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Friday, October 1, 2004

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INSIDE



Tennis, anyone?

Shannon Gomes has been a big part of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls tennis team's success this fall. The team heads into the Union County Tournament Friday. See the story on Page C-1.



Harlan Coben to visit library

Best-selling author Harlan Coben — whose list of fans includes a certain former president who recently had bypass surgery — will make an appearance at the Westfield Memorial Library Saturday. See the story on Page B-1.



Bauer takes part in 'Pathways' program

Scotch Plains resident Jennifer Bauer participated this summer in "Pathways to Politics," an leadership skills seminar that prepares young women to enter careers in politics. For more on Bauer and the program, see Page A-8.

REMINDER

Ride the train to Sales Days

The Downtown Westfield Corporation and the New York Susquehanna and Western Railroad present the Westfield Railroad Sales Days promotion this weekend. Residents can ride the historical train to North Branch and participate in a day of shopping. For tickets, visit www.877-TRAIN-RIDE.COM.

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In split vote, council backs financing model

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — As the Town Council passed a resolution that was intended to provide voters with the assurance that a financial presentation over the town's proposed parking management strategy is viable, the loudest voices were in dissent.

By a 7-2 vote, the council approved a resolution stating the council and town find the financial model, prepared by consultant Desman Associates, to "provide a viable parking management strategy" for consideration by voters on Election Day.

On Nov. 2, voters will cast ballots in a non-binding referendum over the town's proposed redevelopment project, planned for the municipal parking lots between

Prospect and Elm Streets. Under the proposal, the town would build a \$10 million dollar parking deck, masked by 3,500 square feet of retail space and 19 condominium units facing Prospect and Elm.

The proposal has drawn a constant, assiduous opposition from a determined group of residents and members within the council. When the resolution was passed Tuesday night, Councilman Sal Caruana voted against the measure, arguing that another financial strategy would have saved taxpayers money.

"It's more than a matter of interpretation," Caruana said. "The proposed garage, dollar for dollar, does affect property taxes."

Caruana said the proposed 490-space parking deck would generate only

\$476,000 in new revenue to the town, well below the financial model's \$930,000 annual costs, which include property maintenance and debt service on a 25-year general obligation bond.

To make up for the shortfall, the town has proposed increasing commuter permit fees, employee permit fees, and parking meter rates. And additional unanticipated parking-related revenue will be allocated to paying for the project, according to the model.

But all of that revenue is money that would have been used to offset property taxes in the council's operating budget, Caruana said. "While there is not a straight line to increased property taxes, there is a broken line," he claimed.

Caruana said a better model would

have included a spreadsheet for a 15-year general obligation bond, which would have a higher initial cost, but would save taxpayers money in the long run because of a lower interest rate.

He was joined in opposing the resolution by Finance Policy Committee chairman Peter Echausse, who said the model places an excessive burden on commuters. Echausse also called on the Downtown Westfield Corporation to make a public statement indicating whether the body would be willing to make an annual contribution of \$50,000 to the project.

Councilman Jim Foerst was representative of the majority, however, when he said the plan at least provides the public

(Continued on page A-2)

School board slams new spending rules

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — Frustrated by state and federal policies that will place new restrictions on this year's budget, the Board of Education passed joint resolutions last week calling for legislative changes to a recently enacted state law and increased special education funding at the federal level.

The board spent more than a half hour laying out its case against S-1701/A-99, passed by both the Senate and Assembly in June, at its regular meeting Sept. 23. Board members said the new law, which tightens spending caps for school districts and increases county and state control over spending, is an unwanted intrusion on local authority.

The legislation reduces local spending caps from 3 percent annually to 2.5 percent, which in the case of Scotch Plains-Fanwood will lower the district's cap by at least \$250,000 in next year's budget. The measure also reduces surpluses districts can carry, restricts second questions, and gives the county superintendent authority over line-item transfers, a point that rankled board member Edward Saradaki.

Saradaki noted that county superintendents are appointed by the governor, while local school district budgets are approved or denied by voters in a direct election each April.

"(The county superintendent) is someone who has no vested interest in the well-being of the taxpayers and the community," Saradaki said. "The whole thing has nothing to do with the cost to the taxpayer — it's about local control."

And board member Trip Whitehouse wondered whether the district should bother meeting federal and state mandates, when neither layer of government provides a meaningful financial contribution to offset costs.

"Every time a district learns to say no, the sanctions end up being worse than not taking the money," said Superintendent Carol Choye.

Also of concern, said Business Administrator Anthony Del Sordi, are spending growth limitation adjustments, which allow school districts to spend above cap for enrollment increases, special education costs, and other expenses.

Although S-1701 does not affect most of these spending adjustments, there will be a tangible impact on the educational program when current student enrollment growth stops, Del Sordi said.

The resolution calls for a "moratorium on implementing A-99/S-1701 until the effects of this legislation on our state's schools can be fully understood." The New Jersey School Boards Association is calling for an outright repeal of the law, while the board's call for a moratorium follows the more low-key approach being pursued by the Garden State Coalition of Schools.

Board President Linda Nelson, who was active in lobbying legislators to oppose the law, said many state lawmakers were unwilling to reject a law that was "tie-barred" with the governor's budget package. That package included the so-called "millionaire's tax" which raised income tax levels on the wealthiest taxpayers.

(Continued on page A-2)



History comes alive at Harvest Festival



The 23rd annual Harvest Festival at Trillside Nature and Science Center was held last Sunday, offering a unique perspective on Union County's colonial history as well as some traditional children's entertainment. At top, James Bowen plays the role of a colonial soldier, outfitted with his rifle outside a tent. At bottom, Alex Liu, 2, looked to be more interested in bunny rabbits, while 6-year-old Ian Pruszkowski spent some time on a pony ride.

KEVIN PAPA/CORRESPONDENT

Organization aims to be voice of change within the church

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — They are advocating controversial change in the Catholic Church, but their voices can't be heard inside their own houses of worship.

"We want to keep the faith," explained a member of the Union County affiliate of Voice of the Faithful, "and change the church."

On Monday night, about 30 members of the newly formed Union County chapter gathered for a presentation by Monsignor Kenneth Lasch, pastor emeritus at St. Joseph's Church in Mendham.

But instead of holding their meeting at a local Catholic Church, the group met at the First United Methodist Church in Westfield. Though they were warmly welcomed at the church by Rev. Edward Carl, the group is not permitted to hold meetings in Catholic churches or property under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of Newark.

"Nothing I say is scandalous or blasphemous," said Lasch. He claims his group is devoted to helping survivors of clergy sexual abuse, supporting priests of integrity, and shaping structural change to the Catholic Church.

But according to Jim Goodness, spokesman for the Archdiocese, Voice of the Faithful's motives and beliefs are unclear. He said the Archdiocese agrees with the group's first two points, but needs more information about the third. Until that is provided, Goodness said the organization will not be allowed to meet on Archdiocese property.

"It comes down to the fact that the organization hasn't defined itself well in terms of its overall goals," Goodness said. "We're concerned that some in the group at the local and national level are looking for the kinds of change that are in direct conflict with Catholic teaching and tradition."

Goodness said allowing the group to use church property would amount to a "tacit endorse-

ment" of teachings the Archdiocese does not believe to be the word of Christ.

Sexual abuse by members of the clergy jumped into the national spotlight when allegations by victims in Massachusetts focused attention on upper-level decisions by members of the Catholic Church. Investigations revealed that some archdioceses allowed priests accused of sex crimes to have continued contact with children, inspiring heavy media attention and numerous lawsuits.

Over the course of more than an hour at Monday's meeting, Lasch focused his comments on the controversial topic of sexual abuse by both members of the clergy and laypeople associated with the church. He said the problem of clergy sexual abuse, while well-publicized in recent years, has never been fully acknowledged.

"People say we keep nagging" (Continued on page A-2)

Father pushes case for better downtown safety

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — The father of a 15 year-old township resident who was assaulted recently behind Starbucks continued to press his case for changes at the Town Council's regular meeting Tuesday.

Eric Zakarin spoke before the council during the public comment portion of the meeting, renewing his call for a curfew or anti-loitering law downtown to protect the safety of local teenagers and young adults. His son was assaulted about two weeks ago by teenagers believed to reside outside Westfield.

"Something has to be done before another street is paved or a parking deck has been discussed," Zakarin said. "I've spent several nights in parking lots downtown, and (I've observed) police are constrained by a lack of manpower to do what they need to do and move kids along in this town."

He said the council's endless debate over parking has obscured the most important issue in town — public safety.

"What good is the beauty of the façade of this town if the foundation is crumbling?" he asked.

Though the council didn't comment on the issue at the meeting, town administrator Jim Gildea said research about curfews and other options provided by Zakarin has been forwarded to Police Chief Bernard Tracy. He said the police department is actively working on the issue, and will submit its recommendations to the council.

"The council will have to decide whether to pursue this issue," Gildea said.

Rafael Betancourt, chairman of the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee, said the group will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, and will discuss the downtown safety issue at

(Continued on page A-2)

Organization aims to be voice

(Continued from page A-1)

about the past," Lasch said. "But the past is not the past until the whole story has been told."

"Most survivors of sexual abuse are not members (of Voice of the Faithful), most have yet to come forth, and most will never come forth," he continued. "We've only scratched the surface."

Lasch, a canon lawyer, said he first became aware of sexual abuse in the church back in 1982 when a young parishioner at St. Joseph's reported abuse by one of the church's pastors. As Lasch investigated the accusation, he learned more about sexual abuse and encountered many more young men and women who disclosed cases of abuse. He said he began to realize the problem was widespread.

In 1994, he said, he pleaded with his bishop to convene a summit, consisting of psychologists, attorneys, survivors, and even recovering sexual predators. Instead of action, he said he met a "wall of silence."

The problem, Lasch continued, is an authoritarian structure that is focused more on centralized power than it is interested in considering accumulated data. That resistance was demonstrated in a number of ways, some of which were startling, he explained.

At the meeting, a survivor of sex abuse by a church secretary said he was offered money in exchange for his silence.

"The church adopted methods you might find in the corporate or political world to prevent the disclosure of facts," Lasch said. "Those who were reporting the abuse were often the subject of innuendos and coffee room gossip."

According to Lasch, the way the church can end clergy sexual abuse is to make an effort to listen to victims and find out the root causes of the problem.

"It's amazing how many people know so little about sexual abuse, and many of those who know so lit-

tle are Catholic priests," he said. "They have not allowed themselves to be exposed to (the problem)."

Goodness insists that the church has been proactive in addressing the problem of sexual misconduct by clergy for more than eleven years. The Archdiocese of Newark was one of the first to institute a review board, similar to the body described by Lasch. Counseling and support is provided to victims, staff is trained to look for signs of sex abuse, and children are taught to recognize what behavior is inappropriate, Goodness said.

"It's important we let people know that we're taking action — our role is to ensure that (sex abuse) doesn't happen and that children are given a safe environment," he said.

Goodness said the Archdiocese isn't troubled by divergent viewpoints on the issue within the Catholic Church, both inside and outside of New Jersey.

"Each bishop has his own decision — some have chosen" to allow the group to meet on church property and others have not, he said. "It's perfectly legitimate for two dioceses to have different opinions on a subject."

Though Voice of the Faithful has no formal position on many contro-

versial issues, some members believe the church should allow optional celibacy in priests and increased governance by laypeople. The group has no formal position on gender in the priesthood or on issues involving homosexuality.

The group does want to open up a dialogue with priests and bishops about structural change at all levels of the church.

Lasch argues Biblical fundamentalism has made the church rigid, and made the clergy and parishioners unwilling to consider some of the changes that could save the faith. He said such Biblical interpretation results in an "inability to distinguish between myth and truth" and called strict fundamentalism a "juvenile approach to religious belief."

"We don't give up our intelligence when we're baptized, and we don't leave our brains at the doors of a church," Lasch said, advocating a steady, incremental approach toward lobbying clergy to consider change.

For more information on Voice of the Faithful, check the national website at www.votf.org or their state website at www.votfnj.org. For information on the Archdiocese of Newark, go to their website at www.rcan.org.

Better downtown safety

(Continued from page A-1)

length. He said town officials have been aware of the problem for a long time.

"We do need to look at this and find out from our professionals what their recommendations are," Betancourt said. "This is something we will have to focus on."

"I think the idea of a curfew is premature — with more police presence there, we can disperse them, and show them this is something we're not going to tolerate," Betancourt continued.

"But can you have someone there who's going to prevent every fight? I don't think so."

Betancourt said adding more police downtown isn't necessarily the solution to the problem, especially when many residents already have reservations about excessive police presence and concerns about budget implications.

"But we're going to do something," Betancourt said. "It's just a question of what we're going to do."

A call to Mayor Greg McDermott seeking comment on the issue was not returned.

Council backs financing model

(Continued from page A-1)

with a philosophical framework to evaluate the project's likely financing.

"(This vote) does not authorize this body to move forward with the construction of a parking deck," Foerst explained. "It refers this model to the public to be used to guide your vote... and fulfills the council's mandate to provide a viable parking management" program, he said.

Councilman Mark Ciarrocca pointed out that some of the revenue sources being relied on for the project would not exist had not previous councils raised parking fees with the expectation those revenues would be dedicated to a parking improvement. He said the council could revisit the finances and make improvements to the model if the public approves the November referendum.

And Councilman Larry Goldman endorsed both the financial plan and the overall project itself. He said that while the model is weighed down by a need to please almost everybody from a perspective of aesthetics, keeping parking fees low, and ensuring homeowners bear no increased tax burden, it "does provide a viable parking strategy."

While he didn't explicitly announce an affirmative vote for the overall project, a vote most observers have taken for granted for some time, Mayor Greg McDermott said the project would meet the town's parking needs and provide a boost to the ratable base, thereby reducing the tax burden on homeowners.

"This would give the town the opportunity to have smart growth and good development,"

McDermott said.

"We have an opportunity to expand downtown development in a way we can control," he added, pointing out that the council can dictate the size and scope of the project.

Residents assailed the council for more than two hours before the discussion and vote, attacking the veracity of the financial model and insisting the town's parking problem can be solved by better management of municipal parking lots.

Resident Roger Sullivan laid out several points of opposition to the model, claiming that no municipality in New Jersey has ever issued general obligation bonds extending for that time period. He also challenged model's segregation of funds, level of debt service, and defined debt ratio.

Sullivan also had reservations about a \$100,000 contribution from the council's Parking Improvement Capital Fund during each of the first three years of the project. On the model, these funds are counted on to keep the project in the black, but at least one member of the council has said those funds would likely be removed from the model and used to cover the cost of a down payment incurred by borrowing more than \$10 million to pay for the project.

Financial information and other facts will be provided to voters through newspaper supplements, council members said. A mailing is also being considered.

For more information on the redevelopment project, including traffic and school impact studies, check the town's website at www.westfieldnj.net.

School board slams spending rules

(Continued from page A-1)

payers statewide and increased NJ Saver and Homesteader rebates.

The package was touted as a stop-gap measure to mitigate the state's property tax crisis, and supplementary legislation including A-99/S-1701 was attached to the larger state budget package. But according

to Nelson, in many cases legislators who voted in favor of the law didn't understand its ramifications.

"There was a lot of public support (for the state budget package) and nobody wanted to go on record against it," said Nelson, who claimed many legislators didn't even read the bill before they cast votes in favor of it.

Choye met recently with Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-22), who did not vote on A-99/S-1701. Choye said Stender was surprised to learn school districts were receiving inadequate state funding for special education, a shortfall made up by local property tax payments.

"It's disturbing to me that one of our legislative representatives would be surprised by the ramifications of a piece of legislation that was pushed through so rapidly," said board member Susan Dyckman.

Locally, Assemblyman Jerry Green (D-22), Sen. Nick Scutari (D-22), and Sen. Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21) voted in favor of the bill; Assemblymen John Bramnick (R-21) and Eric Munoz (R-21) voted against it. Scutari and Kean could not be reached for comment this week.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education also passed a resolution which demands that Congress provide at least a \$4.7 billion increase in public education funding for both Title I and IDEA funds.

When IDEA was passed nearly a decade ago, a 40-60 federal-to-local funding ratio was established, but the federal share of special education funding remains at just 19 percent, rather than the promised 40 percent, board members said.

"We've been cheated out of (this) funding for nine years," said board Vice President Thomas Russo.

"The point is, we're providing a quality educational program and responding to federal and state mandates while they are not coming through with funding," Nelson said.

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Celebrating our 50th year
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Westfield resident makes his pitch for freeholder spot

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — A local resident is hoping to turn the public's attention to a layer of government that he says has a strong effect on their lives — and their wallets.

"Every year, our property tax bills are going up," said Frank Arena, a Republican from Westfield who is running for the Union County Board of Freeholders in the November election. "When people get their

"I look at the area of county government in New Jersey, and I see a large amount of redundant services."

— Frank Arena

think most of the (increase) comes from the town — I tell people to examine their property tax bill item by item, because people don't realize how much the county is hitting you for."

Arena, 45, is a father of two and a 10-year resident of Westfield. He has been working in the information technology field for 24 years and is currently employed as a senior sales executive at a major IT firm in New York City.

After working on Rudy Giuliani's successful campaign for New York City mayor in 1993, Arena became involved in Westfield politics. He has served as the vice chairman for campaigns for the Westfield Town Republican Committee, and is currently a member of the Downtown Westfield Corporation, which manages the downtown's special improvement district.

Arena said the nine-member freeholder board, which has been the exclusive domain of Democrats for nearly a decade, is seen by many county residents as "an invisible layer of government."

"If I'm elected as freeholder, I am going to be vocal about what Union County government is and what it does," Arena said. "When we're campaigning... people keep asking us 'what is a freeholder?' We need to verbalize to people what a freeholder is."

Arena joins fellow GOP candidates Joe Renna and Patricia Quattrocchi in the campaign for a three-year term as freeholder. They will be opposed by

Democrats Daniel Sullivan, Bette Jane Kowalski, and Adrian Mapp.

In a parallel race to fill the unexpired term of Sen. Nick Scutari (D-22), Republican Bruce Patterson will challenge Democrat John Wohlrab.

Arena said his campaign is focusing on educating the public about the role of freeholders, and showing how what he calls the county's unrestrained spending contributes to rising property tax bills.

According to budget figures provided by Sebastian D'Elia, director of public information for Union County, the amount of property taxes collected by the county increased by 6.5 percent in 2001, 8.2 percent in 2002, 10.6 percent in 2003, and 6.1 percent in 2004. Spending increased by 3 percent in 2001, 3 percent in 2002, 3.4 percent in 2003, and 6 percent in 2004, according to D'Elia.

"I look at the area of county government in New Jersey, and I see a large amount of redundant services," Arena said. "In many areas, services are duplicated."

During the winter in Westfield, for example, Arena said municipal government plows about 110 miles of roads while county government is responsible for 170 miles of roads. Then the state maintains the rest, he explained, pointing out the oddity of three different plow crews managing roads in the same town.

"I'm not talking about a large reduction in services, I'm saying we should not have three entities providing (these) services," Arena said. "Once (the Republicans) are on the inside, we're going to be able to find so many areas to reduce waste."

Republican candidates will be "pounding the pavement" in the weeks leading up to the election, Arena said. In addition to attending street fairs and block parties, holding fundraisers, attending council meetings, Arena said GOP hopefuls are looking forward to a debate with the Democrats, which will be moderated by the League of Women Voters and held in Cranford later this month.

Photo needed for DWC card

WESTFIELD — The Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) is looking for a beautiful winter picture of downtown Westfield to use for its 2004 holiday card.

The winning photograph will be featured as the DWC holiday card with credit given on the card to the photographer. The winner will also receive a \$25 gift coin redeemable at many downtown businesses.

The 2004 holiday card will be sent to the DWC mailing list. Photographers are invited to submit a favorite photograph to DWC, 105 Elm Street, Westfield NJ 07090. For more, call (908) 789-9444 or visit WestfieldDWC.com.

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Westfield Y kicks off series on environment



Alan Cowe and Shannon Whitworth of Akeena Solar talked about installing solar panels for hot water and electricity.

WESTFIELD — On Sept. 19, the Westfield Area YMCA sponsored Green Life Day to kick-off the Y's year-long quest to raise community awareness of everyday choices for a responsible, environmentally-friendly lifestyle; natural health alternatives; and simple ways to appreciate the planet we call home.

During the program, Akeena Solar talked about installing solar panels in your home for hot water and electricity. Toyota featured a hybrid car. Trout Unlimited promoted the joys of fishing. The 4-H Club focused on the role of trees in the environment. Master Gardeners provided instruction on gardening techniques, and the Westfield Public Library prepared and distributed an environmental bibliography.

The next event in the YMCA's year-long series will be a presentation titled "Caring for Creation" by Laurel Kearns, associate professor of Religion and Environmental Studies at Drew University, on how to improve the quality of life now and for future generations.

The presentation will be held at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13 and is free and open to the community.

For more information on the Y's environmental activities, contact Marty Collett at (908) 230-8471.

Malibu co-owner seeks to transfer liquor license

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — A former co-owner of the now-defunct Club Malibu property on Terrill Road is seeking to transfer the nightclub's liquor license to his uncle, who has a controlling interest in Bazooka's restaurants.

Ownership of the liquor license is entirely separate from the ownership of the lot where Club Malibu, a much-maligned nightclub that was the site of a 1998 shooting death, once stood. The license is currently owned by Dominick Caruso of Rayrick, Inc.; if the transfer is approved by the Township Council, the new owner of the license would be Augustine Caruso of BZ 1, Inc.

The license has been dormant since Club Malibu closed its doors. Last month, township attorney Doug Hansen said the state Alcohol

Beverage Control (ABC) board agreed to extend the life of the license until June 2005; if the license is not put to active use by then, it will be eliminated.

According to Mayor Martin Marks, the state police are conducting a background check on Augustine Caruso in anticipation of the license transfer. The review could take "weeks or months" and any red flags concerning the new ownership would come from that process, Marks explained.

"There would have to be legitimate cause to deny (the license transfer)," Marks said, "and any cause would come up in a background check."

He added that he couldn't recall any instance in which the council, which serves as the local ABC board, has denied a license transfer.

Marks said the license transfer

does not mean residents should expect Bazooka's, a Hooters-style sports bar, to spring up in the township anytime soon. No formal application to establish such a restaurant has been filed with either of Scotch Plains' land use boards. Attempts to contact Augustine Caruso for comment were not successful.

Neither of the Carusos currently

has an ownership interest in the former Club Malibu property, which has remained vacant and without activity since the club was demolished last summer.

Marks said township officials are planning to meet with the property's ownership, SLBIG, Inc., to discuss the future of the site Wednesday.

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School refurbished to begin a new year

WESTFIELD — When Westfield High School students began their school year recently, they did so with brighter halls and a fresh new look to the auditorium. The floor tile on the entire second floor of the older part of the building has been replaced. Improvements to the auditorium include new flooring, seats and a seating section for the disabled. The main floor of the auditorium is now available for students, with work on the balcony nearing completion as well. When completed, the project will include approximately 1,050 new seats.

The lighting and sound consultants have met to design new systems for the auditorium, and air-conditioning will be added in time for the 2005-06 school year.

The auditorium is used for classes, assemblies, concerts and performances for Westfield High School students and families, and it is also a venue for events arranged by some of the district's elementary schools. Community organizations also rely on the use of the auditorium, with approxi-

mately 10 rentals a year.

Also, Westfield High School now has three handicap accessible entrances, with the installation of a new elevator on the Rahway Avenue side of the school. In addition, an automatic door opener has been installed on the vestibule door that opens to the parking lot.

Minor reconfiguration of the Guidance Office took place too, with a wall relocated for more efficient office operation. And a new public address system has been installed in the high school's main office to permit announcements to be heard throughout all the rooms in the building.

The new athletic fieldhouse at Kehler Stadium girls is completely in operation now, with fully equipped girls-only locker room, restroom and meeting rooms and a co-ed weight room.

Athletes have been using the fieldhouse since school began. The fieldhouse and all the aforementioned building projects at Westfield High were funded through the bond referendum approved by voters in December



Improvements to the Westfield High School auditorium include new flooring, seats and a seating section for the disabled.

2000.

Temporary repairs have been made to the running track at Kehler Stadium. "Since the track is almost 20 years old and has outlived its life expectancy," said Business Administrator Bob Berman, "we must address replacing the track by next year

in order to provide a safe running surface for the hundreds of athletes who use it every year."

The Board of Education is proposing to replace the track and install an artificial turf field at Kehler Stadium through long-term funding in a bond referendum scheduled December 14.

Summer interns win praise from state legislators

WESTFIELD — Senator Tom Kean Jr., Assemblyman Eric Munoz, M.D., and Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, all legislators of the 21st District, recently honored interns who volunteered in their Westfield and Summit offices this past year during a luncheon at Mojave Grille. All participants received a certificate signed by the three legislators acknowledging their hard work and dedication on behalf of the constituents of District 21.

"Each year we are amazed at the quality of students who are

Westfield, who will be freshmen this fall at Northwestern University, had this to say about her internship experience: "Interning here has been an amazing experience. It's great to have an opportunity to get involved at a young age. My internship has definitely given me an idea about what I want for my future."

Area interns from the past year were: Angelina Badillo of Roselle Park, a student at Roselle Park High School; Chris Biel of Westfield, a student at Salisbury University; Ryan Gundrum of Westfield, a student at Westfield High School; Scott Hollander of Springfield, a student at the University of Michigan; Elizabeth Keating of Westfield, a student at Northwestern University; Steve Krakauer of Westfield, a student at Syracuse University; Kevin Liang of Westfield, a student at Westfield High School; Katie Oleszczuk of Union, a student at Rutgers University; Annie Peyton of Westfield, a student at Westfield High School; Michael Russell of Cranford, a student at the Union County Magnet School; Ziad Shehady of Springfield, a student at New York University; and Jennifer Zhu of Westfield, a student at Westfield High School.

"To learn more about internship opportunities, contact Westfield office of the District 21 legislative delegation at (908) 232-3345.

"Interning here has been an amazing experience... My internship has definitely given me an idea about what I want for my future."

— Elizabeth Keating

constituents," said Kean.

Munoz noted that the internship experience is a two-way street, with both groups benefiting. "Interns are an extremely important part of our legislative team. They come to work eager and willing to help the citizens of New Jersey, and in return they gain insight and knowledge on how the state government operates," he said.

Bramnick also stressed the fact that they are an exceptional group of students who played an integral role in the workings of the office. "They are a wonderful group of young men and women who were able to build a strong working relationship among themselves, the constituents and our office."

Elizabeth Keating of

Local veterans to be recognized for service

WESTFIELD — Two award ceremonies honoring area veterans will be scheduled 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30 at the Westfield National Guard Armory, 500 Rahway Ave.

During the 11 a.m. ceremony, 45 veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf and Operation Enduring Freedom were to be presented with the state's top military award, the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal. At the 1 p.m. ceremony, 81 veterans of the Korean War were to be presented with the New Jersey Korean Service Medal.

At the earlier ceremony, two Union County residents who are combat veterans were to receive the New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal for their service in the military.

The New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal was originally issued in 1858 for those who distinguished themselves in the New Jersey Militia, but was used infrequently until re-authorized by Governor Kean in 1988.

After the Spanish-American War, the Mexican Border Expedition and again after World War I, New Jersey minted special medals for returning veterans to honor their service. After World War II, Korea, Vietnam and subsequent combat actions, no such medal was available. The Distinguished Service Medal was authorized to fill that void.

Since its re-authorization in 1988, more than 25,000 medals have been awarded to combat

veterans from New Jersey.

Local recipients of the Distinguished Service Medal include: Richard J. Curia, Cranford; Joseph T. Del Grippo, Cranford; Robert A. Franksun, Kenilworth; Alan J. Hospes, Kenilworth; William F. Hunt, Cranford; Anthony T. McLeavey, posthumous, Scotch Plains; Walter Pilot, Kenilworth; Jack Seals, Cranford; Joseph A. Specht, Cranford; Walter M. Teets, posthumous, Scotch Plains; and Stanley Vest, posthumous, Kenilworth.

Recipients of the Korean Service Medal include: Lavern M. Blumhagen, Cranford; Salvatore J. Cardella, Kenilworth; James P. Doherty, Westfield; George E. Germinder, Fanwood; Michael C. Harvilla, Kenilworth; William Hendry, Cranford; Harold C. Hill, Scotch Plains; Henry F. Hoffman, Scotch Plains; Louis B. Hornlein, posthumous, Kenilworth; William F. Hunt, Cranford; Anthony N. Mack, Cranford; Francis G. O'Such, Garwood; Russell J. Romeo, Westfield; Joseph P. Sanguilano, Scotch Plains; Arthur L. Snyder, Cranford; Joseph A. Specht, Cranford; Anthony J. Suszczynski, Cranford; and Donald E. Wussler, Scotch Plains.

In order to be eligible for the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, veterans must meet all the following criteria: currently a resident of New Jersey, a resident of New Jersey at the time of entry into military service, honorably discharged,

and in possession of proof of having served in combat while on active duty during wartime.

Those recipients whose service was recognized by the award of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal or equivalent medal will receive a N.J. Distinguished Service medal with an oak leaf cluster.

The New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal is being awarded to those combat veterans who were not residents of New Jersey when they entered the military service, but who are current residents of New Jersey and have resided in the state for the previous five years. All other qualifications are the same as for the DSM.

To be eligible for the New Jersey Korean Service Medal, veterans be a current resident of New Jersey and have resided in the state for at least the past five years; have served on active duty on or after June 23, 1950 and on or before January 31, 1955, in Korea, Japan or contiguous

waters or airspace thereof; have served one or more days with an organization directly participating in or supporting military operations or on temporary duty in contiguous areas for 30 consecutive days and 60 non-consecutive days; and have an honorable discharge or be currently serving in the military.

Posthumous awards can be awarded; application must be made by the surviving spouse or immediate family member.

Anyone interested in applying for the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal or Korean Service Medal should request an application form at: (by mail) NJDMAVA, attn: Kathy Burek, P.O. Box 340, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340; (by email) patricia.richter@njdmava.state.nj.us; (by phone) 800-624-0508, ext. 7.

Be sure to include full name, home address and a daytime phone number.

Wanted: Photographer

NJN Publishing is seeking a freelance photographer for The Record-Press and Cranford Chronicle. Responsibilities will include coverage of high school sports and community events, especially on weekends.

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The Law Firm of Dughi, Hewit & Palatucci is pleased to announce that Mario C. Gurrieri, head of its Family Law Department, and April L. Katz will present to the public a free Seminar entitled "Everything You Need To Know About Divorce" at The Westfield Inn in Westfield on Thursday, October 7, 2004 and Saturday, October 9, 2004. Mr. Gurrieri, who has specialized in matrimonial law for over thirty-one years and Ms. Katz, for over eleven years, will review the law, explain the legal process and answer your questions concerning separation, divorce, custody, visitation, alimony, division of assets and post-divorce Court review of alimony and child support as well as the new law governing Domestic Partnerships.

Information will also be provided on Divorce Mediation, an alternative to the traditional contested proceeding. Divorce Mediation offers the potential for significant savings while assuring that your rights are fully protected by avoiding the expense, stress and delay involved in Court proceedings.

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Commentary

Don't wait — register now

The deadline to register to vote in this year's general election is Monday, Oct. 4, 29 days before the Nov. 2 election.

To state the obvious, this year's national election is important. But every election is important, whether it's for the school board, mayor, governor or president.

Voter turnout in this country is horrible. Only 51.3 percent of those who were eligible cast ballots in the 2000 election. And that presidential election was determined by just a few thousand votes.

What happened four years ago is a serious reminder that every vote does indeed make a difference.

In New Jersey, it's estimated that only three-quarters of the state's voting age population is registered to vote. Of that amount, about two-thirds cast votes in the 2000 election.

That means that only half of those who were eligible participated in that election, about the national average.

A democracy can only flourish if citizens take the time to become involved and vote, even if it's by absentee ballot.

For more information on how to register to vote, contact either your local municipal building or the county clerk's office at (908) 527-4123 or online at <http://www.unioncountynj.org/cyclerk/election.html>. The county clerk's office, located in the Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad St., Elizabeth.

Spending law misses the mark

Lower property taxes are a good thing — that much we can all agree on. But the state Legislature's latest efforts to drive those taxes down are instead driving school and municipal officials crazy.

In a law passed earlier this summer, the Legislature lowered caps on what local entities could spend and how much surplus they could keep. The response was slow in building but has since become fierce, with school boards and town councils pelting the state with resolutions calling for repeal.

Just because local officials are upset doesn't prove that there's anything wrong with the law. School and municipal officials certainly have a self-interest in looser spending rules and less state oversight.

But there are good reasons to think the law needs some rethinking, beginning with the circumstances in which it was approved. When the law was first passed after limited deliberation, no one was quite sure what it meant or what was in it — as media outfits trying to cover the story soon found out. Many local officials are still awaiting direction from the state on how to interpret some of the new regulations. When no one seems to know just what a law says or means, it suggests that some of the people voting on it may not have been fully informed, either.

As for what the law does say — it essentially amounts to the transfer of a large portion of budget oversight responsibility from the local to the state levels. "Home rule" principles aside, this can be a good thing at times, such as when local officials show themselves incapable of good government.

But in this case, it means taking authority away from officeholders who are routinely held accountable for tax increases and giving it to another group that is largely anonymous, often unaccountable, and apparently incapable of keeping its own budget below double-digit increases. That doesn't make sense.

Local officials also make a persuasive argument that artificially low tax and spending increases in the next few years, combined with diminished surpluses, will lead to some serious budgetary pain in the not-too-distant future.

Barring a major change in the financial obligations of towns and schools, such as shedding health benefit costs or slashing services to levels that simply wouldn't be tolerated, the property tax problem in New Jersey will only be solved by switching to a reliance on other sources of revenue. In the meantime, the new spending caps are only forestalling the inevitable.

The Record-Press is here for you

The following information should help you get your ideas and community news into *The Record-Press*:

Call Editor Gregory Marx at (732) 396-4219 with story suggestions, questions or comments. For sports, call Chad Hemenway at (732) 396-4202.

Our address: *The Record-Press*, 301 Central Ave., Clark, N.J. 07066.

Our fax number is (732) 574-2613.

Our e-mail address is union@njnpublishing.com.



Letters to the editor

Candidate wrongheaded on taxes

To The Record-Press:

Now let me get this straight. Scotch Plains Democratic candidate for mayor Andrew Baron suggests that the best way to avoid large municipal tax increases is by having larger incremental tax increases every year? Does this mean that when the Democrats raised our taxes in 1999 that the increase should have been larger? Does that mean that when Republican Mayor Martin Marks froze our municipal taxes in 2000 that we should have actually had an increase? Does this mean that the rather small increases of 2001 and 2002 should have been much bigger?

If it wasn't so frightening that Mr. Baron could be our next mayor, this would all be laughable. Mr.

Baron was correct in stating that the property tax problem is not a Democratic or Republican issue. However, he is way off base and misleading to claim that this is a "Scotch Plains" issue, as if we are the only ones suffering.

As Mayor Marks has correctly pointed out on numerous occasions, the property tax crisis is a state-wide phenomenon that will only be remedied when the governor and Legislature take action. Mr. Baron's Citizen's Property Tax and Budget Review Committee is a nice thought, but a bit transparent as it finds its genesis just weeks away from Election Day.

DARLENE WOJCIK
Scotch Plains

Extend pay-to-play rules to county

To The Record-Press:

Following Gov. James E. McGreevey's executive order last week that prohibits state contracts for donors to state and county campaigns, now is the time for the all-Democratic Union County freeholder board to take a look at who they are awarding millions of dollars in professional contracts to. A simple comparison of campaign contribution records and passed freeholder resolutions since 2000 is a real eye-opener and shows that "Pay-to-Play" is rampant in Union County government.

We, Joe Renna, Patricia Quattrocchi, Frank Arena and Bruce Paterson, are urging the all-Democratic freeholder board to do the right thing by immediately putting into place financial restrictions to regulate the awarding of contracts to developers, contractors and professional service firms such as lawyers, architects and engineers.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see what is going on here. The trail of paper speaks for itself, evidenced by the recent awarding of several contracts relating to the purchase and renovations to the Union County Arts Center. The contractor is a big contributor, having given in the neighborhood of \$70,000 to the Union County Democratic Committee alone since 2000.

This is a form of kickbacks to campaign contributors, it is unethical, and the practice adds to the cost of services, which is in turn passed along to the taxpayers.

The all-Democrat freeholder board often awards these contracts to companies that are not even located in Union County, thus rewarding them for their contributions. Recently they ignored the fact that the

principals of JCA, a Monmouth County-based engineering firm, had pleaded guilty to violating the law and rewarded them with another six-figure contract — this is unacceptable. The Democrats have ignored our demands to return nearly \$200,000 in campaign contributions from two heavy contributors to their machine, Charles Kushner, Ronald Manzo and their companies. It's time that they realized that they work for the people of this county and not the Democratic party.

We all agree that with an all-Democrat freeholder board there is no one to challenge unethical behavior and demand accountability. We, the Republican candidates, urge the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders to impose restrictions on county contracts at least as stringent to the executive order issued by one of their own, Governor McGreevey.

It is time to reverse this trend and impose realistic caps on those professional contracts awarded without competitive bidding which are not emergency in nature. It is time to put into place dollar restrictions and time limits on awarding no-bid contracts to those firms who have made contributions to politically-oriented organizations on all levels, local, county, state and federal. It is time to end "Pay-to-Play" in Union County — and if our current board doesn't jump on the bandwagon now, then when elected, we will.

JOE RENNA
PATRICIA QUATTROCCHI
FRANK ARENA
BRUCE PATERSON

The authors are Republican candidates for Union County Freeholder in the upcoming election.

Keep unhealthy snacks out of schools

To The Record-Press:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared that 61 percent of American adults are affected by obesity. This condition is an epidemic in our nation. We can blame it on the convenience of calorie drenched fast food or our fast paced, no time to exercise life style. Whichever reason you choose, Americans are eating more and exercising less. We don't have to look any farther than our expanding waste lines to see the results.

More frightening still, up to 15 percent of children ages 6 to 17 are obese. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, "overweight" is now the most common medical condition of childhood. The prevalence of diseases such as Type 2 diabetes, asthma and hypertension are steadily increasing in children. Once thought of as adult conditions, these obesity related diseases are becoming more and more common. Days of stick ball and playing outside until dark are gone. Now video games with a side of fries make up a child's daily routine.

Establishing a healthy lifestyle that includes nutritious foods and exercise is certainly not on the top of our children's priority list. So the responsibility falls in the hands of adults, more specifically in the hands of families and instructors at school. Much like their academic education, schools are in a commanding position to influence children's eating habits. Just as study habits are formed at an early age, so are eating and lifestyle habits.

By taking an active role and teaching children the importance of making healthy choices, they will be more apt to continue living a healthier life as adults. For this reason, I have sponsored legislation prohibiting the sale of certain foods on school property.

This legislation restricts elementary and middle schools from selling foods of minimum nutritional value, as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture. Any food or drink that consists of more than 35 percent sugar or other sweetener or more than eight grams of fat per serving will be prohibited. It will also place restrictions on vending machines located on school property. Snacks will be limited to items such whole or enriched grain products, fruits, vegetables, soy based and dairy products. Drinks will also be limited to milk, 100 percent fruit of vegetable juice, electrolyte replacement beverages and water.

This legislation does not affect high schools. Students who are in high school are aware of the consequences of their actions and are capable of making their own decisions about nutrition and diet. Much the like good study habits, students who learned about healthy eating will choose more nutritious meals in high school and later on in life.

The effects of obesity are at best detrimental to our society. The costs of obesity related illnesses are enormous. Obese children and adults alike suffer a lesser quality of life. They may be affected by a lack of energy and motivation to learn, social stigmatism, or poor self confidence that can lead to eating disorders. As a nation we must address this issue. As parents and educators, I believe it is our duty to instill a positive attitude about healthy eating in our children. I hope that this legislation is a stepping stone for a healthier and brighter future.

LINDA STENDER
NJ Assemblywoman, District 22

The author, a Democrat, represents Fanwood and Scotch Plains.

Jersey Boy



Mike Deak

Keep the whistles blowing

For a long time I used to think my recurring dreams about trains were perverse.

After all, Freud led us to believe that dreams are an artful and deceptive depiction of our inner anxieties — OK, sexual anxieties — through symbolic images. Though Freud could excuse his own taste for cigars with a glib "a good cigar is sometimes just a good cigar," the prevailing interpretations of trains in dreams led to disturbing conclusions about my own always fragile psyche. I even lost my appetite for hot dogs.

It was only after earning a college degree in social science that I realized my dreams about trains had nothing to do with sexual anxiety. Instead, my dreams of locomotives and cabooses came from the blatantly obvious fact that I grew in Neshanic Station, less than a half mile from two railroads — the main line of the Lehigh Valley and the Somerville-Flemington branch of the Jersey Central. I dreamed of trains because trains were a daily part of my life.

The tired freight trains on the Jersey Central labored through Neshanic Station at no more than 15 miles per hour; you could see them from our front window (alas, the rails are gone). The Lehigh Valley trains, which you see from the back porch, barreled through town, except when they stopped to drop off or pick up a Purina boxcar from Shurtz's feed mill. At the school bus stop at the corner of Marshal and Maple, I learned how to count fast by counting the speeding number of cars on the Lehigh Valley freights. For a little boy, the trains were chronically fascinating and even now, when I return to Neshanic Station, my attention is always caught by the powerful freights.

I will never forget the still and sultry sleepless summer nights when the faint shriek of a Lehigh Valley freight miles away in Three Bridges or Roycefield calmed my panic-ridden insomnia. You always heard the whistle first, then came the rumble, like the grumbling of the soul, as the mighty locomotives flattened pennies on the rails. The whistle got louder, its pitch changing with the felicitous of the Droppler Effect. And the rumbling increased too, louder and louder like a rolling volcano of anticipation. And then, finally, with a long whistle or two, the freight raced through the sleeping town, a burst of excitement among the choir of crickets and dogs exchanging barks of gossip.

In that moment, the trains took away my own anxieties as my always overly active imagination was captured by the inherent romance of trains. Where was the train headed? What was hidden in the boxcars? What did the hobos think of our little town? What a great job it would be to ride in the caboose! By the time the rumbling had faded away and the whistle could never be heard, sleep had inevitably arrived accompanied by dreams of train journeys to mysterious and welcoming places.

This is why I cannot understand those who want to silence train whistles. Haven't they read Thomas Wolfe's poignantly over-written tribute to train whistles in his own hometown of Asheville among the hundreds of pages of *Look Homeward, Angel*? Don't they realize the power of a train whistle not only as a safety device, but as a signal of our country's vibrant economic health? These are the same people who have already muted fire sirens at night. Is there any more powerful or chilling sound than a volunteer fire company's siren wailing in the middle of the night?

People should know and accept there's a certain amount of noise that is going to be generated by trains if they live near a railroad. And the whistles are an essential safety precaution, especially in rural areas where they are no crossing grants or, God forbid, there's some sort of malfunction. More importantly, train whistles are an important part of the American psyche — especially when they are long and mournful in the lonely hours of the night.



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WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE LOCATION TO VIEW FALL FOLIAGE?



KATIE KIEMPISTY
Cranford
My house.



PAT SHARKEY
Cranford
Massachusetts — anywhere up there. I think they come out really nice.



MIKE VENDITTI
Cranford
Vermont. I just came back from the Montpelier area last week and it's just beginning to turn. In the next two weeks it will be prime up there.



HEATHER HUBY
Scotch Plains
We just drive up Route 287 to see the foliage.



STEVE ROCCO
Elizabeth
In the flower shop where I work, Victoria Florist on Centennial Avenue, because I love to witness the change in the summer flowers to the fall flowers, and the change in their colors. I like to see how things have to change sooner or later.



CHRIS ADUBATO
Morristown
Route 287 is actually a good place to see the fall foliage — anywhere up north.

Foley presents technology plan to school board

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD PRESS

WESTFIELD — Superintendent William Foley presented the Board of Education with a draft technology plan at the Board of Education's regular meeting Sept. 21.

Though the board approved a state-mandated technology plan in the spring, administrators plan to continue their analysis of district technology throughout the rest of the year.

"From where we were back in May, it's certainly come a long way," said Foley. "But this is a document that's going to continue to change."

The plan, effective through June 2007, establishes three primary goals for students: to be able to access, evaluate, and present information with technology; understand how computers can be a medium to create and explore art and music; and be able to select and apply technology tools to gather, analyze, and present quantitative data, and use it to solve problems.

According to the plan, the first goal would bring students up to speed with word processing software by the end of fifth grade. At the conclusion of eighth grade, students should be able to use technology to create a database and present a research project. And by the time they graduate, students will conduct advanced electronic searches and use technology to collect data and monitor progress for a personal fitness program.

To augment their understanding of the fine arts, students will visit museum websites and learn basic visual arts concepts by the end of the fifth grade. By the time they advance beyond the intermediate level, students will learn musical com-

position and graphic design. And students who enroll in fine arts classes in high school will learn advanced concepts of musical composition and graphic design.

To achieve the third goal, students will be able to use technology to perform computations, develop simple graphs, and understand basic geometric concepts at the fifth grade level. By the end of eighth grade, students will be able to organize data into a spreadsheet. Eighth-grade students who complete Algebra I will use graphing calculators to perform a variety of computational tasks. And students will use technology to evaluate and summarize statistical measures and basic probability functions.

The technology implementation plan establishes specific,

detailed strategies and establishes responsible staff and timelines to achieve each goal.

Foley's report also includes a support plan covering goals such as redesigning the district website, expanding access to technology, providing parents with electronic access to student grades, introducing videoconferencing and wireless technology, completing a transition from the Mac platform to PCs, and completing a cost-benefit analysis of IP over telephony.

The board deferred significant discussion over the technology plan until the district has chosen its new Supervisor of Instructional Technology next month. The board will also receive a complete technology report in December.

Police Log

WESTFIELD

After being stopped for a motor vehicle violation on Sept. 23, James Curry of Scotch Plains was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

After being stopped for speeding on Saturday, Patrick Zlycak of Clark was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

On Saturday, an East Broad Street establishment reported the theft of approximately \$1,000 in underwear from the store. The theft allegedly took place on Sept. 23.

A resident of Boynton Avenue

reported the theft of her purse from the lobby of her apartment complex on Sunday.

The victim said the missing purse contained \$600 in cash and personal identification.

An employee of a Westfield eating establishment reported the theft of \$150 from a cash register on Sunday.

A Springfield Avenue resident filed a report of criminal mischief on Sunday.

Officers arrested Lindsay Garner of Westfield for driving while intoxicated and refusal to submit to a breath test on Sunday.

Donations sought for A/V sale

SCOTCH PLAINS — Area residents are urged to donate used videos, compact discs and recorded books to the Friends of the Scotch Plains Library during the next two months.

The Friends will re-sell these items at its third annual holiday audio-visual sale, to be held on Dec. 4.

Said Friends President Bob Czaja, "Videos, music cassettes and CDs and recorded books are perfect economical gifts for the holidays! We are looking for professionally-made videos and CDs only — no home movies or taped TV shows or CDs taped from the radio.

"We are accepting films, documentaries, how-to and exercise videos and especially children's videos. We are also looking for music of all kinds. These items should be in very good condition, since they will be re-sold."

Last year, Friends of the Library were able to donate more than \$800 to the library as a result of their holiday audio-visual sale, and the organization's goal is to reach \$1,000 in 2004.

Any resident wishing to donate videos, compact discs and recorded books may bring them to the library at 1927 Bartle Ave. during operating hours. No donations should be placed in the bookdrop.

For more information or to volunteer to assist with the sale, call (908) 322-5007.

<p>9.99 21-Lb. Home Fire Extinguisher Dry chemical extinguisher includes pressure gauge and mounting bracket. H 180 820 F4 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>19.99 CO Detector Detects the presence of poisonous carbon monoxide gas in your home. 5-year warranty. H 369 022 B2 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>49.99 1,500W Ceramic Furnace 5,200 BTU Automatic variable heat control, washable filter and tip-over switch. H 557 B14 S Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>5.99 GreenThumb® 3-Lb. Fall Grass Seed Mixture Mix of Kentucky bluegrass, creeping red fescue & perennial ryegrass. L 548 654 B16 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>8.99 4,000-Sq.-Ft. Winterizer 24-3-12 formula for thicker fall turf and quick spring green-up. L 620 684 100 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	
<p>5.99 Window Well Cover Fits both circular and 42" x 17" x 15" rectangular window wells. B 284 963 F12 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>2.99 8' x 10' Storage Tarp Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>5.47 Heavy-Duty Drawstring Bags Stock up now and save! 80-ct./13-gal. tall kitchen bags, 40-ct./33-gal. yard bags and 35-ct./39-gal. leaf bags. W 622 217, 457 838, 811 067 B6 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>9.99 34-Lb. Single-End Axe or 8-Lb. Double-End Sledge Hammer Has a 36" hickory handle. S 101 584 B2 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>89¢ Suet Cakes Choose from selected varieties for a nutritious bird treat. L 699 919, 806 332, 142 353, 177 706 F12 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	
<p>19.99 7.5-Amp Electric Blower 110mph air velocity, 280 CFM, 2-piece blower tube. H 625 798 1 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>8.97 32-Gal. Wheeled Trash Can Two handles lock down to keep lid secure against pests. W 632 745 F6 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>3.27 12-Oz. Great Stuff Foam Sealant Forms a durable airtight and waterproof bond. P 806 638 B12 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>44.99 After \$10 Mail-In Rebate Limit 1 2-Speed Electric Super Blower Vac Powerful 215mph air stream, 2-speed switch. Includes vac kit. N 859 868 1 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>29.99 3-Cu.-Ft. Poly Lawn Cart Extra-wide wheel base. Side tool clips, deep tool tray. Holds 250 lbs. S 662 908 14 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	
<p>FREE Child Fingerprint ID Kit Record your child's vital personal information and fingerprints for security purposes. Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>99¢ Red Circle Safety Strobes With 2 replaceable watch batteries. Orvot switch with up to 100 hours of life. 1 648 856 F36 Limit 2 with purchase Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>\$10 20-Lb. Wild Bird Food General purpose mix attracts all types of birds. Paper bag with handle. L 501 272 126 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>4.44 Window Air Conditioner Cover Keeps out water, dust and leaves over the winter. 18" x 27" x 15". H 218 602 B12 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	<p>2.29 Gal. RV & Marine Antifreeze Safe for fresh water systems. Gaurless formula. G 237 134 F6 Exp. 10/17/04</p>	
<p>BARGAIN OF THE MONTH</p>					<p>1.19 2-Pk. Stick-Em Mouse Glue Traps Capture mice without the use of poison. L 528 570 B24 Exp. 10/17/04</p>

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This week

THURSDAY
SEPT. 30

GOLF CLASSIC 2004 — to benefit the Arc of Union County, Inc. Shackamaxon Golf & Country Club, Scotch Plains. Sept. 30. Registration begins at 10 a.m., with a modified shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call (908) 754-7422 or (908) 754-7826 or e-mail poneill@arcunion.org.

FRIDAY
OCT. 1

ART EXHIBIT/AUCTION — and wine and cheese reception, featuring Italian artist Guido Borelli da Caluso. A benefit program for the Kenilworth Historical Society's "Restore the House" campaign. 7 p.m. Schering-Plough complex, 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth.

THE GREEK ALPHABET — a lecture by Costa Tsionopoulos, sponsored by the Cultural Committee of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield. 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
OCT. 2

FALL FINE ART AND CRAFTS SHOW — featuring vendors from throughout the Northeast. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Nomahegan Park, Springfield Avenue, Cranford. (908) 874-5247 or www.rosesquared.com.

HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST

— to benefit the Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Hyatt Hills Golf Complex, 1300 Raritan Rd., Clark. \$1 each or \$12 for 10 tries. www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts.

WESTFIELD RAILROAD SALES DAYS — take a steam train for Westfield to North Branch and back. Trip times 9:25 a.m. and 12:25 and 3:25 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Prices range \$8-18. www.877-trainride.com or (877) TRAIN-RIDE.

SUNDAY
OCT. 3

FANNY WOOD DAY CELEBRATION — ninth annual event celebrating Fanwood's history, this year featuring a beard-growing contest. (908) 889-6072.

FALL FINE ART AND CRAFTS SHOW — featuring vendors from throughout the Northeast. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Nomahegan Park, Springfield Avenue, Cranford. (908) 874-5247 or www.rosesquared.com.

SUKKOT DINNER — hosted by the JCC of Central NJ. 3:30-5 p.m. 1391 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains. \$14 adults, \$8 kids and seniors. Register at (908) 889-8800, ext. 235.

NATIVE AMERICAN LEATHER AND BEAD WORK — a presentation by craftsman Tim Trudson of Scotch Plains. 2-4 p.m. Miller-Cory House Museum, 614 Mountain Ave., Westfield. (908) 232-1776.

HISTORICAL WEDDING GOWNS — on display at the Osborn Cannonball House. 1840 Front St., Scotch Plains. 2-4 p.m.

MONDAY
OCT. 4

GOLF/DINNER FUNDRAISER — sponsored by the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Hyatt Hills Golf Complex, Raritan Road, Clark. \$175 fr the day, dinner only \$75.

TUESDAY
OCT. 5

DIABETES SCREENING — conducted by representatives of Overlook Hospital. 10 a.m.-noon. Westfield Area YMCA, 220 Clark St. (800) 247-9580.

'LIVE TO 100! HERE'S HOW!' — a workshop on nutrition and women's health led by Jeri Beaumont of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County. 6:30 p.m. Oct. 5. Forest Road Park building off of Midway Avenue, Fanwood. Free, but register at (908) 301-1945.

ARTHRITIS SUPPORT GROUP — monthly meeting of the organization. 9:30-11 a.m. Westfield Area YMCA, 220 Clark St. (908) 966-9344.

WEDNESDAY
OCT. 6

MOTHERS AND MORE OPEN HOUSE — moms' organization opens up to prospective members. 7:30 p.m. Westfield Area YMCA, 220 Clark St., Westfield. (908) 789-8626 or www.mother-sandmore.org.

800 YEARS OF MOORISH SPAIN — a talk by Hassan (Sam) Mahmoud at the First Wednesday Luncheon of the Westfield Historical Society. Noon. B.G. Fields, 560 Springfield Ave., Westfield. Register at (908) 233-2930 by noon Oct. 4.

BLOOD DRIVE — sponsored by the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the Red Cross. 3-8 p.m. At the chapter house, 321 Elm St., Westfield. (908) 232-7090.

THURSDAY
OCT. 7

WESTFIELD WELCOME CLUB — open house for new and prospective members; the club is open to residents of surrounding towns. 8 p.m. at a member's home; for more information, (908) 301-0819 or (908) 301-0495.

FRIDAY
OCT. 8

EDISON SCHOOL CARNIVAL — second annual event, open to the community. 3:30-6 p.m. Oct. 8, at the field behind the school. (908) 789-4480 or 789-4184.

SATURDAY
OCT. 9

SIDEWALK ART SHOW AND SALE — in downtown Westfield, with prizes totaling \$1,500. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; registration closes Oct. 1. For an application, call (908) 233-1849, (908) 789-9444, or (908) 233-3021.

ELVIS IMPERSONATOR DOUG CHURCH — a tribute to "The King," to benefit the Cranford PBA Local 52. Kenilworth Veterans Center, South 21st Street, Kenilworth. \$35. (908) 272-8425 or (908) 276-1587.

SUNDAY
OCT. 10

'I CARE, TOO' WALK-A-THON — sponsored by the cancer support organization New Hope for Recoverers. Registration 8-10 a.m. Oct. 10 at Scotch Plains Municipal Building, Park Avenue; walk begins 10 a.m. (908) 389-9299.

COMING UP

FASHION SHOW — presented by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League. 10:30 a.m. Scotch Hills Country Club, Scotch Plains. \$10. For tickets or information, (908) 232-2746.

BLOOD DRIVE — sponsored by the Greater Union County Association of Realtors. 1-4 p.m. Oct. 12. Lord & Taylor parking lot, North Avenue, Westfield. (908) 233-0065.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST — to raise funds for the families of deployed soldiers of the 250th Signal Battalion, based in the Westfield Armory. 7 a.m.-noon Oct. 16 at the Armory, 500 Rahway Ave., Westfield. \$6. To volunteer, call (732) 499-5666.

CLEAN-UP DAY — Scotch Plains residents and civic groups pitch in to clean up public property. 9 a.m.-noon Oct. 16. (908) 322-6700, ext. 243.

MEET-THE-ARTIST PROGRAM — at Lincoln Center in New York City, sponsored by the Friends of the Fanwood Library. Oct. 16. Buses leave the library 8 a.m., return 3 p.m. \$45 for members, \$50 for non-members. Register at (908) 322-9179.

HADASSAH GODPARENTS CRUISE — on the Cornucopia Princess, departing Perth Amboy Harborside 11 a.m. Oct. 17. \$100 per person. (908) 233-7120.

RED RIBBON DRUG AWARENESS DAY — commemorating the lives of those lost fighting drug abuse, featuring wide array of kids' entertainment. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 23. Nomahegan Park, Cranford. (732) 381-4100.

TRICKY TRAY GIFT AUCTION — third annual event to benefit the Cerebral Palsy League. Oct. 24. Donations are now being accepted; call Melissa Taveras at (908) 709-1800, ext. 115.



Scotch Plains resident Jennifer Bauer with Rep. JoAnne Emerson of Missouri.

Scout groomed for a career in politics

SCOTCH PLAINS — Township resident Jennifer Bauer and 40 other Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts from across the country this summer explored the roles of women in government, leadership and community activism as part of "Pathways to Politics," an intensive training program in leadership skills.

The Girl Scout Destination, held in New Jersey from July 11-24, was sponsored by the Girl Scouts of Delaware-Raritan, Inc. in partnership with the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers.

Pathways to Politics is a Girl Scout experience designed to address the historical and contemporary under-representation of women in politics.

"We are committed to smashing the perception that politics is a bad word," said Michele Tuck-Ponder, acting ED/CEO of the Girl Scout Council and former mayor of Princeton Township. "Our goal for this program was to demonstrate to girls that politics can be the pathway to making positive societal change."

Bauer was selected through a process based on her leadership and involvement in Scotch Plains.

"I was truly impressed; these girls have dynamic backgrounds," said Vicky Allen, associate executive director of program and property for the Girl Scouts of Delaware-Raritan. "With Student Council presidents, presidents of political science clubs, members of Model United Nations, peer mediators, several National Honor Society members and a page in the state legislature, we are undoubtedly forming the pool from which the first female president will be elected."

Bauer is a junior at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School who has achieved high honor roll and honor roll status, awards for high scores on the national AATG exams (German), the Girl Scout Silver Award, the Presidential Education Award, and Gold Award Project approval.

She is a member of several award-winning school choirs, a German Club officer, German National Honor Society, Calvary Episcopal Church youth worship committee and children's chapel committee. She plays French horn in marching band and wind ensemble; studies ballet and lyrical dance; was part of the 2002-2003 REP Theater cast and 2003-2004 REP crew; was part of the Chemistry League, and was captain of the junior varsity cheerleading squad.

At the program, Bauer met Jeanne Haddaway, member of the Maryland House of Delegates; Maggie Moran, state director, Office of U.S. Senator Jon Corzine (D-NJ); and Philadelphia Councilwoman Marian Tasco.

Honoring the Girl Scouts' tradition of service, participants also completed a service project for Elijah's Promise Soup Kitchen, which provided meals for more than 100 homebound people and the disabled in New Brunswick.

In addition to day trips to Eleanor Roosevelt's house in Val Kill, N.Y. and Philadelphia's National Constitution Center, Pathways participants engaged in discussions, skill-building sessions and leadership training.

Bauer also spent three days in Washington, D.C. with special tours of the White House, Hall of States and Capitol Building. While in the nation's capital, participants met Sen. Mary L. Landrieu (D-La) and Reps. JoAnne Emerson, a Republican from Missouri, and Ellen Tauscher, a California Democrat.

HAUNTING HARVEST DAYS

Weekend of Family Fun & Spooky Search

- Kids Creepy Character Hunt
- A spooky search for hidden bugs
- Kids Garden Search
- A scavenger hunt through Parker Gardens. Collect all the stamps and receive a special prize.
- Hay Rides, Hay Maze & Kids Crafts
- Jump on a hayride or weave throughout our maze. Fun for all ages.

BULB SEMINAR
Oct. 2 • from 10 am - 3 pm
Bill Friedman of Simple Pleasures will discuss techniques of planting and designing with bulbs this Fall to provide a "Spring Explosion of Color" next year!

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See wedding gowns at Osborn House

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Osborn Cannonball House at 1840 Front St. will be open 2-4 p.m. Sunday. A collection of 16 wedding gowns, dating from 1815 thru 1980, will be on display. There is no admission fee.

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Community Life

Briefs

Program offers info on application process

WESTFIELD — Westfield High School guidance counselor Judy Glasser hosts an presentation about the college application process airing on Channel 36 from Oct. 5-17.

By viewing the program, high school students and parents can learn information about application and transcript procedures; SAT dates and deadlines; visits to Westfield High School from college representatives; College Night; counselor appointments; financial aid; brag sheets, questionnaires and teacher recommendations.

The show can be seen at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays; 2 and 10 p.m. Thursdays; 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Saturdays; and 4 p.m. Sundays.

Sukkah events at JCC, Torah Center

A pair of local organizations will host events to celebrate the Jewish holiday Sukkot this Sunday.

The JCC of Central NJ's annual Sukkot Dinner will be 3:30-5 p.m. Residents can visit the Sukkah, listen or dance to musical entertainment and enjoy a complete chicken dinner followed by dessert. The event includes an talk about the Torah and Sukkot customs.

The cost is \$14 for adults, \$8 for children (ages 2-12) and seniors. Register by calling Jodi Baxter at (908) 889-8800, ext. 235; space is limited. The JCC is located at 1391 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains.

Also the Union County Torah Center will be having an "Open Sukkah House" from 11-noon at 418 Central Ave. in Westfield. Visitors will have a chance to perform the mitzvah of shaking the Lulav and Eitrog and also of making a special Sukkah blessing. There will also be a Sukkah-related arts and crafts project for the children. There is no charge. For more information, call the center at (908) 789-5252.

Rosary Society plans Communion breakfast

WESTFIELD — The Rosary Altar Society of Holy Trinity and St. Helen's Catholic Church will celebrate the annual Communion breakfast on Oct. 10 at the Westwood on North Avenue in Garwood immediately following the 9 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity.

The guest speaker, Dr. Gregory Yuri Glazov, a professor in sacred scripture at Seton Hall University, will talk about The Hail Mary and its Old Testament background. The public is welcome.

Woman's Club supports restoration of tower

WESTFIELD — The Woman's Club of Westfield, along with other Woman's Clubs in the state, is supporting the restoration of the historic Woman's Federation Tower, in Palisades Interstate Park.

The tower, which resembles a small stone fortress, was dedicated to the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs in 1929 as a tribute to the Woman's Club's role in saving the Palisades from destruction in the early 20th century. At the time, quarrying companies were blasting the cliff rock to use in construction projects in New York City.

The Woman's Club of Westfield, along with other Woman's Clubs in the state, lobbied to save the Palisades by writing letters and speaking at meetings in support of the NJ State Federation's efforts. The federation petitioned the governor and Legislature, who were convinced that the state should save the cliffs for future generations.

Singles support group meets at First Baptist

WESTFIELD — A support group for residents over age 45 who are widowed, divorced or never married will meet 9 a.m. Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 for coffee, cake and lively discussion dealing with single issues.

The group meets at First Baptist Church of Westfield, 170 Elm St., in the lower level meeting room. A \$2 donation is requested. For more information call (98) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.

A pair of hometown celebrations this weekend

The ninth annual Fanny Wood Day Celebration comes to town Sunday, featuring music, rides, food and a series of neighborly competitions. Starting at noon, the festival of frolickers will take over South and Martine avenues in downtown. The celebration kicks off with cool jazz and hot food, followed by the Little Miss Fanny Wood competition at 1 p.m.

The panel of judges will then turn their attention to local bakers to unveil this year's best pie maker at the South Street Café, beginning at 1:15 p.m.

Down the street at the same time, visitors will find the Diedre Shay Irish Dancers on center stage, kicking their

feet to the sound of jigs and reels. And the fur flies at 2 p.m. when the winner of the beard-growing contest will be selected. Appropriately, the beard contest will be followed by the Jerseyaires Barbershop Quartet at 2:15 p.m.

The Fanwood Rescue Squad will be the beneficiary of an auction of the entries to the pie-baking contest at 3 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m. local music favorites Silk City will take the stage to entertain the audience with their blend of folk, bluegrass, classical, Broadway, and ethnic music selections. The group, which has released several albums and a plays concert schedule up and down the East Coast, is fronted by Dan Weiss, director of

the Fanwood Memorial Library, who is the lead singer and guitar player.

A poetry presentation is also scheduled at 4 p.m. And for the youngsters, there will be a variety of rides throughout the day, including moonwalks, pony rides, trains, and other opportunities to play.

Vendors will have stands along Martine and South avenues, offering hot food, cold drinks and tasty desserts. And car lovers will find a lot to see too, in the Fanwood train station parking lot, where the Cougar Car Club will host a classic car show.

The rain date for the Fanwood event is Oct. 10. For more information on the

event, go to the Fanwood website at visit-fanwood.com.

Sunday will also be a big day in Scotch Plains, as the township celebrates Scotch Plains Day. A noontime ceremony at Alan Augustine Park will recognize community members, and from noon-5 p.m. there will be amusement rides, a petting zoo and more on Park Avenue. The Nerds will perform a concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Earlier in the weekend, there will be a flea market at the Scotch Plains municipal building property from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, and a bonfire and pep rally at the Evergreen School field at 7 p.m. Friday.

Acclaimed author Harlan Coben visits Wf. library

By BRAD BISHOP
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — His thrillers have captivated audiences worldwide, and his readers include former President Bill Clinton, who nursed himself back to health with "No Second Chance" after recent bypass surgery. But writer Harlan Coben's focus remains on the pace of his stories.

"Each book is a little different," Coben said. "But I usually know the beginning and the end," he explained.

"I compare (my process) with driving from New Jersey to Los Angeles — I may go on Route 80, the direct route, or I may go through the Suez Canal, but I always end up in L.A."

Coben, who was born in Livingston and continues to live in New Jersey, the setting for many of his novels, will visit the Westfield Memorial Library this Saturday. He is the author of 11 novels.

When he published his first novels a decade ago, Coben began a series of seven books about Myron Bolivar, a sports agent who finds himself in unexpectedly dire circumstances. More recently, he has published a sequence of very successful mystery/suspense novels.

His books have been published in 28 different languages and topped bestseller charts in the United States, United Kingdom, France, Australia, and other countries. And Coben's works have gained substantial acclaim, as well; he has received

the Edgar Allan Poe Award, the Anthony Award and the Shamus Award, and gained other international honors.

But despite the recognition, Coben's books remain physically and conceptually centered in suburban New Jersey, where his protagonists contend with danger and tragedy in a place they might have assumed to be free from suspicion.

Side streets, personal landmarks, and obscure places throughout the state — sometimes transcribed from personal experience — wind up sprinkled throughout his novels, Coben acknowledged. "I worked for a number of years in Union, and there have been scenes in Westfield" in my novels, he said, without providing any hint about what they might have been.

Coben's stories often revolve around ordinary, upright characters who find themselves entangled in a web of intrigue, much like heroes in the films of Alfred Hitchcock, to whom Coben is often compared. In "No Second Chance," a reconstructive surgeon awakes from a coma to find out his wife has been murdered and his infant daughter abducted. And in Coben's latest novel, "Just One Look," a suburban mother's discovery of an old photograph leads to the disappearance of her husband and the unraveling of a secret past.

"I do write about an everyman (and woman) in an extraordinary circumstance," Coben said. "Something wrong always seems to find them."

Though it could be said that Coben writes about ordinary heroes from ordinary places, he considers the settings of his novels far from "Anyplace, USA."

"It's what I know and where I grew up," Coben said. "But people relate to the New Jersey subject matter... and people relate to the American Dream. It's a ripe area for murder and suspense."

Because his plots are often grounded in a domestic setting, Coben's stories can catch the reader off-guard, lulled into the security his heroes are forced to confront.

"I don't write books about serial killers who commit crimes for no reason," he continued. "I like to find stories from everyday experiences — it's much more compelling for me."

Coben doesn't view his books as falling into a genre; he describes his interests as remaining focused on a good narrative and telling stories that explore complex family relationships, both between parent and child or husband and wife.

"I always try to remember to tell a story, keep the pages moving, and not get caught up with the brilliance of my words," Coben said wryly.

Coben's lecture, Q&A, and book signing, part of the library's "Meet the Authors" series, will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday. Though the program is free to Westfield Library cardholders, anyone wishing to attend must sign up for a ticket before attending.



Harlan Coben will host a lecture and book signing at the Westfield Memorial Library at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Learn about the Lenape at Trailside this Saturday

MOUNTAINSIDE — Trailside Nature and Science Center offers a program about the Native Americans who lived in Union County before European settlement for adults ages 18 and older this weekend.

John Kraft, the director of Lenape Lifeways Educational Programs, Inc., will share his knowledge from 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday. The program is part of a new series of adult workshops offered by Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside.

Kraft has presented hundreds of programs on the Lenape or Delaware Indians of New Jersey. He has published "The Indians of Lenapehoking,"

and illustrated books such as "The Lenape or Delaware Indians."

Having lectured for more than 20 years, his goal is to create an enthusiasm and appreciation for the area's native peoples through slides, life drawings, and "hands-on" experience with Lenape tools, weapons, masks, clothing and musical instruments.

"We are very pleased to bring such a great program to the people of Union County," said Union County Freeholder Chairman Angel G. Estrada. "Programs such as this one prove learning can be interactive and fun, even for adults."

Participants in the Lenape Lifeways Lecture and Walk will discover how the

Lenape people dressed, built shelters, grew crops, fished, hunted, cooked, made tools, and treated illness.

This program is offered through the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Following Kraft's presentation will be an instructional hike, led by a Trailside naturalist who will identify local plants and trees used by the Lenape Indians.

During the walk, participants will discover how to use the "fox walk" to sneak up on prey and play tracker games to enhance hunting skills. The

program will culminate around a campfire with Lenape story telling and a lesson in the technique of making cordage.

Space is limited, so pre-registration is preferred. The fee for this workshop is \$20 for Union County residents and \$25 for non-county residents. Light refreshments are included.

The Lenape Lifeways Lecture and Walk will be held rain or shine, so participants should dress appropriately in case of inclement weather.

For additional information about this or other adult workshops or upcoming events at Trailside, call (908) 789-3670. Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 New Providence Rd.

A fine time at Westfield's FestiFall



PHOTOS BY KEVIN PAPA/CORRESPONDENT
Sunday's downtown FestiFall event sponsored by the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce proved to be a big hit among some of the younger members of the crowd. Above, brothers Jake, Nicholas and Louis Sammartino of Westfield (ages 3, 7 and 9, respectively) take some time out from enjoying the food and fun to mug for a picture. At right, Noah Brogden, 3, gets cozy with his favorite superhero.



Get advice for living a longer life

FANWOOD — The Union County Board of Freeholders and the Union County Commission on the Status of Women will present a workshop for women titled "Live to 100! Here's How!" next week.

The event will take place Tuesday evening at the Forest Road Park Building in Fanwood. The building is located off of Midway Avenue.

The workshop will teach strategies from expert nutritionist Jeri Beaumont, a registered dietitian with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County. These strategies are designed to be incorporated into a busy lifestyle and help people remain healthy, vital, and independent in their later years.

Seating is limited. Interested residents should call (908) 301-1945 to reserve a seat.

Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, and the program will begin at 7 p.m.

Admission is free, however all attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to area food pantries.

Gao will perform Saturday with WSO

Violinist Xiang Gao will be the featured performer at the Westfield Symphony Orchestra's season-opening concert at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Union County Arts Center, located at 1601 Irving St., Rahway.

Gao will perform Samuel Barber's *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*. Also on the program are Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5 in C Minor* and Louis Scarmolin's *Two Vignettes for Orchestra*.

Recognized internationally as among the most successful performing artists of his generation, Gao has performed for such world leaders as former President George H. W. Bush and former Chinese President Xian-nian Li. His musical integrity and virtuosic technique have gained accolades from reviewers around the world.

Westfield Symphony Music Director David Wroe said, "Mr. Gao is a dazzling young violinist. His depth, sensitivity and spirited performance are sure to thrill audiences."

Born into a family of musicians, Gao began piano studies at the age of 6. Two years later, he switched to violin studies with his parents, both of whom

are professional violinists.

He continued his education at the prestigious Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and the University of Michigan School of Music.

Now a permanent resident of the United States, Gao resides with his wife in Delaware, where he is the youngest faculty member at the University of Delaware School of Music.

"Mr. Gao is a dazzling young violinist. His depth, sensitivity and spirited performance are sure to thrill audiences."

— David Wroe
Westfield Symphony Orchestra

Highlights of Gao's recent engagements include the North American premiere of Edward Tubb's *Violin Concerto #1* with the Detroit Symphony and the U.S. premiere performance of Eino Tamberg's concerto with the Absolute Ensemble in Merkin Hall in New York City.

He has performed as a soloist with the Czech Philharmonic, Japan Philharmonic, Estonia National Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Memphis Symphony, Alabama Symphony,

Aspen Music Festival Orchestra, Knoxville Symphony, Delaware Symphony and New Hampshire Symphony, among others.

Among the world's major concert halls and festivals at which Gao often appears are Carnegie Hall, Finlandia Hall in Helsinki, Spoleto Music Festival, Aspen Music Tent, Smetana Hall in Prague, Bogota International Festival, and

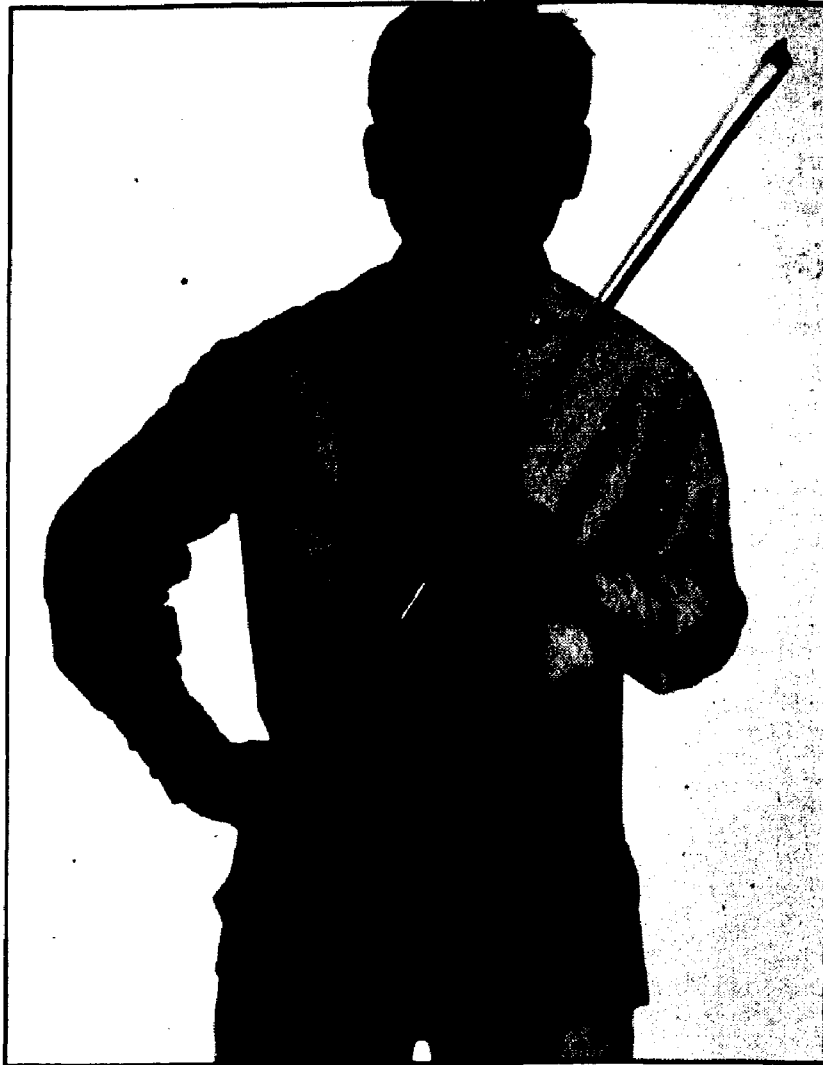
Chamber Music Society.

Barber's *Violin Concerto* is considered among the most important American concerti. Composed at the outbreak of World War II, it marks a major change in Barber's musical style.

Joseph Orchard, a local musicologist, will offer a free pre-concert lecture discussing the Barber concerto along with Beethoven's *Symphony #5* and Scarmolin's *Two Vignettes*. The lecture will start at 7 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center.

Tickets for the concert are \$25-\$60 with discounts for students and seniors. Concert tickets may be purchased directly from the Westfield Symphony by calling (908) 232-9400 or visiting the Symphony office (224 E. Broad St.) or the Union County Arts Center by calling (732) 499-0441 or visiting the box office.

Tickets are also available at the following Westfield Symphony ticket outlets: Lancaster, Ltd., 76 Elm St., Westfield; Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield; Martin Jewelers, 12 North Ave. West, Cranford; and Beautiful Things, 1878 East Second St., Scotch Plains.



XIANG GAO

Fine Art, Crafts show returns to Nomahegan Park

The 18th annual Fall Fine Art and Crafts at Nomahegan Park show will take place this Saturday and Sunday at the park in Cranford, on Springfield Avenue across from Union County College.

The show will feature many new artists and crafters from throughout the Northeast and beyond, displaying and selling their American-made, hand-crafted work. This free show will be open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., rain or shine.

Jewelry designers from Morris Plains, New York City and Falls Church, Va. are just some of the fine jewelers displaying and selling their unique creations at this year's event.

From New Jersey, Jeannette Mullarkey-Karasick of Finestra

Fine Jewelry Designs explains that "finestra" means "window" in Italian — and that in jewelry it translates into dynamic design.

Prior to founding her own company, Mullarkey-Karasick worked for some of the high-end designers in the industry.

"Finestra was born from a need to claim my work as my own. I work to develop bold, exciting pieces which could express a varied interest in natural and human made forms. Architecture and nature inspire me. I am fascinated by the means with which structure finds its form in either organic or invented process," said Mullarkey-Karasick.

From New York City, the mother/daughter partners of

L.E. Bethune have had an enthusiasm for costume and design since childhood.

The mother, Elizabeth Bethune, has had a life-long interest in fashion, designing and constructing clothes with her sister since her early teens. Her daughter Laura Bethune's interest in design and fabrication was not a surprise.

Laura studied at The Fashion Institute of Technology and at New York University while Elizabeth studied the basics of jewelry fabrication at the Center for Visual Arts in Summit, and at the Gemological Institute of America.

While each member of this mother/daughter team has her own studio, they meet frequently to work on their designs. Each

design is handmade in sterling silver and embellished with freshwater pearls and cultured pearls as well as semi-precious stones.

Christine Bartoletta, the artist and founder of Society Hill designs of Falls Church, Va., designs and creates sterling silver jewelry using a number of methods including forging, soldering, stamping and beading.

In addition to incorporating pearls and semi-precious stones, Bartoletta uses beach stones from Cape Cod. Another favorite technique is the application of single or multiple layers of texture to silver using a mill and different kinds of fabric, leaves, and paper.

"My goal is to create jewelry that exudes a relaxed elegance,

that nurtures the spirit and invites the wearer to express and celebrate their own style," said Bartoletta.

The show is co-sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation, and Janet and Howard Rose of Rose Squared Productions, Inc.

In addition to jewelry, the show will feature fine art, photography, weaving, clothing, pottery, wood, fiber, leather, stained glass, and more. The show will be accented with live music and a variety of ethnic foods.

Parking is free across the street at the County College. For further information, call (908) 874-5247 or visit the web site, www.rosesquared.com.



This lamp by Gary Host is one of the many items for sale this weekend at Nomahegan Park.

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Giacomo Gates to play Oct. 8 at the Arts Guild

The seventh season of the Jazz Series at the Arts Guild of Rahway begins with Connecticut-based singer Giacomo Gates at 8 p.m. Oct. 8.

Upcoming concerts in the series are: pianist/composer Diane Moser on Nov. 12, saxophonist Don Braden on Feb. 25, 2005, singer Pam Purvis with husband Bob Ackerman on April 1, and trombonist John Allred's Quartet on May 6.

Gates has arrived as a contender in the world of vocal jazz with his rich, mellifluous baritone, exciting live performances, vocal skill and respect for the genre's history. He was voted Talent Deserving Wider Recognition in DownBeat's Critics' Poll for 2001 and 2002.

In 1995, Gates released his debut CD, "Blue Skies." On this recording he emerged not only as an inspired singer but also as a talented lyrical composer.

Helen Keane, known for her long professional relationship with Bill Evans, remarked of Gates, "He's a wonderful singer... his phrasing, his musicality, his time sense is fabulous." George Kanzler of The Newark Star-Ledger wrote, "Giacomo Gates is a singer who combines the mellow conversational elegance of a crooner with the hipster outlook of a bebop scat and vocalese singer."

In addition to Gates' appearances with artists Lou Donaldson, Randy Brecker, Jon Faddis, Richie Cole, Hilton Ruiz and Vic Juris among others, he regularly imparts his unique perspective to willing students at clinics and workshops for universities, along with teaching at Wesleyan University and the Hartford Conservatory of Music.

Advance tickets are now available for Giacomo Gates and the entire Jazz series line-up at the Arts Guild of Rahway. Tickets for all five or any four concerts are \$10 each. Tickets for any two or three concerts are \$12 each. Tickets for one concert are \$14. At the door, admission is \$16. A 10 percent discount on any ticket sale is available to members of the Arts Guild of Rahway.

To request a season brochure or to purchase tickets, call the Arts Guild of Rahway at (732) 381-7511. For more information about the jazz series and the other arts programs at the Guild, visit the website at www.rahwayartsguild.org.

This program is sponsored by Conoco Phillips Bayway Refinery in Linden. This program is also made possible in part by the NJ State Council On The Arts, a sister agency of the National Endowment For the Arts.

Westfield Symphony Orchestra

SAT, OCT. 2, 2004, 8PM

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Crystal ballroom returns to UCC

Back by popular demand from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. this Saturday the Commons of Union County College's Cranford campus will again be transformed into a "Crystal Ball Room" where patrons can come for a psychic and holistic adventure.

Sponsored by the Union County College Alumni Association, the day will consist of readers, demonstrations, and vendors of products and approaches to health and wellness.

The proceeds of the event will benefit the Union County College Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. Admission to the event is \$5.

For more information or directions, call (908) 709-7505.

Sign up for classes at Arts Guild of Rahway

The Fall Art Class session at the Arts Guild of Rahway includes five dynamic art workshops. Registration is now open for all of these one-day intensive programs.

From 10 a.m.-3 p.m. this Saturday is Printmaking 101: Exploring the Monotype, which combines the flexibility of painting with the immediacy of printing in this introduction to printmaking. Monotypes offer opportunities for exploring visual ideas allowing you to rapidly produce images, which can be simple or complex, representational or abstract. Plates are created from flexible Mylar which can be cut to any size and re-used. Bring creative ideas to this half-day workshop and enter the world of printmaking. The Workshop Fee is \$65.

From 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday is Cyanotype: An inexpensive introduction to alternative photographic processes. Participants will learn to take an image (a negative, a drawing on acetate or glass, or even the shadows of an actual object) and create photographic prints of it onto watercolor paper without the use of a traditional darkroom. The process does not destroy the negative, and can be used to make editions or unique images. In addition to going home with some wonderful prints, everyone will learn to mix their own cyanotype chemistry and how to set up a system to continue this work at home. The instructor is H. Lisa Solon. Workshop fee is \$80 and there is a \$15 materials fee.

Image Transfer & Other Mischief with Instructor Rayna Gillman is scheduled 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 9. Participants will learn a variety of ways to transfer photos, drawings, newspaper and magazine images to paper or fabric. Using photocopies or output from your laser printer, printed materials, non-toxic solvents, acrylic mediums, watercolor pencils, inks or pastels and your imagination, you'll uncover another technique for adding to your collages and other artwork. The workshop fee is \$65.

There are also two workshops covering different levels of exploration into encaustic painting. Encaustic means 'burning in' and refers to the use of a paint made from pigments mixed with molten wax; the process dates back to the ancient Greeks and Egyptians who created beautiful vibrant images with this technique. The pigment can be applied with brushes and many other traditional painting tools and is then fused with heat to form a lasting picture/image.

Encaustic Workshop I from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 23 covers history, review of materials, fusing techniques, color mixing with encaustic and other mediums, glazing, etching & mark-making. Students will be responsible for some additional low cost materials. Workshop fee is \$65 plus a \$25 materials fee.

Encaustic Workshop 2 is from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 30 and includes surface building, transfers, monoprints, dipping, stencils, collaging, press type and other forms of lettering, foil leaf and burnishing. The workshop fee is \$65 plus a \$25 materials fee. (Students are responsible for some additional materials.) The instructor for both Encaustic workshops is Westfield artist Francesca Azzara.

To register for these workshops, call (732) 381-7511 or contact the guild by email at arts-guild1670@earthlink.net. Or, visit the guild online at www.rahwayartsguild.org.



Pictured from left are Wayne Little, Mark Blackwood, Dean Haskins and Randy Byrd of the Blackwood Gospel Quartet.

Blackwood Quartet at Terrill

The Grammy award-winning Blackwood Gospel Quartet will sing at a free concert 6 p.m. Sunday at Terrill Road Baptist Church in Scotch Plains.

Known for its close harmony and heritage in gospel music, the Blackwood Gospel Quartet has blessed audiences across the country for years.

The original Blackwood Brothers Quartet was formed in 1934 in Mississippi. Since that beginning, the group has won countless awards, sung thousands of concerts and appeared on many television programs. The dedication of the original members continues today through the Blackwood Gospel Quartet. Baritone Mark Blackwood has won two

Grammy awards for recordings he produced for the Blackwood Brothers Quartet. Fellow members Wayne Little is a strong talent with a wide vocal range and recently performed at the Pentagon.

Dean Haskins is a seasoned vocal and instrumental arranger whose talents round out the group's distinct and memorable style. Bass singer Randy Byrd is the newest addition to the Quartet.

The entire public is invited to the concert. There is no charge for the concert, but a freewill offering will be taken.

Terrill Road Baptist Church is located at 1340 Terrill Road in Scotch Plains. Call (908) 322-7151 for more information.

Looking for Company? Find it at the CDC stage

The Cranford Dramatic Club (CDC) opens its season Oct. 8 with the musical comedy *Company*.

CDC is featuring two of Stephen Sondheim's musicals this year in honor of his 75th birthday; the theater will stage *Into the Woods* in May.

Company is directed by Joe Vierno, produced by Elizabeth Howard and choreographed by Alyson Pemoulie, with music directed by Jim Sabo.

Company examines committed relationships and marriage from the perspective that adults have the choice to enter or not to enter such relationships. Through a series of vignettes, the main character, Bobby, is shown to struggle with the idea that in order to have a lasting, rewarding relationship, he must be willing to give up some of himself and put up with pain as well as pleasure.

The show, originally produced in 1970, was unusual for a Broadway musical comedy in that it present-

ed a vision of contemporary life and the serious issues faced therein. The themes explored in the show may be even more salient today, as the ability to choose single over married life is a greater option now than in 1970.

Sondheim's characteristically intricate music and witty, insightful lyrics are evident in such songs as "Being Alive," "Company," "The Ladies Who Lunch" and "Another Hundred People." *Company* is notable in that it was the first in a long series of Sondheim works which redefined the parameters of musical theater.

Company will be presented on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. from Oct. 8-23. Tickets are \$20 on a reserved seat basis and can be obtained by calling the box office at 908-276-7611 or through the theater's website at www.cdctheatre.org.

The Cranford Dramatic Club is located at 76 Winans Ave. in Cranford, off of Centennial Avenue.

Fall Boat Show comes to Edison this weekend

The 17th annual Fall New Jersey Boat Show will be held on Friday-Sunday at the New Jersey Convention Center in Edison.

The event boasts more than 300 boats on display. Dealers will display more than 50 different manufacturer's brands and models with boats starting in the mid-teens to the mid-30s in length. An array of fishing boats to sport boats, lake boats to cruisers, bay boats to bass boats and more will be available.

A vast variety of boating and marine products will be available at the show, from marine electronics to boating equipment/supplies, T-tops to kayaks, inboard to outboard engines, marinas to engine repair/service and more.

The show also offers a number of seminars on fishing in local waters

Show hours are: Friday, 1-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission is \$9 for adults; \$7 for seniors (Friday only, no other discounts apply); \$6 for children ages 12-17. Children age 11 and under are admitted free.

Pedas resumes helm of Children's Chorus

Tom Pedas has rejoined the ranks of the Celebration Singers and once again assumes the position of director for the Children's Chorus.

Pedas founded and directed the Children's Chorus from 1995-2000, also directing the adult chorus during that time, including a production of the opera "Amahl and the Night Visitors."

The Celebration Singers sponsors the tuition-free Children's Chorus, consisting of members aged 9 through 13 from the surrounding communities. They sing all types of music from light classics to Broadway show tunes.

According to Celebration Singers President Dennis Jenkins, "Our goal is to provide quality musical programs that feature a wide range of musical styles, and to present music to those who may not have the ability to see and hear it elsewhere. And it's important that while we do all this, we're having fun."

The Celebration Singers is a non-profit cultural arts organization that has been in existence since 1938. They have performed at nursing homes, hospitals, church functions, municipal events, and helped raise funds for charitable

organizations. In 1964, the group had the honor of singing at the World's Fair in New York.

Pedas is a former music teacher with the Cranford and Linden public schools and was named Master Music Teacher of New Jersey by the New Jersey Music Educators Association.

He was chosen as guest conductor for the Region II High School Chorus and the Junior High All State Honor Choir. He is also the founder of the Linden Summer Playhouse that he directed for seven years.

He has directed musicals for the Scotch Plains Players, Mystic Vision Players, Cranford Dramatic Club, and Cranford Repertory Theatre, and for the last two years directed the musical at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Winter performances will be 8 p.m. Dec. 10-11. For more information about the Celebration Singers Children's Chorus contact Tom Pedas at (908) 245-2339.

Funding for the Celebration Singers is made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council for the Arts, Department of State, through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

Vendors sought for show

KENILWORTH — The Kenilworth Senior Citizens Club will hold a craft show featuring holiday items from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Kenilworth Seniors' Center, 526 Boulevard.

Rental tables will be supplied by the Seniors Center to vendors and other participating individuals and

organizations. The cost is \$10 per table.

Admission to the craft show is free. A bake sale and raffle will be held. Lunch will be available.

For information and/or to reserve tables, call (908) 241-0703 or (908) 245-0861.

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Obituaries

Eleanor Bellomo

WESTFIELD — Eleanor Bellomo, 64, died Sept. 20, 2004 at her home.

Mrs. Bellomo was born in Harrisburg, Pa., and had lived in Westfield since 1972. She also had a home in Pompano Beach, Fla.

She was the longtime owner of the Bellomo Fuel Co. in Linden. A golfer, Mrs. Bellomo was a member of the Echo Lake Country Club in

Westfield and the Boca Raton Resort & Club in Boca Raton, Fla.

Surviving are her husband of 44 years, William; a son, Bill; two daughters, Maureen Parkhurst and Lisa Caroli; a brother, Robert Walls; and three grandchildren.

Services were held Friday at the Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

Kathleen Nohren

SCOTCH PLAINS — Kathleen Nohren, 54, died Sept. 22, 2004 at the Haven Hospice of JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Flushing, Queens, she lived in Scotch Plains for nine years before moving to Fords in 2002.

Mrs. Nohren was with Prudential Financial for nine years, most recently as a secretary in its mergers and acquisitions department in Newark. She graduated from LaGuardia Community College of the City University of New York.

A son, Michael A., is deceased.

Surviving are her mother, Mary McMullan McDonald; a daughter, Lisa K.; a brother, Edward McDonald; and two sisters, Roseann Kenney and Maureen Ficken.

Services were held Saturday at the Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Children's Specialized Hospital, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside, NJ 07092-2590.

Thomas Flanagan

WESTFIELD — Thomas Flanagan, 85, died Sept. 23, 2004 at his home in Toms River.

Born in Brooklyn, Mr. Flanagan lived in Westfield for 10 years before moving to Mountainside in 1960. He had resided in Toms River since 1990.

He retired in 1983 after 47 years with New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. in Newark. Mr. Flanagan was an Army Signal Corps veteran of World War II.

Two brothers and a sister are deceased.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Elizabeth Barnum Flanagan; a son, Thomas V. Jr.; two daughters, Elizabeth Taylor and Barbara Nichols; a brother, Eugene; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the D'Elia Funeral Home in Lakewood. Burial will be in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Donations may be sent to American Cancer Society, Ocean Unit, 1035 Hooper Ave., Toms River, NJ 08753.

James H. Meehan

SCOTCH PLAINS — James H. Meehan, 53, died Sept. 17, 2004 at Genesis ElderCare-Morris Hills Center in Morristown.

Born in Summit, he lived in Madison before moving to Scotch Plains.

Mr. Meehan received a bachelor's degree in English and film from Livingston College of Rutgers

University in 1973.

Surviving are his wife, Linda E. Fulcher Meehan; his mother, Helen; a sister, Kathleen Feury; a nephew and a great-niece.

Private arrangements were by the Rossi Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad or Planned Parenthood.

Edythe Meyerson

SCOTCH PLAINS — Edythe Meyerson, 70, died Sept. 23, 2004 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Mrs. Meyerson was born in Newark. She lived in Hillside, Edison, Scotch Plains and Franklin Park before moving to Monroe in 1999.

For 20 years she was the office manager for her physician husband, Martin, whose office is in Edison. Mrs. Meyerson earlier was an elementary teacher in the Westfield

school system for 10 years.

She held a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's degree in education from Rutgers University. Mrs. Meyerson was a life member of Hadassah.

Also surviving are two sons, Brandon Martin and Steven Martin.

Services were held Sunday at the Menorah Chapels at Millburn, in Union. Burial was in B'nai Abraham Memorial Park, Union.

Henry C.J. Evans

WESTFIELD — Henry C.J. Evans, 89, died Sept. 24, 2004 at his home in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Born Aug. 31, 1915 in Philadelphia, Pa., he was a son of the late Dr. J. Lawrence and Mary Helen McClellan Evans.

Dr. Evans lived in Westfield before moving to Myrtle Beach in 1972. He was the first president of Somerset County College (now Raritan Valley Community College) in Branchburg. More recently he was the guidance director of the Coastal Academy in Myrtle Beach as well as a teacher.

He spent the first 20 years of his career on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University, where Dr. Evans was an associate director of admissions.

He was in the Army Air Forces during World War II, transferred to

the Air Force Reserve after the war and held the rank of colonel on his retirement from the reserves in 1967.

Deceased are his first wife, Evelyn Myers Evans; and two brothers, Dr. J. Lawrence and Dr. Robert.

Surviving are his second wife, Alice Scarff Evans; a daughter, Alice M. of Highlands; a son, Peter and wife Beth of Hilton Head Island, S.C.; three stepdaughters, Patricia Scarff of Annapolis, Md., Holly Baly and husband Robert of Clark and Christine de Groot and husband Robert of Revere, Pa.; and numerous grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Monday at the First Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Beach, of which Dr. Evans was a member. Burial will be 3 p.m. today in Fairview Cemetery; friends may call afterward at the Baly residence in Clark.

Arrangements are by the McMillan-Small Funeral Home in Myrtle Beach. Donations may be sent to First Presbyterian Church Building Fund, 1300 N. Kings Highway, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 or a charity of your choice.

Louis Vargas

FANWOOD — Louis Vargas, 77, died Sept. 27, 2004 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway.

He lived in his native New York City before moving to Fanwood in 1953.

Mr. Vargas was a conductor for 45 years with the Central Railroad Co. of New Jersey, Conrail and NJ Transit. He retired from NJ Transit in 1994.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Esther Splendorio Vargas; three sons, Louis E., Lawrence P. and Leonard; a daughter, Anna L. Zuccarini; and 11 grandchildren.

Services were held yesterday at the Memorial Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to Fanwood Rescue Squad, 218 Forest Road, Fanwood, NJ 07023.

RR Sales Days steam into town Saturday

WESTFIELD — This Saturday and Sunday, the Downtown Westfield Corporation and the New York Susquehanna and Western Technical and Historical Society will be operating steam trains as the centerpiece of Westfield Railroad Sales Days promotion.

The New York Susquehanna and Western Technical and Historical Society runs many trips each year, but this one will be

unique. The general manager of the organization graduated from Westfield High School and was president of the high school railroad club. Now, 26 years later, he is returning with his own train.

The train will operate from Westfield to North Branch and return. The trips will be powered by Steam Locomotive 142 of the New York Susquehanna and Western Railway. On both days there will be vendors of railroad

artifacts, railroad displays and food for sale in the station area.

The trips leave from the New Jersey Transit station in the center of Westfield. Trip times are 9:25 a.m., 12:25 and 3:25 p.m. There will be two classes of travel on the train, coach and deluxe.

The coach class seats are located in the Long Island cars from the 1950s. These cars seat 100 people and have three across seating.

The deluxe car is air condi-

tioned and was made for the New York Susquehanna Railroad in 1949.

Tickets can be purchased via telephone by calling toll free (877) Train Ride or on the Internet at www.877-TRAINRIDE.COM.

Ticket prices are: coach child \$8, coach adult \$14, deluxe child \$12, deluxe adult \$18.

Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express are accepted, as well as check or money order.

Spots left for trip to museum

WESTFIELD — Some seating space is still available on an Oct. 9 bus trip sponsored by the Westfield Historical Society to see the exhibit on "Nicholas and Alexandra" now at the Newark Museum.

The trip will begin with coffee in the gardens (weather permitting) of the historic home of Charles Cummings, Newark historian.

The trip will also include a tour of two Newark Conservancy sites, the 1884 Oheb Shalom Synagogue, the oldest remaining synagogue in Essex County, and the 1868 St. Benedict's Preparatory School.

Attendees will be on their own for a tour of the general museum exhibits, but there will be a docent led tour of the Nicholas and Alexandra exhibit.

The trip is being sponsored by the Westfield Historical Society and will be leaving the Lord & Taylor parking lot (west end) at 8:30 a.m. with an expected return at 5 p.m.

The cost of the trip, including transportation and admission fees, is \$29 for members and \$34 for non-members. Lunch is not included.

Checks should be made out to the Westfield Historical Society and mailed to the society at P.O. Box 613, Westfield, NJ 07091-0613.

No refunds for cancellation will be made after 9:30 a.m. Oct. 7. For any additional information, call Bob Miller at (908) 233-6360.



Rep. Mike Ferguson purchased the first ticket for the upcoming pancake breakfast to benefit National Guard families.

Breakfast to benefit Guard families

WESTFIELD — Several local civic organizations have banded together to raise funds for the families of deployed soldiers from the 250th Signal Battalion of the New Jersey Army National Guard, stationed in the Westfield Armory.

These local groups are running a Pancake Breakfast from 7 a.m.-noon Saturday, Oct. 16 at the armory, located at 500 Rahway Ave.

A donation of \$6 per person is requested. On the menu that morning will be pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee, tea, and there will be take out orders also available.

Tickets are being sold in many area stores, including The Artist Frammer in Cranford and Kings in Garwood, while in Westfield there are three stores

selling tickets — Barron's Drugs, Lancaster, Ltd., and The Leader Store. Tickets are also being sold in Fanwood at Irma's Bag.

The civic organizations sponsoring this event include Atlas-Pythogoras Lodge #10 Free & Accepted Masons, the 117th Cavalry Association, American Legion Post #3, Knights of Columbus Msgr. H. J. Watterson Council 1711, Caring Hearts from Home of Westfield, the Woman's Club of Westfield, local Lions Clubs, VFW Post 335 of Cranford, and Boy Scout Troop 75 of Cranford.

Volunteers are still needed to work during the breakfast. Any group or individual interested in volunteering should call Marisol Nevarez at (732) 499-5666.

Comical vehicle comes to town for serious cause

Wiernermobile will pay a visit to Westfield to raise money to fight disease

WESTFIELD — Alex Fromm, a second grader at Washington School, has been named one of 50 winners nationwide in the "Oh I wish I could win the Oscar Mayer Wiernermobile for a day" contest.

His "wish" was selected from 70,000 entries throughout the country. Alex wants to help his best friend, Patrick, who suffers from Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

In his three-sentence note to

Oscar Meyer Company, Alex wrote, "Oh I wish... the Wiernermobile would come to town so I could help raise money for my best friend Patrick's charity. I want to see him walk one day. In town, kids could donate money, have their picture taken with the Wiernermobile and get a wiener whistle maybe. Thank you."

The Wiernermobile will be rolling into town this Saturday,

Oct. 2. Residents are invited to visit the unique vehicle, bring their camera, get a souvenir and make a voluntary contribution to Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

Every donation will be earmarked for SMA research.

These are the Westfield locations where the Wiernermobile will appear on Saturday:

— Memorial Park, off Scotch Plains Avenue, 10-11 a.m.

— Tamaques Park, off

Lamberts Mill Road, 11 a.m.-noon.

— Westfield Train Station, South Avenue side, noon-5 p.m.

Tax deductible donations can also be made to: Patrick's Buddies/FightSMA, P.O. Box 2995, Westfield, NJ 07090. This event is supported by all Westfield PTSOs and PTOs.

Oscar Meyer is donating \$5,000 to FightSMA as a result of Alex Fromm's efforts.

Leather, bead work topic at museum

WESTFIELD — The Miller-Cory House Museum, located at 614 Mountain Ave., will feature a program on Native American leather and bead work from 2-4 p.m. Sunday.

Craftsman Tim Truedson of Scotch Plains will present a program on leather and beads. Leather still remains indispensable for shoes, belts, wallets, and handbags. In the 18th century, it was also used for buckskin breeches, vests, aprons, harnesses, saddles and carriage tops. The tanner was an important village craftsman.

Diane King of Cranford and

Jean Peters of Edison, members of the museum's cooking committee, will demonstrate open hearth cooking, using authentic early American recipes and cooking utensils. Taste treats will be available for guests to enjoy.

Visitors can step back in time with a tour of the farmhouse, which was built in 1740. Costumed docents will guide guests through the furnished home and respond to questions about life in colonial New Jersey. The last house tour begins at 3:30 p.m.

The museum gift shop offers many colonial items, such as cookbooks, toys and gifts. The wide

variety of cookbooks contains traditional colonial recipes that capture the rich and hearty flavors of early American cooking.

Admission to the museum and its grounds is \$2 for adults, 50 cents for students and children under 6 years of age are free of charge.

On Oct. 16 and 17, the Miller-Cory House Museum will be among the 23 historic sites open for free tours during Union County's celebration of Arts and Humanities Month. Information about the museum may be obtained by calling the museum office at (908) 232-1776.



TIM TRUEDSON

Westfield Rec. Department announces trip schedule

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Recreation Department offers the following trips for the 2004-2005 season.

The "Magic School Bus" will appear on Oct. 24, 1 p.m., at the State Theater in New Brunswick. The cost is \$30 per person; registration is required by Oct. 1. An adult must accompany children.

"Miss Saigon" is offered on Nov. 4 at the State Theater. Bus departs at 6 p.m.; cost is \$63. Register by Oct. 14.

A Vanity Fair factory outlet

shopping trip to Reading, Pa. is offered on Nov. 13. Cost is \$30; register by Oct. 13.

A holiday spectacular is scheduled Dec. 7 at the State Theater. Bus departs at 6 p.m. Cost is \$61; register by Nov. 19.

The New York City Light Tour is Dec. 14. Fee is \$29 for adults, \$22 for children 12 and under. Bus departs at 6:30 p.m.; register by Dec. 7.

"Nutcracker on Ice" by the St. Petersburg State Ballet performs Dec. 28 at NJPAC. Bus departs at

6:30 p.m. Cost is \$55; register by Dec. 7.

The New York Philharmonic presents conductor Lorin Maazel on Jan. 14 at NJPAC. Bus departs at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$48; register by Oct. 29.

A bus trip to Bally's in Atlantic City is offered on Feb. 12. Bus departs at 9 a.m. Cost is \$26; register by Jan. 28.

See "Rent" at the State Theater on March 3. Bus departs at 7 p.m. Cost is \$64; register by Feb. 17.

The Kodo Drummer performers showcase their instruments on March 16 at the State Theater. Bus departs at 7 p.m. Cost is \$62; register by March 2.

The Kirov Orchestra featuring Conductor Valery Gergiev and The Desoff Choir perform on April 1 at NJPAC. Bus departs at 7 p.m. Cost is \$63; register by Dec. 3.

For information call the Recreation Department at (908) 789-4080 or visit www.westfield-nj.net/townhall/recreation.

Scholar to discuss birth of Greek language, alphabet

WESTFIELD — The birth of the Greek language and the Greek alphabet is the topic to be discussed by Costa Tsionopoulos, Ph.D. at a lecture sponsored by the Cultural Committee of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 250 Gallows Hill Road, at 7:30 p.m. Friday. The talk is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served.

The Greek language is a member of the Indo-European family of

languages. Recent studies indicate that the spoken Greek language developed sometime after 7,300 years ago and, next to the now extinct Hitite language, is the oldest Indo-European language, having spread north from the Fertile Crescent into Asia Minor.

The development of writing, first achieved in Sumer and known as the cuneiform script, developed around 3,100 B.C. The first written Greek language dates back to

1,500-1,400 B.C. Greek written language was lost between the 12th and ninth centuries B.C. and emerged again when the Greeks adopted the Phoenician alphabet, which evolved from and alphabet developed around 2,000 B.C. from the Egyptian hieroglyphic script.

The Greeks added vowels and other changes culminating in the 24-letter alphabet in 400 B.C. This is the foundation of the alphabet that we have today and that has

become the basis for scientific, medical and general usage words.

Tsionopoulos earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Georgia Tech and the Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, all in chemical engineering.

He was employed at Exxon Research and Engineering for 30 years and currently is a consultant for the American Petroleum Institute.

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East Coast Greenway bicyclists will stop at Nomahegan on Friday

Local biking enthusiasts are invited to join a group of nine cyclists who will be passing through the area later this week as part of a tour of the East Coast Greenway.

On Sept. 12, nine cyclists left Calais, Maine, aiming to be the first people ever to traverse the full length of the Greenway. They plan to cycle approximately 2,800 miles to Key West, Fla., concluding the inaugural ride on Nov. 3.

Two of the tour riders are New Jerseyans — Anne and Mike Kruimer of Edison. The Kruimers ride a specially designed tandem because Anne is paralyzed from the waist down due to a cycling accident. All the tour riders are 50 years of age or older.

The tour will pass through New Jersey this Friday and Saturday. Local cyclists are invited to ride along, and about 20-30 are expected to informally escort the through-riders at any one time.

On Friday, the tour riders will catch a ferry from Manhattan in time for a press conference at 9:15 a.m. in Jersey City's City Hall. They will depart from City Hall at 10 a.m. and, with police assistance, bicycle to Newark via Truck Route 1&9. The route in Newark will pass through the University Heights area to Weequahic Park, where they arrive at the Field House at 11:15 a.m.

From there they will cycle to Union County College, near Nomahegan Park in Cranford for

lunch at noon. Their route continues through the Rahway River Parkway to Rahway, then through Middlesex County. They expect to pass through Roosevelt Park at 3 p.m. and arrive in Johnson Park at 4 p.m.

On Saturday, the route will be largely on the Delaware & Raritan Canal towpath. The tour riders will depart at 7:30 a.m. from the race-track in Johnson Park in Piscataway, stop for a reception at 9:30 a.m. at the Kingston Locktender's House on Route 27, and arrive in Trenton at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. The tour riders will then cross the Delaware River and head for Philadelphia.

The Greenway in New Jersey runs 92 miles between Trenton and Jersey City, crossing through Princeton, New Brunswick, and Newark. It consists of the D&R Canal towpath between Trenton and South Bound Brook, and a proposed northern extension that will cross Middlesex and Union counties to Newark, then curve east across the Meadowlands to the Hudson River. About half of the Greenway in New Jersey is completely off-road, and half of the rest is in various stages of development.

"The East Coast Greenway tries to reduce dislocations and costs by connecting existing trails," explained Elizabeth Brody, chairwoman of the NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway. However, closing the gaps, a total of 24 miles, will be difficult because

the northern part of the state is so built up, she said.

The East Coast Greenway, frequently referred to as the urban sister of the Appalachian Trail, will cross 15 states plus Washington, D.C. It will link the major cities of the eastern seaboard utilizing scores of urban greenways, park paths, abandoned railroad corridors, and waterfront esplanades.

This inaugural tour aims to accomplish two goals — rallying funds to complete the Greenway and letting the public know that the route is ready for widespread use.

"One of the outcomes of this tour is that we will have mapped and developed cue sheets for the entire route," said Karen Votava, executive director of the East Coast Greenway Alliance's national office. "This will enable the general public to travel the Greenway today much as hikers walked on-road sections of the Appalachian Trail in its early days. The trail will no longer be just a vision but a facility that really functions as a tourism destination." The trail is expected to be 80 percent off-road by 2010.

For more information on the East Coast Greenway, the inaugural end-to-end tour, or how to become involved with the project, visit the trail's web site at www.greenway.org. For last-minute changes and details about the ride through New Jersey, visit www.greenwaynj.org, then click on "Events."

Ice rink at Warinanco is set to open

ROSELLE — The Warinanco Ice Skating Center will open for the 2004-2005 ice skating season at 6 p.m. Friday.

Skating sessions will be: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m.-noon; Fridays from 10:00 a.m.-noon, plus 3:30-5:30 p.m., 6-8 p.m. (a family session during which children ages 17 and younger must be accompanied by an adult), and 8:30-10:30 p.m.; Saturdays from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., plus 1-3 p.m. and 8:30-10:30 p.m.; and Sundays from 1-3 p.m., plus 3:30-5:30 p.m. and 8:30-10:30 p.m. This schedule may be subject to change on holidays.

Call the Skating Center to find out if changes will be made.

The pricing for the general sessions is \$5 for adults, \$4 for children ages 17 and younger and \$4.25 for senior citizens. Skate rental is an additional \$3.

Discount Cards are available for Union County residents who plan to skate on a regular basis.

Warinanco Ice Skating Center has more to offer in addition to the general skating sessions. There will be open hockey on Wednesdays from 12:30-2:30 p.m. for a fee of \$7 for participants ages 18 and older with proper identification and a shielded or caged helmet.

The skating center also offers group and private skating lessons and hockey clinics, as well as skating lessons for individuals with disabilities. Other features include a Pro Shop and refreshment stand.

The Warinanco Ice Skating Center is located in Warinanco Park off Thompson Avenue at Seventh Avenue in Roselle. Park entrances are located off St. Georges Avenue and Third Avenue also.

For further information, call (908) 298-7850 for a recorded message, or (908) 527-4900 for the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation.



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YMCA Men's Club will sponsor Halloween event

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Y's Men's club will host its 44th annual Halloween parade and costume contest on Oct. 31. The parade has supplied families of the community with fond memories for over 40 years.

Children and parents wishing to participate in this year's festivities should gather at the Elm Street Field in Westfield at 12:45 p.m. Oct. 31. Between 12:45 and 1:15 p.m. the judging of costumes will take place and free treat bags will be given to the children.

The parade will begin at 1:15 p.m. from the Elm Street Field and travel up Elm Street to East Broad Street and into the park. The parade will be led by the Westfield Fire Department's Super Truck and the Westfield High School Marching Band.

Awards will be given following the parade at the gazebo in Mindwaskin Park. Ribbons will be awarded for first, second, and third places for each age group. For groups of five or more there will be cash prizes awarded for first, (\$35), second (\$25) and third (\$15). Children of all ages up through fifth grade may participate.

The club is a non-profit organization best known for its Christmas tree sale at the Elm Street Field between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The funds generated by the tree sale are donated to a variety of community organizations.

The Y's Men's Club is always looking for new members to join its ranks — the club expects only a little time, determination and a willingness to participate in its events. Anyone interested should contact the YMCA of Westfield for more details.

Union County seeks donations of memorabilia

The Union County Courthouse marks the 100th anniversary of its dedication in May, 2005. A year-long celebration is planned with exhibits and events to showcase the Courthouse as the center of law, justice and County business.

Freeholder John Wohlrab, a member of the Courthouse Centennial Celebration Committee, has asked county residents to lend or donate objects for display before Oct. 22. "We are looking for items that pertain to the courthouse and

memorabilia dating from 1903, when the Courthouse cornerstone was laid, to the present time. We hope to locate items relevant to the functions and ceremonies that took place in the Courthouse and in other public places such as county parks," Wohlrab said.

"The committee is led by Joanne Rajoppi, the Union County Clerk, and Katherine Craig of the Boxwood Hall State Historic Site in Elizabeth.

All county departments includ-

ing the Freeholders, Judiciary, Prosecutor, Sheriff, Surrogate and County Clerk were housed in the Courthouse in the early 20th century.

County officials urged residents to discover what they have to exhibit by looking in attics, closets, dresser drawers or scrap books. Possible display items include photographs of people and public places, deeds, birth certificates, newspaper clippings about local events and people, souvenir programs and ticket stubs,

commemorative plaques and buttons, uniforms and Union County political buttons and posters.

All loaned objects will be catalogued and securely stored. Original articles and documents will be housed in locked exhibit cases when on display. Receipts will be provided for each loaned item.

For more information, call (908) 558-2550 or email culturalinfo@ucnj.org. NJ Relay users can call 711.

Master Gardener lecture series will begin Oct. 7

WESTFIELD — The first of five lectures hosted by the Master Gardeners of Union County will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 7. All lectures will be held in the first floor auditorium at 300 North Ave. East. The lectures are open to anyone who would like to increase his or her knowledge about gardening.

Sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union

County, the Master Gardeners program offers hands on training in horticulture. Some of the basic topics include plant biology, propagation, soil science, and disease and pest control.

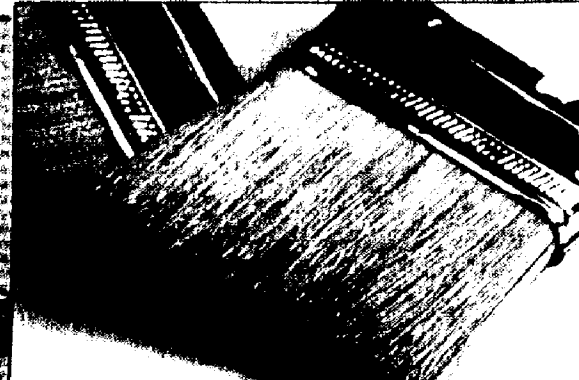
In exchange for the training, Master Gardeners agree to volunteer a certain amount of hours, working within their community in programs sponsored by Rutgers

Cooperative Extension. Successful graduates of the training become Certified Master Gardeners after they complete their volunteer service.

The Oct. 7 lecture, titled "Bulbs," will be presented by Lorraine Ogrodnick, master gardener. Attendees will learn how to plan and plant a flower garden to experience years of magnificent color and joy.

To attend this series, register in advance by calling Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County. The number is (908) 654-9854.

The schedule for the Fall Speakers Series: Native Plants, Oct. 14; Intro to Landscaping and Plant Sizes, Oct. 28; A Rose for Every Garden, Nov. 4; Herbs, Dec. 2. All talks begin at 7:30 p.m.



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Scouts sponsor hole-in-one contest at Hyatt Hills

CLARK — The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council will hold a hole-in-one contest at the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex on Raritan Road from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. The event will be held rain or shine.

The day includes an opportunity to win a session of golf tips from Barbara Olatta, LPGA teaching professional.

No pre-registration is required for the contest or to play miniature golf at the com-

plex, and the benefit will directly support Girl Scouting in local communities.

The hole-in-one contest of skill is played from the driving range. Participants will hit the ball 125 yards within a radius of three feet of the flag and qualify for the 5 p.m. shoot-off for the \$25,000 grand prize.

Hole-in-one balls are \$1 each or \$12 for \$10.

While contestants are competing, the rest of the family may

chase to play miniature golf, which will be available all day on the 18-hole, landscaped course featuring waterfalls, wandering streams and stepping ponds.

There are 18 holes, nine of which are handicapped accessible. Located near the driving range, the course is easily accessible for children and families.

A round of miniature golf to benefit Girl Scouting will cost \$10. There will be four special prize-winning miniature golf

holes. There will be door prizes and goodie bags along with the grand prize.

More information is available at www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts.

The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council serve the communities of Clark, Cranford, Elizabeth, Fanwood, Garwood, Kenilworth, Linden, Mountainside, Roselle, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Union and Westfield, among others.

Haunting Harvest Days at Parker this weekend

SCOTCH PLAINS — Parker Gardens is holding a weekend full of eerie, cheery family fun for this Saturday and Sunday at its 1325 Terrill Rd. location.

The 14-acre garden center will welcome families to "Haunting Harvest Days" from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Parker Gardens will also be open during its usual weekend hours, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

"This is not only going to be a real treat for the kids, but for our customers, as well," said Steven Parker, owner of the popular garden center. "The children will enjoy an interactive introduction to the Halloween season at our Creepy Crawler Hunt and Garden Search activities, when they'll search our grounds for different items and receive a prize just for participating."

The center will also feature children's traditional Halloween season favorites, including hayrides, a hay maze and kids crafts, over the course of the weekend.

Parents can enjoy an informative seminar on how planting bulbs properly in the fall season will result in magnificent colors come next spring.

"Bill Friedman of Simple Pleasures, an expert on the subject, will discuss the techniques and design possibilities that homeowners need to know to get the most out of their first spring flower arrivals in 2005," Parker said.

For more information call (908) 322-5555.

Red Cross chapter offers course for babysitters

WESTFIELD — The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross will be hosting a "Babysitter's Training" course in the coming weeks. This course is for teenagers ages 11-15 years old and teaches them what it takes to be a safe and responsible babysitter.

The course will be offered

three separate times this fall, first this Saturday from 9 a.m.-4:15 p.m. and again at the same time Oct. 23. A third class will be available from 9:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 4. All classes will be held at the Chapter House, 321 Elm St.

Some of the topics covered in the course include: age-appropriate activities, handling emergen-

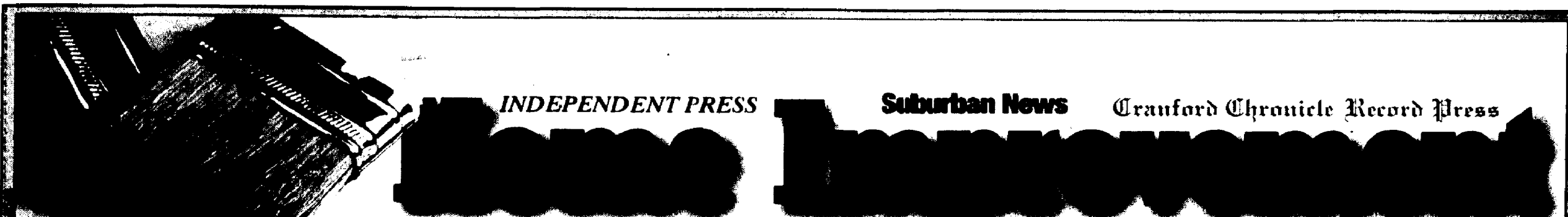
cies, keeping everyone safe inside and outside of the home, how to make good decisions, basic child and infant care (feeding, diapering, burping infants), breathing emergencies (choking) and basic first aid. The course stresses the importance of being a safe and professional sitter.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Participants

will receive a small first aid kit and a babysitter's handbook.

Interested individuals can call the Chapter at (908) 232-7090 or e-mail Linda at johnsonl@cross-net.org.

For additional health & safety courses and information, go to the chapter's new web site at www.westfieldmtnside-redcross.org.



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Senior CITIZEN



Dorothy Dattner, Joyce Endriss and Julie O'Connell share some puppy love at Runnells Specialized Hospital's Courtyard Carnival.

Courtyard Carnival brings fun to Runnells

At the annual Courtyard Carnival at Runnells Specialized Hospital, resident Dorothy Dattner (center) learned there's nothing like cuddling with a puppy, while fellow resident Joyce Endriss (left) and Julie O'Connell, a.k.a. "Jingles the Clown" of Runnells' Activities Therapy Department also enjoyed some time with the adorable canine.

The event, organized by the hospital's Activities Therapy Department, included carnival games, face painting, spin art and a "Guess the Watermelon Weight" contest.

"The Union County Freeholders believe that it's important to have many fun activ-

ities at a facility such as Runnells," said Freeholder Chairman Angel G. Estrada. "From the Valentine's Candlelight Dinner last February to the holiday party and New Year's Celebration in December, we hope the patients and residents of Runnells have a great time."

Residents who are interested in helping at some of Runnells special activities should contact the hospital's Office of Volunteer Services; flexible hours and a variety of opportunities exist.

To get further information or to volunteer, call the Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 771-5847. Runnells is located at 40 Watchung Way, Berkeley Heights.



Many senior citizens are learning they can use the Internet to find rewarding volunteer experiences in their local communities.

Many opportunities for seniors to do good

(ARA) — These days, more and more older Americans are realizing that volunteering is a perfect way to remain active, creative and productive in their later years. An estimated half a million Americans age 55 and over now regularly lend a hand to local nonprofits, public agencies, and faith-based organizations.

Thanks to the Internet and a nonprofit Web site, www.VolunteerMatch.org, finding an organization in need of volunteer help has never been easier. The site has already helped more than 29,000 nonprofits post more than 30,000 volunteer opportunities online.

Visitors to the site enter their ZIP code to find local opportunities. Volunteers can also search by interest, date and keyword to generate a customized list. Once an opportunity is found, all it takes is a click to contact the organization and get involved.

Any nonprofit or tax-exempt organization can list volunteer opportunities on VolunteerMatch. Many of the organizations listed, including Elder Wisdom Circle and RSVP (the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program), provide opportunities for seniors looking to get out and do good.

Elder Wisdom Circle pairs online advice seekers with a nationwide network of volunteer seniors, aged 60 to 97, who share their hard-earned knowledge and wisdom. Elders participate individually from their home computers or in groups at assisted living communities, allowing seniors to give back to the community without leaving the comfort of home.

For those looking to get out in the community, RSVP is another organization in need of senior volunteers. RSVP helps people age 55 and older put their skills and life experience to work by addressing community needs through volunteer service.

Volunteers and nonprofits get access to The VolunteerMatch service for free. VolunteerMatch relies upon grants from charitable foundations for most of its funding, and also licenses its technology to companies like Dell Computer, Washington Mutual, and Cirque du Soleil to make it easier for their employees to volunteer. The revenue derived from corporate licenses preserves VolunteerMatch's financial stability, and strengthens its capacity as an effective public service — and one of the few online social services available.

This article is courtesy of ARA Content.

Rahway Regional receives ACR accreditation

Rahway Regional Cancer Center has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in radiation oncology as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology.

The ACR, headquartered in Reston, Va., awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer-review evaluation of its practice.

Evaluations are conducted by

board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of facility equipment.

The surveyors report their finding to the ACR's Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report.

The ACR is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic/interventional radiolo-

gists, radiation oncologists and medical physicists with programs for focusing on comprehensive health care services.

Rahway Regional Cancer Center is a state-of-the-art private cancer treatment center offering the finest radiation oncology services available. The center is under the direction of Eric Karp, M.D., a board-certified radiation oncologist who was trained at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Karp founded the center in 1993, and the cancer center has gained recognition for delivering

quality radiation therapy in a patient-friendly environment.

The center now offers its patients Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy, or IMRT.

IMRT is the most sophisticated form of radiation therapy available. This advanced technology wraps radiation beams precisely around tumors to destroy cancer cells while minimizing side effects to the patient.

For more information about the extraordinary services provided at Rahway Regional Cancer Center, call (732) 382-5550.

Westfield AARP to hear from town administrator

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area AARP Chapter No. 4137 will hold its next meeting on Monday at the newly-renovated Presbyterian Church Assembly Hall on the corner of Broad Street and Mountain Avenue in Westfield. Ample parking is available. Guest and potential members are invited.

The social period with refreshments will begin at 1 p.m., and a brief business meeting will be held later.

The program will begin at 1:30 p.m.; the guest speaker will be Jim Gildea, Westfield town administrator, who will speak on the proposed Westfield parking deck.

Gildea will explain the various aspects of the project including the approximate cost, number of levels, parking designations for customers, store owners, and employees, issuance of parking permits, rates, location, number of parking spaces, bond issues (if any) with estimated maturation dates, and more. Non-members are invited to this meeting.

Community Service Chairman Skeets Kuzmuk has requested members donate canned and boxed grocery items to benefit

homeless and needy adults and children. Costume jewelry in good condition is wanted to donate to patients at Runnells Hospital.

On Nov. 16, a day trip is scheduled to the Brownstone for a Hawaiian Feast plus an all-star revue titled "The Road to Waikiki." Uncle Floyd Vivino with his ukulele will lead a cast of dancers, vocalists, and comics supported by a live band. There will be music for dancing.

The luncheon menu consists of a one-hour open bar for wine and mixed drinks, beer and soda on tables, fresh fruit cup, garden salad, honey glazed ham and chicken Teriyaki, dessert coffee and tea. The cost is \$56 per person, including gratuities.

Reservations may be made at Monday's meeting or by calling (908) 232-1362. Tickets will also be available at the meeting for the annual holiday luncheon at noon Dec. 7 at The Westwood Restaurant in Garwood. There will be an international buffet and musical entertainment.

For more information and reservations call Luncheon Chairman Marie Stock at (908) 925-2536.

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Board Certified Radiation Oncologist

About Dr. Karp:

• Founder and Director of Rahway Regional Cancer Center

• Board Certified Radiation Oncologist Trained at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

• American Cancer Society Fellowship in Radiation Oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

• President of New Jersey's 1st Executive Board of Cancer Research

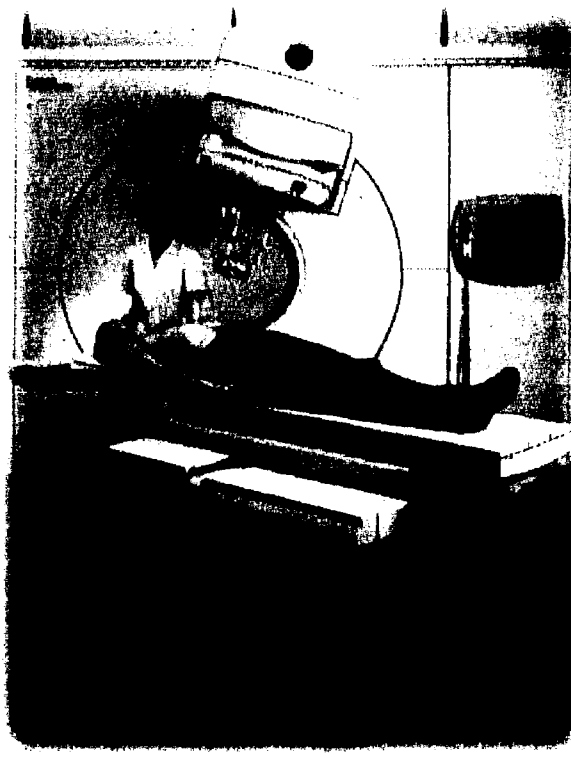
• President of the American Cancer Society's New Jersey Chapter



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givers for aging family members in the near future.

A panel of experts in geriatric issues will discuss the stress that aging brings to family members, resources in the community that can provide help, mental and physical changes that may necessitate long term care, and legal and financial planning for the elderly.

Panelists include Rae Horvitz, Ruth Adelman and Linda S. Ershow-Levenberg. All have expertise with senior adult issues and are eager to discuss elder care concerns with community members.

This program is offered in conjunction with Jewish Family Services and has been made possible through a grant from the Jewish Community Endowment Foundation of the Jewish Federation of Central NJ.

Arthritis group at the Westfield Y

The Westfield Area YMCA is offering a morning Arthritis Support Group.

The group is an Arthritis Foundation-endorsed program that provides information and support to people with arthritis and/or those living with someone with arthritis. The group meets from 9:30-11 a.m. the first Tuesday of the month, beginning Oct. 5. The group is free and open to the public.

Also, the Y's popular Lunch & Learn programs will continue to meet the second Wednesday of the month from 12:30-2 p.m.

On Oct. 13, Professor Laurel Kearns will speak on "Caring for Creation: An environmental legacy for our grandchildren." The program is free and open to the public.

For more information about these programs, call Mary Ann at (908) 966-9344.

Sports

Westfield earns 3-0 shutout

By CHAD HEMENWAY
THE RECORD-PRESS

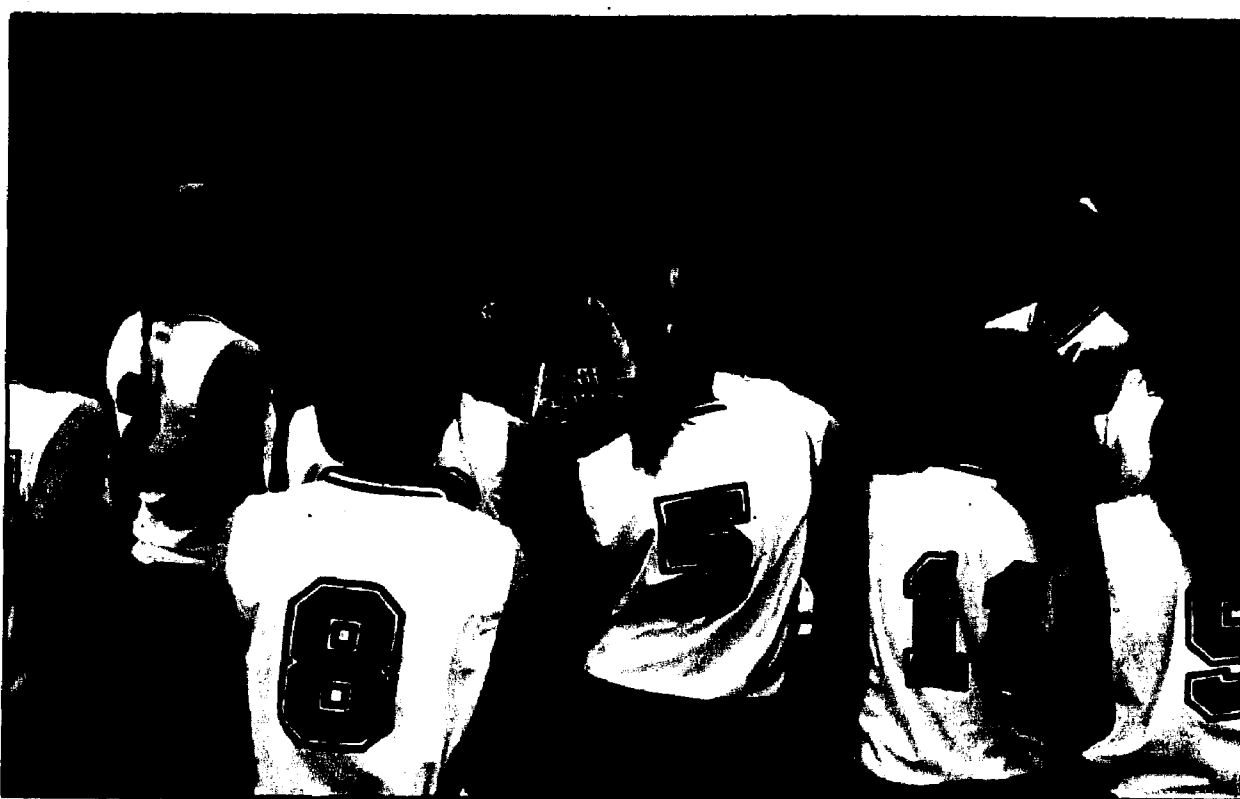
WESTFIELD — At halftime Tuesday, tied 0-0 against Northern Highlands, field hockey head coach Maggie McFadden told her team, "The best defense is a good offense."

The Blue Devils listened, scoring three times while continuing to play stellar defense for the 3-0 shutout victory to get them a win away from .500.

"I think we played much better today with more intensity," said McFadden. "Turns out (Northern Highlands is) a quick, aggressive team, but we continued to put pressure on the ball."

By listening to McFadden's advice at halftime, Westfield clearly showed they improved spacing, adjusted defensive angles and got their sticks down to spark offensive pushes down the field.

About 3:20 into the second half, the Blue Devils were deep in the zone. Coming off a penalty corner and a shot on goal by Lauren Purdy, the ball was knocked around before finding its way to midfielder Liz Trimble at the top of the circle.



Head Coach Maggie McFadden gives her team some advice before the Blue Devils beat Northern Highlands 3-0 on Monday.

She promptly rattled the back boards of the cage with a hard grounder past the goalie.

Just a half-minute later, Westfield again reversed Northern Highlands to set up another offensive chance. This time Michelle Markowski found right wing Lorena Zamarelli for another goal.

"I've been working on adjusting the field alignment and today it worked for us," McFadden said Monday. "We received excellent

play from our midfield line and the back play was good as well."

Defensive backs Becca DeFazio and Samantha Manetti consistently thwarted any serious scoring opportunity by Northern Highlands along with sweeper Allison Feldman.

Goalie Jessica Ropars stopped five shots during the game, including kicking a penalty stroke away that was awarded to Northern Highlands after a Westfield rules breach inside the

circle.

With about 7:20 left to play, inner Justine Cassidy started and ended a scoring drive that began after a Northern Highlands kick.

Cassidy's free hit down in the zone resulted in a penalty corner for Westfield, and the ball was quickly controlled by Purdy, who found Cassidy in front of the goal for the final score.

N. HIGHLANDS 0 0 0
WESTFIELD 0 3 3
Records: Westfield 2-3, N. Highlands 1-4

Raiders victors in battle for S.P. bragging rights

By DAVID LAZARUS
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The battle for Scotch Plains girls soccer bragging rights was emphatically won by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders, who took control of a tight game and erupted for three second-half goals to defeat previously unbeaten Union Catholic 4-1 Monday at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

The victory raised the Raiders' record to 4-1-1 and helped them bounce back from their first defeat, a 1-0 loss to East Brunswick, ranked ninth in the state, last Wednesday.

Raiders sophomore Lisa Carmada headed in a perfectly-placed cross from a corner kick by Kelly Rigano midway through the second half to provide the winning goal. "We work on that a lot in practice. Lisa's really good in the air," said Rigano.

Several minutes later the game was delayed 10 minutes by a horrifying collision between Amanda Pitts of Union Catholic and goalie Lauren Mains of Scotch Plains. Halfback Lara Kaminski's direct kick from 30 yards hit the goal post and bounced straight down; Pitts came rushing in and hit her head on the post while Mains was able to push the ball away from the goal.

While the crowd held its collective breath, Pitts was helped off the field and, although feeling woozy after the game, said she should recover. "Our feet got tangled and I fell into the post," said Pitts.

Sweeper Allie Zazzali headed in another corner kick from the right side by Allie Hambleton to add an insurance goal, and sophomore Kim Appezatto added the final goal when her long shot curled under the crossbar with three minutes left.

Union Catholic coach Jim Revel refused to use Pitts' loss as an excuse.

GIRLS SOCCER

"They were a better team than us today," he said. "They were more aggressive in getting to loose balls. They will run through you to get a loose ball; we didn't play that way. They deserved to win."

In a game that was originally supposed to be played at Union Catholic, the Vikings acted like the home team and shocked the Raiders with a goal in the first five minutes when Kaminski's direct kick deflected to Pitts, who chipped the ball over a rushing Mains. The quick score was a reversal of sorts for the Raiders, who had scored goals within the first three minutes in recent games against Westfield and Cranford. But coach Kevin Ewing was pleased by the Raiders' recovery, which led to an equalizing goal from Allie Hambleton just before halftime.

"We made an early defensive mistake but the kids held their composure and came back well," said Ewing. "I thought for a while we played very well in the second half too, but we did too much kicking the ball when we got the two goal lead."

Although they are based in Scotch Plains, Union Catholic only had one substitute player from either Scotch Plains or Westfield. Still, many of the players knew each other from club soccer, and for many Raider players who live on the south side of Scotch Plains, Union Catholic is actually closer to their homes than the public high school.

"It was a very intense game out there," said Raiders' defender Lauren Perrotta. "We had to keep our focus the entire game to win." Perrotta was limping after the game from several hard collisions, but said she will be ready for Saturday's big home tussle with undefeated Bridgewater-Raritan, who handed the Raiders one of their three losses last year.

Raiders, Cougars showdown is Saturday

By CHAD HEMENWAY
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Raiders football team, off to a great start in its first two games, suffered a setback on Friday, losing to Irvington 23-0.

Saturday, Scotch Plains hopes to get back to its winning ways against rival Cranford, a team that is more experienced than last year and is fresh off a 48-6 blowout of Malcolm X Shabazz.

Last year the Raiders got the best the Cougars, 33-22, in Cranford.

FOOTBALL

Losing to Irvington will hopefully have the same effect it had on the Raiders last year, when Scotch Plains was dealt a 27-0 loss. Scotch Plains went on to win six straight before finally falling in the Section 2, Group III final.

Head coach Steve Ciccotelli hopes to have his star running back, senior Lakiem Lockery, back for the game against Cranford. Last week Lockery sat out most of the second half after he felt soreness in his knee.

Ciccotelli said he sat Lockery to prevent further injury, as the knee had started giving Lockery trouble last week in practice. Even on a sore knee, Lockery still managed a hard-fought 53 yards on 13 carries in the first half against Irvington.

The Raiders offense and defense will have their eyes on Cranford's quarterback and defensive back Chris Drechsel, who passed for 77 yards and rushed for another 50 yards offensively as well as intercepting two passes from his roving safety position against Shabazz.

The SP-F defense, led by Marc Fabiano, will also look to corral Cranford's dual running threat of Jamar Ingram and Chris Brown.

In fact, the game might come down to which squad performs best on defense. Even after giving up 23 points last week, the Raiders' "D" has only allowed 29 in three games, which includes a shutout over Westfield in Week 2. Cranford's defense has given up just 24 points in three games.

SCOTCH PLAINS 0 0 0 0
IRVINGTON 23 0 13 23
Records: Scotch Plains 2-1, Irvington 2-1

No. 5 Scotch Plains tennis poised for success in U.C. tournament today

By CHAD HEMENWAY
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Raiders girls tennis team is 4-3 coming off a tough start to the season schedule, and is looking forward to the Union County Tournament held in Plainfield today and tomorrow.

Currently, the Raiders are ranked 5th in the county behind some teams they have already faced — No. 3 Westfield and No. 4 Governor Livingston. Westfield is also ranked No. 20 in the state rankings.

"I think we're in a good spot, about where I thought we'd be," said Raiders head coach Sue Allen.

Kent Place holds the top spot of the Union County rankings with a record of 8-1.

Taking into account their rough competition thus far,

Allen is confident the tennis squad will have another successful season.

"The beginning of our schedule usually has some of the roughest matches," Allen said. "Last year we started this way but ended up with about 18 wins and I think that's going to happen again."

Allen said her philosophy to coaching is being grasped by the team. The Raiders are steadily improving with each match.

"This isn't life or death," Allen said. "I don't want them taking losing or winning too seriously. I want them to win but win, and lose, gracefully and enjoy themselves. I think that's what is happening and the level of play has improved."

Scotch Plains-Fanwood is led by second singles player, Shannon Gomes. Allen said

Gomes has won the deciding match a few times already this year to give the team an overall victory.

Carly Heinz at first singles is a strong player and her personal record does not represent her talent, Allen said.

"She has faced some tremendous players but has played great," Allen said. "She's hung in there every time."

Others on the varsity team include Joanna Rosenberg, doubles partners Karina Gotliboy and Courtney Burke, and Cara Hurley and Lisa Katz.

Scotch Plains 3, Linden 2 — Cara Hundley and Lisa Katz as well as Karina Gotliboy and Courtney Burke won their doubles matches for the Scotch Plains team victory on Friday.

Tuesday's match against Irvington was rained out.



Shannon Gomes, shown here versus Cranford, has had key matches from her second singles slot this year that have given Scotch Plains team wins

Blue Devils girls volleyball has successful week, Westfield tennis wins

WESTFIELD
Girls Volleyball
Hunterdon Central def. Westfield, 25-22, 25-20 — The Blue Devils lost a close match to Hunterdon Central (7-2), ranked No. 6 in the state, Tuesday in Westfield.

Westfield def. Scotch Plains, 25-21, 25-17 — Lizzie Myers recorded 11 kills and Annetete Baez had four for the Blue Devils (4-1) in Scotch Plains on Monday.

Westfield def. Cranford, 25-10, 25-14 — Anna Koehler, a sophomore, had six aces Thursday in Cranford for the Blue Devils. Kaitlyn Shulman had three kills and Tara Daly recorded six assists.

Westfield def. Shabazz, 25-5, 25-10 — Jill Olsen served six aces and Robin Streit had four to give the Blue Devils a win in Westfield last Wednesday.

Girls Tennis
Westfield 5, Cranford 0 — The Blue Devils came close to sweeping every game in the match against the Cougars on Friday. Nikki Reich, Michelle Morawski

WRAPUP

and Lindsay Goldberg each won 6-0, 6-0.

Westfield 4, Bridgewater 1 — Reich outlasted her opponent, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3, and Goldberg won in straight sets, 6-1, 7-5. Doubles teams Jessica Bender and Lane Maloney, and Rachel Louie and Kim Morawski each were victorious in straight sets in Cranford.

Boys Soccer
Morris Catholic 5, Westfield 0 — Jeff Greenlaw had 16 saves for Westfield (0-4-2) Monday but it wasn't enough to stop undefeated Morris Catholic (5-0-1), ranked No. 18 in the state.

Westfield 1, St. Peter's Prep 1 — The Blue Devils' Brady Lau scored a goal with about 15 minutes remaining to give Westfield (0-3-2) the tie in Westfield last Wednesday. Greenlaw had 14 saves.

Girls Soccer
Ridge 5, Westfield 0 — Undefeated Ridge (5-0) shut out

the Blue Devils last Wednesday in Basking Ridge, thanks to two goals within a minute and a half during the second half. It was the first time Westfield has let up five goals in a game in two decades. Lauren Sinnenberg had 11 saves for Westfield.

Field Hockey
Oak Knoll 5, Westfield 0 — The Blue Devils (1-3) managed only two shots on goal to Oak Knoll's 17. Oak Knoll remains undefeated at 6-0.

SCOTCH PLAINS
Boys Soccer

Scotch Plains 4, W. Orange 2 — The Raiders (5-2) knocked off undefeated W. Orange on Monday, ranked No. 8 in the state, thanks to two goals by Sean McNelis in W. Orange. Down 2-1 in the first half, A.J. Appezatto scored off an assist by Matt Fleissner to knot the score. Goalkeeper Bryan Meredith made seven saves.

Scotch Plains 1, Vernon 0 — The Raiders' Sean Young took a pass from Casey Hoynes-O'Connor and scored five minutes

into the first half for the win Friday in Scotch Plains. Meredith made two saves for his fourth shutout of the season.

Scotch Plains 2, Ridge 0 — Jared Cohen and Young scored for the Raiders last Wednesday in Scotch Plains. Meredith stopped two shots.

Girls Volleyball
Westfield def. Scotch Plains, 25-21, 25-17 — Kelli Kaskiw had three kills for the Raiders (2-2) Monday in Scotch Plains.

Scotch Plains def. Linden, 25-13, 22-25, 25-20 — The Raiders were led by Kaskiw with two digs, two kills and seven service points while Erin Gallagher chipped in with nine digs and eight service points in Linden last Wednesday.

UNION CATHOLIC
Girls Volleyball
Bridgewater def. Union Catholic, 25-14, 25-18 — No. 9-ranked Union Catholic (4-1) received eight assists from Louise Gonzalez and a combined 11 kills from Courtney Harris, Nicole

Palumbo, Joanne Schurtz and Megan Conheeny but it wasn't to beat Bridgewater, ranked No. 1 in the state.

Union Catholic def. Johnson, 25-11, 25-10 — Conheeny had five kills and four digs last Thursday in Scotch Plains. Nicole Palumbo added six kills and two digs and Louise Gonzalez had 12 assists and three aces.

Girls Soccer
Union Catholic 6, Dayton 0 — Amanda Pitts registered a hat trick — the eighth of her career in for Union Catholic last Thursday in Scotch Plains. Lara Kaminski scored twice and added an assist.

Boys Soccer
Union Catholic 2, Dayton 0 — Chris Varga had nine saves for Union Catholic in Springfield last Thursday. Mike Seamon and Matt Cunha scored. Cunha also had an assist.

HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

(All times p.m. unless otherwise noted.)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30

Field hockey

Westfield vs. Union, 4

Gymnastics

Scotch Plains vs. Elizabeth, 4:30

Westfield at Union Catholic, 4:30

Girls tennis

Westfield/Scotch Plains in the Union County tournament, TBA

Volleyball

Westfield at Bridgewater, 4

FRIDAY, OCT. 1

Volleyball

Scotch Plains vs. Edison, 4

Football

Westfield at Shabazz, 7

Girls tennis

Westfield/Scotch Plains in the Union County tournament, TBA

SATURDAY, OCT. 2

Boys soccer

Westfield at Ridge, 11 a.m.

Scotch Plains at Bridgewater-Raritan, 10:30 a.m.

Girls soccer

Westfield vs. Pingry, 11 a.m.

Scotch Plains vs. Bridgewater-Raritan, 10:30 a.m.

Field hockey

Westfield at North Hunterdon, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 4

Boys soccer

Westfield vs. East Side, 4

Scotch Plains vs. Kearney, 7

Girls soccer

Westfield at East Side, 4

Scotch Plains at Kearney, 4

Field hockey

Westfield at Roselle Park, 4

Volleyball

Westfield at Linden, 4

Scotch Plains vs. Cranford, 4

Gymnastics

Scotch Plains vs. Plainfield, 4

Girls soccer

Scotch Plains at Plainfield, 4

THURSDAY, OCT. 7

Boys soccer

Westfield at Kearney, 4

Girls soccer

Westfield vs. Kearney, 4

Field hockey

Westfield vs. Bridgewater-Raritan, 4

Gymnastics

Westfield vs. Columbia, 4:30

Girls tennis

Westfield vs. East Side, 4

Scotch Plains vs. Kearney, 4

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WNBA star to highlight 2-day clinic

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls' basketball coaching staff will hold a two-day clinic for area youngsters on Oct. 22-23 at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Gymnasium. The clinic, organized as a fundraiser for the team's trip to San Diego in December, will run from 4:30-8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 22 and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23. Open to boys and girls in grades 1-8, the cost is \$75, with 100 percent of the proceeds going directly toward the team's trip.

"This is a great way to introduce ourselves to the local basketball community, and to help raise some money for our team's trip," said first-year head coach Lori McBride. "We are hoping for a strong turnout, not only to benefit our team, but to generate interest in the game of basketball and to help kids start their own seasons on the right foot."

"We will stress individual and team concepts, with constant emphasis on fundamentals. We will also have a lot of fun and create an atmosphere that those in attendance will enjoy while learning," she said.

McBride will be joined by her assistant, Devin Jefferson, who played at Seton Hall University, and former Seton Hall standout Sue Murray, who played professionally last season in Israel and has extensive experience as a member of the Canadian National Team.

Former WNBA standout Texlin Quinney, who spent time with the Indiana Fever and Connecticut Sun, will highlight the list of clinicians.

For more information on the camp, please email gearlori@yahoo.com or call (908) 418-2086 for more details or to request a brochure.



The Blue Sharks U12 team is off to a good start this year.

Blue Sharks U12 team start off well

The Scotch Plains Blue Sharks U12 Girls inter-county soccer team bounced back strongly from their first defeat of the season with a strong all around effort to dispatch the South Mountain Blue Dolphins 4-0 Sunday at School One Scotch Plains.

Sarah Weber started the scoring, taking a loose ball near the left side of the goal and unleashing a well placed left footed shot from about 10 yards. Brown also scored from the left side with a higher, harder left footed shot from 20 yards to increase the margin to 2-0 before halftime.

Although they enjoyed a large territorial advantage, the Sharks couldn't feel totally comfortable until Sarah Lazarus hit a shot into the opposite post from a difficult angle midway through the second half. Amanda Rodriguez, who was brilliant in numerous positions, completed the scoring with her second goal of the year — a short boot with her right foot that never got airborne but was perfectly placed. Lazarus, Brown and Rodriguez share the team scoring lead with two goals apiece.

Melissa McKenna and Kara Gaynor shared goal-keeping

duties for the shutout.

In addition, Lauren Berk, Buckley, Cohen, DiGiacomo, DiGiacomo, Annie Rubin, Alyssa Young and DeMarsico were instrumental in the win.

In their season opener, the Blue Sharks hardly looked like a team that had barely practiced. Showing midseason form, the Sharks got scoring from six different players to overwhelm New Providence on Sunday, September 12 at School One in Scotch Plains.

Amanda Rodriguez got the scoring parade started when she hit a hard left footed shot from short range. Annie Rubin made it 2-0 when she stole a pass and dribbled in to beat the goalie. Erin Brown hit a hard high shot from about 15 yards to make it 3-0 and Sarah Lazarus also used her left foot to score with a high hard shot from short range. Alyssa Young converted with a low shot and Desli DeMarsico completed the rout with a goal on a nice low shot that padded the lead before the first half ended.

The defense led by goalie Melissa McKenna and sweeper Lauren Berk was able to keep New Providence off the scoreboard. With a big lead, the Blue Sharks were able to liberally substitute throughout the second half and played more of a possession game to limit any attempts of a comeback.

In addition to the scorers, Lauren Buckley, Emily Cohen, Jessica DiGiacomo, Rebecca DiGiacomo, Toni-Ann Capece, Kara Gaynor and Sarah Weber were instrumental in advancing the ball and defending against any counterattacks.

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1.75L MILLER	10.99	1.75L ROLLING	13.99	1.75L FOSTERS	18.99		
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1.75L PEACHES	9.99	1.75L SPUMANTE	3.99	1.75L NATHANSON CREEK	5.99	1.75L FOLIGNARI	5.99
1.75L T.G.I.F.	11.99	1.75L TAYLOR	4.99	1.75L ARBOR MIST	5.99	1.75L CESARI DUE TORRI	5.99
1.75L Remy Liqueur	14.99	1.75L BALLANTINE	4.99	1.75L CHARDONNAY	5.99	1.75L FONTANA CANDIDA	5.99
1.75L BERRY	16.99	1.75L STOKK	6.99	1.75L SUTTER	6.99	1.75L PINOT GRIGIO	5.99
1.75L ALIZE	17.99	1.75L ASI	8.99	1.75L VINTAGE	6.99	1.75L YELLOW TAIL	10.99
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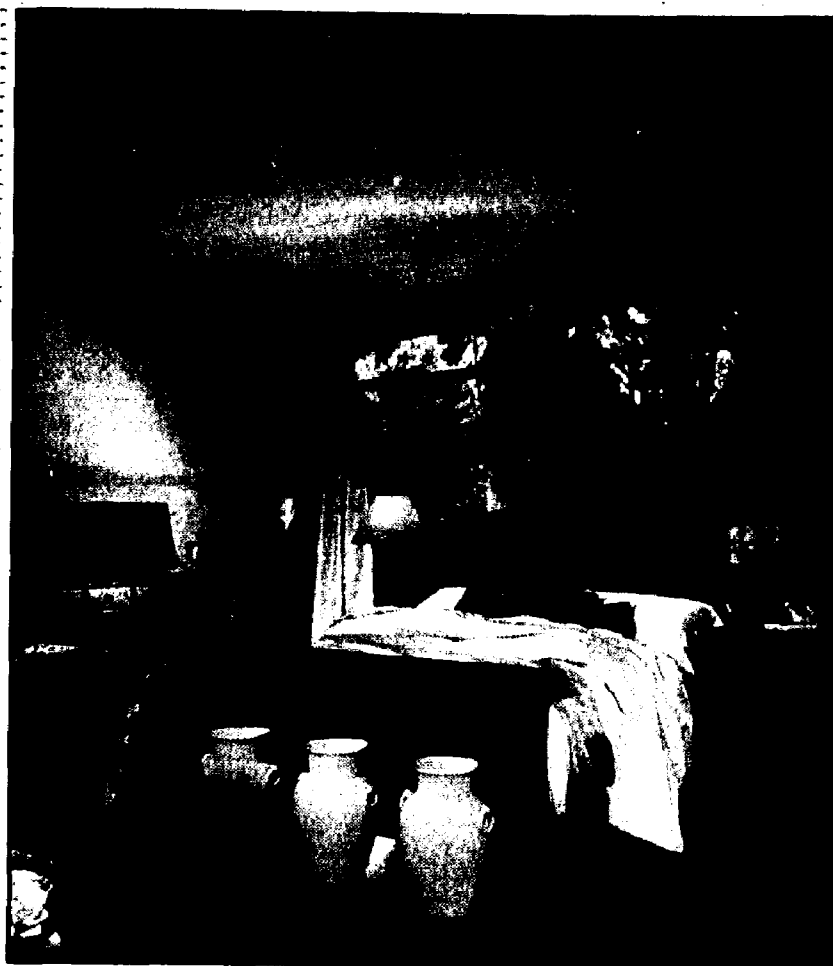
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Real Estate



Using new faux finishing products and techniques, a novice painter can create a distinctive designer effect.

New opportunities to use faux finish techniques

(ARA) — It's that time again — the change in weather and the rush to redecorate before the holidays arrive means many do-it-yourselfers will soon find themselves preparing for winter with a paintbrush in hand. In fact, fall is the busiest interior painting season of the year. And many of those tackling a painting job will be customizing in style by using a faux finish technique.

But we aren't talking about the traditional faux finishes of the 1960s. The relatively simple, but time-consuming, sponged-on and rag-rolled paint finishes of the past are quickly giving way to more subtle and refined techniques that produce elegant and sophisticated looks.

According to Solveig Elios, Pratt & Lambert color services specialist, "Many of the new faux finishing products easily allow a novice painter to create a distinctive designer effect throughout their home. Whether a consumer wants bold or subtle, innocent or sophisticated, more than ever before, today's faux techniques can help achieve a look that showcases their individual style, and that's what it is really all about."

Just how extensive are the choices when it comes to faux finishing?

If you can imagine a finish, it's probably available, says Elios.

Tuscan Influence — Recently, the Tuscan influenced design has grown in popularity. This rich, authentic artisan style that's reminiscent of century villas found in Tuscany has created the demand for new faux techniques that provide aged, rustic looks.

"Homeowners who once would have had to hire a professional to obtain a Tuscan wall influence, can now achieve the same beautiful results themselves with a variety of products that make walls appear to have been created by an artisan's hand," says Elios. "One of the newest finishes available is Tuscan Villa Interior Plaster by Pratt & Lambert. This product allows DIYers to achieve the elegant look of aged European plaster in three easy-to-follow steps."

Crackling — Another extremely popular "aged" finish is called crackling. With this technique, consumers can create a unique weather-beaten look by using contrasting paint colors, a paintbrush, roller and a sea sponge. It's an effective way to accentuate the antique, or heirloom, feel of a room and is often used to highlight accents such as

furniture, frames, chair rails and other trim pieces.

Textured Rolling — Finally, for those looking to bring a touch of the rustic outdoors inside, there's textured rolling. This incredibly unique finish actually contains sand and produces a rough-to-the-touch feel. Typically, it's used to accent dens, great rooms and bedrooms.

Fe, Fi "Faux" Fabric Textures — You don't normally associate fabric with painting, however the more refined, soft look of fabrics, such as satin, silk and chambray, are also being seen more often. Rather than relying on wallpaper or stencils to provide the rich look of these fabrics, paint can now provide the same results without the hassle and mess.

Damask — The tone-on-tone Damask effect is a design that can add pattern, color and class to many different types of room settings, and provide a particularly elegant backdrop to more formal settings, such as dining rooms. This satin and twill interweaving technique is the ultimate way to add a sense of regal bearing to any decorating plan.

Chambray — Chambray anyone? Interior designers and consumers alike are turning to the

classic American fabric to make a statement of casual individualism. Now, Chambray can go anywhere, including on walls. This soft weave faux technique is simple and adds warmth and subtle texture to any room. In order to create the chambray look, a basic four-step process is followed that utilizes a base paint, a glaze and a wallpaper smoothing brush.

Shantung Silk — If it's sophistication rather than kick-back casual that you're looking for, it's now easier than ever to create the look of Shantung Silk on your walls. Precious and formal, silk faux finishes are quickly becoming symbols of luxury and refinement in the decorating arena. As with most other finishes available today, application is a simple process but the results can be stunning.

"Consumers realize that their choice of wall color can create a bridge between their furnishings and accessories, as well as an overall mood," Elios says. "Paint color and texture are very personal and based on personal experiences. And the variety of techniques and color combinations means there are no limits to personal creativity."

This article is courtesy of ARA Content.

Ellen Murphy joins Westfield office of Prudential Properties

WESTFIELD — Prudential New Jersey Properties Westfield Office Manager Marge Cuccaro has announced the appointment of Ellen Price Murphy of Scotch Plains.

"Ellen has demonstrated a strong desire to help both buyers and sellers fulfill their real estate goals," says Cuccaro. "She is dedicated to providing the utmost in quality service and will stop at nothing less than that. I'm delighted to have her on our team."

A lifetime Union County resident, Murphy is has a strong knowledge of the local area, including the school districts. She belongs to the Greater Union County Association of Realtors and the Garden State Multiple Listing Service.

Before joining the real estate industry, Murphy



ELLEN PRICE MURPHY

spent 20 years devoted to customer service in the retail sales and education sales industries.

She can be reached at (908) 232-5664, ext. 102.

UNION COUNTY MORTGAGE RATES

Program	Rate	pts	cdn	up	APR
Aspek Mortgage 800-344-2739					
30-yr. Fixed	5.000	1.63	5%	30	5.223
15-yr. Fixed	4.500	1.00	5%	30	4.787
1-yr ARM	3.250	1.00	5%	30	3.287
30-yr. Jumbo	5.250	1.38	5%	30	5.410
15-yr. Jumbo	4.625	1.63	5%	30	4.931
A Custom Mortgage Sol. 800-259-9510					
30-yr. Fixed	4.875	2.00	5%	30	5.010
30-yr. Fixed	5.250	0.50	5%	30	5.390
15-yr. Fixed	4.250	2.00	5%	30	4.450
MTA ARM	1.000	0.00	5%	30	3.900
A-D Credit: 80/20 Combs. No Doc to \$1m. Loans to \$4m. Open 7 Days. 90% LTV in BL.					
AHM 800-924-9091					
30-yr. Fixed	5.375	0.00	5%	60	5.390
15-yr. Fixed	4.875	0.00	5%	60	4.890
30-yr. Jumbo	5.750	0.00	5%	60	5.790
5/1 ARM	4.375	0.00	5%	60	4.230
5/1 Jbo. ARM	4.375	0.00	5%	60	4.230
No Broker fee, Commit Fee, Orig. Fee, Commit, or Appl. Fee! No Cost Refi Avail! Close at Home!					
American Federal Mtg. 888-321-4687					
30-yr. Fixed	5.125	1.13	5%	30	5.225
15-yr. Fixed	4.500	1.50	5%	30	4.620
30-yr. Jumbo	5.625	0.00	5%	30	5.629
5/1 ARM	4.250	0.50	5%	30	4.290
All Rates and Fees Guaranteed in Writing! www.afmmtg.com					
American Mtg. Concepts 866-490-8500					
30-yr. Fixed	5.000	1.75	5%	30	5.270
30-yr. Fixed	5.375	0.00	5%	30	5.490
15-yr. Fixed	4.375	1.63	5%	30	4.620
MTA ARM	1.000	0.00	5%	30	3.900
A-D Credit: 100% Purchase 80/20 Combs. No Doc to \$1M Investment property to 95% LTV.					
Investors Savings Bank 800-252-8119					
30-yr. Fixed	5.750	0.00	5%	90	5.751
30-yr. Jumbo	5.750	0.00	20%	90	5.751
15-yr. Fixed	5.125	0.00	5%	90	5.126
5-yr. ARM	4.625	0.00	5%	90	4.626
10-yr. ARM	5.250	0.00	5%	90	5.129
Conforming loans to 95% LTV. Loans to \$2.5 Million					
Lighthouse Mortgage 800-784-1331					
30-yr. Fixed	5.375	0.00	5%	30	5.492
15-yr. Fixed	4.875	0.00	5%	30	4.960
10-yr. Fixed	call	call	10%	30	call
30-yr. Jumbo	5.750	0.00	10%	30	5.838
20-yr. Fixed	5.375	0.00	5%	30	5.460
Consistently Low Rates. Open 7 Days a week 9-9					
Loan Search 800-591-3279					
30-yr. Fixed	5.500	0.00	0%	45	5.550
15-yr. Fixed	4.875	0.00	5%	30	4.940
10/1 ARM Jbo	5.250	0.00	10%	90	5.108
7/1 ARM Jbo	4.875	0.00	10%	90	4.897
5/1 ARM Jbo	4.375	0.00	10%	90	4.691
www.LoanSearch.com. NPS Lowest Jumbo Rates!					
Main Line Tavistock Mtg. 856-428-1100					
30-yr. Fixed	5.375	0.00	30%	30	5.410
20-yr. Fixed	5.000	0.00	30%	30	5.060
15-yr. Fixed	4.750	0.00	30%	30	4.810
10-yr. Fixed	4.625	0.00	30%	30	4.690
No application fee - no rate lock fee. Ask about our free floatdown program					
Main Line Tavistock Mtg. 856-428-1100					
30-yr. Jumbo	5.625	0.00	30%	30	5.680
15-yr. Jumbo	5.000	0.00	30%	30	5.060
5/1 Jumbo	4.750	0.00	30%	30	4.800
3/1 Jumbo	4.000	0.00	30%	30	4.060
Rates good for new applications & purchases. Beat your best rate & fee. Best rates for self-employed					
New Millennium Bank 732-729-1100					
30-yr. Fixed	5.625	0.00	5%	30	5.630
15-yr. Fixed	5.125	0.00	5%	30	5.130
5/1 ARM	4.875	0.00	5%	30	5.625
30-yr. Jumbo	5.875	0.00	5%	30	5.880
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Partners Mortgage 888-RATE-SALE					
30-yr. Fixed	5.125	1.00	5%	60	5.170
15-yr. Fixed	4.500	1.00	5%	60	4.540
30-yr. Jumbo	5.375	1.00	5%	60	5.420
15-yr. Jumbo	4.875	1.00	5%	60	4.920
Zero Pts. Zero Fee Loans Available. Free Refinance forever. PartnersMtg@aol.com					
Price Financial Svcs. 800-401-9091					
30-yr. Fixed	5.375	0.00	5%	30	5.400
15-yr. Fixed	4.750	0.00	5%	30	4.780
30-yr. Jumbo	5.750	0.00	10%	30	5.780
1-yr ARM	1.250	0.00	10%	30	1.740
Rates are back down! 103% Purch. No Cost Refi's. Free & Fast pre-approvals. In BL/Foreclosure?					
Penn Fed. Savings Bank 908-719-2468					
30-yr. Fixed	5.625	0.00	5%	60	5.680
30-yr. Jumbo	5.750	0.00	10%	60	5.770
30-bwly jbo	5.500	0.00	10%	60	5.510
15-yr. Jumbo	5.000	0.00	10%	60	5.030
5/1 Jbo ARM	4.625	0.00	10%	60	4.710
The lowest fixed rate jumbo mortgages. Long term rate locks avail. up to 12 months on all products.					
Summit Federal Savings 732-968-6663					
30-yr. Fixed	6.000	0.00	20%	75	6.046
15-yr. Fixed	5.000	0.00	20%	75	5.062
10-yr. Fixed	4.750	0.00	20%	75	4.835
1-yr ARM	3.000	0.00	20%	75	4.462
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PATRICK MANFRA JR.

Manfra is top sales associate

WESTFIELD — Prudential New Jersey Properties Westfield office Sales Associate Patrick A. Manfra, Jr., a resident of Scotch Plains, has been named the office's Sales Associate of the Month for August 2004.

"Pat customizes his marketing techniques for each seller allowing for the most efficient and effective selling plan," said Marge Cuccaro, manager of the Prudential New Jersey Properties Westfield office. "In addition, his extensive knowledge of the Union County area, as a longtime Realtor and resident, is a great asset to buyers."

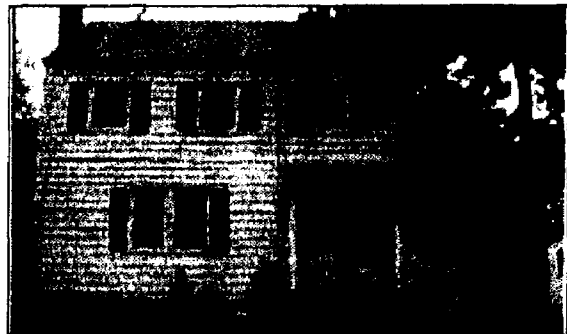
Manfra, a licensed broker, has been a residential resale specialist for more than 20 years. A lifelong resident of Union County, he specializes in land and new residential properties. He is a member of Prudential Real Estate's prestigious Leading Edge Society, which ranks him among the top eight percent of Prudential's more than 40,000 agents.

He can be reached at (908) 232-5664, ext. 110.

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SCOTCH PLAINS \$1,595,000
Elegant CH colonial. Custom built on private cul de sac. 2 story family room w/fireplace, huge dining room. Superb quality. WFS0421



WESTFIELD \$599,000
Contemporary home totally rebuilt in 1992. Open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, skylights, family room fireplace, c/c. WSF0785



WESTFIELD \$599,900
Enchanting Wychwood home. 4+ bedrooms, stone fireplace, 1st floor master, large living room with built-ins, screened porch. WSF0510



WESTFIELD \$649,000
Chelmsford condo. Bright, spacious 1st floor unit. 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, eat-in kitchen, living room, dining room, balcony. WSF0909

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Officials urge contractors: Register now, beat the deadline

NEWARK — As the Nov. 9, 2004, deadline approaches for home improvement contractors doing business in New Jersey to become registered with the State, Attorney General Peter C. Harvey and New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs Director Reni Erdos are urging contractors to begin submitting their applications for registration now.

The Contractors' Registration Act, which takes effect on Nov. 9, was signed by Governor James E. McGreevey in May establishing registration requirements for those who sell and make home improvements. Contractors should submit their applications as soon as possible to ensure they are registered before the Nov. 9 deadline.

Applications may be obtained by logging onto <http://www.njconsumeraffairs.com/contractor.htm>, calling (888) 656-6225, or visiting Consumer Affairs' offices at 124 Halsey St., Newark, or 2 Riverside Drive, Suite 403, Camden.

Each application must be accompanied

by a registration payment of \$90, a copy of the contractor's certificate of liability insurance as well as other documents. To help contractors understand their obligations, Consumer Affairs has prepared an instruction sheet on how to complete the application and a sheet of "Frequently Asked Questions." These materials also can be obtained at Consumer Affairs' website or by calling the agency.

Contractors who fail to register in time are prohibited from making or selling home improvements in New Jersey, barred from obtaining local construction permits and face civil monetary penalties as well as possible criminal charges if they continue to do home improvements without becoming registered after the effective date.

"We urge home improvement contractors to file their applications now to ensure that they are registered by the November 9 deadline," Harvey said. "We believe that this new law will help both homeowners and contractors. By protecting homeowners, the law will increase con-

sumer confidence and ultimately help the industry."

"Here's a note of caution for procrastinators: This is not one of those things you want to wait until the last minute to do," Erdos said. "We anticipate that the registration process will take several weeks and any hesitation on the part of contractors to register only stands to delay the process and affect their ability to work."

To ensure that contractors are aware of the registration requirements, Consumer Affairs will soon be sending letters — along with the application and instruction sheet — to individuals who may be working as home improvement contractors in New Jersey. Consumer Affairs also has sent letters and application packets to municipal construction code officials encouraging them to make the packets available to contractors.

The Contractors' Registration Act establishes the following provisions:

— Gives consumers three days to cancel a home improvement contract. The con-

sumer must give the contractor written notice of cancellation. Contractors must refund to the consumer any money paid within 30 days of receiving the written notice of cancellation.

— Requires home improvement contractors — those who engage in the business of making or selling home improvements including remodeling, altering, painting, renovating, repairing, restoring, modernizing, moving and/or demolishing — to register annually with Consumer Affairs.

— Bars anyone who is not registered, unless they're exempted from the registration requirements, from working as a home improvement contractor.

— Bars municipalities from issuing construction permits to contractors who are not registered or exempted from the registration requirements.

— Requires registrants to disclose to Consumer Affairs if they've been convicted of a crime.

— Requires contractors to file proof that they have secured and maintain general li-

ability insurance in a minimum of \$500,000 per occurrence.

— Provides that anyone who knowingly violates the act is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree. In addition, anyone who violates the act is also subject to civil monetary penalties under the Consumer Fraud Act of up to \$10,000 for the first offense and up to \$20,000 for each subsequent offense.

— Requires a written contract when the improvement work exceeds \$500. The contract must detail all terms and conditions, including among other things the legal name, business address and registration number of the contractor; a copy of the certificate of commercial general liability insurance; and the total price or other consideration to be paid by the consumers, including finance charges.

— Requires contractors to post their registration numbers on all New Jersey advertisements, contracts and correspondence with customers and all commercial vehicles registered in New Jersey and leased or owned by the registrant.

Weichert recognizes Westfield Associates

WESTFIELD — A pair of sales associates in Weichert, Realtors' Westfield Office, received the office's top awards in August, branch manager Harvey Tekel announced recently.

Richard Gaurd was named top sales associate. Alan Rubin earned the office's award for top listings, in addition to being named top producer in August. He is a member of Weichert's 2003 Million Dollar Sales and Marketed Clubs.

In addition, Rubin is a 2003 member of the New Jersey Association of Realtors (NJAR) Circle of Excellence at the bronze level.

For more information about what the office has to offer, call Weichert's customer service center at 1-800-USA SOLD or visit Weichert's website, www.weichert.com. Each Weichert franchised office is independently owned and operated.

In the market? It might be smart to act quickly

(NAPS) — For nearly two years, 45-year-low interest rates have fueled home sales to record proportions. Now, with financial experts in agreement that those rates will continue to rise, the window of opportunity may be closing for the estimated 38 million renters across the U.S. most of whom hope to become homeowners in the near future. In fact, waiting to buy a home could cost you more in the long run, according to some observers of the industry.

Buy or Wait?

Rising home prices and interest rates are only part of the equation. By purchasing a home now, renters can begin building home equity and personal net worth sooner. In a market in which home prices are consistently edging upward, a home purchased for \$200,000 two years ago could easily be worth \$20,000 more today.

That extra money is equity in the homeowner's pocket. Nationwide, home values increased by 23 percent on average since 2000. In some

parts of the country, homes have increased by as much as 65 percent or more in the same span of time.

Renter Misconceptions

Many renters or first-time buyers don't realize that purchasing a home is easier today than ever before. It's one reason the national home ownership rate was 62.9 percent for the second quarter of 2004, representing 73.4 million homeowners in the country — an all-time record. To that end, a number of perceived barriers are sidelining or stalling renters from jumping into the market.

Top "fear factors" according to a survey commissioned by Bank of America are:

— Fear of making a costly mistake. Consumers need to be diligent about consulting only with established, reputable lenders. Seek out a lender who is more concerned with your personal financial situation than earning a commission. Also, do your own homework to ensure that you know what competitive mortgage rates

are. Mortgage rates are published weekly in the business or real estate section of most major newspapers, or visit www.bankrate.com. Use those rates to help guide you, but be mindful that customer service and attention to your specific needs are also key criteria to consider.

— Intimidation of the paperwork and the process. 40 percent of renters believe they either don't have enough money saved or they may not qualify for a mortgage, yet more programs exist today than ever before to limit the amount of down payment needed to become a homeowner and limit the necessary paperwork.

— Not knowing where to start. Approximately 75 percent of homebuyers begin by doing online research. Also, first-time homebuyers may find it helpful to start the process with a visit to a bank or a realtor recommended by a friend or relative. They can help you determine how much house you can afford and what your payments would be.

Despite the misconceptions above, the survey also found that 57 percent of renters

intending to purchase a home by year-end are in fact accelerating their plans in light of the rise in interest rates and they are smart to do so. For every one percent rise in interest rates, one million renters or first-time homebuyers no longer qualify for a mortgage. Why? Because interest rates factor into affordability. For example, a 1/2-percent increase in interest adds nearly \$50 to the monthly payment on a 30-year mortgage.

"Home ownership is a goal for most renters, and this is a pivotal time to get into the market," says financial expert Gene Morris. "If your goal is to purchase a home one, two or three years from today, you should visit your banking institution to discuss the benefits of buying a home sooner."

In a rising interest rate environment, millions of renters can still take advantage of an opportunistic market, a positive economic outlook and programs that make buying a home an attractive proposition. If you are one of the millions of renters intent on becoming a homeowner, it might be smart to explore homeownership sooner rather than later.

Planning to renovate? Keep prospective future buyers in mind

(NAPS) — You've been preparing to put the house up for sale for weeks, and you have the sore muscles to prove it. Now comes the moment of truth. Are prospective buyers really going to care about all the work you did? If you did your homework before opening the toolbox, you already know the answer.

"Everyone has heard the cautionary tale about how a swimming pool can actually lower your home's resale value because it creates lots of work for the next owner," says Keith Hahn of Handyman Connection, one of the nation's largest home-improvement companies. "The story endures because it's a great example of how some home improvements, no matter how luxurious, can backfire when it's time to sell."

When an upgrade simply has to pay off, Hahn suggests avoiding renovations that buyers will view as burdens-elaborate decor or landscaping, swimming pools, skylights and more. "That beautiful Victorian stenciling in your dining room will be a problem if a buyer has modern tastes," he says. In general, renovations uniquely reflecting personality or taste will not appeal to most buyers.

Instead, focus on renovations that will save buyers work and illustrate a commitment to regular maintenance. Upgrade kitchen fixtures and appliances. Install new bathroom faucets and toilet seats, clean the grout and replace old caulking. But keep it simple. While these small improvements will immedi-

ately pay for themselves, Hahn says a big project, such as adding a bathroom, is a poor short-term investment.

Other upgrades should focus on improving curb appeal. A new front door can modernize the whole house. Looking to disguise an unattractive exterior outlook? Try installing window boxes or hanging flower baskets. Inside the house, spending a day touching up chipped paint or tightening wobbly cabinet hardware costs almost nothing but will pay off big on closing day. "Buyers want to move in and enjoy their new homes, not repair them," says Hahn.

A thorough interior cleaning can also increase perceived value. Remove clutter throughout the house. Shampoo the carpets. Dry clean the drapes. Wash the windows. Make sure faucets sparkle. And don't forget to organize closets and cabinets. "You'll be surprised where buyers will try to peek when touring a home," says Hahn.

Finally, Hahn says, step back and take an objective look at your home. "If anything uniquely reflects the trends of the early 1970s, you can bet that a potential buyer is going to see it as an immediately necessary upgrade."

Keith Hahn is the chief operating officer of Handyman Connection, a nationwide network of home improvement and repair contractors. For more information, call (800) 466-5530 or visit www.handymanconnection.com.



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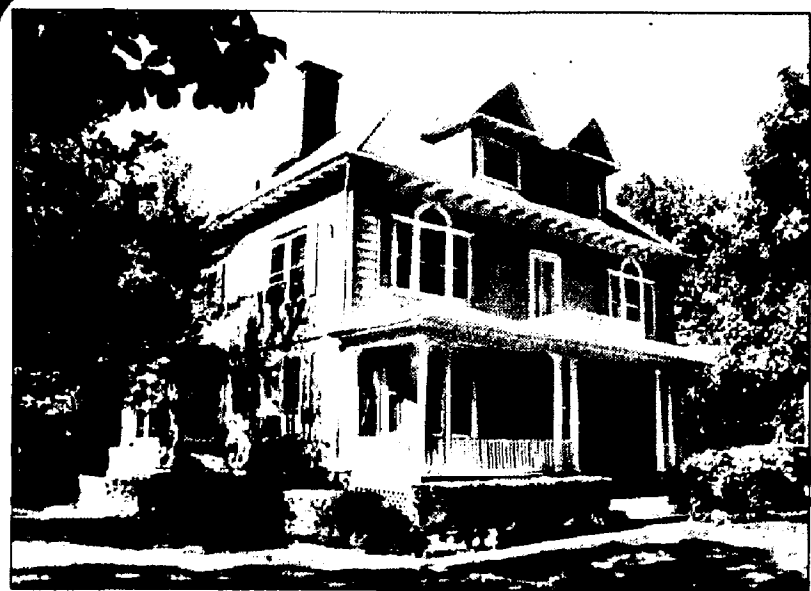
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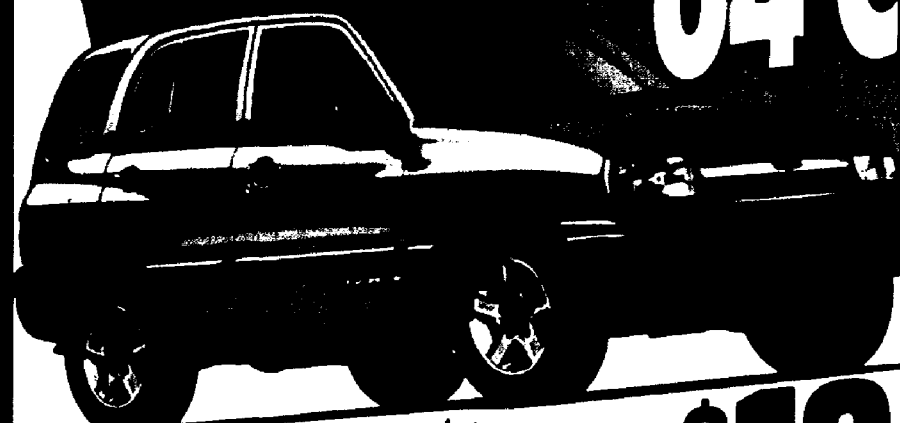
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WESTFIELD WYCHWOOD GARDENS - FURNISHED 1 BR. 1 fl., h/w, pool incl. avail. 10/01. \$1500 mo. 908-709-0909 x 211, or call 908-868-2490

Commercial Property For Rent 410

BERKELEY HEIGHTS DOWNTOWN Retail / Office - 3 units avail. 700, 350 & 250+ sq. ft., 2nd fl. avail. imm. Call Landlord 908-507-6980

CLARK Raritan road, 2 large offices plus reception area. \$1000/mo. utilities included 908-272-8395

CRANFORD Ideal office space, 1300sf, 6 rooms with large waiting room, all utilities included. \$2200/mo. + 1 1/2 security. 908-654-0725

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CRANFORD DUPLEX 3 bdr. 1.5 ba. W/D A/C. Full Cellar. LR, DR. NO pets. Avail. 11/01. 908-276-7233 After 5pm

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RENT-TO-OWN 3 BR, 2 BA. (908-233-2028) 24 hr recorded message

Union Twp. 4br. 2 full baths, lg. deck & back yard, spacious kitchen, very close to rt. 21 & bus stop, perfect for commuters. avail. 11/1. \$1800/mo. util. 1/mo. sec. 732-494-0019

Housing To Share 435

CRANFORD (2 separate Apts), non-smoke, male college Age. 1 lg room apt. pvt p/g, all util. pd share DR, Kitch, TV rm, cable ready, great lot. 2 bks to train, bus, shop. \$600/mo + 1 1/2 mo sec dep. Ref & credit check. #2 room, light airy attractive \$560/mo. Act fast to obtain. Call 908-276-8870

New condo in Union, 85+ Female would like to share her home with same. 908-624-0232

UNION - Female seeks same to share nice 2BR apt. no smoking/pets. Near colleges. \$495. 908-355-5386

Room 410

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FANWOOD Border - Lg. room, cable TV hookup, share Kitch/BA. \$115/wk. sec. req'd. 908-769-1961

SCOTCH PLAINS - Quiet cul-de-sac, off st parking, master bath, kitchen privileges. \$580/mo. 908-232-5205

SPRINGFIELD - Furnished room, separate entrance & bathroom, util. cable incl. \$650/mo Avail. 11/1. 973-376-1639. Lr. Mng.

SUMMIT - Room for rent \$125 per week. Call 908-598-0522

UNION - ROOM FOR RENT \$125. WK. private bath & ent. 908-351-7509 n. mess.

Tombstone/Quaker For Rent 410

WESTFIELD-WYCHWOOD GARDENS-COP-1BR w/garage, w/w, pool, \$147,000. 908-709-0909 ext. 211.

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BABy FURNITURE 3 pc. Bed, crib, changing table, glider, natural wood finish. \$2000, new. \$950, OBO Call 908-464-2608.

BASSETT 3 DWR HUTCH TOP YOUTH DESK w/ chair. Good condition. \$250/obo Call 908-233-0408

BED Queen Sz & poster metal bed. \$575. 908-301-0077

BEDROOM Bonnettop, dark pine, 7' x 6' 6" Dresser w/ Bonnettop mirror. \$500. Bed Free w/set. 908-233-5043

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BR set \$150. 732-396-6909

BR SET - ANTIQ. mah. 2 dressers, 1 w/mirror, full size wooden bed frame + 3 box springs. \$700. 732-383-0686

BR SET black lacquer, 5 pc. Queen size bed, 2 lamps. \$575. Call 732-382-5434 after 5.

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China Cabinet (new, never used) oak finish, beveled glass. \$795. 732-885-5154

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CRIB FURNITURE SET mint cond., bleached wood crib w/ig. pullout drawer for storage, matching glider w/ cushions, matching dresser w/ 3 drawers, pullout changing table, 3 side shelves, lazy Susan side drawer. Must See. Must Sell \$750/obo Call 908-497-0868 9-5

CRIB SET from Crib City. Good cond. incl. changing table & gliding chair. 908-688-6697

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DINETTE SET - WALNUT oval table, 36x58, 6 leather chrs., \$175. 908-686-0388 908-688-8535

DINING RM SET - Broyhill Fontana French Country rectangular tbl. 2 leafs, 4 side/2 arm chairs, all tbl pads & glass tbl. protector incl. w/matching hutch & china cabinet. Cond! \$2500 908-885-5573

Automotive/Classified

Back to school safe-driving tips

PRNewswire — As the new school year begins, moms are hitting the road more — navigating busy morning carpools and rushing to afternoon soccer practice. A new national survey sponsored by Nissan North America, Inc. indicates that many mothers are extremely concerned about their children's safety, especially in other parents' vehicles.

According to a survey of consumers conducted by StrategyOne, a national public opinion research company, seven out of 10 (69-percent) of mothers are "very or extremely concerned" about their children's safety when they carpool with other parents.

Their first concern (84-percent) is that their children will not be properly restrained when in other parents' vehicles. Following close behind, 81-percent of moms said they are worried that being in a hurry to get to their destination compromises their children's safety.

The survey also found that four out of five mothers (79-percent) find children's behavior to be the biggest distraction while driving. Cellular phones ranked second, with 75-percent of moms citing them as a distraction.

"Mothers are worried about their children when they're on the road with others, and they are right to be concerned — 2,570 children under the age of 15 were killed last year in automobile accidents," said Bob Yakushi, Nissan's director of product safety and a certified child passenger safety

"Mothers are worried about their children when they're on the road with others, and they are right to be concerned — 2,570 children under the age of 15 were killed last year in automobile accidents."

Bob Yakushi,
Director of product safety, Nissan

technician.

— Check each child's safety seat or booster and belt to ensure they are properly restrained before starting the car.

— About two thirds of mothers rely on music (68-percent) or toys (66-percent) to occupy their children's attention so that they can focus on driving. — Reinforce good behavior with prizes, such as an extra book from the library or quarters for the video arcade.

— Pull the vehicle over at a safe place to deal with behavior problems. Don't try to solve situations while driving.

— Do not use the cell phone when driving or, if it is necessary, use a hands-free headset.



Aston Martin unveiled its new Vanquish S at the Paris Motor Show last week. The V12-powered car has a maximum speed in excess of 200 mph.

Aston Martin debuts fast car

PRNewswire — The fastest production model ever to be built by Aston Martin made its world debut at the Paris Motor Show last week.

With a maximum speed in excess of 200 mph and a 6-liter V12 engine developing 520 horsepower, the Vanquish S has been designed to deliver even greater performance, complemented by subtle suspension and steering changes and a number of interior and exterior style revisions.

"The Vanquish is our flagship model and the standard 460bhp will continue to be built," said Aston Martin Chief Executive

Officer Dr. Ulrich Bez. "However, this derivative makes the car even more exceptional. The latest Vanquish S is not only the fastest Aston Martin ever, but it is the best handling too. It is the ultimate high-performance Aston Martin."

The Vanquish S has received subtle but effective changes to complement its elegant muscular body. The famous Aston Martin grille has a new rounded and more open appearance for better cooling, and an aerodynamic splitter improves high-speed stability.

At the rear, a redesigned boot

lid featuring a new high mounted stop lamp reduces lift and improves balance and stability, helping to achieve an impressive Cd figure of 0.32.

These differences on the Vanquish S not only improve the appearance but also enhance performance. All the exterior body panels are constructed from aluminum with each individual panel hand tailored to the central structure to ensure a perfect panel fit. Every carefully detailed feature provides graphic evidence of the painstaking craftsmanship and quality, which is invested in its construction at

Aston Martin's Newport Pagnell site in Buckinghamshire.

Further development of Aston Martin's low emissions, all alloy, quad-overhead camshaft, 48 valve, 6-liter V12 engine has generated an increase in power from 460 bhp to 520 bhp (388kW) @ 7000 rpm and torque is boosted to 425 lb ft (577 Nm), at 5800 rpm.

Engine enhancements include new cylinder heads with fully machined inlet ports and combustion chambers to improve airflow, revised engine mapping and new fuel injectors.

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Photography by Joan Barker

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Dining Table - 7ft., solid pine hand made. 37in. wide excl. cond. \$695. 908-464-7666

TRIPLE DRESSER w/trifold mirror, walnut, very gd. cond. \$125. Call 908-692-1567

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DR SET - antique, oval, open to 96 in., hutch, buffet, china cabinet, cherry inlay, 6 chrs., \$1800. 908-668-9252

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WICKER SET - 48" round table w/glass top, 4 chairs. \$275. 908-686-0388 or 908-688-8535

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	01 530	Aspen Silver	35,119 mi	
	01 530	Silver	47,134 mi	
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	01 740L	Blue	30,028 mi	
	01 740	Green	43,706 mi	
	02 740	Black	35,612 mi	
X SERIES	02 740	White	40,534 mi	
	01 X5 3.0	Green	34,834 mi	
	01 X5 4.4	Mahogany	35,079 mi	
X SERIES	01 X5 3.0	Black	44,769 mi	
Z3 SERIES				
	01 Z3 2.5	Senna Red	25,052 mi	
Z3 SERIES	01 Z3 2.5	Yellow	31,626 mi	
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2004 CHEVROLET CAVALIER Auto trans, 4



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publishing

MUST SEE
Ford 811280 1800 P/A
 Magnum V8, fully loaded
 new exhaust & battery
 tone silver/green, tan int.
 extended bed with tires
 \$5500 973-467-0276

Ford '84 F150 4x4, power
 win, new tires & brakes
 paint good. \$2000. Call
 973-377-7384, Andy.

Ford Bronco '88 - 4x4
 exc. cond, new tires/rims
 alloy stereo \$2,100
 908-917-5298

Ford F-250 XLT '87 Loader
 429-hp, auto, custom
 paint, alloy wheel, PS, PB,
 P/W, PDL, A/C, exc. cond.
 \$5500; obo 973-467-1781

Ford XL Pickup '86 - 76K
 A/C, auto, bedliner, cap,
 factory alloy wheel. \$1800.
 908-494-7875

Price & Name 1988

Dodge Caravan '88
 Good Cond. 75% \$4999
 For more info
 Call 732-381-9677

Ford Econoline Conversion
 Van '83, Hi-Top, we
 maintained. loaded \$5500
 obo. 908-276-8692

Ford Windstar LX 97'
 94K, VGC, pwr everything
 asking \$3500
 908-732-4823

Infinity QX4 00' Lt Gold,
 Lthr Int. Fully Ld. 115K
 (hwy miles) \$16,500
 906-242-4180

1989 Grand Cherokee 200'
 4x4, 100K, new, blue
 \$20,000 908-327-7259

Oldsmobile Delta 88
 Red, loaded, auto, good
 cond., carefree, 95K
 highway mi., \$6,500. 732
 971-6944.

Volvo 740 GLE 1985

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 Boy Scouts. Housing for
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0%
APR FINANCING
UP TO 60 MONTHS
ON SELECT MODELS

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JUST STRAIGHT PRICING**
**\$1000 LOW PRICE
GUARANTEE**
If we Can't Meet or Beat the
Competition, We'll Give You \$1000 +

MITSUBISHI

NEW 2004 MITSUBISHI GALANT ES

- 4 DOOR
- 4 CYLINDER
- AUTOMATIC
- POWER STEERING
- POWER BRAKES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- POWER WINDOWS
- POWER LOCKS
- STK & VIN# 4E130523
- MSRP \$19,592


BUY FOR
\$14,988 **SAVE \$4604**
OFF MSRP

NEW 2004 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER LS

- 4 DOOR
- 4 CYLINDER
- AUTOMATIC
- POWER STEERING
- POWER BRAKES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- APPEARANCE PACKAGE
- POWER WINDOWS
- STK & VIN# 4U004663
- MSRP \$21,192


BUY FOR
\$16,988 **SAVE \$4204**
OFF MSRP

Jeep

NEW 2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE V8 ALL WHEEL DRIVE

**SALE PRICE EXCLUSIVE
NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE**

- 4 DOOR
- 8 CYLINDER
- POWER STEERING
- POWER BRAKES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- AM/FM STEREO W/CD
- POWER SEAT
- POWER WINDOWS
- POWER MIRRORS
- POWER LOCKS
- CRUISE
- TILT
- TINT
- STK & VIN# 4C37005
- MSRP \$31,170


50 TO CHOOSE FROM AT THIS PRICE
OUR PRICE
\$299 /mo
\$249 /mo
LEASE FOR
\$1,000 DOWN
VS ENGINE
Price excludes tax, title & MV fees
Incl \$3,500 Lease Cash, \$1,000 CFC bonus, \$1,750 Conquest Lease, \$500 Military, \$1,000 Customer Cash, \$1,000 due at inception, no sec dep req. Price excludes tax, title & MV fees.

NEW 2004 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4

- 4 DOOR
- 6 CYLINDER
- AUTOMATIC
- POWER STEERING
- POWER BRAKES
- POWER WINDOWS
- POWER LOCKS
- TINT
- AIR CONDITIONING
- STK & VIN# 4W122187

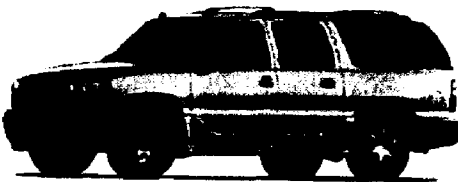

LEASE FOR
\$189 /mo
36 mos
Incl \$1,000 CFC, \$2,000 lease cash, \$1,000 lease loyalty, \$500 military, \$2,000 customer cash, \$2,000 due at inception, no sec dep req. Price excludes tax, title & MV fees.

GMC

YOUR DENALI HEADQUARTERS

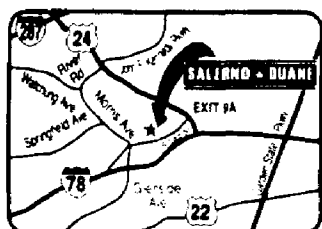
NEW 2004 GMC YUKON XL SLT 4X4

- 4 DOOR
- AUTOMATIC
- 8 CYLINDER
- POWER STEERING
- POWER BRAKES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- POWER WINDOWS
- POWER LOCKS
- 6 DISC CD CHANGER
- XM SATELLITE RADIO
- HEAVY DUTY TRAILERING
- BOSE PREMIUM SOUND
- REAR AUDIO CONTROLS
- STK & VIN# 4G220161
- MSRP \$46,135


BUY FOR
\$33,988 **SAVE \$12,147**
OFF MSRP
Incl \$4,500 consumer rebate & \$500 GMAC finance rebate, if qualified. Price excludes tax, title & MV fees.

2004 GMC YUKON XL DENALI 4X4

- 4 DOOR
- 8 CYLINDER
- AUTOMATIC
- POWER STEERING
- POWER BRAKES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- 6 DISC CD PLAYER
- LEATHER
- ALL WHEEL DRIVE
- SUN ROOF
- XM SATELLITE RADIO
- 2,988 DEMO MILES
- STK & VIN# 4J235702
- MSRP \$53,500


BUY FOR
\$43,899 **SAVE \$9,601**
OFF MSRP
Incl \$4,500 consumer rebate, if qualified. Price excludes tax, title & MV fees.

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Prices include all costs to be paid by a consumer except tax, title & MV fees. Prices include all manufacturer rebates & incentives, if any. *Must qualify for all rebates. All rebates to dealer. †Just bring in any current competitor's ad and we'll beat the price. Based on same year, make, model and equipment. Dealer reserves the right to purchase competitor's vehicle if necessary. **Must finance thru GMAC at standard rate. Tti pymt/purch opt/ttl cost: Grand Cherokee \$8964/\$14,340/\$10,324, Liberty \$6804/\$12,014/\$8804. Leases include 10K mi/yr at 15¢ each add'l mile. Lessee responsible for maintenance and excess wear & tear. All offers are subject to approval by primary lender. All ad cars sold cosmetically as is. Not responsible for typographical errors. Prices in effect at time of publication. Subject to change without notice. Offers expire 9/30/04.

**LEASE
PULL
AHEAD**

IF YOUR GMAC
LEASE ENDS
BETWEEN AUGUST
23RD & MAY 31ST,
2005, YOU CAN
TERMINATE YOUR
LEASE EARLY AT
MULTI CHEVY! SEE
DEALER FOR
DETAILS. OFFER
EXPIRES SEPT.
30TH 2004.

Yes!

PRICES
SO LOW YOU
CAN'T SAY NO!

Yes!

DISCOUNTS
UP TO
\$11,656

Yes!

FINANCING
AS LOW AS
0% APR
UP TO 60 MOS

Yes!

YOU WILL DRIVE
HOME AT A PRICE
YOU WOULDN'T
DREAM POSSIBLE!

Yes!

IT'S A BUYERS
MARKET!
YOU GET THE BEST PRICE
WITH NO HAGGLING!

Yes!

WE'LL HELP YOU
TO HELP US BECOME
THE #1 DEALER
IN THE USA!

INCREDIBLE Multi Chevrolet

72hour sale

GET 0% APR FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS!†
HEADQUARTERS
TUESDAY SEPT. 28 THRU THURSDAY SEPT. 30

NEW 2004 CHEVY AVEO
BUY FOR **\$6399**
SAVE **\$3596**
VIN#0211776, SK AC204, 5 DR, 4 cyl, 5 spd, auto, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 factory rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY CAVALIER
BUY FOR **\$8999**
SAVE **\$7216**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 2 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY COLORADO REG CAB
BUY FOR **\$11,999**
SAVE **\$6331**
VIN#0170957, SK AC204, 2 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY IMPALA
BUY FOR **\$13,999**
SAVE **\$8646**
VIN#0337173, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY MALIBU LS MAXX
BUY FOR **\$13,999**
SAVE **\$456**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY EXPRESS CARGO VAN 2500
BUY FOR **\$16,999**
SAVE **\$216**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 2 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS EXT
BUY FOR **\$23,999**
SAVE **\$10,151**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY AVALANCHE 4X4
BUY FOR **\$26,499**
SAVE **\$10,756**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY BLAZER
BUY FOR **\$17,499**
SAVE **\$10,011**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LS REG-CAB 1WD
BUY FOR **\$19,999**
SAVE **\$10,656**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY TAHOE LS
BUY FOR **\$28,999**
SAVE **\$11,406**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

NEW 2004 CHEVY SUBURBAN LS 4X4
BUY FOR **\$30,899**
SAVE **\$11,656**
VIN#0110723, SK AC204, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, ABS, stereo, 15000 factory warranty, \$750 military rebate, \$750 military rebate, \$1000 GMAC rebate, \$1000 Olds owner loyalty rebates if qual.

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7 DAYS
A WEEK!**
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APPROVAL TODAY!**

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**SHOWROOM HOURS: MON-FRI: 9AM-9PM SAT: 9AM-6PM
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**2.9% APR FINANCING
UP TO 60 MONTHS
TO QUALIFIED BUYERS.**
**GM Certified
USED VEHICLES**

THE RIGHT WAY THE RIGHT CAR
• 24 HOUR FINANCING APPROVAL
• 24 HOUR/7 DAYS A WEEK LIMITED WARRANTY
• 3 DAY/100 MILE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
• ALL CARS INSPECTED & CERTIFIED
• ALL CARS FINANCING THROUGH GMAC

'95 Ford Escort Hatch
VIN #SW341167, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, stereo, 50,586 mi.
\$3499

'95 Jeep Wrangler
VIN #SP241780, 2 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, 82,101 mi.
\$6499

'92 Honda Civic EX
VIN #2L099875, 3 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, cd, sunroof, 23,726 mi.
\$13,999

'92 Ford Taurus
VIN #24130416, 4 DR, 4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, air, stereo, 47,428 mi.
\$14,999

'91 Chevy Camaro Z28
VIN #1G122299, 2 DR, 6 cyl, manual trans, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 34,330 mi.
\$16,499

'92 Chrysler 2000
VIN #24202486, 6 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 34,330 mi.
\$17,999

'91 Lincoln Town Car
VIN #1Y650742, 4 DR, 8 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 43,935 mi.
\$19,299

'92 Chevy Trailblazer EXZ
VIN #22349454, 4 DR, 6 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 28,959 mi.
\$22,999

'93 Chevy Blazer
VIN #3E370946, 4 DR, 8 cyl, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 27,050 mi.
\$24,499

'91 Oldsmobile Cutlass SL350
VIN #1A278950, 4 DR, 6 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 29,532 mi.
\$24,999

'90 Ford Cougar
VIN #4T077722, 4 DR, 4 cyl, 6 spd, a/c, sunroof, leather, heated seats, sport pkg., xenon headlights, 19,177 mi.
\$24,999

'92 Cadillac Escalade 400
VIN #2R225369, 4 DR, 8 cyl, auto, a/c, p/a/c, ABS, stereo, 24,750 mi.
\$36,999