! $399,900.

#048010441



What Are You Waiting For!

BUY FOR $1,967/MONTH

UNION TOWNSHIP - Let your tenant help pay your mortgage! 2 family in Hanna Caldwell area. 1 Bedroom over 2 Bedrooms, partially finished basement. Wood floors, oversized garage, laundry room in basement, lots of storage. $429,000

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Union 194,500

1st flr 4 rm Condo w/ newer kit & bath, washer/dryer in unit, newer wall to wall carpet over hw flrs, wood blinds & ceiling fans. Walk to NY bus.
Call 908-688-3000
UNI8198



Springfield 749,000

Renovated Custom Home Located On Baltusrol Top. This Spectacular Home Boasts Five Bedrooms, Three and Half Baths, Gleaming Hardwood Floors, Family Room With Fireplace and a Large Deck. 9 Persimmon Way.
Call 973-467-1555
SPF5030



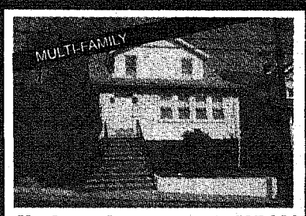
Roselle Park 299,900

Just Updated! Pretty Colonial features new siding, windows, carpet & 2 new full baths-1 w/ jacuzzi. New kitchen opens to deck & huge yard. Walk to schools, stores & train.
Call 908-688-3000
UNI8225



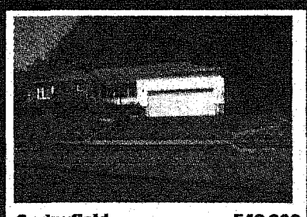
Springfield 639,000

4 Bed, 3.5 Bath Colonial in Lovely Location. Master Bed w/Bath, EIK, Dining Rm, Pool & Deck Great For Entertaining. 33 Cottler Avenue.
Call 973-467-1555
SPF5139



Maplewood 405,000

Why rent when you can own this 2 Family home w/ 6 rms on lower level & 4 rms on level 2 plus a full fin bsmt w/ full bath. Newer thermal windows & private driveway.
Call 908-688-3000
UNI8145



Springfield 549,900

Dynamic Split Level w/Remodeled Kit, Recessed Lighting, Vaulted Ceilings, Wood Flrs, Master Bed w/updated Bath. Grade Level w/Fam Rm, Bed & Bath. Patio w/private yard.
Call 973-467-1555
SPF5149

Union 449,900

Welcome home! Lg Colonial in move in condition features 3 BR's, 2.5 baths, fam rm, FDR & much more! Priced to sell fast!
Call 908-688-3000
UNI8207



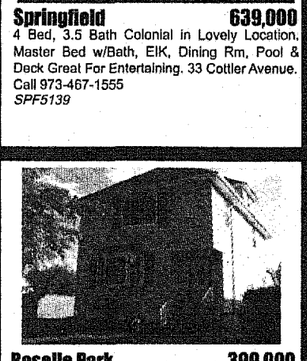
Elizabeth 439,900

5 Bed, 2.1 Bath Colonial w/ New Kitchen, Stainless Steel Appliances, Granite Countertop. Beautiful Woodwork Throughout.
Call 973-467-1555
SPF5113



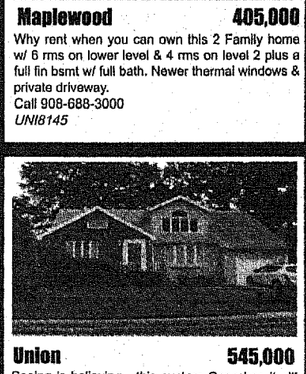
Union 459,900

Immaculate Putnam Manor Stone Front 3 BR Colonial features fenced in grounds, alarm system, gas fpl, fam rm, lg deck & sprinkler system.
Call 908-688-3000
UNI8161



Roselle Park 399,000

Updated 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath colonial in a great location!! New siding, windows, deck, lg rooms, newly finished bsmt w/ additional rooms!
Call 973-467-1555
SPF5146



Union 545,000

Seeing is believing - this custom Cape has it all! Immaculate, move in condition hom ideally situated in the Washington School area boasts fam rm w/ woodburning fpl, cathedral ceiling, skylights, sun rm, hw flrs & Anderson windows.
Call 908-688-3000
UNI8226



Union 489,000

Wow! Center Hall Colonial Located in Putnam Manor w/ Views of Golf Course. Updates Include: New EIK and Bath, New Carpet, Freshly Painted. Extra Large Rms and King-Sized Bedrooms, CAC, Deck.
Call 973-467-1555
SPF5150

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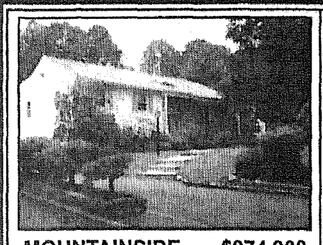
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MOUNTAINSIDE $974,900

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MAPLEWOOD $569,900

Move In Condition

One Family House. Quiet St., 4 Beds, Fire Place, Huge Backyard, And Lots Of Charm.

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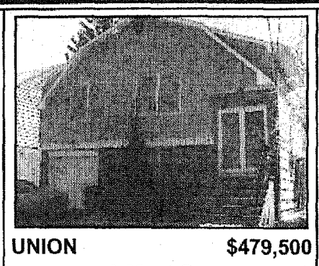


BASKING BRIDGE $1,550,000

New Construction

Brand New Construction! Fieldstone, Country Colonial, 4 Brs, 3.5 Full Baths, Fire Place, Lots More. Must See!!!

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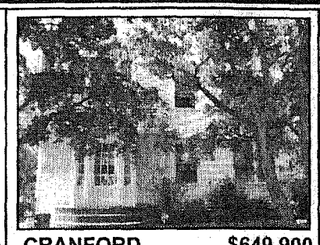


UNION $479,500

A Must See

Great for large or extended family. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, Central Air, dining rm, EIK and much more.

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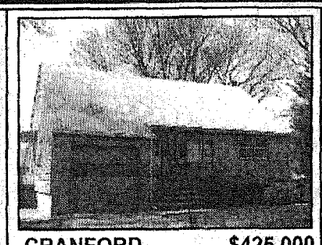


CRANFORD $649,900

Gorgeous Colonial

This home features 3/4 bedrooms, wood floors, fireplace, beautiful property w/ established rose garden.

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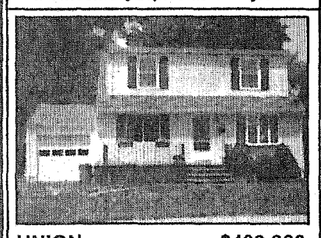


CRANFORD $425,000

Large Cape Cod

North Side Cape 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Eat-In-kitchen, Florida room, hardwood floors, central air, deck and much more!

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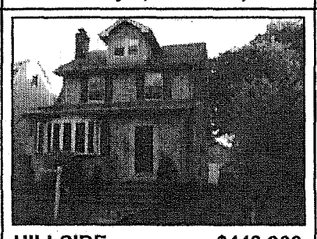


UNION $409,900

Spacious Cape Cod

Spacious Cape Cod in a prestigious Battlehill section. Cherry Eat in Kitchen open to a great family room with fireplace, skylights, nice deck, finished basement, new windows, siding, and roof. Must see!

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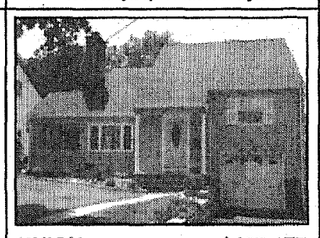


HILLSIDE $449,900

Beautiful Colonial

Enjoy living in this beautiful Colonial featuring 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Living Room with wood burning fireplace, Formal Dining Room, Eat in Kitchen, den, finished basement, 2 car garage and much more!

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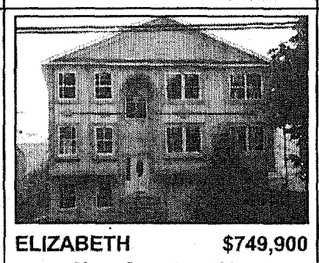


UNION $467,177

Impeccable Split Level

Beautiful home move in condition. Walk to elementary and middle school. Master suite, walk in closet, jacuzzi.

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ELIZABETH $749,900

New Construction

Exceptional 3 family to be built with extra large rooms nested in South Elmora. All brick w/ hardwood floors. Home features: Two 3 bedrooms and 2 baths & One 1 bedroom. All separate utilities.

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BELLEVILLE $459,900

Not A Drive By

Gorgeous colonial not a drive by, must see the inside to appreciate its value. Features 4 BR, 3 f/ bath, EIK, large & luxury 3rd level master suite. Dual central A/C, alarm system, 2-car garage.

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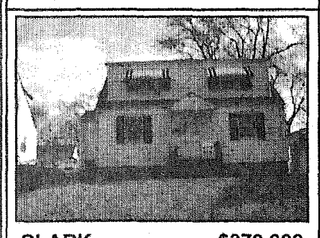


ELIZABETH $469,900

Two Family

Nested in desirable South Elmora section this charming 2 fam, with finished basement, features 1 br apt. and 2 br apt on the 2nd floor. Perfect location for commuters to NY. Large backyard..MUST SEE!!

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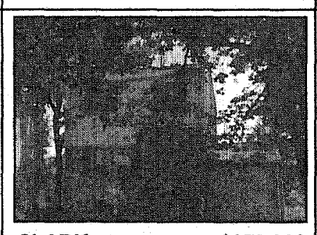
CLARK $379,999

Large Cape Cod

Great section of town! 4 BR, 2 Full BA, Newer Roof, Windows, BAs, D/W, Stove, CAC, Ceiling fans. All Hwd Fls. Large Din Rm, Huge Two Car Garage.



Nathalia Sarro
Century 21 JRS Realty
1474 Main St., Rahway
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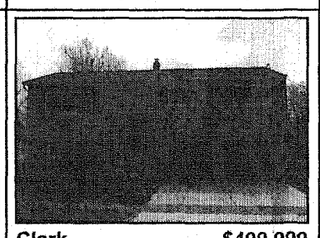
CLARK $379,999

Great Starter Home

Great Area! Needs some TLC. New roof, Updated Elec. Service, Hwd Fls throughout, Fresh paint in the rear porch, Large full basement.



Melissa Stivale
Century 21 JRS Realty
138 Westfield Ave., Clark
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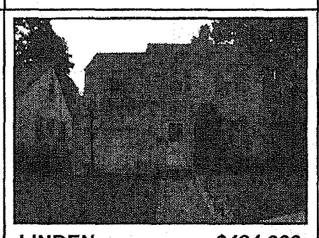
Clark $499,999

Lovely Bi-Level

3yr old roof, Cath. ceiling in LR/DR, New windows/06, New gutters, Hot tub, Pool, PVC fence, Dbl closets in all BRs, Huge 2 car garage & storage area. Must See!



Joseph Plizzi
Century 21 JRS Realty
138 Westfield Ave., Clark
732-396-0606
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LINDEN $424,999

Mint Colonial

New roof, boiler, hwh, sun rm addition. Fin'd basement, new driveway, new 1/2 bath, newer kit, CAC, fresh refin'd hwdfls, new basemt windows, fresh paint, all lgr rms, fp/livrm.



Siemyana D'Souza
Century 21 JRS Realty
138 Westfield Ave., Clark
732-396-0606
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LINDEN $449,800

Center Hall Colonial

Absolutely beautiful colonial in the best section of town. Open flr plan w/huge lvrm w/fpl, open to eating area & updated kit. New BAs. Formal din rm 18ft long. Large property w/ huge backyard.



Stephen L. Crosby
Century 21 JRS Realty
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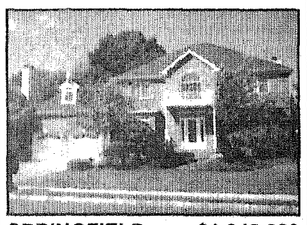
RAHWAY $434,900

A Rare Find!

Expanded Cape w/ 4BR, 2.5BA, fin'd basement, wet bar, 2 firepls, hdwd flrs, HWH 2006. Newer CAC, Windows, Roof 1999 on corner double lot.



Dawn M. Boyden
Century 21 JRS Realty
138 Westfield Ave., Clark
Direct: 908-794-6467

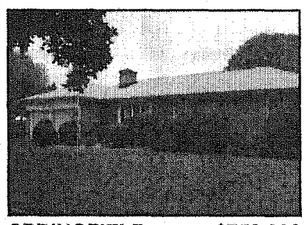


SPRINGFIELD $1,049,999

New Development

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SPRINGFIELD $759,900

Enormous Corner Lot

OPEN HOUSE 1-4 JULY 9 AT 3 WINDSOR DRIVE. 3/4 BR BRICK RANCH W/ FORMAL LR,DR,EIK, DEN OPEN PORCH. FINISHED BASEMENT W/WET BAR, DANCE FL,BATH. BEAUTIFUL YARD W/DECK & PLAY HOUSE, POSS MOTHER DAUGHTER. MUST SEE.

CENTURY 21 RON SHARPE REALTY
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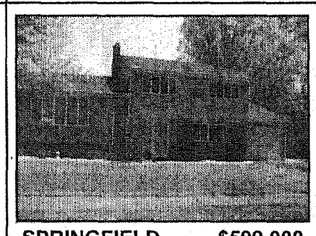


SPRINGFIELD $649,900

Home Office

ACROSS FROM BALTUSROL GOLF CLUB THIS 4 BR EXPANED SPLIT WITH FINISHED BASMENT POSSESSES ENDLESS POSSIBILITES W/4 RM SUITE

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SPRINGFIELD $599,000

Magnificent 4 BR Split

OPEN HOUSE 1-4 JULY 9th AT 75 REDWOOD ROAD. SUNNY KITCHEN CORNER LOT VERY PRIVATE, MOVE-IN-COND, HIGH CEIL. SKYLIGHTS NEW WINDOWS, FIN BSMT. LARGE YARD W/PATIO, GREAT LOCATION.

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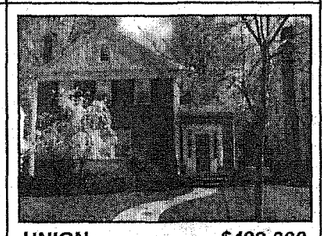


MOUNTAINSIDE $600's

Spa Delight

INDOOR SPA ROOM W/SAUNA & JACUZZI W/ SLIDERS TO POOL OFF FAM ROOM W/ BAR HUGE MASTER BR SUITE W/3 RMS NEW KIT W/ SKYLIGHTS,GRANITE & MORE.

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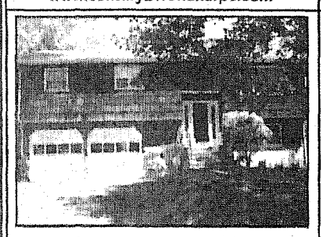


UNION $499,000

Magnificent Colonial

OPEN HOUSE 1-4 JULY 9th AT 1061 BATTLE HILL. MAGNIFICENT CTR HALL COL LOCATED IN HIGHLY DESIRABLE LARCHMONT ESTATES. FEATURES 3 LARGE BEDROOMS, 1.5 BATHS, KIT W/ISLAND, FORMAL LIVING ROOM W/FPL, GREATROOM W/ SKYLIGHTS & BAY WIND, FIN.BSMT & MORE.

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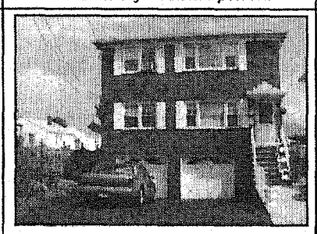


NO. PLAINFIELD $368,800

Spacious Bi-Level

Spring into action w/this large Bi-Level that offers 4 bedrooms, living rm, formal din rm, spacious EIK & fam rm w/sliders that lead outside to patio. A deep backyard to create a park like setting for all your summer activities. Sit back & enjoy. Walking distance to Elem. School & close to NY buses.

CENTURY 21 MORETTI REALTY
Mary Ann Lisewski & The "L" Team
908-755-5051 x309 or Chris x343
lisewskim@morettirealty.com



LINDEN $539,000

Enduring Value

Open House Sunday, July 9th 1-4pm At 401 Gable Ave. You'll appreciate the way in which this Brick/vinyl 2-family has been cared for. Bright, sunny kitchen, formal dining room, 3 bedrooms each unit, basement and 2 car garage. In addition, gorgeous hard wood floors and private back yard on cul-de-sac. A pleasure to show!

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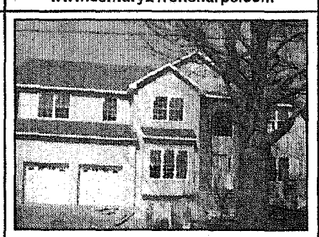


METUCHEN $899,900

Elegant Custom Colonial

Sophisticated Colonial located in the prime Oak Hills area of Metuchen on a cul-de-sac. This home features 5 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, gourmet kitchen for the chef, large family rm with floor-to ceiling brick fireplace, formal din rm and finished basement. Too many amenities to list, call today for your private tour.

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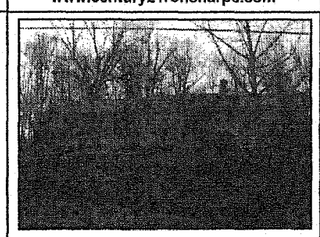


SO. PLAINFIELD $659,900

New Construction

This 3200 sq. ft. Colonial home is in the process of being built but still time to select your kitchen cabinets, tile, etc. You will love the large entrance way & the double staircase overlooking the family rm & foyer. Featuring: 4+ bedrms, library/study, formal din rm, oversized EIK, fam rm & 2.5 bathrms. We have the key.

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SPRINGFIELD $990,000

Baltusrol Top

Easy living in this immaculate Ranch featuring 4bdrms, 2.2 baths, large eat-in kitchen. Pool open for your Summer pleasure, amenities galore! Call Hope for private showing. 973-202-2855.

CENTURY 21 NORMA ALTMAN REALTORS
221 MAIN STREET, MILLBURN
973-376-9393
www.century21altman.com



SPRINGFIELD $559,000

Spacious Split Level

Immaculate 4BR, 2.5 bth home in wonderful neighborhood. Featuring updated kitchen w/ skylight, gleaming hardwood floors & updated bathrooms. For more information call Joe Ricci (973)760-3034.

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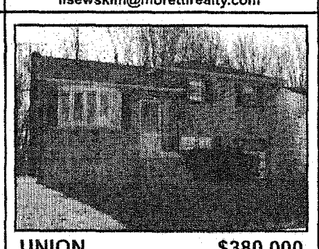
ELIZABETH $559,900

Boost Your Income

Spacious 2-Family Home. 6BR/2.1BA. Alum/ Brick. Close to all amenities. FR, rec rm, storm wind, walk-in closets, ceramic tile baths, EIK, fin basemt.



Carl Lee
Century 21 Pogo Realtors
923 Stuyvesant Ave., Union
Direct: 908-347-0691



UNION $380,000

Move In Condition

Lovely brick front split-level. Features spacious backyard, central air and heat. 3BR, LR, DR, FAM RM. Full basement, low taxes.

CENTURY 21 REALTY MCCOY, INC
386 Valley Street, South Orange
973-762-1171
www.c21mccoy.com



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